

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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Medford District Office

BLM

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
For release: Sept. 14, 2015

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BLM Seeks National Public Lands Day Volunteers

Medford, OR: The Medford District Bureau of Land Management (BLM) invites the public to join in three volunteer projects to celebrate National Public Lands Day, September 26.

The Rogue River clean-up project annually removes trash from the stream and banks at many sites between McGregor Park and Gold Hill. The clean-up is from 9 am to 1 pm, followed by a free picnic and raffle giveaways. All equipment is provided. Volunteers can learn more and register early by calling Gail Perrotti at 541- 261-7796 or emailing gperrotti@earthlink.net.

A second project will maintain the Grayback Mountain Trail near Williams. At 7,050 ft., Grayback Mountain is the tallest peak in Josephine County. With the help of the Forest Service, the community of Williams, and volunteers on National Public Lands Day events, the BLM was able to construct the Grayback Mountain Trail between 1989 and 2006. The six-mile trail connects to the Forest Service Boundary Trail and the O'Brien Trail. Work will take place between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm. Please contact Colby Hawkinson at 541-471-6610 for more information.

A third event will celebrate both the 15th anniversary of the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument and the National Conservation Lands System. The event will be held in the Cascade Siskiyou National Monument where volunteers will work on a variety of projects including trail work on the Pilot Rock and Pacific Crest Trails, vegetation cleanup, newly delineated parking area completion, and wilderness vehicle scar removal. Volunteers will meet at the Pilot Rock parking area at 8:30 a.m. Pilot Rock parking area can be reached by travelling 8 miles south of Ashland, on I-5 and exiting at exit 6. Go south on Old Hwy 99 for 2 miles and turn left onto BLM Rd 39-3E-32.3, go down this road for 2 miles until you reach the parking area. Food, drinks, and personal protective equipment will be provided. For more information contact Zach Million at 541-618-2318.

National Public Lands Day is the nation's largest, single-day volunteer effort for public lands. This event keeps the promise of the Civilian Conservation Corps, the "tree army" that worked from 1933-1942 to preserve and protect America's natural heritage. National Public Lands Day began in 1994 with three sites and 700 volunteers. It proved to be a huge success and became a yearly tradition, typically held on the last Saturday in September.

Last year, NPLD volunteers nationally:

- Collected an estimated 23,000 pounds of invasive plants
- Built and maintained an estimated 1,500 miles of trails
- Planted an estimated 100,000 trees, shrubs and other native plants
- Removed an estimated 500 tons of trash from trails and other places
- Saved taxpayers an estimated \$18 million through volunteer services to improve public lands across the country



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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. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2011, recreational and other activities on BLM-managed land contributed more than \$130 billion to the U.S. economy and supported more than 600,000 American jobs. The Bureau is also one of a handful of agencies that collects more revenue than it spends. In FY 2012, nearly \$5.7 billion will be generated on lands managed by the BLM, which operates on a \$1.1 billion budget. 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.

Come join the Oregon/Washington BLM on Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Flickr for the latest on outdoor opportunities, videos of your public lands, spectacular photos, and a whole lot more!

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