

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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Umpqua Basin Water Trail Development Committee Seeks Members Plans Public Meetings to Discuss Water Trail Development

Roseburg, Oregon. Do you have a passion for being on the river and want others to have a chance to enjoy the benefits the Land of Umpqua waterways has to offer? Then volunteer to help the Water Trails of the Umpqua Steering Committee!

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Roseburg and Coos Bay Districts, in partnership with Douglas County Parks Department, the Partnership for the Umpqua Rivers (PUR) and the Smith River Watershed Council are seeking interested members of the public to join the Water Trails of the Umpqua steering committee.

Two public meetings are planned to provide information and receive feedback from interested members of the public about the proposed water trail network.

- **Public Open House:** 5:00 p.m. August 24, 2011, at the Salmon Harbor Marina Activity Center, 120 Marina Way, Winchester Bay, Oregon 97467.
- **Public Open House:** 5:00 p.m., August 25, 2011, at the Roseburg BLM Office, 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, Oregon 97471.

The mission of the Water Trails of the Umpqua is to guide development of a network of water trails throughout the Umpqua Basin that provides low impact recreation, educational opportunities, and benefits to local communities and the environment.

The first phase of the Water Trails of the Umpqua project is a proposed scenic boating experience along the entire 112 miles of the Umpqua River and tributaries. The proposed trail would begin at River Forks Park just west of Roseburg, and end in Winchester Bay, providing visitors with fishing, wildlife viewing, historical, archeological and geological information and opportunities.

Water trails are boat routes suitable for canoes, rafts, and kayaks as well as recreational motorized watercraft. Like pedestrian, equestrian, and bicycle trails, water trails are recreational corridors between destinations. For additional information, please contact Erik Taylor at the Roseburg BLM office at (541) 464-3271.

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The BLM manages more land – 245 million surface 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.

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