



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Klamath Falls Resource Area
2795 Anderson Avenue, Building 25
Klamath Falls, Oregon 97603-7891
Phone: (541) 883-6916 | Fax: (541) 884-2097

September 29, 2016

IN REPLY REFER TO:
1790(ORL040)

To All Interested Citizens:

Public Scoping Input - Frain Ranch Area Travel Management Plan EA

The Bureau of Land Management, Klamath Falls Field Office (KFFO) is seeking public scoping comments on the Frain Ranch Area Travel Management Plan (TMP) Environmental Assessment (EA). The KFFO proposes to reduce the number of user-created routes in the Frain Ranch Area which are causing resource damage to cultural resource sites and other resources. This would be done in cooperation with PacifiCorp, an adjacent private landowner.

Purpose and Need for Action

The newly released Southwestern Oregon Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (2016 RMP) directs the KFFO to begin implementation-level travel management planning (RMP p. 275). The Frain Ranch Area was selected as the first area for travel planning due to resource damage which is occurring there. This damage is more severe on adjacent private lands, but also extends to BLM lands. The purpose of the project is to reduce the number of user-created routes that are causing resource damage, while still providing access for recreationists. The 2016 RMP provides direction as follows:

- Mitigate recreational impacts on natural and cultural resources (p. 107)
- Protect fragile and unique resource values from damage by public motorized vehicle use; Protect scenic values on public lands where visual resources are an issue or where high-value visual resources exist (p. 113).

Proposed Action

The BLM proposes to limit vehicle access in the Frain Ranch Area to designated routes only, as shown on the attached map. The following road management actions may be included:

- Routes would be designated as open or closed consistent with the criteria in the Federal Regulations at 43 CFR 8342.1.
- Appropriate pull-off distances would be set for each route to allow vehicle-based camping where resource conditions allow.
- Routes to be closed would be barricaded or obliterated as needed.

- Sections of routes designated as open would be improved.
- Routes which cross property boundaries would be designated as open or closed in cooperation with PacifiCorp (adjacent landowner).
- Campsite construction and improvement (such as campfire rings, spur/loop roads, etc.) may be conducted in strategic locations to direct use away from sensitive sites

Comments Requested

The BLM is asking for your help in identifying issues and concerns that you may have regarding the proposed actions in the Frain Ranch Area described above. We are seeking your comments to assist in developing alternatives to the proposed actions.

Please submit your comments by October 31, 2016 to be most effective in BLM's planning schedule. To submit issues or questions about the proposed treatments, I encourage you to submit them via email at the following address: BLM_OR_KF_Mail@blm.gov and identify your comments as being for the "Frain Ranch TMP EA." If you desire to send a letter via regular mail, please use the address in our letterhead, ATTN: Field Manager. Once an EA has been prepared, the public will be notified again and will have an opportunity to review and provide comments on the proposed action and analysis.

Public Field Trip - October 29

We would like to invite you on a field trip to the area **Saturday, October 29, 2016**. We will meet at 9:00 am at the Siskiyou County Library in Dorris, California at the corner of 3rd and Triangle Streets. **Please note** that the road down into the canyon is extremely rough and rocky and **high clearance four-wheel drive vehicles are required**. **Please call (541) 883-6916 or email us at BLM_OR_KF_Mail@blm.gov by October 24 to let us know if you plan to attend.**

NOTE: Individual respondents may request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public review or from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act, you must state this prominently at the beginning of your written comment. Such requests will be honored to the extent allowed by law. All submissions from organizations or businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations or businesses, will be made available for public inspection in their entirety.

Sincerely,

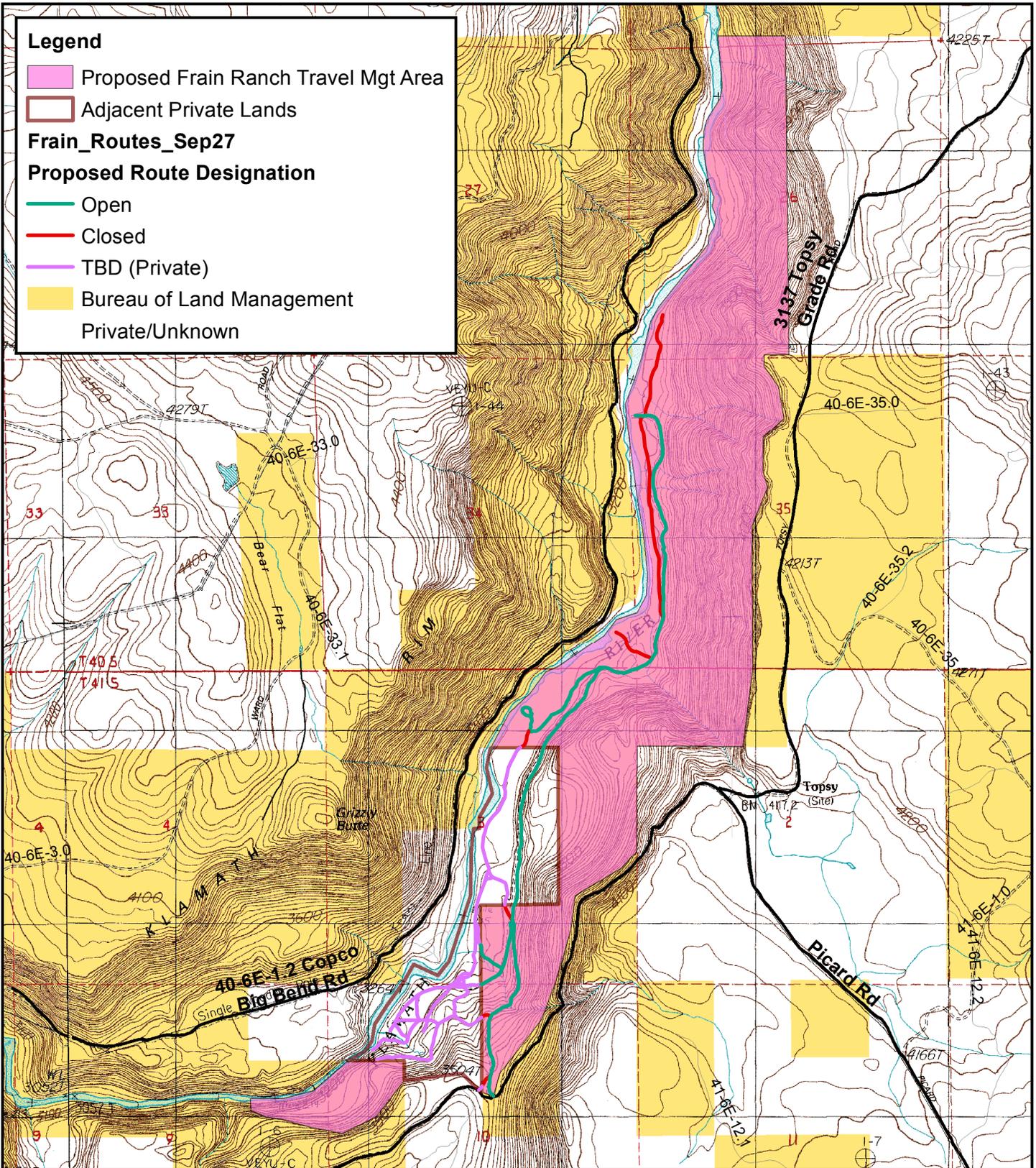
/s/ Terry Austin, acting for

Donald J. Holmstrom
Field Manager

Enclosure

Legend

- Proposed Frain Ranch Travel Mgt Area
- Adjacent Private Lands
- Frain_Routes_Sep27**
- Proposed Route Designation**
- Open
- Closed
- TBD (Private)
- Bureau of Land Management
- Private/Unknown



Frain Ranch TMP Proposed Action

Scale: 1:28,000

Laird Naylor, Author

Sept. 28, 2016

P://Archy/Projects/FY17/Frain Ranch TMP/Frain Ranch TMP2.mxd

0 0.3 0.6 1.2 Miles



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