

NEWS Release BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

28910 Hwy 20 West • Hines, Oregon 97738 • <http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/burns>
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STEENS MOUNTAIN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETS MARCH 13-14

HINES, Oregon – The next Steens Mountain Advisory Council (SMAC) meeting is set for Thursday and Friday, March 13 and 14, at 8:00 a.m. each day, at Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Burns District Office, 28910 Highway 20 West in Hines, Oregon.

On Thursday morning, the Council will hear Chairman, Designated Federal Official, and Field Manager updates, discuss the Grove Creek road issue and the Smyth-Kiger Environmental Assessment and hear information on the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area (CMPA) Comprehensive Recreation Plan. Conversation on the Recreation Plan continues in the afternoon with emphasis on a mountain bike policy. Thursday's session concludes with an update and discussion on the Science Strategy.

Agenda items for Friday include reviewing the Steens Mountain CMPA Act of 2000 and the purpose of the Council, discussing cooperative fire management, hearing information on a new recreation map for the southern portion of the Burns District, developing the next meeting's agenda and electing a Council chair and vice chair. Any other matters that may reasonably come before the SMAC throughout the 2-day meeting may also be addressed.

The public is welcome to attend all portions of the meeting and may contribute during the public comment period at 11:00 a.m. each day. Those who verbally address the SMAC during the open session are asked to also provide a written statement of their comments or presentation. Unless otherwise approved by the SMAC Chair, the public comment period will last no longer than 30 minutes, and each speaker may address the SMAC for a maximum of 5 minutes. Time for SMAC members to address speakers will be allotted at the end of each public comment period.

If you have information you would like distributed to SMAC members, please send it to Kevin Thissell at the Burns District Office, 28910 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738, prior to the start of the meeting. If you send information or general correspondence to anyone at the Burns District Office and would like a copy given to the SMAC, please write "COPY TO SMAC" on the envelope and enclosed document(s).

For further information on the SMAC or the upcoming meeting, contact Kevin Thissell at the Burns District Office at (541) 573-4400 during regular business hours.

