

Public Invited to BLM Public Meeting in Williams on February 26

Medford, OR, February 12, 2008 – The BLM Grants Pass Resource Area invites the public to attend a **public meeting on February 26** to discuss the **Deer Willy Fuels Hazard Reduction Plan Proposed Alternatives**. There will be a formal presentation of the proposed alternatives given by Abbie Jossie, Grants Pass Resource Area Field Manager, at 6:15 pm. Following the presentation, the public will be encouraged to speak with various resource specialists to obtain more specific information concerning the Proposed Alternatives. The public meeting will be held from 6-8 pm at the Williams Elementary School gymnasium located at 20691 Williams Hwy., Williams, Oregon.

The proposed Deer Willy Fuels Hazard Reduction Plan is located within the Williams Creek watershed, along the east boundary of the Deer Creek watershed, and within the Deer Williams Late Successional Reserve (LSR). This project proposes to thin vegetation within 200 feet of roads identified as key strategic routes for fire suppression efforts and escape routes. These treatments may extend further than 200 feet from roads where it is reasonable to include ridgetops that firefighters might use in suppressing wildfires. Additional possible management activities may include road maintenance, noxious weed treatments, commercial thinning, and Port-Orford-cedar disease treatments, which could include limited commercial thinning of infected trees under 20" DBH.

For more information about the public meeting or the project, please contact Tony Kerwin-Project Planner at 541-471-6564.

About BLM

The BLM manages more land – 258 million surface acres – than any other Federal agency. Most of this public land is located in 12 Western States, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1.8 billion, 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. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, and cultural resources on the public lands.

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