

Natural Resource News

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Fremont-Winema National Forests
Lakeview District BLM
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USDA's Fremont and Winema National Forests
(Includes Bly, Chemult, Chiloquin, Klamath, Lakeview, Paisley, and Silver Lake Ranger Districts)
USDI's Bureau of Land Management, Lakeview District
(Includes Klamath Falls and Lakeview Resource Areas)

For Immediate Release

Orientation for RAC Members

Lakeview, Oregon – The Fremont-Winema Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) will hold an orientation session in Klamath Falls on Tuesday, March 15, 2005. According to Bill Aney, the Forest Service Representative working with the Fremont-Winema RAC, the orientation session will help new RAC members understand the purposes of the Secure Rural Schools act and their role on the RAC.

This committee operates under the provisions of the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000. The RAC is responsible for recommending projects that will put people to work at the business of restoring watersheds on federal lands in Lake and Klamath Counties. This coming year, about \$3.0 million is available for these projects.

The RAC is chaired by Bill Duke of Lakeview, Oregon and includes representatives from a broad range of interests including ranchers and lumber mills, local and regional environmental groups, labor unions, Indian tribes, and local elected officials. The group was formed by the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture in January of 2002 and is chartered as a federal advisory committee with the charge of improving cooperative relationships among those that use federal lands and the land management agencies. The RAC members were appointed to three-year terms in January of 2002. When these terms expired, 11 of the 15 members were reappointed, three new members were appointed, and two members were assigned to new positions on the RAC.

The orientation meeting will be at the Klamath Ranger District, 1936 California Avenue in Klamath Falls, and begin at 9:00 a.m. All Resource Advisory Committee meetings are open to the public and time is made available for public comment and input.

For more information, contact Aney at the Fremont-Winema National Forests, (541) 943-6132.

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