

Outdoor Rec / Local

Lucas now on Sumpter City Council

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Planning Commission Report

LeAnne Woolf reported the Planning Commission met August 18 and worked on the evacuation and comp plans. On September 7, they held a special meeting to review applications. The next meeting will be held September 15.

Records Maintenance

City Recorder Julie McKinney stated she wanted to address a comment made in the audience at the last Council meeting about the City's inability to maintain and locate meeting minutes. She cited an Oregon Court of Appeals finding regarding ORS 192.650, which clarified one year as a reasonable period of time to preserve meeting minutes, unless there is clear evidence that a longer period of time is needed.

Letters of Intent

Samantha Rowan read

a letter of intent from Greg Lucas asking to be appointed to City Council. Vote of acceptance was unanimous.

Rowan then read a letter of intent from LeAnne Woolf asking to be reappointed to City Council. The letter stated it has been one year since she was recalled by one vote. One of the major reasons listed in the Petition for Recall was her being named in the lawsuit. She has been off Council for a year, with others named in the lawsuit being off longer, and the lawsuit is still in place. She is familiar with many of the relevant processes and would like to serve again. There is nothing legally to prevent her from returning to serve on Council.

Rowan made a motion to allow Woolf's appointment. Clarke stated he had a problem with this, just because Woolf was recalled by a vote of

the people and it was a majority. He stated he has no hard feelings toward Woolf, but would not second the motion.

Greg Lucas was then sworn in, with Julie McKinney administering the oath, and took his seat at the Council table.

Clarke stated Leland Myers has submitted a letter of intent expressing interest in serving on the Planning Commission and motioned to accept it. When asked about Myers's recall, he explained the Planning Commission is a different part of the City than the Council. Lucas said they used to have old-timers who understood the City and how it was build. He said Myers is now the "last pocket of knowledge" on this matter. Motion passed with all in favor.

Marijuana Ordinance Workshop

A workshop to review the marijuana retail sales ordinance will be held

Tuesday September 27th at 7 PM and is open to the public. Julie McKinney stated copies of the draft ordinance will be available at City Hall.

Wage Adjustment Request

Clarke stated he had a letter from the Utility Manager requesting a wage adjustment. He asked if one has ever been received and Jeff McKinney responded three years ago. After discussion, including McKinney's record obtaining necessary certifications to support City operations and cleaning up areas such as the treatment plant, Clarke and Rowan voted in favor of the adjustment. Lucas abstained as it was his first night on Council, but stated he agreed. IFA Application

Clarke requested to hold a workshop to take care of the intake form and move forward. It was set for Monday the 26th at 10 a.m.

Use restrictions eased as of last Friday due to cooler weather

With cooler weather conditions and a decrease in fire danger, Public Use Restrictions (PURS) for campfires, smoking, off-road travel, and chainsaw use will be reduced to Phase A on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest effective Friday, September 9th. Phase A is the second level of restrictions, generally implemented when fire danger is moderate to high. PURS are phased in and out collectively across the Blue Mountains, as conditions warrant, and may differ from forest to forest.

Phase A PURs reinstate seasonal campfire restrictions and allow recreational chainsaw use between the hours of 8:00PM and 1:00PM. Chainsaw operation associated with commercial and personal use firewood permits are regulated under Industrial Fire Precaution levels (IFPLs) and are not impacted by this public use restriction. Please continue to check the Blue Mountain Inter-

agency Dispatch website for up-to-date information on IFPLs. (<http://bmidc.org/ifpls.shtml>)

Phase A restrictions include:

Seasonal campfire restrictions and requirements described for June 1- October 31 apply.

Campfires allowed only in fire pits surrounded by dirt, rock, or commercial rings and in areas not conducive to rapid fire spread. All flammable material shall be cleared within a 3-foot radius from the edge of the pit and free of overhanging material. Use existing pits wherever possible.

Campfires must be attended at all times, and completely extinguished prior to leaving.

In all cases with all types of fires, a shovel, and one gallon of water is required to be present at all times, except in designated Wilderness Areas (Eagle Cap Wilderness, Hells Canyon Wilderness, Monument Rock Wilderness, North

Fork John Day Wilderness) and the following developed recreation sites on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest: Anthony Lakes Campground and Picnic Area, Union Creek Campground & Picnic Area, and Fish Lake Campground.

Portable cooking stoves using liquefied or bottled gas and wood burning stoves equipped with a chimney that is at least five (5) feet in length with a spark-arresting screen consisting of ¼ inch mesh hardware cloth are allowed.

Use of charcoal briquettes is permitted under the same restrictions as campfires described above.

Chainsaws may be operated only between the hours of 8 p.m. and 1 p.m. local time. A one hour fire watch is required after saw operations cease. Saw operators are required to have an axe (minimum 2 lb. head, 26" length), shovel (8" wide, 26" length), and fire extin-

guisher (minimum ABC 8 oz.) in their possession. Chainsaw operation associated with commercial and personal use firewood permits are regulated under Industrial Fire Precaution levels (IFPLs) and are not impacted by this public use restriction.

Smoking is allowed only in enclosed vehicles, buildings or cleared areas.

No off-road/off-trail vehicle travel or travel on roads not cleared of standing grass or other flammable material; no vehicle travel on those FS roads where access has been impeded or blocked by earthen berm, logs, boulders, barrier, barricade or gate, or as otherwise identified in the Fire Order.

The public's awareness of the increased fire danger and cooperation is essential to a continued safe fire season. Recreationists, firewood cutters, hunters, and other forest users can all help by closely adhering to restrictions, operating safely and cautiously and keeping up-to-date on the latest orders and regulations.

Please check with your local Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) office for public use restrictions on lands protected by ODF. Visit the Blue Mountain Interagency Dispatch webpage at: www.bmidc.org or contact a local Oregon Department of Forestry office for more complete information. Similar restrictions may be in effect on State and private lands protected by the Washington Department of Natural Resources (WA-DNR). More information can be found on the WA-DNR website at: <http://www.dnr.wa.gov/>.

For more information about the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest's Public Use Restrictions, please contact our office at 541-523-1246, visit our website at www.fs.usda.gov/umattilla/, or check our social media pages. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WallowaWhitmanNF/> or the Blue Mountain Fire Information Blog: <http://bluemountainfireinfo.blogspot.com/>

Columbia River season extended for hatchery Chinook

Recreational fishermen will have through Sept. 22 to keep hatchery Chinook salmon from Buoy 10 upstream to the Warrior Rock/Bachelor Island deadline under a season extension approved today by fishery managers from Oregon and Washington.

The season extension was adopted based on the latest fish passage and harvest data. It is the second time this month that the Buoy 10 Chinook season has been extended following lower than expected catch rates. This action also extends the ongoing hatchery-only Chinook season from Tongue Point upstream to Warrior Rock.

Both sections of the river are scheduled to reopen to any Chinook again Oct. 1 when the adult Chinook daily bag limit increases to two fish under permanent rules.

Only hatchery Chinook may be retained during the Sept. 15 - 22 extension; all wild fish must be released unharmed. The daily adult bag limit is two salmonids a day, of which only one may be a Chinook and only one may be a hatchery steelhead. The effective area is from Buoy 10 at the Columbia River mouth upstream approximately 88 miles to the Warrior Rock lighthouse/Bachelor Island line.

Free public admission day at Interpretive Center

The Bureau of Land Management will be observing National Public Lands Day at the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center (NHOTIC) on Saturday, September 24, with volunteer trail and vegetation projects and free admission for all visitors. Restoration activities at the Trail Center begin at 9:00 a.m.

National Public Lands Day is a nationwide effort to help care for parks, natural areas, historic sites, trails, watersheds, and other areas owned by the public. For 23 years, the last Saturday of September has been designated as National Public Lands Days (NPLD) with an estimated 170,000 volunteers throughout the country participating last year. Individuals or groups may participate. The first thirty participants receive a free T-shirt. All volunteers will be offered refreshments provided by the Trail Tenders volunteer group and a coupon for free admission at National Parks and federal recreation areas during the following year.

BLM seeks revised EA for weeds

The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Vale District is asking for public input on a Revised Environmental Assessment (EA) for Weeds Treatment.

New regulations allow for the use of three active herbicide ingredients aminopyralid, fluroxypyr, and rimsulfuron in addition to those currently approved for vegetation treatments on BLM-administered lands in the western United States, including Oregon, subsequent to site-specific environmental analysis.

The Vale District prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) (DOI-BLM-ORWA-V000-2011-0047-EA) to expand and update its existing District-wide integrated noxious weed management program and released it on December 23, 2015 for a 45-day public comment period.

Due to the availability of the three new herbicides, Vale BLM has decided to revise the analysis in the EA to add a third alternative to the No Action and the Proposed Action - the Revised Proposed Action - that considers the effects of the use of the additional three herbicides as part of the District's Integrated Weed Management Program. The Revised EA is now available for public consideration. The Revised EA is available to view at the Vale District ePlanning website at <http://1.usa.gov/1mwy1HW> under the Documents link on the left side of the page.

To facilitate public review, all changes made since the close of the comment period of the original EA, including changes incorporating the new herbicides and responses to public input is highlighted in blue font. Comments can be submitted electronically, subject Vale Inv. Plant Mgt. EA, to: blm_or_invasive_plant_ea_comments@blm.gov, or by mail:

OR/WA Bureau of Land Management
Attn: Vale Invasive Plant Management EA (OR932)
PO Box 2965
Portland, OR 97208

To be considered, comments must be postmarked by October 11, 2016.

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