

**Ochoco and Deschutes National Forests,
and Prineville District, Bureau of Land Management
Office of Communications**

Working as One to Serve Central Oregon
www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon

For immediate release: October 7, 2009

Contact: Les Moscoso (541) 383-4712

Lava River Cave and Lava Lands Visitor Center to Close

BEND –Due to the recent snowstorm in Central Oregon, Lava River Cave is now closed for fall and winter. Snow and ice accumulation have made access into the cave unsafe. The cave was scheduled to close by November 1st for bat hibernation, and with the early snowstorm it is closed early this year for public safety. It will reopen in the Spring of 2010.

Lava Lands Visitor Center will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday until Thursday, October 15th.

Day use sites in Newberry Crater and other sites such as Benham Falls and Lava Cast Forest will remain accessible until they are closed due to winter conditions later in the year.

Interpretive snowshoe tours will start up at Mt. Bachelor during the holiday season at the end of the year.

If you have questions, call the Lava Lands Visitor Center at (541) 593-2421.