

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

28910 Hwy 20 West • Hines, Oregon 97738 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns>
Contact: Tara Martinak (541) 573-4400 • Release No. OR-020-09-27 • June 29, 2009

ENTIRE STEENS MOUNTAIN LOOP ROAD TO BE OPEN

HINES, Oregon – The entire Steens Mountain Loop Road will be open Friday, July 3, affording visitor access to Jackman Park Campground, Kiger Gorge, East Rim Overlook, and the Steens Mountain summit for the first time this season.

Although road conditions have improved with recent hot and dry conditions, travelers should still drive with caution. Avoid wet and muddy side roads, maintain safe speeds, and be aware of loose gravel and wash-boarded areas. Visitors are reminded the Loop Road is largely bordered by wilderness, where motorized travel is limited to designated open roads.

All campgrounds on Steens Mountain will be open and in full service on July 3 as well.

For more information on current road conditions, recreation opportunities, or to obtain maps of the area, visit the Burns District Office at 28910 Hwy 20 West in Hines, Oregon, or call (541) 573-4400.

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.

