

Bureau of Land Management News Release
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Oregon Trail Music Fest in Baker City

Baker City, Oregon - A full day of American Western heritage music will be featured Saturday, October 8, 2011, at the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center (NHOTIC).

The day starts with an opportunity to learn traditional frontier dances led by Larry B. Smith of La Grande at 10 a.m. in the lobby. Smith has over twenty years of experience teaching and leading folk dances throughout the Pacific Northwest. Live music will be provided by The Dead Fiddlers Club. No special experience is needed and partners can be provided.

Folk singer Hank Cramer will present programs of folk and traditional music about the West in the Leo Adler Theater at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Cramer was recently honored by the Washington State Humanities Commission for his work in preserving and performing folk music.

At 1 p.m. "The Dead Fiddlers Society" from Spokane performs traditional fiddle music accompanied by guitar with sounds that would have been very familiar at frontier dances.

The Hanson Family Singers from Eugene performs a program of western heritage music at 3 p.m. This program revives traditional styles of famous cowboy singers from the 1940s and 1950s. The Hanson Family has won recognition and awards for their ability to harmonize and perform authentic Western style yodeling.

Music activities for children are available throughout the day, and members of the Eastern Oregon Flute Circle will have demonstrations of Native American flutes in the lobby. A musician's jam is offered at 4 p.m. Visitors can attend additional performances in the community Friday and Saturday evening. Current information will be available by contacting the information desk at (541) 523-1843.

The NHOTIC, operated by the Bureau of Land Management, is located five 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; for seniors it's \$4.50; children 15 and under are admitted for 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 call 1 (800) 523-1235.

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 lands.

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