

Biscuit Fire rehab ...

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Regarding the work of the BAER team, the key word would be "emergency," with the team meeting on Aug. 30, to begin study and make recommendations regarding the rehabilitation work that must come first. The team began field work the following day in Zone 1, with work concluding in that zone on Thursday, Sept. 6.

The team then proceeded to the west side of the fire, where it will conduct field study and then present a report on Sept. 15 regarding its recommendations. The team already has requested \$180,000 for replacement of the dozens of pit/vault toilets that were razed by the fire, as well as to install signage to identify areas of falling rocks, trees and other hazards.

The team is comprised of approximately 25 U.S. Forest Service hydrologists, botanists, fisheries biologists, soil scientists, and safety experts from the Rogue River, Siskiyou, Deschutes and Six Rivers National forests.

Jon Brazier, hydrologist for the Rogue River/Siskiyou National Forest, is leading the team. Greg Kuyumjian from the Santa Fe National Forest serving as team coordinator.

Kuyumjian has BAER team experience with other large fires. He coordinated BAER teams in the Cerro Grande fire in New Mexico last year, as well as the Hayman Fire in Colorado and the Rodeo-Chediski fire in Arizona during this fire season.

BAER information officer Erin Connelly explained the BAER team objectives as a sort of triage, with the team looking to prescribe treatment for the burned areas, and other areas affected by the fire.

In preliminary work, the team viewed satellite imagery that assessed burn severity, which is different from fire intensity in that even with high-fire intensity, burn severity can be moderate or low.

In a draft burn-severity

map prepared on Aug. 30, the area within the fire perimeter involved in high severity was approximated at 15 percent.

BAER also examines evaluated soil quality and the potential for erosion. Brazier said that quite often the case is that suppression efforts are more damaging to the land than the fire itself. Mitigation efforts that will take place for both portions of the rehabilitation include creating berms that will slow the flow of water.

It is yet unknown when access to U.S. Forest Service lands on the west side of Hwy. 199 will again be in place for the general public. Fire officials have set Bear Camp Road as a priority for public access and hope to provide some vista points for people to view the fire area.

BAER also will monitor effects of the treatments that are prescribed. Monitoring everything from the introduction of noxious weeds to the condition of culverts will continue after the team has completed its study and report. Brazier estimated that the initial cost of the study will be between \$300,000 and \$500,000, with the cost for implementing rehabilitation as yet unknown.

Kuyumjian stressed that in many cases natural processes are the best at healing the land. Especially in regard to the Kalmiopsis Wilderness, Brazier said, "The intent is that we won't treat the wilderness. If the need arises, any treatment will be done with an eye for wilderness characteristics."

The deadline for the BAER report to be completed is Sept. 15. The completion date for work to be completed on the emergency rehabilitation is Nov. 1, as that represents the average date of the first significant rainfall in the area.

At that point, officials believe that the Biscuit Fire will at last be declared controlled.

of dry grass.

On the Wild and Scenic section of the Rogue River protected by ODF and the Siskiyou National Forest from Grave Creek to the mouth of Watson Creek, the following restrictions are in effect:

*Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire is prohibited except in commercially produced pressurized liquid or gas stoves in areas free of vegetation between the river and the high-water mark.

*Smoking is prohibited except while aboard a watercraft while navigating, or at rest, on a waterway and on sand and gravel bars naturally free of flammable vegetation.

*Each party of boaters must carry at least one shovel and one bucket.

No closures are in effect for the Rogue River. Officials were informing all river users of possible closure between Graves Creek and Agness if the Biscuit Fire continued to move forward toward the river. For more information on road and trail closures, visit the website at <http://www.or.blm.gov/medford>.

In the Siskiyou and Rogue River National Forests the following activities are prohibited:

*Building, maintaining, attending or using a fire or campfire. (Use of commercially produced, pressurized, liquid or gas stoves is accept-

Fire rules still in effect due to hazardous state

The 2002 fire season has been one of the worst on record for Southwestern Oregon.

Fire danger readings are higher than they ever have been, and moisture content in vegetation is at an all-time low.

With approximately two months of fire season left, fire officials are reminding area residents and hunters that compliance with regulations designed to prevent fires is crucial.

On state, county, private and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands protected by the Oregon Dept. of Forestry (ODF) in Jackson and Josephine counties, the following activities are prohibited:

*Outdoor burning of any kind.

*Use of fireworks.

*Campfires, except in improved campgrounds such as state and county parks.

*Smoking in areas of flammable vegetation, except in enclosed vehicles on improved roads free of flammable vegetation.

*Vehicle use in areas of flammable vegetation, except on improved roads free of flammable vegetation.

*Cutting, grinding, and welding of metal.

*Chainsaw use.

*Use of power-driven machinery such as backhoes, string trimmers, chippers, etc.

*Non-agricultural mowing

Intimate partner abuse requires intervention: state epidemic expert

By MEL KOHN, M.D.

From emotional abuse to murder, the effects of intimate partner violence range from subtly debilitating to lethal.

*In Gresham, a 23-year-old mother of two was shot and killed in front of her children by her former boyfriend, the girls' father.

*A Salem woman and her 7-year-old daughter were allegedly killed by her live-in boyfriend, whom police said then committed suicide.

*Outside McMinneville, a father killed his wife and four children and then himself.

Forty-six women during 1999 and 2000 died by homicide in Oregon, and of these almost 60 percent were killed by their husbands, ex-husbands, partners or ex-partners.

Intimate partner violence is a major public health issue, and health-care providers have a major role in lessening its scope and severity.

Intimate partner violence is characterized as a pattern of coercive behaviors that may include repeated battering and injury, psychological abuse, sexual assault, progressive social isolation, deprivation and intimidation.

Depending on the scope of definition, some 25,000 to 132,000 Oregon women are subjected to intimate partner violence annually.

Yet, fewer than one in four Oregon women who are victims report that they discussed the abuse with their health-care providers.

The prevalence of intimate partner violence is sufficiently high; and its continuing emergence is such that health-care providers, particularly those providing primary care, will encounter victims regularly. Persons in clinical settings are more likely to have experienced intimate partner violence than non-clinical populations. It is a fairly common reason why women seek medical care.

Even if a woman does not disclose this information, it is an opportunity for health-care providers to ask questions. Often just listening, acknowledging and letting patients know they are not alone can be therapeutic.

Public health officials are urging health-care providers to screen patients for domestic violence. Universal screening is recommended for female patients by a variety of medical authorities, including the American Medical Association (AMA) and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. AMA recommends also that hospitals, community mental health agencies and other helping professions develop appropriate interventions.

Such interventions might include individual and group counseling efforts, support groups and shelters. Providers should be sensitive to the fact that men can be victims of intimate partner violence too.

As clinicians and public-health providers, we must increase our efforts to identify and respond to patients at risk for intimate partner violence.

Intimate partner violence is a significant public health problem that affects a large proportion of the population. The role of health-care providers in the prevention of serious morbidity or even death is critical. Asking a patient if she is in an unsafe home; referring her to resources; and helping her develop a safety plan can be life-saving steps.

Information about services in Oregon is available

from the Intimate Partner Violence Surveillance Program (503) 731-4025 or the Oregon Guide to Domestic Violence Services at http://170.104.17.50/SVC_DIR/dvmap2.html.

(Mel Kohn is state epidemiologist with the Oregon Dept. of Human Services.)

If you are content to be simply yourself and don't compare or compete, everybody will respect you.
(Lao Tze)

If you cannot get rid of the family skeleton, you may as well make it dance.
(George Bernard Shaw)


It's not your blue blood, your pedigree, or your college degree. It's what you do with your life that counts.
(Millard Fuller)



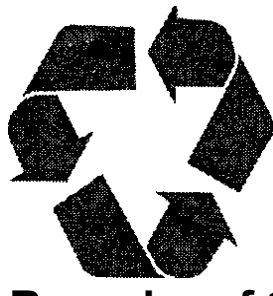
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Lucinda Kolo, M.D.
will begin seeing patients
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at Siskiyou Community Health Center
319 Caves Highway, Cave Junction
To schedule an appointment please phone 592-4111
Dr. Kolo joins us from
Lyme, New Hampshire.
She is available to provide primary care services for the entire family, including pediatrics, women's care and OB.



LUCINDA KOLO, M.D.



9th annual Recycler of the Year Awards

Presented by
Josephine County
Recycler of the Year Committee and the Grants Pass and Josephine County Chamber of Commerce
Last year's 2001 Recycler of the Year Award uncovered and honored some successful recyclers in Josephine County. These honorees reduce, reuse, or recycle materials used at their workplace.
Winners included the following businesses:
Gospel Rescue Mission, Kendall Art Glass Studio,
and the following citizen Robert Halstead: All reduce, reuse and recycle.
Once again we will repeat our program and we invite you to submit your nomination.
Who will be our 2002 honorees?
WHO SHOULD ENTER?
Businesses, Institutions or People that REDUCE, REUSE, OR RECYCLE.
There are hundreds of ways to practice the 3 R's around your home, office or business. Tell us what you or an office you are familiar with are doing.
Are you familiar with any business, institution or person who recycles wood, paper, cardboard, metals, toner cartridges or something else? What about reusing materials? Do you take those plastic containers or Styrofoam peanuts and put them to good use? Do you reduce waste by making double-sided copies, buying in recyclable containers, or by leaving lawn clippings on the yard instead of bagging them? If so, you should enter! There are hundreds of ways to practice the 3 R's around your home, office or business. Tell us what you or a business or institution you are familiar is doing.
HOW TO ENTER:
Describe, briefly, or in as much detail as you want, the nominee's methods of reducing, reusing, or recycling. Information you may want to include is how long the company has been recycling and an estimate of the amounts of materials recycled, reduced, or reused. Winners will be judged on innovation, involvement, and demonstrated commitment to waste reduction.
SUBMIT YOUR ENTRY TO:
Josephine County Dept. of Health & Community Action, Recycling Awards
714 N.W. 'A' St.
Grants Pass, OR 97526 - Attention: Barbara Lonas
DEADLINE: TUESDAY, SEPT. 24
Whether you recycle a lot, or a little, we would like to hear about what you are doing. Awards for outstanding achievements will be presented and featured in the chamber newsletter and in other local media. Good corporate citizens are vital to Josephine County and will set an example for other community members.

Name _____
If business or institution: Contact person _____
If business or institution: Contact person _____ Phone number: _____
Address _____ Number of employees: _____
How this business, institution or person reduces, reuses, and recycles. _____

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