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Plane crash: difficult road access to site

(Continued from page 1)
The plane crash site is near the S-390 road, accessible from the S-300/Highway 3 from Schoolie Flat and Simnasho.



Cessna Citation like the one that crashed on reservation. Courtesy

“Road conditions made access difficult, due to snow and mud,” Mr. Elliott said. “Our officers have utilized ATVs to reach the crash site.”

Snow, mud, downed trees and rugged terrain prevented rescuers from Warm Springs police, Wasco County and state

police from reaching the remote site until about noon the day after the crash.

The rescuers confirmed that the pilot and the passenger were killed. Their identities were not yet available.

Details on the flight's itinerary and the owner of the aircraft were also not immediately available.

The National Transportation Safety Board is investigating.

Water: overdue for major improvements

(Continued from page 1)
“These basic and essential needs are absolutely critical to achieving the state’s public health guidelines and for reversing the Covid-19 spike within the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs,” Sen. Findley wrote.

Public records show that all parties—federal, tribal and state—have been aware for years of the risks failing water systems in Warm Springs. “Should it have

been fixed years ago? Yes,” Findley said. “But it doesn’t do any good to go back and lay blame. We have to look forward and say, how do we make this a better place to be?”

Federal proposal

Oregon’s U.S. Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley are sponsoring The Western Tribal Water Infrastructure Act. This bill, if passed, would provide fund-

ing for Western tribes to address “ageing drinking water infrastructure, often long-overdue for improvement and expansion.”

The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs were among the direct inspirations for this legislation, as the bill first came up in late 2019, following the tribes’ first prolonged boil-water crisis.

The plan is for the bill to move forward this year.

Sioux prioritize Native speakers for vaccine

The Standing Rock Sioux tribe is prioritizing Covid-19 vaccinations for people who speak native languages in an effort to keep customs alive

The Standing Rock Sioux tribe is giving covid vaccine priority to those who speak the native languages of Da-

kota and Lakota,

Tribe Chairman Mike Faith said the native speakers are in line for inoculations, just behind health care workers. It’s being organized this way in an effort to protect the customs and culture of the tribe, which passes

them down orally.

“It’s something we have to pass on to our loved ones, our history, our culture our language,” Faith told the station last week. “We don’t have it in black and white, we tell stories. That’s why it’s so important.”

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