

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT OR-14-11
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Western Rivers Conservancy Award for Sandy River Recreation Projects

PORTLAND, Ore. – The Public Lands Foundation presented the Western Rivers Conservancy (WRC) with a 2014 Landscape Certificate of Appreciation for work along the Sandy River. The BLM is an active partner with the WRC and has helped to expand recreational opportunities along the river.

Since 1999 the WRC has worked closely with the BLM to bring over 3,000 acres of private land along the Sandy River into public ownership. One of the most notable efforts was the decommissioning of Marmot Dam in 2008. Removing the dam allowed the BLM and its partners to construct a world-class mountain bike system, campgrounds, and trails.

The partnership between BLM and WRC is invaluable to the enhancement of America’s public land heritage. “Our [BLM] partnership with the WRC is a win-win success story of what can happen in an atmosphere of cooperation”, said State Director Jerome Perez at today’s ceremony in Portland. The award was presented by Ed Shepard, President of the Public Lands Foundation. Kim Titus, Salem District Manager and Adam Milnor, Salem District Recreational Planner also participated in the event.

The Public Lands Foundation’s mission is to advocate and work for the retention of America’s National System of Public Lands in public hands, professionally and sustainably managed for responsible common use and enjoyment.

Photos of the Sandy River are available online at:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/blmoregon/sets/72157645609210833/>

A short video of Sandy River recreation opportunities is also available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QyRd4Ne7Bag>

-BLM-

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land, the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM’s mission is to manage and conserve the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations under our mandate of multiple-use and sustained yield. In fiscal Year, 2013, the BLM generated \$4.7 billion in receipts from public lands.

Come join the Oregon/Washington BLM on our Social Media sites for the latest on outdoor opportunities, videos of your public lands, spectacular photos, and a whole lot more!

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