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WILD HORSES RETURNING TO DOUGLAS COUNTY

ROSEBURG, OR – The Bureau of Land Management’s Adopt-a-Horse program returns to Douglas County on April 17 and 18. Ten wild horses will be offered for adoption at the Holy Spirit Ranch in Oakland, Oregon. The event gives anyone interested the opportunity to get out and see wild horses up close, learn about their history and BLMs Adopt-a-Horse Program, and maybe even bring one home.

Animal viewing and adopter registration begins at 4 p.m. on Friday, April 17 at the Holy Spirit Ranch – 918 Rice Valley South Road, Oakland, I-5 exit 146.

On Saturday, April 18, viewing and registration opens at 7 a.m. Adopters should arrive early and get registered. Only registered adopters can participate in the silent bidding process for the animal or animals they want to take home. Bidding opens at 12:00 noon and closes promptly at 12:30 p.m. Animals not adopted during this process will remain available for the minimum fee of \$125 on a first come, first serve basis.

Event goers should also plan to watch gentling demonstrations on Saturday, April 18 with Cassie Soule, recent competitor in the Northwest Extreme Mustang Makeover (www.extrememustangmakeover.com).

All horse enthusiasts are encouraged to consider becoming adopters so these wild horses can be placed in good, safe homes. With their stamina, hardiness, and quick intelligence, Oregon's wild horses make excellent partners for any discipline.

For more information, call BLM’s Burns District Office at (541) 573-4400, or the Roseburg District Office at (541) 440-4930. Additional information about the BLM’s Wild Horse and Burro program is available online at:

<http://www.blm.gov/or/resources/whb/index.php>

About the BLM:

The BLM manages more land – 256 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.

