

ODF declares fire season statewide

East Oregonian

SALEM — Fire season is now officially in effect on all Oregon Department of Forestry-protected lands.

The announcement comes after the ODF Northwest Oregon and North Cascade protection districts declared fire season July 1. ODF's Southwest Oregon District was the first to declare fire season June 1.

ODF protects more than 16 million acres of private, county, state and federal land. Fire season is declared at the local district level, with restrictions intended to help prevent human-caused wildfires. Declarations are based on the National Fire Danger Rating System as well as other local factors, such as weather and conditions on the ground. Fire season generally runs through October and ends based on local conditions.

For residents within ODF's 12 fire protection districts, the arrival of fire season means the end of unregulated outdoor debris burning, a leading cause of wildfire. While permits to burn may be issued in some areas, debris burning is generally prohibited throughout the summer due to increased wildfire risk. Violators burning without a permit will be



Oregon Department of Forestry crews receive their assignment at the Camp Fire Incident Command Post in November 2018. Fire season is now officially in effect on all Oregon Department of Forestry-protected lands.

cited and held liable for fire suppression costs.

Other public use fire restrictions are also in effect in several areas. The use of fireworks, tracer ammunition and exploding targets are illegal within ODF protection boundaries, as well as other state and federal lands. Campfires, the mowing of dry, cured grass, cutting and welding, power saw use and other spark-emitting activities are regulated at the

local level, depending upon the conditions and fire danger. For example, during low fire danger, mowing may be allowed all day. However, during moderate, high and extreme fire danger mowing may be restricted to early morning or prohibited until conditions improve.

ODF encourages the public to stay informed of current fire restrictions by visiting the agency's Fire Restrictions & Closures

website or calling their local ODF or protective association office.

Forest operators are required to follow fire season requirements, including providing a water supply, fire tools, spark arresters on equipment, and fire watch. Similar to fire danger restrictions for the public, operators must follow rules under the four-tiered Industrial Fire Precaution Level (IFPL) system.

A record-breaking number of people will travel for Fourth of July

583,000 Oregonians expected to hit the roads during holiday

By MEERAH POWELL
Oregon Public Broadcasting

PORTLAND — AAA projects a record-breaking 48.9 million Americans will be traveling for the Fourth of July holiday. That's the most people traveling since AAA started tracking holiday travel in 2000.

In Oregon, 583,000 people are expected to travel for the Fourth of July.

Marie Dodds, director of government and public affairs for AAA Oregon, said a strong economy is fueling increased travel.

"Consumer optimism is healthy. Folks are feeling good about their personal economic situations and they're willing to spend their hard-earned money on things like travel," she said. "We've certainly seen that for all of the

travel periods this year." The Fourth of July is typically the busiest summer holiday for travel, Dodds said. Memorial Day and Labor Day come in second and third, respectively.

The travel period for the holiday is defined as Wednesday, July 3, to Sunday, July 7.

"The busiest travel day will be the day before the Fourth of July — so July 3," Dodds said. "That afternoon is going to be really busy on the roadways."

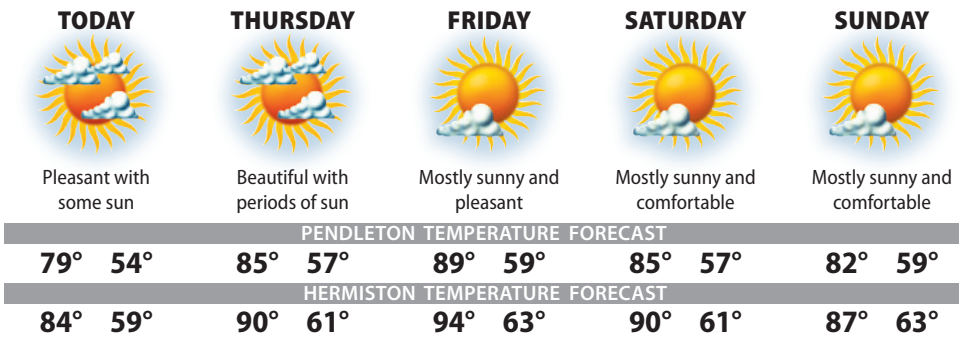
The peak travel time, she said, will be roughly 2 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

"Travel times could be up to four times as long as the normal trip during that crunch," Dodds said.

"If you can avoid that time on the roadways, that's great, but the thing to keep in mind for the Fourth of July is that we're looking at record travel, so basically anytime you leave, you can expect more company than usual."

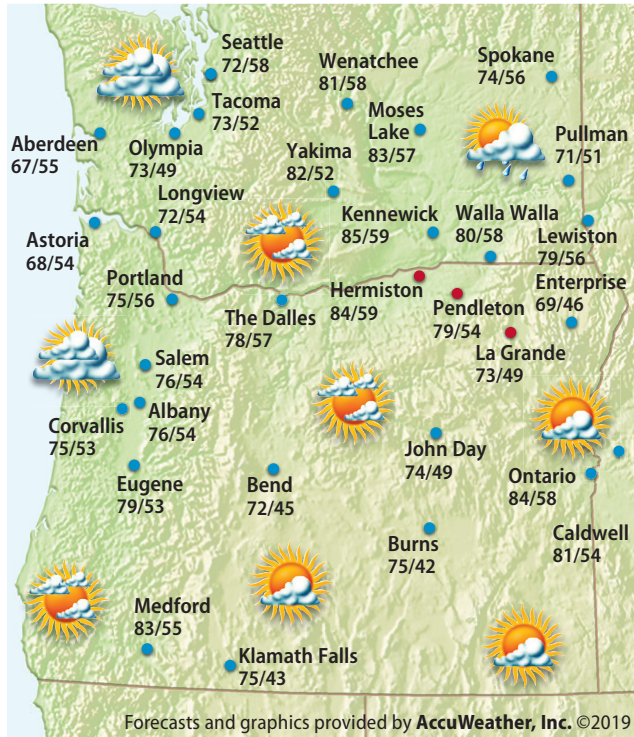
The top Independence Day domestic travel destinations for AAA Oregon members are Seattle, Los Angeles and Las Vegas.

Forecast for Pendleton Area



OREGON FORECAST

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.



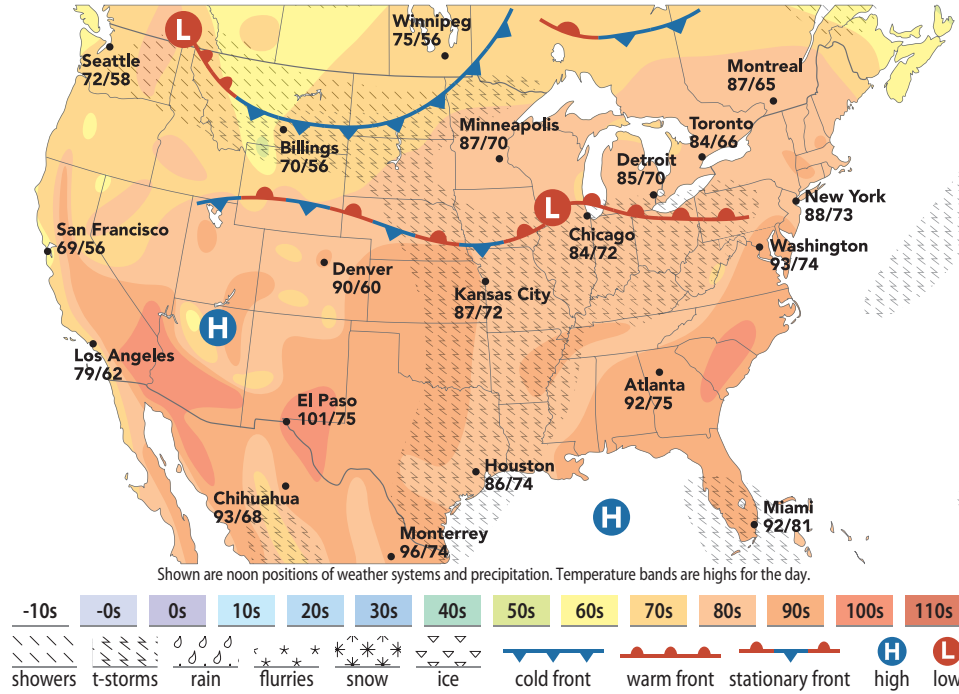
ALMANAC

PENDLETON through 3 p.m. yest.				
TEMP.	HIGH	LOW		
Yesterday	80°	56°		
Normals	85°	56°		
Records	106° (2013)	42° (1955)		
PRECIPITATION				
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.02"			
Month to date	0.02"			
Normal month to date	0.02"			
Year to date	9.59"			
Last year to date	6.49"			
Normal year to date	7.59"			
HERMISTON through 3 p.m. yest.				
TEMP.	HIGH	LOW		
Yesterday	82°	61°		
Normals	85°	56°		
Records	107° (2013)	42° (2003)		
PRECIPITATION				
24 hours ending 3 p.m.	Trace			
Month to date	Trace			
Normal month to date	0.01"			
Year to date	4.55"			
Last year to date	5.10"			
Normal year to date	5.71"			
WINDS (in mph)				
	Today	Thu.		
Boardman	WSW 6-12	WSW 7-14		
Pendleton	W 6-12	W 6-12		
SUN AND MOON				
Sunrise today	5:11 a.m.			
Sunset tonight	8:48 p.m.			
Moonrise today	6:06 a.m.			
Moonset today	9:54 p.m.			
	First	Full	Last	New
	July 9	July 16	July 24	July 31

NATIONAL EXTREMES

Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 109° in Needles, Calif. Low 30° in Boca Reservoir, Calif.

NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY



State to review Sumpter's records

By JAYSON JACOBY
EO Media Group

BAKER CITY — The Oregon Department of Justice is conducting a financial audit of the city of Sumpter, following Mayor Greg Lucas' decision to put three city employees on paid administrative leave.

Baker County District Attorney Matt Shirtcliff said he talked with Sheriff Travis Ash about the situation after Lucas brought the matter to the sheriff's attention.

Because neither the sheriff's office nor the district attorney's office is equipped to review a city's financial records, Shirtcliff said he

reached out to the Department of Justice to conduct the audit.

In an email to the *Herald*, Lucas wrote: "As Mayor of The City of Sumpter, I have placed the following, Jeff McKinney, Julia McKinney, and LeAnne Woolf on paid administrative leave as a result of an ongoing internal investigation. We have rehired Lee German, our previous lead city maintenance employee to oversee continued operations. Tim Jacobson as his assistant and retained Jeff Wells as our parks attendant. Due to the ongoing investigation we cannot comment further."

Kristina Edmundson,

communications director for the Department of Justice, said agency officials do not comment on pending cases or investigations.

Julie McKinney is the city recorder for Sumpter, population 210, which is about 28 miles west of Baker City. Jeff McKinney, who is her husband, is the city's public works director.

Woolf, a former Sumpter city councilor, is the city's assistant city recorder and finance director.

Woolf said in recent interview that Lucas told her on May 14 she was on paid leave. Woolf said the mayor placed the McKinneys on paid leave June 14.

CORRECTION: In the B1 story "Going the extra mile" a caption under the photo of an overhead shot of a barrel racer in the story incorrectly identified the rider as Jessica Lewis.

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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Sponsored by Pendleton Whisky Music Fest

10 pm, Thursday, July 4th

Spectacular display will be launched from vacant lot west of WalMart

For more information, contact Jerry Imsland at 541-276-8245

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