

U.S. Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Winter Weather Closes Upper Section of Steens Mountain Loop Road

BURNS, Oregon – Changing weather patterns and recent snowfall have closed the upper section of the Steens Mountain Loop Road for the winter season. Effective November 16, the gates just below Jackman Park Campground and Big Indian Overlook were closed, preventing vehicular travel around the entire Loop Road until next spring.

Despite the closure, all Steens Mountain area campgrounds except Jackman Park remain open. Deep snow may prevent some travelers from reaching Fish Lake Campground at times as well. South Steens and Page Springs Campgrounds are still fully accessible, but have been winterized. Page Springs will be the only campground open throughout the winter season, with reduced fees at \$4 per vehicle per night.

Burns District, U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Andrews Resource Area Field Manager Karla Bird encourages visitors to stay on designated open roads, avoid routes that are susceptible to damage by motorized travel, always travel with caution, and be prepared for sudden winter storms and cold weather. Those planning a trip to the Steens Mountain area are encouraged to contact the Burns District Office to learn about the most up-to-date road closures and facilities conditions.

In the coming weeks, snow levels are expected to drop into the lower elevations, eventually resulting in closure of the remaining portions of the Loop Road for the winter. As snow accumulation increases, winter recreation opportunities including cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and limited snowmobiling will be available by permit from BLM.

For further information please contact the BLM at (541) 573-4400 or visit our office at 28910 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon.

