



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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<http://www.blm.gov>



MAR 17 2017

Thurston Hills Non-Motorized Trails and Forest Management Environmental Assessment DOI-BLM-ORWA-NO50-2017-0006-EA - Public Meeting and Public Scoping Period

Dear Interested Public:

The Bureau of Land Management, Upper Willamette Field Office, has begun planning for the Thurston Hills Non-Motorized Trails and Forest Management Environmental Assessment (EA) DOI-BLM-ORWA-NO50-2017-0006-EA and is seeking public input.

The proposed project is to develop a non-motorized trail system in the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Willamalane Non-Motorized Trails Extensive Recreation Management Area (ERMA) in harmony with long-term forest management activities including sustainable-yield timber harvest and fuels reduction. The trails would be designed for hiking and mountain biking, and would connect to the trail system being developed by the Willamalane Park and Recreation District (WPRD) on lands west and southwest of the ERMA. Trail design is proposed as a collaborative effort with the WPRD in order to effectively integrate the trail systems. The project may also propose timber harvest and fuel hazard reduction activities.

Established by the BLM's 2016 Record of Decision (ROD)/Northwestern and Coastal Oregon Resource Management Plan (RMP), the 1,058-acre Willamalane ERMA is located within three sections east of Springfield, Oregon: T18S R2W Sec 1; T18S R1W Sec 5; T17S R1W Sec31. A map of the project vicinity is attached.

You are invited to a public meeting on **April 13 from 5:30-7:00 p.m.** to learn more about the project and submit comments. The meeting will be an open house format and will be held at the **Willamalane Park and Recreation District, Bob Keefer Center, at 250 S. 32nd Street, Springfield, OR**. Displays and staff will be present to share information about the BLM's project and the Willamalane Park and Recreation District's trail plans. You will be able to submit formal (written) scoping comments or informal comments at the meeting to help guide decision-making.

We would like to hear from you regarding issues, concerns, or information you feel we should consider when developing the project. Your written comments help the BLM to identify environmental issues and to develop meaningful alternatives for the proposed action. You may provide scoping comments at any time, but your comments on this project will be most helpful if submitted by April 30, 2017.

Please submit your comments in writing by mail, fax, or email. Send comments by mail to the Northwest Oregon BLM, Upper Willamette Field Office, 3106 Pierce Parkway, Suite E, Springfield, OR 97477, Attn: Linda Wright. Comments may be faxed to 541-683-6981 or emailed to blm_or_thurstonhills@blm.gov. Please include *Thurston Hills EA – Linda Wright* in the subject line of e-mailed and faxed comments.

Please note that you may request confidentiality when you submit your comment. If you wish to withhold your name or street address from public view 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 and businesses, and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organizations and businesses, will be available for public inspection in their entirety.

Thank you for your interest in managing your public lands.

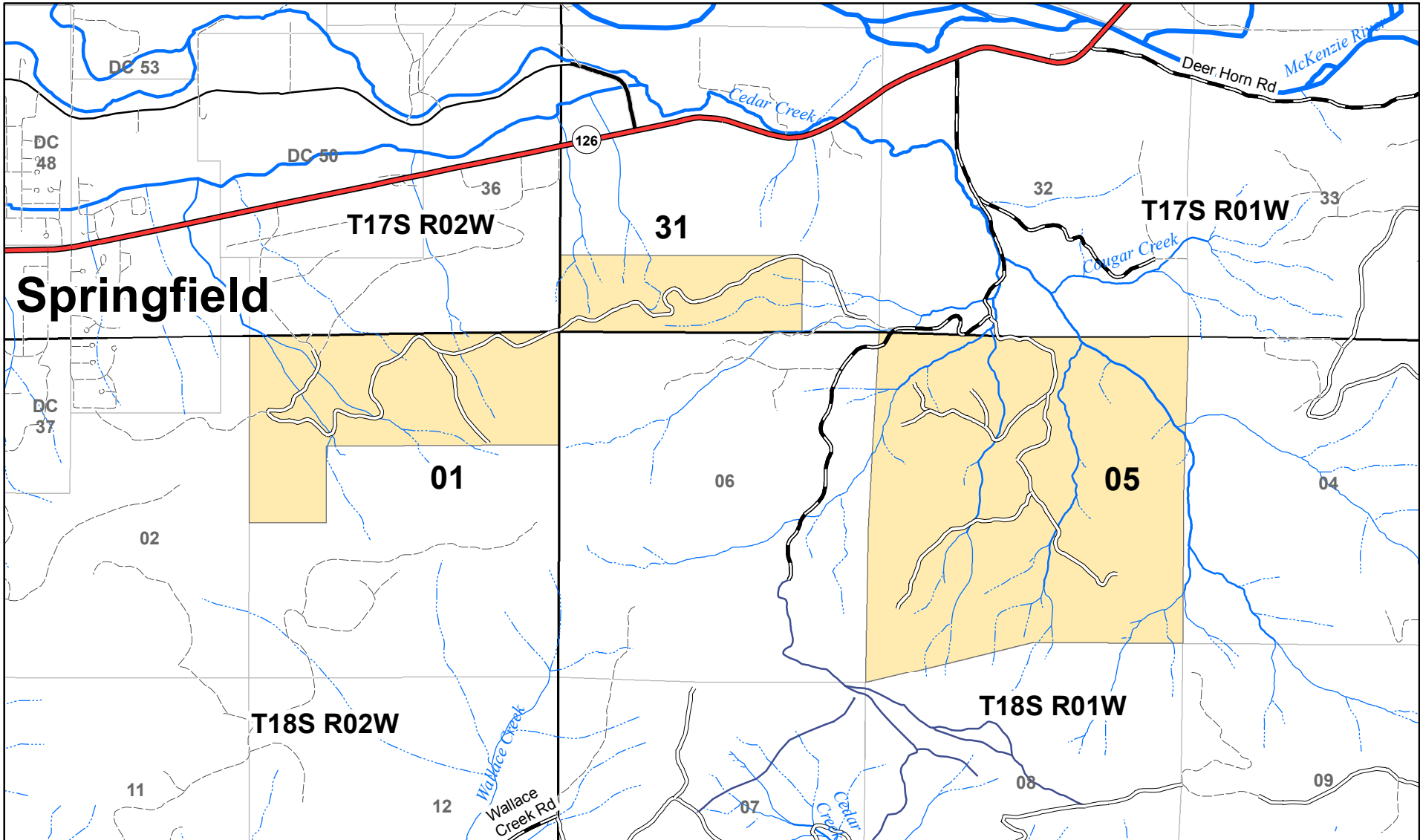
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William O'Sullivan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

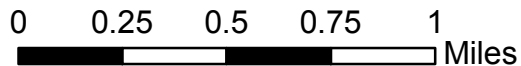
William O'Sullivan
Field Manager, Upper Willamette Field Office



Thurston Hills EA Vicinity Map



 Willamalane Extensive Recreation Area



No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual or aggregate use with other data. Original data were compiled from various sources and may be updated without notification.

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