

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

28910 Hwy 20 West • Hines, Oregon 97738 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns>
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BLM
Burns District Office

STEENS MOUNTAIN ADVISORY COUNCIL: AUGUST 12-13

HINES, Ore. – The next Steens Mountain Advisory Council (SMAC) meeting is set for Thursday and Friday, August 12 and 13, at the Frenchglen School in Frenchglen, Oregon. The meeting will start at 8:30 a.m. and adjourn between 3:00 and 5:00 p.m. both days.

On Thursday, the Council will host an orientation session for new members and approve previous meeting minutes. Discussion on the Steens Mountain Comprehensive Recreation Plan takes place mid-morning to mid-afternoon, then a field trip to Riddle Brothers Ranch rounds out the day.

On Friday morning, agenda items include: Designated Federal Official, Field Manager and Chairperson updates; an update on the Oregon Explorer Web site; review of a recent Energy Facilities Siting Council meeting; and a short field trip to the town of Diamond to discuss the proposed North Steens Transmission Line.

The public is welcome to attend all portions of the meeting, including the field tours as long as personal transportation and all other travel necessities are provided. A public comment period is scheduled for 2:10 p.m. on Friday. 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 Courtemanche 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 Courtemanche 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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