

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: OR120-10-03  
Media Contact: Megan Harper (541) 751- 4353

January 28, 2010

## BLM Myrtlewood Field Manager Selected

NORTH BEND, Ore. – The Bureau of Land Management’s Coos Bay District Manager Mark Johnson has selected Kathy Westenskow as the new Myrtlewood Field Manager. As Field Manager, Westenskow will be responsible for management of approximately 126,000 acres of public land in the southern half of the BLM Coos Bay District.

Westenskow assumes her new position with a great deal of past natural resource work experience, including her most recent position as an Assistant Field Manager on the BLM Coos Bay District. She began her BLM career in 1991 as a student intern, before becoming a wildlife biologist and natural resource specialist with the agency.

“Kathy is very experienced in managing the complex forest management issues in western Oregon and she will serve the field office well,” said Mark Johnson, BLM Coos Bay District Manager.

Westenskow will begin her new position on February 1, 2010.

“I am excited to have this opportunity,” said Westenskow. “We are facing so many unique challenges and I look forward to working with staff and the community to get important natural resource work done on the ground.”

After growing up in a farm in LaGrande, Oregon, Westenskow obtained a M.S. in Rangeland Resources from Oregon State University. In her spare time, she enjoys spending time with her family, serving her church, and exploring the beauty of the Oregon Coast.

Westenskow fills in behind Paul Flanagan, who took a position with the U.S. Forest Service in Arizona. Additional information about the BLM’s Coos Bay District is available online at:

<http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay/index.php>

-BLM-

The BLM manages more land -- 253 million 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.

