

BLM news
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Oregon State Office, 729 NE Oregon Street, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon 97208

Release No.: 79-53 GLOOG93

Contact: Bill Keil

(503) 231-6276

July 18, 1979

1-4-5-7-8-11-13-14-15-
17f-17o-18-19o-20-21-25-
26-27o-28-31o-34**BLM PROCEEDS WITH WILDERNESS INVENTORY**

The Bureau of Land Management is accelerating an inventory of 29 southeastern Oregon roadless areas in its Lakeview, Burns, Vale and Prineville districts to determine their candidacy for wilderness study areas.

The effort will provide several public benefits, according to BLM Oregon State Director Murl W. Storms.

The areas include portions of the Drewsey area of BLM's Burns District where livestock grazing conditions will be improved next year if actions will not impair wilderness values. Determination of wilderness characteristics on inventory units will be necessary to decide which range improvement projects can be carried out.

The Oregon Division of State Lands has indicated an interest in exchanging State land for BLM land located in several units under intensive wilderness inventory. BLM is also considering exchanging land in other units for other private lands, however the agency will not proceed with negotiations if lands selected by the State or private individuals are located in wilderness study areas.

An inventory unit in BLM's Prineville District adjoins an area in the Crooked River National Grassland on which the Forest Service will issue a draft environmental impact statement this summer. The draft will include a preferred alternative on wilderness designation. Storms said an early announcement of the proposed decision on adjoining BLM land will provide the public with an opportunity to comment on both agency's proposals simultaneously.

more



A BLM goal is to balance the uses of natural resources so as to ensure the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment.

PORTLAND, OREGON

New State Director Is Sworn In

PORTLAND — The Bureau of Land Management in Oregon and Washington has a new state director, William G. Leavell, and a new associate state director, Paul M. Vetterick. Both were installed in office June 23, 1980 by Frank Gregg, BLM's national director.

Leavell reported to the Oregon State Office on June 9, and has kept a full schedule since. In an effort to meet some of the people with interests in BLM, he has been to more than 20 communities in less than four weeks. Meetings have been held with BLM employees; news media representatives; state, local and federal agency officials; and resource interest and user groups.

In outlining BLM's challenges and opportunities, Director Frank Gregg said, "America is seeing an increased dependance on the public lands. A total of 85 percent of the nation's oil shale is under BLM jurisdiction as well as 40 percent of the nation's coal."

Gregg cited pressure on the Pacific Northwest to produce timber and also pressure for increased red meat production and from such a myriad of interests as archaeological values, endangered species and wilderness.

"And all of this is during a period when financing government programs is growing more and more difficult.

"But Congress has been increasingly recognizing the values in public lands."

BLM Helps Mother Nature Grow Better Douglas-fir

What does it take to cross-pollinate 60 Douglas-fir trees?"

"Cooperation from Mother Nature, half a dozen experienced tree climbers, good planning and a little luck," says Rich Kelly. Kelly should know, he's the tree improvement specialist for the Bureau of Land Management's Coos Bay District. Part of his tree improvement work this spring included cross-pollination work on selected Douglas-fir trees in the district.

Cone crosses are cyclic in Douglas-fir.



NATIONAL DIRECTOR Frank Gregg swears in new Oregon State Director and Associate Director.

Gregg said that BLM has had the most sustained support from the Secretary of the Interior of any period.

"People care deeply," he said, "and controversy is predictable. However, the people I've picked to lead the Oregon State Office (Leavell and Vetterick) may be the best team of managers we have in BLM. Their qualities complement each other."

Leavell, who has spent his entire career of civilian government service with BLM said, "I hardly realized that the trail I started on 28 years ago in Harney County would lead back to here.

"My personal goal is to provide public service with the least amount of red tape possible. We will continually look, listen and ask ourselves if there is a better way. If there is, we'll change. Our employees will be involved and informed.

Vetterick made no secret of his pleasure in returning to Oregon where he started his career as a forester in Coos Bay.

He told the BLM Oregon State Office staff, "I have mixed emotions about returning to Oregon. On one hand, I'm glad, and on the other hand, I'm ecstatic."

The flowers. Cool, moist weather slows growth, and while that allows more time to complete the job, it is less comfortable for the tree climbers. The crews work whatever the weather, and climb trees as tall as 125 feet.

The success of the cross-pollination is unknown until fall, when the mature cones can be collected and the seed tested. Eventually, the best seed from these controlled crosses will be used to stock seed orchards. Seedlings from these well-pedigreed trees will be used to

- Revise my address as indicated on this panel which I am returning.
- Discontinue sending BLM News Clips.
- Include these resource management subjects in future issues:

Permission is granted to republish material from BLM News Clips, with or without credit.



BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT Oregon-Washington

729 NE Oregon St.
P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208
William G. Leavell, State Director
Philip Carroll, Editor

DISTRICTS Oregon

Lakeview - 1000 Ninth St. S, PO Box 151, Lakeview, OR 97630. Phone 947-2177. Richard A. Gerity, Mgr.

Burns - 74 S Alvord St., Burns, OR 97720. Phone 573-2071. L. Christian Vosler, Mgr.

Vale - 365 A St. W, PO Box 700, Vale, OR 97918. Phone 473-3144. Fearl M. Parker, Mgr.

Prineville - 185 E 4th St., PO Box 550, Prineville, OR 97754. Phone 447-4115. Paul W. Arrasmith, Mgr.

Baker - Federal Building, PO Box 987, Baker, OR 97814. Phone 523-6391. Gordon R. Staker, Mgr.

Salem - 3550 Liberty Road S, PO Box 3227, Salem, OR 97302. Phone 399-5646. Edward G. Stauber, Mgr.

Eugene - 1255 Pearl St., PO Box 10226, Eugene, OR 97401. Phone 687-6650. Dwight L. Patton, Mgr.

Roseburg - 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, OR 97470. Phone 672-4491. James E. Hart, Mgr.

Medford - 3040 Biddle Rd., Medford, OR 97501. Phone 776-4174. George C. Francis, Mgr.

Coos Bay - 333 S 4th St., Coos Bay, OR 97420. Phone 269-5880. Paul M. Sanger, Mgr.

Washington

Spokane - 920 W Riverside, Spokane,

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
INT 415



Time Capsule Unearthed

Timber Was A Mite Cheaper Then

A glimpse into the past of the timber industry was provided recently by a 30-year-old time capsule discovered in Roseburg. There was a Bureau of Land Management news release in the capsule, describing a 70 million board foot timber sale which had been appraised at about \$821 thousand. That's only \$11.27 per Mbf (thousand board feet).

The capsule was uncovered during renovation of the Douglas County nursing home. It had been placed in the cornerstone of the building as a part of the dedication ceremony in October, 1950.

Victor Olson, BLM's Roseburg District appraiser, said that today an equal quantity of Douglas-fir timber would appraise for more than \$14 million. That's about \$200.00 per Mbf.

The time capsule is being re-sealed with current information added. Included will be a BLM news release from this year giving the results of a recent 13 million board foot timber sale which went for high bids of \$3.8 million, or \$286.19 per Mbf.

Regs Final, But No Land

New regulations become effective on July 10 that permit the sale of individual parcels of BLM land not needed for federal programs and that meet specific disposal criteria. However, no such lands in Oregon or Washington will be available in the foreseeable future, officials say.

The Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 established the policy that the public lands managed by BLM will be retained in federal ownership and managed on the basis of multiple use and sustained yield. However, an exception is when as a result of land use planning it is determined that disposal of a particular parcel will serve the national interest.

Characteristics of a parcel and a location that make it difficult or uneconomic for BLM to manage might qualify it for disposal. Also, if a parcel is needed for community expansion or to meet important public objectives that outweigh other public values served by continued BLM management, then the parcel could be considered for disposal.

Timber Harvest Announced

ASHLAND — Annual timber harvests of 115 million board feet for the Jackson and Klamath units were announced by BLM Director Frank Gregg.

The annual harvest during the past 10 years in the Jackson and Klamath units has been 128 million board feet.

New harvest levels, which were established by the State Director on the recommendation of the district manager, will take effect October 1, according to Gregg. Harvest of overmature stands and a special study area will increase the yield to 136 million board feet for the first 10 years and 131 million board feet the succeeding decade before the cutting reverts to 115 million board feet.

The plan and alternatives were considered in an environmental impact statement published by BLM in November, 1979.

talking about a camera that's about 200 times the size of those usually called large-format.

Ivy runs a 26-inch by 38-inch graphic arts camera for the Bureau of Land Management. And those measurements aren't the size of the camera but the size of each piece of film the monster shoots. The camera, a Brown Ambassador 3826, is 22 feet long, about 8 feet wide and almost 7 feet tall. It takes up two whole rooms which were mostly built up around the camera after it was put into place.

The new camera, which just started producing June 11, will be used primarily for the duplication of maps BLM includes with environmental impact statements.

"Now we'll have full quality control," Ivy says, "all the way from the original to the final negative which goes to the printer. We'll also reduce our waiting time."

That waiting time is vitally important in the production of EIS-related items, Ivy says, since they are on a court-set deadline.

The icing on the cake, Ivy says, is the money savings. The price of the camera (more than \$20,000) should be paid back with savings in less than two years.

"And that doesn't include other things we'll be able to do with it," he says. "In addition to the direct copy work, we can do reductions and enlargements from 10 percent to 1000 percent."

Deadlines Draw Near, Comment Periods End

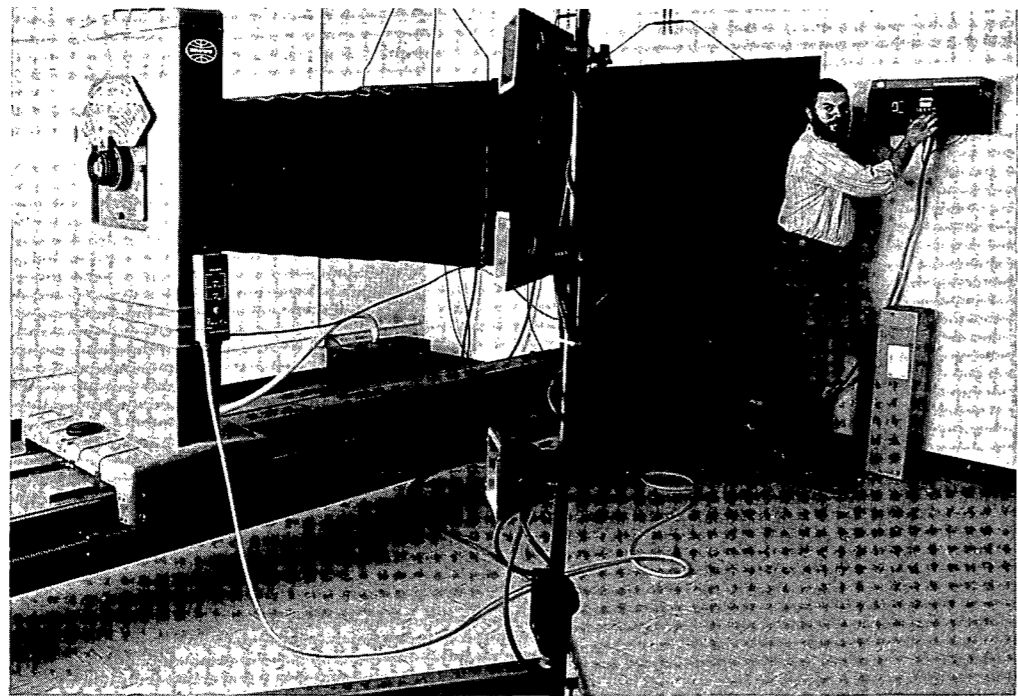
It is the policy of the Bureau of Land Management to provide opportunities for public involvement in developing regulations to implement the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

This continuing process already has resulted in new regulations governing many aspects of natural resource management. At present, there are opportunities for further input concerning rules for protection of surface resources during extraction of minerals from mining claims and to govern the issuance of permits, leases and easements for the use of BLM land.

Comments on the proposed mining rules will be accepted until July 16, a date that recently was extended as a result of public requests.

The deadline for comments on regulations concerning miscellaneous uses of BLM land is July 11. These proposed rules would not affect such uses as grazing, timber sales, mineral leasing and rights of way; all of which are covered by separate regulations.

There is an August 19 deadline for comments on proposed regulations to govern exchange of public lands. The regulations would allow the Secretary of the Interior to exchange federal



BOB IVY, and his 22-foot electric camera.

Smokey's Message Spreads Like Wildfire

VALE — Smokey the Bear is still urging kids to prevent fires. And he's still making the kids smile.

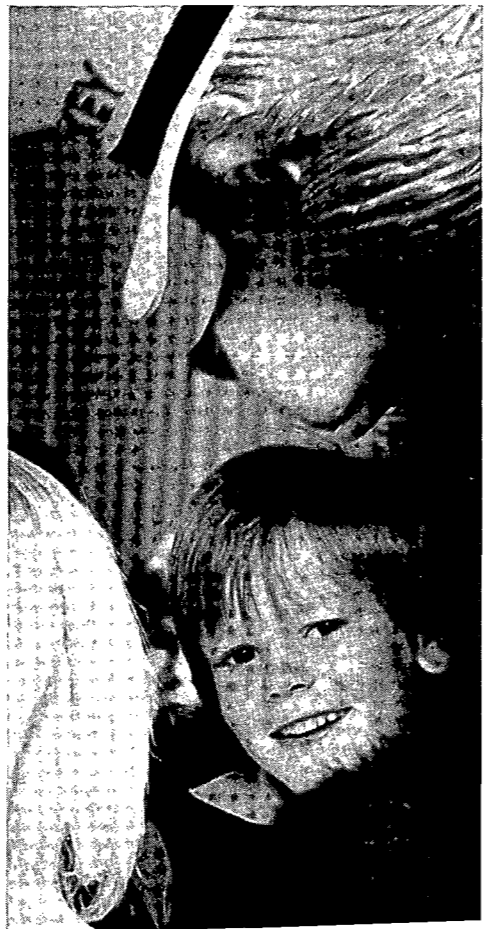
Recently, as a part of the Bureau of Land Management's continuing program of fire prevention, Smokey and some friends visited with Head Start program children in several eastern Oregon towns. Smokey's friends — BLM fire prevention employees — talked to the kids about what they can do to help prevent forest and range fires. One kid-size role is to give any matches they find to an adult, or, as they put it, "Give 'em to a Mommy!"

At the end of the short discussion, comes a knocking at the door. One brave child is elected to go open the door and, "Wow, it's Smokey Bear . . . is he real? . . . I love you Smokey!"

regulations would implement other sections of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 granting the Secretary the authority to make such land exchanges when the exchange is in the public interest.

The exchange authority would involve public lands administered by the Bureau of Land Management. Only those public lands determined by the appropriate official of the Bureau to be suitable for disposal would be available for exchange.

Copies of proposed regulations can be requested from any BLM office. Comments about proposals can be sent to the Bureau of



"PULL UP! PULL UP!"

"Have had a complete engine failure. Am going in . . ."

"Tanker number two went in! He's burning. That's it."

Fortunately, the crash of the air tanker was only a put-on. It was part of a simulation exercise conducted at a fire information officer (FIO) training session sponsored by the Bureau of Land Management, the Forest Service, the Oregon Department of Forestry and the Washington Department of Natural Resources.

Increased public interest in natural resources has made wildfire a big news item in the last few years. Consequently, FIOs are becoming valuable members of fire-fighting teams, according to Walt Schopfer, BLM fire and emergency operations specialist.

"The FIO plays an important part in communication between the line bosses, the news media and the public. It's a tough job," Schopfer said.

Thirty-one trainees attended the meeting at

anticipate, decide, communicate.") to the practical ("Take along a large plastic garbage bag. It may end up as your washing machine.")

Highlighting the training was the five-hour simulation. Trainees were divided into teams, and gleaned information about the fire from a tape that was played through two-way radios. Meanwhile, people posing as reporters,

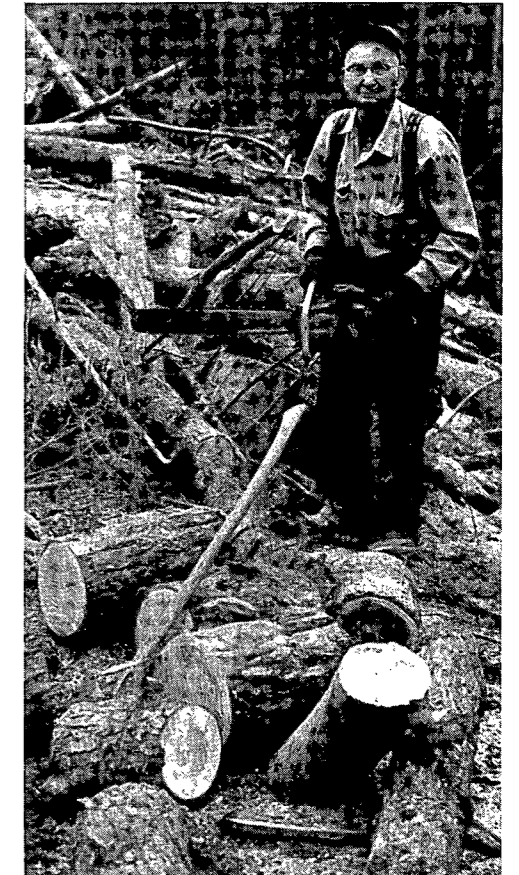
Senior Citizens Get Free Firewood Permits

MEDFORD — Two hundred fifty senior citizens recently obtained free firewood from the Bureau of Land Management's Medford District. The no-cost permits were given on a first-come, first-served basis at the BLM office in Medford. Young Adult Conservation Corps crews had moved the wood to the roadside to prepare the area for reforestation and to reduce fire hazards.

The area, in BLM's Rogue Resource Area, was only 15 miles from downtown Medford.

Jerry Mason, one of the trainees. "I'd recommend it to people who have a desire to work as an FIO, but also to other people on the fire team so that they can appreciate the problems faced by the information officer."

The training session may be put on every two years, according to Bill Keil, one of the coordinators.



79-YEAR-OLD Harold Reed participated in wood cut.

Mount Saint Helens' Fallout Dusts BLM Lands

PORTLAND — The Bureau of Land Management seems to have come through a major eruption of Mount Saint Helens and two subsequent blasts smelling like a slightly ash-dusted rose. A bit gray on the surface perhaps, but not much real damage.

Gardner Ferry, who assembles volcanic damage reports for BLM in Portland, said that only two parcels of BLM land were in the direct damage zone from the devastating May 18 volcanic eruption. Of the 311,157 acres of BLM land in Washington, about 13,000 were dusted with more than an inch of ash. The rest received

less than one-quarter inch of the gray grit.

Timber had recently been harvested on one parcel of 120 acres in the direct damage zone, north of the Swift Creek Reservoir. No merchantable timber remained at the time of the eruption. The other nearby parcel is at the northeast end of Swift Creek Reservoir, and is about 100 acres in size. Timber on this parcel recently had been sold, but not cut. Both areas were coated with up to two inches of ash.

So far, impacts on programs elsewhere seem to be minor. A present concern is informing employees of ash hazards and effects.

So far, so good.

No-Extension Policy Reaffirmed by BLM

The Bureau of Land Management will continue to require timely performance on timber sale contracts, according to the agency's director, Frank Gregg.

The policy is in the interest of an orderly program of forest management, Gregg explained.

"A few individual timber companies have requested time extensions as a result of the decline in timber industry activities," Gregg said, "but the industry generally is not pressing for a change in the extension policy."

policy is intended in part to discourage speculations relating to market fluctuations, and in part to discourage speculation in bidding for Federal timber.

A BLM assessment indicates that the vast majority of the BLM timber purchasers can complete their sale contracts without a relaxation in the Bureau's extension policy. The few who might not be able to complete their contracts can take advantage of a provision that allows the resale of timber remaining on the contract area to be applied to other

Four-Wheelers Clean Up

EUGENE — Roadsides and recreation areas north and west of Marcola are much cleaner now as a result of a litter clean up campaign conducted by 126 members of Oregon's Pacific Northwest Four-Wheel Drive Association — Region 6.

"This was 'Operation Cleansweep' our annual public service project, and this year we chose

Debra Struhacker
Earth Science Laboratory
420 Chipeta Way, Suite 120
34

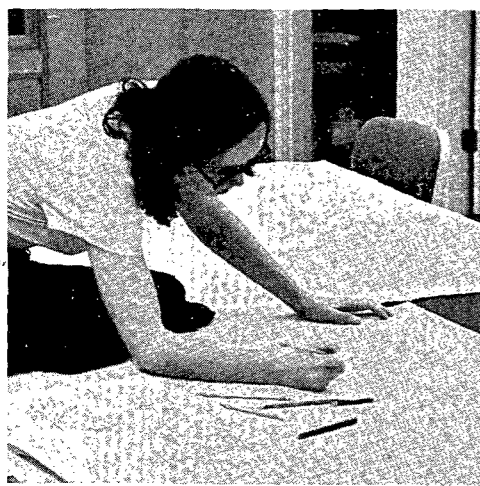
- Revise my address as indicated on this panel which I am returning.
 - Discontinue sending BLM News Clips.
 - Include these resource management subjects in future issues.
- Permission is granted to republish material from BLM News Clips, with or without credit.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
OREGON STATE OFFICE
P.O. BOX 2965 (729 NE OREGON ST.)
PORTLAND, OREGON 97208

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

No Olympics For This Team . . . Just Work!



specializing in grazing management and one in timber management statements. Each has a statement leader, wildlife biologist, physical environment specialist and either a forester or range specialist. The subteams share an economist, a recreation planner and the editorial group, which does the final polishing of the statement. All this, including many stages of review, revision, rewriting, formal public comment and publication of draft and final editions of the statement, is completed in less than 18 months, sometimes a lot less. And the deadlines, set by the federal courts which require the statements, are unyielding.

"Each of the two statement leaders has to be juggling two at once," Smith said. "So as a team, we've got four in the air all the time."

Right now, with three completed statements under its belt, the team has one statement on timber management in the works and one in the first stages of planning. They've also just released the draft of a statement on grazing management this month. On deck is the biggest area they've yet to handle, the 3.3 million acres of the Lakeview grazing management statement, which will be due late in 1981.

Fire Info Report To Start In Mid-May

Information on BLM range and forest fires will be available beginning in mid-May by dialing (503) 234-2324.

A recorded message will list BLM fires in Oregon and Washington, suppression efforts, give a weather report and cumulative fire statistics. During the peak of the fire

The Bureau of Land Management Oregon State Office in Portland has an EIS team, but they won't be going to the Olympics.

They're undoubtedly good enough, but it's just that there's no Olympic competition for teams that write environmental impact statements.

What's an environmental impact statement? Ron Smith, who heads the team, says it's a document that analyzes the impacts to the natural and human environment in a certain area. If, for example, an EIS is required on an area to be improved and leased for livestock grazing, the document will compare the impacts of several alternative plans. One of these will be the proposed action, others will include greater or lesser amounts of grazing on the land.

Then the impacts are compared. What will the effect of each alternative be on summer stream flows? Or on winter deer habitat? Or air

BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT Oregon-Washington

729 NE Oregon St.
P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208
Don Smurthwaite, Editor

DISTRICTS Oregon

Lakeview - 1000 Ninth St. S, PO Box 151, Lakeview, OR 97630. Phone 947-2177. Richard A. Gerity, Mgr.

Burns - 74 S Alvord St., Burns, OR 97720. Phone 573-2071. L. Christian Vosler, Mgr.

Vale - 365 A St. W, PO Box 700, Vale, OR 97918. Phone 473-3144. Fearl M. Parker, Mgr.

Prineville - 185 E 4th St., PO Box 550, Prineville, OR 97754. Phone 447-4115. Paul W. Arrasmith, Mgr.

Baker - Federal Building, PO Box 987, Baker, OR 97814. Phone 523-6391. Gordon R. Staker, Mgr.

Salem - 3550 Liberty Road S, PO Box 3227, Salem, OR 97302. Phone 399-5646. Edward G. Stauber, Mgr.

Eugene - 1255 Pearl St., PO Box 10226, Eugene, OR 97401. Phone 687-6650. Dwight L. Patton, Mgr.

Roseburg - 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, OR 97470. Phone 672-4491. James E. Hart, Mgr.

Medford - 3040 Biddle Rd., Medford, OR 97501. Phone 776-4174. George C. Francis, Mgr.

Coos Bay - 333 S 4th St., Coos Bay, OR 97420. Phone 269-5880. Paul M. Sanger, Mgr.

Washington



PORTLAND, OREGON

A BLM goal is to balance the uses of natural resources so as to ensure the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment.

MAY 1980

Coho Salmon Stocking Will Boost Coast River Runs

DEADWOOD — The Bureau of Land Management is providing equipment and personnel to help the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife plant coho salmon in coastal streams. Public volunteers, including many commercial fishermen, are pitching in, too.

Four BLM trucks and drivers were assigned during the week of April 14 to help stock streams in the Siuslaw River drainage. That system will get about 2.3 million out of about 6 million fish being planted in this program. Department fisheries biologists estimate that, at an average rate of return, the program will result in about 10,000 adult salmon being caught by

commercial and sport fishermen when the fish return in 1982. They also expect that more than 3,000 will make it back to the streams where they were stocked and spawn. And those impressive numbers are just from Siuslaw stocked fish.

The fish being stocked are called pre-smolt fingerlings, and are a full year younger than the smolts usually released by the hatcheries that raise them. The difference will show up when these younger fish will return to the streams where they were planted after growing to adulthood in the sea, instead of going back to the hatchery like the older smolts usually

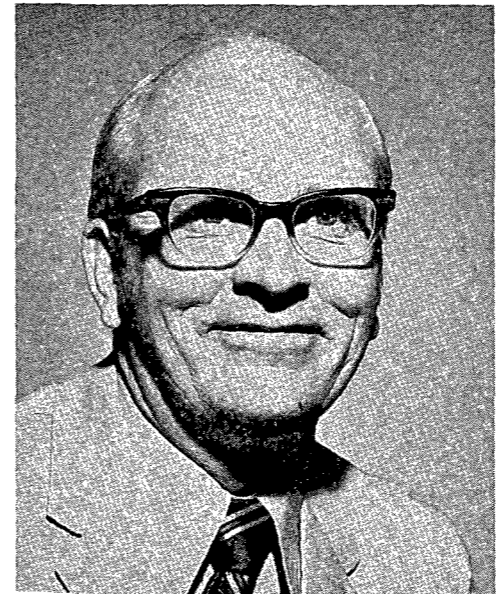


SIX million coho will be planted in west Oregon. Steve Kelly from Eugene District, unloads a 250-gallon tank.

Leavell, Vetterick Get Key BLM Jobs

William G. Leavell has been selected as new state director for the Bureau of Land Management in Oregon and Washington.

Designated as the new associate state director is Paul M. Vetterick.



Leavell replaces Murl W. Storms, who retired last November after 33 years of federal service. Leavell began his career with BLM in the Burns District as a range conservationist in 1952, after graduating from the University of Idaho with a degree in forestry and range management. He also worked in BLM's Lakeview District, and has been serving as the associate state director in Utah since 1971.

Vetterick is acting assistant director for renewable resources in BLM's Washington D.C. office. Like Leavell, he also worked in Oregon early in his career, serving in the Coos Bay District as a forester. He replaces E. J. Petersen, who retired in February after 34 years of federal service.

Leavell and Vetterick will lead the resource management of 15.7 million acres of land in Oregon and 311,000 acres in Washington.

In announcing the selections, BLM Director Frank Gregg said the two BLM veterans would make an exceptionally strong management team.

"Bill Leavell and Paul Vetterick have solid professional backgrounds," Gregg said. "Both have worked on a person-to-person level with

released.

Many of the fish are being released in areas recently reclaimed by BLM from either natural or man-caused blockages. The streams were previously unusable to salmon, which must migrate to the sea, because of improper culverts, debris, jams, landslides, or other obstructions.

The two agencies are planning to resume the operation commencing May 5. The operation is

...burros, and vice versa. And by day's end, both parties had increased their understanding of each other a notch or two.

"I never have worked with burros before," said Dale Butler, operator of the Spanaway Distribution Center. "I've been around horses since I was a kid, but I'm learning about burros fast. Most of 'em are pretty tame, but they can be a little stubborn at times."

Butler and his counterpart in Eugene, Ore., Chuck John, each received 25 wild burros in mid-April, as BLM's "Adopt-A-Horse" program expanded to include wild burros for the first time in the Northwest. The wild burros were gathered in the Saline and Panamint Valleys, near Baker, Cal.

First reviews of the animals indicate the burros will be a hit with their adopters.

"They're good-looking burros and pretty tame once they get a chance to settle down a bit," said Spanaway wrangler Mitch Murphy. "It won't take them any time at all to get used to people."



BURROS eat less than horses, have tremendous stamina.

Ashland YACC Program Rated A "Model"

ASHLAND — BLM's Young Adult Conservation Corps (YACC) program here received high marks on an evaluation by the Interior Department's Office of Youth Programs.

Ashland YACC program is operated by BLM's Medford District.

Excellent reviews were given to the organization's director and staff, the recruitment program, the facilities and relations with the community. Even the food was rated favorably, with the report noting, "there was not one enrollee complaint as to the quality or quantity."

The five-member evaluation team also pointed out that YACC members and college students were mixing well, with very little discord.

"This particular program is a model for any future college-YACC related program," the summary concluded.

U.S. Court Upholds IBLA On Invalidating Claim

Cheaper transportation costs do not give stone a unique value, meaning that it is not considered locatable under mining laws, according to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Four persons appealed an Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA) ruling that planty banded rhyolite was not locatable, arguing the stone had distinct qualities that gave it unique value. However, the court found that the only

...one walked over to a wild burro that only minutes before had a halter placed on it. They nuzzled the burro with their hands and rubbed its flanks slowly. The animal seemed to enjoy the attention.

It took only about 10 minutes for the wranglers to lasso and halter break most burros. But getting the animals out of the truck when they arrived didn't go quite as smoothly. That legendary burro trait — stubbornness — turned unloading the truck into a two-hour tussle.

"They arrived here about 8 p.m.," Butler said. "We were told that if we put a bale of hay out, they would come right off the truck and down the ramp. But we found different. We had to take 'em out one at a time."

"I think these burros will be adopted quickly. Most of them are fairly docile after they've had a chance to relax for a few minutes. Take that jenny over there," Butler continued, nodding towards a very content burro. "She's plumb tame already."

Wild burros, like wild horses, are rounded up by BLM and placed with citizens to help relieve overpopulations on western ranges and deserts. The 50 arriving in April may soon be followed by other shipments if the demand is high, said Larry Lee, BLM program manager.

Applications for adopting wild horses or wild burros may be obtained by writing, BLM, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Ore. 97208. The burros are free, but BLM charges \$85 at Eugene and \$107 at Spanaway for transportation.

Nevada Declines Sagebrush Lawsuit

The State of Nevada has declined to accept a challenge to litigate its "Sagebrush Rebellion" claims to federally owned-lands in the state, Secretary of the Interior Cecil D. Andrus announced.

Andrus said he would ask the Justice Department to renew its invitation to Nevada to get the matter resolved in a lawsuit now pending in Federal court.

In February, Andrus announced he had asked the Justice Department to invite Nevada to litigate the "Sagebrush Rebellion" issue as part of a pending lawsuit brought by the state against the Interior Department concerning ownership of wild horses on public lands.

A pre-trial request was filed asking Nevada to specify if it claimed ownership of the public lands. Nevada objected to the request.

"We offered the State government an immediate opportunity to let the courts decide whether these lands belong to all the American people or just to Nevada," Andrus said. "They



Mountain Goats May Find New Oregon Home

BAKER — Ten to fifteen Rocky Mountain goats may find a new home this summer in the Hunt Mountain area along the Elkhorn Ridge, 10 miles northwest of Baker.

BLM's Baker District and the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest have been approached by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife concerning a transplant of the animals from their present home in Idaho to the rugged northeastern Oregon site.

Matt Kniesel, BLM wildlife biologist, said that mountain goats generally inhabit the more remote and inaccessible mountain habitats, often in sub-alpine or alpine areas. Features of terrain considered ideal for habitat include a combination of exposed, windswept, alpine above timberline, sheer rock outcroppings and talus slides interspersed with steep, grassy slopes and precipitous cliffs on southern exposures.

"We inventoried the Hunt Mountain area about three years ago, and it's a suitable area for mountain goats," Kniesel said.

Mountain goats generally have a home range of five to ten square miles. The size of the home range depends on whether the goats' habitat requirements can be met within that area. Summer and winter ranges should be in close proximity to each other. Movements between seasons are elevational rather than migrational, Kniesel said.

A maximum herd size of 50 mountain goats has been determined. Mountain goats show a low rate of increase on most ranges. Mortality within the first year can be high because of accidents and severe weather. It may take ten to 15 years before the initial herd reaches maximum size.

The Rocky Mountain goat is not native to Oregon. However, herds in the Wallowa Mountains and in the Seven Devils area of Hells Canyon have been successfully established in the last few years, Kniesel said. Another herd was transplanted in the Columbia Gorge, but no reproduction has occurred.

Previous attempts to introduce the mountain

Plants classified as rare are subject to the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as interpreted by BLM. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and BLM will confer to determine if the mountain goats would jeopardize the rare plants. BLM will then abide with the recommendations of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Sixty-Year-Old Regrowth Ready For Thinning

By GENE LATHROP

ROSEBURG — It was back in May of 1918 when the General Land Office sold 3,120 MBF (thousand board feet) of Douglas-fir from the re-vested Oregon and California Railroad Company land to Ole T. Oleson for \$1 per thousand.

That was the beginning of timber sales on the O&C lands in the present-day Roseburg District. Now, a generation of trees has replaced those that were logged early in the century. And some of the "new" trees are in turn ready to be harvested.

The Ward Creek Thinning in the 1981 Drain Resource Area timber sale plan will remove four million board feet from an area that was originally logged by the Pioneer Lumber Co. in 1920. It will be the first time a second harvest has been taken from an area in the Roseburg District. Under the current sale terms, the best trees will be left to grow another 30 to 40 years.

The first timber was purchased for \$1.75 per MBF, and the Pioneer Lumber Co. had 13 years in which to harvest it. Today the current price of Douglas-fir is about \$400 per thousand, and contracts run from one to three years.

In the original harvest, logging was done with steam-powered donkey engines, and the logs were hauled out by trucks over plank roads, and by railroad. The planks on the roads and the ties for the railroad were cut from the sale area. Following logging, the sale area was burned and grazed. The present stand dates to 1937.

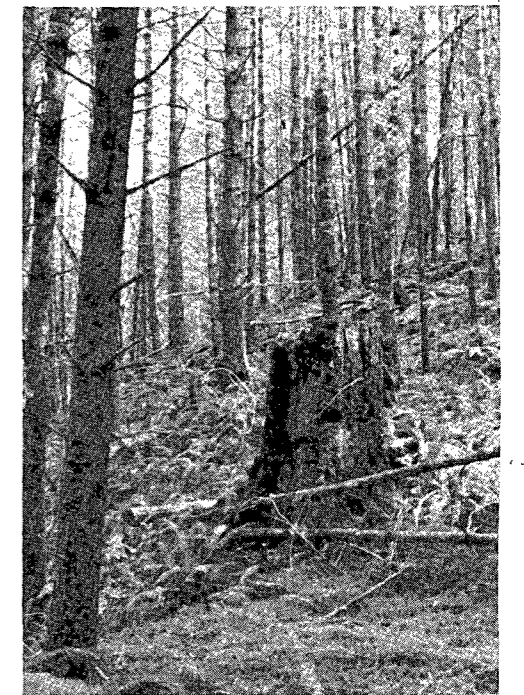
Although there were no environmental

A right-of-way grant has been issued to the Northern Tier Pipeline Company for construction and operation of a crude oil pipeline across federal lands on a 1,491-mile route between Port Angeles, Wash., and Clearbrook, Minn.

The action results from President Carter's January 17 decision that a west-to-east crude oil transportation system was in the national interest, and his selection of the Northern Tier proposal as the project to receive approval. Four proposals were submitted to President Carter for consideration in late 1979.

As proposed, the pipeline route will cross Washington, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota and Minnesota. Three of the states — Washington, Montana and Minnesota — are in the process of preparing environmental impact statements and have not yet given approval for the pipeline, according to Interior Department Secretary Cecil D. Andrus.

Andrus said the issuance of the pipeline grant does not pre-empt the laws of any state.



STUMP from the original logging job now surrounded by younger Douglas-firs.

The gently rolling hills are covered with Douglas-firs 100 feet tall. The young stand with the closed crown adds beauty to the area. Old stumps with springboard holes in them offer the only reminder of the logging job.



A summary of the evaluation praised nearly all aspects of the program, which is housed on



POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
OREGON STATE OFFICE
P.O. BOX 2965 (729 NE OREGON ST.)
PORTLAND, OREGON 97208
INT 415

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
OREGON STATE OFFICE
P.O. BOX 2965 (729 NE OREGON ST.)
PORTLAND, OREGON 97208

Pipeline Leg Gets Right-of-Way Permit

A right-of-way permit to begin construction on a portion of the "western leg" of the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation System has been issued by the Bureau of Land Management.

The Alaska Natural Gas Transmission System, when completed, will transport natural gas from Prudhoe Bay, Alaska, to California and to the Midwest. The "western leg" of the system refers to the portion of the pipeline from the Idaho-British Columbia border to the San Francisco bay area.



WESTERN LEG of pipeline will cut through central Oregon.

Initial construction will include 160 miles of new pipeline connecting segments from Eastport, Idaho, across southeastern

Construction of the 42-inch connecting pipeline segments should be completed within a year, and will deliver 240 million cubic feet of natural gas per day. The Eastport to Stanfield segment is the first portion of the system to receive a right-of-way permit.

"In taking this first step to clear the way for construction of a natural gas pipeline from Alaska through Canada to the United States, we are following President Carter's policy to develop more domestic energy supplies which the nation so badly needs," said Cecil D. Andrus, secretary of the Interior Department.

Wasco County, BLM Sign Patrol Pact

A cooperative law enforcement agreement between BLM and Wasco County has been signed, according to Richard Johnson, special agent.

The Wasco County agreement calls for sheriff's patrols for protection of BLM recreation sites, artifact sites and other property. Patrols will occur along the Deschutes River Road and from boats from North Junction to Maupin and from Macks Canyon to the Columbia River, Johnson said.

BLM pays the county sheriff's department for the patrols.

Agreements with Malheur, Lane, Deschutes, Clackamas and Josephine counties have previously been signed. Johnson said negotiations with several other counties in Oregon are also taking place.

Instances of vandalism and trespass have dropped where patrols have been instigated, Johnson added. The cooperative law

- Revise my address as indicated on this panel which I am returning.
- Discontinue sending BLM News Clips.
- Include these resource management subjects in future issues:

Permission is granted to republish material from BLM News Clips, with or without credit.



BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT Oregon-Washington

729 NE Oregon St.
P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208
Don Smurthwaite, Editor

DISTRICTS Oregon

Lakeview - 1000 Ninth St. S, PO Box 151, Lakeview, OR 97630. Phone 947-2177. Richard A. Gerity, Mgr.

Burns - 74 S Alvord St., Burns, OR 97720. Phone 573-2071. L. Christian Vosler, Mgr.

Vale - 365 A St. W, PO Box 700, Vale, OR 97918. Phone 473-3144. Fearl M. Parker, Mgr.

Prineville - 185 E 4th St., PO Box 550, Prineville, OR 97754. Phone 447-4115. Paul W. Arrasmith, Mgr.

Baker - Federal Building, PO Box 987, Baker, OR 97814. Phone 523-6391. Gordon R. Staker, Mgr.

Salem - 3550 Liberty Road S, PO Box 3227, Salem, OR 97302. Phone 399-5646. Edward G. Stauber, Mgr.

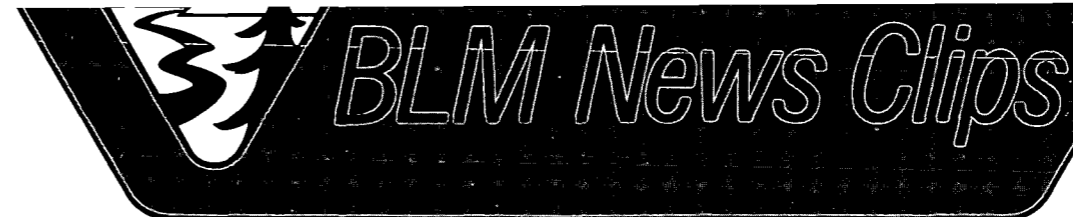
Eugene - 1255 Pearl St., PO Box 10226, Eugene, OR 97401. Phone 687-6650. Dwight L. Patton, Mgr.

Roseburg - 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, OR 97470. Phone 672-4491. James E. Hart, Mgr.

Medford - 3040 Biddle Rd., Medford, OR 97501. Phone 776-4174. George C. Francis, Mgr.

Coos Bay - 333 S 4th St., Coos Bay, OR 97420. Phone 269-5880. Paul M. Sanger, Mgr.

Washington
Spokane - 920 W Riverside, Spokane,



PORTLAND, OREGON

A BLM goal is to balance the uses of natural resources so as to ensure the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment.

APRIL 1980

BLM Proposes 72 Sites As Wilderness Study Areas



HONEYCOMBS . . . rugged geologic formation near Owyhee Reservoir was determined to have wilderness characteristics, and is proposed as a WSA.

The Bureau of Land Management is proposing that 71 areas totalling 1,750,000 acres in Oregon and a 15-acre island in Washington be designated as Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs).

Most of the Oregon acreage is in the southeastern part of the state, while the Washington site is in the San Juan Islands of Puget Sound.

Among the better known areas proposed as WSAs are the rugged Honeycombs south of Vale, and portions of Steens Mountain, Trout Creek Mountains, Sheepshead Mountains, and several areas along the Owyhee River.

"Wilderness characteristics defined in the 1964 Wilderness Act were the basis for proposing areas for further study," said Frank Edwards, acting BLM director for Washington and Oregon.

Public comments are invited on the proposals until June 25, after which study areas will be formally designated, Edwards said. After that, each area will receive detailed public

Edwards asked that comments concerning the 72 proposed wilderness study areas be sent directly to the BLM district offices responsible for the areas on which comments are made. He said that all comments will be fully considered in selecting the final list of WSAs in September.

"Comments now should address only the wilderness characteristics of specific inventory units. Comments on the other resource values will be welcomed during the late study phase when all factors will be considered to determine the appropriateness of including specific areas in the National Wilderness System," he said.

BLM will sponsor a series of 15 meetings in Oregon, one in Nevada and three in Washington to present the proposed selection of remaining WSAs and to receive public comments.

(Dates, times and places of wilderness meetings are listed on page two.)

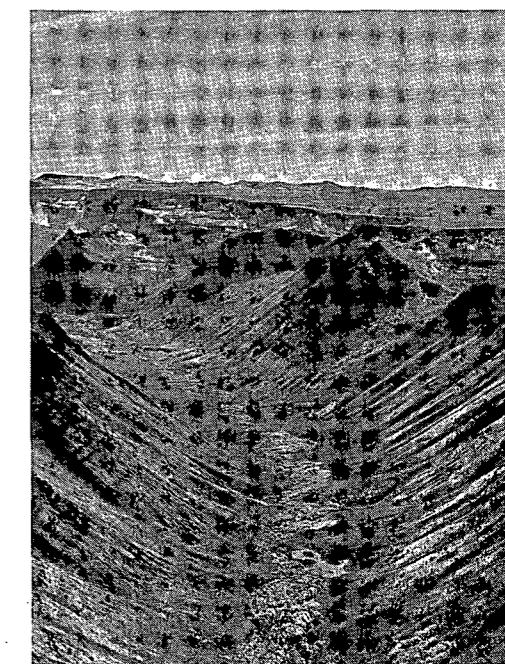
"BLM's responsibility under the 1976 Federal Land Policy and Management Act is to develop, with public participation, recommendations for Congress. Only Congress can establish Wilderness Areas as parts of the National Wilderness System," Edwards explained.

The proposal identifies 4,192,000 acres as lacking wilderness characteristics and recommends their elimination from further review.

Don Geary, BLM wilderness coordinator, said that district wilderness specialists looked at all the areas included in the intensive inventory.

"That includes the areas that now are proposed as wilderness study areas as well as those that are proposed for elimination from further consideration," Geary said.

A final decision to classify eight other areas totalling about 350,000 acres as WSAs was also announced by BLM. The areas are in the Burns, Lakeview, and Vale Districts. They were part of a special accelerated inventory on 1.2 million acres that was conducted to identify potential



SIZE, altitude and naturalness are



CROSS, slash and letter H appear on one of the stones, creating mystery.

Chiseled Stones Remain An Oregon Mystery

By DENNIS HILL

LAKEVIEW — Two chisel-marked stones lie in a windswept valley between Lone Grave Butte and Beatys Butte in southeast Lake County. The markings on the stones have provoked a variety of theories about their meaning and origin.

The most common story about the stones is that they represent the grave marking of some early day immigrants in the area. The nearby Lone Grave Butte adds some testament to this theory, though nobody is sure how the mountain got its name.

One of the stones is marked with a cross, slash and the letter H. The other stone is marked W KILBEY NOV 2/29. The November date on the second stone has solicited a lot of comments from local historians. Some say that a November 2, 1829 date is probably not

Student Planters Place 6,000 Trees

COOS BAY — More than 130 sixth graders from Coquille Valley Middle School invaded BLM's Cherry Creek planting site in early March to gain some "on-the-ground" reforestation experience.

The students were participants in an annual tree planting project sponsored by BLM and the Coos County Education Service District. After receiving some planting and safety tips, they were turned loose with shovels and small bags containing Douglas-fir seedlings.

Two hours later, more than 6,000 seedlings had been planted.

After lunch, the students went on a nature hike with guides provided by BLM. Students were taught how to measure a tree's age with an instrument called an increment borer, and were shown an example of the destruction that results from bark beetles.

Some seedlings were left over after the field

possible. The earliest record of a white man visiting the region was 1827, when Peter Skene Ogden wrote in his Snake River Journals that he passed through the region, but at least 22 miles west of the stones.

A few years ago, a local resident claimed knowing a William Kilbey and believed he still lived in the Rogue River Valley. But Kilbey never was located and the mystery of the stones remains unanswered.

Is it possible that the marks were etched by explorers 151 years ago? What do the crude markings on the rock mean? Is it a grave marker? Of a man, woman or child? Or are the markings merely of a passerby with time on his hands?

Until the answers about the Lone Grave stones are found, the rocks will continue to rest in the shade of the tall sagebrush of eastern Oregon. For now they are a legend adding local mystery to the public lands. Tomorrow they may shed light on local eastern Oregon history.

being re-offered on 64 tracts of land totalling 99,416.96 acres by the Bureau of Land Management.

The areas are all within the Alvord, Klamath Falls, and Crump Geyser Known Geothermal Resource Areas (KGRA) in southeastern Oregon.



HOT springs in Crump KGRA near Lakeview, an area of interest.

All tracts have been previously offered by BLM and either received no bids or were withdrawn prior to bid opening by the agency. The tracts range in size from 40 to 2,574 acres.

All bids must be submitted to BLM's Oregon State Office by 1 p.m. on April 19. Bids will be opened and read at 2 p.m. the same day in BLM's conference room.

Successful bidders receive a 10-year lease and earn the right to develop geothermal resources on the land. Royalties are paid to the government when production begins.

The Bureau of Land Management's computer in Portland is learning some new tricks. Last summer Bob Oser and Todd Stille taught it how to draw trees. Now they've got the electronic wizard doing maps, surpassing experience gained in Eugene a few years ago.

Undaunted by computer complexities, Todd Stille says the mapping programs "have the computer redigitize new polygons."

Oh.

Getting more work done, more accurately, and in less time is what computers are for. BLM's computer does exactly that. But let's start at the beginning.

Computers use programs, or sets of instructions, to do different jobs. The BLM's new capabilities are in two programs, named WAMS and MOSS. With these in the computer, it's ready to receive the mapping data and work with it. To make it do its job, a programmer sits at a board with hundreds of little wires embedded in a grid pattern, and all connected to the computer. He tapes a map onto the board. He also has a little probe connected to the computer, with which he can indicate to the computer a point on the board. Just touch the probe to the board and push a little button and the computer "knows" that point.

Give the computer two points, tell it there's a line between them and the computer knows that. Give it a line that comes back to its own beginning and encloses an area, and you can give that area a label, like water, or elevation-2000-feet, or BLM-owned-land or whatever. Now the computer knows that.

Booklet Looks At BLM 1979 Statistics

Last year in Oregon and Washington, the Bureau of Land Management provided a substantial income over expenses for the nation's taxpayers as well as providing many other tangible and intangible services and benefits to the country.

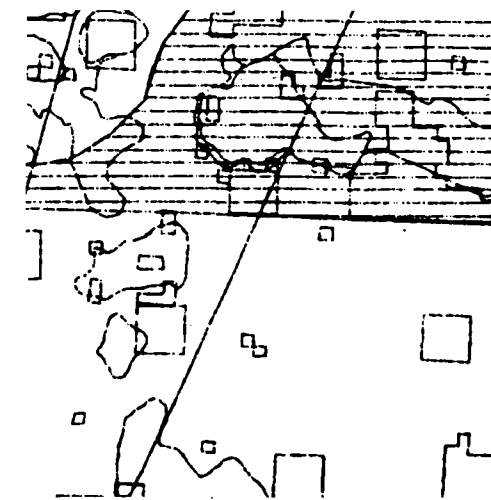
Figures are provided by **BLM Facts**, a booklet recently published by the U.S. Department of the Interior agency.

During the year, the federal treasury gained \$217,105,656.16 in income from the 15.7 million acres managed by BLM in Oregon and 311,000 acres in Washington. In contrast, BLM spent only \$62,671,651.

Oregon and its counties received \$101,345,433.44 during the year in payments from the federal government.

In Washington, \$2,941,674.33 was paid to the state and counties.

The 32-page booklet gives a complete statistical picture of BLM activities in the



This section of a computer plot of three map overlays indicates the complexity that the computer can handle with BLM's new program — and the program is not limited to just three overlays.

Simple, right? So far all that has been done has been to give the computer points and lines, and labels for the areas enclosed by the lines. Those areas are the polygons, which just means a series of lines enclosing an area on a plane.

Remember the map? If the points and lines and areas and labels given the computer correspond to the points and lines and labels on the map, the computer will know the map — township, range, section, river and road if that's what's wanted.

During all this, part of the program is making the computer keep an eye on how well the data

square, or not connect two lines that should touch, the computer knows. It can even tell you what the error is. Through the branch of mathematics called topology the program knows what kinds of things are possible on a map of the earth and what kinds of things are not. That process is called "polygon verification for validity and logic."

O.K. So everything is done right, and one seven-and-a-half-minute quadrangle map of a chunk of land in the middle of the state is entered. Now take another map of the same chunk of land, but which shows mule deer winter range areas instead of section lines and roads like the last map. Enter this one the same way as the last. That process is called digitizing.

Now enter another map, this time showing mining claims. Then enter maps showing soil types, predominant vegetation areas, mean annual rainfall and elevation. Six or a dozen or as many as you like, just keep digitizing. As Stille says, "anything that can be located on the surface of the earth can be mapped."

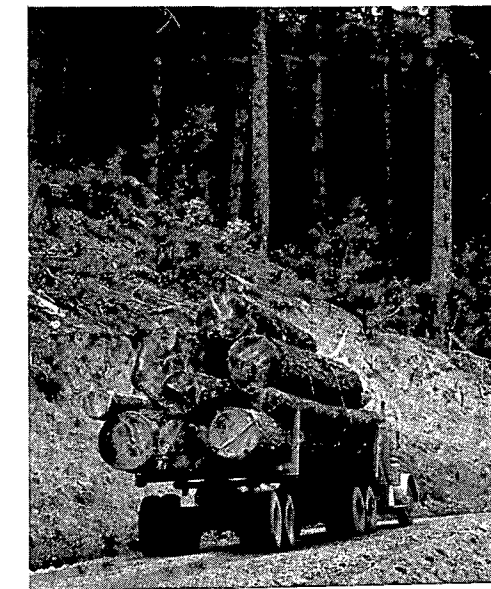
Now, Stille comes in and runs a series of programs which give all that map data in the first program to the other program, call MOSS. Now for anything you need to know, just ask MOSS.

Say a range conservationist is working on an environmental study in that little area that just was digitized and fed to MOSS. Ask MOSS how many miles of stream there are in the area. Easy.

Now ask how many acres of mule deer habitat fall within a 200-yard buffer zone beside those streams and get more than 25 inches of rainfall per year but are not within 3.5 miles of an active surface mine. MOSS can tell you, and even draw a picture of it if that's what's needed.

Accuracy is one of the big advantages of the computer. Previously, this kind of work was done by overlaying or tracing the maps physically, then counting the area units by hand or with an electronic device called a planimeter. Both methods were reasonably accurate, but MOSS is as exact as the data that go in. And the advantages of the computer compound as the complexity of the problem increases.

MOSS is an acronym for Map Overlay and Stistical System, and WAMS stands for Wetlands Analytical Mapping System. Both programs were developed first for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by Autometric, Inc. of Falls Creek, Va., and modified by the same company to fit BLM's needs. Both programs are currently in use to vastly simplify the environmental statement now being written about grazing on 1.2 million acres of land near



Wilderness Where'n When's

Eugene	April 10, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.	Harris Hall
Baker	April 15, 7:30 p.m.	Baker Community Center
Coos Bay	April 15, 1 p.m. to 8 p.m.	Tioga Hall, SWOCC
Enterprise	April 16, 7:30 p.m.	Cloverleaf Hall
Lakeview	April 16, 7:30 p.m.	BLM District Office
Brookings	April 16, 1 p.m. to 8 p.m.	City Hall
Ontario	April 16, 7:30 p.m. MST	Weese Bld., TVCC
Jordan Valley	April 17, 7:30 p.m. MST	Lions Den
Burns	April 17, 7 p.m.	BLM District Office
Medford	April 17, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	BLM District Office
Prineville	April 19, 2 p.m.	Crook County Courthouse
Grants Pass	April 22, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	County Courthouse
Klamath Falls	April 23, 7:30 p.m.	S. Sherman Elem. School
Grass Valley	April 26, 2 p.m.	Klamath County Library
Portland	April 30, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.	Cedar Room, PCC-Sylvania
McDermitt, Nev.	April 24, 7:30 p.m.	Community Hall
Pasco, Wash.	April 15, 7 p.m.	County BLD Auditorium



A BLM goal is to balance the uses of natural resources so as to ensure the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment.

PORTLAND, OREGON

Tree Planting Today Ensures Forests For Tomorrow

By RAY NADDY

Millions of tree seedlings will be planted on 26,557 acres of Bureau of Land Management property in Oregon before the season ends in late spring.

Cold weather hampered tree planting for short time in early February, but the remainder of the month provided ideal conditions for the work and most districts are now close to schedule.

Ideal tree planting conditions are akin to what must be a duck's idea of heaven. Temperatures should be between 35 and 45° F, and rainfall is preferred.

An experienced tree planter can place from 800 to 1,000 seedlings each day. Eighty percent of this year's planting is privately contracted, with BLM crews taking up the slack. Seedlings this year are being obtained from two BLM greenhouse facilities, four Forest Service nurseries, a state-owned nursery and a half-dozen private firms. About 90 percent of the seedlings are Douglas-fir.



LAST year more than 19 million trees were planted. Cost of planting is about \$110 per acre. BLM inspections keep planting quality high.

A range of 600 to 1,000 trees are planted on each acre, Hayhurst said. Planting begins in December at low elevations and progresses to higher elevations as the ground thaws and conditions improve. The last BLM areas scheduled to be planted this year are in the

upper reaches of the Medford District in late May.

Earlier, BLM foresters had hoped to plant 36,000 acres this season. The acreage was revised when site preparation was reduced primarily because of a limited number of days in which slash burning was allowed.

E. Oregon Near Optimum Wild Horse Level

By RON HARDING

BURNS — The Bureau of Land Management soon will achieve wild horse population levels in eastern Oregon.

In the Burns District, only one herd needs to be thinned before the desired level is reached. There are 1,070 wild horses on the District's herd management areas with optimum levels set for a minimum of 495 and a maximum of 925. Roundups in the fall undoubtedly will achieve the desired level, said Bert Hart, natural resources specialist.

"These are the numbers that are best for protecting resources on the range," Hart said. Wild horse populations peaked at about 3,000 in the District in 1974.

In the Vale District, there are 1,498 horses

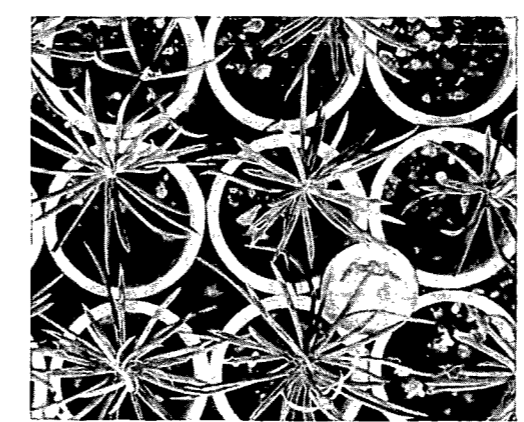
"Within the next year or two, we'll probably get down to that level," he said.

After optimum levels are achieved, horses will be rounded up according to population increases, Hart said.

Horse roundups began in 1974 when overpopulations caused problems on the rangelands. Competition for food and water between horses, livestock, and wildlife was intense and vegetation was frequently damaged by trampling.

BLM's "Adopt-A-Horse" program began the same year. Since then, more than 5,000 wild horses from Oregon have been placed with citizens for maintenance.

As the optimum population levels are



CONTAINERIZED seedlings at a BLM nursery.

The notion of hiking over hillsides planting seedlings is romantic and appealing— unless you actually have to be a tree planter.

- Revise my address as indicated on this panel which I am returning.
- Discontinue sending BLM News Clips.
- Include these resource management subjects in future issues:

Permission is granted to republish material from BLM News Clips, with or without credit.



BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT Oregon-Washington

729 NE Oregon St.
P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208
Don Smurthwaite, Editor

DISTRICTS Oregon

Lakeview - 1000 Ninth St. S, PO Box 151, Lakeview, OR 97630. Phone 947-2177. Richard A. Gerity, Mgr.

Burns - 74 S Alvord St., Burns, OR 97720. Phone 573-2071. L. Christian Vosler, Mgr.

Vale - 365 A St. W, PO Box 700, Vale, OR 97918. Phone 473-3144. Fearl M. Parker, Mgr.

Prineville - 185 E 4th St., PO Box 550; Prineville, OR 97754. Phone 447-4115. Paul W. Arrasmith, Mgr.

Baker - Federal Building, PO Box 987, Baker, OR 97814. Phone 523-6391. Gordon R. Staker, Mgr.

Salem - 3550 Liberty Road S, PO Box 3227, Salem, OR 97302. Phone 399-5646. Edward G. Stauber, Mgr.

Eugene - 1255 Pearl St., PO Box 10226, Eugene, OR 97401. Phone 687-6650. Dwight L. Patton, Mgr.

Roseburg - 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, OR 97470. Phone 672-4491. James E. Hart, Mgr.

Medford - 3040 Biddle Rd., Medford, OR 97501. Phone 776-4174. George C. Francis, Mgr.

Coos Bay - 333 S 4th St., Coos Bay, OR 97420. Phone 269-5880. Paul M. Sanger, Mgr.

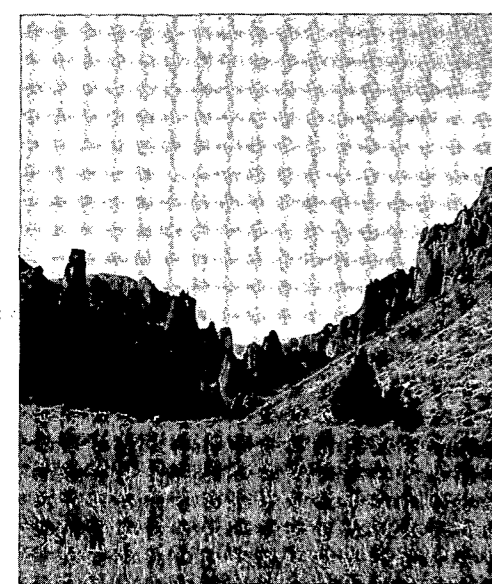
Washington
Spokane - 920 W Riverside, Spokane,



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
P.O. BOX 2965 (729 NE OREGON ST.)
PORTLAND, OREGON 97208

Isolated Canyonlands E. Oregon's Jewels

By GRANT BAUGH



CANYONLANDS of eastern Oregon offer solitude, scenery.

VALE — For scenic splendor, breathtaking vistas and photographic opportunities, there are few places that equal eastern Oregon's canyonlands in the spring.

The high desert is a unique place — there are vast areas of seemingly monotonous terrain punctuated by isolated jewels, many of which are seldom visited by man.

Such is the case with Succor Creek Canyon, Leslie Gulch and the Honeycombs area on the east side of Owyhee Reservoir.

The spectacular formations in the region are due to volcanic action, as described by Laurence R. Kittleman in his *Guide to the Canyons of the Owyhee Region of Oregon*. He

flow came to rest, trapped gas escaped and the mass cooled only slowly, while chemical processes that require high temperatures continued. Crystal grew and gas bubbles formed in the still molten rock. It is these later processes . . . that produced many of the interesting features of the rock."

Nodules called "Succor Creek eggs" are well-known to rockhounds. They were formed, Kittleman said, when cavities formed in the molten rock by escaping gas. The cavities were lined by growths of small crystals, and later, after the rock had cooled, were filled by deposits of chalcedony from circulating groundwater.

The best time to visit the region is in May and early June, when wildflowers abound and temperatures are moderate. Deer and chukar hunters find the area appealing in the fall.

Central Oregon Tract Approved As WSA

A 7,560-acre tract of land along the John Day River 17 miles west of Condon, Oregon, has been designated a wilderness study area (WSA) by the Bureau of Land Management.

At the same time, 54,990 acres have been eliminated from further wilderness consideration. All of the land involved lies along the proposed route of the western leg of the Alaska Natural Gas pipeline which crosses 28 tracts of public land in Oregon.

Twenty-six of the eliminated parcels contain less than 5,000 acres, the usual designated minimum for wilderness study. Another 7,640-

Debra Struhsacker



Guidelines Will Protect BLM Riparian Areas

Wetlands and riparian areas (Streambanks and shorelines) on public lands will be better protected and managed under new guidelines issued by the Bureau of Land Management.

While such areas make up only a small part of the 170 million acres BLM manages in the West, they are critical in maintaining the quality of the water and productivity of streambanks and shorelines.

Under the new guidelines, BLM managers will use protective fencing, buffer strips and other methods to protect riparian areas.

Riparian areas can be managed to provide several benefits, including fish and wildlife habitat, forage for domestic livestock and

wildlife, and opportunities for outdoor recreation. But in all cases, the new management guidelines will protect the natural functions of wetland-riparian areas.

"Studies show that 80 percent of wildlife species in eastern Oregon are either totally dependent on riparian habitat or utilize them more than other habitats," said Neil Armantrout, BLM fisheries biologist. "Protection of these areas and their natural benefits is the aim of the new guidelines."

The guidelines apply to all marshes, potholes, wet meadows, sloughs, swamps, bogs, muskegs, flood plains, lakes, reservoirs, springs and estuarine areas on public lands.

Conservation Corps (YCC) must be submitted by March 15, according to Rich Jones, BLM's youth programs coordinator.

Applications may be obtained from high school counselors, according to Jones.

YCC is sponsored by agencies of the Department of the Interior and Department of Agriculture. It employs youths from 15 to 18 years of age for eight weeks during the summer. Conservation projects include trail building, stream improvement, and recreation site work. One working day each week is set aside for conservation education.

BLM will employ a total of 120 youths in a residential camp in Salem and in non-residential camps in Baker and Medford. A camp in Eugene has been discontinued because of a reduced YCC budget this year.

Pay is generally the minimum wage. Enrollees will be chosen statewide in a random drawing conducted by the Governor's Commission on Youth.

Jones said that YCC has been very popular among the enrollees, and that generally there are more applications than available jobs. Applicants must have parental or guardian consent to enroll in the program and have a work permit and social security number prior to starting work.

Damage Restoration Part of Mineral Reg

WASHINGTON — A proposed regulation to require trespassers on Federal lands to pay for damages to the mineral estate and either reclaim the lands or pay for the reclamation has been announced by BLM.

As proposed, the penalty will cover all Federal minerals, and will differentiate between innocent and willful trespass. Rockhounding will not be affected by the proposal.

The proposed regulation originated during investigations of Federal coal trespass in Alabama in 1979. The public has until March 12 to comment on the regulation. Comments should be sent to Director (650), BLM, 1800 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.



RESULTS . . . two observers walk down trail opened by water gel.

Wilderness Inventory Results Due March 27

Results of the Bureau of Land Management's intensive inventory of lands in Oregon and Washington with wilderness potential will be announced March 27.

At that time, BLM will propose lands in 30 inventory units in southeast Oregon will be either eliminated from wilderness review or classified as Wilderness Study Areas (WSA),

regarding their suitability as wilderness.

Geary said the inventory of the 30 units was accelerated to determine whether scheduled range improvements or possible land exchanges would conflict with preservation of wilderness values.

Decisions on all other units included in the intensive inventory for Oregon and

EUGENE — Preparing a site for planting often means removing a large amount of logging debris (slash) left on the site after harvest. The traditional method is by prescribed burning. But in BLM's Eugene District, the slash burning season was so short last fall that most of the sites were not able to be burned, leaving many acres unprepared for planting.

In an effort to find alternative methods for reforestation, the Eugene District is currently experimenting with a lightweight mobile yarder that may be able to do something about the problem.

"Slash can be a real impediment to successful reforestation," said Wes Hunter, BLM's fire management officer in Eugene. "Sometimes the debris is so thick, you can't even walk through it, much less plant young trees in it."

"Last October, the normal slash burning season, the weather went from very hot and dry to very wet and rainy in three days," Hunter continued. "We could only burn slash on about 25 percent of the sites that needed it."

Present logging equipment is designed to harvest and transport long logs, not small pieces of wood. Consequently, much of the smaller slash is left on the site, hindering reforestation.

"With the Cummings experimental light yarder, we hope to remove slash on about 250 acres of troublesome north slope sites where we were unable to burn because of high moisture conditions," said Hunter.

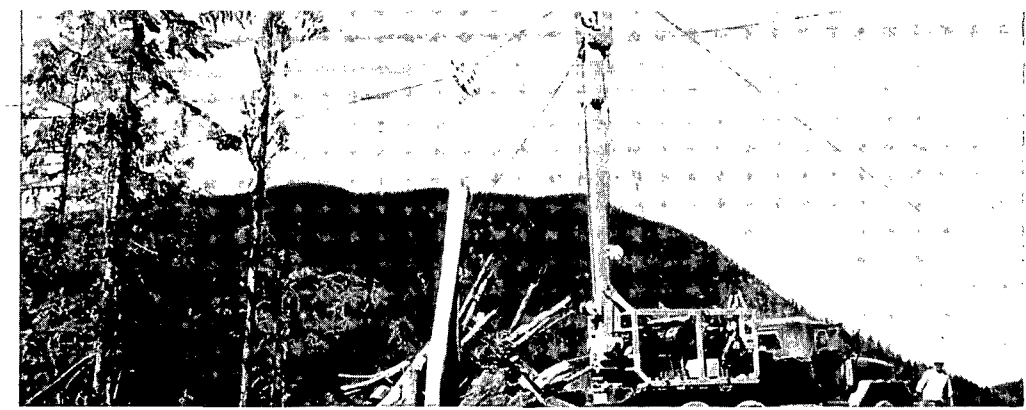
"This will help our reforestation program,

Edwards Named Acting S.D.

Frank Edwards will become acting state director for the Bureau of Land Management in Oregon and Washington on March 1. Frank Gregg, national BLM director, said that Edwards will serve until a new state director is appointed later this spring. Murl Storms, former Oregon state director, retired November 17, and the associate state director, E. J. Petersen, retired on February 29. Edwards is chief of the division of technical services of the Oregon State Office.

Oakley Gets AFS Post

Art Oakley, BLM fisheries biologist, was elected president of the Oregon chapter of the American Fisheries Society (AFS) during the organization's annual meeting in late January. AFS is an international group with 8,000 members dedicated to the advancement of fisheries science and conservation of aquatic



LIGHT yarder may help in clearing slash, increasing reforestation success.

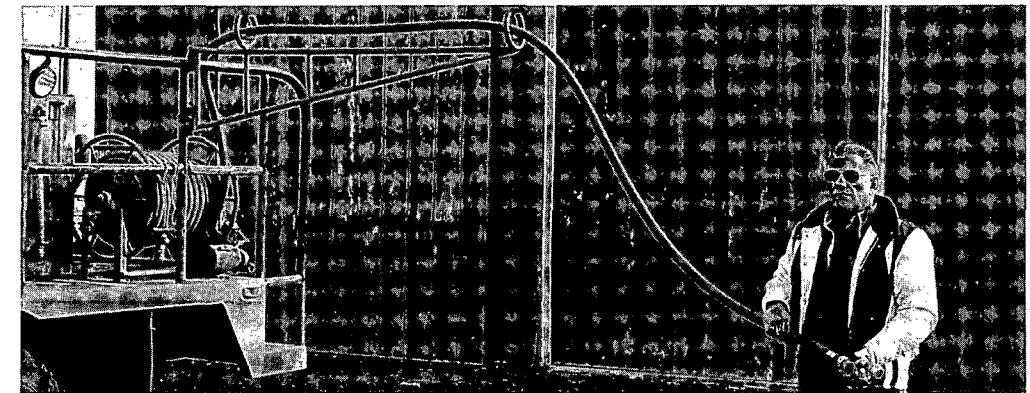
provide more accessible firewood, and provide data for a study of the economic and silvicultural feasibility of using this type of yarder in similar difficult slash removal situations."

The Cummings light yarder was developed by the U.S. Forest Service's Missoula Equipment Development Center. The light yarder has the following advantages over larger, more complicated and expensive yarders: it is a three drum cable yarding system that can yard uphill and downhill, it weighs

8,000 pounds compared to 40,000 pounds of conventional yarders; it is easily maneuverable (mounted on a flatbed truck); it has an uncomplicated design and uses parts that are readily available; it can be operated with only a four man crew; it is easily set up and moved; and it can even skid itself if necessary.

The light yarder will be tested in Eugene for three months until April when it will be returned to the Clearwater National Forest in Idaho. The public will be invited to see the light yarder in action during a tour in late March.

Hoses Lack Slack With Extension Arm



HOSE arm increases safety and effectiveness of fire fighters.

VALE — Fire hoses don't get entangled in sagebrush and other vegetation in the Vale District because of a simple, low cost extension arm devised by fire personnel in 1977.

"Slack hose often catches on sagebrush and other obstructions, pulling the hose from the nozzleman's hands," said Tom Crane, Vale District fire management officer. "As a result, the nozzleman spends much time untangling hose, often suffers minor injuries and frequently must deal with equipment failure."

The extension arm lifts the hose above ground level, and is able to swing 180 degrees

either side of the tanker.

"It's a handy device, especially in sagebrush when we're attacking the fire front on," Crane said. "With it, we don't have to fight both the fire and the sagebrush."

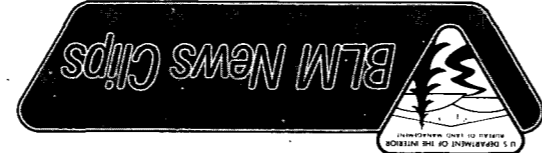
Be Famous! Design BLM Bag

BLM is soliciting ideas for the design and message for 16" x 18" plastic drawstring bag that will be purchased by the Oregon State Office. Entries must be sent to BLM's Public Affairs Office by March 14, P.O. Box 2065,



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
INT 415

PORTLAND, OREGON 97208
P.O. BOX 2965 (729 NE OREGON ST.)
OREGON STATE OFFICE



Permission is granted to republish material from BLM News Clips, with or without credit.

Revise my address as indicated on this panel which I am returning.

Discontinue sending BLM News Clips.

Include these resource management subjects in future issues:

Stipulations To Protect Bald Eagles' Nest



COMBINATION of cover, water, protection, food needed for bald eagle nest site. (Photo courtesy Fish and Wildlife Service.)

Three recommendations were made, one of which called for no surface occupancy, which means "there would be absolutely no activity on the surface," Thomas said. At the same time, the stipulations would allow for drilling towards the 80-acre stand at an angle. Thus, if a deposit of oil or gas was found, it could be extracted with the habitat preserved.

"Any activity within the 80 acres could disturb the nesting site. And there are so few places left that eagles can even nest. That's why we're playing it conservatively," Thomas said.

Directors Selected For BLM States

Three state director positions have been filled by the Bureau of Land Management.

Max Lieurance, a former district manager in Vale and ex-chief of resources in the Oregon State Office, has been named to BLM's top post in Wyoming. Clair Whitlock, associate state director in Alaska since 1976, has been selected for the directorship in Arizona. Roger Hildebeidel, formerly the acting deputy director for the Bureau's Office of Policy, Programs, and Budget, was selected for the state director's job in the Eastern States office.

Geothermal Rights Gained In Bidding

Bids for geothermal leasing rights on six parcels of federal land in Oregon have been received by the Bureau of Land Management.

Four energy companies — Anadarko Production Co., Hunt Oil Co., Intercontinental Energy Corp., and Union Oil of California —

BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT Oregon-Washington

729 NE Oregon St.
P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208
Don Smurthwaite, Editor

DISTRICTS Oregon

Lakeview - 1000 Ninth St. S, PO Box 151, Lakeview, OR 97630. Phone 947-2177. Richard A. Gerity, Mgr.

Burns - 74 S Alvord St., Burns, OR 97720. Phone 573-2071. L. Christian Vosler, Mgr.

Vale - 365 A St. W, PO Box 700, Vale, OR 97918. Phone 473-3144. Fearl M. Parker, Mgr.

Prineville - 185 E 4th St., PO Box 550, Prineville, OR 97754. Phone 447-4115. Paul W. Arrasmith, Mgr.

Baker - Federal Building, PO Box 987, Baker, OR 97814. Phone 523-6391. Gordon R. Staker, Mgr.

Salem - 3550 Liberty Road S, PO Box 3227, Salem, OR 97302. Phone 399-5646. Edward G. Stauber, Mgr.

Eugene - 1255 Pearl St., PO Box 10226, Eugene, OR 97401. Phone 687-6650. Dwight L. Patton, Mgr.

Roseburg - 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, OR 97470. Phone 672-4491. James E. Hart, Mgr.

Medford - 3040 Biddle Rd., Medford, OR 97501. Phone 776-4174. George C. Francis, Mgr.

Coos Bay - 333 S 4th St., Coos Bay, OR 97420. Phone 269-5880. Paul M. Sanger, Mgr.

Washington

Spokane - 920 W Riverside, Spokane, WA 99201. Phone (509) 456-2570.



PORTLAND, OREGON

A BLM goal is to balance the uses of natural resources so as to ensure the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment.

FEBRUARY 1980

Yet Queries Pour In

Days of Homesteading Are Over, BLM Reminds

Homesteading laws haven't been in practical use for more than 50 years and were in fact repealed by Congress in 1976.

Yet people by the thousands still call, write or stop by the Bureau of Land Management's Oregon State Office to ask about the availability of free or inexpensive government lands.

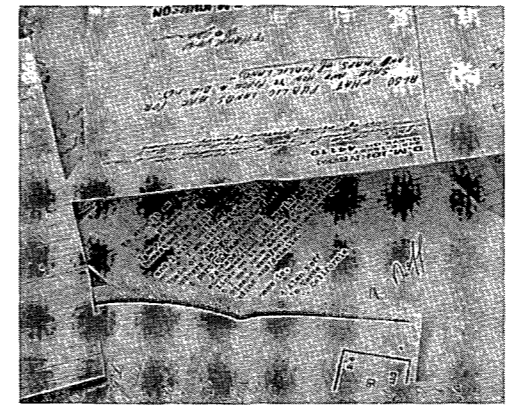
Most of the questioners have common themes — they would like to get away from civilization and work the land. Most of them ask for land with a stream or lake, timber and game.

"I receive up to 50 phone calls and sometimes 100 letters a week from people wanting free or inexpensive land," said Rhea Demers, public contact specialist.

In response to the queries, she recites the facts time and time again to would-be homesteaders.

"I tell them, sorry, there is no land for sale and that the Homesteading Act has been repealed by Congress. Their reaction is one of shock and dismay," Demers said. "Many just refuse to believe it."

Homesteading laws were passed in the 1800's to encourage settlement of the then sparsely populated West. The law became antiquated as populations grew and the tillable land available



YEARS ago, free land was a good lure to help settle the west. But those days are gone now, and the homesteading laws have been repealed.

for homesteading was granted. The last real homesteading push occurred just after World War I. Since then, the government has steadily removed itself from the land selling business, culminating in the repeal of the Homesteading Act in the 1976 Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA).

FLPMA, in fact, directed BLM to retain its lands and manage the resources for the good of the nation.

Confusion about availability of government-owned lands often originates from printed advertisements. These ads can be found in many outdoors publications and frequently give the impression that the federal government is disposing of its lands at unbelievably low prices. For a fee, the ads promise to send a list or magazine that enumerates government land bargains. To add credibility, the ads often use words such as "federal," "government" or "U.S." although they are not affiliated with any federal agency such as BLM.

It was after reading such an advertisement that a family in Florida decided to sell their possessions and travel to Oregon to homestead. They made the 3,200 mile trip only to find out that homesteading didn't exist. That

"Many of the advertisements imply that we still have homesteading," Demers said. "They're very subtle in what they say."

High land prices and a stronger back-to-the-land ethic are also responsible for the flood of requests concerning land, Demers said.

"I don't know if the homesteading calls will ever end," she added. "I've been here for four years and if anything, the number of requests have increased. I wonder if we will ever get the message across to the public that government isn't giving away land."

1980 Grazing Fees Set at \$2.36 Per AUM

Grazing fees for livestock on Bureau of Land Management property will be \$2.36 per animal unit month (AUM) in 1980.

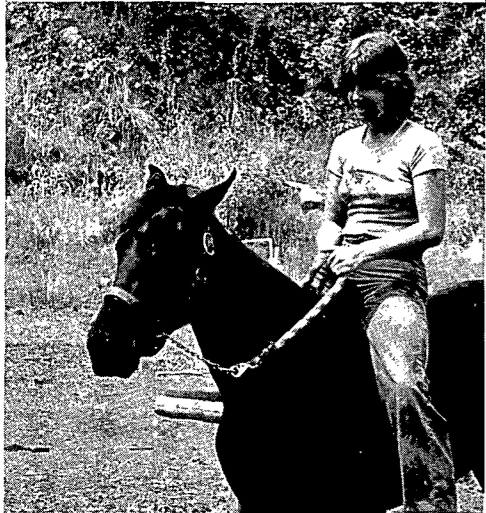
The new rate is effective March 1. Last year's fee was \$1.89 per AUM. An AUM is the equivalent of one cow, one horse, or five sheep grazing for one month.

An exception to the \$2.36 rate is on BLM's O&C lands in western Oregon. Fees for these lands are set in conjunction with the Forest Service and this year will be \$2.54 per AUM.

Kim Newport's reaction was probably typical of hundreds of wild horse adopters in the Northwest when they heard that ownership of the animals would soon be possible.

"That's great! It makes all the work seem even more worthwhile," said Newport, who has won several prizes in the Portland area with her adopted horse, Idle Moments.

Regulations announcing procedures for gaining title to the horses and detailing prohibited acts concerning treatment and exploitation were announced in December and became effective January 28. Until the regulations were issued, adopted wild horses and burros always remained property of the federal government.

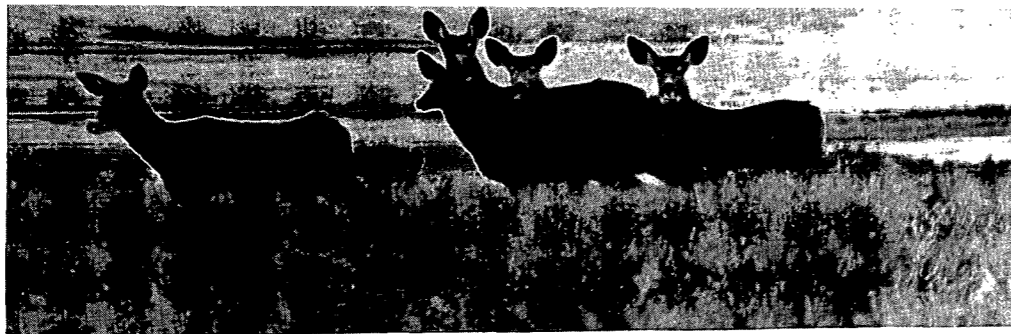


WORTHWHILE . . . is how Kim Newport describes time spent training wild horse.

The first title transfers should begin in spring, when BLM will send title applications to those who have cared for an adopted animal for at least one year. Applications should be returned to BLM accompanied by a statement by a licensed veterinarian certifying that proper care has been provided for the animal. A certificate of title will then be sent to the applicant, providing he or she is of legal age in the state where they reside. At that time, animals are no longer considered "wild and free-roaming."

Prohibited acts in the regulations applying to wild and free-roaming animals include inhumane treatment or abandonment; destruction or alteration of the animal's identification mark; use of an adopted animal for commercial purposes or bucking stock; selling of an animal or its remains which has not lost its wild status; and failure to notify BLM within seven days of the death of an animal.

These and several other prohibited acts may be punished by a \$2,000 fine or one year imprisonment or both. The regulations also



Oregon Ranges Teem With Winter Wildlife

VALE — Every winter hundreds of animals from thousands of square miles in Oregon and Idaho converge on ranges in the Vale District.

During the harshest winter weather they congregate on crested wheatgrass seedings where succulent forage is abundant.

"At times, the sight of both deer and antelope on some of the winter ranges in the Vale District remind me of what the spectacle must be on the veld of East Africa," said Bob Kindschy, wildlife biologist.

On a recent trip, one BLM employee spotted 300 antelope and 150 deer on a winter range. Similar sights are not uncommon throughout eastern Oregon winter rangelands.

"What we have done is to create an artificial habitat," Kindschy said. "Through vegetative manipulation, we've created a vast area where there is abundant food for wildlife. Crested wheatgrass grows much more rapidly than most native species after fall rains and is highly

palatable to deer and antelope."

Antelope prefer areas with very low or no brush at all. Crested wheat seedings meet that need. Mule deer are a highly adaptable species and are making the best of a good situation, Kindschy said.

"Over the past 20 years, it seems that antelope populations are gradually increasing and some mule deer herds are relocating from their traditional winter ranges to the seeded areas."

Chilling winds and deep snowfalls may not be the greatest problems faced by wildlife in the winter, according to Kindschy.

"The most serious threat to wildlife is people who disturb and harass the animals while trying to get a good look. During the winter season, animals are often on a very narrow energy regime. Causing them to run just one time may be the final straw that pushes them over the brink of survival," Kindschy said.

EEO Program Focuses On "Human Resource"

Equal employment opportunity (EEO) counselors and coordinators met in Portland during January to receive training that will help their effectiveness.

"The counselors' sessions were held to assist them in informal resolution of potential discrimination cases," said Nancy Hopper, EEO officer in the Oregon State Office. Resolving problems and potential complaints at the lowest level of management is their chief responsibility."

Counselors are selected in each district with 50 or more people. There are four additional counselors in the state office.

About 40 coordinators received training in the EEO program and their responsibilities, said Hopper. Coordinators represent one of three areas — Hispanic employment, federal women's program and equal employment.

In Oregon, the EEO program has been in effect for about a year. "EEO is our human resource program that helps employees and



COUNSELORS such as Eugene's

"In the last year, we've made tremendous progress in our EEO program but still have a long way to go. We want to have the best program of all the BLM states," she added.

management to protect the area, according to Chad Bacon of the Burns District.

Diamond Craters is a six-mile wide shield of unusual geologic formations located about 50 miles southeast of Burns. Geologists have acclaimed it as a "museum" of basic basaltic features, and have been working with BLM and

Petersen Announces February Retirement

E. J. Petersen, associate state director in Oregon for six years, announced his retirement effective February 29.

Petersen, a career employee of BLM, started work as a forester in 1949 with the Coos Bay District.

The most noticeable change in his 31 years with BLM is "the continual growth of the Bureau because of new requirements to do more things, write more reports — all the complexities involved in a total land management program," Petersen said.

"Another important change is the involvement and interest of the public in everything we do," he added.



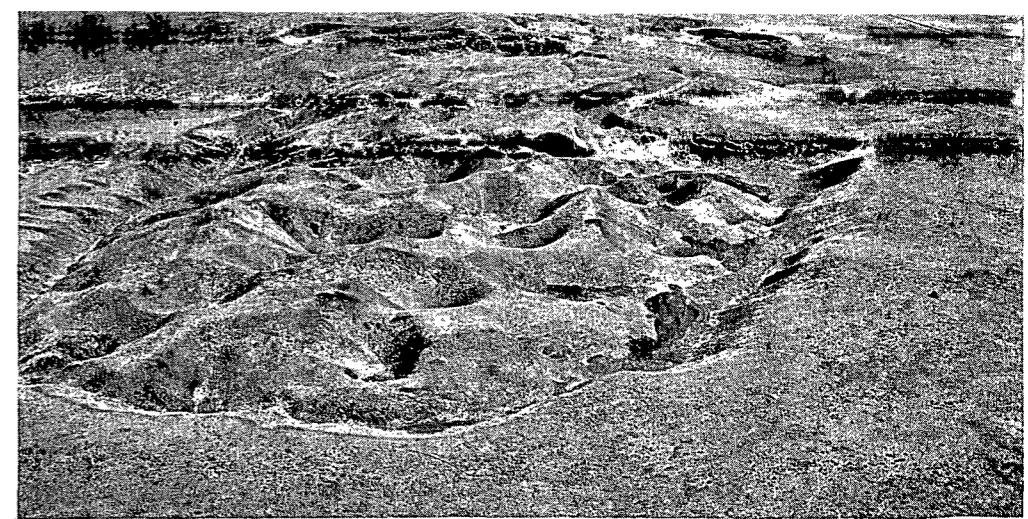
"PETE" in his days at Coos Bay.

Petersen had worked up to the position of unit forester in Coos Bay when he transferred to California in 1955 as manager of the newly-formed Sacramento District, now the Folsom and Ukiah Districts. He held numerous positions in the California State Office, including service as associate director. Petersen also was on the director's staff in Washington, D.C., for a time in the mid-1960's.

"It's been a good career for an Iowa farmboy," Petersen said. "I've enjoyed every day of it."

Petersen will reside in Sacramento after retiring. "We think Portland is a wonderful city, but the fact that our children and grandchildren are all in California tipped the scales."

Petersen has been acting state director in



CENTRAL crater complex is still mostly unexplored, geologists says.

other expert volunteers for more than a year to preserve the area for future study.

The new BLM proposal would designate Diamond Craters as an "Outstanding Natural Area" (ONA), rather than as a "Research Natural Area" (RNA), as was earlier considered. The difference between the two classifications is recreational opportunity, Bacon said.

"The RNA classification provides for educational and scientific study as dominant uses," he said. "The ONA designation provides for both of those, plus recreation."

Hiking, sightseeing, student field trips, and fishing are examples of permissible activities under the ONA heading. In RNAs, such activities could be conducted only if they did not conflict with research.

"Many people visit the Diamond Craters as sightseers. They appreciate its value. We believe the ONA classification best fits the legitimate needs," Bacon explained.

Recreational activities that may harm the

area, such as recreational vehicle usage, are being studied. Closures to vehicles in at least portions of the Diamond Craters are likely to result.

An interagency committee is reviewing information on Diamond Craters. A recommendation on its ONA classification should be forthcoming in March or April, Bacon said. If the committee recommends ONA status, the work to withdraw Diamond Craters from mineral entry will begin. Illegal mining of lava stone for decorative facing on buildings has been a problem in the past.

ONA status was suggested to BLM as the best classification of Diamond Craters by the state of Oregon's Natural Preserves Advisory Committee

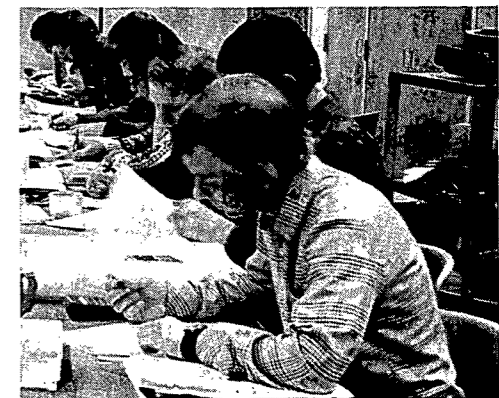
The committee also recommended that present regulations be strictly enforced to protect the area from vandalism and exploitation and that designation of Diamond Craters as an ONA, RNA or National Monument should be done as swiftly as possible.

Twenty Finish Class On Logging Systems

MEDFORD — Twenty BLM employees recently completed a 40-hour logging systems class held at Rogue Community College.

Four hours of college credit was offered to students who completed pre-class work, homework, daily quizzes and a final exam. The class was taught by Lew Brush, district logging systems specialist, and arranged by Ron Van Domelen, chief of technical services. Brush has taught many logging systems classes, but ranked this as the best group ever.

A class in manual road design was held last year at Rogue Community College. These classes are part of the basic educational





U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BLM news

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Oregon State Office, 729 NE Oregon Street, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon 97208

Release No.:

Contact: 80-20

Bill Keil

(503) 231-6276

February 12, 1980

1-4-5-6-8-11-12-13-14-15-1
17o-19o-21-22-25-26--27o-2
28-31o-34

BLM DESIGNATES TRACT ALONG JOHN DAY FOR WILDERNESS STUDY

The Bureau of Land Management has decided to designate 7,560 acres of land along the John Day river 17 miles west of Condon as a wilderness study area under BLM's continuing wilderness review program.

At the same time, the federal agency has eliminated 54,990 acres from further consideration for wilderness. All the land involved lies along the proposed route of the western leg of the Alaska Natural Gas pipeline which crosses 28 tracts of public land in Oregon.

E. J. Petersen, BLM's acting Oregon state director, said the eliminated areas do not have wilderness characteristics. Twenty-six of the parcels contain less than 5,000 acres, the usual designated minimum for wilderness study. Another 7,640-acre parcel two miles east of Redmond, Ore., was found lacking in naturalness and opportunities for solitude and primitive and unconfined types of recreation. The public agreed during an earlier comment period.

The area designated for wilderness study is part of a 10,960-acre roadless unit, the balance of which BLM found lacking in opportunities for solitude and recreation.

The decision was proposed on November 21, 1978, followed by the comment period. Announcement of the final decision was delayed for a Department of the Interior solicitor's opinion that the proposed pipeline corridor is not exempt from wilderness review. The solicitor considered relationships between the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 which guides BLM's wilderness review, and the Alaska Natural Gas Transportation Act of 1976 which guides the pipeline.

The decision becomes final 30 days after publication in the Federal Register, tentatively scheduled for February 12, unless the decision is amended on the basis of new information received, or unless protested within the 30-day period.

###



BLM news

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Oregon State Office, 729 NE Oregon Street, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon 97208

Release No.:

Contact: 79-38

Bill Keil
(503) 231-6276

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

April 26, 1979

1-4-5-7-8-11-13-14-15
17f-17o-18-19o-25-27o
31o-33-34

BLM RESEARCH NATURAL AREAS TENTATIVELY EXCLUDED FROM WILDERNESS DESIGNATION

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) proposes that its five research natural areas in Oregon should not be recommended for inclusion in the national wilderness system. However, prior to reaching a decision on that matter, BLM State Director Murl W. Storms is seeking public comment.

As part of the inventory of the wilderness characteristics of BLM lands, Congress directed that research natural areas and primitive areas designated prior to November 1, 1975, be examined. Thus, areas so designated became "Instant study areas." In Oregon and Washington, BLM has designated no primitive areas, and a preliminary review indicates that BLM's research natural areas do not have wilderness characteristics. The research natural area designation protects areas from disturbance.

Generally, wilderness candidate areas are more than 5,000 acres in size, but four of the five BLM research natural areas are much smaller. Roads bisect the fifth area. However, the Western Juniper and Lost Forest research natural areas are also part of larger roadless areas. Later, each will be considered together with its surroundings to determine if the entire area has wilderness characteristics meriting further study.

In the 8,960-acre Lost Forest research natural area, 80 miles north of Lakeview, Ore., the marks of man are evident; hence the recommendation for no further wilderness study. The area supports an isolated stand of ponderosa pine.

The Western Juniper research natural area is located 19 miles southeast of Bend, Ore. It contains 600 acres established to preserve a nearly pristine example

of the western juniper/big sagebrush/treadleaf sedge type. Because of its small size, it does not have sufficient wilderness qualities.

The 80-acre Little Sink research natural area south of Falls City, Ore., preserves diverse vegetation in an area of considerable landsliding. It contains a mixed stand of young and old-growth Douglas-fir forest with bigleaf maple, cattail marshes, and skunk cabbage bogs. The area is considered too small for preservation as wilderness.

The 210-acre Brewer Spruce research natural area 10 miles northeast of Cave Junction, Ore., is an example of high-elevation mixed conifer forest containing Brewer spruce.

The 590-acre Douglas-fir research natural area, 12 miles northeast of Coquille, Ore. is a typical Douglas-fir/western hemlock forest on soils derived from Coast Range sedimentary rocks. Because of its limited size, it does not offer outstanding opportunities for solitude, nor does it offer outstanding opportunities for a primitive and unconfined type of recreation, basic wilderness requirements.

Comments on the proposal to exclude these areas from further consideration for wilderness should be addressed to BLM district offices which manage each area.

They are: Lost Forest, Lakeview District Office, P.O. Box 151, Lakeview, OR 97630; Western Juniper, Prineville District Office, P.O. Box 550, Prineville, OR 97754; Little Sink, Salem District Office, P.O. Box 3227, Salem, OR 97302; Brewer Spruce, Medford District Office, 310 West Sixth Street, Medford, OR 97501; Douglas-fir, Coos Bay District Office, 333 South Fourth St., Coos Bay, OR 97420.

Comments may also be submitted during a series of public meetings as follows: May 9, 7 p.m., Josephine County Courthouse Room 156, 500 Sixth St., Grants Pass; May 9, 7 p.m., Lakeview Community Center Basement, 11 North G St., Lakeview; May 14, 7 p.m., County Library, 126 South 3rd, Klamath Falls; May 16, 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., BLM Oregon State Office conference room #15, 729 NE Oregon St., Portland; May 16, 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., and 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Salem Heights Hall, 3505 Liberty Road South, Salem; May 16, 9 a.m., Southwestern Oregon Community College, Tioga Hall, Empire Lakes, Coos Bay; May 19, 9:30 a.m., Pilot Butte Junior High School Cafeteria, 1500 NE Penn. Ave., Bend.

Comment deadline is June 26.

###



Release No.: 79-35
Contact: Bill Keil
503-231-6276
~~503-231-3381, Ext. 4624~~

April 6, 1979

1-2-4-5-6-7-8-9-11-12-13-14
15-16-17f-17-0-17-w-18-19o-
19-w-20-21-25-26-27o-27w-
28-31o-31w-34

BLM IDENTIFIED ROADLESS AREAS LACKING WILDERNESS QUALITIES

The Bureau of Land Management has identified 5,887,000 acres in Oregon and 296,100 acres in Washington as "clearly and obviously" lacking in wilderness characteristics. The agency proposes to drop the lands from further wilderness consideration in a preliminary decision announced today.

At the same time, BLM proposes for continued consideration 6,866,400 acres in 350 units in Oregon and 14,100 acres in 49 Washington units. This total is 44% of the 15,724,500 acres managed by BLM in Oregon and 5% of the agency's scattered 310,200 acres in Washington.

BLM earlier found 1,238,500 acres of eastern Oregon roadless areas lacking in wilderness quality. The 1,732,200 acres of revested O&C railroad grant lands managed for commercial timber production in western Oregon are exempted from wilderness consideration.

"We invite the public to comment on our proposals," said Murl W. Storms, BLM's director for Oregon and Washington. "We will use these comments to help us reach our final decision on areas to be removed from further inventory and returned to full multiple-use management."

To aid the public in commenting, Storms has scheduled 20 meetings in Oregon and Washington during the next two months. BLM wilderness staff will answer questions and accept written comments on the proposals. Comment deadline is July 6.

BLM has prepared descriptions of the units recommended by district managers as clearly and obviously lacking wilderness characteristics. Criteria are those of the Wilderness Act of 1964--naturalness, and either outstanding opportunities for solitude or outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined recreation.

Copies of the descriptions, maps showing areas recommended and not recommended for further inventory, and comment forms are available from BLM offices in Oregon and Washington. Comments should be directed to the district office managing each unit on which comments are made. Units continuing in the wilderness review will be intensively inventoried this spring and summer. Late this year, Storms will announce a proposed decision of those to be designated wilderness study areas. Following another 90-day comment period, he will announce his final decision on wilderness study areas to proceed through BLM's land-use planning systems. Those favorably considered will be recommended through the Secretary of the Interior and the President to Congress which has the final decision on designating wilderness areas.

The meeting schedule for the current phase of the wilderness inventory is:

April 28, 9:30 a.m., Wheeler County Courthouse Circuit Courtroom, Fossil, Oregon, followed by a field trip to nearby roadless areas.

May 5, 9:30 a.m., Paulina Elementary School, Paulina, Oregon, followed by field trip to nearby roadless areas.

May 7, 7:30 p.m., BLM District Office Auditorium, 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, Oregon.

May 9, 7 p.m., Room 156, Josephine County Courthouse, 500 Sixth St., Grants Pass, Oregon.

May 9, 7 p.m., Lakeview Community Center Basement, 11 North G St. Lakeview, Oregon.

May 12, 9:30 a.m., South Sherman Elementary School, Grass Valley, Oregon followed by field trip to nearby roadless areas.

- May 14, 7 p.m., County Library, 126 South 3rd, Klamath Falls, Oregon.
- May 15, 7 p.m., Franklin County Public Utility District Auditorium,
1411 West Clark, Pasco, Washington.
- May 16, 9:00 a.m., Southwestern Oregon Community College, Tioga Hall,
Empire Lakes, Oregon.
- May 16, 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., BLM Oregon State Office Conference Room,
Room #15, 729 NE Oregon St., Portland, Oregon.
- May 16, 1:30 p.m., to 4:30 p.m, and 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., Salem Heights
Hall, 3505 Liberty Road South, Salem, Oregon.
- May 17, 7:30 p.m., Lane County Extension Service Auditorium, 930 West
13th, Eugene, Oregon.
- May 17, 7 p.m., Okanogan County Public Utility District Auditorium,
1331 North 2nd, Okanogan, Washington.
- May 19, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Burns District BLM Office, 74 South Alvord,
Burns, Oregon.
- May 19, 9:30 a.m., Pilot Butte Junior High School Cafetorium, 1500 NE
Penn. Ave., Bend, Oregon, followed by a field trip to nearby
roadless areas.
- May 21, 7 p.m., San Juan County High School, Blair and Guard Streets,
Friday Harbor, Washington.
- May 22, 7:30 p.m., Community Center, 2610 Grove St., Baker, Oregon.
- May 22, 1:30 p.m., and 7:30 p.m., Vale District BLM Office, 365 A St.
West, Vale, Oregon.
- May 23, 7:30 p.m., Lions Den, Highway #95, Jordan Valley, Oregon.
- May 24, 7:30 p.m., Community Hall, Highway #95, McDermitt, Oregon.

x x x x

BLM INITIAL WILDERNESS INVENTORY

PUBLIC COMMENT SHEET

We would appreciate your comments during this phase of the Wilderness Review being conducted by the Bureau of Land Management under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976. During this early phase of the process we are trying to separate roadless areas and islands which warrant a more intensive inventory from those which clearly and obviously do not have wilderness characteristics.

Please list your comments, referring to a specific inventory unit, on the back of this sheet and return it to us during one of the public meetings or mail it to the district office which administers the area.

BLM's Oregon State Director has made his initial recommendations. Information and opinions we seek during this process will be considered in his final decision to eliminate or retain areas to proceed on through the wilderness inventory process.

Here is some information that might help you in your judgment:

Roads

Boundaries of roadless areas are either roads or non-BLM lands. For purposes of the wilderness inventory, BLM uses the roadless area definition contained in the legislative history of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976:

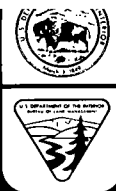
The word "roadless" refers to the absence of roads which have been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use. A way maintained solely by the passage of vehicles does not constitute a road.

If you believe that roads shown as boundaries of the inventory units are not roads--as defined above--or that additional roads divide the units into two or more areas, you may want to mark the maps accordingly and return them with your comments.

Wilderness Characteristics

Congress required that BLM use the criteria in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act to determine whether roadless areas of the public lands have wilderness characteristics. Congress said in Section 2(c) that:

"A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in this Act an area of undeveloped Federal Land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least five thousand acres of land or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values."



BLM news

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Oregon State Office, 729 NE Oregon Street, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon 97208

Release No.:

Contact: 79-58

Bill Keil

(503) 231-6276

August 29, 1979

1-2-4-5-6-7-8-9-11-12-13-
14-15-16-17F-17o-17w-18-
19o-19w-20-21-22-23-25-
26-27o-27w-28-31o-31w-34

BLM'S INTENSIVE WILDERNESS INVENTORY PROCEEDS

The Bureau of Land Management is intensively inventorying seven million acres in Oregon and 13,800 acres in Washington to determine their suitability for wilderness study areas, according to Murl Storms, BLM Oregon state director.

At the same time, 5.7 million acres in Oregon and 296,000 acres in Washington obviously lacking wilderness quality are being eliminated from further wilderness consideration, Storms said in announcing his decision on an extensive initial inventory. This is the current step in BLM's wilderness review process scheduled for completion by 1991.

The eliminated lands will be removed from interim management restraints and returned to full multiple use management at the end of September.

All BLM-administered islands and rocks off the Oregon coast not previously Congressionally designated as wilderness will proceed through the system for intensive inventory.

Decision also has been made that five Oregon "instant study areas", previously designated research natural areas, do not have wilderness characteristics. A preliminary finding on this question was made last spring, followed by a two-month comment period.

The areas include Lost Forest in Lake county, Western Juniper in Deschutes county, Little Sink in Polk county, Brewer Spruce in Josephine county, and Douglas Fir in Coos county. However, portions of Lost Forest and Western Juniper will be re-evaluated in the intensive wilderness inventory as parts of larger inventory units.

more

BLM held 20 meetings in Oregon and Washington to inform the public on the wilderness review process and to encourage comments on the inventory. A total of 435 comments were received and considered in the final decision on the initial inventory during a recently completed three-month public review.

Maps, a report describing areas to be dropped from further wilderness consideration as well as those to be intensively inventoried, and an analysis of public comments on the areas are available from Oregon State Director (912), Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon 97208.

Storms has encouraged the interested public to visit candidate wilderness study areas during favorable weather this summer and fall, ahead of the comment period. He said that some areas may be difficult to reach in winter.

He will propose a decision on wilderness study area designations next spring after the current intensive summer and fall inventory. This will be followed by a 90-day public comment period before his final decision late next summer.

The next step will employ BLM's land-use planning process to analyze all values, resources, and uses in the wilderness study areas in order to recommend the best uses for the land. The public will be asked to participate in this phase, as it has been asked to do in all steps of the process.

When a study is completed, recommendations will be made through BLM's State Director, Director, and Secretary of the Interior to the President and eventually to Congress for legislative action. Only Congress can designate a wilderness area.

A proposed decision for public comment will be announced this fall on whether or not 29 inventory units in southeastern Oregon should be designated wilderness study areas. A final decision will be made on these early next year, according to Storms.

Inventories of these units have been accelerated because of proposals for range improvements and possible land exchanges. These actions will be considered only on land not found worthy of designation as a wilderness study area.

###



United States Department of the Interior 8500 (933)

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

OREGON STATE OFFICE
P.O. Box 2965 (729 N.E. Oregon Street)
Portland, Oregon 97208

August 29, 1979

FINAL DECISION ON INITIAL WILDERNESS INVENTORY

The first step of the wilderness inventory of BLM-administered lands in Oregon and Washington has been completed. The enclosed maps and report identify which public lands clearly lack wilderness characteristics and therefore are removed from further consideration as potential wilderness study areas. They also identify public lands which will be more intensively inventoried this year to determine whether they should be designated wilderness study areas or eliminated from further consideration.

These decisions were made after reviewing approximately 435 comments received during a 90-day public comment period. The comment period began on April 6, 1979, with the announcement of a proposed decision. Many of the comments we received dealt with units being intensively inventoried. The district inventory teams are reviewing and considering those comments as they examine the inventory units this summer.

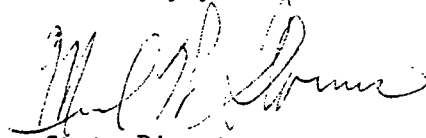
We have also enclosed an announcement that five Congressionally designated instant wilderness study areas in Oregon do not meet wilderness criteria.

For most of the intensive inventory units, we will announce a proposed decision next spring on whether or not wilderness study areas should be designated. A 90-day public comment period will follow, and a final decision will be announced about a year from now. For 29 accelerated inventory units, however, we will announce a proposed decision this fall on whether study areas should be designated. A 90-day public comment period will follow with a final decision to be announced next spring. All intensive inventory units are listed in the enclosed report. The 29 units being inventoried on the accelerated schedule are listed in Appendix C.

If you plan on visiting any of the intensive inventory units to gather information to submit during the comment periods, we urge you to do so as soon as possible. Larger scale maps of the inventory units can be obtained from the Public Affairs Room in this office. If you write for a map, please be sure to specify the unit in which you are interested.

Thank you for participating in the inventory. We look forward to working with you during the remainder of the program.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M. M. Jones", is written over the typed name "State Director".

State Director

Enclosure
Wilderness Report



United States Department of the Interior 8500 (933)

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

OREGON STATE OFFICE
P.O. Box 2965 (729 N.E. Oregon Street)
Portland, Oregon 97208

August 1979

INSTANT WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS IN OREGON DO NOT MEET WILDERNESS CRITERIA

The five instant wilderness study areas (ISA's) on public lands in Oregon do not have wilderness characteristics. However, one instant study area and portions of another are parts of larger wilderness inventory units, and those portions will be re-evaluated in BLM's intensive wilderness inventory of the larger units.

The five instant study areas are Lost Forest in the Lakeview District, Western Juniper in the Prineville District, Little Sink in the Salem District, Brewer Spruce in the Medford District, and Douglas Fir in the Coos Bay District. Their locations are shown on the accompanying initial inventory maps.

A preliminary finding that the instant study areas lacked wilderness characteristics was announced April 26, 1979. A 60-day public comment period followed.

The instant study areas derive their title from the fact that Congress declared them wilderness study areas when it passed the Federal Land Policy and Management Act. They were not identified for study through BLM's inventory process. The instant study areas are all natural and primitive areas which were formally designated as such prior to November 1, 1975. A recommendation on their suitability or unsuitability as wilderness must be submitted to the President by July 1, 1980.

The Lost Forest Instant Study Area contains 8,960 acres of public land. It is located in Lake County, 80 miles north of Lakeview and 15 miles northeast of Christmas Valley. It was established as a research natural area because it contains an isolated stand of ponderosa pine perpetuating itself in an area of limited rainfall. Roads divide the area into five parcels ranging in size from 600 to 2,500 acres. Logging in the early 1950's left stumps scattered throughout the pine stands. None of the five parcels are of sufficient size to designate and preserve as wilderness. The area does not generally appear natural, and it does not offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation.

Three of the parcels extend beyond the instant study area boundary and into units which will be intensively inventoried this summer and fall-- Inventory Units 1-9, 1-12, and 1-24. The portions inside the instant study area boundary will be included in the intensive inventory. A small parcel is located in Inventory Unit 1-25 which was determined to lack wilderness characteristics in an inventory conducted in 1977-78. That part of the instant study area, and a parcel in the west-central section which is not part of a larger inventory unit, will not be considered in further wilderness reviews.

Eleven public comments supported eliminating the area from further review, with four citing specific reasons why the area lacks wilderness characteristics. Another commenter suggested that the northeast parcel be dropped from further review, but that the parcels contiguous to inventory units to the north and southwest be intensively inventoried. Of the eight comments urging further wilderness review or wilderness designation, two stated that the works of man are substantially unnoticeable, two said the area offers opportunities for solitude or recreation, and four cited the ecological features of the area as a reason for wilderness preservation.

The 600-acre Western Juniper Instant Study area is located 19 miles southwest of Bend and one mile west of Horse Ridge Summit on U. S. Highway 20. It was established as a research natural area to preserve an example of the western juniper/big sagebrush/threadleaf sedge vegetative community. The area is not of sufficient size to designate and preserve as wilderness. However, it is part of a larger roadless area, and it will be considered in the intensive wilderness inventory of the larger area.

The eight public comments received on the Western Juniper Instant Study Area recommended it be eliminated from further review.

The 80-acre Little Sink Instant Study Area is located just south of Falls City and adjacent to Camp Kilowan Camp Fire Girls' Camp. The research natural area was established to preserve the diversity of vegetation found in an area of considerable landsliding. The area is not of sufficient size to designate and preserve as wilderness.

Nine public comments recommended the Little Sink Instant Study Area not be considered further as potential wilderness. One comment urged the area be further reviewed for wilderness, stating the area is free of man-made features and offers opportunities for solitude and unconfined recreation.

The 210-acre Brewer Spruce Instant Study Area is located ten miles northeast of Cave Junction and seven miles north of Oregon Caves National Monument. It is contiguous to approximately 1,500 acres of roadless land eligible for wilderness review. The research natural area was established to preserve a high-elevation, mixed conifer forest containing Brewer spruce and associated brush fields. Much of the area is less than one mile wide, and steep slopes restrict travel to ridgetops. The area and contiguous roadless lands are not of sufficient size to designate and preserve as wilderness. They do not offer outstanding opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation.

The seven public comments received on the Brewer Spruce Instant Study Area recommended it not be considered further for wilderness designation.

The 590-acre Douglas Fir Instant Study Area is located in Coos County, 14 miles northeast of Coquille and nine and one-half miles north of Cherry Creek County Park. It is contiguous to 50 acres of public land eligible for wilderness review. The research natural area was established to preserve a Douglas-fir/western hemlock forest growing on soils derived from sedimentary rocks in the Coast Range. The area and contiguous roadless land eligible for wilderness review are not of sufficient size to designate and preserve as wilderness.

The ten public comments received on the Douglas Fir Instant Study Area recommended it not be further reviewed as a potential wilderness area.



VANDALISM . . . dollars draining out of everyone's pocket.

EUGENE — Vandalism — how can it be reduced?

That was the tough question asked of 52 people who attended the anti-vandalism workshop sponsored by the Bureau of Land Management's Eugene District and the Willamette National Forest Dec. 11.

The people represented many public agencies and private landowners and recreation groups in Lane County who are attempting to develop a program that will do something about the

vandalism enigma that continually drains money from taxpayers.

The purpose of the workshop was to gather ideas about reducing vandalism and to organize people willing to put the ideas into action.

"We were really pleased with the turnout and the level of commitment to future work on the problem," said Jerry Mason, BLM's public affairs officer in Eugene. "We gathered many practical ideas that we will analyze and organize at our next meeting."

Wild Horses Available at Spanaway Center

SPANAWAY — More wild horses soon will be adopted in western Washington. The Bureau of Land Management recently awarded a contract to operate a distribution center to Dale Butler.

Butler is no stranger to the wild horse program. He ran BLM's first privately contracted center two years ago, and based on the success of that operation, three other

distribution points across the country were established. Butler also guided a distribution center at Spanaway last year, placing about 300 wild horses with adopters.

Wild horses from both Oregon and Nevada will be adopted through Spanaway this year.

"We've had people calling and asking about wild horses since September," said the soft-spoken Butler. "We've got more than 1,300 people on the list wanting horses. I'm looking for the horses to move fast."

A fee of \$107 will be charged for each horse to cover the costs of transporting and maintaining the animals.

"We had a pretty good collection of horses come through here last year. People seem to be doing well with them, because many people asking about horses this year adopted horses last year," Butler said.

Burns Offers Free Firewood

BURNS — The Burns District is offering free firewood in four areas of the Silvies Valley where thinning projects have recently been completed. District Manager Chris Vosler said that only downed trees can be removed in the area. Interested parties should contact the

Increase educational emphasis on respect for property and citizenship in elementary school classes to build an anti-vandalism ethic.

Work with community and special interest groups toward developing cooperative efforts toward halting vandalism.

Focus public attention on the amount of money lost due to vandalism.

Design facilities, signs, etc., so that they will not be as susceptible to vandalism.

Meet with local lawyers, judges, and law enforcement personnel to find appropriate forms of punishment.

Mason credited John Critzer of the Northwest Road and Trail Association for being instrumental in getting the anti-vandalism effort underway. Critzer's interest in an anti-vandalism program was sparked after reading several reports about the problem.

The group's next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 8. Details are available from the Eugene District office.

Interim Guidelines Set for Wilderness

WASHINGTON — Rules on how BLM lands will be used while they are being evaluated in a wilderness review have been announced by Interior Secretary Cecil D. Andrus.

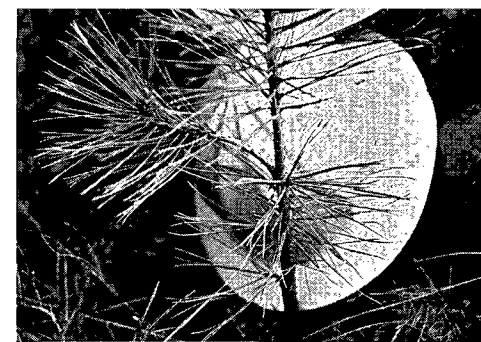
The rules, or interim management policy, apply to about 46 million acres where the inventory to identify study areas is in progress. They affect grazing, recreation, mining, and other uses.

The policy allows activities causing little or no surface disturbance, such as hunting, fishing, grazing, and use of motor vehicles on existing routes.

It requires reclamation of temporary impacts for such activities as new oil and gas and mineral exploration and construction of temporary access routes. It prohibits activities that would cause long-lasting or permanent impacts such as timber harvests, surface coal mining, and construction of power plants or permanent roads.

Exceptions to the rules are grazing and mineral uses that existed on Oct. 21, 1976; the day the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA) was passed. FLPMA directed BLM to begin a wilderness study.

"This policy, and our entire wilderness review program are intended to evaluate wilderness potential honestly, to continue existing uses or allow new uses wherever possible, and to conclude the period of study and uncertainty as rapidly as possible," Andrus said.



SLASH removed in firewood gathering often helps seedlings get a good start.

Forest Damage Closes BLM Firewood Area

MEDFORD — The Belle firewood area 15 miles southwest of Medford has been closed by BLM because of heavy damage to the forest.

About 850 firewood permits were issued in a little more than two weeks, and at times, "It looked like everyone in town was up there," said Bob Bainbridge, Rogue Area resource manager.

The damage included cutting of standing trees, soil damage from irresponsible use of four-wheel rigs, blocking of ditches and culverts with leftover wood, trespass on nearby private land, and failure to stack slash as required in the permit.

"Everyone seemed to want to cut as much wood as they could, as fast as they could, turn around, unload and come back for more," Bainbridge noted.

"I'm sure that 95 percent of the people did a good job, but it was the five percent who didn't that ruined it."

The site was the closest firewood area to Medford and Ashland. Most firewood areas are open from four to eight weeks, but the Belle area was closed after less than three weeks because of the heavy damage.

"There was a lot of wood wasted up there. People were taking only the bottom eight feet of trees they cut, and leaving the rest to rot. Just from the road, I counted 18 merchantable Douglas-fir trees that were missing," said Bainbridge.

Three people were caught cutting fir. One has already made payment to BLM, and the other two are being prosecuted, Bainbridge said.

A Young Adult Conservation Corp crew was sent to the area to clean up and eliminate safety hazards. Ditches and culverts will be unblocked and the road reggraded.

Other means of easing the demand for firewood in southern Oregon are being studied, Bainbridge said. One possibility is to haul out

dormitory will show new signs of life near the end of January as BLM prepares to open a second residential Young Adult Conservation Corps (YACC) program in Oregon, this one in the Salem District at Monmouth.

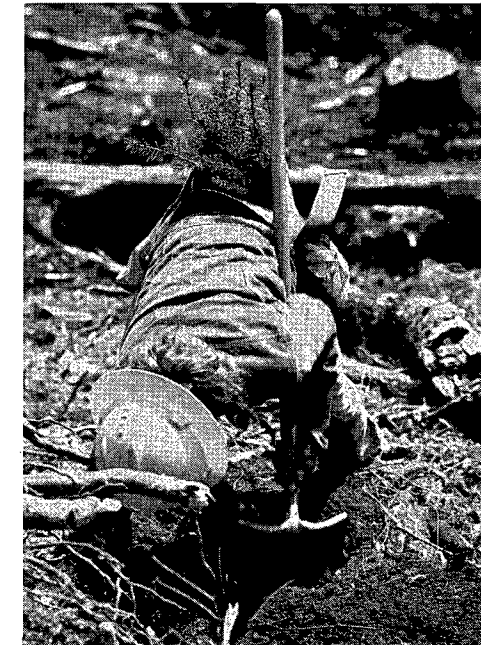
Recruiting of staff is taking place this month, and if all goes well, the first eight enrollees will be tackling their initial conservation chores by March 1, said Rich Jones, BLM's youth program coordinator.

The last hurdle to opening the camp is final contracting with Oregon College of Education, (OCE) but Jones is confident that details regarding the school's facilities and food services can be arranged.

Target for reaching that number is July 1. College campuses are coveted as the site of camps for two reasons, Jones said. First, the YACC legislation directs agencies to use public facilities that are not being fully utilized. Next, the campus environment is a good influence on the enrollees.

"We're finding the enrollees are taking advantage of what the college environment has to offer, ranging from social to educational to recreational activities," Jones said.

"A large portion of the members haven't finished high school. They can work on their GED's on their own time on campus. Plus, some of the people are taking advantage of night school."



HARD work, good times part of YACC experience.

"We expect most of our enrollees will be from the Portland area," Jones said, "although our program in the Medford district at Southern Oregon State College (SOSC) has enrollees from everywhere."

YACC members are youths between 16-23 years who are paid the minimum wage to work on conservation projects under the direction of a federal agency. The Monmouth arrangement replaces four non-residential programs closed last year in Coos Bay, Eugene, Roseburg, and Salem.

"Residential camps have been a prime thrust of the program," Jones explained. "In residential situations, there is more interaction with other people, more learning how to get along with each other and the work experience is part of a total growing up experience."

Geothermal Bidding Offered by BLM

Geothermal leasing opportunities on 96,058 acres are being re-offered by BLM.

Most of the land is in Lake County, with other sites in Clackamas, Harney, and Klamath Counties. Tracts range in size from 80 to 2,560 acres. All of the areas are within Known Geothermal Resource Areas. (KGRA).

Sealed bids will be accepted until Jan. 8 at 1 p.m., and the openings are scheduled for 2 p.m. the same day. No bids were received on the tracts when they were offered about 18 months ago.

Areas involved are Alvord and Crump Geyser in Lake County, Burns Butte in Harney County, Klamath Falls in Klamath County, and the Breitenbush area in Clackamas County. The Breitenbush area is on Forest Service land, but leasing is administered by BLM.

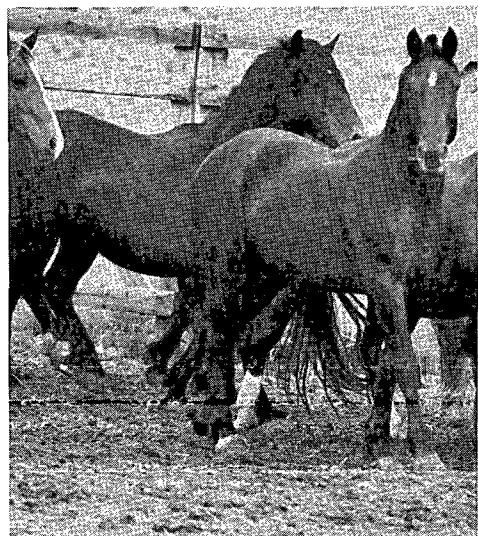
Sand and Gravel Said Part of Mineral Estate

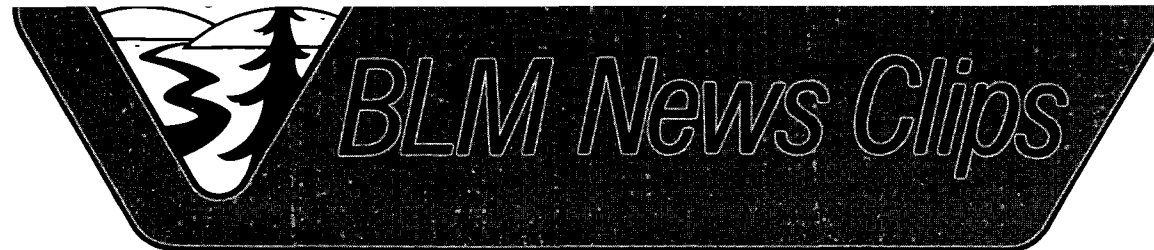
Sand and gravel on private land still belongs to the government where the United States has retained mineral rights, according to a court decision.

Judge Ewing T. Kerr made the decision in Western Nuclear vs. United States.

"People should check the original patent to see if the land comes under the stock-raising homestead act category, which reserved minerals for the United States," said D.B. Lightner of BLM's minerals adjudication section.

"If so, people would have to obtain the material through BLM," he said.





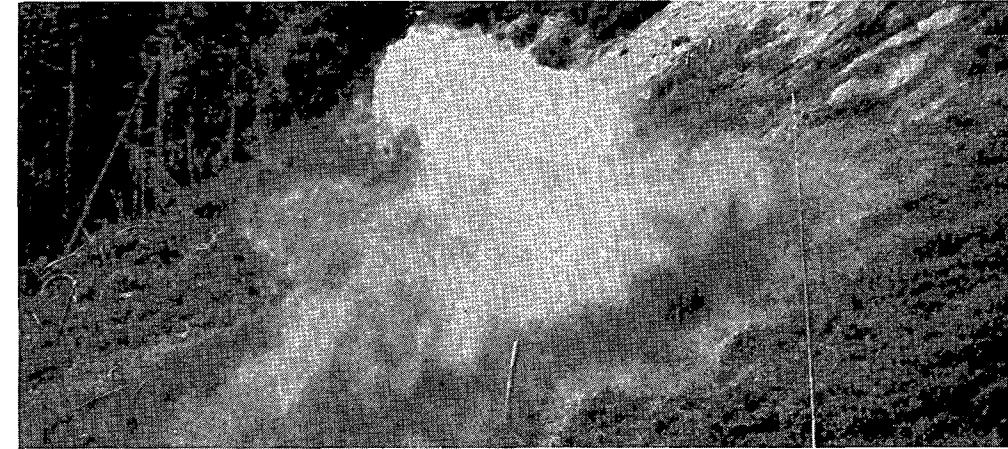
A BLM goal is to balance the uses of natural resources so as to ensure the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment.

PORTLAND, OREGON

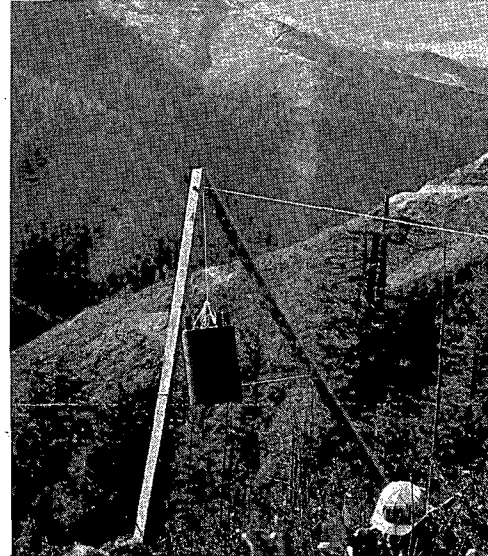
Blasts Being Studied For Possible Brush Control

EUGENE — Researchers hope to shake undesirable hardwood brush into submission through a series of tests employing blasts in a one-two punch to provide life-giving sunlight for young conifers.

The spectacular blasts are one of several techniques being tested to control brush which otherwise could choke out the next crop of firs, hemlocks, pines and other conifers that foresters want to restore to the land after logging.



SECOND explosion results in large red fireball. Force rips foliage from branches, clearing the brush for conifer planting.



CANNISTER weighs 65 lbs., is suspended from A-frame about five feet above ground. Detonators are set off from a safe distance.

Tests have been made on BLM and Forest Service brushlands in western and southern Oregon. The latest series, in early December, was on a BLM Ceonothus brushfield about 20 miles southeast of Cottage Grove. The steep south facing slope had defied reforestation

about five feet above the brush. Ethylene oxide is similar to antifreeze. An initial detonation releases a circular aerosol cloud which hangs above the brush. A split second later, a second detonation explodes the cloud with a thunderous report.

Most of the force is directed downward. The shock blows foliage from the branches and shatters it into a ground covering mulch. The force wrenches roots in the ground and produces an effect almost like tilling the soil, although there is no blast crater.

The recent tests produced an area about 60 feet in diameter leaving only the branch skeletons. Early studies have shown that the brush is "shocked" for at least one season afterward, delaying resprouting. The effect has continued for at least two seasons in an earlier test in salmonberry in the Coast Range.

No apparent residue is left after the explosion with no "explosive" odor such as noticed after a dynamite blast. Although the secondary blast appears as a large circular red flame with smoke, the heat is apparently all directed



- Revise my address as indicated on this panel which I am returning.
- Discontinue sending BLM News Clips.
- Include these resource management subjects in future issues:

Permission is granted to republish material from BLM News Clips, with or without credit.



BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT Oregon-Washington:

729 NE Oregon St.
P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208
Don Smurthwaite, Editor

DISTRICTS Oregon

Lakeview - 1000 Ninth St. S, PO Box 151, Lakeview, OR 97630. Phone 947-2177. Richard A. Gerity, Mgr.

Burns - 74 S Alvord St., Burns, OR 97720. Phone 573-2071. L. Christian Vosler, Mgr.

Vale - 365 A St. W, PO Box 700, Vale, OR 97918. Phone 473-3144. Fearl M. Parker, Mgr.

Prineville - 185 E 4th St., PO Box 550, Prineville, OR 97754. Phone 447-4115. Paul W. Arrasmith, Mgr.

Baker - Federal Building, PO Box 987, Baker, OR 97814. Phone 523-6391. Gordon R. Staker, Mgr.

Salem - 3550 Liberty Road S, PO Box 3227, Salem, OR 97302. Phone 399-5646. Edward G. Stauber, Mgr.

Eugene - 1255 Pearl St., PO Box 10226, Eugene, OR 97401. Phone 687-6650. Dwight L. Patton, Mgr.

Roseburg - 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, OR 97470. Phone 672-4491. James E. Hart, Mgr.

Medford - 3040 Biddle Rd., Medford, OR 97501. Phone 776-4174. George C. Francis, Mgr.

Coos Bay - 333 S 4th St., Coos Bay, OR 97420. Phone 269-5880. Paul M. Sanger, Mgr.

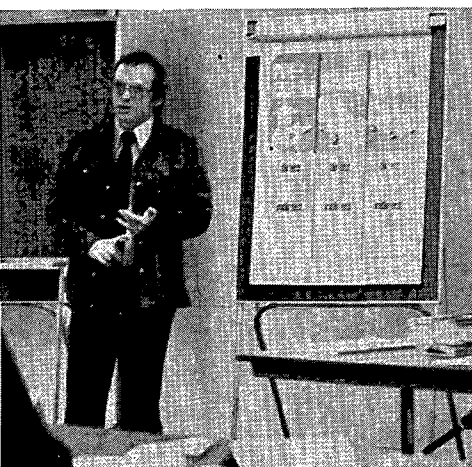
Washington

Spokane - 920 W Riverside, Spokane,

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
OREGON STATE OFFICE
P.O. BOX 2965 (729 NE OREGON ST.)
PORTLAND, OREGON 97208



BLM Safety Awareness Now On Upswing



DEFENSIVE driving course increases employee awareness.

The Bureau of Land Management's safety record in Oregon and Washington for 1979 shows some good, some bad, and a lot of promise.

That's the opinion of Stan Pierce, safety manager in the Oregon State Office.

"The last year was a tragic year because of the two fatalities and one permanently disabling injury," he said. "But we are showing improvement in our general safety record, and our program is showing a lot of promise in changing the attitudes of our employees."

One reason for optimism is a much improved accident frequency rate (AFR). Last year six districts or sections had an AFR above 20. This year, only three districts or sections are above that figure.

Moving vehicle accidents in Oregon and Washington were less than BLM's national

Pierce said.

An area of concern for Pierce and other safety coordinators is a high accident rate for temporary employees. During the last year temporary employees accounted for 65 percent of disabling accidents, while working only 32 percent of the total hours.

"The National Safety Council says that 65 percent of all injuries occur during the first six months of work," Pierce said. "Our inexperienced workers are responsible for many of our accidents, so lately we have been putting more and more emphasis on training the new employees in safety."

There are now three full-time safety coordinators in the districts, and a fourth district is in the process of hiring one. New emphasis is being placed on safety committees and programs. A safety handbook describing frequent hazardous situations and tips should be available by early summer.

"The district managers have taken a very positive attitude towards their safety programs and it's showing," noted Pierce. "It takes a long time to turn a safety program around, but I think we're at that point now."

Lands Council to Convene; Meeting Set Jan. 28-30

The first meeting of the National Public Lands Advisory Council will be Jan. 28-30, in Washington, D.C. The 17-member advisory body was formed in November to assist BLM and the Department of the Interior with plans and programs for nearly 400 million acres of public lands and resources.

instrument that measures the density and moisture content of materials.

The nuclear gauge contains two separate radioactive isotopes, cesium 137 and americium 241. The cesium 137 is used for measuring density while the americium 241 measures moisture.



NEW calibration curves are being developed for the gauge to fit low soil densities in Southern Oregon.

“Check Claim’s Status,” BLM Urges

(con’t from p. 1)

Yet mining claims were filed on the land, and a residence built in the early 1970’s. The claim was declared null and void by BLM and removal procedures started.

Unknown to BLM, the claimant began marketing his claim and soon sold it to an 83-year old man for \$17,000.

In such cases, BLM will consider the hardships imposed on the purchaser, and will often try to work out a permit or rental agreement. But the objective is still to eventually terminate the occupancy, Rundell said.

Steens Mountain Rd. Blocked by Snowfall

BURNS — Snows in early November shut the Steens Mountain road, according to Bert Hart, natural resources specialist in the Burns District.

Hart estimated there is at least two to three feet of snow on the higher elevations of the mountain. In a typical year, eight feet of snow will accumulate, he added.

Steens Mountain is a popular recreational

probe lowered. Particles are emitted towards a receptor. The hydrogen in the water blocks or deflects the particles away from the receptor, giving an indication of the moisture content. The density measurement is obtained in a similar manner, with the compaction of material blocking the radioactive particles.

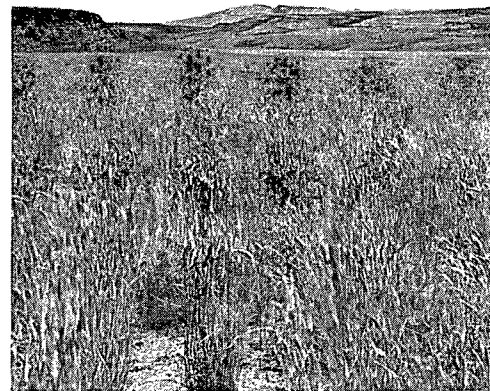
There are several uses for the nuclear gauge in forest management.

Monitoring changes in soil density as a result of BLM activities such as tractor logging is one important use. If soils are too wet or dry, logging may cause compaction, resulting in slow vegetation growth.

In road construction, the gauge can check to determine if proper densities have been obtained. Soil moisture content information can be used to set dates for tractor yarding, machine piling and site preparation techniques.

Operators of the gauge are required to take a basic course on radioactivity safety and understand the theory behind the nuclear probe so that they can fully interpret the results.

About 20 employees are licensed to operate the nuclear gauge, which is the size of a knapsack. Use of radioisotopes as a forestry management tool is becoming more frequent. Besides the nuclear gauge, isotopes are being used to trace the flow of materials in trees, and in studies of forest insects and tree diseases.



Rangeland Report Ready for Review

A draft report of how 170 million acres of public rangeland will be managed by the Bureau of Land Management has been released, according to Secretary of Interior Cecil Andrus.

The draft, “Managing the Public Rangelands,” is the first comprehensive statement of rangeland management policy published by BLM in nearly 20 years.

Special targets of the statement include means of improving rangeland currently in fair or poor condition, reducing erosion, stabilizing the livestock industry, doubling the current annual forage production and making sufficient water available.

Copies of the report may be obtained from BLM’s Public Affairs Office, 729 NE Oregon St., Portland, OR 97208.

The public review period ends January 15. Comments on the draft should be sent to: Director (220), Bureau of Land Management, Washington, D.C. 20240.

“These lands, and the benefits they provide, belong to all Americans,” Andrus said. “We are asking everyone who has a stake in them to help us design a strong and balanced management program for the 1980’s.”

Federal Land Near Burns Focus of Oil, Gas Study

BURNS — An analysis on impacts of oil and gas leasing and possible development on BLM and Forest Service land northwest of here is being prepared.

The analysis is a supplement to an environmental analysis record published in 1976. The supplement will consider areas to the west of those lands covered in the 1976 report.

Impacts on air, land, water, plants and animals and landscape character will be among

EUGENE — Business is booming and wild horses are moving fast as the Bureau of Land Management’s Wild Horse Distribution Center in Eugene enters its second season.

“We’ve expanded our corral space, added new services, tightened up some procedures, and hope to place about 700 wild horses this year,” said Chuck John, operator of the center.



CHUCK John hopes to find homes for 700 wild horses this year in the Northwest.

Tougher Penalties Imposed by New Law

WASHINGTON — A bill imposing strict penalties for removing or damaging archaeological resources has been signed by President Carter.

The “Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979” applies to all Federal and Indian lands. The act calls for penalties of up to two years imprisonment and a \$20,000 fine for first offenses, and a maximum of five years imprisonment and a \$100,000 fine for subsequent violations.

Provisions of the bill include definitions of cultural resources as being at least 100 years old; allowance of permits for excavation by qualified people; and exemption of arrowhead collection from the penalties. Other laws, however, prohibit the removal of arrowheads.

County-Wide Meetings Set

ROSEBURG — BLM’s Roseburg District will hold six open houses in early December to make resource inventory information collected

After finishing welding on a new gate for the 12,000-square foot corral addition, John explained, “Public interest and demand for wild horses is as high as ever and the first few loads from eastern Oregon have been really sharp horses. In the right hands, they’ll work out really well.

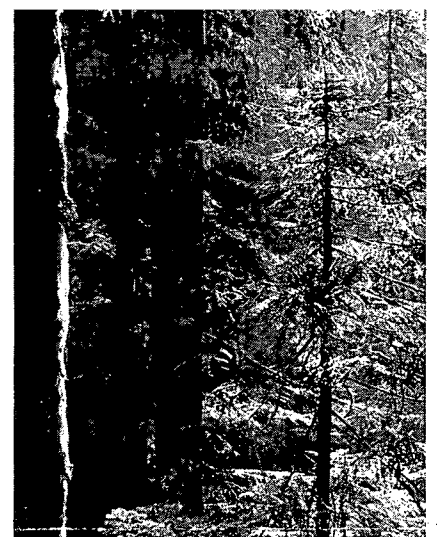
“I’m tying up each horse at least once to get them used to being tied,” John said. “It helps ease the problems in transition, if they get used to it before people take them home.”

John is looking to build new barns and lean-tos to add more shelter next summer. His distribution center is the only privately-contracted center operating presently in the Pacific Northwest, although another will open in Washington early in 1980.

Fees for adoption have been raised to \$85 per horse this year to offset the large increases in hay prices and transportation.

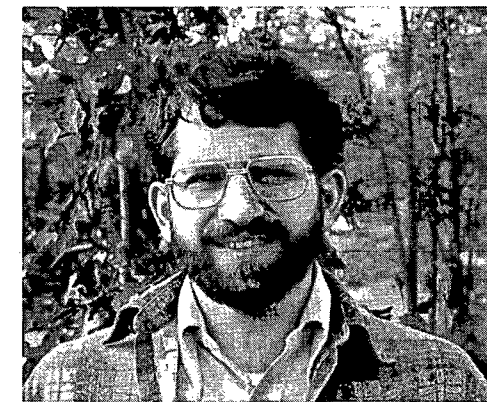
The wild horse adoption season runs roughly from late October through May when roundups are halted during the foaling season.

Applications and information are available by writing to “Adopt-A-Horse,” P.O. Box 25047, Denver, CO 80225. More than 3,000 wild horses have been placed with Oregon and Washington residents and more than 16,000 nation-wide since the program began five years ago.



Tall trees and soft sunlight filtering to the forest floor were the elements captured in this photo by Ray Naddy of the Salem District. It was one of six first-place finishers in the Second Annual Double Q Photo Contest, sponsored by BLM’s Public Affairs Office in Portland. Contest is open to all BLM employees, each October.

BLM’er Doubles As Orchestra Conductor



MUSIC MAN . . . Salem District realty specialist John Radosta’s avocation is music.

SALEM — When the lights dim and the Salem Pops Orchestra begins a concert this year, there will be more than just a rippling of interest among BLM employees.

That’s because the orchestra will be under the direction of John Radosta, realty specialist in the Salem District.

“The people in the district seem very excited, and many of them are planning to attend the

during the summer months. The group performs three or four times each year with funds received going for a charitable community cause, Radosta said. The orchestra plays popular numbers and light classics.

“We have a nice cross-section of people,” Radosta commented. “We have doctors, lawyers, housewives and school children. One of our clarinetists is a county judge.”

For Radosta, conducting is “an intense experience, something that is thrilling.” He got his start as a conductor while attending the High School of Music and Art in New York City. But when it came time to leave for college, he abruptly left music and opted for forestry at Syracuse University.

“It was a strange transition I made when leaving high school and starting college,” Radosta said. “But there was no charge for tuition for forestry students and I thought it might be a way to leave New York City.”

Five years ago a BLM transfer landed him in Salem where his involvement in local musicals again sparked an interest in music and conducting. When the Salem Pops began searching for a new conductor last fall, Radosta was the choice.

34 Debra Struhacker

BLM News Clips



DECEMBER 1979

A BLM goal is to balance the uses of natural resources so as to ensure the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment.

PORTLAND, OREGON

- Revise my address as indicated on this panel which I am returning.
 - Discontinue sending BLM News Clips.
 - Include these resource management subjects in future issues.
- Permission is granted to republish material from BLM News Clips, with or without credit.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
INT 415

P.O. BOX 2965 (729 NE OREGON ST.)
PORTLAND, OREGON 97208



Wildwood Park Visits Hit 40,000 Mark in '79

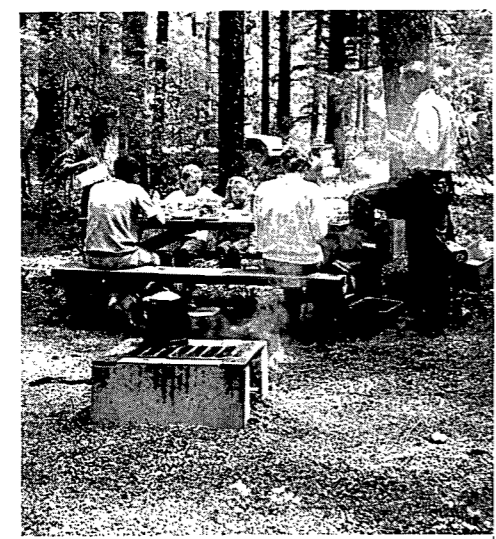
By RAY NADDY

SALEM — The Wildwood Recreation Site east of Sandy reported another season of absolute weekend capacity use this year with 40,000 visitations.

Wildwood, a day-use facility operated by BLM's Salem District from May through September, is a popular family and group picnic area getting heavy use from residents of Washington, Multnomah and Clackamas Counties.

Scott Abdon, Salem District outdoor recreation specialist, reported that the Wildwood visitation is typical of an urban area recreation facility with a very high percentage of its use coming on weekends. Wildwood, he said, gets as many as 5,000 visitors each weekend and has limited use during the week. The 40,000 figure has been about the average for Wildwood for the past three years, Abdon added.

Facilities at Wildwood are being expanded this year to include access to the Salmon-Huckleberry back country of the Mt. Hood National Forest. This involves establishing a trailhead parking area and construction of a



HIGH USE at Wildwood typical of parks near urban area.

foot bridge across the Salmon River and a connector trail linking up with Forest Service trails. The work is expected to take about a year. An interpretive trail and facilities are also planned for the south side of the Salmon River.

BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT Oregon-Washington

729 NE Oregon St.
P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208
Don Smurthwaite, Editor

DISTRICTS Oregon

Lakeview - 1000 Ninth St. S, PO Box 151, Lakeview, OR 97630. Phone 947-2177. Richard A. Gerity, Mgr.

Burns - 74 S Alvord St., Burns, OR 97720. Phone 573-2071. L. Christian Vosler, Mgr.

Vale - 365 A St. W, PO Box 700, Vale, OR 97918. Phone 473-3144. Fearl M. Parker, Mgr.

Prineville - 185 E 4th St., PO Box 550, Prineville, OR 97754. Phone 447-4115. Paul W. Arrasmith, Mgr.

Baker - Federal Building, PO Box 987, Baker, OR 97814. Phone 523-6391. Gordon R. Staker, Mgr.

Salem - 3550 Liberty Road S, PO Box 3227, Salem, OR 97302. Phone 399-5646. Edward G. Stauber, Mgr.

Eugene - 1255 Pearl St., PO Box 10226, Eugene, OR 97401. Phone 687-6650. Dwight L. Patton, Mgr.

Roseburg - 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, OR 97470. Phone 672-4491. James E. Hart, Mgr.

Medford - 3040 Biddle Rd., Medford, OR 97501. Phone 776-4174. George C. Francis, Mgr.

Coos Bay - 333 S 4th St., Coos Bay, OR 97420. Phone 269-5880. Paul M. Sanger, Mgr.

Washington
Spokane - 920 W Riverside, Spokane, WA 99201. Phone (509) 459-9570.

BLM Warns

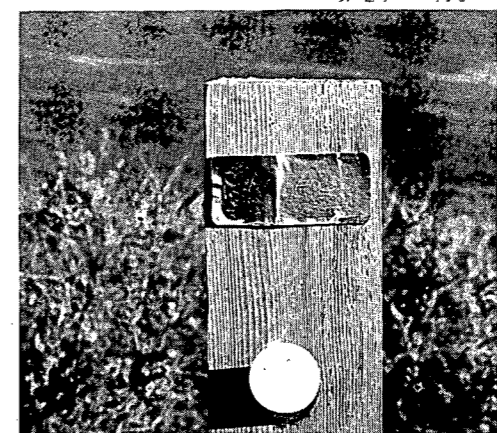
Gold Mine Buyers Beware of Invalid Claims

Fraudulent sales of invalid and other worthless mining claims located on federal land in the Northwest are costing purchasers thousands of dollars each year, according to Gary Rundell, realty specialist for the Bureau of Land Management.

Selling a claim is legal regardless of its mineral value. Fraud enters when a mining claimant knowingly sells an invalid claim or intentionally exaggerates its mineral worth.

Most often, the sale of such claims is tied to an illegal occupancy of the site. The 1872 Mining Law allows claimants who are actively mining to reside on a claim only if it is necessary for mineral extraction. Yet many people abuse this law by constructing residences on claims under the guise of prospecting or mining.

When illegal occupancy is suspected, BLM conducts validity examinations to determine if



there are sufficient quantities of valuable minerals on the claim. If not, steps will be taken to invalidate the claim and remove the occupants and the buildings.

Second Highest Total Sent to O&C Counties

The Bureau of Land Management deposited more than \$10 million in bank accounts of 18 western Oregon counties in November for their share of receipts from management of the O&C lands.

The payments bring the total paid to the counties to \$96,774,149 for the fiscal year from October 1, 1978, to September 30, 1979, representing a 12 percent increase over the previous year.

The lands were revested 63 years ago from the Oregon and California Railroad when terms of its land grant were violated. About 80 percent of the O&C lands are managed by BLM, with the remainder handled by the Forest Service.

For the fiscal year, Douglas County received \$24,241,924; Jackson County \$15,164,509; Lane County \$14,777,412; and Josephine \$11,690,317. Other counties received less than \$6 million each.



MORE than \$96 million received by counties from O&C lands management this year.

Half of the O&C receipts are returned to the

It's at this point, when the government is seeking to remove the illegal occupants, that residents sometimes begin to look for an unsuspecting buyer.

"They sell out when they see the ax coming down," Rundell explained. "Senior citizens often buy these claims after being told by the original claimant that they can retire on the property. Some people lose their life's savings on invalid claims."



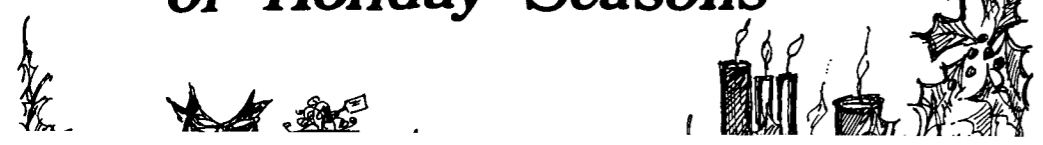
IN THE market for a gold mine? Best check carefully before buying, BLM advises.

Each year, 10-15 cases of selling invalid claims are reported to BLM, and that is only a portion of the total, Rundell said. Prices for the claims commonly range from \$1,000 to \$20,000. Purchasers often are younger city dwellers or out-of-state residents looking for a retreat. Many of the buyers are retired, and are hoping to supplement their income by mining.

Claims for Sale

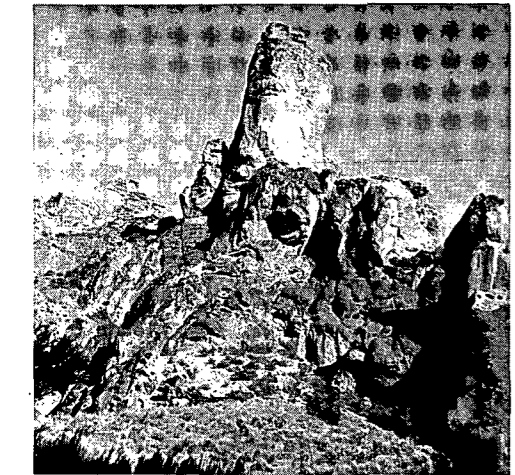
A typical fraudulent sale occurred last summer near Durkee, Oregon. Lands along the Burnt River had been withdrawn from mining

Have the Best of Holiday Seasons



The Bureau of Land Management is at an activity peak this summer gathering information and reviewing comments on roadless areas being considered as wilderness study areas.

A three-month public review period has just been completed of areas that clearly lack wilderness characteristics. After considering all recommendations, Oregon State Director Murl W. Storms will decide late this month which areas will be designated for intensive wilderness study.



For most of the lands being intensively inventoried, tentative conclusions as to which warrant designation as wilderness study areas will be reached next spring. However, the inventories of certain areas will be accelerated.

Bend RV Club Clears Trash and Cash

By ZEKE ZIEGLER

PRINEVILLE—The Sunrise 4-Wheelers of Bend received an unexpected reward during a recent clean-up at Millican Valley, a popular recreational vehicle area.

A club member, Nancy Smith, found a \$10 bill hooked to a piece of sagebrush.

The club cleaned 14 miles of trails, the "pit" and entrance roads, netting 60 bags of debris and \$1.67 in returnable bottles.

Not only is the club's treasury now \$11.67 richer, but Millican Valley received hundreds of dollars worth of cleaning as a result of the service project.

BLM Director Frank Gregg Attends Loon Lake Opening

BLM Director Frank Gregg visited Oregon during the last week of July to attend the reopening of Loon Lake recreational site.

These areas include portions of the Drewsey area of BLM's Burns District where livestock grazing conditions will be improved next year if such actions will not impair wilderness values. Determination of wilderness characteristics on inventory units will be necessary to decide which improvement projects can be carried out.

The Oregon Division of State Lands has indicated an interest in exchanging State land for BLM land located in several units under intensive wilderness inventory.

BLM is also considering exchanging land in other inventory units for private lands. However, BLM will not proceed with negotiations if lands selected by the State or private individuals are located in wilderness study areas.

Storms said it might be possible to identify other BLM lands in areas without wilderness characteristics which would be suitable for exchange.

An inventory unit in the Prineville District adjoins a Forest Service "further planning" area in the Crooked River National Grassland. The Forest Service will issue a draft environmental impact statement this summer which will include a preferred alternative on whether the area should be designated wilderness.

Storms said an early announcement of the proposed decision on adjoining BLM land will provide the public with an opportunity to comment on both agency proposals simultaneously.

He encouraged those wishing to comment on the inventory units to visit them this summer as weather conditions might make them difficult to reach this fall and spring, during the comment periods.

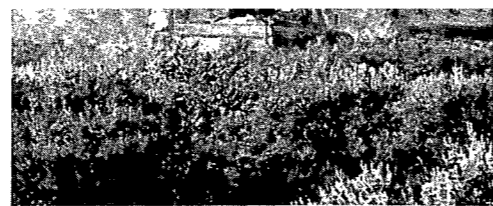
Roseburg Residents Help Tree Survival

ROSEBURG—Eighteen members of the Roseburg Kiwanis Club and students at Umpqua Community College spent a recent Saturday putting shades on the south side of Douglas-fir seedlings.

The shade consists of four wooden stakes driven into the ground close enough to the seedling to provide protection from the hot spring and summer sun. Approximately 32,000 stakes were driven in an eight acre area east of Myrtle Creek.

The students from Umpqua Community College are members of Phi Beta Chi, an honorary scholastic and service organization. The Roseburg Kiwanis Club annually sponsors a youth conservation project.

The South Umpqua Resource Area plans to



Fire Season Peak Brings BLM Warning

By GAIL JOHNSON

BURNS—Fire prevention pointers are usually no more than elaborations of two common sense principles — keep fire isolated and keep it watched.

With fire danger now peaking, extra caution is being urged. Use of spark arrestors on recreational vehicles, properly disposing of cigarettes, and campfire care should be a part of outdoor activities.

Two major sources of man-causes fires over the years are trash and debris burns that get out of control. Keeping such fires isolated from other flammable materials and having water and equipment handy is the best insurance against turning simple trash fires into severe range or forest fires.

Often, debris fires have been falsely reported as wildfires by travelers or neighbors. A false alarm can cost the taxpayer as much as \$100, and in the Burns District alone, there have been 54 false alarms in the last five years. Burning permits should be acquired, usually from the county, and BLM and Forest Service fire offices notified of the time and place of authorized debris burning.

much as 60 percent."

Shading is just one measure in helping young trees to survive, Lewis noted. "Reforestation is more than planting trees."



public land, according to Jesse Higdon, BLM's Roseburg District staff silviculturist.

The skeleton is "Chondrilla juncea L.", or skeletonweed. It's a tough Mediterranean native that causes severe problems wherever it lands. Australia, invaded early this century, suffered 70 percent reductions in wheat yield in some affected areas. The weed crowds out the wheat and makes harvest of the remaining crop difficult with its tough, wiry stalks. Growers lost \$25 million per year.

In Idaho, where one patch of less than 50 acres was discovered in the early 1960s, there are now several million acres of rangeland dominated by the spindly weed. On rangeland, the weed displaces forage plant species used by livestock and wildlife.

"BLM is providing funding and helping find areas of infestation," said Higdon. "Our road maintenance personnel are also cooperating by keeping their eyes open for the weed."

Oregon's involvement is minor so far, and limited to Douglas County, Higdon said. But with any single plant capable of producing more than 15,000 seeds per year, the weed's

Helicopters Used in Rogue Waste Removal



By CHARLIE GRYMES

MEDFORD—When four BLM employees dressed in orange flight suits, goggles, and hard hats, landed on a Rogue River beach recently, they were greeted by a river guide as representatives of the "Bureau of Land Martians."

The foursome were a part of a helicopter lift to remove barrels of sewage from the wild section of the Rogue River. BLM maintains 16 chemical toilets in a 20-mile stretch of roadless river canyon downstream from Grave Creek.

BLM employees regularly raft the river and pump out the toilet's holding tanks into 55 gallon barrels. When approximately 45 barrels have accumulated from small

The seeds are equipped with a bit of fluff — like a dandelion seed — and are able to move with the wind or running water. The roots of the plant, which may reach a depth of more than ten feet, can also send out lateral roots to form new plants. Even small pieces of the main root, broken up and spread by cultivation, may form entire plants.

While early treatment involves chemical control, limited success from this method in California has led to the use of biological controls. The most effective of these has been a rust, or fungus, which grows on the skeletonweed and reduces its seed making ability. One advantage of the rust as a control is its great selectivity — lettuce, the most closely related commercial crop to skeletonweed, is completely immune to the rust used.

The rust is effective, too. Australian wheat fields rendered completely unusable by skeletonweed were restored to production within three to four years after application of the rust.

Other controls which have helped include a midge — or fly — from the Mediterranean, and a mite which attacks the weed's root system.

The "Martians" roll one or two barrels at a time into a net, which is then attached to a hook dangling from the helicopter. Except for refueling and transporting people, the pilot does not have to land.

Swirling canyon winds and nearby trees can make the pilot's job difficult. A rotor clip hit a tree several years ago, causing the helicopter to crash. Fortunately, no one was hurt and the helicopter was repaired and flown out.

The fire resistant suits, hard hats, gloves and goggles are for safety, and certainly not worn for their elegant appearance.

Students Spend Vacation Repairing Trails, Banks

MEDFORD—Fifty students from Catlin-Gabel School in Portland and spent their senior vacation repairing trails along the Rogue River.

The students installed wire gabions and wood and rock retaining walls where necessary to stabilize the bank. They also drilled holes in rocks and installed steps and a pipe handrail at one location near Rainie Falls where a slide had obliterated the path.

Miners Bob and "Jelly" Radcliffe gave the group a tour of the Black Bear Mine near Galice. The Radcliffes operate the lode mine

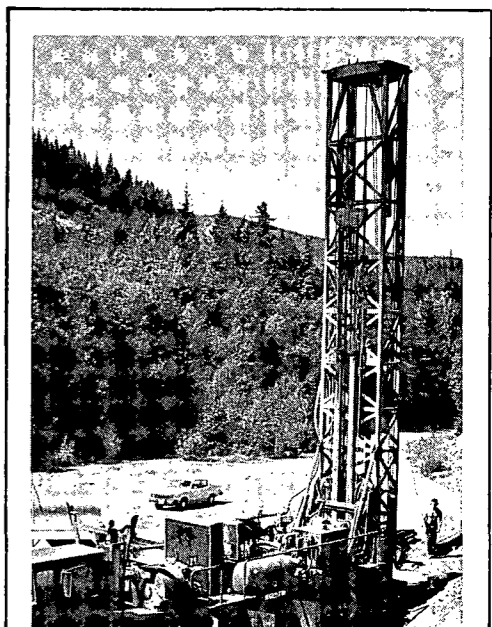


IF SPOTTED inform your county agent or State Agriculture Department.

None of these methods has been used long enough in Oregon to judge effectiveness here yet, Higdon said.

Skeletonweed in the winter months very closely resembles a common dandelion, but shoots up one to four feet of skinny, branched stalks in the spring. The yellow flowers are about three-quarters of an inch in diameter, and are composed of seven to fifteen individual florets. The plant oozes a thick, white sap if cut. Usually found in well-drained soil along roadsides and in rangeland, grainfields and pastures, the weed takes hold best in recently disturbed or cultivated ground.

BLM is one of several cooperating agencies in the fight against skeletonweed, with county extension offices coordinating the operations.



Geothermal exploration is being conducted on Mt. Hood's southwest slope under BLM permit. A crew contracted by Northwest Natural Gas began



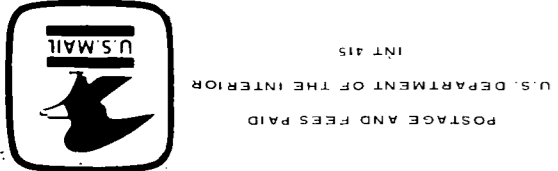
A BLM goal is to balance the uses of natural resources so as to ensure the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment.

PORTLAND, OREGON

- Revise my address as indicated on this panel which I am returning.
 - Discontinue sending BLM News Clips.
 - Include these resource management subjects in future issues.
- Permission is granted to republish material from BLM News Clips, with or without credit.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
OREGON STATE OFFICE
P.O. BOX 2965 (729 NE OREGON ST.)
PORTLAND, OREGON 97208



Four Wheeler Rules Instituted by BLM



Areas designated as "open" will allow vehicle operation subject to operating regulations and vehicle standards. A "limited" area will have limitations such as numbers or types of vehicles allowed, and times. Vehicles will be prohibited in a "closed" area.

Provisions are made for vehicle use related to such activities as livestock grazing, mineral prospecting, or geophysical exploration. Safety standards have also been set.

Summer YCC Work Worth Sore Muscles

MEDFORD—Medford District Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) members are finding their experience worth a few sore muscles.

"The kids are loving it," reported Mark Rosenzweig, who is assisting with the YCC program this summer. "The first week there were all sorts of complaints about sore muscles and long hikes to the work sites, but we haven't heard any lately."

Projects include installing playground equipment in Kenney Meadows, where YCC members re-built a cabin last year.

"All of the playground equipment is made of wood and being constructed by YCC enrollees," Rosenzweig said.

Trails along the Sterling Mine Ditch are also being constructed this year.

"There's a lot of poison oak in the area, and even now it's heavily used by hikers," Rosenzweig said. "The trails will keep people out of the poison oak, reduce erosion and protect the environment."

The YCC employs youths 15-18 years in conservation projects for eight weeks. BLM is sponsoring camps in Baker, Salem, Eugene,

BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT Oregon-Washington

729 NE Oregon St.
P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208
Murl W. Storms, State Director
Don Smurthwaite, Editor

DISTRICTS Oregon

Lakeview - 1000 Ninth St. S, PO Box 151, Lakeview, OR 97630. Phone 947-2177. Richard A. Gerity, Mgr.

Burns - 74 S Alvord St., Burns, OR 97720. Phone 573-2071. L. Christian Vosler, Mgr.

Vale - 365 A St. W, PO Box 700, Vale, OR 97918. Phone 473-3144. Fearl M. Parker, Mgr.

Prineville - 185 E 4th St., PO Box 550, Prineville, OR 97754. Phone 447-4115. Paul W. Arrasmith, Mgr.

Baker - Federal Building, PO Box 987, Baker, OR 97814. Phone 523-6391. Gordon R. Staker, Mgr.

Salem - 3550 Liberty Road S, PO Box 3227, Salem, OR 97302. Phone 399-5646. Edward G. Stauber, Mgr.

Eugene - 1255 Pearl St., PO Box 10226, Eugene, OR 97401. Phone 687-6650. Dwight L. Patton, Mgr.

Roseburg - 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, OR 97470. Phone 672-4491. James E. Hart, Mgr.

Medford - 310 W 6th St., Medford, OR 97501. Phone 779-2351. George C. Francis, Mgr. Phone 776-4174

Coos Bay - 333 S 4th St., Coos Bay, OR 97420. Phone 269-5880. Paul M. Sanger, Mgr.

Washington

300 W Riverside, Spokane

Coos Bay District Projects Help Restore Fish Habitat



DEBRIS jam . . . from poor logging practices on land not managed by BLM.

By PHIL CARROLL

COOS BAY—Making Oregon streams more livable for fish should be called restoration instead of improvement, according to John Anderson, Bureau of Land Management fisheries biologist for the Coos Bay District.

"Quite a bit of the work is remedial action," Anderson said, "because logging and roads have modified what was natural."

"We're fortunate that the fish are resilient enough to adapt to the changes, and we have good evidence that most of our improvements are being used," he said.

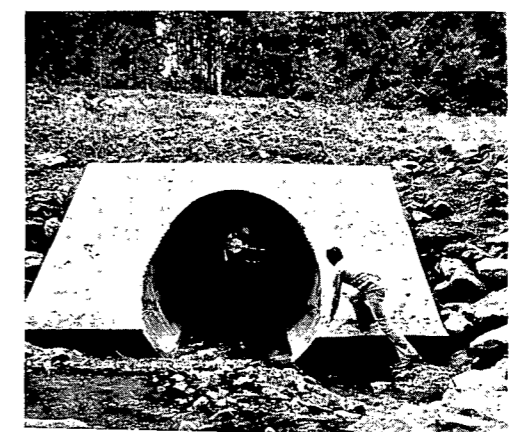
Buffer zones—strips of undisturbed vegetation left beside streams — are an example of helping fish habitat. Buffer zones supply shade which keeps water temperatures low enough for fish; provide nutrients for insects which in turn are consumed by fish; add fallen branches to trap gravel where otherwise the bottom would be a sandstone slick; whole trees which form pools and ripples for fish to live in, sometimes even forming a shield from man-caused debris.

Improperly installed culverts under roads can prevent fish passage, Anderson said.

If resting pools are absent, the maximum

"A bad culvert is like a dam without a fish ladder," he said. It will stop fish migration and wipe out any anadromous fish population above it.

So some projects have involved replacement of old culverts with new culverts. Much larger, the new pipes are also flattened on the bottom and fitted with baffles to provide resting pools. The steepness of the grade is also carefully controlled.



Mainstream resting areas for fish and nesting spots have been built too. Most are of hand-split cedar, which looks natural and is durable. The wood is placed to form steps to trap sand and gravel for spawning, and form pools for the young to survive in during low flow periods.

"Vincent Creek is one area where we took something good and improved it," Anderson said. Five years ago, BLM-funded crews blasted large pools out of the solid rock streambed. Different methods were used for the blasting and clearing of the resulting debris, which was distributed as naturally as possible.

"We felt it was important not to spoil the natural beauty," Anderson noted. And in the five years, almost all signs of the work have disappeared — except for 11 of the original 12 pools which are now providing excellent habitat for salmon and trout. The twelfth hole filled itself in, eliminating that one design from future use.

Another restoration project has been the tedious fight to clear debris jams. Tree branches, trunks and rocks must be removed from streams wherever landslides fill the channels. The work is slow, hard, dirty, and expensive since it usually requires heavy equipment. But some streams, like Carpenter Creek on the Oxbow Burn, can now support new generations of trout and salmon for commercial and sports fishermen alike.

Medford Office Move Set For September 4

MEDFORD—A move-in date of Sept. 4 has been set for the Medford District to switch locations from downtown to a new building just south of the airport.

The 42,000-square-foot building received final inspection late in July. A warehouse, maintenance shop, multi-purpose area and fuel storage area are all located on the site.

"For the first time, the Medford District will all be under one roof," said John



HINTS of history provides clues to past human behavior.

By PHIL CARROLL

The object of the game is "learning about human behavior," according to Jack Witherspoon, cultural resources specialist for the Bureau of Land Management in Portland.

Playing the game means inventorying all the historical, pre-historical, and archeological resources on BLM land in Oregon.

Authorized in 1906 by the Antiquities Act, and enlarged in 1966 by the Historical Preservation Act, this job gained popular interest in the last decade with the search for cultural heritage and "roots." The acts provided for antiquities permits to be issued to legitimate scientific, educational, and public institutions, such as universities and museums. The permits can allow inventory, excavation, or collection at specific sites.

Today, when BLM plans any project that will disturb the ground, a survey of that land for cultural resources is required, Witherspoon said.

"That includes timber sales, rangeland re-

Summer SVIM Crews to Sample 2,500 Sites

PRINEVILLE — The Bureau of Land Management's summer SVIM is finally under way.

No, it's not recreation, it's work. SVIM means Soil-Vegetation Inventory Method, and that translates to about four months work for about 25 people on 1.2 million acres of land in the Prineville District near Brothers.

The start of this year's work was delayed by several problems including lack of suitable vehicles and trained personnel.

Two-man crews will sample about 2,500 sites, each taking about two to three hours. They must clip, weigh, categorize and classify the vegetation at each site. Results will be studied to show total production of foliage per acre, and by that determine the kinds of animals it will support.

Reinard Olson, Chief of Resources for the

seeding, spring development, road building and fences," he said.

If cultural resource materials are found on the study area, an attempt is made to modify the project to avoid the site, Witherspoon said. The second alternative is to modify the plans to mitigate the impact of the project on the site.

Construction or loss of title to the land may leave complete excavation of the site as the only alternative. That's the least desirable approach, Witherspoon said, since it's hard to develop valid theories about the people from just the artifacts.

"Oregon doesn't have any really large sites like the cliff dwellings at Mesa Verde National Park in Colorado, but this doesn't mean that there aren't important sites. We're learning a lot from these not-so-spectacular sites," he said.

Correlating information about all the little sites gives an idea of the settlement patterns, he explained, and the uses made of the different resources. Then the what and when and why can be studied.



The rest of the District is

He and his colleagues in BLM offices throughout the west face a game that never ends. Wind and water deposits are continually covering old sites, while erosion somewhere else might reveal new clues to the history of mankind.

Plan Permits Closer Wood Utilization

Increased use of wood normally left after logging operations will result from a BLM plan now under public review, according to Oregon State Director Murl W. Storms.

The aim of the plan is to allow more effective salvage of material left after logging and at the same time generate a fair value income to the public.



RAW forest material focus of Storms' plan.

The plan includes simultaneous-use contracts which would allow a salvage contractor to work at the same time a prime logging contract is in force, providing salvage work does not interfere with the initial operation. It would increase "gross yarding" in certain cases so that non-commercial logs, such as small tops and rotten logs, could be transported to an accessible point.

Private fuelwood permits would be free, while commercial quantities of fuelwood and salvable western redcedar would be sold.

Seven public meetings on the subject were held from June 20 to 28. Written comments may be sent to the Bureau of Land Management, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon 97208.

Deschutes Road Bladed

PRINEVILLE — The Deschutes River road is in good condition and has been bladed



Helipond Vandalism Hinders Fire Efforts

EUGENE — Helipond vandalism on BLM lands is making expensive repairs and replacement necessary and reducing forest fire suppression capability.

Heliponds are strategically placed 6,000 gallon man-made ponds located throughout the forest to enable hovering helicopters to quickly fill large water buckets for fire suppression.

"We just replaced a helipond liner that was shot full of holes," said Eldon Surcamp of the Eugene District. "The liner was made of a special heavy duty reinforced plastic material that cost the taxpayer \$1,150."

The ponds are filled by networks of plastic pipe from nearby creeks. Surcamp said sometimes the pipe is cut or stolen, too.

"Motorcycles also rip the liners along the berm, and trash damages the liner and clogs the pond."

Shooting is the chief form of helipond vandalism. Surcamp said three or four heliponds must be replaced or repaired extensively each year.

Rogue Easements Assure Scenic Quality

By CHARLIE GRYMES

MEDFORD — The Bureau of Land Management's program to limit future visual pollution of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River is nearing completion. BLM has been buying land and scenic easements on portions of the river since 1971 and now controls the scenery on 3,450 additional acres.

Scenic easements are a relatively new tool in land use management. BLM has paid about \$1.3 million for easements along the Rogue. Scenic easements generally cost less than outright purchase of the land, which remains private and on county tax rolls.

Scenic easements along the Rogue allow for some further development and construction, but only if maintenance of scenic quality is assured. The intention is to keep the scenery natural for posterity.

competitive oil and gas leasing on public land that will lead to "exploration and development, not speculation."

Non-competitive oil leases may be obtained for a \$10 filing fee and rents of a dollar per acre yearly. The low cost plus inadequate diligence requirements have allowed leases to be held for 10 years with no exploration and development, thereby encouraging speculative lease holding.

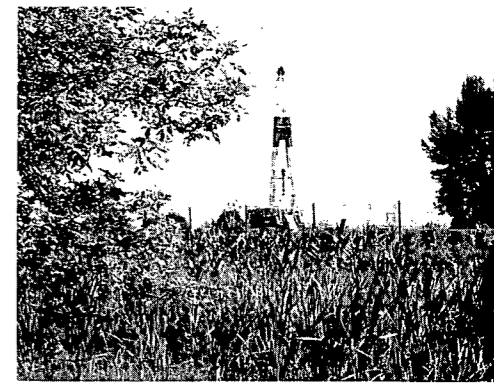
When more than one entry is filed for a tract, the winner is chosen by a drawing. Thus the non-competitive leasing is often referred to as a lottery or the "simultaneous oil and gas (SOG) leasing system." BLM is responsible for leasing on most federal land.

Along with the request for broader competitive leasing authority, new regulatory changes are being proposed by Andrus. These include posting parcels for SOG filing quarterly instead of monthly and extending the filing period — the time between posting of the tracts to be offered and the deadlining for filing — from five to ten days. Also, the maximum size of non-competitive leases would be increased from 2,560 acres to 10,240.

The less frequent lease offerings and the increased acreage limit would permit assembly of larger units that could be explored more efficiently.

Other changes are aimed at curbing some filing company practices. The present system carries the potential for filing services to create fictitious applicants, excessive charges for filing assistance, and re-selling of leases on a speculative basis.

These changes include requiring of handwritten entry cards; submission of a list of



OIL and gas "lottery" system will soon undergo major changes.

officers when a corporation wins a lease; prohibition of agreements to sell any part of a lease before the lease is issued; and a refusal to accept orally changes of address of the successful drawee.

Eastern Oregon Winds Increase Fire Danger

Stronger than usual winds are rapidly drying out fuels in eastern Oregon, according to Don Griffith of BLM's protection branch. Drying, or curing, of grasses is about two weeks ahead of a normal year.

Sixty fires had been reported on BLM lands in Oregon and Washington by late June, which is about twice as many as this time last year.

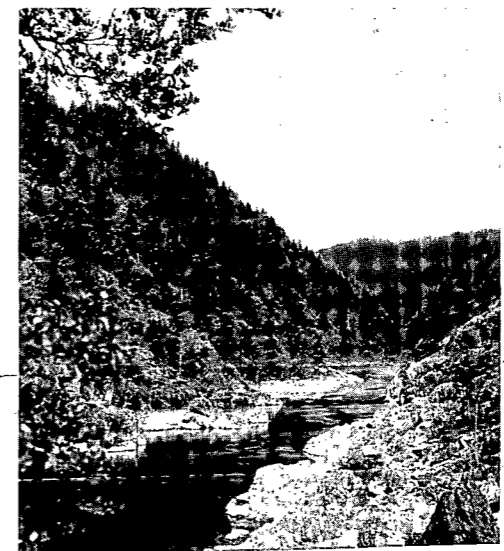
Griffith said there is a slightly higher than normal fuel supply in eastern Oregon because of good forage production in each of the last two years. Combined with the drying winds, there is the potential for an active fire season.

New Timber Policy Announced by Andrus

WASHINGTON — A new policy that will allow temporary annual increase, where feasible, in timber harvested from forests managed by BLM has been announced by Interior Secretary Cecil Andrus.

Chief impact will be on the 2.4 million acres of BLM land in western Oregon, although the policy will apply to all BLM forests. The new policy continues sustained yield and multiple-use principles Congress mandated for Federal timberland in the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.

BLM is updating management plans for its 13 sustained yield units in western Oregon. Andrus said the policy will allow a





POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
OREGON STATE OFFICE
P.O. BOX 2965 (729 NE OREGON ST.)
PORTLAND, OREGON 97208

Scenic Lake Abert Still Mostly Unknown



VALLEY FALLS — It's situated spectacularly with cliffs rising dramatically 2,000 feet above its east shore, in the midst of Oregon's high desert country.

Still, few people pay much attention to Lake Abert, a 60-square mile body of water known to trappers and explorers since the 1830's. Located 25 miles north of Lakeview, Highway 395 skirts Lake Abert's eastern edge.

A high carbonate and salt content prohibit all but brine shrimp from inhabiting the water, and perhaps that accounts for the lack of lakeside activity.

Still, the rugged desert setting of the lake and Abert Rim make it one of the most scenic areas in southeastern Oregon, and BLM is working to preserve it.

"There's a proposed scenic corridor withdrawal all along the highway that will stretch from the east lake shore up the rim and over the top," said Ed Depaoli, Lakeview District's High Desert resource area manager. The plan is still in the draft stages, but Depaoli

Abert Rim is a fault scarp, and along with the lake, was named for J.J. Abert, an engineer who visited the area with John C. Fremont in 1843. The upper 600 feet of the rim is almost completely vertical.

The size of the lake has varied over the years, and old-timers point out that it was completely dry in the early 1920's. Although its surface makes it one of the largest lakes in Oregon, the average depth is only about 12 feet.

The brine shrimp "does well in the lake, and there's been talk of harvesting them for use as goldfish food," Depaoli said. Experiments were conducted several years ago to determine the feasibility of transplanting fish from the Salton Sea in California to Lake Abert, but the Oregon lake's water proved too saline. Ducks, geese and various shorebirds can be seen around the lake, however.

Loon Lake Site to Open

Permission is granted to republish material from BLM News Clips, with or without credit.

Revise my address as indicated on this panel which I am returning.

Discontinue sending BLM News Clips.

Include these resource management subjects in future issues:



BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT Oregon-Washington

700 NE Oregon St.
P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208
Muel W. Storms, State Director
Don Smarthwaite, Editor

DISTRICTS Oregon

Lakeview - 1000 Ninth St. S, PO Box 151, Lakeview, OR 97630. Phone 947-2177. Richard A. Gerity, Mgr.

Burns - 74 S Alvord St., Burns, OR 97720. Phone 573-2071. L. Christian Vosler, Mgr.

Vale - 365 A St. W, PO Box 700, Vale, OR 97918. Phone 473-3144. Fearl M. Parker, Mgr.

Prineville - 185 E 4th St., PO Box 550, Prineville, OR 97754. Phone 447-4115. Paul W. Arrasmith, Mgr.

Baker - Federal Building, PO Box 987, Baker, OR 97814. Phone 523-6391. Gordon R. Staker, Mgr.

Salem - 3550 Liberty Road S, PO Box 3227, Salem, OR 97302. Phone 399-5646. Edward G. Stauber, Mgr.

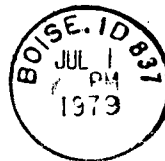
Eugene - 1255 Pearl St., PO Box 10226, Eugene, OR 97401. Phone 687-6650. Dwight L. Patton, Mgr.

Roseburg - 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, OR 97470. Phone 672-4491. James E. Hart, Mgr.

Medford - 310 W 6th St., Medford, OR 97501. Phone 779-2351. George C. Francis, Mgr. Phone 776-4174

Coos Bay - 333 S 4th St., Coos Bay, OR 97420. Phone 269-5880. Paul M. Sanger, Mgr.

Washington

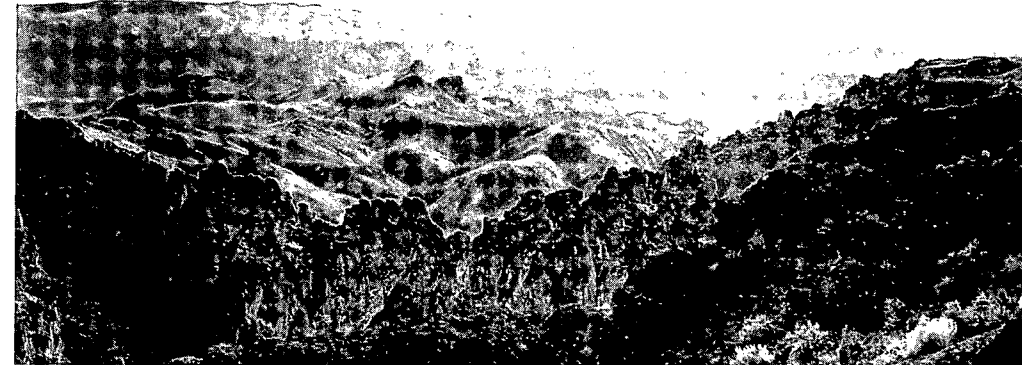


PORTLAND, OREGON

A BLM goal is to balance the uses of natural resources so as to ensure the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment.

JULY, 1979

Modern Day Mining Spurs New Eastern Oregon Boom



RUGGED Southeastern Oregon one area of modern mining interest.

By GRANT BAUGH

VALE — Eastern Oregon is experiencing a mining boom reminiscent of those in the west 100 years ago when boomtowns such as Granite, Greenhorn, and Cornucopia flourished and people poured in to search for silver and gold.

While there's still plenty of interest in silver

and gold, modern day miners are also searching for uranium, lithium, cinnabar, zeolites, diatoms, picture jasper, and copper.

Nearly one-half of the estimated 16,000 mining claims on file with the Bureau of Land Management are located in the Vale District. Most interest is centered on the McDermitt Caldera, a massive geologic structure that spans the Oregon-Nevada state line. An intensive

Adopted Horse Eases Teen's Bad Luck



EUGENE — For thirteen-year old Judy

proved too spirited for her when she was younger.

All of which adds up to a lot of frustration for a horse enthusiast such as Judy.

Her run of bad luck was featured in a local newspaper, and it caught the eye of an alert BLM employee. It wasn't long before she was put in touch with Chuck John, operator of BLM's wild horse distribution center. Judy decided to apply to adopt a wild horse.

After her application was approved, John selected a partially trained horse with a good disposition, and a meeting was arranged between the horse and Judy. They both took a fancy to each other, so now she is his adopted custodian. In a year, if the horse is treated properly, she'll be able to obtain title to the

claiming and exploration effort by at least 10 companies and several individuals developed shortly after uranium was located in the area last year.

The area has long been known to contain cinnabar (mercury) mineralization and was popular with rockhounds searching for petrified wood and picture jasper. With the new exploration effort for uranium, additional deposits of cinnabar as well as silver and lithium have been discovered.

Another area of mining interest is the Owyhee Ridge picture jasper belt lying alongside the east rim of Owyhee Reservoir. Picture jasper is a form of quartz that is brightly colored and forms a landscape scene with a high sheen when properly cut and polished. Picture jasper forms the base of the gemstone industry in eastern Oregon and its value fluctuates with the fashion trends of the public.

Traditional gold mining areas like Mormon Basin and Malheur City are seeing old mines resume operations and new mines open as the price of gold continues to rise on the world market.

Gold and silver mining interest is ranging northward into the Baker District as well, where mining engineer Bob Ciesiel said, "Several representatives of large companies have been in to talk with me. They are most interested in mining in the area.

"Most are 'ma and pa' operations," Ciesiel said. "But the price of gold has increased to the point where more mining is going to pay."



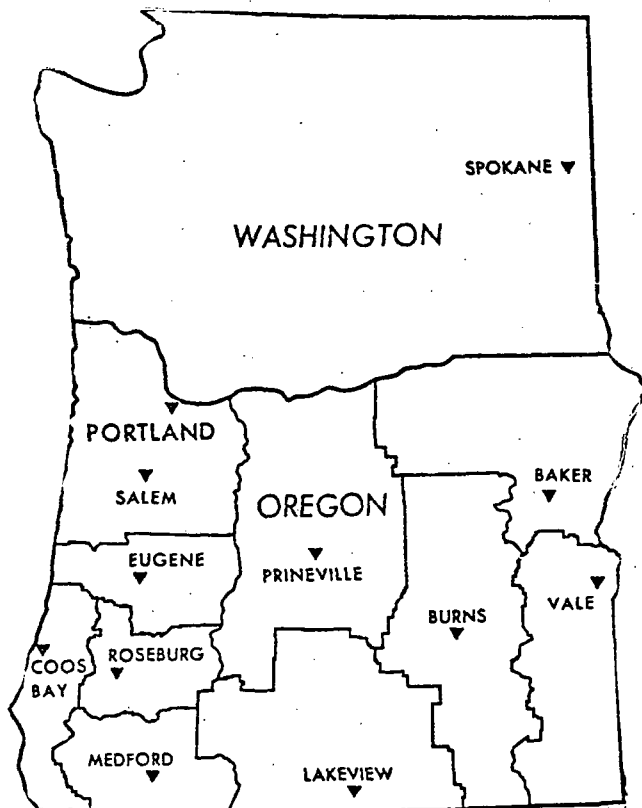


United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

December 1978

BLM OFFICES IN OREGON & WASHINGTON



LAKEVIEW DISTRICT - 947-2177
Richard Gerity, District Manager
1000 Ninth Street S.
P. O. Box 151
Lakeview, OR 97630

MEDFORD DISTRICT - 779-2351
George Francis, District Manager
310 West Sixth Street
Medford, OR 97501

PRINEVILLE DISTRICT - 447-4115
Paul Arrasmith, District Manager
185 East Fourth Street
P.O. Box 550
Prineville, OR 97754

ROSEBURG DISTRICT - 672-4491
James Hart, District Manager
777 NW Garden Valley Blvd.
Roseburg, OR 97470

SALEM DISTRICT - 399-5646
Edward Stauber, District Manager
3550 Liberty Road South
P. O. Box 3227
Salem, OR 97302

TILLAMOOK RESOURCE AREA - 842-7546
Everett Meier, Area Manager
6615 Officer's Row
Tillamook, OR 97141

SPOKANE DISTRICT - 509-456-2570
Roger Burwell, District Manager
Room 551, U.S. Courthouse
West 920 Riverside
Spokane, WA 99201

VALE DISTRICT - 473-3144
Fearl Parker, District Manager
365 "A" Street West
P.O. Box 700
Vale, OR 97918

BAKER DISTRICT - 523-6391
Gordon Staker, District Manager
P.O. Box 987
Baker, OR 97814

BURNS DISTRICT - 573-2071
L. Christian Vosler, District Manager
74 South Alvord Street
Burns, OR 97720

COOS BAY DISTRICT - 269-5880
Paul Sanger, District Manager
333 South Fourth Street
Coos Bay, OR 97420

EUGENE DISTRICT - 687-6650
Dwight Patton, District Manager
1255 Pearl Street
P.O. Box 10226
Eugene, OR 97401

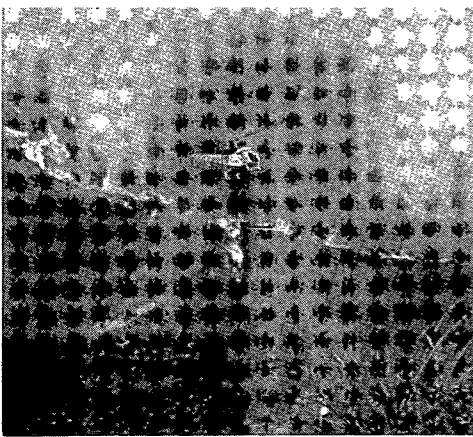
OREGON STATE OFFICE - 231-6273
729 NE Oregon Street
P.O. Box 2965
Portland, OR 97208

He encouraged those wishing to comment to visit the units this summer as weather conditions might make access difficult during the comment periods this fall and spring.

BLM has just completed a three-month public review period concerning roadless areas and islands which clearly and obviously lack wilderness characteristics, along with tracts and islands the agency feels should be examined for wilderness characteristics, and lands exempted by law from consideration as wilderness.

Storms will make a final decision late next month on which areas should be designated for intensive wilderness study. Another 90-day public comment period will start next spring for most of the lands being intensively inventoried. However, a proposed decision on the 29 accelerated areas will be announced this fall.

#



Mel Chase, Coos River Area Manager, said it was the first time that a prescribed burn had taken place on such a large area in the district. BLM placed 15 men around the perimeter to patrol the fire trails. Coos Head Timber Company, the sale contractor, also deployed men and equipment to safeguard the adjacent green areas, some of which are privately owned. Larry Matthews, fire management officer at Coos Bay, coordinated the project and served as fire boss.

Matthews said the purpose of prescribed burning is to get logged lands back into timber production as soon as possible.

"Burning does several things which are beneficial in the reforestation effort," he explained. "It cleans the area so the total acreage can be planted without open spots which would eventually be covered with brush. Also burning releases nutrients to the soil quickly."

Matthews also added that the burning reduces the hazard of wildfire and the heat of the fire pushes back nearby brush growth.

Plans call for burning 370 acres on eight clear cuts in the Coos River Resource Area and 300 acres on 11 sites in the Myrtlewood Resource Area.

All units to be burned have firelines built around them to keep the fire from escaping. Prescribed burns occur only after the State Forester in Salem gives approval on specific areas. Air quality conditions must also be right before a prescribed burn will be allowed.

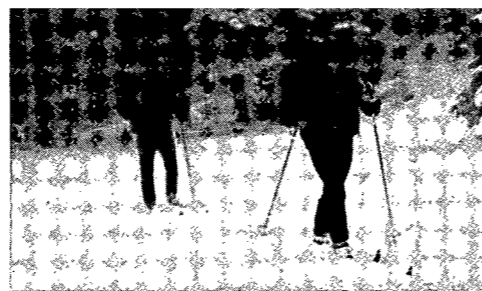
YCC Tackles Variety of Work Projects



Quick now, what builds deer-proof fences, shades seedlings and repairs springs for improved wildlife habitat?

All of these projects and more were accomplished by the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) during its eight weeks of activity last summer.

"The YCC program is a great one,"



Rec Improvements Start at Hyatt Lake

MEDFORD — Improvements to a Bureau of Land Management winter play area at Hyatt Lake area are underway as the first snowfall of the year hit Southern Oregon.

An innertube snow sliding area located on the Table Mountain Road is being extended 100 feet. A parking area is being constructed and arrangements to keep it plowed are being made.

The Buck Praire cross country ski trail has been lengthened by three miles, and now contains scenic viewpoints of the Bear Creek Valley, Ashland, and Medford.

A map with snowmobile and cross country ski trails is being printed in conjunction with the Forest Service. The publication should be available shortly.

Despite a late snow season last year, the Hyatt Lake winter play area was heavily used by recreationists, with more than 200 people visiting on some weekends. It is located 30 miles southeast of Medford.

program coordinator. "Many of these projects we would never have been able to do because of money and manpower limitations."

YCC is made up of 15-18 year olds who are hired to work on conservation programs under the direction of various federal agencies. One day each week is devoted to environmental education. Funding for the program in 1980 has not yet been appropriated for the program, and it may be suspended because of concern for inflation.

BLM employed 130 youths in residential camps in Salem and Eugene, and in non-residential camps in Baker and Medford.

Among the enrollees in the Salem camp were several deaf people.

"That provided a valuable learning and living experience for both the deaf and hearing employees," Jones said.

Other jobs this summer included construction of a fish-cleaning station, a vault

a program connected with a monthly lottery conducted by the Bureau of Land Management," read a letter recently received by the Public Affairs office.

"I just retired from teaching junior high school after 30 years and am interested in supplementing my retirement pension which is only \$700 a month," the letter continued.

"Mr. _____ seemed to indicate that his company can make me a lot of money. True? Hope to hear from you soon."

Each year BLM's Oregon State Office receives dozens of queries regarding the simultaneous oil and gas (SOG) drawings. Many of the questions come from people who have been in contact with filing services. Prospective investors are usually promised bundles of money in return for a fee that ranges from \$10 to \$10,000.

The calls and letters to BLM all have one question in common. Is it true? Are sure riches in store for lottery participants?

The answer, simply, is "no."

"We can't guarantee that anyone will make anything on such a program," said D.B. Lightner, of the minerals adjudication branch. "The likelihood, in fact, is remote."

SOG drawings are held when leases for oil and gas on BLM land are cancelled, expire or relinquished, and the tracts are re-offered. If more than two offers are received for the same

Drawings for parcels in Oregon and Washington are unusual because eligible tracts in the two states are infrequent. In some other western states, however, drawings are held each month.



CAUTION . . . SOG drawings are not a way to sure riches.

The stories of instant riches stem from the one-in-a-million cases in which an oil company will buy the lease from its holder. Should that not happen (and the odds are tremendous that it won't) the lease holder is still faced with filing fees, rents and possibly furnishing a bond.

Filing services will do the necessary paperwork for submitting offers, but Lightner

their own. Filing services are not affiliated with BLM or other federal agencies.

"Some filing companies are legitimate, others aren't. We can't vouch for or endorse any companies," Lightner said.

The only advantage of a filing service is that some companies have geologists on their staffs, and thus could help locate the tracts most likely to produce oil or gas. Even so, caution should still be used because the geologists sometimes lend only their titles and not their expertise to the filing services, Lightner added.

"Don't expect any money from the drawing," Lightner warned. "I certainly would not encourage anyone to participate, unless they can afford to lose the money."

Redrawing Changes Proposed by Andrus

WASHINGTON — Proposed procedures for redrawings in the non-competitive simultaneous oil and gas (SOG) leasing system were announced by Interior Secretary Cecil D. Andrus.

The proposed rulemaking concerns situations where a redrawing is necessary because a properly filed entry card is accidentally omitted from the initial drawing.

Prior to now, regulations have never spelled out a procedure for such a drawing, according to Andrus.

"As a result, the redrawing procedure has not been entirely equitable. This amendment will establish a fair and square procedure," he said.

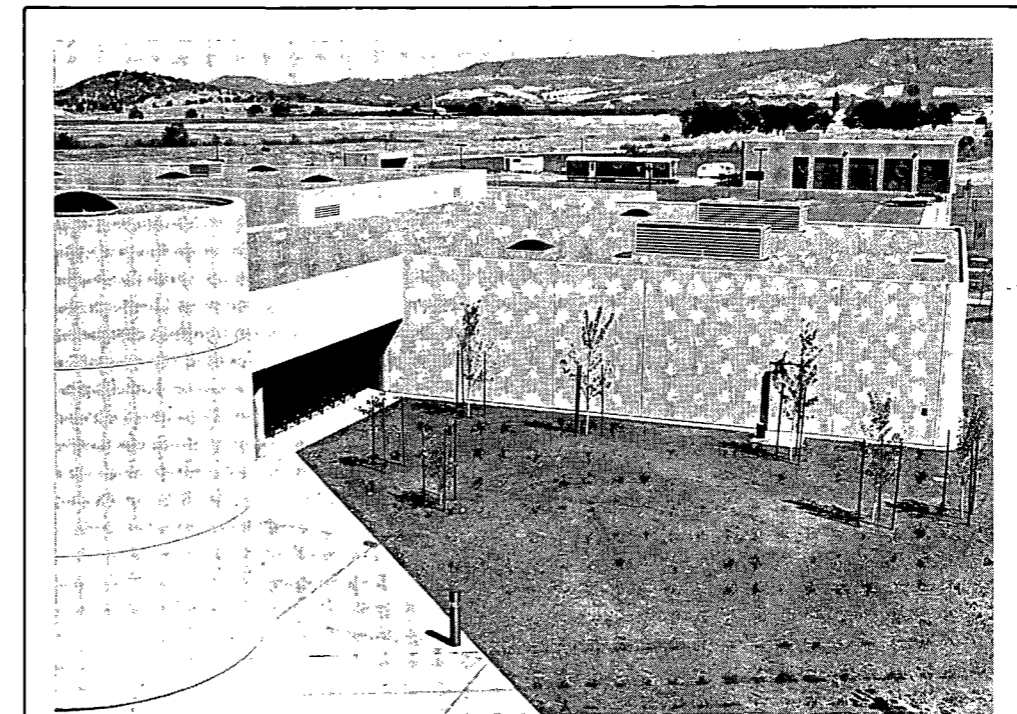
Under the proposal, omitted cards would be added to a group of simulated cards that is equal in number to those in the original drawing. Then a new drawing is held. If one of the omitted cards is drawn in one of the first three positions, it would replace the card drawn in the first drawing.

The displaced card and all subsequently drawn cards in the original drawing would move back in priority.

No card drawn in either drawing would be dropped. The number of priority cards would be extended beyond the normal three if circumstances warrant.

The proposed rulemaking also would prohibit an applicant from withdrawing his entry card prior to the redrawing. According to Andrus, this prohibition is designed to eliminate incidences of coercion of the original card winners by omitted card offerors.

Public comment on the proposal will be accepted by BLM's Washington office until

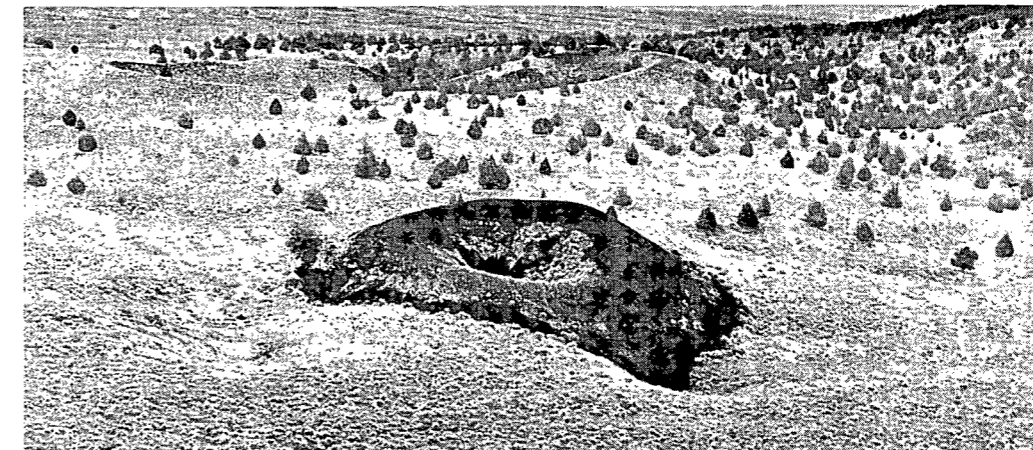


Dedication of the new 42,000 square feet Medford District office building is scheduled for November 2. Local elected officials, a representative from BLM's Washington office and State Director Murl W. Storms will all participate in the ceremony.



A BLM goal is to balance the uses of natural resources so as to ensure the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment.

Diamond Craters Considered For RNA Status



BURNS — Efforts to preserve Diamond Craters should get a boost this month when representatives of BLM's Burns District make a presentation before the Pacific Northwest Interagency Committee on Research Natural Areas (RNA).

vents, spatter cones, cinder cones, pressure ridges, toes of flows, tiny surface tubes, lava caves, and earth cracks which contain permanent ice.

Burns District Manager Chris Vosler and Drewsey-Riley Area Manager Chad Bacon will present information on the Diamond Craters to the Committee November 15 in Portland. The committee will then determine if Diamond Craters warrants RNA status.

Information on the Craters that will be used for the presentation came from volunteer experts as well as BLM staff members.

RNA classification designates educational and scientific values as the "dominant use" of an area, according to Bacon. In the case of Diamond Craters, RNA status would "give the area's unique geology a chance to be continually studied and interpreted."

"A lot of different individuals have provided their time and talents to develop and provide us with information on Diamond Craters," Bacon said. "The information ranged from geologic interpretation to cave information to plant and animal data."

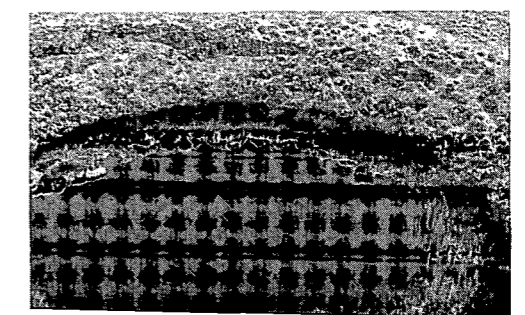
Determination by the Committee will likely be a few months after the presentation.

One of the volunteers was Dr. Bruce Nolf, geologist at Central Oregon Community College.

Diamond Craters, located 60 miles south of Burns, has been called a "museum of basic basaltic features" by one of many geologists who visited the area this summer.

"I would cheerfully compare Diamond Craters with Craters of the Moon or the Lava

Among it's features are doming, areas of collapse, a graben (a faulted block that has shifted downward), a maar (a circular lake formed by violent explosion), driblet spires



Beds National Monument in California," he said. "In fact, as far as diversity, there's no comparison. Diamond Craters has them all beat. And the area is still unexplored for the most part."

"We've had a few problems of lava rock theft in the last two years," Bacon said. "But the word is out that we will prosecute on criminal charges."

Preservation and protection of the area is vital because when damage has occurred, "it is irreparable," said Bacon. "We can't reconstruct Diamond Craters. Even a forest will grow back in time, but not something like this area. Once it's gone, it's gone forever."

Yet if BLM and other friends of Diamond Craters are successful in their efforts, Oregon's geologic gem should be around to enjoy, explore, and study forever.

Numbers, Acres Down As Fire Season Ends

Luck played a role in keeping the number of fires and the acreage burned below ten year averages this season, during a dry, windy summer and fall, according to BLM's fire operations specialist.

"We lucked out. We had a fire season with high potential, but other than the Bryant Mountain fire, there were no major problems," said Gardner Ferry.

There were 292 fires on BLM land in Oregon and Washington, burning 14,891 acres. Lakeview District had the most BLM acres burned, 3,979. Prineville District had the highest number of blazes with 73.

The largest fire was the Bryant Mountain blaze in July, which burned 7,450 acres, mostly on private land.

"It was a long season," Ferry said. "We sent crews to a fire in Alaska the first week of May, and were bringing people back from fires well into October."

- Revise my address as indicated on this panel which I am returning.
- Discontinue sending BLM News Clips.
- Include these resource management subjects in future issues:

Permission is granted to republish material from BLM News Clips, with or without credit.



BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT Oregon-Washington

729 NE Oregon St.
P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208
Murl W. Storms, State Director
Don Smurthwaite, Editor

DISTRICTS Oregon

Lakeview - 1000 Ninth St. S, PO Box 151, Lakeview, OR 97630. Phone 947-2177. Richard A. Gerity, Mgr.

Burns - 74 S Alvord St., Burns, OR 97720. Phone 573-2071. L. Christian Vosler, Mgr.

Vale - 365 A St. W, PO Box 700, Vale, OR 97918. Phone 473-3144. Fearl M. Parker, Mgr.

Prineville - 185 E 4th St., PO Box 550, Prineville, OR 97754. Phone 447-4115. Paul W. Arrasmith, Mgr.

Baker - Federal Building, PO Box 987, Baker, OR 97814. Phone 523-6391. Gordon R. Staker, Mgr.

Salem - 3550 Liberty Road S, PO Box 3227, Salem, OR 97302. Phone 399-5646. Edward G. Stauber, Mgr.

Eugene - 1255 Pearl St., PO Box 10226, Eugene, OR 97401. Phone 687-6650. Dwight L. Patton, Mgr.

Roseburg - 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, OR 97470. Phone 672-4491. James E. Hart, Mgr.

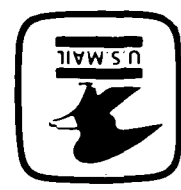
Medford - 3040 Biddle Rd., Medford, OR 97501. Phone 776-4174. George C. Francis, Mgr.

Coos Bay - 333 S 4th St., Coos Bay, OR 97420. Phone 269-5880. Paul M. Sanger, Mgr.

Washington

Spokane - 920 W Riverside, Spokane,

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
OREGON STATE OFFICE
P.O. BOX 2965 (729 NE OREGON ST.)
PORTLAND, OREGON 97208



POSTAGE AND FEES PAID
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
INT 415

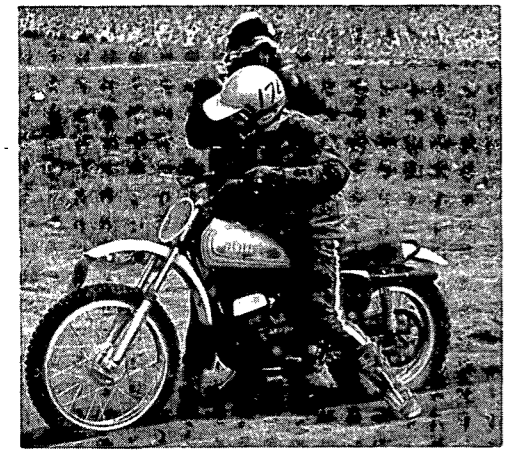
Fossil Lake Vehicle Ban Made Permanent

By DENNIS HILL

LAKEVIEW — A 6,560 acre area around Fossil Lake in south central Oregon has been permanently closed to all vehicles by the Bureau of Land Management.

The ban is to protect fossil beds that were discovered by cattlemen more than 100 years ago. A temporary vehicle closure had been in effect since January, 1977.

The closure comes after several years of field inventory work and public comment. The area is 11 miles northeast of Christmas Valley, adjacent to the 15,000-acre Christmas Valley sand dunes.



VEHICLES . . . and fossils usually don't mix. Ban at Fossil Lake will protect beds.

A 1977 fossil survey of the area revealed four new fossil forms not previously recorded, and deposits of volcanic ash that will enable scientists to determine more reliable ages for the

"The recent inventory at Fossil Lake shows that this is one of the more important fossil areas in North America," he said. "We're asking people to obey the vehicle restrictions and use the large area of sand dunes west of Lost Forest for recreational vehicles."

Over the years, scientists have collected and identified fossil remains of 23 species of birds, seven species of fish and 11 species of mollusks at Fossil Lake. The remains range in age from 30,000 to 1,000,000 years.

Fossils within the closure area are protected from unauthorized removal by federal law.

Claim Deadline Passes; 29,400 Filed With O.S.O.

About 29,400 mining claims were filed with BLM's Oregon State Office before the October 22 deadline, according to Diane Livengood of the records and data management branch.

Filing was required for miners who located their claims on federal land before October 21, 1976. Claims located since then must be filed with BLM within 90 days.

Claims not filed with BLM are voided by law.

Work Starts on New Shop; Finish Date in January

LAKEVIEW — Valley Steel Builders of Boise started construction of a new BLM shop building during summer after being awarded a \$219,000 contract.

The fully insulated metal building will contain a general workshop area, a heavy equipment and vehicle repair shop, tire and



BLM news

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Oregon State Office, 729 NE Oregon Street, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon 97208

Release No.: 80-7
Contact: Bill Keil

(503) 231-6276

November 16, 1979

1-4-5-6-7-8-13-14-25-27o-34

BLM GATHERS COMMENTS ON WILDERNESS INVENTORY

A series of meetings to gather public opinion on the Bureau of Land Management's proposal to designate 11 eastern Oregon tracts as wilderness study areas concludes with sessions November 27 in Eugene and November 29 in Portland.

The current step in BLM's wilderness inventory includes recommendations for studying 347,000 acres in such locations as the Pueblo and Trout Creek mountains and dry lake bed of the Alvord Desert.

In this step, a total of 860,000 acres found lacking in wilderness quality is proposed for elimination from further wilderness review.

This segment of the wilderness review was accelerated because of such factors as proposed range improvement projects or land exchanges. If such actions would impair wilderness characteristics, they could not be undertaken in wilderness study areas.

The meetings will be informal open houses where public comments will be received. The Eugene sessions on Wednesday, November 27, are scheduled for 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Lane County Extension Hall, 950 W 13th St. Portland sessions on Thursday, November 29, will be held at BLM's Oregon State Office, 729 NE Oregon St., at 1:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The proposed decision, announced October 4, is open for public comment until January 4. After comments are considered, a final decision on this segment of the review will be announced next spring, followed by a proposed decision on wilderness study areas from the nearly 6 million acres of roadless areas remaining under inventory in Oregon and Washington.

Areas recommended for study will be intensively studied in BLM's planning system to determine the land's best potential before recommendations are forwarded to eventually reach Congress for action.

#



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BLM news

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Oregon State Office, 729 NE Oregon Street, P.O. Box 2965, Portland, Oregon 97208

Release No.: 79-65
Contact: Bill Keil

October 4, 1979

1-4-5-7-8-11-13-14-15-17f-
17o-18-19o-20-22-25-27o-
28-31o-34

BLM PROPOSES 11 WILDERNESS STUDY AREAS IN ACCELERATED ACTION

The Bureau of Land Management proposes to designate 11 tracts in eastern Oregon as wilderness study areas in an accelerated section of its inventory to determine which of BLM's lands will be recommended to Congress for wilderness designation.

Conclusions will be reached next spring on remaining inventory units to be designated wilderness study areas.

Included in the proposal announced today are 347,000 acres in places such as the Pueblo and Trout Creek Mountains and the dry lake bed of the Alvord Desert.

Thirty units were considered in the accelerated inventory which was made because of several factors involving one or more of the units. These included determination if some range improvement projects could be made in the Drewsey area, to make a BLM wilderness study area proposal available for public consideration concurrent with a Forest Service proposal on an adjoining area, and to determine if land exchanges would be possible with the State of Oregon or private landowners.

Such projects which would impair wilderness characteristics cannot be undertaken in wilderness study areas.

At the same time, 860,000 acres are proposed for elimination from further wilderness review. The areas have been found lacking in wilderness quality.

The proposed decision is open for public comment until January 4. Public meetings are also scheduled to discuss the proposed decision and receive comments.

MORE

Prineville	Wednesday, November 7 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM	Prineville District Office 185 East Fourth Street
Burns	Thursday, November 8 7:00 PM	Burns District Office 74 South Alvord Street
Eugene	Tuesday, November 27 3:00 PM, and 7:00 PM	Lane County Extension Hall 950 West 13th Street
Portland	Thursday, November 29 1:30 PM, and 7:30 PM	Oregon State Office 729 NE Oregon Street

We encourage you to attend one or more of these meetings and to provide your comments on the proposed decision. If you cannot attend any of these meetings, you may send written comments in a letter or with the enclosed comment form to the BLM district office which administers the unit in question. Office addresses are listed in Appendix B in the report.

If you need additional information you may review the inventory forms at the Public Affairs Room of the State Office in Portland or at the District Office which administers the unit you are interested in. Larger scale maps of the inventory units are also available from the same locations. If you write for a map, please be sure to specify the unit number.

Thank you for participating in the wilderness review.

Sincerely yours,


State Director ACTING

Enclosure:
Wilderness Report

BLM INTENSIVE WILDERNESS INVENTORY
OREGON
COMMENT SHEET

Name _____ Inventory Unit No. _____
Address _____ (Area on which you are commenting)
District _____
Affiliation _____ Date _____

A. Roads. For purposes of the wilderness inventory, a route which has been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use is considered a road. A route (or "way") maintained solely by the passage of vehicles is not considered a road. (See Appendix A in the report on the proposed decision for a more detailed definition of roads.)

If you do not agree with our identification of roads in this unit, where should roads be added to or deleted from the map? What kinds of improvement, maintenance and use have these routes received? If possible, show the route locations on a map. A large-scale map of this unit may be obtained from the district office which administers the unit and from the State Office in Portland.

B. Wilderness Characteristics. An inventory unit will be designated a wilderness study area if it has wilderness characteristics as defined in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964:

"A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in this Act an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least 5000 acres of land or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values."

DO YOU THINK THIS UNIT HAS WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS? _____

1. Natural Conditions. Are the imprints of man's work substantially unnoticeable? What man-made features are you aware of in the inventory unit?

2. Solitude. Does the unit provide outstanding opportunities for solitude? Why or why not?

3. Recreation. Does the unit provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation? Which types? Why or why not?

BLM INTENSIVE WILDERNESS INVENTORY
OREGON
COMMENT SHEET

Name _____ Inventory Unit No. _____
Address _____ (Area on which you are commenting)
District _____
Affiliation _____ Date _____

A. Roads. For purposes of the wilderness inventory, a route which has been improved and maintained by mechanical means to insure relatively regular and continuous use is considered a road. A route (or "way") maintained solely by the passage of vehicles is not considered a road. (See Appendix A in the report on the proposed decision for a more detailed definition of roads.)

If you do not agree with our identification of roads in this unit, where should roads be added to or deleted from the map? What kinds of improvement, maintenance and use have these routes received? If possible, show the route locations on a map. A large-scale map of this unit may be obtained from the district office which administers the unit and from the State Office in Portland.

B. Wilderness Characteristics. An inventory unit will be designated a wilderness study area if it has wilderness characteristics as defined in Section 2(c) of the Wilderness Act of 1964:

"A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. An area of wilderness is further defined to mean in this Act an area of undeveloped Federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least 5000 acres of land or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical values."

DO YOU THINK THIS UNIT HAS WILDERNESS CHARACTERISTICS? _____

1. Natural Conditions. Are the imprints of man's work substantially unnoticeable? What man-made features are you aware of in the inventory unit?

2. Solitude. Does the unit provide outstanding opportunities for solitude? Why or why not?

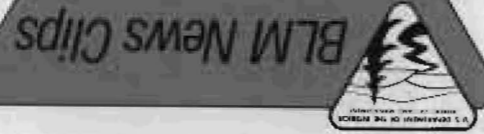
3. Recreation. Does the unit provide outstanding opportunities for primitive and unconfined types of recreation? Which types? Why or why not?

Debra Struhsacker
Earth Science Laboratory
420 Chibeta Way, Suite 120
Salt Lake City, UT 84108

34

- Revise my address as indicated on this panel which I am returning.
- Discontinue sending BLM News Clips.
- Include these resource management subjects in future issues.

Permission is granted to republish material from BLM News Clips, with or without credit.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
OREGON STATE OFFICE
P.O. BOX 2965 (729 NE OREGON ST.)
PORTLAND, OREGON 97208

Experiment Could "Net" Tree Protection



"Most of the comments I've received from BLM silviculturists have been favorable," Yates said. "One remarked on how fast his crew could install the tubes. Others were astounded at the low amounts of tubing installation contracts — some as low as \$5 an acre."

The netting comes in rolls of 5,400 feet. It doesn't require any support other than the tree itself. It can be cut to the length needed for each tree and its flexibility allows the tree to grow more naturally.

An examination of the results will help foresters to decide when and where the new method of browse control should be used.

Citizens Back BLM In Closing 880 Acres

BAKER — The Bureau of Land Management, with the blessing of local officials and citizens, has closed an 880-acre tract of public land near Milton-Freewater, Ore., to off-road vehicle use and overnight camping.

The citizen approval came from an ad hoc committee appointed by county officials. The committee, which includes representatives from sportsmen's and conservationist groups, local businesses and private citizens, was formed after a BLM public meeting in March.

The area being closed is on the South Fork of the Walla Walla River, and until recently was almost inaccessible except to hikers. New road construction, however, has opened access to the tract and use has intensified.

Baker District Manager Gordon Staker said the area is currently being seriously damaged by vehicles and by overnight camping. The new restrictions are needed to protect further damage to the vegetation, watershed and soils in the area.

BUREAU of LAND MANAGEMENT Oregon-Washington

729 NE Oregon St.
P.O. Box 2965, Portland, OR 97208
William G. Leavell, State Director
Don Smurthwaite, Editor

DISTRICTS Oregon

Lakeview - 1000 Ninth St. S, PO Box 151, Lakeview, OR 97630. Phone 947-2177. Richard A. Gerity, Mgr.

Burns - 74 S Alvord St., Burns, OR 97720. Phone 573-2071. L. Christian Vosler, Mgr.

Vale - 365 A St. W, PO Box 700, Vale, OR 97918. Phone 473-3144. Fearl M. Parker, Mgr.

Prineville - 185 E 4th St., PO Box 550, Prineville, OR 97754. Phone 447-4115. Paul W. Arrasmith, Mgr.

Baker - Federal Building, PO Box 987, Baker, OR 97814. Phone 523-6391. Gordon R. Staker, Mgr.

Salem - 3550 Liberty Road S, PO Box 3227, Salem, OR 97302. Phone 399-5646. Edward G. Stauber, Mgr.

Eugene - 1255 Pearl St., PO Box 10226, Eugene, OR 97401. Phone 687-6650. Dwight L. Patton, Mgr.

Roseburg - 777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, OR 97470. Phone 672-4491. James E. Hart, Mgr.

Medford - 3040 Biddle Rd., Medford, OR 97501. Phone 776-4174. George C. Francis, Mgr.

Coos Bay - 333 S 4th St., Coos Bay, OR 97420. Phone 269-5880. Paul M. Sanger, Mgr.

Washington

Spokane - 920 W Riverside, Spokane, WA 99201. Phone (509) 456-2570. Roger W. Burwell, Mgr.

U.S. Government Printing Office 1980-696-421-05



BLM News Clips



PORTLAND, OREGON

A BLM goal is to balance the uses of natural resources so as to ensure the productivity of the land and the quality of the environment.

JUNE 1980

West Districts End 1980 Spring Spray Programs

The Bureau of Land Management's spring herbicide program is nearly over, with the five westside Oregon districts completing 88 percent of their planned spraying.

That percentage — considered a good success rate by BLM — was achieved despite erratic weather throughout the spring and a swelling number of protest activities designed to halt the spraying program. About 12,500 acres of a planned 14,128 acres were sprayed by BLM.

Herbicide spraying began in March and weather played havoc with BLM plans almost from the first day.

"I guess in some ways it was typical of Oregon weather in the spring," said Bob Marlow, forester in the Medford District. "We had everything from cold, snowy and rainy weather to days where we couldn't spray because the temperature was above 70 degrees."

While the weather was difficult to predict, the attitudes of herbicide opponents was much easier to forecast. Most protesting activities took place in Medford where sit-ins, picketing and occupations of sites scheduled for spraying became commonplace. Roseburg, Eugene and Coos Bay experienced similar problems. In Coos Bay vandals punctured herbicide drums, causing more than \$60,000 damage.

Susan Cavanaugh, a resident of Sitkum, owns a home near a unit that was scheduled to be sprayed, and was active in protesting the herbicide plans of the Coos Bay District.

"I'm worried about the unit. Everything I've read about these chemicals says they are not good, that they are poisonous," Cavanaugh said. "I don't think anybody knows about the long term effects of the spraying. It might affect my children's children. There's not been enough research."

Cavanaugh's beliefs are not shared by a number of scientists, among them Dr. Karl Bernsten, director of science programs for the Society of American Foresters.

"In the quantities that are applied, my feeling is that herbicides are just not harmful to humans," said Bernsten, whose experience with spraying programs goes back to the early 1950's. "We don't have any evidence that people



HERBICIDES . . . a BLM tool.

have been harmed."

Marlow explained the use of herbicides by BLM.

"We spray to control competing vegetation in order to prepare sites for reforestation and to release young trees from competition. It's one of several tools used to sustain a high level of timber production. And all tools are considered," he said.

Timber Cut Slowdown Chops BLM Programs

EUGENE — When the timber industry tightens its belt, BLM's westside districts also feel the pinch.

That's because the five districts aren't funded in the same way as most federal concerns. Rather, they rely on a quarter of the receipts collected from purchasers of timber on revested O&C Railroad grant lands.

So in periods of declining demand for wood products — such as now — timber companies slow harvests, resulting in less receipts for the BLM districts.

When annual work plans were drawn up by BLM, it was expected that O&C funds would

Other practices used by BLM this spring, included soil scarification and ripping, tree planting, aerial fertilization, commercial thinning, prescribed burning, manual release and other techniques. Those programs, in comparison to the herbicide spraying, "went like clockwork, except for one fertilizer truck accident," Marlow said.

BLM contends that herbicides used by the agency have been thoroughly researched. Only herbicides approved by the Environmental Protection Agency are used, and then within the strict guidelines set by BLM. For these reasons and because the chemicals break down rapidly, there is little or no threat to human life or resources, BLM managers believe.

Not all demonstrations this spring were staged by herbicide opponents. Petitions signed by about 2,000 people endorsing BLM forestry practices were presented to District Managers George Francis in Medford and Jim Hart in Roseburg.

BLM's policy on herbicides was reiterated by Frank Gregg, national director, on a recent visit to southern Oregon.

"We will continue to use herbicides in Oregon," Gregg said, adding that alternatives would be used whenever practical.

Herbicide spraying will begin again in the fall, with about 12,000 acres scheduled for treatment by BLM in five districts.

amount to \$225 million this fiscal year. The latest estimate now has that shrinking to about \$200 million, and the districts are beginning to postpone or reduce forest projects, summer hiring, travel and building programs.

There's still plenty of uncut timber under contract, about 2.24 billion board feet. But at least for now, the contractors appear to be waiting for the market to improve. Timber contractors have three years from the awarding of the contract to harvest the trees.

The \$200 million estimate is based on actual receipts through April (\$117,696,762) and harvest projections for the remainder of the fiscal year which ends September 30.



IN REPLY REFER TO:
8500 (933)

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

OREGON STATE OFFICE
P.O. Box 2965 (729 N.E. Oregon Street)
Portland, Oregon 97208

July 24, 1980

BLM WILDERNESS BULLETIN

Oregon and Washington

We are approaching the end of the first phase of the Bureau of Land Management's wilderness review in Oregon and Washington. This is a good time to review what has happened so far and to highlight upcoming events.

As you may recall, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 instructed BLM to conduct a wilderness review. The BLM Wilderness Inventory Handbook, issued in 1978, described how we were to conduct the first phase of the review.

In April 1979, we distributed maps and a report describing the BLM lands that we believed clearly lacked wilderness characteristics and, therefore, should be eliminated from further wilderness review. After reviewing public comments received during a 90-day comment period, we revised our proposals for some lands and then distributed a final report and maps in August 1979.

Approximately 7.1 million acres not eliminated from further review in the initial inventory were more intensively inventoried to determine whether they were wilderness in character. The intensive inventory of those lands was conducted in the summer and fall of 1979. We divided this part of the inventory into two sections. In October 1979, a map and report dealing with 1.2 million acres in southeastern Oregon identified proposed wilderness study areas containing 347,000 acres. A 90-day public comment period extended through January 4, 1980. Then in March, 1980, approximately 431,665 acres in 8 units scattered across southeastern Oregon were officially included in wilderness study areas.

Our proposals for the remaining 5.9 million acres in Oregon and Washington were also released in the March 1980 report. We proposed to designate 72 more wilderness study areas containing about 1.7 million acres. The 90-day public comment period on these proposals ended June 25. We are now reviewing the comments to see if new information will change our proposals.

We will distribute a report and maps this November that will identify all BLM wilderness study areas in Oregon and Washington.

Throughout this first phase of the wilderness review, we were required to determine only whether the areas possessed wilderness characteristics. Congress' definition of wilderness in the 1964 Wilderness Act was our basis for making those determinations. If roadless areas or islands have those characteristics, then they must be identified as wilderness study areas.



IN REPLY REFER TO:

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

OREGON STATE OFFICE
P.O. Box 2965 (729 N.E. Oregon Street)
Portland, Oregon 97208

July 24, 1980

BLM WILDERNESS BULLETIN

Oregon

Announcement of Change in Inventory Decision

On March 27, 1980, we issued final decisions on the wilderness inventory of 30 units in southeast Oregon. Our decisions were to designate eight wilderness study areas containing about 431,665 acres and to eliminate from further wilderness review about 776,488 acres.

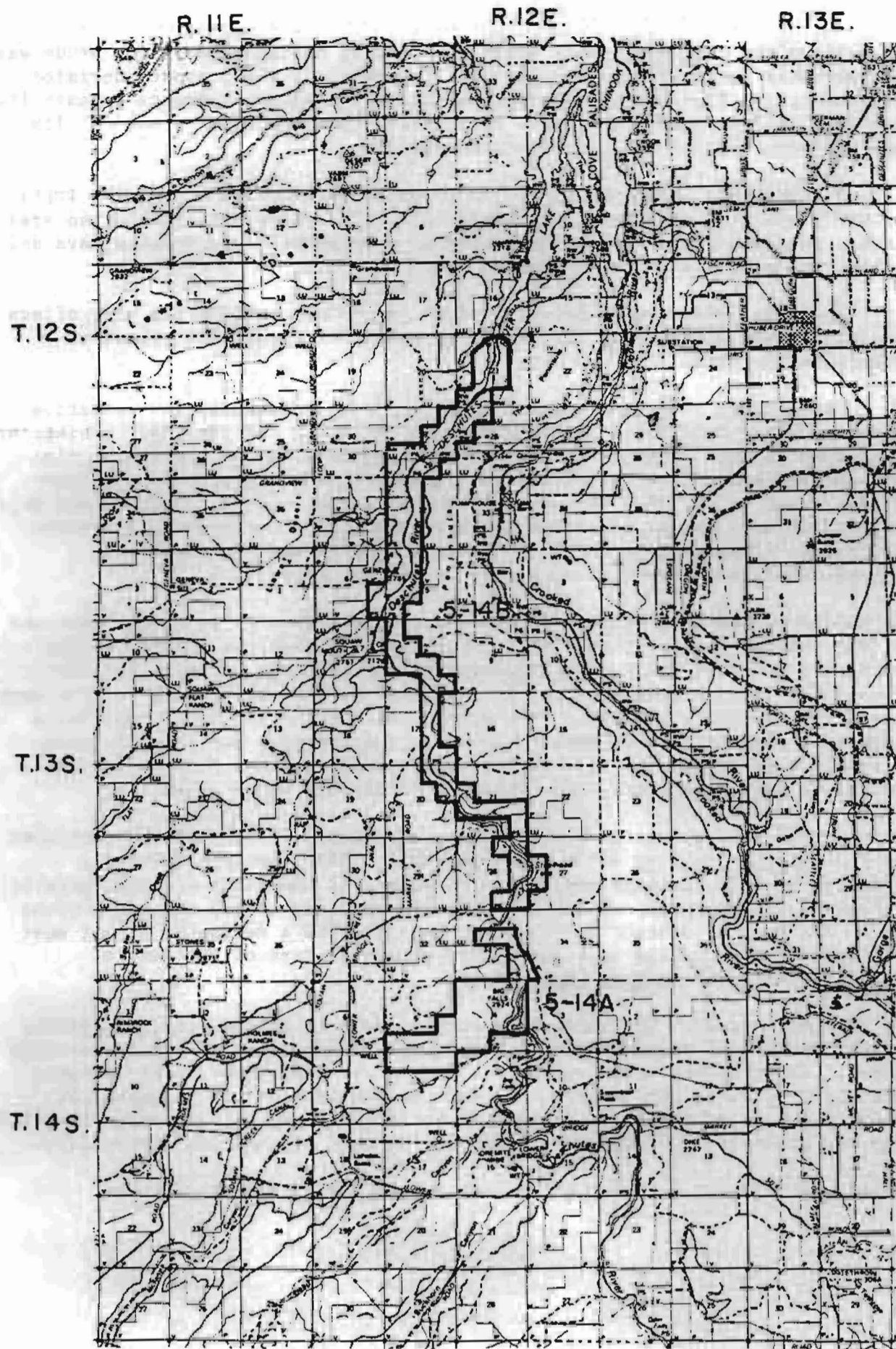
We received four letters protesting the March 27 decisions of the following units and subunits:

March 27, 1980, Decision

Unit Number	District	Designate as Wilderness Study Area (acres)	Eliminate from Further Wilderness Review (acres)
1-76	Lakeview		20,040
1-77	Lakeview		9,920
1-105	Lakeview		30,000
*2-1	Burns		62,885
*2-11	Burns		11,300
2-23E'	Burns		5,910
*2-26	Burns		15,045
2-74E	Burns		23,140
2-74N	Burns		10,470
2-81L	Burns	67,430	
2-82H	Burns	97,395	
3-154	Vale		6,680
5-14	Prineville		3,240

*Roads divide these units into smaller subunits.

After reviewing information in the protests and reconsidering our March 27 decisions, we continue to believe that the decisions for the first 12 units listed above accurately reflect the existence or absence of wilderness characteristics. Areas with wilderness characteristics are identified as study areas and are scheduled for further review to determine whether they will be recommended to Congress for wilderness designation. Areas lacking wilderness characteristics are eliminated from further wilderness review.



REQUEST FOR WILDERNESS STUDY AREA REPORTS

We will appreciate if you will return this form by August 8, so we can determine how many copies of the reports to print.

Please send me the November 1980 SUMMARY report, including a list of wilderness study areas.

Please send me the November 1980 DETAILED report that describes all wilderness study areas and inventory units excluded from further study.

I don't need either a summary report or a detailed report, but keep my name on the mailing list for future information about BLM's wilderness review program.

We have a limited number of copies of previous wilderness inventory reports. As long as supplies last, we will send you a copy if you so request. We also will send you a copy of the Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review if you indicate you would like one. Please check below which, if any, of the previous reports you want us to send to you.

- () Proposed Decision on Public Lands Obviously Lacking Wilderness Characteristics -- April 1979
- () Final Decision on Public Lands Obviously Lacking Wilderness Characteristics -- August 1979
- () Proposed Decision on the Intensive Wilderness Inventory of Selected Areas in Southeast Oregon -- October 1979
- () Final Decisions on 30 Selected Units in Southeast Oregon and Proposed Decisions on the Intensive Wilderness Inventory of Other Units in Oregon and Washington -- March 1980
- () Interim Management Policy and Guidelines for Lands Under Wilderness Review

Date _____ Signature _____

Earth Science Laboratory 34
Suite 120
420 Chipeta Way
Salt Lake City, Utah 84108

Please make any necessary address corrections.

Farmers Dream of Boom Town Tie Now Only Fading Ruts in the Desert

By DENNIS HILL

LAKEVIEW — It was back in 1863 that Senator Benjamin Harding introduced a bill to Congress that granted public lands to the State of Oregon for building a wagon road from the Willamette Valley across part of eastern Oregon and into Nevada.

The idea for the Oregon Central Military Wagon Road was developed by a group of Lane County Citizens, headed by Byron J. Pengra, who was the Surveyor General for the state. They hoped the route would tie into the Central Pacific Railroad, making it the first link between Oregon and the railroad. However, Congress changed the wagon road route across eastern Oregon to connect with the boom town of Silver City, Idaho. And later, much to Pengra's consternation, the railroad intertie was awarded by Congress to the Oregon and California Railroad Company.



Willamette Valley farmers became interested in the wagon route when they realized it would open a new market for their produce at Silver City. The Oregon Central Military Wagon Road Company was formed in 1864, with many farmers becoming stockholders. At one time, the company's capital was \$100,000. In October of 1864, the company was given the grant lands by the Oregon Legislature.

Pengra was commissioned to survey the wagon road from Eugene City to the Oregon-Idaho border, a distance of 452 miles. He was escorted by a company of the Oregon Cavalry because of increasing hostilities towards whites by the Paiute Indians.

Twenty miles of the road along the middle fork of the Willamette River had already been built when Ben Simpson of Eugene City was contracted to build another 44 miles in 1865. By the time Pengra returned from the field survey in September, Simpson had completed most of the 60-foot wide segment.

The survey was completed, but the road only went about 60 miles to Crescent Lake, near the crest of the Cascade Mountains. Road builder Simpson had gone broke, and so Governor

George L. Woods appointed General W. H. Odell to finish the road to the state line. However, Odell did little more than clear brush and rocks from the route, completing the work in 1869. The road company said \$125,000 was spent for construction; the government's estimate was \$24,000.

The Oregon Central Military Road Company eventually sold the land grants to the Pacific Land Company in 1876 for \$125,000. Later the California and Oregon Land Company, affiliated with the Booth-Kelly Lumber Company, purchased the grant lands. The eastern Oregon grant lands were sold to the Hunter Company of Minneapolis in 1906. During this period, several unsuccessful legal challenges were mounted by eastern Oregon citizens to get the lands released for settlement. In all, the grant allotted alternating square miles of unappropriated public lands for three miles on both sides of the right-of-way.

The Oregon Central Military Road was primarily used by troops garrisoned at Fort Warner on Honey Creek, west of the present town of Plush, Oregon. In 1867, when Fort Warner was moved from Hart Mountain to Honey Creek, the troops constructed a crossing on the road at the narrows between Hart and Crump Lakes in the Warner Valley. It took the soldiers several days of hauling rock to make an adequate crossing. The crossing is still known as the Stone Bridge and can be seen during low-water years.

The Lake County Historical Society, in cooperation with BLM's Lakeview District, has retraced and marked the Oregon Central Military Road across Lake County.

Court Okays Removal of Structures

MEDFORD — Two cabins on a disputed mining claim located on public land near Galice have been removed by the Bureau of Land Management.



ONE of two buildings removed by BLM near Galice, Oregon.



STEENS Mountain . . . high desert at its best.

Steens Road Should Open By July 4th

BURNS — The Steens Mountain summit road will likely be plowed open before the Fourth of July this year, according to Bill Bright of the Burns District.

"But it's still winter up on the mountain," Bright said. "Fish Lake still had ice on it in May, and the snow banks are pretty deep."

The north end of the road to Fish Lake is expected to be open by mid-June, with the south end to Blitzen Crossing expected to open sooner.

Snowpack on Steens Mountain was heavier than usual this year, Bright said.

The action followed a ruling by U.S. Magistrate Edward Leavy that said the government owned the dwellings because the occupants did not remove them as ordered following a 1976 decision that the mining claim on the property was invalid. The order was signed by United States District Court Judge Robert Belloni.

By law, occupancy of mining sites is allowed only when it is vital for working a claim. The site near Galice has been occupied by a succession of people since 1966.

Gary Rundell, BLM realty specialist, said it was the first time in Oregon or Washington that the agency had gone outside of administrative procedures to resolve a mining claim occupancy trespass.

"The court granted summary judgment in favor of the United States, and ordered the mining claim occupants to vacate in 60 days," he said of the February 27 ruling.

In the suit for ejectment, BLM held that nine defendants had filed false claims. Built un-authorized dwellings, and used the land for purposes other than operating a mining claim.

Compiling Craters' Characteristics Charting Crew's Chore . . .

DIAMOND — In some ways, Diamond Craters is becoming known for what is unknown about the area.

Part of the intrigue of the area is linked to its still unexplored caves, crevasses, spires and cones.

"Each time we go there, it seems that we find something new," said an admiring Chad Bacon, BLM's Drewsey-Riley area manager.

Not only is the area mostly unexplored, also it's not been suitably mapped. But that will soon be changing because of a BLM crew's work in the area in late April and early May. Their job was to survey Diamond Craters, one of the preliminary steps in producing a topographic map.



PERCHED on a lava bluff, surveyors chart Diamond Craters in the Oregon desert.

"People have been hiking around the area for a long time," said Bob Ivy of the Oregon State Office. "But through it all, Diamond Craters has remained essentially uncharted."

There are some topographic maps of the area made from high altitude photographs, and those were fine when the outstanding geological

New BLM Leaders To Be Installed

National BLM Director Frank Gregg will administer the oath of office to William G. Leavell, the new Oregon state director, and to Paul M. Vetterick, associate state director, at 2 p.m., Monday, June 23.

The ceremony will be in the BPA auditorium, 1002 NE Holladay St., Portland. The public is invited. A reception will follow in the Oregon State Office conference room, 729 NE Oregon St.

features of Diamond Craters remained a secret. But increased interest in the area accentuated the need for an accurate topographic map.

Enter Scott Smith and his crew consisting of Ivy and Ed Zigoy, with assistance provided by Dr. Ellen Benedict and John Hanf of the Burns District. The fivesome embarked on two six-day work weeks beginning about 6 a.m. and ending at dusk. During that time, the basic information needed for the topo map was compiled.

The crew began at a series of triangulation points established by the U. S. Geological Survey. Using laser electronic distance measuring devices (EDMs) and reflectors, the distance between points was measured and cross-measured, until a network with the distance between any two points was set up.

The laser is accurate up to 10 miles, Ivy said, and takes into account essentials such as temperature and barometric pressure.

Next step was to get the angles — first horizontal and then vertical. That's done with a one second theodolite. Feed the information into the right trigonometric formula, and out comes the figures that form the basis for the topographic maps.

The process isn't all as simple as it sounds. Locating the triangulation points, traveling over rough country to the next shooting site and lugging gear up and down hillsides all complicate the process. Weather can play a

. . . As BLM's "Diamond" Gets Recommendation

Preservation of Diamond Craters moved forward this spring when a federal committee unanimously recommended the site be classified as an "Outstanding Natural Area" (ONA).

The Pacific Northwest Natural Area Committee made the recommendation to BLM noting, "The site is unquestionably of outstanding scenic and scientific value."

The next step in the ONA process is for the Oregon State Office to send a proposal to BLM's Washington, D.C., office where a decision will be made by the national director.

BLM employees who have been compiling data on Diamond Craters were pleased with the recommendation.

"An ONA designation is the best protection for Diamond Craters," said Dr. Ellen Benedict, Burns District ecologist. "We're glad to see the entire 16,656 acres included in the recommendation."

Diamond Craters is a six-mile wide shield of unusual volcanic formations located in the desert country 50 miles south of Burns. Its assemblage of craters, cones, spires, cored bombs, domes, maar and other features makes it unique in North America.

The ONA status would preserve the area because of its educational, scientific and recreational values.

wicked hand, too. Too much heat sends up from the ground that obscures the vision in the theodolite and EDMs. Fog and precipitation frequently do the same. Wind may cause reflectors to dance. And there's thunder and lightning.

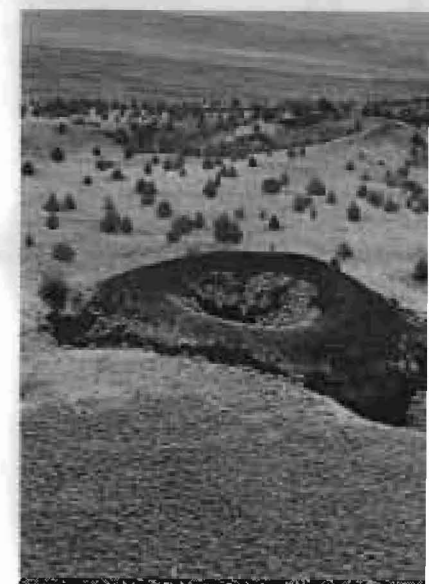
"There were a couple of times we scrambled off mesas," Ivy said. "Standing there with a tripod and being the highest around with all of that lightning coming . . . well, it wasn't all that appealing."

The surveyors left long plastic panels, points. Map makers can identify the panels on aerial photographs through a magnifying glass and with the other information begin the drawing. The aerial photography and other lines are done on a contract basis. BLM does the rest of the mapping.

Surveying for a map of Diamond Craters some fringe benefits, Ivy discovered.

"I was crossing a crevice and saw what to be a cave that opened up behind a block," he recalled. "It turned out to be a fault cave, one where a block is kind of cocked another block, and it hadn't been recorded. Scott mapped it, and Ellen wrote it up."

The maps should be ready within six months with the newly-discovered "Ivy Cave" and the features displayed. Diamond Craters central complex will be on a two-foot interval contour, with the other areas mapped in intervals of five feet.



GEOLOGY in Diamond Craters subtle to spectacular.

"We have many letters on file from educators and scientists supporting our plan preserving the area," Benedict said.

Other work continuing in the Diamond Craters this summer includes bird and population verifications, cave exploration, botanical surveys and invertebrate studies.