



PHOTO BY JIM CORNELIUS

Sisters Country is enjoying a real winter this year, helping to make up for a dry one last year.

**WEATHER:** Temps will be in the 30s this week

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Snow measurement stations in the Cascades are showing snowpack in the mountains above Sisters at or above average. The snow water content in the Deschutes Basin is at 123 percent of the 30-year median.

That's a critical measurement in a region that really began to see the effects of drought last year.

Surprisingly, despite the late-month cold snap, temperatures at Sisters averaged slightly warmer than normal during the month of December. That's according to preliminary data received by NOAA's National Weather Service in Pendleton,

Temperatures and snowfall

totals vary across Sisters Country, with the west end of the area usually a few degrees colder than town, and receiving more snowfall.

The average temperature in Sisters was 31.1 degrees, which was 1.0 degree above normal. High temperatures averaged 40.5 degrees, which was 1.6 degrees above normal. The highest was 61 degrees on December 9. Low temperatures averaged 21.7 degrees, which was 0.5 degrees above normal. The lowest was -5 degrees, on December 1.

There were 26 days with the low temperature below 32 degrees. There were five days when the high temperature stayed below 32 degrees.

Precipitation totaled 4.07 inches during December, which was 2.10 inches above normal. Measurable precipitation — at least .01 inch — was received on 12 days with the heaviest, 0.90 inches reported

on December 17.

Snowfall totaled 15 inches with at least one inch of snow reported on four days. The heaviest snowfall was seven inches reported on December 17. The greatest depth of snow on the ground was seven inches on December 17.

The highest wind gust was 63 mph, which occurred on December 8.

Temperatures this week are expected to climb back into the mid to upper 30s during the day, with lows dropping to the low 20s. There is a slight chance of snow through the week.

The outlook for January from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center calls for near- to above-normal temperatures and near-normal precipitation. Normal highs for Sisters during January are 40.6 degrees and normal lows are 22.8 degrees. The 30-year normal precipitation is 1.89 inches.

**EAGLE SCOUT:** Project built pavilion at Fir Street Park

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U.S. Capitol on November 14, 2015. By November Petterson had passed his board of review and the flag was flown in honor of his accomplishments.

An additional tradition, unique to the Sisters troop, is to present a handmade knife to the Eagle awardee. This was done by Mac McKibbin, maker of the knife, who warned him of its potential for injury.

At Petterson's request, three speakers then made remarks about their association with the Eagle Scout. Andrew Ellis, past young men's leader and seminary teacher at the church, Gary Thorson, high school football coach, and Jess Risenmay, the church branch president, all remarked about Petterson's integrity, dependability, academic excellence, and perseverance in getting a job done and done well.

Petterson himself then took the stand and thanked all those who had helped him along his scouting journey,

which has been for the past 10 years. He especially appreciated those that had dedicated time, energy, finances, and talents, especially his parents and those who had helped with his Eagle Scout project.

Every Eagle Scout hopeful is required to do a project benefitting his local area. Petterson's was assisting in the creation of the outside amphitheater for the new Fir Street Park at the intersection of Main Avenue and Fir Street in Sisters. He worked more than six months, most often during weekends and after school, learning the art of mortise & tenon construction under the guidance of Kris Calvin of Earthwood Timber Frame Homes. The massive structure was set in place in June 2014, shortly after Petterson turned 16.

The Boy Scouts were founded in England in the early 1900s. American publisher William D. Boyce, impressed with the English idea of youth development, began the Boy Scouts of America in 1910. It has since become one of the nation's largest and most prominent values-based youth organizations. Only 5 to 7 percent of scouts earn their Eagle Scout Award.

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