

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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Special Exhibits at Interpretive Center

BAKER CITY, OREGON-The National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center is offering special exhibits through 2012 to commemorate significant anniversaries and promote awareness of Oregon Trail preservation.

Currently showing through May 28th is “Trails Through Time: Photos of the Oregon Trail” by students in Toni Zikmund’s photography class at Baker High School.

“Pack Your Wagon” children’s exhibit also continues through May 28th. This exhibit uses costumes, life size games, rubber stamp activities, puppets, and a full scale packable pioneer wagon for youngsters to learn-by-doing about Oregon heritage and the frontier adventure of coming west on the Oregon Trail.

June 7th through September 3rd is “Home! Sweet Homestead! The 150th Anniversary of the Homestead Act,” examining how this landmark legislation giving away public land impacted settlement and culture in the West. Included during this time from June 17 through July 9 is a traveling exhibit from the National Park Service Homestead National Monument explaining how the 1862 Homestead Act is considered one of the most significant laws ever in American history.

A Call for Entries has opened, for photographers to submit photos for “Trails Through Time: Contemporary Photography Along the Oregon Trail”. This show will run September 21 through November 12, 2012. The exhibit aims to capture modern images and artistic impressions of historic trail sites, as this iconic American landmark undergoes tremendous impacts from changing development and settlement patterns in the 21st century West. More information is available at: http://trailtenders.org/events/upcoming_exhibits

The National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, operated by the Bureau of Land Management, is located east of Baker City, Oregon. Take Exit 302 from Interstate-84 onto Highway 86 and proceed five miles. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. Admission for adults is \$8.00; seniors are \$4.50; and 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 program and event updates. For information on other events in Baker County, Oregon, call (800) 523-1235.

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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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