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Public Lands Foundation Honors Tom Dyer as Manager of the Year

PORTLAND, OR – The Public Lands Foundation has recognized Tom Dyer for his courage and dedication in managing public land resources. Dyer, a 28-year veteran of BLM, was named “Outstanding Public Lands Professional” for 2003. Foundation President George Lea notes that the national award honors the highest professional achievements in dealing with major issues or challenges of national significance and/or broad public interest.

Dyer was recently named BLM’s Deputy Assistant Director for Renewable Resources and Planning. In that position, Dyer guides the BLM’s implementation of policies and initiatives involving forestry, recreation, fish and wildlife, cultural resources, rangelands, and resource planning for BLM’s 262 million acres of public lands.

Dyer managed the BLM Burns District from 1999 to 2003. He was responsible for nearly 3.5 million acres of public land in southeastern Oregon, including the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area (CMPA).

“As part of implementing the Steens Mountain Act of 2000, Tom’s ongoing leadership of the citizen advisory process brought divergent interests together to balance such issues as motorized access, wilderness management, recreation use, and historical land activities,” said Elaine M. Brong, State Director, Oregon and Washington BLM.

As Burns District Manager, Dyer led the Burns Interagency Fire Zone (BIFZ) organization. The four agencies within the BIFZ – USDA Forest Service, BLM, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Oregon Department Forestry – are able to deliver improved wildland fire management services to the community through the streamlined structure.

As a member of the National Wild Horse and Burro Steering Committee, Dyer was involved in developing strategies to improve rangeland health and increase wild horse and burro adoptions.

The Public Lands Foundation is the only national membership organization dedicated solely to the protection and perpetuation of the Nation’s public lands under the administration of the BLM. It is a nonprofit group whose members are private individuals and organizations and retired and active BLM employees.