

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT OR120-11-1
For release: October 26, 2010

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BLM Releases Final O.H. Hinsdale Garden Plan

Reedsport, Ore. – Today, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Coos Bay District announced the release of the Final Recreation Project Plan for the O.H. Hinsdale Garden at Spruce Reach Island.

The plan outlines how BLM will provide public access to the garden during the rhododendron blooming season while protecting and restoring the historic garden and the island's natural resources. A copy of the plan and associated decision is available online at:
www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay/plans/activityplans.php

“We received many comments from people in Reedsport while we were developing the plan. These ideas helped us formulate a better plan and we really appreciate the time people took to consider the site's future,” said Dennis Turowksi, Umpqua Field Manager.

The BLM plans to implement various projects between now and 2013, including the installation of a footbridge to provide additional garden access and development of a small parking area. The BLM is also starting an environmental analysis for the removal of the Hinsdale House and mitigation measures for resident bats.

BLM manages Spruce Reach Island, a 67-acre site situated between Highway 38 and the Umpqua River across from the Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area. The previous landowner, O.H. Hinsdale, planted hundreds of rhododendrons and azaleas in an English woodland garden style. The garden is a historical resource that is potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

For additional information on the plan, contact Ms. Sharon Cawley at (541) 756-0100.

About BLM

The BLM manages more land – 245 million surface acres – than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western States, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

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