

Blue Mountains Forest Plan Revision—2014

Malheur, Umatilla, and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests



Minerals

In a Nutshell

The laws and regulations that guide Forest Service management of mineral and energy resources do not change in any of the alternatives.

The alternatives differ in the acres of recommended wilderness and miles of eligible wild and scenic rivers between alternatives. If enacted by Congress, lands designated as wilderness or added to the Wild and Scenic River system would be withdrawn from future mineral entry.

Definitions

Locatable Minerals generally include hard rock minerals that are mined and processed for the recovery of metals.

Saleable minerals include sand, stone gravel, pumicite, cinders

Leasable minerals include coal, oil, gas, oil shale, and geothermal steam.

Document Sections

Desired Conditions: Proposed Plan, Section 3.3.4, page 7

Alternative Descriptions: DEIS, Volume 1, page iii

Analysis Methods: Volume 3, Appendix B

Effects Analysis: Volume 2, page 431

Cumulative effects: Volume 3, Appendix C

FAQs

Q. Does the forest plan address mining and mineral exploration?

A. The revised forest plan makes no change in mining laws or regulations. Mining activity and mineral exploration will continue to be regulated by provisions of the 1872 mining law and existing regulations (36 CFR 228). The Forest Service has rules and procedures for the surface use of National Forest System lands that continue to apply.



for the greatest good

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