



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Prineville District Office
3050 N.E. 3rd Street
Prineville, Oregon 97754

IN REPLY REFER TO:

DOI-BLM-OR-P060-2012-0028-EA

MAR 2 2012

Dear Interested Public:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Prineville District, Deschutes Resource Area is currently developing an Environmental Assessment (EA), DOI-BLM-OR-P060-2012-0028-EA for the 480-acre Trout Creek Project Area, located 12 miles north of Madras, Oregon. The EA will consider alternatives for protecting golden eagles that nest in the area in response to issues and concerns identified by BLM staff, tribal governments, other agencies and the public.

Golden eagles are protected by the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and are sensitive to human activities, particularly near nests during their nesting season. Human disturbance can result in nesting not being attempted or nest abandonment which would leave eggs or fledgling birds unprotected. The BLM is considering options, including seasonal closures, to manage human activities within a buffer zone (1/4 to 1/2 mile) from nests. Please refer to the project map (attached) for an overview of the area.

We will be accepting public comments until March 30th, 2012, and welcome ideas on methods for addressing conflicts between human use and nesting raptors in this area. Comments that clearly discuss site-specific issues, suggestions, or concerns are the most useful. Comments may be sent via email to BLM_OR_PR_Mail@blm.gov or mailed to 3050 N.E. 3rd St., Prineville, OR 97754. Please direct all comments to the attention of: **Trout Creek Project**.

Please be aware that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information such as your address, phone number, and email address, may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

The BLM's interdisciplinary team will review the comments from the public before preparing the EA that will identify the issues and analyze a range of alternatives for the Trout Creek Project Area. Once the EA is prepared, there will be another comment period, after which the BLM will issue a decision.

If you have questions about this project please contact Bill Dean, Assistant Field Manager at 541-416-6887 or wdean@blm.gov.

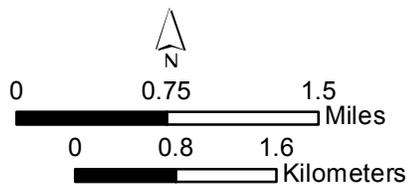
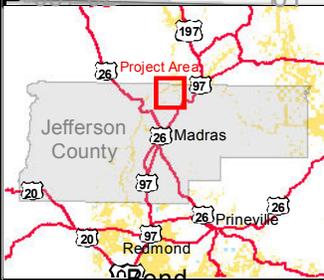
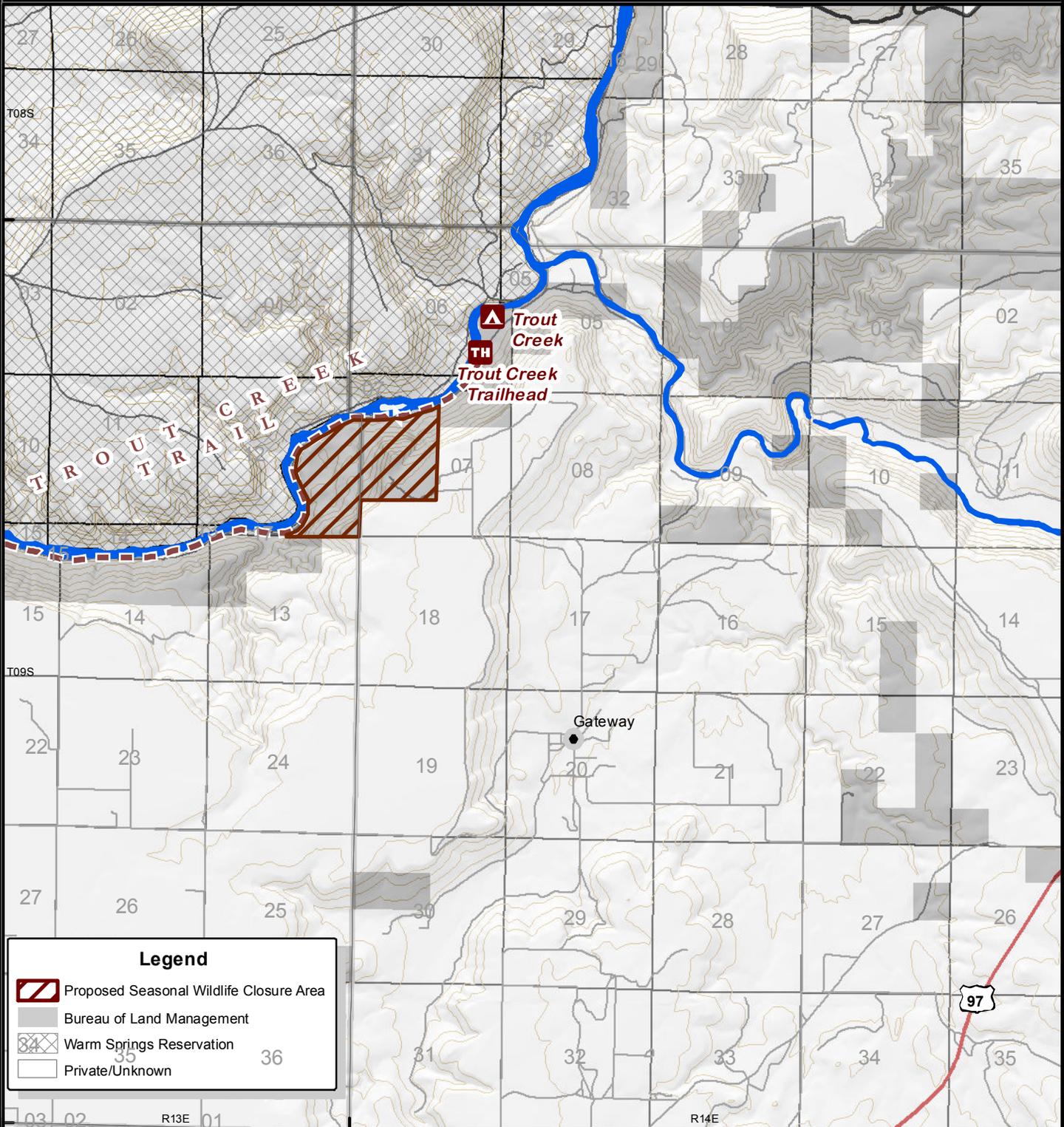
Sincerely,

Molly M. Brown
Field Manager, Deschutes Resource Area

Attachment

Trout Creek

Proposed Seasonal Wildlife Closure Project



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 Bureau of Land Management
 Prineville District
 DOI-BLM-OR-P060-2012-0021-EA
 February 2012

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