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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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BLM
Prineville District Office

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Lower Deschutes River-Limited Entry System on Segment 4 in 2008

MADRAS- Starting in January 2008, a limited entry system will go into effect for boaters who float the Lower Deschutes River from Macks Canyon north to its confluence with the Columbia River. Under this system, limited entry will be effective on “Segment 4” during the high use period from Friday-Sunday between July 1st and October 15th.

The limited entry system is legally required under a 2004 Court Settlement Agreement which states that once annual boater use numbers exceed 18,300 users in Segment 4, a limited entry system must go into effect the following season. Use numbers were exceeded in 2007 by 1,160 boaters. The limited entry system will allow for a maximum of 325 boaters per day on Segment 4 in 2008 during the high use period.

Limited entry for Segment 1 of the Lower Deschutes River went into effect in the 2005 boating season during its high use period (Friday-Sunday from Memorial Day through Labor Day). Segment 1 is a 42-mile stretch of river that extends from Warm Springs to the Harpham Flat south of Maupin.

Boater passes are required for all river users who float Segments 1-4 of the Lower Deschutes River. Boaters may purchase passes at www.boaterpass.com or through local vendors (vendor list is on the website). Frequent user passes, which were available through vendors in previous seasons, will only be available for purchase at the Prineville BLM office for the 2008 boating season.

If boater use numbers should fall below the maximum allowable amount on any segment of river that is under a limited entry system for a period of two consecutive years, the limited entry system will be lifted. A final report on the limited entry system, compiled by Oregon State University, is scheduled to be completed in the Spring of 2008. Information from the report



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will indicate whether adjustments to the current system are necessary.

The Lower Deschutes River is managed under a multi-agency management plan that was written in 1993 and supplemented in 1997 to describe permit system features. The Lower Deschutes River is managed cooperatively by the: Bureau of Land Management, Oregon State Parks and Recreation, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon State Marine Board, Oregon State Police; and local governments, with a single representative for Wasco, Sherman and Jefferson counties and the cities of Maupin, the Dalles and Madras. The agencies are advised by a working group composed of commercial and non-commercial boating interests and state, tribal and federal agency representatives.

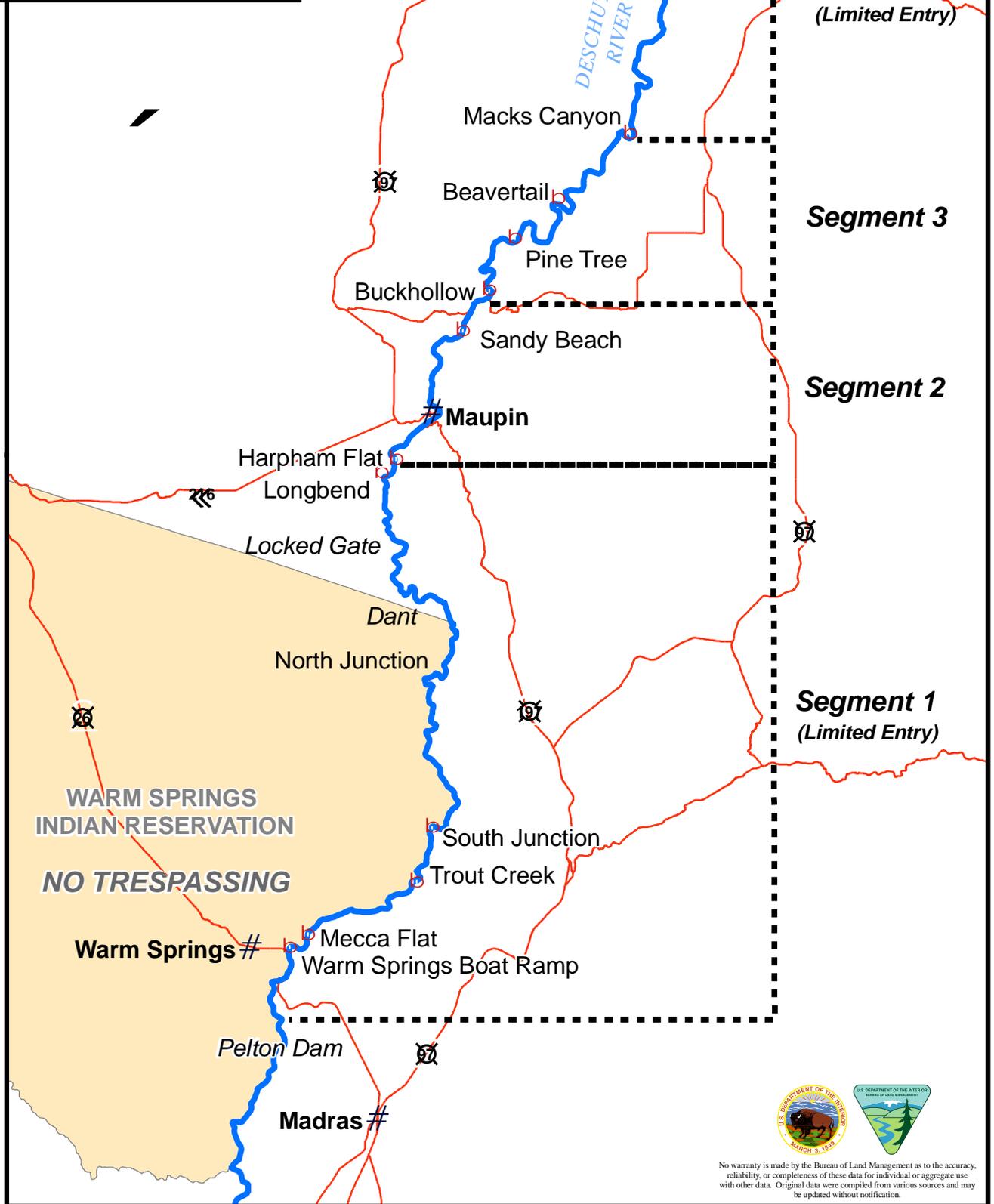
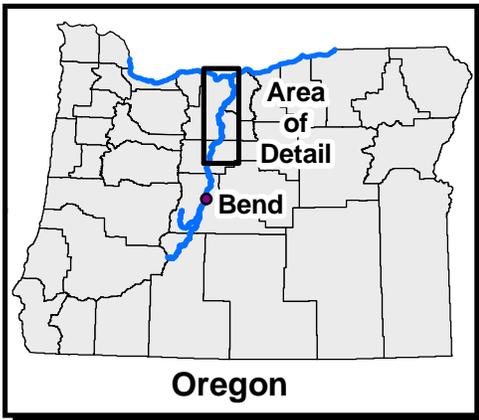
For a vicinity map of Segments 1-4 of the Lower Deschutes River, see below. For additional information on boater pass purchasing, visit www.boaterpass.com Boater passes for the 2008 season will be available for purchase starting in January. Boaters who seek passes in 2008 during limited entry times for Segments 1 & 4 are advised that passes will be available for purchase as early as 180 days prior to the scheduled launch date. For additional information, contact the Prineville BLM office at (541) 416-6700.

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The Bureau of Land Management manages more land – 258 million surface acres – than any other Federal agency. Most of this public land is located in 12 Western States, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1.8 billion, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The Bureau of Land Management'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, and cultural resources on the public lands.

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