

## IN BRIEF

**'Hoot owl' regulations in Oregon lifted**

"Hoot owl" regulations, put in place earlier this summer in some portions of Oregon by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, have been lifted, meaning anglers no longer have to put their reel away at 2 p.m.

Effective Friday, Sept. 3, all streams, creeks and rivers could return to normal fishing hours "for salmon, steelhead, trout and sturgeon fishing, providing fishing is open for these species," the ODFW said. Normal fishing hours are from one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset.

**Mentor Match program kickoff is tonight**

ENTERPRISE — The Mentor Match Teen Entrepreneur Program will hold an introduction meeting today, Wednesday, Sept. 8, 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Building Healthy Families, located at 207 E. Park St. in Enterprise.

Interested high school juniors and seniors from throughout Wallowa County are invited to learn about the program and see if it's right for them. Funded and administered by Building Healthy Families, the program is free to all participants.

The program runs from September to the end of April, with a field trip in June.

Pizza will be served at tonight's meeting.

In the program, participants will:

- Create their own, successful business, using the resources available right now.
  - Keep the money earned.
  - Build confidence by talking to all kinds of people.
  - Learn to get more done in less time by working smarter, not harder.
  - Learn how to take initiative, become self-motivated and self-directed.
  - Establish a network of successful people to help ensure success.
  - Learn what you are good at, and what you might actually be great at.
- For more information contact program adviser Stacy Green at 541-398-2314.

**Public gets to comment on East Moraine plan****Virtual hearing held; comment still can be accepted**

By **BILL BRADSHAW**  
Wallowa County Chieftain

ENTERPRISE — About 50 Wallowa County residents tuned in to a virtual public hearing last week to express their opinions on the East Moraine Forest Management Plan.

The hearing originally had been scheduled to be at the Cloverleaf Hall in Enterprise, but was changed to virtual within a day or two of the hearing because of the recent surge in coronavirus cases, according to Wallowa County Commissioner Todd Nash.

The moraine, a parcel of land of roughly 1,800 acres, was purchased and moved to county ownership in January 2020. A draft management plan has since been worked on by the Wallowa Lake Moraines Partnership — made up of Wallowa County, the Wallowa Land Trust, Wallowa Resources, the Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Oregon Department of Forestry and the Nez Perce Tribe's

cultural and forestry divisions, as well as community members.

The final plan will ultimately be what governs management and stewardship of the property.

Kathleen Ackley, executive director of the Wallowa Land Trust, said comments received during the Wednesday, Sept. 1, hearing were largely productive, giving the partnership ideas for any changes that may be needed to the management plan.

"It was a good meeting," Ackley said. "A lot of people had a lot of thoughtful input."

Nash agreed. "There was a wide variety of opinions and that was what it was for," he said.

**Issues heard**

There are five main uses for the moraine: wildlife habitat, cultural resources, range management, forestry and recreation.

Nash, who is a cattle rancher, was pleased that there was no backlash on grazing, which falls under the range management realm.

"Everybody seemed congenial with it," he said.

Nash added that there was only one comment on logging.

"Most of (the comments)

revolved around recreation and how we should utilize it or limit it," he said.

Nash added that while most comments were not opposed to public use, many were in favor of some limits.

"There were quite a lot of the comments that didn't say 'closed,' but (there was) consideration for wildlife, for managing large numbers of people and they didn't want to see it overwhelmed," he said. "That was a main thrust of it. There were other concerns of maintaining that open space for everything from bicycles to horseback riding to hiking."

One issue that did raise concerns on both sides was that of whether dogs must be on leashes while on the moraine.

"We've heard the pros and cons of both," he said.

Other issues raised included limited entry to the moraine and the possibility of expanding the parking lot and how large the lot should be on the East Moraine for horse trailers.

**Next steps**

"It becomes a balancing act now," Nash said. "There were people on both sides of the issues."

Ackley said the public comment period on the proposed management plan

ends Oct. 2. After that, the plan's management committee will review it and the public comment during October and make appropriate changes. In November, the county commissioners will review and approved the revised plan, as will the ODF. In December, it is expected the plan will be adopted and implemented by the commissioners.

But for now, public comment can still be taken. Ackley and Nash encouraged interested members of the public to visit the county's website and make their comments there. Ackley urged using the form available on the website, but said emails also can be sent.

"We're urging people to continue to write in comments," Nash said. "I did urge people (during the hearing) to be succinct and not have a long rambling letter. We'll see if we can massage it to accommodate it."

He further urged people to get involved in what is a parcel of land that belongs to the citizenry.

"We appreciated the participation and it is a public property and this is how the public gets to decide how it's going to be used," he said. "I like that concept and have looked forward to it for a long time. I hope they feel like they were being heard."

**Festival of the Arts still on, but altered**

Chieftain staff

JOSEPH — Due to rising coronavirus cases in Wallowa County and the new mask orders from the Oregon Health Authority, the Joseph Center for Arts and Culture will not be able to produce this year's Wallowa Valley Festival of Arts as planned, but it is going on, according to a press release.

Adjustments are being

made that will keep people safe while still exhibiting, appreciating and selling the 95 pieces of artwork accepted and the 54 artists who deserve to be celebrated. In order to do this in the safest way possible, the center will dial back many of the events for the weekend.

"The Big Night" — Friday, Sept. 17 from 7-8:30 p.m. — will see the gallery open for a viewing of the artwork. All attendees must wear masks and will

need to follow the social distancing protocol. A limited number of people at a time will be allowed to stay within the regulations. There will be no libations, food or live music. The festival will continue to hold a silent auction to help raise funds for future festivals. They also will hold the En Plein Competition exhibit on the second floor of the center.

On Saturday, Sept. 18, the center will be open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is free

and there will be live music. There will also be an Art Walk in Joseph from noon-4 p.m. Artist Steve Arment will do a wood carving demonstration from noon-1:30 p.m. outside the center. The Quick Draw event on Saturday, will start at 2 p.m. at the Mount Joseph Lodge's lawn (directly across from the center.) Artists complete their works and bidding takes place while they create their pieces (90 minutes) at 3:30 p.m. All completed art will be for sale in a written auction format at each artists' station. Bidding and artwork will be moved to the front of the hotel and bids will continue until 4 p.m. Masks and social distancing are required.

On Sunday, art viewing and silent auction bids will continue until 2 p.m. All purchased artwork can be picked up at that time. The festival will continue until 2 p.m. Sunday's Summer Arts Classic Concert has been cancelled due to safety protocols. All artwork will be previewed and awarded by this year's judge, Dennis DeHart, a photographic artist whose interdisciplinary projects are informed by the connections, conflicts and intersections of the natural and cultural worlds. He is a professor at Washington State University.

The center plans an online component to the event.

For more information, Dawn Norman at exhibits@josephcenter.org or call 541-432-0505.

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**Shoot Begins: 10:00 am until we finish**

**5 EVENTS**

**2 Classes: 8 - 12, and 13 - 17**

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- **FREE Food**
- **Great Prizes! Including a new rifle for each 1st place winner!**

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**TIME TO PLAN for next year.**

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