



Planning in SE Oregon and Lakeview Q&As

BLM is Considering How to manage 1.2 million acres of land found to have wilderness characteristics in Southeastern Oregon and 1.6 million acres in Lakeview.

How to address grazing in areas where it is causing an allotment or pasture to fail to achieve standards for rangeland health.

Which areas should be open, limited, or closed to off highway vehicle use.

Public Input BLM welcomes public input and feedback on these planning efforts. Please contact the Lakeview District (541) 947-2177 and the Vale District (541) 473-3144.

Why is the BLM analyzing amending the Resource Management Plans for Southeastern Oregon and Lakeview?

As part of its work supporting traditional land uses and providing access to hunting, fishing, and other recreational opportunities, the BLM is assessing management options for lands with wilderness characteristics, livestock grazing, and travel and off-highway vehicle use through the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement and Resource Management Plan Amendment for the BLM's Vale and Lakeview Districts.

The BLM is amending these plans as a result of a Settlement Agreement the BLM signed in 2010 with appellants who challenged the validity of the Southeastern Oregon and Lakeview Resource Management Plans.

Where are these planning areas located?

The Southeastern Oregon planning area is located within the BLM's Vale District. It encompasses 4.6 million acres of public land in Malheur, Grant, and Harney Counties. The Lakeview planning area is within the BLM's Lakeview District and encompasses 3.2 million acres of public land in Lake and Harney Counties.

What issues are being addressed by in the Environmental Impact Statement / Resource Management Plan Amendments?

The plan amendment efforts are very narrowly focused on only those issues that the BLM is required to address as part of the 2010 Settlement agreement: lands with wilderness characteristics; livestock grazing; and off-highway vehicle management.

Lands with Wilderness Characteristics

The BLM will evaluate alternatives for managing the 1.2 million acres of land found to possess wilderness characteristics in the Southeastern Oregon planning area and the 1.6 million acres of land found to possess wilderness characteristics in the Lakeview planning area. As stipulated by the Settlement Agreement, the Vale and Lakeview Districts are not allowed to diminish the size, or wilderness character of, these identified areas until their plan amendments are complete. The decisions that result from the Southeastern Oregon and Lakeview planning processes will identify which of these areas will be managed to protect their wilderness characteristics and which will be managed for other uses.



Livestock Grazing

The BLM will evaluate alternative management options for grazing allotments or pastures that are not meeting standards for rangeland health as a result of current livestock grazing management. The BLM will also evaluate alternative methods for managing areas where a grazing permit is voluntarily relinquished.

Travel and Transportation

The BLM will evaluate alternative management options for off-highway vehicle use. The alternatives analyzed will vary in the amounts of areas that are open, limited, and closed to off-highway vehicle use.

What is the timeline for these planning efforts?

The Vale District anticipates releasing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for public comment in 2018 and the Lakeview District anticipates releasing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement in 2019.

How can I be involved in these planning efforts?

The BLM welcomes public input, feedback, and involvement in these planning efforts. Please contact the Lakeview District (541) 947-2177 and the Vale District Vale District (541) 473-3144 for more information.