

BEYOND THE GROVE

News from Lane County
and CG's neighbors

Timber harvest decreased in 2015

After two years at slightly above four billion board feet, Oregon's timber harvest dropped below that in 2015 to a number on par with the 2012 harvest, according to the Oregon Department of Forestry's annual timber harvest report, issued this week. From 2014 to 2015 there was an approximate decrease in harvest of eight percent for a 2015 total of 3.79

billion board feet harvested. Decreases occurred across all ownerships except for state-owned forestlands.

Approximately 49 percent, or 30.2 million acres, of Oregon is forested. Federal forestlands account for 60 percent of these forestlands, industrial forestlands for 19 percent, family forestland owners own 15 percent, state-owned for-

ests comprise three percent, and all other forestland owners (counties, Tribal, etc.), three percent.

The Bureau of Land Management recorded a decline of eight percent from 2014 to 2015. Likewise, the US Forest Service experienced an overall statewide decrease of five per-

Please see **TIMBER**, Page 7A

North Douglas District tests, retests for lead

North Douglas School District said it has responded to public concerns regarding possible lead contaminants in its water system by testing that system recently.

The District indicated via press release that Superintendent John Lahley had required testing of "all drinking supply faucets and sources for consumable water, in addition to 50 percent of classrooms."

North Douglas contracted with Analytical Laboratory Group of Eugene for the testing, which involved testing samples from 45 locations that revealed 10 sites of concern where lead levels exceeded the 15 parts per billion threshold of lead levels deemed in need of correction by the National Center for Disease Control.

Lahley stated that no drinking fountains were found to con-

tain unsafe water, nor were any kitchens found to be contaminated. Concession booths at the high school athletic field and Howards field were determined as "non-drinkable sources," as were three high-school science lab stations, one high school restroom sink, a classroom storage space sink in the high school and three elementary/middle school classrooms.

Lahley indicated that water

would first be shut off to those sites deemed "non-drinkable;" those sites were then scheduled for retesting.

On July 12, the District sent an update indicating that of the 10 sites found to contain unacceptable lead levels on a first test, all 10 came back clean after a second test. Lahley indicated that he believed the first positive tests were due to "lack of regular use at those locations."

LORANE COUNTRY NEWS

BY LIL THOMPSON
For the Sentinel

Rural Art Center has planned another exciting Summer Film Camp in the Art Room at Applegate Elementary. People of all ages are encouraged to join in this fun, FREE camp making a film. The first

week is Aug. 8-11, Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m.-noon. It continues into the following week, Aug. 15-18. Those interested in enrolling or receiving more information can contact Alyssa Shepherd at malysa2@yahoo.com or 541-556-8151.

Sunday, Aug. 14 is coming fast, and two exciting events are scheduled that day. First, Lorane Grange will host the Lorane Community Potluck, formerly the Old-Timers Picnic. People often begin gathering at about 11 a.m. to visit. Potluck lunch

begins at 12:30 to allow churchgoers to arrive. The Grange will be open by 9:30 a.m. for those who would like to drop off food before church. Then go down to the Lorane Fire Department annual Ice Cream Social from 1-5 p.m. There are lots of activities, music, fire truck rides and great pies and ice cream.

It's hard to believe, but I have seen several stores with great sales on school supplies. In the District Summer Newsletter, there is a school supply list for all grades. For those who didn't get it, it should be on the web-

site, www.cal.k12.or.us.

Lorane Grange meets next on Thursday, Aug. 4. They hope to set the date for the dinner and bingo nights this fall. A special "thank you" to all Lorane Grangers who helped set up and decorate their Grange booths at the fair, plus those who worked on Grange day and those who donated canned goods and produce. A special thank you to "Turnup the Beet", new farmers in Lorane who donated veggies for the booth.

BRIEFS FROM BEYOND

Fire danger increases

The Douglas Forest Protective Association has increased the fire danger to "Moderate" (Blue) fire danger on all 1.6 million acres of private, county, state, and BLM lands within the Douglas District, an increase that took place Wednesday, July 13. The Industrial Fire Precaution Level will remain at IFPL 1.

DFPA's Public Use Fire Restrictions, which went into effect July 1st, remain in effect and unchanged. These restrictions include:

Campfires, warming fires, and cooking fires are only allowed within designated campgrounds. Portable cooking stoves using liquefied or bottled fuels may be used in other locations;

Backyard debris burning, including debris piles and burn barrels, are prohibited;

The use of fireworks are prohibited;

Exploding targets and tracer ammunition, or any bullet with a pyrotechnic charge in its base, are prohibited;

The use of sky lanterns is prohibited.

Motorized vehicles are only allowed on improved roads that are free of flammable vegetation. In addition, each vehicle traveling on improved roads must have a shovel and one gallon of

water or a 2 1/2 pound or larger fire extinguisher. ATV's and motorcycles must be equipped with a 2 1/2 pound of larger fire extinguisher.

Smoking in forestland areas is only allowed within enclosed vehicles on improved roads;

Non-industrial chain saw use is prohibited between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. During other hours, chain saw users must have an ax, a shovel and an 8-oz or larger fire extinguisher at the job site, and a one-hour fire watch is required after the saw is shut down;

Mowing of dead or dry grass with power-driven equipment is prohibited between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. This restriction does not include mowing of green lawns, or equipment used for the commercial culture and harvest of agricultural crops;

The cutting, grinding or welding of metal is prohibited between 10 a.m. and 8 p.m. These activities will be allowed during other hours if the work site is cleared of potentially flammable vegetation and other materials, and a water supply is at the job site;

Electric fence controllers must be approved by a nationally recognized testing laboratory or be certified by the Department of Consumer and Business Services, and be installed and used in compliance with the fence controller's instructions for fire safe operation.

For more information about public or industrial fire restrictions, visit www.dfpa.net or call DFPA's 24-hour information line at 672-6507.

Submarine vets welcome

On Friday, July 29 at noon, the Rogue-Umpqua Base of the United States Submarine Veterans Incorporated (USSVI) will gather at Bastendorff Beach County Park, 63377 Bastendorff Beach Road, Coos Bay, Oregon to celebrate its second year as a growing Base. All veterans are welcome to join in comradery and to honor our fallen heroes on Eternal Patrol.

North Douglas County Fair

The North Douglas County Fair will take place July 29-30 and is located behind the Civic Center in Drain. Fair schedules can be found in various locations around Drain. The parade is Saturday, July 30 with lineup at 8:30 a.m. and the parade starting at 10 a.m. More info on facebook: www.facebook.com/NorthDouglasCountyFair/

Butterfly workshop

Elkton Community Education Center will host a Monarch Butterfly Workshop from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday, July 30. A \$10 donation is requested.

Participants can learn to identify monarchs at all the life states from egg to adult and to enhance survival rates by a captive rearing program. Info at 541-584-2692

'Sound of Music' showing

The North County Movie Wagon will be showing "The Sound of Music" on Thursday, Aug. 4 in Drain Civic Center Park. Pre-show fun starts at 5 p.m. with the movie promptly starting at 6 p.m.

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