



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

BLMnews

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

ANDREWS/STEENS DRAFT RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN AVAILABLE

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Burns District would like to announce the availability of the Draft Resource Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement (RMP/EIS) for the Andrews Management Unit/Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Area (Andrews/Steens).

The RMP/EIS is a 2-volume document with the main text in Volume 1 and supplemental information such as maps and appendices in Volume 2. The entire document will be available on the Internet, on compact disc (CD), and in hard copy. Selected maps will be published in hard copy and all maps will be available on CD. The Draft RMP/EIS has been mailed to those individuals on the BLM mailing list in the format requested. If you did not receive a copy and would like to request one, please visit the Steens Mountain Web site at www.or.blm.gov/Steens, call the Burns District Office at (541) 573-4400, or submit a written request to Rhonda Karges, Burns District BLM, 28910 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738.

Following the release of the Draft, there will be a 90-day public comment period including four public meetings scheduled for October 27 in Portland, Oregon, at the City Center Marriot; October 28 in Bend, Oregon, at the Riverhouse Resort; October 29 in Burns, Oregon, at the Harney County Senior Center; and October 30 in Frenchglen, Oregon, at the Frenchglen School.

Each 'open-house' style meeting will last from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and will allow participants to discuss issues with BLM resource specialists. During the meetings, formal comments can be submitted in writing or taken verbatim from a court recorder. Written comments outside the meetings may be submitted to the Burns District BLM or to the Steens Mountain Web site at the addresses listed above. The closing date for the comment period is January 5, 2004.

MORE

The Final Andrews/Steens RMP/EIS is scheduled for completion October 2004.

For more information on the Andrews/Steens RMP/EIS or the upcoming public meetings, please contact the Burns District Office at 28910 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon, call (541) 573-4400, or visit the Steens Mountain Web site at www.or.blm.gov/Steens.

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