

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 MAY 1-2

HINES, Oregon – The next Steens Mountain Advisory Council (SMAC) meeting is set for Thursday and Friday, May 1 and 2, at 8:00 a.m. each day, at the Comfort Inn & Suites in Bend, Oregon, 62065 Southeast 27th Street.

On Thursday morning, the Council will hear Chairperson, Designated Federal Official, and Field Manager updates, discuss the new map for the southern portion of the Burns District and a decision regarding obscure routes as identified in the Steens Mountain Travel Management Plan, and review the previous night's scoping meeting for the Steens Mountain Comprehensive Recreation Plan. In the afternoon, Council members will hear and discuss a demographics presentation and receive information on the South Steens Water Development Environmental Assessment.

Agenda items for Friday include follow-up on the South Steens Water Development discussion, information sharing on inholder access in the Cooperative Management and Protection Area, discussion about the Government Accountability Office's report on the Council and collaborative efforts toward natural resource management, and agenda development for the September meeting. 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.

