



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
MEDFORD DISTRICT OFFICE
3040 Biddle Road
Medford, Oregon 97504
email address: or110mb@or.blm.gov

IN REPLY REFER TO:

1792 (OR-117)

SEP 8 0 2003

Dear Interested Citizen:

In October 2003 the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) completed a plan directed at proactively reducing the wildfire fuel hazard in the Hellgate Recreational River Area of the Rogue National Wild and Scenic River. This section of river includes 180+ residences, two designated National Historic Sites and portions of three National Fire Plan designated Communities at Risk (CAR). Our goal in this project is to create a sustainable mosaic of vegetation, fuel types, and fuel profiles that would facilitate protection of resources and property from wildfire along with protecting Wild and Scenic River values.

The BLM has approached this project using a two step planning process. First was the preparation of a broad plan for the Hellgate Recreation Section which we completed last year. The decisions made as a result of that plan provide the sideboards and framework for the second step which is the development and implementation of site-specific fuels treatments in smaller neighborhood plans. We have completed the first of these plans which is for the Rand neighborhood which encompasses the area around the BLM's Rand Administrative Site.

The Rand Neighborhood Plan is currently available for public review and comment. The comment period is 15 days after which I will make a final decision regarding the proposal. The Rand Neighborhood Plan as well as the full Hellgate Section Plan are available on the Medford District website (www.or.blm.gov/Medford). If you would prefer to receive a paper copy of the Neighborhood Plan and CE we will be happy to send one upon request. If you would like to provide us with written comments about the neighborhood plan please send them to me at: BLM, 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, OR 97504. You may also email comments to me at: or110mb@or.blm.gov.

If you would like to make comments please be aware that comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review or may be held in a file available for public inspection and review. If you would prefer confidentiality, you may, as an individual, request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must clearly state this at the beginning of your written comments. We will honor such requests to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or officials of organizations or businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Thank you for your interest in the BLM's management of the Rogue Wild and Scenic River.

Sincerely,

Abbie Jossie
Field Manager
Grants Pass Resource Area