

# NEWSRelease

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

28910 Hwy 20 West • Hines, Oregon 97738 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns>  
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## STEENS MOUNTAIN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETS APRIL 9-10 IN HINES

**HINES, Oregon** – The next Steens Mountain Advisory Council (SMAC) meeting is set for Thursday and Friday, April 9 and 10, at the Burns District Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Office in Hines. The meeting will start at 12:00 noon on Thursday and at 8:30 a.m. Friday in the agency's main conference room, located at 28910 Hwy 20 West.

On Thursday afternoon, the Council will hear Chairperson, Designated Federal Official, and Field Manager updates, and receive information on the Oregon Explorer web site and Council participation on Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Mule Deer Committee. The Council will also review a recommendation letter regarding the Wild Horse and Burro Program, discuss trails at the East Rim and Kiger Overlooks, and develop a response to a past report from the Government Accountability Office on advisory groups.

Agenda items for Friday include a presentation on Niche Planning for the Steens Mountain area and the associated Comprehensive Recreation Plan; review and discussion of the Wilderness and Wild and Scenic Rivers Plans; provide recommendations for the Wildland Juniper Management Area interpretive sign designs; and review the Council action items list. 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 periods at 3:45 p.m. on Thursday and 10:45 a.m. on Friday. 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 Christi Courtemanche 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 Christi Courtemanche at the Burns District Office at (541) 573-4541.

### About the BLM:

The BLM manages more land – 256 million acres – than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1 billion, 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. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

