BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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BLM
Vale District Office

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For Immediate Release June 22, 2011 News Contact: Sarah LeCompte, (541) 523-1825

Folk Musicians Perform at Trail Center

BAKER CITY, ORE. – Visitors to the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center (NHOTIC) will hear the history of the west as preserved through folk music, with several presentations over the next few weeks.

Musician and storyteller Bill Boycott will present three daily programs June 26th-30th in the Leo Adler Theater located inside the Trail Center. Performances are at 11:30 a.m., 1:00 and 2:00 p.m. Boycott uses music – both traditional and contemporary – to tell the story of the pioneers who settled the West. In another program, Boycott demonstrates the art of Indian Sign Language used by Native Americans, explorers, and traders to communicate in an era when many cultures were moving about the Great Plains and the Pacific Northwest. Boycott accompanies himself on guitar and banjo.

Popular northwest folk singer Hank Cramer will present his program, "Wanderin' Minstrel" from July 1 to 5, 2011. Daily performances are at 11:00 a.m., 1:30 and 3:00 p.m. His repertoire is a mix of original, traditional, and contemporary folk songs telling the stories of pioneers, cowboys, sailors, soldiers, miners, adventurers, and drifters. That fits with Hank's own life story: he has been an underground miner, a professional soldier, shanty-man on a square-rigged ship, wrangler for a high country outfitter, and a world traveler. Those experiences make Hank's music ring with a special authenticity. He is an avid historian and presents educational programs which weave together music, history, and cultural traditions.

From August 4-6, 2011, Doug Tracy will present a musical program, including campaign and political songs from the westward expansion era. Phil and Vivian Williams come to the Leo Adler Theater August 25-27 with a program of historic fiddle and dance tunes from the pioneer era.

NHOTIC is operated by the Bureau of Land Management, and is located five miles east of Baker City, Oregon on Highway 86. Take Exit 302 from I-84. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Admission charges are $8 for adults, $4.50 for seniors, and children 15 and under are admitted free. Federal passes are accepted. Visit oregontrail.blm.gov for more information about the Center, or call 541-523-1843 for updates on programs and events. For information on this and other events in Baker County, Oregon call 1-800-523-1235.

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About the BLM: The BLM manages more land – more than 245 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.

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