

# NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

28910 Hwy 20 West • Hines, Oregon 97738 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns>  
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## ***STEENS MOUNTAIN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETS SEPTEMBER 3-4 IN FRENCHGLEN***

***HINES, Oregon*** – The next Steens Mountain Advisory Council (SMAC) meeting is set for Thursday and Friday, September 3 and 4, at the Frenchglen School in Frenchglen, Oregon. The meeting will start at 8:30 a.m. and adjourn between 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. both days.

On Thursday, the Council will participate in an all-day field tour on Steens Mountain. The group departs from Frenchglen around 8:30 a.m. and returns around 5:00 p.m. with stops planned along the South Steens Loop Road, at Kiger and East Rim Overlooks, and at private lands and the Wildland Juniper Management Area off the North Steens Loop Road. The public is welcome to attend the field tour but must provide personal transportation and all other necessities.

On Friday, agenda items include: Chairperson, Designated Federal Official and Field Manager updates; an update on the Mule Deer Initiative; discussion on the proposed North Steens Transmission Line project; and a discussion with Oregon Natural Desert Association on resource issues and concerns in the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area. Regular business matters such as reviewing action items and setting the next meeting agenda will close out Friday's session. Any other matters that may reasonably come before the SMAC during the two-day meeting may also be addresses.

The public is welcome to attend all portions of the meeting and may contribute during the public comment period at 1:30 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. Unless otherwise approved by the SMAC Chair, the public comment period will last no longer than 30 minutes, and each speaker may address the SMAC for a maximum of 5 minutes. Time for SMAC members to address speakers will be allotted at the end of each public comment period.

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 1 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.

