

Funding Available to help Oregon Landowners Mitigate Effects of Drought

Submit applications by June 26

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) in Oregon announces up to \$2.5 million in funding available to farmers, ranchers and forest landowners to mitigate the effects of drought in counties that have secured drought declarations from the Governor's Office.

At this time those counties are: Baker, Crook, Deschutes, Grant, Harney, Jackson, Josephine, Klamath, Lake, Lane, Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, Wasco and Wheeler. If additional counties receive a drought declaration they will also have the opportunity to apply for this funding.

Landowners in these counties should submit applications to their local USDA Service Center by June 26 to be considered for funding.

"This funding will help Oregonians in the most drought-stricken areas of the state to mitigate the impacts of drought on cropland, rangeland and forestland," said Ron Alvarado, state conservationist. "This funding amplifies the work NRCS continues to do every day to support water conservation, soil

health and productivity on Oregon's working agricultural lands and forest lands."

NRCS will give higher priority to applications in counties with the highest drought status according to the USDA Drought Monitor, however, producers in all counties declared by the Governor will be eligible to apply for funding. The USDA drought monitor is updated weekly every Thursday and classifies counties under five drought categories: D0 - Abnormally Dry; D1 - Moderate Drought; D2 - Severe Drought; D3 - Extreme Drought; and D4 - Exceptional Drought. All of Eastern Oregon is in a D2 or D3 drought status.

In Oregon, NRCS will focus the funding on cropland, rangeland and forestry conservation practices. For cropland practices, NRCS will assist producers with planting and managing cover crops and implementing emergency soil erosion measures. These practices will help farmers protect the soil from erosion, promote more organic matter in the soil, and aid in better water infiltration.

For rangeland practices, NRCS will assist ranchers in developing grazing management plans and installing emergency livestock watering facilities and multi-purpose water impoundments. These practices help reduce pressure on stressed vegetation, allow the soil to retain more moisture, and deliver emergency water supplies to livestock.

For forestry practices, NRCS will help landowners with wildfire prevention measures, such as creating fuel breaks, multi-purpose water impoundments and other fuel reduction activities. These actions reduce excess vegetation in a forest so that wildfire has less fuel to spread higher into the canopy, where it causes the most damage. NRCS is partnering with the Oregon Department of Forestry to focus the funding on areas with a higher risk for catastrophic forest fire (see map showing wildfire risk in Oregon).

The funding will be made available to eligible landowners through the NRCS' Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). This is

a popular financial assistance program in the Farm Bill that allows NRCS to work directly with private landowners to implement conservation practices and reimburse landowners for a portion of the expense. Read more about EQIP eligibility, selection and payments on the Oregon EQIP webpage.

Applications will be ranked and prioritized for funding based on the drought level, resource concern,

conservation benefit, and if applicable, the wildfire risk factor.

Landowners should submit applications by contacting their local USDA Service Center. A list of offices and contact information is available on the NRCS Oregon "Contact Us" webpage.

Learn more about NRCS conservation programs in Oregon by visiting www.or.nrcs.usda.gov.

Baker County Private Woodlands Association to Meet May 28

Submitted by Bob Parker

If there's one thing you can count on year after year after year, it's the ever present problem of managing your property to prevent, reduce or eliminate those pesky weeds. This month, the Baker County Private Woodlands Association (BCPWA) will hear from Arnie Grammon, manager of the Baker County Weed Department who will share information about important weeds to watch out for and what management options are available to prevent or control weed problems you may have.

We'll also hear from Sara Miller who is with the Northeast Oregon Economic Development District. Sara will talk about the new "Hatch Oregon" program designed to help entrepreneurs secure funding needed to launch a new business. Over the years, the BCPWA looked at several possible options for creating value added products from small woodland owner logs but inadequate financing was a key obstacle. Hatch Oregon is an innovative way for folks who want to start a business to overcome financing challenges. The meeting will be held on Thursday, May 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the OSU Baker County Extension Service, 2600 East Street in Baker City.



Change of Date to Poco-Wing 4-H Club's Field Day

The annual Poco-Wing 4-H Livestock Judging Field Day will be held on June 15, at 6 p.m. instead of June 6, according to Beth Mackenzie. All 4-H and FFA members are welcome to come hone their livestock judging skills at the Thomas Angus Ranch on Pocahontas Road.



Knock Out Whitetop and Scotch Thistle with Free Herbicide

Baker County Weed District will again be offering free, fully mixed herbicide to help combat whitetop and scotch thistle. Bring chemical-resistant containers, preferably gas or oil cans, and a pair of chemical-resistant gloves. Please, no food containers.

Five gallon limit imposed for each residence.

Hereford Hall /Unity Hall -

June 5 - 9 a.m. in Hereford; 10:30 a.m. Unity

Market Report

May 22, 2015 • Receipts 624

Calves & Yearlings - steady market on all classes of Stockers and Feeders, Significant futures loss. Market Report does include Extreme Highs in Stockers and Feeder Classes.

STEERS

300-399#	280-320
400-499#	270-310
500-599#	250-300
600-699#	220-255
700-799#	180-225
800-899#	180-205
900# & UP	170-190

Slaughter COWS

Steady	
Heiferettes	110-135
Utility	
High Yielding	105-115
Low Yielding	75-100
Feeder Cows	90-110

HEIFERS

300-399#	240-280
400-499#	240-280
500-599#	230-275
600-699#	200-230
700-799#	175-210
800-899#	165-185
900# & UP	140-165

Stock COWS

Better	
Bred Heifers	2400-3000
Solid Mouth V&T	2000-2900
Solid Mouth NV	
Broken Mouth V&T	1300-1800
SM V&T Pairs	2200-3000
BM V&T Pairs	2000-2400

Bulls

Higher	
Best	130-155
Feeder	80-110

Sheep

Higher	
Lambs	140-170
Ewes	15-55

Horses

Better	
Best	30-45
Lighter	15-25

June 4 Cow Special • No sale June 11

INTERMOUNTAIN LIVESTOCK

60654 Livestock Rd. • La Grande, Oregon

541-963-2158

Puzzles

		8		1					
				6					4
9		3							
	5								
	4	1	2		3				
						2		3	
						8		7	
7				5		9	2		
	4				2				

Answers to last week's puzzles

8	7	4	6	1	3	9	2	5
3	9	5	4	2	7	6	1	8
6	1	2	5	8	9	3	7	4
4	2	1	9	3	8	5	6	7
5	3	7	2	6	1	4	8	9
9	6	8	7	4	5	1	3	2
7	8	6	3	5	4	2	9	1
1	4	3	8	9	2	7	5	6
2	5	9	1	7	6	8	4	3

D	A	K	C	A	M	A	S	S	G	O	A	D
E	E	R	U	S	A	B	L	E	E	R	N	E
T	R	I	S	E	C	T	I	O	N	R	A	T
E	A	S	E	O	C	T	E	T	O	T	I	C
S	T	E	A	L	T	H				N	O	T
T	E	S	T	Y		V	O	W		I	R	A
						R	E	P	I	N	E	M
						R	E	F	E	R	E	N
						B	E	N	E	A	C	C
						I	S	L	E	S	K	A
						S	T	A	B		B	A
						M	A	R	L	S	L	E
						U	R	G	E	H	Y	D
						T	E	E	S	O	R	I
						H	A	R	T	T	A	T

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13
14						15							16	
17						18							19	
						20				21		22		
23	24	25							26					
27								28						
29						30		31			32		33	34
35			36			37				38		39		
40					41		42				43		44	
			45			46				47		48		
49	50								51					
52								53						
54					55		56					57	58	59
60					61					62				
63					64					65				

Across

- Pipe material
- Anxiety
- "Can't Help Lovin' ___ Man"
- Excessive
- Philanthropist
- 1969 Peace Prize grp.
- Manufacture in large quantities (hyphenated)
- "Dear" one
- Figure of speech
- Fondle
- Ended up (2 wds)
- Enter (2 wds)
- Massive African animals with two-horned snouts
- Most certain
- Common Market inits.
- Mac
- A heap
- Dismal
- "The Canterbury Tales" pilgrim
- Barber's motion
- Frankincense and myrrh, but not gold
- Stands for
- Fed. construction overseer
- Burger condiment
- One engaged in buying and selling
- Mister
- Baby clothes brand name
- Spanish dish
- Artillery burst
- Etc. in Polish
- Inserted between lines of text
- "Fantasy Island" prop
- Close call
- Hold while moving
- Discharge letters?
- Article of faith
- Carry away, in a way

Down

- Depress, with "out"
- Biochemistry abbr.
- Driver's lic. and others
- Jane ___, English novelist
- Rebuke
- Assume
- Central point
- African antelope
- Goal-oriented activity
- Negotiator
- Extricate
- Crepe de la crepe (2 wds)
- Bit of statuary
- Waker
- Gets promoted
- Belief

24. Up, in a way

- Business of making small loans to impoverished entrepreneurs
- Exotic jelly flavor
- "The sweetest gift of heaven": Virgil
- King Julien in "Madagascar" films
- Moliere comedy, with "The"
- Wrangles
- African hut village
- Ultimate object (hyphenated)
- Do doer
- Work done for others for pay
- Rap session?
- Discordant
- Ran over
- Eucharistic plate
- Addition symbol
- Arid
- "The Joy Luck Club" author
- Victorian, for one
- "A jealous mistress": Emerson
- "The Catcher in the ___"

Sudoku puzzle sponsored by

Embroidery

By
Blue Mountain Design Works
Baker City

Jackets
Hats
Scarfs
Shirts
Sweatshirts
Logos

BHS Bulldog items

1920 Court Street, Baker City

McElroy Printing

Also located here.

541.523.2621



My name is **Baghera** and I am one of the most handsome black cats that has been seen for a long time. I am about 5 years old neutered, vaccinated and totally house trained to use a litter box. However, I will go to the door and make noises to let you know that I would like to go outside for some fresh air and playtime. My owner is moving and is not comfortable taking me to live where there will be large dogs around. I am very

friendly, socialized and even know some tricks. I have lived with adults my entire life and some other cats. I would like to find a home with a family that will allow me to be mainly an indoor house pet before allowing me to go outside into the unknown. Please give Carmen a call at 541-519-4530 or Best Friends of Baker, Inc. at 541-519-7387. Hurry to make your call as my time is running out.

Call Best Friends of Baker, Inc.

541-519-7387

Adopt a Friend!