Representatives Needed for Steens Council

HINES, Ore. – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is requesting public nominations to fill five positions on the Steens Mountain Advisory Council (SMAC). Nominations are being accepted for:

1) a person who represents and participates in what is commonly called dispersed recreation;
2) a person who represents grazing permittees and holds grazing permits on Federal lands in the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area;
3) a representative of a local environmental organization;
4) a person who represents and demonstrates an expertise and interest in wild horse management on Steens Mountain; and
5) a member and representative of the Burns Paiute Tribe.

SMAC members represent others within particular categories of interest and work collaboratively to recommend management strategies for the CMPA to BLM. Serving on the SMAC gives members a chance to significantly contribute to the future of public lands on Steens Mountain.

To nominate yourself or someone you know, submit a nomination form and supporting letters of recommendation to the BLM Burns District Office, 28910 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97720. The application deadline is November 16, 2011. Nomination forms can be picked up in person at this same location, or by calling (541) 573-4400.

The specific category the nominee would like to represent should be identified in the nomination form and letters of reference. The BLM, the Harney County Court, and the Oregon Governor’s Office will review the applications and submit recommended nominees to the Secretary of the Interior, who has responsibility for making the appointments.

Appointed members must reside in the State of Oregon. The SMAC usually holds quarterly meetings. Although members serve without monetary compensation, travel and per diem expenses are reimbursed at current rates for government employees. SMAC members are normally appointed to three-year terms.

For more information on the SMAC, call Tara Martinak or Kenny McDaniel at (541) 573-4400.

About the BLM: The BLM manages 245 million acres of public land known as the National System of Public Lands. The lands are primarily located in 12 Western states, including 75 million acres in Alaska. With a budget of about $1 billion, the bureau also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM’s multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

#