

News Release
For Immediate Release

OR-038-2009-23
June 17, 2009

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Birds of Prey headline “Get Outdoors Weekend” at Oregon Trail Interpretive Center

Baker City, Oregon- Raptors from the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area will join interpreters for a full slate of nature based programs and activities for “Get Outdoors Weekend” at the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center June 27-28 beginning at 9:30 each day.

June has been officially designated Great Outdoors Month by President Barack Obama and 43 of America’s governors. The proclamations highlight efforts to encourage Americans to explore and enjoy the great outdoors, participate in outdoor recreational activities, and combine the enjoyment of being outside with the exercise we all need to stay healthy.

The Interpretive Center is offering a range of programs to help people of all ages better understand wildlife, geology, and native plants of eastern Oregon. On Saturday June 27 at 11:00 am and 2:00 pm The Birds of Prey program will bring three or more “education raptors” from the National Conservation site located just outside of Boise. The birds, including falcons and owls, have been rehabilitated from injuries, but were unable to be returned to the wild. Ranger Barbara Forderhase presents an hour long fact filled program about the raptors.

Also scheduled on Saturday is a program “Tracks, Scats and Skulls” at 10:00 am, a program on “Leave No Trace” outdoor ethics at 12:30, and a Leave No Trace interactive game program at 3:30. Geologist Howard Brooks will host a display of minerals all day Saturday and Sunday, and a Nature Hunt scavenger hunt will be available for all visitors each day.

Sunday has two scheduled programs at 11:00am and 2:00 pm of “A Burning Issue” about the use of fire to restore landscapes, a 90 minute guided hike on the Interpretive Center trails starts at 9:30 am, a Leave No Trace interactive game program is scheduled for 12:30, and at 3:30 a hands-on demonstration on how to make a cast of animal tracks.

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 other events in Baker County, Oregon, call 1-800-523-1235.

