

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

1300 Airport Lane - North Bend, Oregon 97459 - www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay

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Guided Hike at New River to Explore Current Management

BANDON, Ore. – The public is invited to join the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for a guided hike of the New River Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) to explore the area and learn about the agency's current management of this unique stretch of the Oregon Coast.

The hike will begin at 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 11, and the hike will last approximately an hour and a half. Hikers should meet at the New River Nature Center. Participants should wear sturdy shoes suitable for walking in the dirt and sand, bring water and wear sunscreen.

The hike will be the informal kick-off of the BLM's effort to update the plan that guides the agency's management of the site. The BLM last updated the plan in 2004.

"New River is one of our coastal treasures, and we manage it to protect the unique habitats in the area that are home to native fish, wildlife and plants," said Kathy Westenskow, BLM Myrtlewood Field Manager. "We hope people take advantage of this opportunity to explore the site and to start thinking about what they would like to see happen at New River in the future."

New River ACEC is located eight miles south of Bandon, west of Highway 101. Turn right on to Croft Lake Lane and follow the directional signs to Storm Ranch and the Nature Center.

Additional information on the planning process will be forthcoming in mailings and a website. In the meantime, please contact Racheal Jones or Kip Wright at 541-756-0100 with questions.

For additional information, please contact the BLM's Coos Bay District Office at (541) 756-0100.

About the BLM

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In Fiscal Year 2012, activities on public lands generated \$4.6 billion in revenue, much of which was shared with the States where the activities occurred. In addition, public lands contributed more than \$112 billion to the U.S. economy and helped support more than 500,000 jobs.

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