

Efforts failing to save western sagebrush land

By KEITH RIDLER
Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho — Public lands managers are losing a battle against a devastating combination of invasive plant species and wildfires in the vast sagebrush habitats in the U.S. West that support cattle ranching and recreation and are home to an imperiled bird, officials said.

The Western Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies in a 58-page report released this month says invasive plants on nearly 160,000 square miles (414,400 sq. kilometers) of public and private lands have reached enormous levels and are spreading.

That could mean more giant rangeland wildfires that in recent decades destroyed vast areas of sagebrush country that support some 350 species of wildlife, including imperiled sage grouse.

The top problem identified in the report is the limited ability at all levels of government to prevent invasive plants such as fire-prone cheatgrass from spreading and displacing native plants.



AP Photo/Don Ryan

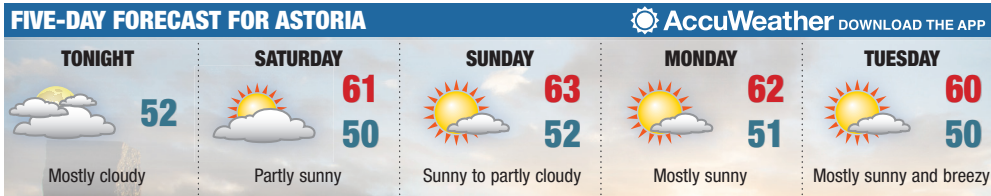
Fire engulfs sagebrush near Roosevelt, Wash. Federal officials say they're losing the battle against a devastating combination of invasive plant species and wildfires.

"There is widespread recognition that invasive annual grasses and wildland fire are the most crucial threats to the sagebrush ecosystem, yet invasive annual grass management is not funded at a level to be effective in breaking the invasive annual grass/fire cycle," the report said.

Most invasive weed management programs tackle less than 10 percent of the infested areas while the annual rate at which the invasive plants

spread is 15 to 35 percent, the report noted. Another invasive is medusahead, a winter annual grass that crowds out native species and forage for livestock.

The report, "Wildfire and Invasive Plant Species in the Sagebrush Biome," is an update to the 2013 "Gap Analysis Report" produced by the Western Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies' multi-agency Wildfire and Invasive Species Working Group.



ALMANAC
Astoria through Thursday.

Temperatures

High/low	63°/53°
Normal high/low	61°/47°
Record high	84° in 1993
Record low	38° in 1923

Precipitation

Thursday	0.00"
Month to date	0.42"
Normal month to date	2.62"
Year to date	33.12"
Normal year to date	32.66"

SUN AND MOON

Sunset tonight	8:53 p.m.
Sunrise Saturday	5:32 a.m.
Moonrise today	4:51 p.m.
Moonset today	4:00 a.m.

Full Moon: June 6
Last Quarter: June 13
New Moon: June 20
First Quarter: June 27

UNDER THE SKY
Tonight's Sky: Hercules, the Hero, is nearing overhead before midnight.

TOMORROW'S TIDES
Astoria / Port Docks

Time	High	Time	Low
12:14 p.m.	7.3 ft.	6:11 a.m.	0.1 ft.
none		6:05 p.m.	1.3 ft.

NATIONAL CITIES

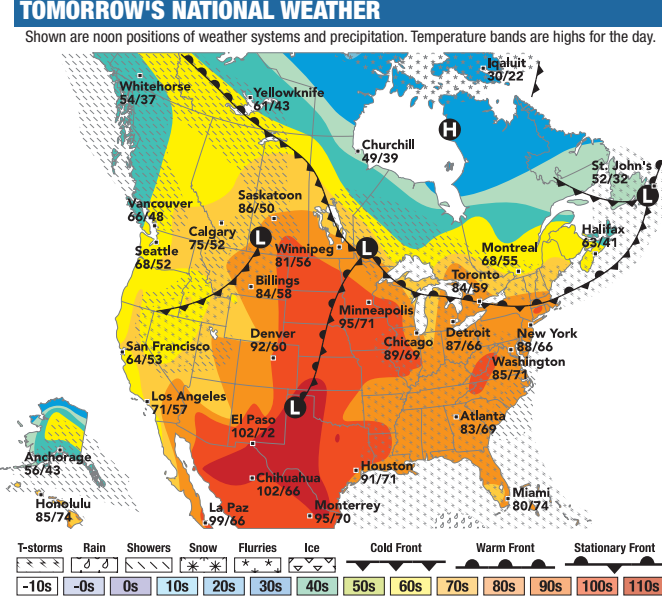
City	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Atlanta	78	69	t	83	69	t
Boston	87	67	s	85	55	t
Chicago	88	67	s	89	69	t
Denver	86	55	pc	92	60	s
Des Moines	90	71	t	95	71	s
Detroit	87	65	s	87	66	t
El Paso	98	67	s	102	72	s
Fairbanks	62	41	c	64	42	pc
Honolulu	85	74	s	85	74	c
Indianapolis	88	68	s	88	70	pc
Kansas City	88	71	t	93	68	s
Las Vegas	90	64	s	83	66	pc
Los Angeles	69	57	sh	71	57	sh
Memphis	86	71	pc	88	72	t
Miami	81	73	t	80	74	t
Nashville	90	67	pc	88	68	t
New Orleans	87	71	t	88	72	t
New York	87	69	s	88	66	pc
Oklahoma City	91	68	s	95	68	s
Philadelphia	87	68	s	87	69	pc
St. Louis	83	70	t	92	72	t
Salt Lake City	88	60	s	80	54	c
San Francisco	65	54	t	64	53	pc
Seattle	69	50	s	68	52	pc
Washington, DC	87	71	s	85	71	c

REGIONAL WEATHER
Shown is tomorrow's weather. Temperatures are tonight's lows and tomorrow's highs.

City	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	52	61				
Tillamook	49	59				
Portland	50	67				
The Dalles	56	72				
Pendleton	53	73				
La Grande	50	65				
Salem	45	67				
Prineville	44	67				
John Day	49	64				
Baker	53	67				
Bend	44	64				
Ontario	56	74				
Eugene	42	64				
Burns	42	63				
Roseburg	47	69				
Medford	46	70				
Klamath Falls	40	64				
Lakeview	44	59				
Brookings	48	63				
Asland	45	69				

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Baker City	81	53	t	67	43	c
Bend	67	44	t	64	39	pc
Brookings	57	47	c	61	49	pc
Eugene	67	42	s	64	43	pc
Ilwaco	59	52	s	59	51	pc
Klamath Falls	59	40	t	64	35	c
Medford	65	46	t	70	46	pc
Newberg	70	44	pc	64	45	pc
Newport	58	47	s	57	46	pc
North Bend	59	50	pc	61	50	pc
Olympia	69	43	s	67	43	pc
Pendleton	83	53	pc	73	49	c
Portland	72	50	s	67	50	pc
Roseburg	64	47	t	69	48	pc
Salem	72	45	s	67	46	pc
Seaside	60	52	s	61	49	pc
Springfield	80	55	pc	72	49	pc
Vancouver	70	48	s	64	47	pc
Yakima	88	53	pc	81	48	pc



Offices close for Memorial Day

The Daily Astorian

In observance of Memorial Day on Monday, all federal, state, county and city offices and services, including Astoria, Warrenton, Gearhart, Seaside and Cannon Beach city halls, are closed. All U.S. post offices are closed, and there is no mail delivery.

Astoria, Jewell, Knappa, Warrenton/Hammond, Seaside (including Cannon Beach and Gearhart schools) and Ocean Beach School District schools and Clatsop Community College are closed.

The Astoria Library, Seaside Library, Warrenton Library and all Timberland libraries in Wash-

ington state, including Ilwaco, Ocean Park and Naselle, are closed.

The Port of Astoria offices and services are closed.

Garbage collection through Recology Western Oregon (covering Astoria, Seaside, Gearhart and Cannon Beach), city of Warrenton garbage collection, and Peninsula Sanitation (covering the Long Beach, Washington, Peninsula) are not affected by the holiday. Recology Western Oregon's transfer station and Peninsula Sanitation's transfer station are open.

The Sunset Pool in Seaside is open. The Astoria Aquatic Center is open.

The Clatsop County Heritage Museum, Oregon Film Museum and Flavel House are open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and the Carriage House is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Uppertown Firefighters' Museum is closed. Capt. Gray's Port of Play and Lil' Sprouts are closed. Fort Clatsop is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Columbia River Maritime Museum is open from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Seaside Museum is closed.

Sunset Empire Transportation ("The Bus") is running.

The Daily Astorian offices are closed, but the newspaper printed and delivered as usual.

OBITUARIES

Patrick McGee

Astoria

April 5, 1946 — May 7, 2018

Patrick McGee, at age 72, of Astoria, Oregon, passed away on May 7, 2018, losing his four-year battle with cancer. He was surrounded by his family, at home, in his final days.

Originally from North Carolina, Patrick enjoyed a successful 50-year career as a housing designer, winning multiple awards for his designs from coast to coast. His passion was his music, specifically his Big Fish Blues Band. Many local musicians were his brothers and sisters in spirit.

Patrick is preceded in death by his parents; his sister, Linda; and his son, Christopher.

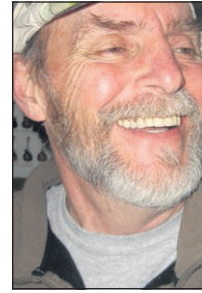
He is survived by KC, his wife of 40 years; his sister, Gayle Quinn of Cape May; a daughter and son-in-law, Jennifer and Timothy Stewart; grandchildren, Vic-

toria, Austin, Trae, Olivya, Rayce and Bella; and his step-grandchildren, Cory, Alyssa, Austin, Jorga and Katie. Also, his sister-in-law and brother-in-law, Nanette and Charlie Chase, and

their children, Adam and Eric; and countless cousins, nieces and nephews on the East Coast. Patrick was introduced, shortly before his passing, to his first great-grandchild, Aria Mae.

True to his Irish character, enduring many challenges of late, he never gave up, never gave in, and never asked why. His longtime friend, Jamey, always referred to Patrick as "the Coolest Kat on the planet." And he was.

A memorial will be announced at a future date.



Patrick McGee

CORRECTION

Incorrect phone number

The Mouth of the Columbia column in the Thursday, May 24, Coast Weekend listed an incorrect phone number for Fulio's Pastaria. The correct number is 503-325-9001.

ON THE RECORD

DUII

• At 1:18 a.m. Friday, Daniel Kyle Meadows, 33, of Astoria, was arrested by Astoria police on 29th Street and Marine Drive and charged with driving under the influence of intoxicants and reckless driving. His blood

alcohol content was 0.20.

• At 10:17 p.m. Thursday, Lilah Laine Romero, 67, of Olympia, Washington, was arrested by the Clatsop County Sheriff's Office on U.S. Highway 30 and charged with DUII.

MEMORIAL

Sunday, June 3

IVANOFF, Willard — Celebration of life from 1 to 5 p.m., Clatsop County Fairgrounds, 92937 Walluski Loop.

BIRTH

May 12, 2018

BYRD, Rachel, and KINDRED, Josh, of Astoria, a girl, Timber Joy Kindred, born at Columbia Memorial Hospital in Astoria. Grandparents are Suzanne Kindred, Judy O'Grady and Mike O'Grady.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

MONDAY

Seaside City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 989 Broadway.

LOTTERIES

OREGON

Thursday's Pick 4:
1 p.m.: 8-1-9-4
4 p.m.: 6-1-1-1
7 p.m.: 5-6-1-8
10 p.m.: 2-0-9-8

Thursday's Lucky Lines: 1-7-10-13-20-23-28-31
Estimated jackpot: \$27,000

WASHINGTON
Thursday's Daily Game:

3-0-2
Thursday's Keno: 3-4-6-7-9-13-25-26-33-39-43-48-51-54-55-59-62-64-66-80
Thursday's Match 4: 2-9-20-21

OBITUARY POLICY

The Daily Astorian publishes paid obituaries. The obituary can include a small photo and, for veterans, a flag symbol at no charge. The deadline for all obituaries is 9 a.m. the business day prior.

Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day of publication.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at www.dailyastorian.com/forms/obits, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Daily Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria. For more information, call 503-325-3211, ext. 257.

JUNE 15-17, 2018

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