

**STEENS MOUNTAIN ADVISORY COUNCIL***Public Lands Access Subcommittee Meeting***DECEMBER 16, 2020 – VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE****DRAFT AGENDA****WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 16**

<b>TIME</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>LEAD BY</b>
11 a.m. (15 minutes)	<b>Welcome</b> <i>Location: Zoom meeting / Conference Call-in</i> Purpose: Introductions/roll call, zoom tips, tech check; updated on SMAC nominations/vacancies, etc.	Tara Thissell (BLM, Public Affairs Specialist / SMAC Coordinator)
11:15 (30 minutes)	<b>Designated Federal Official update</b> Purpose: The Council's Designated Federal Official gives information at each meeting regarding activities or things of interest within the Steens area. These items generally do not require much discussion and are mostly regarded as 'information sharing.' Examples could include updates on ongoing litigation, project implementation status, or things on the horizon.	Jeff Rose (BLM, Burns District Manager)
11:45 (30 minutes)	<b>Update/Discussion on SMAC definition of 'reasonable use'</b> Purpose: The SMAC put together their definition of "reasonable access" to help guide future conversations and recommendations on the issue. This definition was shared with SMAC constituents and the group would like to share their updated definition based on constituent and membership feedback at the last meeting.	John Helmer (SMAC, Dispersed Recreation applicant; previous SMAC member)
12:15 p.m. (15 minutes)	<b>BREAK</b>	
12:30 (45 minutes)	<b>Nature's Advocate Environmental Assessment</b> Purpose: The SMAC has been heavily involved in this EA for years, since the project's inception. The EA tackles the complicated topic of access to private inholdings completely surrounded by wilderness where no "adequate" access currently exists. It remains a complex topic.	Lisa Grant (BLM, Planning and Environmental Coordinator)  Jeff Rose
1:15 (15 minutes)	<b>BREAK</b>	
1:30 (30 minutes)	<b>Pike Creek Parking Area Environmental Assessment</b> Purpose: The Pike Creek Canyon area is very popular among visitors to the east side of Steens Mountain. The SMAC maintains a considerable interest in public access to and use of this area. Planning has recently slowed with input from Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife concerning the project's necessary stream crossing.	Matt Obradovich (BLM, District Biologist)
2:00 (30 minutes)	<b>Travel Management Planning -</b> Purpose: After years of legal proceedings ( <i>Oregon Natural Desert Association, appellant</i> ), the U.S. Court of Appeals held unlawful, set aside and vacated in part the Burns District BLM's Travel Management Plan and Comprehensive Recreation Plan for Steens Mountain, and remanded them to the agency for reconsideration in a new NEPA process for issues including: the BLM's definition of roads and trails, routes, obscure routes, establishing baseline conditions, and procedural deficiencies. The SMAC has a tremendous interest in this topic and will be deeply involved in planning efforts that satisfy the court requirements. This agenda item serves to recap the court ruling and the agency's initial plans on moving forward.	Don Rotell (BLM, Andrews / Steens Resource Area Field Manager)
2:30 (30 minutes)	<b>Public Comment</b>	

3:00 <i>(15 minutes)</i>	<b>Subcommittee Member Round Robin</b> Purpose: Each meeting, council members are provided time on the agenda to share information from their constituents. This could be questions or concerns, upcoming events, changes in prominent roles, projects or other proposals, etc.	All
3:15 <i>(15 minutes)</i>	<b>Administrative business/Close-out</b> Review follow-up items, plan the next meeting's agenda	Tara Thissell
3:30	<b>ADJOURN</b>	