

# NEWS RELEASE

June 1, 2004

Contact: Tami Paulsen  
541-523-1332



---

## Blue Mountains Community Collaboration Workshops Begin This Month

The first of four sets of Community Collaboration Workshops for the Blue Mountains Forest Plan revision will begin in June. This first set of workshops will explore what everyone appreciates about the Blue Mountains, what's important to us, and what we want our Forests for.

The Malheur, Umatilla, and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests, collectively referred to as the Blue Mountains National Forests, are just getting started on the Forest Plan revision effort.

According to Dave Schmitt, Team Leader for the four-year revision effort, "We want to work with everyone who is interested in the Forest Plans and who will be affected by them, and we are committed to effective collaboration. We are starting our collaborative effort by holding workshops in eight communities across the Blues in June and early July."

The workshop series will continue over the next year or so. The Forest Service will work together with local communities, state and federal agencies, and Tribes across the Blue Mountains to develop a vision for the future management of the area, create the building blocks that will be used in the new Forest Plans, identify the things in the current Forest Plans that are not working, and craft revision proposals.

The workshops will run from 6:00 to 9:00 pm. The first 45 minutes of each workshop will be in "open house" format with presentations and activities beginning at about 7:00 pm.

Community/Date	Location
Pendleton, OR June 15	Convention Center 1601 Westgate
Dayton, WA June 16	Columbia County Fairgrounds, Youth Building 105 Columbia County Fair
La Grande, OR June 22	Eastern Oregon University, Hoke Hall, Room 309 One University Blvd.
Enterprise, OR June 23	Wallowa County Fairgrounds, Cloverleaf Hall 600 NW First St.
Burns, OR June 29	Harney County Senior & Community Services Center 17 S. Alder St.
John Day, OR June 30	Malheur National Forest, Supervisor's Office 431 Patterson Bridge Rd.
Heppner, OR July 7	Heppner Ranger District, Umatilla National Forest 117 S. Main St.
Baker City, OR July 8	Baker County Fairgrounds, Extension Building #2 2610 Grove St.

The area covered by the forest plan revisions is about 5.3 million acres of national forest lands in northeast Oregon, southeast Washington, and west-central Idaho. The revision will also address a portion of the Ochoco National Forest administered by the Malheur. Forest Plans provide broad direction to the Forest Service about how to manage all of the resources on national forest lands.

For more information, contact Tami Paulsen, Public Affairs Specialist at 541-523-1332 or Dave Schmitt, Team Leader, at 541-523-1248. Please visit the revision website at [www.fs.fed.us/r6/uma/blue\\_mtn\\_planrevision/](http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/uma/blue_mtn_planrevision/) for up-to-date information about any changes to this schedule.

###

