



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

WINTER WEATHER BRINGS ROAD CLOSURES TO STEENS MOUNTAIN

Due to recent snowstorms, the upper sections of the Steens Mountain Loop Road have been closed for the winter season. Starting November 4, 2003, the gate just below Jackman Park Campground on the north loop segment and the gate at Big Indian Overlook on the south loop segment will be closed.

Burns District, U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Andrews Resource Area Field Manager Karla Bird would like to encourage visitors to please stay on designated roads which remain open and refrain from driving on routes that are susceptible to damage by motorized travel. In the coming weeks, snow levels are expected to drop into the lower elevations, eventually resulting in closure of the remaining portions of the Loop Road for the winter.

At this time, all Steens Mountain Area campgrounds except Jackman Park remain open and accessible, although South Steens and Fish Lake Campgrounds have been winterized. Page Springs will be the only campground with running water available and fees will be reduced to \$4.00 per vehicle per night throughout the winter season. As winter weather continues, campground services and facilities maintenance will become limited and closures will be in effect. Those planning winter travels to the Steens Mountain Area are encouraged to contact the Burns District Office at (541) 573-4400 to learn about the most up-to-date road closures and facilities conditions. Remember to travel with caution and be prepared for sudden winter storms and cold weather.

For further information on current road and recreation conditions throughout the Burns District, please contact the BLM at (541) 573-4400 or visit our office at 28910 Highway 20 West, Hines, Oregon. You may also check the Burns District Web site at <http://www.or.blm.gov/Burns> for additional help.

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