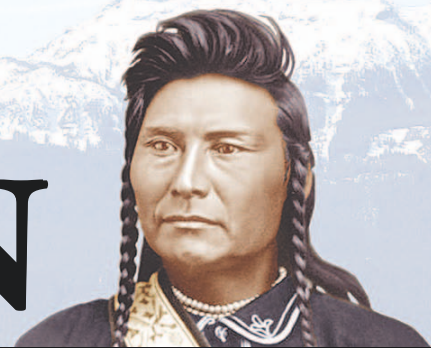


# WALLOWA COUNTY CHIEFTAIN



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## COUNTY FIRES DOWNGRADED



Steve Tool/Chieftain

One of the sprinklers spraying down the home of Derek and Cindy Bowker on Hurricane Creek Road during the Falls Creek Fire. 61 homes in the area were on Evacuation Levels 1 or 2.

## Falls Creek fire fizzles

By Steve Tool

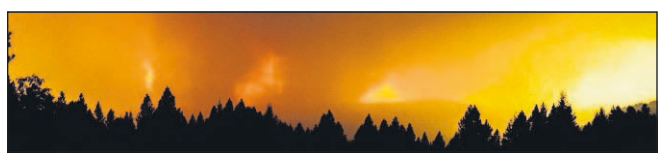
Wallowa County Chieftain

The Falls Creek fire, which threatened some 61 homes on or near Hurricane Creek Road, is no longer recognized as a threat by the U.S. Forest Service as of the morning of Aug. 30. The fire was first reported during the early morning hours of Aug. 22 by a hiker near the confluence of Falls and National creeks.

Though the blaze nev-

er reached over 400 acres in size, it was considered a major threat because of high temperatures, low humidity and its proximity to homes and structures in the Upper Hurricane Creek Road area. As a safety precaution for firefighters and emergency services personnel, upper Hurricane Creek Road was closed to all traffic except residents, firefighting and county services personnel.

See BLAZE, Page A7



Courtesy photo

Looking out from the Troy area at a panoramic view of the Grizzly Bear Complex Fire.

## Grizzly Bear fire evac levels lowered

National Guard arrives to help defend structures, widen fire lines

By Kathleen Ellyn

Wallowa County Chieftain

The U.S. Forest Service expects to have the 74,471-acre Grizzly Bear Complex fire wrapped up by the end of October, according to Incident Command.

As of Tuesday, Sept. 1, the fire was 20 percent contained and the winds of Saturday and Sunday had not created the problems feared.

"It brought down some

trees and snags and we had an antenna tower blown over at a spike camp at Fry Meadows, but it's all back to normal," said Mark Wilkening, public information officer for the Incident Command.

All evacuation levels have been lowered by one degree in all zones, he said. Areas until recently at Level 3 (Troy, Grouse Flats, Eden Bench area) will become Level 2. Areas recently at Level 2 (Asotin County north and east of Boggan's Oasis and Big Butte) become Level 1. The evacuation warning has been lifted from areas that were previously Level 1.

Troy is still rated an Evacuation Level 2 because of fire off to the north, Wilkening said.

See GRIZZLY, Page A7

## DOGS DOWNED

### 'PROBABLE WOLF ATTACK' INJURES TWO



Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftain

Tom the Border Collie got roughed-up and bruised on his head (note roughed-up cheek) and his "nether regions" but is doing much better. He's happy to see just about anyone, but didn't like going into the exam room for a photo.

**"WE JUST DON'T HAVE ENOUGH DATA ON THE WENAHA AREA WOLVES TO KNOW THEM. ... THEY'RE THE LEAST VISIBLE PACK.**

Bruce Eddy, ODFW East Region Manager

By Kathleen Ellyn

Wallowa County Chieftain

On the morning of Aug. 26, Buck Matthews, manager of the Anchor Bar Ranch on Grouse Flats outside of Troy, went out to meet his ranch hand, Josh Markeson, so the two could return to rounding up their 300 cows trapped between fires on Eden Bench.

But another disaster confronted him as he stepped out the door.

Two of his cattle dogs, 10-year-old Border Collie/Kelpie "Scooter," and 2-year-old Border Collie "Tom" had been attacked.

"Scooter could hardly stand up and was in shock," said Buck's wife, Chelsea Matthews. "Tom was limping and moving slow."

See ATTACK, Page A7



Kathleen Ellyn/Chieftain

Scooter, 10, suffered bites to his shoulders and was "roughed up top to bottom" vet tech Darcy Moncrief said. Scooter now sports three drainage tubes in his shoulders.

## Juniper Jam books a dozen musical acts

Festival focuses on original songs

ENTERPRISE — The seventh annual Juniper Jam, a fundraiser for the Wallowa Valley Music Alliance, will fill the Wallowa Valley Fairgrounds with music all day on Saturday, Sept. 5.

Billed as "the sweetest little music festival in Eastern Oregon," the musical genres presented at Juniper Jam are varied, although the common thread is original music — honoring the songs and their writers. This fun-filled day of music starts at 1 p.m. and continues non-stop on two stages, all day until about 10 p.m..

Festival-goers will enjoy many styles of music includ-



Courtesy photo

Dustin Hamman, right, is front for Run On Sentence, described as "an ever-evolving musical project." Emphasis is on lyrics.

ing folk, country, Americana, rock and blues, as well as great food and drink, plus children's activities.

"We are pretty excited about the lineup of musicians this year," says festival director Janis Carper. From Reno,

**"WE ARE PRETTY EXCITED ABOUT THE LINEUP OF MUSICIANS THIS YEAR.**

Janis Carper, festival director

Nev., Jelly Bread brings a sound that melds elements of alt-rock with soul and funk, yet is thoroughly steeped in rock-Americana. They feature four part harmonies, solid drum and bass grooves, swampy lap steel guitar, and take-'em-to-church organ.

Juniper Jam alumni Simon Tucker returns to the festival main stage this year with a full band, showcasing his virtuosic guitar skills and soulful voice on material rooted in blues, soul and gospel. Tucker grew up in Lewiston, Idaho, and spends time between there and Portland.

"It wouldn't be Juniper Jam without a string band," adds Carper.

Visiting from the Puget Sound of Washington, The Blackberry Bushes is a Northwest acoustic Americana and bluegrass band whose sound falls somewhere between Gillian Welch and the Infamous Stringdusters. Singer, songwriter and fiddler virtuoso Jakob Breitbach form the core of this five-piece band that also includes upright bass, mandolin and banjo.

See FESTIVAL, Page A7



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