

NEWSRelease

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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BLM
Oregon State Office

Meetings Engage Public in Planning Process for Sage-Grouse

PORTLAND, Ore. – On Dec. 9, 2011, The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) initiated a planning process to address sage-grouse conservation measures in land use plans in ten western states. Seeking public input, the BLM is now holding meetings to provide an opportunity for interested parties to discuss sage-grouse conservation with agency specialists and to identify issues related to greater sage-grouse conservation. Five meetings will be held in Oregon.

The meetings will follow an open house format; no formal presentations will be given so participants may arrive at any time during the meeting. The meetings will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the following Oregon locations:

Lakeview, Jan. 17, BLM Lakeview District Office, 1301 S. G St.

Ontario, Jan. 23, Four Rivers Cultural Center, 676 SW 5th Ave.

Baker City, Jan. 24, Baker County Library, 2400 Resort St.

Burns, Jan. 25, Harney County Senior Center, 17 S. Alder Ave.

Prineville, Jan. 26, Stafford Inn, 1773 NE Third St.

The BLM has identified the following preliminary issues to address in its environmental analysis: greater sage-grouse habitat management, fluid minerals, coal mining, hard rock mining, mineral materials, rights-of-way, renewable energy development, wildfire, invasive species, grazing, off highway vehicle management and recreation.

Written comments will be accepted throughout the 60-day public comment period that ends Feb. 16. Comments or requests to be added to the mailing list may be made to the BLM during the scoping meetings, by email: sagewest@blm.gov, or by mail: Western Region Project Manager, BLM Nevada State Office, 1340 Financial Blvd., Reno, NV 89502. Additional information is available at the BLM's greater sage-grouse website at: www.blm.gov/sagegrouse. Questions may be emailed to: sagequery@blm.gov.

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – 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.

About the BLM: The BLM manages 245 million acres of public land known as the National System of Public Lands. The lands are primarily located in 12 Western states, including 75 million acres in Alaska. With a budget of about \$1 billion, the bureau also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. 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.

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