

U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden will seek reelection in 2022

By CRYSTAL LIGORI
Oregon Public Broadcasting

SALEM — U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden says he's seeking reelection in 2022, ending speculation that Oregon's senior senator might retire and pave the way for a crowded lineup of potential replacements.

Wyden, 71, told Oregon Public Broadcasting he believes he has more work to do in Washington, D.C.

"Of course I'm running," he said. "There's so much to do for Oregonians, and I'd very much like to have the honor of representing Oregonians again."

Wyden holds several key positions in Congress, including on the Senate Intelligence Committee. Should Democrats regain control of the Senate this month, Wyden is in line to chair the Senate Finance Committee.

One of his priorities in the coming Congress, Wyden said, is wildfire preparation and prevention. He and U.S. Sen. Jeff Merk-



U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden, right, speaks with volunteers from the American Red Cross during a tour last year. Oregon's senior senator says he will seek another term in 2022.

ley have proposed creating a 21st century civilian conservation corps — essentially a modern re-creation of a program that was part of President Franklin Roosevelt's efforts to pull the United

States out of the Great Depression. Among other points, the legislation would pay young people to work in wildfire-prone areas doing fuels treatments and community protection work,

among other conservation work nationwide. Wyden said the racial justice protests of 2020 changed the way he thinks about his job. For example, he said, the Senate Finance

Committee is looking at racial injustices in the health care system.

"You look, for example, at the fact that so often in affluent white suburbs there's an incredible array of health care services," Wyden said. "But in communities of color, very often, what we're seeing is almost health care deserts, where they really lack for basic services ... These challenges are going to have to be priorities for every single senator, for every single committee, and they will be at the top of my list."

He's hoping President-elect Joe Biden makes infrastructure a priority during his first 100 days in office.

"I believe the big major piece of legislation right out of the gate needs to be infrastructure, roads, bridges," Wyden said. "This is a chance to put folks to work. It creates jobs."

Wyden's decision to seek reelection changes the political calculus for ambitious politicians planning ahead.

Though the 2022 campaigns are more than a year from entering high gear, speculation is already mounting about which Democratic leaders might be considering seeking higher office. Wyden's announcement means there will be only one high profile statewide job up for grabs: the governorship.

Gov. Kate Brown is term-limited out of office in 2022. The list of people who could be interested, or wooed, to run is long. It includes House Speaker Tina Kotek, State Treasurer Tobias Read, Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum, Multnomah County Chair Deborah Kafoury and Metro Council President Lynne Peterson.

On the Republican side, Salem oncologist and 2016 GOP nominee Bud Pierce has said he's running for governor. The GOP has struggled to find challengers for Wyden since his first election in 1996.

Prior to his Senate career, Wyden served 15 years in the U.S. House.

More work set on Owyhee Reservoir 'glory hole'

By BRAD CARLSON
Capital Press

VALE — Concrete work on the Owyhee Reservoir's spillway-regulating ring gate, or "glory hole," is expected to enter its second phase in late 2021.

A concrete structure near Southeastern Oregon's Owyhee Dam houses a steel ring 60 feet in diameter and weighing more than 1 ton. Differential valves are used to float or sink the ring. Sinking it increases outflows through three release points in the dam.

The system's seals were refurbished about a decade ago.

"We learned some things we probably can improve on next time," Owyhee Irrigation District Project Manager Jay Chamberlin said.

The nearly 89-year-old district supplies irrigation water to more than 167,000 acres near Adrian, Nyssa and Ontario. Phased improvements to the ring gate housing's exterior concrete will increase durability and better protect the internal structure.

Crews from mid-October



The "glory hole" at the Owyhee Reservoir funnels excess water into the spillway and into the river below the dam.

to mid-December 2020 restored and added reinforcement bars, and disman-

led and replaced a roughly 40-foot section of concrete crest around the ring gate. Chamberlin said the district expects costs, still being tallied, to be between \$30,000 and \$40,000.

He said the project took about three times longer than expected due to challenging prep work, weather delays and coronavirus-related worker shortages. Most of the concrete was placed and finished by hand because access was difficult.

"The first (phase) was very difficult," Chamber-

lin said. "It went longer than anticipated because of the unknowns. But the finished product, we were very pleased with."

He said work on the second phase is expected to start around Nov. 1, depending on weather and reservoir levels. Five phases are planned.

Chamberlin said the district plans to buy a concrete pump, concrete saw and other equipment to increase efficiency and, ideally, improve a longer segment in 2021. A total cost of less than \$50,000 is anticipated.

EASTERN OREGON marketplace

Place classified ads online at www.easternoregonmarketplace.com or call 1-800-962-2819 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. After hours, leave a voicemail and we'll confirm your ad the next business day. Email us at classifieds@eastoregonian.com or fax: 541-278-2680

Deadline is 3 p.m. the day before publication

We accept:

211 S.E. Byers Ave.
Pendleton, OR 97801

333 E. Main St.
Hermiston, OR 97838

See www.easternoregonmarketplace.com for classified ads from all over Eastern Oregon

EAST OREGONIAN • HERMISTON HERALD • BLUE MOUNTAIN EAGLE • WALLOWA COUNTY CHIEFTAIN

MEDICAL DIRECTORY

PEDIATRIC DENTIST

Advanced
PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

CALL TODAY!
541-289-5433
1060 W. Elm,
Suite #115
Hermiston
(across from
Good Shepherd Medical Center)

hermistonkidsdentist.com
Hours:
Mon-Fri 8am-4pm

Find us on
 Facebook
 CareCredit
Patient Payment Plans

FAMILY MEDICINE/URGENT CARE

**HERMISTON FAMILY MEDICINE
& URGENT CARE**

Family Care • Minor Injuries
Sports Physicals
Minor Surgeries

541-567-1137

We accept Medicare & some Advantage Medicare plans

236 E. Newport., Hermiston
(across from U.S. Bank)

HOURS:
Mon.-Thurs. 8am-5pm • Friday 8am-3pm

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY

DENTIST

COMPREHENSIVE CARE
A better way to oral health

DESERT DENTAL

Ryan M. Wieseler, D.D.S., PC

995 Orchard Ave., Hermiston
541-567-8161

www.desertdentalsmiles.com

ASSISTED LIVING

Call for
Availability!

Knowing how hard it is to make a lifestyle change, let us help you through the decision making process.

STUDIO AND ONE
BEDROOM APARTMENTS

Sun Terrace Hermiston
A Retirement and Assisted Living Community
A RESIDENCY PACIFIC COMMUNITY

Bringing independence to living and quality to life.

Call Pam: 541-564-2595
for assistance!
Check out our virtual tour on YouTube:
[search Sun Terrace Hermiston](#)

MENTAL HEALTH

"LET US BE THE ONE TO HELP"

- Adult, child & family therapy
- Psychiatric evaluation & treatment
- Mental health & crisis services
- Confidential and professional care

LIFEWAYS

HELPING PEOPLE

CRISIS PHONE:
866-343-4473

331 SE 2nd St., Pendleton
541-276-6207
595 NW 11th St., Hermiston
541-567-2536

WWW.LIFEWAYS.ORG

Put your business in today for only

\$50 A MONTH!

PUBLISHES IN THE EO, HH & EO MARKETPLACE WEEKLY!

Contact Your Sales Rep Today!

Hermiston & surrounding areas
Kelly : 541-564-4531

Pendleton & surrounding areas
Angela : 541-966-0827