



# United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Upper Snake River District  
1405 Hollipark Drive  
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401-2100

In Reply Refer To:

9211  
(ID-070)

April 8, 2002

Dear Interested Party:

The Upper Snake River District (USRD) of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), is proposing to amend the District's 12 existing land use plans with direction to manage fire, fuels, and related vegetation. The District, located in southeastern Idaho, includes public lands managed by the Burley, Idaho Falls, Pocatello, and Shoshone Field Offices. The proposed land use plan amendments would form the foundation for District fire management plans, normal fire rehabilitation plans, and provide guidance for fuels treatments and vegetation management. Amending the land use plans would promote a more effective and economical approach to improving the health of public lands.

An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be prepared to analyze the potential impacts on elements such as wildlife habitat, livestock grazing, invasive plant species, socio-economics, and health and human safety, in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), BLM policies and handbooks.

This letter announces the date, time and location of five public scoping meetings and contains an informational briefing package regarding the proposal. This is an opportunity for you to be involved and provide us with your comments on this proposal.

### **Public Scoping Meetings**

You are invited to attend public scoping meetings being held in regards to the USRD Fire, Fuels, and Related Vegetation Management Direction Plan Amendments. Five public meetings are scheduled as follows:

Monday, April 22, 2002, 5-8 pm, Idaho Falls Field Office, 1405 Hollipark Dr. Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401, (208) 524-7500

Tuesday, April 23, 2002, 5-8 pm, **Pocatello Field Office**, 1111 N. 8th Avenue Pocatello, Idaho 83201 (208) 478-6340

Wednesday, April 24, 2002, 5-8 pm, **Burley Wareyard Fire Center**, 3630 Overland Ave, Burley, Idaho 83318, (208) 677-6641

Thursday, April 25, 2002, 5-8 pm, **Fire Conference Room Shoshone Field Office**, 400 West F Street, Shoshone, Idaho 83352, (208) 732-2206

Tuesday, April 30, 2002, 5-8 pm, **Shoshone-Bannock Tribe Tribal Business Center Conference Room**, Pima Dr, Fort Hall, Idaho 83203, (208) 238-3700

You are welcome to attend any meeting at any time during the three-hour period. The meeting format is intended to be informal to promote interaction and provide you with the opportunity to ask questions and provide written or verbal comments regarding the proposal.

### **How You Can Be Involved In The Planning Process**

This is your opportunity to provide us with comments, issues or concerns regarding the proposal. The team will review your comments and revise the preliminary issues presented in the attached briefing package to better reflect your concerns. Additional opportunities for public comment will be provided throughout the process. Public meetings will be held at a later date to facilitate review and comment on the draft EIS.

Comments may be e-mailed to: **ID\_USRD\_FMDA@blm.gov**

Or you may write to:                   Bureau of Land Management  
                                                  Attn: Terry Smith  
                                                  FMDA Project Manager  
                                                  1111 N. 8th Avenue  
                                                  Pocatello, ID 83201  
                                                  Telephone: (208) 478-6347

Comments need to be received **no later than May 17, 2002.**

We want to ensure that we are keeping you informed. If you wish to stay involved in this process and remain on the mailing list for this project, you will need to contact, Terry Smith, Project Manager, at the address above. If you attend one of the scoping meetings you will be kept on the mailing list for all future correspondence. If you do not attend one of the meetings and we do not hear from you, your name will be removed from the project mailing list.

We hope you will join us at one of the scoping meetings listed above.

Sincerely,

Jim May  
District Manager