



**Pacific Northwest Region
Malheur National Forest
541-575-3000
www.fs.usda.gov/malheur**

News Release

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Magone Project Draft Environmental Impact Statement released for public comment

JOHN DAY, ORE. – The 45-day comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Magone Project on the Blue Mountain Ranger District will begin on Friday February 5, 2016 with publication of the Notice of Availability (NOA) in the Federal Register.

The public will have 45 days to submit their comments, with the comment period ending on Monday March 21, 2016. Only those submitting specific written comments during a designated opportunity to comment will have standing to object to the project.

The Magone Project proposes (depending on the alternative): silviculture treatments (5,505 to 13,378 acres producing 9 to 16 million board feet), prescribed burning (17,200 to 28,500 acres), road activities (8.1 to 12.9 miles temporary road construction, 0.3 to 1.1 miles of road closures, and 0.3 miles of road decommissioning), recreation opportunity improvements (15.4 to 96.3 miles of trail construction, 0 to 0.2 miles of accessible trail development, 2 to 4 trailheads, placement of interpretive signs at up to 4 locations, modification and placement of boat docks and moorings), and Magone Lake restoration activities (placement of fish cribs and sticks). Additionally, typical road maintenance activities designed to meet Malheur Forest Plan standards and guidelines would be performed.

The document can be accessed on the Forest Service website at:

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=44907>, or you can request a CD or hardcopy by contacting Sasha Fertig at 541-575-3061 or sashafertig@fs.fed.us.

As stated above, the 45-day comment period will begin when the NOA is published in the Federal Register. The publication date is anticipated to be February 5, 2016. The exact publication date in the Federal Register can be obtained by checking the Federal Register (<http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/index.html>) or the Forest's website (see above) for the exact date that the NOA is published.

The publication date in the Federal Register is the exclusive means for calculating the comment period for this proposal. Those wishing to comment should not rely on dates or timeframe information provided by any other source.



for the greatest good

NEWS RELEASE

(continued)

Written comments must be submitted to:

Dave Halemeier
c/o Sasha Fertig
Blue Mountain Ranger District
P.O. Box 909
John Day, Oregon 97845

Electronic comments must be submitted in a format such as an email message, plain text (.txt), rich text format (.rtf), Word (.doc), or portable document format (.pdf) to: comments-pacificnorthwest-malheur-bluemountain@fs.fed.us.

E-mails submitted to e-mail addresses other than the one listed, in other formats than those listed, or containing viruses will be rejected. It is the responsibility of persons providing comments to submit them by the close of the comment period and ensure that their comments have been received.

Open house also planned to offer additional informational opportunities

Additionally, the Blue Mountain Ranger District will be holding an open house on Tuesday March 1, 2016. Participants will have the opportunity to contribute information, ideas, or concerns and discuss the project with members of the project's interdisciplinary team. The meeting is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Malheur National Forest Supervisor's Office / Blue Mountain Ranger District (Juniper Hall), 431 Patterson Bridge Road, John Day, OR 97845.

We hope that you can attend the meeting, but if you cannot and wish to make comments please see above on how to submit comments.

If you have any further questions, feel free to contact Sasha Fertig, NEPA Planner, at 541-575-3061 or by e-mail: sashafertig@fs.fed.us.

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