

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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ARTISAN DEMONSTRATIONS AT TRAIL CENTER - JULY 4TH WEEKEND

BAKER CITY, ORE. – Visitors to the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center will learn the history of the west as preserved through folk music and traditional blacksmithing artisans.

Popular northwest folk singer Hank Cramer will present his program “Wanderin’ Minstrel” July 3rd - 5th. Daily performances are at 11:00, 12:30 and 2:00. His repertoire is a mix of original, traditional, and contemporary folk songs telling the stories of pioneers, cowboys, sailors, soldiers, miners, adventurers, and drifters. That fits with Hank’s life story: he has been an underground miner, a professional soldier, shanty-man on a square-rigged ship, wrangler for a high country outfitter, and a world traveler. Those experiences make Hank’s music ring with a special authenticity. He is an avid historian and presents educational programs which weave together music, history, and cultural traditions.

On July 3rd from 10:00 to 2:00, Peter Clark and Sue Miller of Ironwood Design in Summerville, Oregon will present blacksmithing demonstrations at the outdoor Wagon Encampment. They will create hand-forged items like those used by Oregon Trail era emigrants.

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 call 1-800-523-1235.

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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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