

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT OR-030-2011-010
For release: Immediate Release

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Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council to Meet in Ontario Oregon

VALE, OREGON-The Southeast Oregon Resource Advisory Council (RAC) will meet June 14 and 15, 2011, in the Holiday Inn Express conference room located at 212 SE 10th in Ontario, Oregon. The business meeting on June 14 will start at 8:30 a.m. (MDT) and end at 4:30 p.m. On June 15, the meeting will start at 8 a.m. (MDT) and end at 12:15 p.m.

Agenda items for the meeting will include: Defining the RAC's role on the BLM Vegetation Environmental Impact Statement stepdown to the Vale District treatments options; getting updates on the Neil Hotsprings Geothermal project, the proposed Owyhee Pump Storage project, and large mining operations on the Vale District; hearing a presentation by Vale District specialists to better understand the current conditions in the Owyhee Canyon area; election of officers; getting reports by Federal managers on litigation and energy projects, and addressing any other matters that may reasonably come before the Council.

The public is welcome to attend all portions of the meeting as observers, and may contribute during the public comment period at 1:00 p.m. (MDT) on June 14. Depending on the number of people wishing to comment, the duration of remarks may be limited in order to fulfill meeting objectives. Those planning to verbally address the RAC during the public comment period are asked to provide a written statement of their comments or presentation. Individuals with information for review by RAC members at the June meeting must forward all documents to Mark Wilkening at BLM Vale District Office, 100 Oregon Street, Vale, Oregon, 97918. All documents must be received by June 9, 2011. Individuals who plan to attend and need special assistance – such as sign language interpretation or other reasonable accommodations – should contact the BLM Vale District Office as early as possible.

The Secretary of the Interior established the 15-member RAC to provide representative citizen council and advice to the BLM and Forest Service concerning the planning and management of the public land and national forest resources located in whole or in part within the BLM Lakeview, Vale, and Burns Districts and the Fremont-Winema and Malheur National Forests.

For more information on the RAC or the upcoming meeting, contact Mark Wilkening, BLM Vale District Office, 100 Oregon Street, Vale, Oregon 97918, or call (541) 473-6218, weekdays between 7:45 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (MDT). Additional information about the BLM Vale District can be found by visiting the district website at www.blm.gov/or/districts/vale.

-BLM-

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

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