



The Ranger's Corner

Ian Reid
Sisters District Ranger

Spring report

As the Sisters Rodeo kicked off its final performance last Sunday, our fire-fighters and fuels managers were preparing to ignite a 123-acre prescribed burn near Lake Billy Chinook, which totaled close to 1,000 acres of underburning on the Sisters Ranger District this spring.

Our fire professionals accomplished this incredible output while working with and around community events such as track meets, lacrosse festivals, and rodeos; other projects; and seasonal restrictions for wildlife. Prescribed burning is a juggling act that balances environmental factors such as wind direction and speed, humidity, and temperature with social and human factors like having enough resources to implement the burn safely and trying to keep smoke out of town.

I was proud of our employees for threading the needle and finding that sweet spot this spring.

Also, this spring we completed the first phase of the Highway 20 public safety project, abating 2,100 dead and dying trees between the rodeo grounds and Suttle Lake. Next steps include a timber sale contract, stump grinding, and slash pile burning over the next year-and-a-half. Please avoid the log decks and slash piles. We are sorry the situation had to happen as the loss of those mature ponderosa

pinus was an unfortunate mistake, which all parties have collectively learned from. And we are relieved the hazards were eliminated before someone was hurt or killed by a falling tree.

As we transition from spring burning season to wildfire season, this is an excellent time to get your firewood cut prior to total chainsaw shutdown seasonal restrictions. If you are not finding firewood in open areas described in the firewood synopsis please call the ranger station at 541-549-7700 and speak with our special forest products coordinator Jeremy Fields for potential additional firewood opportunities.

Our aquatics professionals have been working hard this spring on the Plainview Ditch project to remove the last human fish passage barrier on Whychus Creek, while still providing permitted water to irrigators.

We have several opportunities for the public to engage with the Forest Service coming up this spring and summer. The first is a "Let's Talk" event sponsored by Sisters Citizens for Community at Aspen Lakes on the evening of June 17. Topics are: management of Sisters Country public lands and how it affects access to local trails, fire response and safety, and the tourism and recreation industry's impact on the local economy. To attend it is required to RSVP to lane@paulinaspringsbooks.com. This event will be a facilitated dialogue with a maximum of 20 participants.

The second way to connect with us is a public field trip to view the greater Suttle Lake vegetation management project proposal. We will meet in the Sisters Ranger Station parking lot at 10 a.m. on Thursday, June 20. Please bring water and a lunch and contact the ranger station if you have any special needs.

We will also be having a series of ranger-led talks in Sisters this summer

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NATIVE ART: Artists will host forum at Sisters gallery

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that he then draws upon it. Additionally, his vibrant acrylic paintings push into modernist styles, ranging from Fauvism to Expressionism to Pop Art.

This methodology of looking at artwork — traditional or contemporary — comes about because of a sequence we intuitively undertake without realizing it. It goes — first identify, then analyze. That's followed by define, characterize, and classify. We know this as "organization." When considering similar things over a long period of time, we further organize into periods or eras. However, it's a slippery slope.

These very topics — traditional and contemporary; stasis, transition, evolution — will be discussed Saturday afternoon in a panel/open forum conversation. The Sisters public is invited to join these artists for insightful considerations about Native American art — then, now, and tomorrow.

The artists will be having their show in Sisters June 21 – 23. Friday: Artist Reception from 5 to 8 p.m. with non-alcoholic refreshments/finger food. Saturday: Artists available 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., with the panel discussion beginning at 1:30. Sunday: artists available 11 a.m. to mid-afternoon. All events will take place at Raven Makes Gallery, 182 E. Hood Ave.

Moving cattle...



PHOTO PROVIDED

Deb Wattenburg and Julie Benson celebrated a good day's work moving cattle with a horseback drive-thru at Dutch Bros.

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