

NEWSRelease

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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Volunteers Needed For Yakima River Canyon Clean Up

Wenatchee, WA – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) seeks volunteers to assist with recreation site maintenance, including replacing damaged picnic table planks, collecting litter, brushing trails, and painting bulletin boards at BLM recreation sites in the Yakima River Canyon. The cleanup will occur on National Public Lands Day (NPLD), Saturday, September 25, 2010.

Projects will begin at 10:00 a.m. and end at 1:00 p.m. Tools, project materials, and lunch will be provided. Please wear long pants and bring sunscreen, and meet at the BLM's Umtanum Recreation Site parking lot, located south of Ellensburg at milepost 16 on State Hwy 821.

Yakima River Canyon volunteers will join more than 150,000 Americans who will celebrate NPLD by lending a hand at America's parks, mountains, streams, and hiking trails. NPLD corporate sponsors include Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc., Northrop Grumman, and others. The annual NPLD event gives Americans a chance to give back to the very lands they use for hiking, biking, climbing, swimming, exploring, picnicking, or relaxing.

Annually, NPLD helps Americans:

- Learn about critical environmental and natural resource issues and the need for shared stewardship of these valued, irreplaceable lands;
- Build partnerships in local communities based on enhancing and restoring public lands;
- Improve public lands for outdoor recreation, with volunteers assisting land managers in hands-on work.

Volunteers working at a site managed by any of eight participating Federal agencies will be rewarded with a pass good for one free entry any day during the next year at public land sites managed by participating agencies. Participating agencies include: BLM, National Park Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, USDA Forest Service, Bureau of Reclamation, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Department of Defense.

For more information about the Yakima River Canyon NPLD event, contact Diane Priebe at (509) 665-2100. To see a list of all NPLD sites, activities, contacts, and downloadable photos from past events, go to the Media Center link at www.publiclandsday.org.

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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.

Spokane District Office
BLM

