

For Immediate Release Contact Sandra Padilla 406-538-1916, 9/2/04

Lewistown, MT----The Bureau of Land Management would like to invite you to a National Public Lands Day celebration/activity at the James Kipp Recreation Area (north of Roy, where the Fred Robinson Bridge and Highway 191 cross the Missouri River) on Saturday, September 18, 2004.

National Public Lands Day (NPLD) is a national event that has grown into a great opportunity for members of the public to volunteer a few hours of time in various projects to benefit the public lands that provide a "back yard" for so many of us.

The NPLD activities at Kipp will include distributing firewood to individual campsites, trimming dead branches from small trees, spreading gravel, assembling concrete benches, installing a Walleyes Unlimited interpretive sign near the boat ramp and a general cleanup.

"The day should provide an opportunity to improve the James Kipp Recreation Area and enjoy several hours out-of-doors and a sense of accomplishment," according to BLM's event coordinator, Sandra Padilla. "Those interested in participating should meet at the BLM's Lewistown Field Office at 8 a.m.; we'll travel to Kipp; work for a couple of hours between 10 and noon; have lunch; finish our projects; and return home."

"We'll also have a special recognition of volunteer involvement with public lands. The presentation will be around noon and if the weather cooperates it should be a great day," Padilla added.

For the first time this year, the BLM will present each NPLD volunteer (16 years or older) with a coupon redeemable for a fee-free day at any participating federal recreation or visitor site.

The BLM will also be providing t-shirts, lunch and beverages for volunteers so it's important that participants RSVP to Sandra Padilla at 538-1916. Sandra can also answer any additional questions you may have about National Public Lands Day.

NPLD activities are scheduled at over 600 public land sites this year. Volunteers at all sites are encouraged to bring gloves, hand tools, hats/caps, clothing for the weather and their enthusiasm for a fun and worthwhile day.