

Owyhee County
Planning & Zoning
PO Box 128
Murphy, Id. 83650
208-495-2095, ext. 2 Office
208-495-2051 Fax

March 20, 2017

Dear Interested Party,

A public meeting is scheduled for April 24, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in Courtroom #1 of the Owyhee County Courthouse located at 20381 State Highway 78 in Murphy, Idaho. The purpose of this meeting is to hear public comments, and to thereafter receive further written public comments for 60-days, on the "*Proposed* Maps" that identify the group for each of the RS2477 rights of way on the public lands depicted on 161 USGS maps within Owyhee County, State of Idaho, as per Owyhee County Resolution No. 2011-21 dated September 12, 2011, paragraphs 1-2. *See also* Owyhee County Resolution No. 11-01 dated January 4, 2011, paragraphs 5-6. The public comments and written comments may include any omissions of any rights of way on the "*Proposed* Maps", and if any omissions, the public comments and written comment shall include the suggested group in which that right of way should be within. *See* Owyhee County Resolution No. 11-01 dated January 4, 2011, paragraph 6. The Board of Owyhee County Commissions designated Angie Barkell to prepare such "Proposed Maps", and Ms. Barkell has coordinated her efforts with the Owyhee County, Planning & Zoning Office. *See* Owyhee County Resolution No. 2011-21 dated September 12, 2011, paragraph 2.

This will be the eighth and final meeting to gather comments and input from the public on these rights of way, as per Owyhee County Resolution No. 11-01 dated January 4, 2011, paragraphs 5-6. You should have previously received a similar notice when a meeting was held concerning the maps for your specific area of the county. The meeting on April 24th is one of the final steps in this process.

After this meeting, after expiration of the 60-day written comment period, and after consideration of any public comments and written comments, the Board of County Commissioners will "determine and otherwise establish by separate and further Resolution the Maps, as *Final* Maps", as per Owyhee County Resolution No. 11-01 dated January 4, 2011, paragraph 7, and thereafter "shall provide notice ... as to the availability for the review of the *Final* Maps, and shall give the public sixty days ... from the notice for the public to submit a written protest to any specific right-of-way way and/or to the grouping of any specific right-of-way on the *Final* Map, as per Owyhee County Resolution No. 11-01 dated January 4, 2011, paragraph 8.

The 161 maps group the rights of way lying on the public land in Owyhee County in accordance with Owyhee County Resolution 2011-21 dated September 12, 2011. **These groups apply only to rights of way on public land, not private land and not State land.** The Board is seeking documentation of use, and proof of maintenance with public funds between 1948 and 1976. Such documentation will help ensure that roads, trails, and ways shown on the maps are placed in the correct group. Information collected may be used in an attempt to validate the RS2477 right of ways, to the extent required by applicable law.

The 161 categorized maps cover all of Owyhee County and are available for review beginning on March 24th, during regular business hours of 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday in the Planning and Zoning office located in the annex building of the Owyhee County Courthouse at 17069 Basey Street in Murphy, Idaho. All referenced maps and Resolutions will also available for review on the Owyhee County web site at www.owyheecounty.net.

Please contact the Planning & Zoning Department for additional information, or copies of the Resolutions pertaining to RS2477 rights of way. Written comments can be mailed to the Owyhee County Commissioners at P.O. Box 128, Murphy, Idaho 83650, or you can hand deliver them to the Owyhee County Clerk's office Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Any person needing special accommodations to participate in the above meeting should contact the Planning and Zoning Department at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting at 208-495-2095 ext. 2, Owyhee County Annex Building, P.O. Box 128, Murphy, Idaho 83650.

Sincerely

Mary Huff Administrator

Owyhee County Planning & Zoning

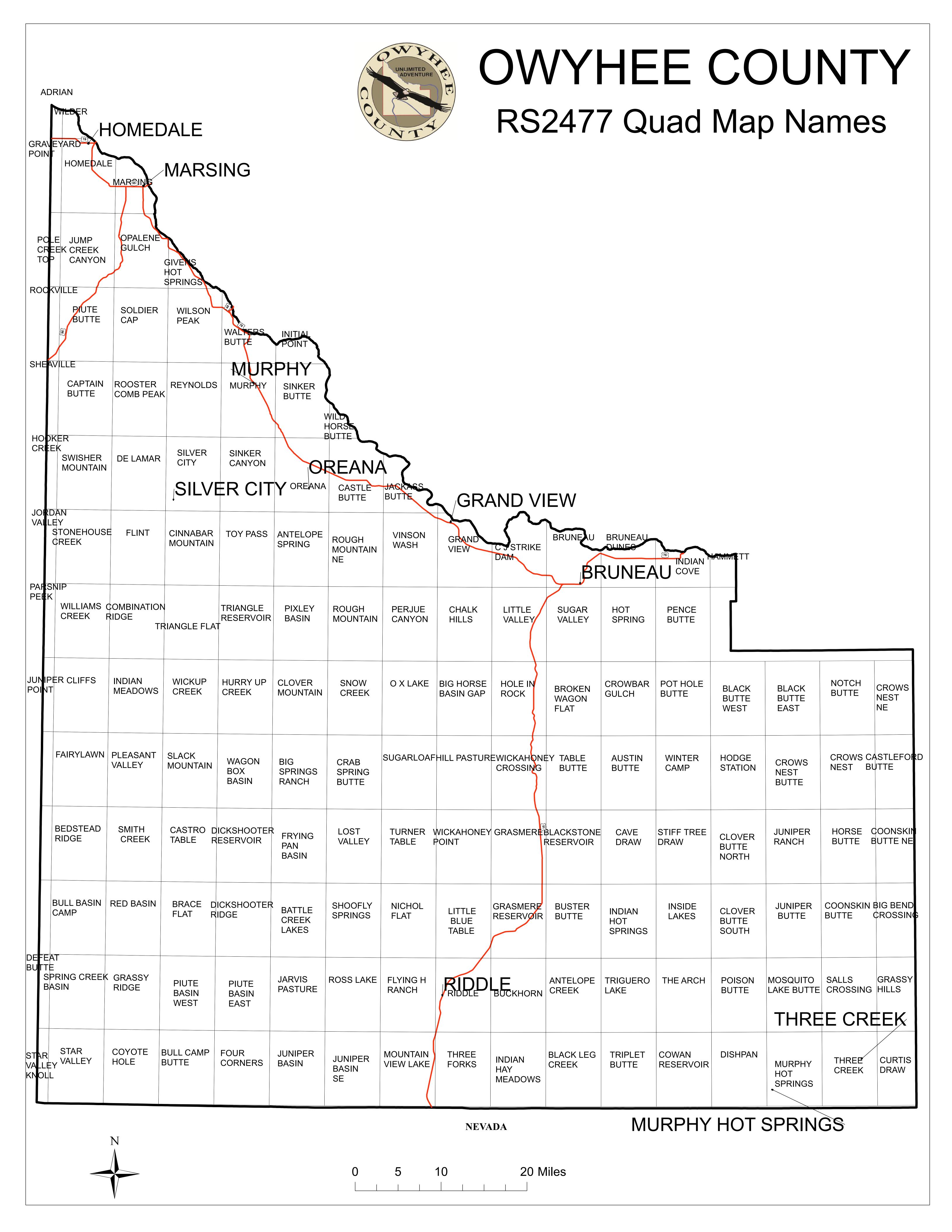
cc: Bureau of Land Management, Idaho State BLM Office

Bureau of Land Management, Boise District Office

Bureau of Land Management, Owyhee Field Office

Bureau of Land Management, Twin Falls District Office

Bureau of Land Management, Jarbidge Field Office



Before the Owyhee County Board of Commissioners

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This will be the eighth and final meeting to gather comments and input from the public on these rights of way, as per Owyhee County Resolution No. 11-01 dated January 4, 2011, paragraphs 5-6. The meeting on April 24th is one of the final steps in this process.

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<u>Category A - Rights-of-way to be ratified as R.S.2477 (i.e. Section 8 of the Act of July 26, 1866, codified as 43 U.S.C. 932):</u>

This group includes those rights-of-way that cross land owned by the United States of America within Owyhee County that are illustrated on General Land Office Maps or through other competent evidence that were established as public roads in accordance with Idaho State Law before October 21, 1976.

Category B - Rights-of-way to access private land and/or Idaho State land:

This group includes those rights-of-way that cross land owned by the United State of America within Owyhee that are illustrated on General Land Office Maps or through other competent evidence that were used to access private land and/or State land within Owyhee County before October 21, 1976.

<u>Category C – Rights-of-way to provide "management/administrative access":</u>

This group includes those rights-of-way that cross land owned by the United States of America within Owyhee County that provide management/administrative access across such land to exercise the rights, obligations and entitlements of a license/permit/land use authorization issued by an agency of the United States of America, like the Bureau of Land Management ("BLM"), and rights and interests recognized by the State of Idaho, such as water rights, (Idaho Constitution Article XV), grazing preferences (Idaho Code 25-901, 902, 903) and mineral rights (Idaho Code 47-901) including any vested rights for grazing, water, mineral or other rights that existed prior to October 21, 1976. These licenses are inclusive of grazing permits issued by the BLM.

Category D – Rights-of-way to provide "livestock trailing access":

This group includes those rights-of-way that cross land owned by the United States of America within Owyhee County that provide livestock trailing access across such land to exercise the rights, obligations and entitlements of a license/permit/land use authorization issued by an agency of the United States of America, like the Bureau of Land Management ("BLM"), and rights and interests recognized by the State of Idaho, such as stockwater rights, (Idaho Constitution Article XV), and grazing preferences (Idaho Code 25-901, 902, 903), including any vested rights for grazing, and stockwater that existed prior to October 21, 1976. These licenses are inclusive of grazing permits issued by the BLM.

<u>Category E – Rights-of-way not within any other group:</u>

This group includes those rights-of-way that cross land owned by the United States of America within Owyhee County that are not otherwise determined at this time to be within any other group noted above. This determination, when made by the Board, is not intended to change or otherwise impair whatever status the right-of-way may have had, now or in the future, unless otherwise adjudicated under applicable law.