

United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Prineville District

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John Day Basin Resource Management Plan Update

The Bureau of Land Management Prineville District is developing a new Resource Management Plan and associated Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) for lands managed by the BLM within the John Day Basin in central Oregon. This new plan will revise and consolidate three RMPs that provide current guidance within the John Day Basin: The Two Rivers RMP (1986), the John Day RMP (1985), and the Baker RMP (1989).

The BLM manages about 456,000 acres of public land within the John Day Basin. Of these 44,000 acres were acquired along the North Fork John Day River as authorized by the Oregon Land Exchange Act of 2000. The newly acquired lands along the North Fork John Day and additional information provided by the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project provide the impetus to complete a new, consolidated Resource Management Plan for this area.

Schedule Adjustment

The complexity of this planning effort, and other factors outside of our control, require an adjustment to the planning schedule. The chart to the right reflects the expected dates for major milestones in the planning effort. (Shading represents completed steps in the journey).

Fall of 2006	Publish AMS
2007	Public Meetings (AMS) Prepare Draft Alternatives
Fall of 2008	Published Draft EIS/RMP Public Meetings (Draft EIS/RMP)
2009	Respond to comments Modify alternatives Prepare Final EIS & Proposed RMP
Early 2010	Publish FEIS & PRMP
Feb. - March 2010	Protest period (30 days)
March - April 2010	Governor's Review of FEIS & PRMP
June - July 2010	Publish Record Of Decision/RMP

Summary of Public Comment

The Bureau of Land Management Prineville District received 885 letters, emails, and other comments on the draft John Day Basin Resource Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) this winter. The planning team has reviewed the comments and is now in the process of refining, correcting, and improving the proposed plan and final EIS. The team also continues working collaboratively with our formal project cooperators and consulting with the BLM Snake/John Day Resource Advisory Council. All your comments, advice, and patience are appreciated as we develop this comprehensive, long-term plan.

Spring Basin Wilderness

Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-11) was signed into law on March 30, 2009. This Act designated the 6,382-acre Spring Basin Wilderness area, about six miles southeast of Clarno, Oregon.

Pursuant to established BLM policy, a wilderness management plan will be written at a later date. The proposed John Day Basin RMP planning effort will include an interim management plan designed to protect wilderness and

resource values until the final wilderness plan is completed. Any specific projects within the wilderness boundary would be subject to additional analyses and public notification and review. Because the Act also contained several Spring Basin-specific land exchange provisions, the BLM will also begin work on appraisals, conducting hazardous material clearances, and other lands realty-related work outside the scope of the RMP. It is anticipated that these land exchanges will be fully completed within two years. Additional information and materials about the legislation are available at the following website:

<http://energy.senate.gov/public/files/publiclandsonnibusbill2009.pdf>

More Information

You can find updated information on the project website at <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/prineville/plans/johndayrmp> including: errata information containing corrections to Chapter 3; planning schedule changes; Spring Basin Wilderness Map and Legislated Land Exchange Map; planning area maps and GIS data; the Draft EIS/RMP (published October 2008) and the three land use plans the RMP will replace; the Analysis of the Management Situation; and previous RMP updates. If you have any further questions, please contact the John Day Basin Planning Team at: BLM Prineville District, John Day Basin RMP, 3050 NE Third Street, Prineville, OR 97754; (541) 416-6700; John_Day_Basin_RMP@blm.gov



Mailing List - Please let us know if you would prefer to receive a hardcopy, CD, download a copy of the PRMP/FEIS from our web site, or wish to be removed from this mailing list by sending an email to: John_Day_Basin_RMP@blm.gov.

If you do not have email access, you can call or write to the Prineville District Office with your preference: 3050 NE 3rd St., Prineville, OR 97754 (541) 416-6700

If your address has changed please include your correct address with your response. If we don't hear from you, we'll leave you on the mailing list with your current address and send you a CD of the PRMP/FEIS when it is available.