



United States Department of the Interior  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
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To: DMs, DSDs, Staff and Branch Chiefs

From: Associate State Director for Management Services

Subject: Oregon State Office Hearing Conservation Program - Annual DD: 09/20/2007  
Compliance Requirements

The Oregon/Washington (OR/WA) [Hearing Conservation Program](#) (supplemental to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Manual Handbook 1112-1 Safety & Health Management) establishes requirements and procedures which will eliminate or significantly minimize the risk to employees of suffering hearing impairment from exposure to excessive levels of noise in the work environment.

This program applies to the work activities of all Oregon State Office employees (full time, temporary or seasonal) and volunteers, whether in the Portland Office or stationed in the field, where excessive noise exposure may result. Supervisors and/or project leaders are responsible to identify those employees who may be exposed to excessive noise levels during the work day(s). Each employee identified should receive a hearing evaluation in accordance with the monitoring and testing requirements specified in *Sections 15.3.4 & 6* of the [Hearing Conservation Program](#). Audiometric testing is available through the Federal Occupational Health (FOH) Service.

Any employee identified as possibly being exposed to excessive noise during the course of their workday must be scheduled for a baseline audiogram if one has not been accomplished previously. Following the baseline evaluation, annual retesting is scheduled. Additionally, an exit audiogram test is required upon termination of employment.

Employee testing may be accomplished at any time; however, all testing must be *scheduled prior to October 1<sup>st</sup>* each year. Requests to schedule such testing are coordinated through the State Safety Office.

Individual supervisors are directly responsible for the safety and health of their employees and play an important role in ensuring that each employee receives appropriate safety training and testing as indicated by job assignments. To assist supervisors in providing information to employees of the causes and prevention of hearing loss, a Power Point® presentation is available on the [BLM Intranet Safety Web Page](#). This site also contains additional information from the [Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#) (OSHA) regarding hearing loss prevention.

To schedule an employee for a hearing test, please contact Peggy Tribble, State Office Safety Manager, at (503) 808-6202 or email [ptribble@blm.gov](mailto:ptribble@blm.gov).

**Districts with Unions** are reminded to notify their unions of this Information Bulletin and satisfy any bargaining obligations before implementation. Your servicing Human Resources Office or Labor Relations Specialist can provide you assistance in this matter.

Signed by  
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Associate Deputy State Director  
for Management Services

Authenticated by  
Rita Wallberg  
Records Section

Distribution  
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