

**Ochoco and Deschutes National Forests,
and Prineville District, Bureau of Land Management
Office of Communications**

Working as One to Serve Central Oregon

www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon

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Contact: Mollie Chaudet (541) 383-5517

Sue Olson (541) 383-5561

**Forest Service to Host Next Series of
Open Houses on Motorized Access**

Central Oregon—If you care about motor vehicle access in the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests and Crooked River Grassland, you are invited to attend any of several upcoming open houses scheduled in Central Oregon communities.

In November 2005, the “Final Rule for Travel Management: Designated Routes and Areas for Motor Vehicle Use” was published in the Federal Register. This rule establishes a requirement for all national forests and grasslands to identify and publish on a map routes and areas designated for motorized use, and to prohibit use outside of those areas, with the exception of providing access for fire, military, emergency and law enforcement purposes or use under Forest Service permit.

Over the past year, personnel at the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests have been working with citizens, State, county and local governments to identify how to provide for motorized access to dispersed campsites. The Forest Service is now ready to begin environmental analysis of the proposal. The proposed action will be presented at the open houses in mid-May through June 2nd, providing opportunities for feedback from the public on the proposed action. The information will also be available for comment on the website at (<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon/travel-mgmt/index.shtml>) later this month.

The proposed action will continue to provide opportunities for motorized access for dispersed camping in the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests and the Crooked River National Grassland. The proposed action also provides reasonable levels of public safety on mixed use (highway licensed and non-highway licensed vehicles) roads. This action will not apply to snowmobile use.

The Travel Management Rule was passed because of a number of resource and social concerns related to motorized travel on national forests, such as existing or potential damage caused to natural resources, costs associated with road and trail maintenance and restoration projects, user conflicts and public safety.

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PUBLIC MEETING DATES & LOCATIONS

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Location</u>
May 19 th	5:00-8:00 pm	Sisters High School 1700 W. McKinney Butte Rd. Sisters, OR
May 20 th	5:00-8:00 pm	Madras Senior Center Madras, OR
May 21 st	5:00-8:00 pm	Deschutes National Forest Supervisors Office 1001 Emkay Dr. Bend, OR
May 27 th	5:00-8:00 pm	Ochoco National Forest Supervisors Office 3160 NE 3 rd St. Prineville, OR
May 28 th	5:00-8:00 pm	Gilchrist High School 201 Mountain View Dr. Gilchrist, OR
June 2 nd	5:00-8:00 pm	Redmond High School Hugh Hartman Building 2105 W. Antler Ave. Redmond, OR

Information on the local effort and national management rule can be found at:
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/centraloregon/travel-mgmt/index.shtml>