

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

1300 Airport Lane • North Bend, Oregon 97459 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/coosbay>

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Funding Available for Natural Resource Projects

North Bend, Ore. – The public is invited to submit applications for funding to complete natural resource projects in Tillamook, Lincoln, Douglas, Coos, and Curry Counties through the Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) Secure Rural Schools Title II Program. Applications must be submitted to the Coos Bay District BLM Office by close of business **February 2, 2016**.

Title II of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, as reauthorized in 2015, provides funds for projects that are on Federal land or that benefit Federal lands. Approximately \$500,000 is available for projects that improve existing infrastructure, enhance forest ecosystems or restore and improve land health and water quality. Individuals, non-profit organizations, organized groups and local governments are all eligible to receive funding for Title II projects.

The Coastal Oregon Resource Advisory Committee, comprised of citizens that represent a wide range of interests, will review the Title II project applications in 2016 and recommend to the BLM which projects should be funded. Funding for approved projects is expected to be available in fiscal year 2016.

Prospective applicants should be aware that they are responsible for the completion of any National Environmental Policy Act documentation unless otherwise negotiated with the BLM. This requirement extends to projects conducted on privately-managed lands that are funded with Title II dollars.

Completed applications may be submitted at the Coos Bay District Office at 1300 Airport Lane, North Bend, Ore., or via email to gharkler@blm.gov. Email submissions are preferred. A copy of the project submission form and additional information on the Coos Bay Resource Advisory Committee is available online at: <http://www.blm.gov/or/rac/coorac.php>

For questions on the application process or to obtain additional information, please contact Glenn Harkleroad, Assistant Field Manager at 541-751-4353.

About BLM

The BLM manages more land – 245 million surface 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.

