



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Medford District Office

3040 Biddle Road

Medford, Oregon 97504

<http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/medford>

(ORM060)

BLM Ashland Field Office

Re: Public Comment Notice

Jack-Ash Trail Project: Phase II

DOI-BLM-ORWA-M060-2019-0007-EA

Dear Interested Public:

Thank you for your interest in the management of public lands. The Medford District BLM, Ashland Field Office would like to announce that the Jack-Ash Trail Project: Phase II Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is now available for a 14-day public review and comment period. The EA describes and analyzes the impacts of proposed construction of approximately 24 miles of new designated non-motorized trails and four trailheads located south of the cities of Jacksonville and Medford, OR. Phase II is a portion of the planned Jack-Ash trail system that would ultimately provide a non-motorized trail system for equestrians, hikers, runners, and mountain bikers that would connect the cities of Jacksonville and Ashland. The proposed Phase II would create new mid-length loops connecting to the popular Sterling Mine Ditch Trail (SMDT) system, extend the existing Jack-Ash Trail on the north, and connect nearer to the East Applegate Ridge Trail to the west.

The Jack-Ash Trail Project: Phase II EA and draft FONSI can be accessed on the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) ePlanning website at: <https://go.usa.gov/xd7xb>. If you have trouble accessing this document online, please contact Tye Morgan, Planning & Environmental Specialist, at 541-618-2229 or tamorgan@blm.gov.

We welcome your comments on the content of the EA. Specific comments that address one or more of the following items are most helpful: (1) new information that would affect the analysis, or (2) information or evidence of flawed or incomplete analysis. *For your comments to be considered before a decision is made on this proposal, please submit them by 4:30 p.m. on April 22nd, 2020.*

You may submit comments via email (preferred), mail, or directly on our ePlanning website. To submit comments via email, please send to tamorgan@blm.gov, Subject line: Jack Ash Trail Project Phase II. Comments can also be submitted via mail to Attn: Tye Morgan, 3040 Biddle Road, Medford, OR 97504. You may also submit comments directly on BLM's ePlanning project website (<https://go.usa.gov/xd7xb>) by selecting "Comment on Document" in the Documents section of the webpage.

Please note that all electronic and written submissions from private individuals in response to this notice, including your name, address, telephone number, email address, or other personal

identifying information may be made available for public inspection and disclosure, unless you specifically request confidentiality. If you wish to withhold your personal identifying information from public review or disclosure, you must state this at the beginning of your written comment. We will honor such requests to the extent allowed by law, but you should be aware that release of that information may be required under certain circumstances. All submissions from organizations or businesses and from individuals identifying themselves as representatives or officials of organization or business will be made available for public inspection and disclosure in their entirety.

Thank you for your interest in the Jack-Ash Trail Project Environmental Assessment. Your input plays an important role in our land management decisions.

Sincerely,

Lauren Brown
Field Manager
Ashland Resource Area