

NEWS Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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News Release
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Labor Day Weekend Wagon Encampment at National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center

Baker City, Oregon- A Wagon Encampment event September 4th, 5th, and 6th at the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center will recreate a pioneer “nooning” stop on the Oregon Trail as it might have looked 150 years ago.

On Saturday, Sunday, and Monday between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm costumed interpreters will provide Dutch oven cooking demonstrations at the Center’s outdoor wagon encampment. Samples are available for visitors. A variety of dishes will be prepared, all using historic recipes and ingredients that were available to overland pioneers. Dishes will include freshly prepared bison stew, salmon chowder, beans and bacon, cobblers, and biscuits.

Historic characters such as miners, merchants, washwomen, and pioneer children will be on hand to tell visitors their stories of life on the Trail. There will be display of historic saddles and mountain man paraphernalia. An interpretive display on frontier health care includes an assortment of medicinal herbs.

Sheryl Curtis will appear as “Bullwhackin’ Kass” with her team of oxen. Curtis gives demonstrations of how the massive draft animals take commands for basic tasks and answers questions about frontier teamsters and early freighting. The six foot tall oxen, though large and intimidating, are gentle and love to be petted by visitors.

Musician Rick Meyers will present family oriented music and activities at the encampment, plus his “Old Time Music Show” in the Leo Adler Theater at 2:00 pm. In this one hour program Meyers plays music on over a dozen different historic instruments, and includes audience participation in making music on the saw, spoons, washboard and other unconventional instruments.

The National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, operated by the Bureau of Land Management, is located 5 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 for adults is \$8. Seniors are \$4.50. Children 15 and under are 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 over Labor Day Weekend, call 1-800-523-1235.

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