

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-020-11-06 • March 25, 2011

STEENS MOUNTAIN COUNCIL MEETS APRIL 4, 5

HINES, Ore. – The next Steens Mountain Advisory Council (SMAC) meeting is set for Monday and Tuesday, April 4 and 5, at the Harney County Community Center, 484 North Broadway, in Burns, Oregon.

On Monday, the meeting opens at 10:00 a.m. and adjourns around 4:30 p.m. Agenda items for the full-day session include Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Designated Federal Official, Chairperson and Andrews/Steens Mountain Resource Area Field Manager updates; a presentation on the Great Basin Landscape Conservation Cooperative; discussion on the Steens Mountain Comprehensive Recreation plan and vision statement; and a discussion on the District Road Maintenance Policy and planned road work in the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area.

On Tuesday, the meeting opens at 8:00 a.m. with an update regarding Sage-grouse and Candidate Conservation Agreement and Assurances. Other agenda items for the day include: discussion on the legal sideboards for the SMAC regarding recommendations on the South Steens Allotment Management Plan; a review of the “BLM Opportunities Map” showing resources to consider for energy developers; discussion on the Conservation Easement Plan; and establishing the next meeting’s agenda. Friday’s session adjourns around 1:00 p.m. Any other matters that may reasonably come before the SMAC may also be addressed anytime during the two-day meeting.

The public is welcome to attend all portions of the meeting and can contribute during the public comment periods at 4:00 p.m. on Monday and 10:45 a.m. on Tuesday. Those who verbally address the SMAC during the open session are asked to also provide a written statement of their comments or presentation. If you have information you would like distributed to SMAC members, please send it to Christi West at the Burns District Office, 28910 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738, at least one week 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 West at the Burns District Office at (541) 573-4541. Additional information about the SMAC can be found online at:

<http://www.blm.gov/or/rac/steensac.php>

The BLM manages more land – 245 million surface 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.

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