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For Immediate Release September 5, 2008 Contact: Scott Pavey (509) 536-1200 Release No: OR130-FY2008-023

Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council to Meet in Colville, WA on September 18, 2008

Spokane, WA - The Eastern Washington Resource Advisory Council (RAC) will hold its next meeting on Thursday, September 18, 2008 at the Institute for Extended Learning, Colville Center, 985 South Elm Street, Colville, WA 99114.

The meeting will start at 9:30 a.m. and end at 3:30 p.m. Agenda topics will focus on the status of projects of interest on BLM lands, and identification of topics of concern on the Colville National Forest. During the meeting there will be a field tour of the Burnt Valley Wildland Urban Interface project near Chewelah. The public is welcome to attend all portions of the meeting and may participate during the public comment period, which starts at 2:30 p.m. in the Institute. Those who verbally address the Council during the open session are asked to also provide a written statement of their comments or presentation.

The Eastern Washington RAC is comprised of 15 members from a variety of backgrounds who are appointed by the Secretary of the Interior. The Eastern Washington RAC reviews overall planning and proposed activities on federal public land in eastern Washington and provides advice to the BLM and USDA Forest Service. For additional information about the Eastern Washington RAC or the upcoming meeting, contact the Spokane BLM District Office, 1103 North Fancher Rd., Spokane Valley, WA 99212 or call (509) 536-1200.

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The BLM manages more land – 258 million surface acres – than any other Federal agency. Most of this public land is located in 12 Western States, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1.8 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM's multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, and cultural resources on the public lands.

