

September 3, 2004

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ANNUAL INTERAGENCY HUNTER INFORMATION STATION PLANNED

Local organizations and agencies will be setting up the annual hunter information station at Erickson's Sentry Supermarket in Hines reports Dana Shuford, U. S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Burns District Manager. The station will serve hunters on Thursday and Friday, September 30 and October 1. Hours of operation will be 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days.

Hunters can purchase maps, pick up a variety of informational brochures and flyers (including hunting regulations), and learn about current access closure areas, any fire restrictions, prescribed burn projects, and other hunting related issues. Shuford says, "Hunters with who are planning on hunting in the *Steens Hunt Unit after October 15* should stop in and get information on a wild horse gather in the South Steens Herd Management Area to avoid potential disruption of their hunting activities."

Carolyn Freeborn, BLM's Steens Mountain Project Manager reminds hunters to pay special attention to the access changes on Steens Mountain resulting from passage of the Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000 (Steens Act). She says, "Hunters should stop in at the station or call the BLM Burns District Office on highway 20 west of Hines (541) 573-4400 for details on public access rules on the Steens."

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The following organizations are participating in the hunter station: Erickson's Sentry Super Market, Harney County, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Harney County Chamber of Commerce, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, U.S. Forest Service, and the BLM.

Note: Erickson's Sentry Supermarket will provide free coffee on Thursday and Friday.

For more information on the hunter station, call the BLM Office at (541) 573-4400 or the Forest Service Office at (541) 573-4300 during business hours on weekdays.

*******TO REPORT WILD FIRES, CALL 573-1000*******

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