

Citizen advisory group to discuss motorized access

by Bend_Weekly_News_Sources

A citizen advisory group of approximately 30 community members will meet in Bend, Oregon on Monday, April 30 to continue discussion of motorized vehicle access on the Deschutes National Forest.

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 meeting occurred April 4 in Bend, where recommendations were made regarding the designation of open routes and areas for motorized vehicles on the Deschutes National Forest.

The Monday, April 30 meeting will be from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Deschutes National Forest Headquarters at 1001 S.W. Emkay Drive in Bend. This meeting will focus on finalizing recommendations for designation of open routes and areas for motorized vehicles on the Deschutes National Forest and recommendations for motorized access to dispersed campsites on the Deschutes and Ochoco National Forests and the Crooked River National Grassland. 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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