



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Vale District Office
100 Oregon Street
Vale, Oregon 97918
<http://www.or.blm.gov/Vale/>

IN REPLY REFER TO: OR-030-02-028
1742

August 24, 2002

Dear Interested Public:

Attached is the Atkins and Mud Duck Emergency Stabilization and Rehabilitation Plan/Environmental Assessment (EA No. OR-030-02-028) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for your review. This document is also available at the Vale District Office of the BLM, 100 Oregon Street, Vale, Oregon.

The proposed action includes the following treatments within the Malheur Resource Area-Vale, Oregon: 1). Drill seeding 5600 acres 2). Aerial seeding Wyoming big sagebrush on 30,000 acres and bitterbrush on 600 acres 3). Broadcast seeding and harrowing on 1000 acres within the Honeycombs Wilderness Study Area and Area of Critical Environmental Concern 4). Temporary protective fences including up to 2.5 miles within the Honeycombs WSA 5). Weed control 6). Fence and guzzler repair 7). Rest from livestock and wildhorse grazing a minimum of growing seasons and 8). Gathering wild horses in the Three Fingers Herd Management Area.

Comments, including names and addresses of respondents, will be available for public review at the identified administrative office during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.), Monday through Friday, except holidays, and may be published as a part of the EA document or other related documents. Individual respondents may 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 state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

We are allowing a fifteen (15) day comment period which will end on September 7, 2002 prior to

issuing a decision. All comments received within 15 days from the date of this letter will be taken into consideration prior to a decision being issued. A copy of the decision will be sent to those who comment or request it. All comments should be in writing and should be directed to the Malheur Resource Area Field Manager at the above address. Any questions regarding this plan or the analysis should be directed to Randy Eyre, District Fire Planner, at 541-473-6279.

Sincerely,

s/Tom Dabbs

Tom Dabbs
Field Manager
Malheur Resource Area