



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management

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News Release

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Contact: Jennifer Velez 541-222-9241



Celebrate National Public Lands Day at Marmot Recreation Area

Salem, Ore. – Everyone is invited to join the Bureau of Land Management for a National Public Lands Day event at the Marmot Recreation Area on Saturday, September 24 from 10:00am to 2:00pm. Volunteers will be removing invasive plant species such as Vinca and Himalayan and Cutleaf blackberries. This work will build on recent efforts by the BLM to enhance the site as part of providing new recreational opportunities.

This all-ages volunteer work day will be one of many offered across the country that day to celebrate service in our nation's treasured public lands. This event will mark the official opening of the Marmot Recreation Area, which provides a unique day-use experience. The area offers picnic areas, BBQ grills, walking paths, a vault toilet, hiking trails, and river access for fishing and other water recreation activities. A bridge that was left from the 100 year old dam that once spanned the river allows visitors to access a non-developed area to enjoy the natural wonders of the Sandy River Basin.

"The BLM is celebrating the 40th anniversary of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act which ushered in the era of managed multiple-use on BLM lands", said John Huston, Cascades Field Office manager. "We hope you'll join us to celebrate the opening of this new recreation area and celebrate National Public Lands Day."

Volunteers should wear outdoor-appropriate clothing and footwear, and bring a lunch as well as plenty of water. Tools including loppers and shovels will be provided.

Driving Directions: From the Sandy Ridge Trailhead directional sign on Highway 26, turn right onto East Sleepy Hollow Drive and follow for approximately 1/2 mile. Turn right onto East Barlow Trail Road. Cross the Sandy River bridge and take a left onto Marmot Road. Follow Marmot Road for 7 miles and take a left onto the graveled Marmot Recreation Site Road. Travel 2.5 miles to the site.

For more information and to RSVP, please contact Deb Drake at 503-315-5948 or d1drake@blm.gov.

Additional information about National Public Lands Day is available at <https://www.neefusa.org/public-lands-day>.

Information about the Marmot Recreation Area is available at <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/salem/recreation/index.php>.

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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 sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. In Fiscal Year 2015, the BLM generated \$4.1 billion in receipts from activities occurring on public lands.