

STEENS MOUNTAIN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

DRAFT AGENDA

JUNE 13-14, 2024

BLM Burns District Office, 28910 Hwy 20 W, Hines, OR 97738

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 2024 – FIELD TOUR

TIME	TOPIC	LEAD BY
8:00 a.m.	Welcome Meet at the BLM Burns District Office public parking area; introductions; review of the day's agenda; coordinate field tour logistics, carpooling as desired, etc.	Tara Thissell
8:20 a.m.	Depart for field tour to Steens Mountain Locations will be dependent on weather and access conditions, but could include Page Springs Campground, Page Springs Weir, South Steens Campground, and/or Riddle Brothers Ranch.	All
5:00 p.m.	Arrive back in Burns / Adjourn	
6:00	GROUP DINNER @ TBD	

FRIDAY, JUNE 14, 2024 – OFFICE SESSION

TIME	TOPIC	LEAD BY
8:30 a.m.	Welcome Introductions/roll call, review agenda, SMAC nominations/vacancies, facility logistics, travel receipts, etc.	Tara Thissell
8:45	Field Trip Recap	All
9:15	Designated Federal Official / Manager's Report The council's Designated Federal Official and Andrews/Steens Field Office Manager share information about topics that do not require much discussion. Examples could include updates on ongoing litigation, staffing changes, project implementation status, or things on the horizon. For June 2024, items include but are not limited to Steens Travel Management planning, Nature's Advocate Inholder Access, Smyth/Kiger EA, and Steens Loop Road Rockfall Repair EA.)	Jeff Rose (BLM Burns District Manager) Don Rotell (BLM Andrews/ Steens Field Office Manager)
10:00	Bridge Creek EIS Update Grazing in the Bridge Creek area on Steens Mountain has been a complex and controversial topic for many years. The Allotment Management Plan Environmental Impact Statement is underway, and the current status will be discussed.	Don Rotell (BLM Andrews/ Steens Field Office Manager)

10:30	<p>Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) Projects</p> <p>The Steens Mountain CMPA is completely encompassed by the Southeast Oregon Sagebrush Restoration Landscape. The SOSRL was established with the Inflation Reduction Act and approximately \$5M have been earmarked for work that promotes resilient habitat and recreation in southeast Oregon. The BLM will share information with the SMAC about IRA funded projects in the CMPA.</p>	Calla Hagle (BLM IRA Coordinator)
11:30	WORKING LUNCH (set-up)	
12:00 p.m.	<p>Steens Act Review/SMAC Strategic Planning (Strategic Initiatives)</p> <p>The SMAC chose to review and discuss purposes and objectives of the Steens Act each meeting to keep the Act fresh and known. For June, the SMAC will discuss pieces of the Steens Act that appear conflicting, have varying interpretations, etc. The SMAC has a three-tiered Strategic Plan and this topic fits in the section regarding strategic initiatives.</p>	Mike Fox
1:30	PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD	
1:50	<p>SMAC Strategic Planning (Skills/Knowledge)</p> <p>The SMAC has a three-tiered Strategic Plan with a section devoted to learning and maintaining skills and knowledge. For June, the SMAC will hear from the Burns Paiute Tribe about their history on Steens Mountain, aboriginal homelands, specific references in the Steens Act, and archaeology.</p>	<p>Diane Teeman (Burns Paiute Tribe)</p> <p>Eric Hawley (SMAC Burns Paiute Tribe representative)</p>
2:50	<p>SMAC Member Round Robin</p> <p>SMAC members to share information from their constituents including concerns, wants, successes, new contacts made, etc.</p>	Mike Fox / All
3:15	<p>Administrative Business/Close-out</p> <p>Review follow-up items, plan the next meeting's agenda/date</p>	Tara Thissell
3:30	ADJOURN	