

Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement contracting and planning process, Steens Mountain Cooperative Management and Protection Act of 2000, future meeting dates and other matters as may reasonably come before the SMAC. The entire meeting is open to the public. Information to be distributed to the SMAC is requested 10 days prior to the start of the SMAC meeting. Public comment is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., local time, on October 22, 2001.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Additional information concerning the SMAC may be obtained from Rhonda Karges, Management Support Specialist, Burns District Office, HC 74-12533 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738, (541) 573-4433, or [Rhonda\\_Karges@or.blm.gov](mailto:Rhonda_Karges@or.blm.gov) or from the following web site <http://www.or.blm.gov/Steens>.

Dated: September 6, 2001.

**Miles R. Brown,**

*Andrews Resource Area Field Manager.*

[FR Doc. 01-24445 Filed 9-28-01; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4310-33-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[OR-022-01-1060-JJ; G 01-0304]

#### Oregon: Meeting Notice—Use of Helicopters to Gather Wild Horses

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Interior.

**ACTION:** Burns District Office: Public meeting to discuss the use of helicopters to gather wild horses in Oregon.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with Pub. L. 92-195, this notice sets forth the public meeting date to discuss the use of helicopters for gathering wild horses in Oregon for FY02.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 17, 2001—2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will take place at the BLM Burns District Office, HC 74-12533 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dean O. Bolstad, Wild Horse Management Specialist, Burns District, Bureau of Land Management, HC 74-12533 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738, telephone (541) 573-4492.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Public comments will be accepted concerning the use of helicopters to gather wild horses in eastern Oregon in FY02. The proposed gathering schedule and approximate dates of gathering will be

presented at the meeting. Approximately 800 animals are proposed for removal in Oregon depending on availability of funds.

This meeting is open to the public. Persons interested in making an oral statement at this meeting are asked to notify the District Manager, Burns District Office, HC 74-12533 Hwy 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738 by September 21, 2001. Written statements must be received by September 25, 2001.

Summary minutes of the meeting will be available for public inspection and duplication within 30 days following the meeting.

Dated: August 30, 2001.

**Thomas H. Dyer,**

*Burns District Manager.*

[FR Doc. 01-24446 Filed 9-28-01; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Bureau of Land Management

[WY-100-1010-01]

#### Notice of Emergency Temporary Closure for All Motorized Vehicles on Public Land in the Silver Creek Ridge Area, Sublette County, WY

**AGENCY:** Bureau of Land Management, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of Temporary Closure.

**SUMMARY:** In response to a request from the Wyoming Game & Fish Department (WYG&F), a temporary closure to all motorized vehicles, including over-the-snow vehicles will be in effect starting November 19, 2001, through January 31, 2002 for the Silver Creek Ridge. A sign at the second irrigation ditch crossing 1.6 miles east of State Route 353 establishes the point beyond which the temporary closure is in effect. The purpose of this closure is to allow elk to migrate free of motorized disturbance through this area. This will assist the WYG&F in decreasing elk depredation on stored agricultural crops and meet WYG&F management objectives. This temporary closure will allow the WYG&F and BLM to assess whether the road closure was effective in meeting the management objectives and reducing of elk depredation on stored agricultural crops.

**EFFECTIVE DATES:** This closure will be effective November 19, 2001, through January 31, 2002. This closure will remain in effect unless modified or rescinded by the Authorized Officer, (BLM Pinedale Field Manager).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Bill Wadsworth, Realty Specialist or Priscilla Mecham, Field Manager, Pinedale Field Office, P.O. Box 768, Pinedale, Wyoming 82941. Telephone (307)-367-5300.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The objective for closure of the Silver Creek Ridge area is to improve the elk management objectives in the area and reduce depredation of stored agricultural crops on adjoining ranches. The WYG&F have been working with adjoining land owners to allow controlled access onto private lands. The adjoining land owners have agreed to allow access onto their private land to hunters only if the temporary closure is placed on the BLM lands. The temporary closure will close most of the Silver Creek Ridge area to all motorized use, including over-the-snow vehicles from November 19, 2001, through January 31, 2002. The WYG&F feels that motorized vehicle use can disrupt the daily activity patterns of the elk thus limiting the harvest. By restricting motorized vehicle use, the elk will move more freely in the Silver Creek Ridge area, and remain undisturbed by motorized vehicles. This closure will also help by reducing resource damage that is caused by motorized vehicle use off-road.

This temporary use closure applies to public lands in Sublette County, Wyoming, located approximately 8 miles east of Boulder, Wyoming. The designation affects all public lands starting at T. 32 N., R. 106 W., Section 24, E $\frac{1}{2}$ , Sixth Principle Meridian on the Silver Creek Ridge area. Motorized vehicle use designations apply to all motorized vehicles with the exceptions of: (1) Any fire, military, emergency, or law enforcement vehicle when used for emergency purposes or any combat support vehicle when used for national defense purposes; (2) any vehicle whose use is expressly authorized by the BLM under permit, lease, license, or contract; and (3) any government vehicle on official business.

Authority for closure orders is provided under 43 CFR subpart 8364.1. Violations of this closure are punishable by a fine not to exceed \$1,000 and/or imprisonment not to exceed 12 months.

Dated: September 7, 2001.

**Eldon L. Allison, Jr.,**

*Acting Pinedale Field Manager.*

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