

NEWS Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

3050 NE Third Street - Prineville, Oregon 97754 - www.blm.gov/or/districts/prineville

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
For release: April 1, 2013

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(541) 416-6864

Public Input Requested on Tumalo Thinning, Trails Project

Tumalo, Ore. – The Prineville District, BLM is requesting public input on a proposed project that analyzes alternatives to thin trees and removes biomass on up to 725 acres of an 800-acre BLM parcel located 3 miles southwest of Tumalo, Oregon. Proposed actions would protect existing old-growth trees and increase the amount and diversity of understory shrubs and grasses. Over time, the resulting forest/woodland structure and composition would more closely resemble historic mature ponderosa pine, juniper woodland and shrub-steppe plant communities.

This piece of BLM-administered land was designated non-motorized in 2005 under the Upper Deschutes Resource Management Plan. As part of the implementation of this designation, the Tumalo Project also analyzes the option to establish a non-motorized trail system of 10-12 miles. The trail system would provide connections to the Deschutes National Forest, Cascade Timberlands, and other private property, as well as provide a series of internal loops.

The public is invited to review the range of alternatives and provide input. The Tumalo Vegetation and Trail Management Environmental Assessment is available online under “Documents Currently under Review” at <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/prineville/plans/index.php> or by requesting a paper copy from the Prineville District Office at (541) 416-6700.

The BLM will accept comments until April 22, 2013 via:
FAX: (541-416-6798)
MAIL: 3050 N.E. 3rd St., Prineville, OR 97754
EMAIL: BLM_OR_PR_Mail@blm.gov (Attn: Tumalo EA)

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available. While you can ask us withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

About the BLM: The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land – the most of any Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2011, recreational and other activities on BLM-managed land contributed more than \$130 billion to the U.S. economy and supported more than 600,000 American jobs. The Bureau is also one of a handful of agencies that collects more revenue than it spends. In FY 2012, nearly \$5.7 billion will be generated on lands managed by the BLM, which operates on a \$1.1 billion budget. 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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