

## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT Prineville District Office 3050 NE 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Prineville, Oregon 97754 September 18, 2024

SEP 1 8 2024

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
ADMINISTRATION

In Reply Refer To: 1792(ORP060) OROR 070895 DOI-BLM-ORWA-P060-2023-0006-EA

## Dear Interested Public:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Prineville District Deschutes Field Office, is seeking input on the City of Redmond's request to acquire a 541.5-acre parcel of public land to accommodate expanding the city's wastewater treatment facility and associated wetland complex. The Upper Deschutes Resource Management plan would have to be amended for the BLM to convey the parcel under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act and segregate the lands from all other forms of appropriation except for conveyance.

Under the Upper Deschutes Resource Management Plan, the requested 541.5-acre parcel is within the Steamboat Rock Special Recreation Management Area. The area contains five miles of trails designated for Class I and III off-highway vehicles that would be removed from use if the land is conveyed to the city; however, 38 miles of trails would remain within the Steamboat Rock Special Recreation Management Area and the field office will consider adding in additional miles of motorized trail nearby to compensate for this loss. Furthermore, if the wetland complex is constructed, additional non-motorized (walking/hiking) trails will be developed.

A 30-day public scoping period starts on September 18, 2024, and ends on October 18, 2024, for the potential Upper Deschutes Resource Management Plan amendment. A 45-day public comment period starts on September 18, 2024, and ends on November 2, 2024, for the proposal to segregate the 541.5-acre parcel from other forms of appropriation and classify it for conveyance.

If you have comments for consideration, please send them to Lisa M. Clark, Deschutes Field Office Manager. Written comments may be submitted to the BLM at 3050 NE Third Street, Prineville, Oregon 97754, or submitted by email to <a href="mailto:blm\_or\_pr\_lands@blm.gov">blm.gov</a>. If you have questions about the project please contact Ferris Couture, Planning and Environmental Coordinator, at 541-416-6711 or at fcouture@blm.gov. For more information on the project, please visit the BLM's website at: <a href="https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2022284/510">https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/2022284/510</a>.

Comments are most useful if they are specific to the planning issues and planning criteria which are posted on the BLM's website at the link above. Comments on the segregation should be specific to the suitability of lands for development as a wastewater treatment facility, whether

development will maximize future uses of the lands, whether the use is consistent with local planning and zoning, or if the use is consistent with State and Federal programs.

Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

If you would like to remain on the mailing list for this project, please return comments or send a request to remain on the mailing list. Your interest in the management of public lands is appreciated, and we encourage your participation during these public comment periods.

Sincerely,

Lisa Clark Digitally signed by Lisa Clark Date: 2024.09.13 14:59:00 -07'00'

Lisa M. Clark Field Manager Deschutes Field Office