

June was relatively warm and dry

According to preliminary data received by NOAA's National Weather Service in Pendleton, temperatures at Sisters averaged slightly warmer than usual during the month of June.

The average temperature was 58.4 degrees, which was 1.4 degrees above normal. High temperatures averaged 76.6 degrees, which was 2 degrees above normal. The highest was 98 degrees on June 26. Low temperatures averaged 40.3 degrees, which was 0.8 degrees above normal. The lowest was 28 degrees, on June 5.

There were two days with the low temperature below 32 degrees. On two days, the temperature exceeded 90 degrees.

Precipitation totaled 0.06 inches during June, which

was 0.80 inches below normal. Measurable precipitation — at least .01 inch — was received on two days with the heaviest, 0.03 inches reported on June 8.

Precipitation this year has reached 6.70 inches, which is 0.50 inches below normal. Since October, the water year precipitation at Sisters has been 11.65 inches, which is 0.43 inches below normal.

The highest wind gust was 45 mph which occurred on June 12 and June 26.

The outlook for July from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center calls for near- to above-normal temperatures and near-normal precipitation. Normal highs for Sisters during July are 85.1 degrees and normal lows are 43.4 degrees. The 30-year normal precipitation is 0.53 inches.

BBR kicks off summer music Wednesday

Black Butte Ranch kicks off its summer music series on Wednesday, July 5, with The Anvil Blasters playing at the barn near the Lakeside Bistro.

There will be activities for kids as the audience enjoys a picnic on the lawn. Bring a blanket or a low-backed lawn chair and enjoy the music from 6 to 8 p.m.

"This is hands-down one of our favorite venues in Sisters," says Jim Cornelius of The Anvil Blasters. "A warm summer evening on the lawn; great views; kids having a good time — we love

playing there."

The Anvil Blasters are Jim Cornelius, Lynn Woodward, Mike Biggers and Jeff Wester, with Pete Rathbun on sound.

They play acoustic Americana music mixing originals and songs of the likes of Guy Clark, Tom Russell, Steve Earle and John Prine.

The music will continue each Wednesday through August.

Black Butte Ranch is located eight miles west of Sisters off Highway 20. For information visit www.blackbutteranch.com.



PHOTO BY PETE RATHBUN

The fire camp at Sisters Rodeo Grounds will demobilize as the Sheep Springs Fire winds down.

FIRE: Terrain required indirect firefighting tactics

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lines. By using existing roads, fire officials reduced firefighters' risk from snags.

The Sheep Springs Fire, burning in an area previously burned by the B & B Fire in 2003, is located in an area predominantly covered in

snags, which are often structurally weakened and pose a serious hazard for fire personnel. Due to the extremely hazardous nature of the incident's location, Deschutes National Forest leadership and fire officials implemented indirect firefighting tactics that provide for firefighter and public safety.

The fire, a result of two lightning-struck trees, is burning approximately 20 miles northwest of Sisters

in the Brush Creek drainage less than a mile northeast of Sheep Springs Campground and roughly a half mile west of Forest Road 12. The fire is approximately 700 acres and will continue to put up smoke as fire continues to progress on the interior of the fire perimeter.

For up-to-the-minute wildfire information, follow on Twitter @CentralORFire or follow <http://centralorfire.info.blogspot.com>.

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