

Citizen advisory group to discuss motorized access

by Bend_Weekly_News_Sources

BEND, Oregon – A citizen advisory group of about 30 community members will meet in Bend Wednesday, April 4, and on Monday, April 30 to discuss motorized vehicle access on the Deschutes National Forest. The public is invited to attend.

The group began meeting last December to assist federal managers with the implementation of a 2005 Travel Management Rule for the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests, and the Crooked River National Grassland.

Their most recent meetings occurred March 8, 9 and 15 in Bend, where recommendations were made regarding the designation of open routes and areas for motorized vehicles on the Deschutes National Forest.

The Wednesday, April 4th meeting will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Deschutes County Services Building at 1300 N.W. Wall Street.

The Monday, April 30 meeting will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Deschutes National Forest Headquarters at 1001 S.W. Emkay Drive on Bend's west side. The public is welcome to attend all travel management advisory group meetings.

The national Travel Management Rule mandates a designated system of roads, trails and areas for motor vehicle use on all national forests and grasslands. It will prohibit motor vehicle use when it is implemented, except on designated routes and areas.

The citizen advisory group's work will eventually lead to maps the public will use when traveling within the federal lands.

Information on the local effort and national management rule can be found online.

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