

Prineville BLM Project Update

October 2013

This Project Update provides current information about ongoing and future projects planned by the Prineville District of the Bureau of Land Management. It is our intent to increase the public's awareness of BLM activities and to seek ideas and comments from those who may be affected by our resource management programs. Your ideas, comments, and participation help us make informed decisions and implement better projects. Please call the project contacts listed below if you have questions, and send written comments during the project's public review period to: Prineville BLM, 3050 NE Third Street, Prineville, OR 97754. Public review dates listed below are approximate; please call the project contact or see the latest information under "Documents currently under review" on the Prineville District's web page at: <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/prineville/plans/index.php>

Our practice is to make comments, including the names and addresses of respondents, available for public review. Unless you specifically request us to withhold your name and address, it will be made available to the public on request.

The review of the environmental effects of proposed federal actions and potential alternatives to those actions is required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). We document those actions and effects in an environmental assessment (EA) or environmental impact statement (EIS). Proposed actions already covered by an existing EA or EIS are documented in a determination of NEPA adequacy (DNA). Some minor or routine proposed actions are categorically excluded from NEPA analysis, and are documented in a CX. The list below includes only EA and EIS; see the Prineville District's web page for CXs and DNAs.

After the public comment period on an EA or EIS (generally 30-45 days), the BLM prepares a decision. Implementation can begin after the decision and any required appeal period.

Thank you for your interest in public land management.

Energy/Minerals

- Midnight Point and Mahogany Geothermal Exploration EA

Location: 50 air miles NW Burns, OR

Description: Respond to a proposal to drill 14 exploratory wells (3 on Prineville District and 11 on Burns District) looking for geothermal.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 4/17/2013

Decision/implementation (blank if not done): 7/11/2013

For further information, please contact Matthew Shaffer 541/416-6743

Fuels/Fire

- Tumalo Ponderosa pine / juniper thinning project EA

Location: 3 miles SW of Tumalo, OR

Description: Thinning and prescribed fire on three BLM parcels for a total treatment of 900 acres.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 3/22/2013

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Steve Castillo 541/416-6765

Hydrology

- Stearns Dam Removal EA

Location: 8 mi S Prineville

Description: Remove dam.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 5/3/2013

Decision/implementation (blank if not done): 6/24/2013

For further information, please contact Jimmy Eisner 541/416-6753

Lands/Realty

- Cottonwood Canyon State Park EA

Location: 22 air miles NW of Condon, OR

Description: Respond to Oregon Parks & Recreation Department's application to lease 10,000 acres of BLM public land. Consider changes to boating use capacity on segment 1 of John Day Wild & Scenic River.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 2/1/2014

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Anna Smith 541/416-6747

- Glass Buttes Communication Site and VRM Plan Amendment EA

Location: 50 air miles NW of Burns, OR

Description: Amend Brothers/LaPine VRM and authorize the construction of two communication sites.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 10/15/2013

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Michael Kroll 541/416-6852

Multiple

- John Day Basin Resource Management Plan EIS

Location: E side of Prineville District

Description: Complete land use plan for 450,000 acres of public land

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 3/1/2012

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Monte Kuk 541/416-6712

Range

- Catherine Maurer Allotment rangeland health plan EA

Location: 2 mi N of Clarno

Description: Treat weeds on 10,000 acres and build 1.5 miles of riparian fence.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 9/30/2014

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Craig Obermiller 541/416-6761

- Change of Grazing Season for Mascall Cant Allot #2642 EA

Location: 14 Miles S of Kimberly

Description: Change permitted use.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 3/1/2014

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Justin Rodgers 541/416-6700

- Cliff Allotment Fence & Grazing Management EA

Location: 4 air miles N La Pine, OR

Description: Build new fence, maintain old fence & implement grazing system.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 1/15/2014

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Cari Taylor 541/416-6790

- District Wide Grazing Permit Renewal EA

Location: District wide

Description: Responding to application for grazing permit renewal.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 11/30/2013

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Matthew Shaffer 541/416-6743

- Grazing Permit Renewal - Long Prairie EA

Location: La Pine, OR

Description: Implement grazing system, renew 10-year permit, etc.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 11/15/2013

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Molly Galbraith 541/416-6714

- Herb Asher Allotment Pipeline & Trough EA

Location: 13 Air Miles S/SW of Kimberly, OR

Description: Constructing -.25 mile pipeline and installing on Trough

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 2/1/2014

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Justin Rodgers 541/416-6700

- Humphrey Grazing Permit Renewal EA

Location: 12 miles NE Paulina, OR

Description: Renew Humphrey Grazing permit for 10 years.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 3/1/2014

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Cari Taylor 541/416-6790

- Murderer's Creek horse management area gather EA

Location: 10 mi S of Dayville

Description: Remove about 100 head of wild horses from the Murderer's Creek herd management area.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 9/28/2012

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Justin Rodgers 541/416-6700

- Pointer Allotment #4056 Spring EA

Location: 1.5 miles SE of John Day

Description: Develop spring.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 9/30/2014

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Justin Rodgers 541/416-6700

- Season of Use and Allotment Boundary Change EA

Location: 5 miles S of Kimberly

Description: Change grazing season and allotment boundaries: Johnson Crk Allot#2662 & Two County Allot#4145.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 9/15/2014

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Justin Rodgers 541/416-6700

Recreation

- Macks Canyon Boat Ramp Upgrades EA

Location: 18 miles NE of Maupin, OR

Description: Remove sediment from and realign boat ramp; rehabilitate riparian zone; Improve parking area; project area less than one acre.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 2/15/2014

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Heidi Mottl 541/416-6718

- Oregon Badlands Wilderness Management Plan EA

Location: 15 mi SE of Bend

Description: Develop a long term management plan for the Oregon Badlands Wilderness.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 8/30/2013

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Berry Phelps 541/416-6723

- Segment 3 limited entry adjustment EA

Location: 9 mi N of Maupin

Description: Adjust river segment boundary and/or number of boater passes available on Segment 3 of the Deschutes River.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 2/28/2014

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Jim Beaupre 541/416-6776

Safety

- District Road Maintenance EA

Location: All of Prineville District

Description: Road and facility maintenance District wide.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 1/15/2014

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Dana Cork 541/416-6797

Vegetation

- District vegetative treatments using herbicides EA

Location: Prineville District

Description: Expand number of herbicides available for treating invasive plants. Consider additional methods for treating vegetation.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 5/1/2014

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Sarah Canham 541/416-6785

- South Fork Crooked River fence reroute EA

Location: 60 air miles E of Bend, OR

Description: Reroute pasture boundary between Sulphur Butte + South Fork Canyon Pastures of the Camp Creek Community Allotment. Construct 1/2 mile new fence + remove 1/2 mile existing fence.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 3/1/2013

Decision/implementation (blank if not done): 5/8/2013

For further information, please contact Anna Smith 541/416-6747

Wildlife/Fish

- Cemetery Spring EA

Location: T. 12. S., R. 26 E., Sec. 34, SW1/4SE1/4

Description: Develop a spring in the Cemetery Pasture Sheep Gulch Allot #4068.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 3/1/2014

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Justin Rodgers 541/416-6700

- Cougar Mountain Burned Area Rehab EA

Location: 20 mi S of Dayville

Description: Seed and apply herbicides to 853 acres burned by wildfire in September 2010.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 2/15/2014

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Kristy Swartz 541/416-6770

- Franks Creek Fence & Cattleguard Project EA

Location: 1.5 air miles N Dayville, OR

Description: Build 2.5 miles of boundary fence.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 3/30/2014

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Jimmy Eisner 541/416-6753

- Sage-Grouse Playa Management EA

Location: 1/2 mile S SW of Hampton, OR

Description: Project area is 139,010 acres. Fill in dugouts, add bentonite to dugouts, re-contour dugouts, fence playas, cut juniper, mow sagebrush, develop new wells & pipelines.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 10/15/2013

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Teal Purrington 541/416-6772

- Seasonal Wildlife Closures EA

Location: 2 miles N + 15 miles SW of Prineville, OR

Description: Seasonal closure to protect eagle nest sites.

Public review of EA/EIS begins: 4/15/2014

Decision/implementation (blank if not done):

For further information, please contact Cassandra Hummel 541/416-6713