

NEWS Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

3040 Biddle Road • Medford, Oregon 97504 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford>

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
For release: March 23, 2015

Contact: (541) 618-2200

Teaming up on Table Rocks:

BLM and Nature Conservancy Offer Free Guided Hikes on Weekends

Medford, Ore. -- Table Rocks Weekend Hike Series begins this weekend. Local experts are joining forces to showcase outstanding cultural history and natural resources that make the Table Rocks a special place for Rogue Valley residents and visitors.

Free guided hikes will offered on weekends in March, April, and May. Anyone is welcome to sign up, but reservations are required. Space is limited to 20 individuals, unless otherwise noted. Please contact the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Medford District at (541) 618-2200, Monday through Friday, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to reserve a spot. Individuals must sign up by 4 p.m. the Friday before the hike is scheduled.

Three to five miles roundtrip, these guided hikes along a moderate grade trail, generally last three to five hours. Participants should dress for the weather and bring plenty of drinking water (no water source is available on site) and a lunch or snacks. Restrooms are available at both trail heads. To help protect this special place, dogs, mountain bikes, and Off-Highway Vehicles (OHV) are not allowed on the trail. To view the full hike schedule, please visit the following websites:

Bureau of Land Management: www.blm.gov/or/resources/recreation/tablerock/

The Nature Conservancy: <http://nature.org/trhikes>

Saturday, March 28

9:00 a.m. at LOWER TABLE ROCK

Lichen Hikin' with Two Fungis: Jason Wilson, fungi extraordinaire and graduate of the Southern Oregon University (SOU) Environmental Education Master's program, is partnering up with certified Lichenologist John Villella, a botanist with Siskiyou Bio Survey and member of the American Bryological and Lichenological Society, for an exploration hike where participants will learn about and locate many of the unique variety of nonvascular plants, lichens, liverworts and the fungus among us on the Table Rocks. Hand lenses and field guides are encouraged, but not required.

Sunday, March 29

9:00 a.m. at UPPER TABLE ROCK

Camp White: "The Alcatraz of Boot Camps": Travel back in time with George Kramer, local author and historian, to the WWII era when Southern Oregon was a major training center for the U.S. military. George will lead participants on a guided exploration of the remains of the Camp White artillery range which includes pillboxes designed to practice infantry drills. Because there is no trail, wear sturdy shoes and long pants. This hike is limited to 15 individuals.

The Nature
Conservancy 
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™



NEWS Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

3040 Biddle Road • Medford, Oregon 97504 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford>

BLM
Medford District Office

Saturday, April 4

9:00 a.m. at UPPER TABLE ROCK

Spring in Bloom: Join Chamise Kramer, BLM botanist, and Molly Allen, BLM Environmental Educator, to explore the valley's beautiful native flora, wildflowers, and natural history of the Table Rocks.

Saturday, April 11

9:00 a.m. at UPPER TABLE ROCK

Layers of Time: Join Jad D'Allura, Emeritus Professor of Geology at Southern Oregon University, and Joni Brazier, Soil Scientist for the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, to discuss the formation of the Table Rocks and the unique geological features and soils along a hike to the top of this ancient lava flow.

Sunday, April 12

10:00 a.m. at LOWER TABLE ROCK LOOP

Family Fun Day: Take a walk on the wild side in celebration of early learning, young children, their teachers and families for "The Week of the Young Child." Four guided hikes on the half-mile loop trail through the Oak Savanna will take place on the hour of each hour from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. for registered participants only. Music and a puppet show will also be part of the festivities.

Saturday, April 18

9:00 a.m. at LOWER TABLE ROCK

Wildflowers Abound: Barbara Mumblo, botanist with the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, Siskiyou Mountains Ranger District, and the Native Plant Society of Oregon, will lead a hike to discover the dazzling array of wildflowers found on the Table Rocks.

Sunday, April 19

8:00 a.m. at LOWER TABLE ROCK

For the Early Birds: Join local bird experts Bob Quaccia, with Rogue Valley Audubon, and Frank Lospalluto, with Klamath Bird Observatory, to view the spring birds of Table Rocks. Learn birding I.D. tips and conservation information. Bring binoculars and I.D. books if you desire. This hike is limited to 15 individuals.

Sunday, April 19

9:00 a.m. at UPPER TABLE ROCK

Grand Ronde Tribes, Past to Present: Join Michael Karnosh, Ceded Lands Program Manager at the Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde, to learn about traditional and culturally important plants of the tribes whose ancestors include the original residents of the Table Rocks area. He will also discuss modern day Tribal management of conservation properties and partnerships with government agencies, land trusts, and other groups.

Saturday, April 25

9:00 a.m. at LOWER TABLE ROCK

Mighty Oaks!: Join Keith Perchemlides, Field Ecologist with The Nature Conservancy, to explore a remarkable diversity of oak habitats including savannas, woodlands and shrublands, and see examples of recent restoration work. Oaks of all shapes and sizes are vital to the lives of wildlife, other plants, and people. Research and conservation partners including the Conservancy, BLM, Lomakatsi Restoration Project and Klamath Bird Observatory

The Nature
Conservancy 
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™



NEWS Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

3040 Biddle Road • Medford, Oregon 97504 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford>

are finding 100+ reasons to love them—learn why you should too!

Sunday, April 26

9:00 a.m. at UPPER TABLE ROCK

Plants and People: Bridgette Cuffe, BLM botanist, will lead a hike exploring the ethnobotany of the Table Rocks. She will identify plants along the trail and discuss their traditional and present day uses as food, medicine and more. This bilingual hike will be presented in both Spanish and English. **Plantas y Personas:** Bridgette Cuffe, botánica con el BLM, será la guía para una caminata explorando la etnobotánica de Table Rocks. Ella identificará especies de plantas por el camino y hablará sobre su uso como comida, medicina y más. Ella presentara la información en ambos español e inglés.

Saturday, May 2

9:00 a.m. at LOWER TABLE ROCK

Legacy of a Landmark: Jeff LaLande, retired archaeologist and historian for the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, will discuss the role of the Table Rocks in the culture and legends of the Takelma Indians, as well as the history of the Table Rocks area during the “Indian Wars” of the 1850s.

Saturday, May 2

8:30 p.m. at UPPER TABLE ROCK

Last of the Milky Way: Join Shaina Niehans, seasonal park ranger at the National Park Service’s Redwood National Park, on a night hike to explore the shrinking frontier of the Milky Way. Spot stars 40 times the size of our Sun, stars that could explode at any time, and stars that even orbit other stars. Bring a flashlight and binoculars, if possible, and wear sturdy and comfortable shoes.

Saturday, May 9

9:00 a.m. at UPPER TABLE ROCK

Lizards, Snakes, and Frogs – Oh My!: The Table Rocks have attracted those who study reptiles and amphibians for decades. Their topography and available habitat allows a large diversity of “herps” to live on their flanks and summits. Join Peter Kleinhenz, a SOU environmental education graduate student, and Colin Guiley, a biology student at SOU, as they search for as many examples of native herpetofauna as possible.

Saturday, May 9

7:30 p.m. at LOWER TABLE ROCK LOOP

Whoop Comes Out at Night?: Join Tony Kerwin, Steve Godwin and Ernie Fliegel, wildlife biologists with the BLM, to look for creatures and listen to sounds of the night from dusk ‘til dark on a jaunt around the Lower Table Rock Loop Trail (half-mile accessible trail). Steve will attempt to lure pygmy, great horned, and screech owls—no guarantees! A short presentation of the common bats, owls and other animals active at night in this area and their unique characteristics and adaptations will precede the hike. Bring your flashlights and good hiking shoes!

Sunday, May 10

9:00 a.m. at UPPER TABLE ROCK

Mother’s Day—Family Hike: Spend Mother’s Day with a BLM environmental interpretation specialist on a family hike to the top of the rock! This is a general information hike suitable for the whole family. Topics will include wildflower identification, ethnobotany, geology, wildlife, ecology, and cultural history.

BLM
Medford District Office

The Nature Conservancy 
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™



NEWS Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

3040 Biddle Road • Medford, Oregon 97504 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford>

Medford District Office

BLM

Saturday, May 16

10:00 a.m. at LOWER TABLE ROCK

Beautiful Butterflies and Incredible Insects: Dr. Peter Schroeder, Entomologist and Affiliate Professor of Biology at Southern Oregon University, will lead a hike to observe and discuss the beautiful butterflies and other incredible insects that live on or flutter by the Table Rocks. On this hike, Peter will help you gain a deeper appreciation for how butterflies and other insects live and their essential role in the environment.

Sunday, May 17

10:00 a.m. at UPPER TABLE ROCK

Powerful Pollinators: Find out what all the “buzz” is about by joining Sarah Red-Laird, a.k.a. Bee Girl, who will explain why pollination is essential for our survival. On this family-friendly hike, learn about the birds and the bees and their relationship with the wildflowers and trees that produce a rainbow of colors on the Table Rocks. This hike is limited to 15 individuals.

###

The Nature Conservancy is a leading conservation organization working around the world to protect ecologically important lands and waters for nature and people. The Conservancy and its more than 1 million members have protected nearly 120 million acres worldwide. Visit The Nature Conservancy on the Web at www.nature.org.

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 mission is to manage and conserve the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations under our mandate of multiple-use and sustained yield. In Fiscal Year 2013, the BLM generated \$4.7 billion in receipts from public lands.

The Nature
Conservancy 
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

