

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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Special Exhibit at Oregon Trail Center

BAKER CITY, OREGON- A special exhibit at the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center examines the material culture - the “stuff” - that pioneers carried on their journeys west. “Cargo for a Continental Crossing” is open through Oct. 13 of this year, and helps visitors consider how we choose possessions and supplies for any of life’s journeys by looking closely at the pioneer Oregon Trail experience.

Western history fans and those with Oregon Trail pioneer ancestors will be especially interested in the variety of authentic artifacts from the trail era on display. Some are earlier versions of camping equipment still used today, showing the progression of technology. Other items are unfamiliar, but reflect the lifestyle and needs of a five month, slow moving journey in rustic conditions 170 years ago. The exhibit includes maps, images, text panels and activities to help visitors think about what we consider essential, and what material culture tells us about people and society.

The exhibit is in the Flagstaff Gallery within the Interpretive Center. Live presentations, films, and activities related to the exhibit are scheduled in the Leo Adler Theater.

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 Oregon Highway 86 and proceed five miles. 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 an update on programs and events.

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