

NEWS Release

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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BLM
Spokane District Office

BLM to Hold Public Meeting on Proposed Forest Health Project

Republic, WA - The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Border Field Office will be hosting a public meeting to begin collaboratively developing fuel treatment design features of the proposed Republic Forest Health Project. The meeting will be held at the Ferry County Fairgrounds, Carousel Building, beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 12.

The proposed project, being developed through the Healthy Forest Restoration Act (HFRA), focuses on improving forest health conditions and decreasing fuel loads, thus reducing the risk of wildland fire to nearby homes and communities. This project would also help protect and restore forest and riparian ecosystems that may be susceptible to fires, insects, and other major disturbances. Multiple parcels of BLM-managed lands in Ferry County were field reviewed this summer in preparation for the proposed effort.

This public meeting is intended to open a dialogue with residents and other interested parties that may have input on current conditions, desired conditions, potential issues/concerns, and the types of treatments they would like to see incorporated into the Forest Health Project. Collaboration allows for interested parties to participate fully and engage openly in: discussing and setting public land goals; integrating those goals with community goals where appropriate; problem-solving that is foundational to the National Environmental Policy Act and the planning processes. Maps of the proposed project area and additional information will be available at the meeting.

If you are interested in the project but not able to attend the November 12 meeting please contact either Richard Parrish, project lead, at (509) 536-1226 or Tera King, consulting forester, at (208) 818-3411 for additional information on the proposed project.

-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. The BLM's mission is to manage and conserve the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations under our mandate of multiple-use sustained yield. In Fiscal Year 2013, the BLM generated \$4.7 billion in receipts from public lands.

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