

News Release

Umatilla National Forest

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Public Meeting Planned to Discuss Treatment Design in the Potamus Planning Area

The Heppner Ranger District of the Umatilla National Forest will host a public meeting at the Heppner Office on July 2, 2009 at 6:00 PM. This meeting is part of the collaborative effort for the upcoming assessment to identify fuels reduction and forest stand density projects.

In 2001, the Morrow County *Community Wildfire Protection Plan* (CWPP) identified the Penland Lake Wildland-Urban Interface (WUI) area as a priority for fuels reduction projects to lessen the impact of wildfire on lives, property, and the landscape.

The focus of this meeting will be to discuss topics including defensible space strategies, evacuation routes, broader landscape level treatment design, and other resource interests. Attendants will be asked to give their opinions and specific treatment suggestions regarding these topics so we can proceed with developing the proposed action over the next couple of months.

“I am looking to get a good sense of treatment design and objectives from the public and collaborator’s perspective prior to breaking for the field season” said Tom Mafera, Heppner District Ranger. “Your suggestions will be useful in the development of the proposed action for the Potamus Planning Area.”

Please join us for the meeting at 6:00 PM on July 2, 2009 at the Heppner District Office, 117 South Main Street, Heppner, OR. For more information about the public meeting or requests for special accommodations, contact Brian Spradlin (Fuels Specialist) at (541) 676-2127.

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