



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BLM news

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

BURNS DISTRICT 28910 HWY 20 WEST HINES, OR 97738 (541) 573-4400 www.or.blm.gov/burns/

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BLM SETS ANNUAL TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURES

On Thursday, January 22, 2004, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) will implement its annual temporary closures of the Skull Creek road north of Burns, the Moon Reservoir roads west of Burns, and the access to the north and west sides of Chickahominy Reservoir near Riley, reports Joan Suther, Three Rivers Resource Area Field Manager. In anticipation of the coming of warmer weather, the agency is moving to close these areas to avoid potential road surface damage and erosion.

“In order to reduce damage to the roads and to avoid costly repairs, the BLM closes the gates and patrols the areas each year until dry conditions occur and maintenance needs are completed in the spring,” says Suther.

The BLM installed two additional gates in 2003 in the Skull Creek area. One gate is located at the Horton Mill access point on the west side of the area, the other is at the top of the Emigrant Creek Ford grade at the northwest corner of the area.

NOTE: The Skull Creek closure will affect firewood cutting during the closure period.

Most other roads in the BLM’s Burns District may become muddy and also susceptible to damage. Agency officials ask visitors to avoid traveling on any road at any time of the year when doing so will cause ruts with resulting soil erosion likely to come later. Limited road maintenance funds prohibit regular maintenance of most of the primitive access roads in the District.

For more information on road conditions, temporary closures or restrictions and alternative wood cutting areas on public land in the Burns District, call (541) 573-4400 between 7:45 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. weekdays.

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