U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management

Announcement

BLM Boise District Office Media Contact: Heather Appelhof, 208-384-3388 or <u>happelhof@blm.gov</u> March 29, 2024

BLM extends comment period seeking input on fifth Owyhee County travel management plan to reduce user conflicts and protect natural resources

BOISE, Idaho—The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Boise District extends the 30-day comment period by an additional two weeks on the Grand View Travel Management Plan Environmental Assessment allowing input through April 15, 2024. The proposed plan designates motorized access routes through northeast Owyhee County in southwestern Idaho, ensuring public access to 251,000 acres of BLM-managed lands while managing resources responsibly.

Specifically, the Grand View Travel Management Plan designates 312 to 771 miles as open to the public for off-highway vehicles (OHV) and 209 to 363 as open to all motorized vehicles. Between 551 to 894 miles are proposed to close as many of these routes are unnecessary due to the large number of parallel roads leading to the same areas. The proposed alternative routes safeguard access, including for competitive motorized use, while preventing further resource damage and providing an opportunity to improve natural resources.

"Due to a high level of interest from the public, organizations, and user groups, we are extending the comment period to give more time to submit feedback," said **BLM Bruneau Field Manager Aaron Rasmussen**. "Comments that present specific concerns are invaluable to us as we strive to understand diverse perspectives in the comprehensive planning process."

Public comments on these proposed designated routes will be received through April 15, 2024, and can be submitted via the <u>National NEPA Register</u>. The goal is to complete all plans by spring 2024. For additional information, please contact Aaron Rasmussen at 208-384-3300.

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