

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 TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

BURNS, Oregon – The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Burns District announced today public availability of the Travel Management Plan Environmental Assessment for BLM-administered land within the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area (CMPA). Comments on the Plan must be received no later than May 21, 2007.

Currently there are over 500 miles of motorized routes available to the public within the CMPA. The Travel Management Plan analyzes the types of use on these routes such as access to public lands for recreation purposes and livestock administration. The maintenance, improvement, and closure of routes is also analyzed in the document. In addition, since the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000 prohibits *off-road* motorized travel on federal lands within the CMPA except under limited circumstances, the Travel Management Plan provides guidance on the types and amounts of *off-road* motorized travel.

The Travel Management Plan Environmental Assessment and all supporting documents can be found online at www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns. Comments may be submitted by mail to Karla Bird, Andrews Resource Area Field Manager, Burns District Office, 28910 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon, postmarked by May 16, 2007; by email to or_steens_tmp@blm.gov; or by fax at (541) 573-4411.¹ E-mail sent to other addresses may not be received or considered due to electronic mailbox limitations.

After consideration of comments received, a Decision outlining the action to be taken within the scope of the Travel Management Plan Environmental Assessment will be developed and issued. If you wish to receive a paper copy of the Decision, please submit a clearly written request along with your comments.

For more information on the Travel Management Plan Environmental Assessment, to have your name added to the mailing list, or to request Travel Management Plan documents, contact Mark Sherbourne at the Burns District BLM office at (541) 573-4400, weekdays between 7:45 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

¹ Comments, including the names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the Burns District Office during regular business hours 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published as part of the Decision. Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Anonymous comments will not be considered. All submissions from organizations and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

