

Forest ranger settles into Prairie City

Greg Moon brings fire skills to FS post

By Cheryl Hoefler
Blue Mountain Eagle

PRAIRIE CITY – Sometimes a “fresh perspective” can be more valuable than text-book qualifications.

That’s what Greg Moon, the new ranger at Malheur National Forest’s Prairie City Ranger District office, believes.

Moon, who began his new job Jan. 10, doesn’t have a Forest Service career background, but he is no stranger to firefighting, fire management and leadership roles – all vital skills when it comes

to heading up the Prairie City office.

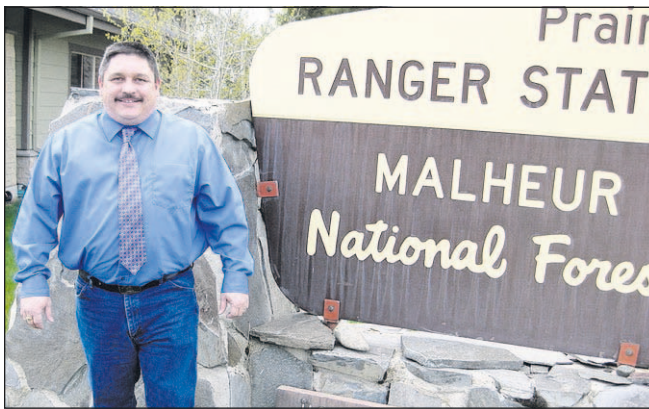
He did start out with the Forest Service, as a student intern in the fishing and timber disciplines from 1989-92.

After that, he worked for 20 years as a firefighter in Hoopa, in Northern California, working his way up to battalion chief.

He spent 18 months in fire program management, and became certified in a government program from Colorado State University.

Moon then became a fire management officer for the Department of the Interior in Riverside, Calif., where he coordinated and led a range of tribal groups, and county and state agencies.

There, he demonstrated his ability as a “good coop-



The Eagle/Cheryl Hoefler

Greg Moon became the new Prairie City District ranger in January.

erator” and was noted for his work with inner city youth, directing them toward fire service careers.

Moon spent five years there before accepting the Prairie City position. He be-

lieves he was picked for his proven leadership abilities and skills.

“I have a fresh perspective, not being from a career Forest Service background,” he said.

As for living in Grant County and Prairie City, Moon loves it.

“You can take your time and people know who you are,” he said. “I’m a believer of being accountable both on and off the clock.”

The small-town life suits his wife and children, too. As a family, they’ve been enjoying weekend drives, exploring and getting familiar with the area.

Moon believes in forging a strong relationship between the Forest Service office and Prairie City, and hopes to begin holding town hall meetings to foster engagement with the community.

He’s started a Prairie City safety committee, and has met with the City Council on a cooperative agreement to

build local employment opportunities.

Moon says he is fortunate and honored to serve as district ranger in Prairie City, and he’s quick to tout the hard work by the staff there.

“If the community only knew how hard all these people are working, not only for the forest but the community, they would be amazed,” he said. “They are doing such hard work, and take the responsibility very seriously.”

Moon said he likes to be available, not only to staff but to the community, and said his door is always open to meet with people to discuss ideas and plan proposals.

“I plan to be here for quite awhile,” he said. “It’s fantastic working here.”

Youth range camp on tap

Blue Mountain Eagle

BURNS – Signups are now being accepted for the fifth annual High Desert Youth Range Camp Wednesday-Saturday, June 17-20, at the Northern Great Basin Experimental Range near Burns.

The camp is for Oregon, Idaho and Washington highschoolers who will be in grades 9-12 at the time of application.

Each day will include a variety of workshops such as “The Secret Life of Sagebrush,” “Soils and Everything that Grows in Them” and “Livestock Management on the Rangeland,” as well as “around the campfire” activities each evening.

Scholarships of \$125 are available for each camper, reducing the cost to \$50 a person. All meals are included. Campers will also be eligible to receive college credits and awards. The range is located about 35 miles west of Burns.

For more information, contact Brenda Smith at 541-573-4084 or brennda.smith@oregonstate.edu.

COPS & COURTS

Arrests and citations in the Blue Mountain Eagle are taken from the logs of law enforcement agencies. Every effort is made to report the court disposition of arrest cases.

Grant County Sheriff
CANYON CITY – The Grant County Sheriff’s Office reported the following for the week of May 8-14:

- Concealed handgun licenses: 16
- Average inmates: 14.5
- Bookings: 8
- Releases: 9
- Arrests: 1
- Fingerprints: 9
- Civil papers: 24
- Warrants processed: 2
- Asst./welfare check: 2
- Search and Rescue: 2

Dispatch

John Day dispatch worked 132 calls during the week of May 11-17. Along with the various traffic warnings, trespassing, injured animals, noise complaints and juvenile complaints, these calls included:

- **John Day Police:**

May 12: Arrested a 22-year-old man on a probation violation.

May 13: Cited a Mt. Vernon man for speeding.

May 14: Cited Prairie City woman for speeding; theft reported at Strawberry Village Apartments in Prairie City.

• **Grant County Sheriff:**
May 12: Theft reported in Canyon City.

May 15: Search and rescue near Long Creek.

May 16: Report of shots fired near Clyde Holliday State Park.

• **John Day ambulance:**
May 11: 62-year-old man who passed out.

May 14: Paged for a woman with chest pain.

May 16: Responded for a 51-year-old man in Mt. Vernon.

• **Prairie City ambulance:**
May 15: 91-year-old man with heart problems.

• **Long Creek ambulance:**
May 16: 80-year-old man with possible stroke.

Justice Court

CANYON CITY – The Grant

County Justice Court reported the following fines and judgments:

- Violation of the basic rule: Sherry Lee Dress, 67, Canyon City, 71/55 zone, fined \$160; Kathryn Bess Floyd, 51, Middleton, Idaho, 75/55 zone, fined \$160.
- Failure to install ignition interlock device: April Anne Vernon, 19, Bend, fined \$435.
- Violation of the speed limit: Heather Annie Ketscher, 21, Moscow, Idaho, 41/25 zone, fined \$160.
- No operator’s license: Alicia Maria Johnson, 21, Sparks, Nev., fined \$260.
- Driving while suspended-violation: Keatley Martin Wyant, 24, Mt. Vernon, fined \$435.
- Driving uninsured: Keatley Martin Wyant, 24, Mt. Vernon, fined \$260.
- Michelle England, Mt. Vernon, was convicted of possession of illegally taken game, and fined \$285.50. The court dismissed one count of no written record of transfer.

PC Council votes on ordinances

Baker bicycle classic, firemen appreciation also on agenda

Blue Mountain Eagle

PRAIRIE CITY – Prairie City’s City Council took up two ordinance proposals at its May 13 meeting.

The council voted against an ordinance that would regulate times and locations of marijuana businesses, opting instead to wait and see what the state does on regulation.

The council approved an ordinance requiring all businesses within the city limits

to have a license, starting in January 2016. The annual fee will be \$25, which will go toward community enhancement.

Agenda items also included updates on a few upcoming events:

- A cake reception for three retiring Prairie City firefighters will be at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 27, at City Hall. All are welcome.
- A representative from Baker Love Bikes announced the upcoming Bak-

er City Cycling Classic on June 26. For the first time in the race’s 13 years, the route will include Prairie City.

Also at the meeting, Ranger Greg Moon of Malheur National Forest’s Prairie City District presented an agreement with the city on building employment opportunities in the community. City Recorder Taci Philbrook will be a liaison between Prairie City and the District office to get the word out on job opportuni-

ties in Prairie City and surrounding areas.

The city council meetings are held at 6 p.m. the second Wednesday of the month in City Hall.

Call 541-820-3605 for more information.



Bank of Eastern Oregon

We will be closed Monday, May 25th in honor of Memorial Day

Prairie City Branch
541-820-3321

John Day Branch
541-575-1862

Call or go online at www.beobank.com

myeaglenews.com/breakingnews

Join your local telephone & internet provider as we honor & remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country

Memorial Day

OREGON TELEPHONE CORPORATION

One Telephone Drive, Mount Vernon, OR 97865 • 155 E Main St, John Day, OR 97845
1-800-848-7969 or 541-932-4411

Baker County Pest Control, LLC
Licensed, Insured & Bonded
CCB#183713

541-403-0804 What bugs you, bugs us!
Guaranteed 12-hour Response

Annual, Quarterly, or As-Needed Prevention Programs • Pest exclusions, Pest and WDO Inspections • Spiders, Bees, Millipedes, Centipedes, Earwigs, Beetles, Cockroaches, Mice and Rats

Residential or Commercial Services bakercountypestcontrol@hotmail.com

A Local Baker County Business that Reinvests in Baker County

Mike Bainter
PO Box 53
Baker City, OR 97814

CANYON CREEK BOWHUNTERS

Iron Man Shoot
SAT. MAY 30, 2015 • BEAR CREEK SHOOTING RANGE

IRON MAN SHOOT EVENT COURSE
25 -.22 RIFLE TARGETS + 25 - CLAY BIRD TARGETS +
25- ARCHERY 3D TARGETS
+ CASH PRIZE AWARDS! + RAFFLE PRIZES! + REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE!

CATEGORIES	ENTRY FEES
ADULT INDIVIDUAL (OVER 16).....	\$30
ADULT 3 PERSON TEAM.....	\$60
YOUTH INDIVIDUAL (16 & UNDER)....	\$15
YOUTH 3 PERSON TEAM.....	\$30

For more info contact: Mike Springer: 541-620-0676 • Les Percy: 541-620-0193
Email: cbbhunters@gmail.com