

U.S. Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

BURNS DISTRICT OFFICE

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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STEENS MOUNTAIN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 8, 9

BURNS, Oregon – The Steens Mountain Advisory Council (SMAC) is scheduled to meet Thursday and Friday, March 8 and 9, at 8:00 a.m. each day, at the Bureau of Land Management Burns District Office, 28910 Hwy 20 West in Hines.

On Thursday morning, the Council will hear Chairman, Designated Federal Official, and Field Manager updates and discuss the South Steens Water Development Environmental Assessment. The remainder of Thursday's session will be devoted to continued discussion on the Travel Management Plan (TMP) for the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area (CMPA) and review the process for the subcommittee for routes under evaluation in the TMP.

On Friday, the Council will discuss the science and research purposes outlined within the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000, hear information on wildland fire use, watch a video and hear an update on the Wildland Juniper Management Area, discuss horse trailer parking along the north section of the Steens Mountain Loop Road, and hear a short briefing on public information needs within the CMPA. Any other matters that may reasonably come before the SMAC throughout the 2-day meeting may also be addressed.

The public is welcome to attend all portions of the meeting and may contribute during the public comment period at 11:00 a.m. each day. Those who verbally address the SMAC during the open session are asked to also provide a written statement of their comments or presentation. Unless otherwise approved by the SMAC Chair, the public comment period will last no longer than 30 minutes, and each speaker may address the SMAC for a maximum of 5 minutes. Time for SMAC members to address speakers will be allotted at the end of each public comment period.

If you have information you would like distributed to SMAC members, please send it to Rhonda Karges at the Burns District Office, 28910 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738, prior to the start of the meeting. If you send information or general correspondence to anyone at the Burns District Office and would like a copy given to the SMAC, please write "COPY TO SMAC" on the envelope and enclosed document(s).

For further information on the SMAC or the upcoming meeting, contact Rhonda Karges at the Burns District Office at (541) 573-4400, weekdays between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

