

# NEWS Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

3050 NE Third Street • Prineville, Oregon 97754 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/prineville>

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT PR-12-02**  
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**Contact: Lisa Clark (541) 280-9560**  
**or Jeff Clark (503) 808-6028**

## BLM asks public to help protect golden eagles

**PRINEVILLE, Ore.** – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Prineville District Office is replacing an earlier wildlife closure with a voluntary closure for the Trout Creek Recreation Area. This shift allows BLM to better communicate objectives, provide information about golden eagles and local habitat, and complete an ongoing environmental assessment analyzing management options with maximum public involvement.

The voluntary closure maintains open access on the developed Trout Creek Trail and between the Trout Creek Trail and the Lower Deschutes River. Through the voluntary closure, the BLM asks the public to choose recreation locations other than those south and east (uphill) of the Trout Creek Trail until the BLM can determine if golden eagles will occupy nesting sites this year. The nesting season for Golden Eagles begins February 1, and if nests are occupied, extends through August 31.

The Lower Deschutes Wild & Scenic River has abundant recreation opportunities, including fishing, floating, camping, wildlife and scenic viewing. In addition to providing exceptional crack climbing, the local Trout Creek area includes traditional nesting habitat for golden eagles. Nesting raptors are sensitive to human disturbance. Monitoring data shows that golden eagles annually occupy nests in the local territory but have only successfully reproduced once since 2002. Representatives from the BLM Prineville District will work with local organizations and community groups to discuss alternate recreation opportunities while sharing responsibility to ensure nesting potential for golden eagles in the Trout Creek area.

The BLM balances the protection of natural resources while providing access and use to public lands. If you'd like to be included in the mailing list for the environmental assessment for this project please email your contact information to: [BLM\\_OR\\_PR\\_Mail@blm.gov](mailto:BLM_OR_PR_Mail@blm.gov) (Subject Line: ATTN: Trout Creek).

**About the BLM:** The BLM manages 245 million acres of public land known as the National System of Public Lands. The lands are primarily located in 12 Western states, including 75 million acres in Alaska. With a budget of about \$1 billion, the bureau 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.

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