



## Staging Point Crew Welcome/Introduction

**INTRODUCTIONS: Leader(s) begin - full name with preferred pronouns**

### Group sign in

- BMLT releases - Liability & Image use
- Agency sign-in/release (USFS, Corp)
- Offer Emergency Card – **Ask participants to self-certify they are well.**<sup>i</sup>
- Ask individuals to self-identify to Leader if at medical risk/special needs.

### BMLT/Blues Crew overview

- BMLT mission statement: *To protect the scenic, natural, and working lands that characterize the Blue Mountains region through collaboration with communities and landowners.* Blues Crew: Volunteerism, improving recreation opportunities, having fun, working in collaboration, safety.
- Land Acknowledgement (sample): *“Today we are working on the ancestral lands of the Cayuse, Umatilla, and Walla Walla People, and we pay respects to their stewardship of these lands in the past, present, and future.”*
- Acknowledge Agency Partnership (USFS, USACE, Other)
- Review Schedule: departure, carpool organization, estimated arrival, route, estimated return; hike-in time/mileage, work time, lunch, work time, hike-out time/mileage

### Personal Gear Preparedness

- Gloves, eye protection, proper footwear & attire, sun protection

### Environmental

- Trail conditions
- Weather
- Bugs, animals, plants, etc. (tick prevention, stinging insects, allergies?)
- Available toilet facilities and human waste management in the wilderness (Cat holes dug 6-8 inches deep, 200 feet from water, pack out paper)
- Please pick up any litter you see, be mindful of your own
- No pets – for their safety as well as our volunteers

### Arrival at Trailhead

- Place Blues Crew work-in-progress sandwich board “Trail Crew Ahead” sign
- Garmin inReach: Send Test Message at Trailhead
- Assign Crew Leaders (Orange Helmets) to trail-specific tasks/groups
- Distribute hard hats *and add names with tape and marker*
- Describe Goals/Standards:

**“Brush for Five (5) years”** Trails: Tread 24 inches, Width 8’ Height 10’

- Distribute Radios**
- Group Photo using tripod**
- SAFETY – Review these points: USE NEW SAFETY BRIEFING OUTLINE**
  - **Preparedness**
  - Water, drink lots of it
  - Breaks, take them
  - Sunscreen, bug repellent
  - If we split up or string out, work between lead and trail groups
  - **Working environment**
  - Take a minute to think about what we’ll be doing as a group, what you’ll be doing with your tool, and your work space
  - **See Something – Say Something!** If you see trouble, **speak up** – respect the concern even if to you it seems minor or unnecessary
  - Make others aware of your movements (e.g. ask and receive permission to pass), intents (e.g. be clear about how you plan to use your tool)
- Tools – Give these instructions:**
  - Familiarize yourself with your tool – weight, heft, carrying, handling
  - Six-foot safety radius for work and travel
  - Sharp tools held in hand on downhill side of trail
  - Where are your tools? - keep them with you or your pack
  - Tool placement on uphill side of trail with handle toward trail between use
  - Flag with tape tools needing sharpening or repair at end of work party

### **Emergency Response & Communications Plan<sup>ii</sup>**

#### Post Crew at Trailhead

- Beverages
- Clean tools to remove soil and contaminants – water/brush
- Tool Collection and stowage, mark tools with tape for servicing
- Group Discussion
- Collect Trail Assessment information
- What could we do better?  
Feedback?
- Pass out helmet stickers
- Place “Blues Crew Was Here” sign
- Head count and return carpool organization
- Gratitude
- Collect Radios**

#### **Leave No Trace Seven Principles**

1. Plan Ahead and Prepare
2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces
3. Dispose of Waste Properly
4. Leave What You Find
5. Minimize Campfire Impacts
6. Respect Wildlife
7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

