

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT OR-038-2013-09
For Immediate Release

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National Trails Day at Oregon Trail Center

BAKER CITY, Ore. – National Trails Day, Saturday June 1, will be a Free Fee Day at the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center, joining thousands of other sites across the country who will be holding events on this day devoted to encouraging hiking and outdoor fitness on America’s Trails.

As part of the celebrations, Trail Tenders will be holding their annual National Trails Day “Run to the Ruts” 5k-10k fun run/walk at 9 a.m. One of the most scenic courses in eastern Oregon, the Run to the Ruts race winds through sagebrush ecosystem, down to the historic Oregon Trail ruts, and back up to the top of Flagstaff Hill. Sponsorships and prizes from many Baker City businesses will make this year’s event especially fun. Pre-registration can be done by phone (541) 523-1844, or on-site the day of the event by 8:30 a.m.

The 2,170 mile Oregon National Historic Trail runs through Baker County, with a one mile section on the Interpretive Center grounds. Designated in 1978, this trail is one of a system of 25 nationally designated Scenic and Historic trails. Visitors on Saturday can request a free map and guide of the National Trails System and of the Oregon National Historic Trail.

Additional National Trails Day activities include the special children’s exhibit “Wagons Ho! Interactive Oregon Trail Experience” continues in the Flagstaff Gallery. A special program “Campfire Conversations” is offered 1-3 p.m. Visitors may also take the self-guided geology walk which explains the geologic features and mining history visible from the Center’s four mile trail system.

The Trail Center is located five miles east of Baker City, Oregon on Highway 86. Take Exit 302 from I-84. The Center is currently open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily, starting June 1 hours will extend to 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission for adults is \$8.00; for seniors it’s \$4.50; children 15 and under are admitted for free. Federal passes are accepted. Call (541) 523-1843 for updates on programs and events. For more information about the Trail Center visit:

www.oregontrail.blm.gov

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land – the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2011, recreational and other activities on BLM-managed land contributed more than \$130 billion to the U.S. economy and supported more than 600,000 American jobs. The Bureau is also one of a handful of agencies that collects more revenue than it spends. In FY 2012, nearly \$5.7 billion will be generated on lands managed by the BLM, which operates on a \$1.1 billion budget. 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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