

Ice storm causes highway chaos around Portland

PORTLAND (AP) — Freezing rain triggered numerous crashes in northwestern Oregon on Friday, including a tractor-trailer pileup just to the east of Portland in the city of Troutdale and a massive wreck on Interstate 5 in Portland that took hours to untangle.



AP Photo/Don Ryan

A drivers runs around the front of this truck after a handful of semi trucks became entangled on an icy road just off Interstate 5 in Troutdale Friday. Freezing rain caused many crashes in the Portland and Columbia River Gorge areas.

Elsewhere near Portland, a tractor-trailer slid 50 feet down an embankment and a car plunged 30 feet after going of a road.

There were no immediate reports of fatalities or serious injuries from the treacherous weather, the latest round of the region's most brutal winter in years.

The precipitation began early Friday, bringing snow to the Cascades and much of the Columbia River Gorge. Meanwhile, a thin layer of ice coated windshields and Portland-area roads.

The conditions slowed buses, streetcars and light-rail trains during the morning commute. Some flights

at Portland International Airport were delayed or canceled. Many schools and government offices either closed or got late starts.

The crash on I-5 happened before 3 a.m. near Capitol Highway, ensnaring more than two dozen cars and semi-trucks. A bus was

called in to provide warmth for stranded motorists, but had trouble getting to the scene. The drivers, none of whom was seriously hurt, took shelter in a fast food restaurant.

The state Department of Transportation managed to open several lanes of traffic

before dawn.

In the Interstate 84 crash, the Corbett Fire Department said the tractor-trailer went down a 50-foot embankment toward the Columbia River. Crews used a rope system to rescue the driver and passenger, who suffered minor injuries, Assistant Chief Rick Wunsch said.

In Clackamas County south of Portland, firefighters responded to a car that slid off an icy road that has a steep drop off. Clackamas Fire District spokesman Steve Hoffeditz said the vehicle fell 30 feet and landed on a trailer before sliding into someone's yard.

The woman removed herself from the vehicle and walked to a home. She was taken to a hospital for an evaluation, Hoffeditz said.

The ice storm was not expected to linger. Forecasts called for the temperature in Portland to rise to 40 degrees by late Friday and stay there on Saturday and Sunday.

Four from standoff to plead guilty to misdemeanors

By CONRAD WILSON
Oregon Public Broadcasting

Four of the seven defendants in the second Malheur Refuge trial are scheduled to plead guilty to federal charges.

The defendants are scheduled to go to trial on Feb. 14.

New federal court filings show Dylan Anderson, Sean Anderson, Sandy Anderson and Darryl Thorn indicate they plan to change their pleas at hearings in U.S. District Court next week.

Prosecutors have charged the defendants with felonies, including conspiring to prevent federal employees from doing their job at the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge near Burns, as well as carrying a firearm in a federal facility. Those are the same felony charges leaders of the occupation faced, and were acquitted of, last year.

In this second trial, prosecutors also added

misdemeanor charges, such as trespassing and destruction of property.

But a person familiar with the case tells OPB the four defendants are expected to plead guilty to trespassing, a misdemeanor charge. All other charges, including the felonies, will be dropped.

If the four plead guilty that will leave just three defendants at this month's trial: Jason Patrick, Duane Ehmer and Jake Ryan.

The charges stem from the 41-day long occupation of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in Eastern Oregon's high desert.

Last month, U.S. District Court Judge Anna Brown ruled the misdemeanor charges wouldn't be heard by a jury, but rather in a separate trial before a judge if the defendants go to court.

In October, a jury acquitted occupation leader Ammon Bundy and six others on all charges for their roles in the occupa-

Lawmakers consider stronger invasive mussel defenses

By MATEUSZ PERKOWSKI
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Oregon lawmakers are considering whether to strengthen the state's defenses against invasive aquatic mussels that threaten both irrigation systems and ecosystems.

The House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee has introduced legislation creating a new penalty for people who refuse to subject their boats to inspection for quagga and zebra mussels at checkpoints, among other measures.

The mussels threaten to clog irrigation intakes and disrupt habitats for native fish species.

Currently, drivers hauling boats who don't stop at check points can be ticketed for traffic violations. The stations are located at common entry points for watercraft along Oregon's borders.

Under House Bill 2321, drivers who are pulled over by police within five miles of failing to stop at a checkpoint can be charged with a misdemeanor if they refuse

Quagga mussel

This non-native freshwater mussel poses a major threat to U.S. waterways as an invasive species. It's similar in appearance to its more infamous cousin, the zebra mussel.



0.8 inches (Actual size)

Binomial name: Dreissena rostriformis

Appearance: Shell is striped, being more pale toward the end of the hinge

Diet: Filter feeder

Life span: 3-5 years

Origin: Dnieper River drainage of Ukraine

First observed: 1989 in Lake Erie near Port Colborne, Ontario

Sources: www.wikipedia.org; USGS

Capital Press graphic

operators of non-motorized watercraft under 10 feet in length, such as kayaks, don't have to buy Aquatic Invasive Species Permits, which cost \$5 a year.

Money collected from selling such permits is used to control invasive aquatic species. Boats would have to be drained of all water before leaving a river or lake under HB 2321, with operators facing a penalty of \$30 for non-motorized watercraft and \$50 for motorized watercraft in they don't comply with this requirement.

Between 2010 and 2016, the number of boats inspected for invasive mussels has grown from fewer than 3,000 to more than 16,000 per year, said Scott Brewen, director of the Oregon Marine Board, during a Feb. 2 committee hearing.

While compliance with the check points has improved in recent years, about 18 percent of boaters still didn't stop for inspections in 2016, spurring the idea for HB 2321, he said.

Rep. Sherrie Sprenger,

R-Scio, said she sympathized with the intent of the bill but was concerned about the potential for boaters to be charged with a misdemeanor, the same class of crime as some thefts and assaults.

Rep. Brian Clem, D-Salem, said he wasn't thrilled about eliminating the permit exemption for non-motorized watercraft under 10 feet in length, but he said these points would be further debated in the future.

During the Feb. 2 hearing, lawmakers also considered House Bill 2266, which pertains to funding for hatchery fish research.

Currently, unobligated money left over in the Oregon Hatchery Research Center Fund is transferred to the Oregon Hatchery Construction Fund at the end of each fiscal year.

Under HB 2266, that money would be allowed to remain in the fund dedicated to hatchery research.

The Capital Bureau is a collaboration between EO Media Group and Pamplin Media Group.

Suit alleges counselor physically abused client in Medford

IMEDFORD (AP) — An Oregon man is suing an addiction-treatment service for \$2 million, alleging he was beaten by a counselor whose nickname as a mixed martial-arts fighter is "The Nightmare."

The *Mail Tribune* reports the lawsuit was filed Wednesday in Medford on behalf of Brandon Neims, who was receiving treatment for fathers with young children.

The suit asserts that Travis Cavalli struck Neims with his hands and feet, and also hit him with a

whip and a sock filled with rice.

The suit names Cavalli, his supervisor and his employer — OnTrack Inc.

An OnTrack official told the *Mail Tribune* he was unaware of the suit. Cavalli, who no longer works there, declined comment.

The suit is another blow for OnTrack, the largest addiction recovery service in southern Oregon. It recently began a \$250,000 project to upgrade housing facilities after state investigators found "deplorable" conditions.

Corrections

The East Oregonian works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

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Multimedia Consultants:
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541-278-2678 • tbriggs@eastoregonian.com

• Elizabeth Freemantle
541-278-2683 • efreemantle@eastoregonian.com

• Jeanne Jewett
541-564-4531 • jjewett@eastoregonian.com

• Chris McClellan
541-966-0827 • cmcclellan@eastoregonian.com

• Stephanie Newsom
541-278-2687 • snewsom@eastoregonian.com

• Dayle Stinson
541-278-2670 • dstinson@eastoregonian.com

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COMMERCIAL PRINTING
Production Manager: Mike Jensen
541-215-0824 • mjensen@eastoregonian.com

AccuWeather.com Forecast

TODAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Not as cold with a shower or two	Mainly cloudy, showers around	Mostly cloudy with a bit of rain	Cloudy	Cloudy with a snow shower
PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
44° 35°	43° 33°	37° 29°	37° 27°	35° 29°
HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST				
38° 33°	42° 34°	38° 28°	38° 27°	36° 29°

ALMANAC

PENDLETON through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE HIGH LOW

Yesterday	23°	16°
Normals	44°	28°
Records	62° (1926)	-18° (1950)

PRECIPITATION 24 hours ending 3 p.m. 0.05"

Month to date 0.05"

Normal month to date 0.14"

Year to date 1.70"

Last year to date 1.56"

Normal year to date 1.52"

HERMISTON through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE HIGH LOW

Yesterday	26°	20°
Normals	45°	29°
Records	67° (1968)	-29° (1950)

PRECIPITATION 24 hours ending 3 p.m. Trace

Month to date Trace

Normal month to date 0.09"

Year to date 1.69"

Last year to date 1.15"

Normal year to date 1.37"

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today 7:13 a.m.

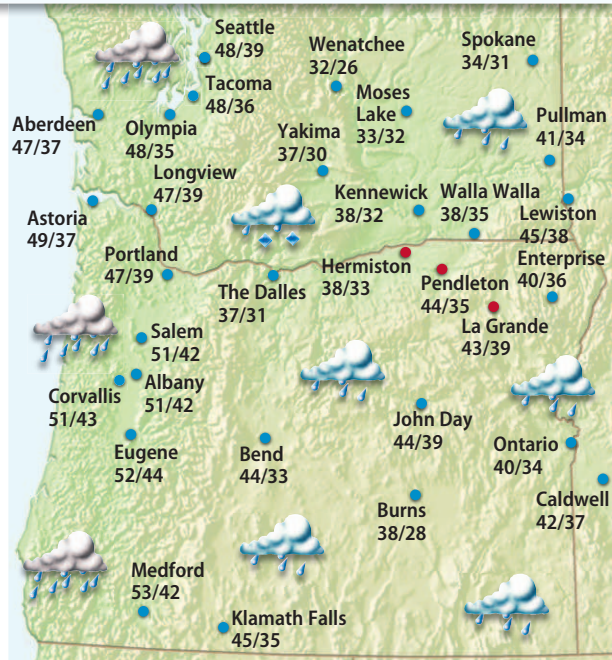
Sunset tonight 5:06 p.m.

Moonrise today 11:31 a.m.

Moonset today 12:57 a.m.

Full Last New First

Feb 10 Feb 18 Feb 26 Mar 5



REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Rain at times today into tomorrow. Monday: periods of rain.

Eastern and Central Oregon: A shower today; not as cold across the north.

Western Washington: Periods of rain today into tomorrow. Monday and Tuesday: periods of rain.

Eastern Washington: Some ice near the Cascades and in the south this morning; a bit of snow and rain east.

Cascades: Snow today, heaviest in the north where there can be up to a new foot of snow.

Northern California: Cloudy today; periods of rain, except a snow shower in the interior mountains.

REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Sun.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	49	37	r	41	34	r
Baker City	38	31	c	38	32	c
Bend	44	33	c	48	31	c
Brookings	51	47	r	54	41	r
Burns	38	28	c	38	29	c
Enterprise	40	36	c	42	34	c
Eugene	52	44	r	51	36	r
Heppner	43	35	c	44	33	c
Hermiston	38	33	i	42	34	sh
John Day	44	39	c	45	35	c
Klamath Falls	45	35	c	46	33	c
La Grande	43	39	c	42	34	sh
Meacham	40	35	c	39	29	sh
Medford	53	42	r	58	38	c
Newport	50	41	r	44	36	r
North Bend	54	46	r	52	37	r
Ontario	40	34	c	40	35	sh
Pasco	36	29	i	40	32	c
Pendleton	44	35	sh	43	33	sh
Portland	47	39	r	41	33	r
Redmond	48	35	c	49	32	c
Salem	51	42	r	45	35	r
Spokane	34	31	sn	37	31	c
Ukiah	44	35	c	43	32	c
Vancouver	49	40	r	42	33	r
Walla Walla	38	35	sh	44	38	sh
Yakima	37	30	i	39	32	c

WORLD CITIES

	Today			Sun.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	51	25	s	48	25	s
Hong Kong	71	64	sh	74	63	pc
Jerusalem	56	37	pc	56	39	s
London	47	36	r	45	32	c
Mexico City	70	48	pc	72	47	pc
Moscow	14	6	c	13	0	i
Paris	46	40	r	47	39	sh
Rome	60	50	sh	60	49	sh
Seoul	43	30	c	40	20	pc
Sydney	84	77	pc	93	77	pc
Tokyo	54	40	s	58	47	r

WINDS

(in mph)	Today	Sunday
Boardman	VAR 2-4	E 4-8
Pendleton	SSW 4-8	SW 6-12

UV INDEX TODAY

0 1 2 1 0 0

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.

0-2, Low 3-5, Moderate 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

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NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.

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