



## Attention Users of the Blue Mountain National Forests

**Umatilla, Malheur and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests are currently accepting comments on the proposed forest plan**

The US Forest Service, Region 6, and the supervisor offices of the Umatilla, Malheur and Wallowa Whitman National Forest are currently taking comment on the Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision (BMFPR), through Aug 15<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

This plan will serve as the base policy foundation or the “zoning ordinance” of our mountains for the next 10 to 15 years.

### Key items to be aware of:

- A) Designated Routes
  - i) Gives policy direction to only give permission to travel down roads the US Forest Service deems allowable or a “closed unless marked open” policy.
  - ii) You will only be allowed to have motorized access in areas or routes allowed by the US Forest Service, which means no motorized use off of “designated routes”, or better known as the “keep off the grass rule.”
- B) Has identified 90 to 105 miles of roads be decommissioned or obliterated per year for 10 to 15 years until the next forest plan revision.
- C) Targets Minimal to no motorized access in Elk Foraging areas.
- D) Calls for 90,000 ac’s of new wilderness and an additional 653,400 ac’s of “Backcountry” access areas that will severally restrict motorized access or not allow motorized access altogether as defacto wilderness.
- E) Claims the primary use for water coming from the Blue Mountains to be for fish habitat above and beyond all other uses.

This is but a short list of the core concerns with the BMFPR.

**Forest Access For All (FAFA)** [www.forestaccessforall.org](http://www.forestaccessforall.org) – is currently working to assist citizens across Eastern Oregon with commenting on these concerns as well as many others.

If you believe our forest should be left an open forest access system and that we should be able to access our lands as needed, attend one of FAFA’s upcoming workshop meetings! Contact FAFA [keepitopen@forestaccessforall.org](mailto:keepitopen@forestaccessforall.org), [www.forestaccessforall.org](http://www.forestaccessforall.org) or call us at (844) 523-2323.

June 27 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm	Walla Walla	Location (TBD)
June 27 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm	Pendleton	Location (TBD)
June 28 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm	Hermiston	Location (TBD)
June 28 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm	Heppner	Location (TBD)
July 11 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm	Enterprise	Location (TBD)
July 11 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm	La Grande	Location (TBD)
July 12 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm	John Day	Location (TBD)
July 12 <sup>th</sup>	5:30 pm	Burns	Location (TBD)

July 25<sup>th</sup> 5:30 pm  
July 26<sup>th</sup> 5:30 pm

Ontario  
Baker City

Location (TBD)  
Location (TBD)

Morning Everyone,

Forest Access For All (FAFA) is preparing to kick off our outreach/education campaign to all interested parties on the Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision.

FAFA will start holding meetings in June to help interested parties write comments and get them submitted by the Aug 15th deadline. We are already traveling to individual meetings across the Northwest to educate folks on what is going on, and plan on hitting many more throughout the summer.

Attached is an advertisement FAFA would like to run or have posted around the area as much as we possibly can.

Organizations - If you could please hang this or share it with your membership it would be greatly appreciated. If this could be worked into you monthly newsletter or website that would be great too.

Media - We would like to receive quotes on running this piece in your local paper or media source so that we can maximize participation in the meetings and help as many folks as possible.

Our goal would be to have this in each paper around the region next week if that is at all possible. We are working with a limited budget and strategically placing the ad in your media source would be great, your assistance on to how to most cost effectively do that would be greatly appreciated.

We are still working on our venues for the meetings, and will have an updated version of this flier to reprint by the end of May or very first part of June.

Any questions please feel free to call me at 541 805 4609 or the number on the flyer.

*John D. George*

Bates, Oregon

