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Public Scoping Meeting Announced on Pedro Mountain Geographic Unit

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Vale District's Baker Field Office is hosting a public scoping meeting November 13, 2007 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Baker City Field Office on 3283 11th Street, Baker City, Oregon, 97814 to take comments on proposed Rangeland Health Assessments and Evaluations for the Pedro Mountain Geographic Unit.

Evaluation of the following Allotments within the Pedro Mountain Geographic Unit will be discussed at the meeting: Dixie Creek (1020), Pedro Mtn (1021), Bowman Flat (1022), Rattlesnake Gulch (1023), North Dixie Creek (1026), Shirttail Creek (1031), French Creek (1032), Lost Basin (1027), Upper Shirttail Creek (1024), Rye Valley (1037), Mormon Basin (1318) and Summit Springs (1072).

The public scoping meeting will cover the following topics:

- The nature of the evaluation process, including a preliminary identification of issues, goals, and objectives based on existing information and broad management decisions that have already been identified in the Baker Resource Management Plan Record of Decision.
- Discussion of the assessment and evaluation for the Pedro Mountain Geographic Unit .
- Request for any additional resource information from meeting participants which would assist BLM in the final determination for the Pedro Mountain Geographic Unit.

Meeting participants are encouraged to ask questions of the Baker Field Office staff at this meeting. However, all comments intended to become part of the formal public scoping record must be submitted in writing. Comment forms will be available at the scoping meetings, or comments can be submitted by email to Baker_Mail@or.blm.gov. Electronic comments are to be identified by putting "Comments on Pedro Mountain" on the subject line of the email. Written public comments will be accepted in the Baker Field Office up until the close of business on December 19, 2007.

The Pedro Mountain Geographic Unit contains 23,969 acres of public land and is located approximately 30 miles southeast of Baker City. BLM evaluations report on rangeland resource conditions in relation to approved Standards for Rangeland Health and Guidelines for Livestock Grazing Management for Public Lands Administered by the Bureau of Land Management in the States of Oregon and Washington (1997). The Geographic Unit boundaries were identified in the Baker Resource Management Plan (1989) and the Vale District Planning Update, Baker Resource Area (2000) document outlined the priority for completing Standards and Guides by Geographic Unit.

If you have any questions please contact Todd Kuck, Craig Martell, or Dorothy Mason, at (541) 523-1256.

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.

