

# Vehicle pursuit ends in crash

Oregon State Police took a suspect into custody on Monday afternoon, August 5, after a vehicle pursuit on Highway 20 ended in a crash on Wheeler Loop near the Bi-Mart shopping center area in Sisters.

Numerous local law enforcement units responded to assist.

OSP could not be reached for details on the incident by press time. Further information will be posted at [www.nuggetnews.com](http://www.nuggetnews.com) as it becomes available.

## FIRE ACCESS:

Firefighters need a fighting chance

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Access roads shall be at least 12 feet wide and provide an all-weather road base (cinder, gravel, asphalt, etc.), that is reasonably smooth and free of protruding rocks and/or potholes. Turnarounds or cul-de-sacs shall have a minimum of 50 feet of turning radius with an all-weather road base. Refrain from placing rocks next to and along your driveway. Driveways longer than 150 feet shall provide an area for vehicles to meet and pass each other. A reflective address sign is required.

Many rural properties have gates — and that can pose a problem:

“Gates must have a minimum width of 12 feet (over 12 feet is preferred) and set back from the road at least 30 feet,” the flyer noted. “Occupants must be aware that locked gates may delay or otherwise hinder our access to the property. Locked or electric gates are required to have a KnoxBox system installed for emergency responder access to your property.”

The Cloverdale Fire District, and Sisters Country in general, has had an easier fire season this year than in recent years — but that can change literally in an instant. Fire officials urge that local residents take immediate action to make sure their properties are accessible and defensible, so that firefighters have a fighting chance.

# Citizens want legislators to ‘do something’

By Sue Stafford  
Correspondent

At last week’s town hall on carbon emissions and House Bill 2020, which called for cap and trade measures, over half of the 80-something members of the audience made comments, suggestions, and asked questions of State Sen. Cliff Bentz and Rep. Daniel Bonham.

Despite a variety of opinions on the merits or faults of cap and trade and possible economic impacts, the people who spoke at FivePine Conference Center were almost unanimous in their message regarding carbon emissions and climate change. “Do whatever it takes.”

“Do everything we can — now.”

“We must use every tool at our disposal to address climate change.”

“Whatever is viable, I am in favor of.”

“I’m worried about the future for our grandchildren.”

“Listen to the climate scientists.”

“Only thing we can’t do is nothing.”

Several speakers noted that 12 other states, including California, have adopted cap and trade measures and 10 have experienced economic gains. The European Union and Canada also have cap and trade measures to reduce carbon emissions.

According to a

meteorology professor, who self-identified as in the minority in the room, the forest fires are mainly the result of poor forest management.

A number of people stated that any adverse effects from cap and trade would be mitigated by the gains in climate control. On the other side was a small-business owner who stated unequivocally, “Cap and trade will put me out of business and my seven employees out of work.” He said his two alternatives would be to try to sell his business or lock it up. His one percent profit margin can’t take any increases in fuel costs.

There were suggestions that the legislature should pass HB 2020, even if imperfect, then come back and fix it.

“We pass imperfect legislation all the time,” said one supporter of cap and trade.

A Deschutes County farmer said they use fossil fuel and would “rather pay more for fuel and have a cleaner, clearer environment.” She went on to say that cap and trade is popular with farmers in California due to good agricultural incentives that help to upgrade irrigation. With increased incentives for no-till farming, less carbon is released into the atmosphere.

A Camp Sherman resident raised the concern of whether or not she will be able to get or afford homeowners insurance due to the increase in wildfires.

Some attendees believe that data shows the planet is running out of time to effectively curb climate change. According to a recent OPB radio broadcast, if there isn’t a dramatic reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in 18 months, the earth will reach a tipping point from which it can’t return.

A Bend resident with a PhD from MIT, who specializes in numerical analysis, countered, saying that satellite data doesn’t support the estimate from OSU that by 2100 there will be a nine-degree Celsius increase in temperatures above 1975 levels. He does not support cap and trade.

Suggestions for addressing climate change ranged from the cap and trade bill to improved irrigation programs, clean energy reinvestments, more green energy, stopping subsidies for the fossil fuel industry, in Central Oregon use the sun, wind, and hot

springs to generate energy, small dams for hydro power, improved forestry and farming practices, and changing the state constitution.

A farmer born and raised in Redmond voiced his opinion: “Stop all this environmental stuff and the fires would improve.”

The owner of a fuel business admitted that HB 2020 was a threat to his way of living, but, “Life is too important for my business to take precedence.” He criticized Bentz’s slide presentation for having no assessment of possible job creation or better quality of life with the cap and trade bill. He concluded with, “Go back to Salem and get something done. Please make something happen. That’s what people need right now.”

Bonham responded, “We’re trying to do something. I hear you but I’m not there yet. I don’t want to martyr rural Oregon.”

# Thank You!

from  
*The Kiwanis Club of Sisters*

Our half-marathon Race to the Top of Hoodoo was a huge success this past weekend. We couldn’t have done it without the hard work of our community and Kiwanis volunteers, the Hasty Team of Jefferson County, the enthusiastic runners and the generous support of these sponsors:



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