

STEENS MOUNTAIN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

DRAFT AGENDA

OCTOBER 10-11, 2024

BLM Burns District Office, 28910 Hwy 20 W, Hines, OR 97738

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2024

TIME	TOPIC	LEAD BY
10:00 a.m.	Welcome Introductions/roll call, review agenda, facility logistics, working lunch plans, etc.	Tara Thissell
10:20	Designated Federal Official & Andrews/Steens Field Manager Updates The council's Designated Federal Official and Andrews/Steens Field Office Manager share information about topics that do not require much discussion. Examples could include updates on ongoing litigation, staffing changes, project implementation status, or things on the horizon. For October 2024, items include but are not limited to Steens Travel Management planning, Nature's Advocate Inholder Access, Smyth/Kiger EA, South Steens wild horse gather recap, Bridge Creek Environmental Impact Statement, and the Public Lands Rule).	Tom Beaucage (Acting BLM Burns District Manager) Don Rotell (BLM Andrews/ Steens Field Office Manager)
11:15	Recreation Program Update/Recap Agency staff will share information and visitor use statistics from the 2024 recreation season; update on recreation-related projects in the CMPA; specifics about use, pressures, conflicts and needs on the east side of Steens Mountain, particularly the Alvord Desert.	TBD (Andrews/Steens Assistant Field Manager – Recreation /Realty)
12:15 p.m.	BREAK / SET UP WORKING LUNCH	
12:40	Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Projects Update The Steens Mountain CMPA is completely encompassed by the Southeast Oregon Sagebrush Restoration Landscape. The SOSRL was established with the Inflation Reduction Act and approximately \$5M have been earmarked for work that promotes resilient habitat and recreation in southeast Oregon. The BLM will share information with the SMAC about progress on IRA funded projects in the CMPA.	Calla Hagle (BLM IRA Coordinator)
1:30	PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD	
2:00	Potential Afternoon Discussions The remainder of the afternoon will be available for discussions or information sharing on the Bridge Creek Environmental Impact Statement; Natures Advocate, LLC, Inholder Access Environmental Assessment; fire and grazing for fuels management; and/or a recap of the 2024 wildfire season.	Don Rotell (BLM Andrews/ Steens Field Office Manager) TBD
4:30	ADJOURN	
6:00	GROUP DINNER @ TBD	

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2024

TIME	TOPIC	LEAD BY
8:30 a.m.	Welcome Introductions/roll call, review agenda, facility logistics, travel receipts, etc.	Tara Thissell
8:45	Previous Day Recap	All
9:00	SMAC Strategic Planning (Strategic Initiatives + Steens Act Review) The SMAC chose to review and discuss purposes and objectives of the Steens Act each meeting to keep the Act fresh and known. For October, the SMAC will review previous efforts and to-date progress on their inholder/edgeholder initiative. The SMAC has a three-tiered Strategic Plan and this topic fits in the section regarding strategic initiatives.	Mike Fox (SMAC Chairperson, Private Landowner representative)
10:15	SMAC Strategic Planning (Skills/Knowledge) The SMAC has a three-tiered Strategic Plan with a section devoted to learning and maintaining skills and knowledge. For October, the SMAC will hear from the Burns Paiute Tribe about their history on Steens Mountain, aboriginal homelands, specific references in the Steens Act, and archaeology.	Diane Teeman (Burns Paiute Tribe) Pat O'Grady (BLM Archaeologist) Eric Hawley (SMAC Burns Paiute Tribe representative)
11:15	PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD	All
11:45	SMAC Member Round Robin SMAC members to share information from their constituents including concerns, wants, successes, new contacts made, etc.	Mike Fox / All
12:10 p.m.	Administrative Business/Close-out Review follow-up items, plan the next meeting's agenda/date	Tara Thissell
12:30	ADJOURN	