

Oregon Badlands Wilderness Management Plan

The Prineville District of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is currently developing a wilderness management plan for the Oregon Badlands Wilderness (**OBW**), located approximately 14 miles east of Bend, Oregon.

Background

The Omnibus Public Lands Management Act of 2009, Public Law No. 111-011, (March 30, 2009), designated 29,100 acres east of Bend, Oregon as wilderness. Wilderness is an area designated by Congress and defined by the Wilderness Act of 1964 as a place “where the earth and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man is himself a visitor who does not remain.” Designation is aimed at ensuring these lands are preserved and protected in their natural condition.

The designation of the OBW alters some uses in the area. Human activities are now generally restricted to non-motorized recreation (such as backpacking, hunting, horseback riding, etc.), and approved scientific research.



An ancient Western Juniper in the Oregon Badlands Wilderness

Wilderness Management Plan

BLM policy requires that a wilderness management plan be completed for each designated wilderness. The wilderness plan will provide direction for managing the OBW.

The wilderness management plan will provide guidance for preserving and enhancing wilderness values while offering opportunities for solitude and primitive recreation, as well as managing other land uses and activities. The plan will respond to issues identified for the area by BLM staff, tribal governments, other agencies and the public.

One of the essential components of wilderness designation is the general prohibition of motorized and mechanized activities. Site and road restoration will be a key consideration in the planning effort. Access to and within the OBW, including trails, trailheads and adjacent roads as well as removal of unused infrastructure (e.g. fences, guzzlers) will be addressed.

How Can You Participate?

We are now in the scoping phase of the environmental analysis under the National Environmental Policy Act. This means that any comments you have and choose to submit will be used to identify issues and develop alternatives for wilderness management.

We welcome ideas on methods for addressing restoration needs; providing for human use while preserving the wilderness character; controlling and reducing adverse impacts of human use in wilderness; and, managing nonconforming but accepted uses permitted by the Wilderness Act and subsequent laws in a manner that will prevent unnecessary degradation of the area’s wilderness character. Comments that clearly discuss site-specific issues, suggestions, or concerns are the most useful.

Oregon Badlands Wilderness Management Plan

Please note, comments and other contact information of respondents will be available for public review at the Prineville District Office. Before including personal information such as address, telephone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you are advised that your entire comment—including this personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Although there will be additional opportunities to comment during this process, we are requesting your input now so that it can be considered early in the planning process.

We look forward to working with you throughout the process to ensure preservation and protection of the Oregon Badlands Wilderness.

Please submit your comments by Friday, March 16, 2012. E mailed comments are preferred and should be sent to: **BLM_OR_PR_Mail@blm.gov** with “Oregon Badlands Wilderness Scoping Comments” in the subject line.

Comments may also be mailed to the following address:

Bureau of Land Management
3050 NE 3rd Street
Prineville, OR 97754
Attention: Oregon Badlands Wilderness Scoping
Comments

Public Meeting

The BLM is planning a **public meeting** on March 1, 2012 to provide an OBW Management Plan overview and to accept comments and answer questions.

The meeting will be held at:

Riverbend Community Room
Bend Park & Recreation District Office,
799 SW Columbia Street, Bend, OR
6:30p.m.-8:00 p.m.

The meeting will be open house style, with a short, formal presentation from 7 – 7:30.



*Photo Left: Flatiron
Castle Trail Hike; Above:
Lichen-covered rock and
old wire in Badlands*

Who Should You Contact for More Information on this Project?

Gavin Hoban is the Project Leader for the OBW Management Plan. Please feel free to contact Gavin by email at ghoban@blm.gov or by phone at 541.416.6879 for additional information or if you wish to be removed from this mailing list. EA: DOI-BLM-OR-P060-2011-0030

Oregon Badlands Wilderness

Legend

-  Trailheads
 -  Information
 -  Trails
 -  Highways
 -  Roads
 -  Canals and Rivers
 -  Oregon Badlands Wilderness
- Administered Lands**
-  Bureau of Land Management
 -  U.S. Forest Service
 -  State
 -  Private



5000 meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, Zone 10 N, NAD 83 (shown in black)
 Decimal Degrees grid ticks, NAD 83 (shown in red) Contour Interval 100 feet (shown in brown)



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
 Bureau of Land Management



PRINEVILLE DISTRICT

3050 NE Third Street, Prineville, OR 97754
 Phone: 541-416-6700

