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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT OR-6-15 Contact: Pam Robbins
For Release: March 17, 2006 (503) 808-6306

Nomination Deadline Approaches

PORTLAND – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is seeking applicants for eighteen positions on Resource Advisory Councils (RACs) in Washington and Oregon. Local citizens participate on these RACs to give advice and recommendations about BLM and US Forest Service lands east of the Cascade Range. Five terms expire each year on the RACs, and each RAC has an additional vacant position to fill for the remainder of that term. Nominations are due **March 27, 2006**.

Vacancies and expired terms this year include: Dispersed recreation, national or regional environmental groups, Indian tribes, commercial timber, energy and minerals, public-at-large, local elected official, grazing permittee, academician, state resource employee, and wildlife/wild horse and burro.

Oregon residents may apply to the John Day-Snake RAC and Southeast Oregon RACs; **Washington** residents may apply to the Eastern Washington and John Day-Snake RACs, and **Idaho** residents are also eligible for the John Day-Snake RAC. Candidates must be knowledgeable about the geographic area of the RAC, and have support from the interest area they choose to represent. For a nomination form or additional information, please contact Pam Robbins, Bureau of Land Management, (pam_robbins@or.blm.gov), P.O. Box 2965 Portland, Oregon, (503) 808-6306, or your local BLM District Office.

The BLM manages more land – 261 million surface acres – than any other Federal agency. Most of this public land is located in 12 Western States, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1.8 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, and cultural resources on the public lands.

- - Fact sheet attached - -



RAC FACT SHEET

The RACs are an integral part of land management for federal agencies. Local RACs provide valuable advice on developing management plans and alternatives. Their expertise helps to refine project initiatives for issues as varied as grazing, off-highway vehicle planning, forest health, land exchanges, and recreation management.

Council members are unpaid but are reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses. RACs usually meet quarterly within their geographic area. Standard terms last three years, beginning each autumn. Current recruitment information follows:

Eastern Washington RAC

dispersed recreational activities; State resources employee; Indian tribes; public-at-large; State, county, or local elected office; and *energy or mineral development**

John Day-Snake RAC

dispersed recreational activities; State resources employee; wildlife/wild horse & burro; grazing permittee; academician; and *commercial timber**

Southeast Oregon RAC

State resources employee; environmental organization; grazing permittee; public-at-large; academician; and *energy or mineral development**

* Term expiration is September 2008

Nominations must include a completed background information nomination form, letter(s) of reference from the interest category to be represented, and any other information that demonstrates the nominee's qualifications. Nominees will be evaluated based on their experience working with the interest area they choose to represent, and their knowledge of the Council's geographic area. Nominees must also have demonstrated a commitment to collaborative resource decision-making. Completed application packets should be sent to Pam Robbins, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208-2965.

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