

Forest Service eases fire restrictions

The three national forests in the Blue Mountains have eased restrictions on campfires ahead of this weekend's predicted damp, cool weather.

The public use restrictions are now at level A for both the Wallowa-Whitman and Uma-

tilla national forests. That means campfires are allowed in campgrounds and in dispersed camping areas, so long as the fire is in a fire ring or pit. Chain saw use is allowed between 8 p.m. and 1 p.m.

The Malheur National Forest has ended all

restrictions on campfires.

The Vale District of the Bureau of Land Management, which includes BLM land in Baker, Union and Wallowa counties, will cancel the district's seasonal restrictions on campfires starting Monday, Oct. 12.

Proposed New Recreation Fees*, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest

WHITMAN RANGER DISTRICT SITES

- Elkhorn Crest trailhead: \$5 per vehicle
- McBride campground, \$15 per night

LA GRANDE DISTRICT SITES

- Nightly camping fee of \$10
- Umagine, Two Color, Spring Creek, Boulder Park
- Nightly group camping fee of \$40
- North Fork Catherine Creek
- Nightly cabin rental fee of \$60
- Moss Springs

HELLS CANYON NRA SITES

- Nightly camping fee of \$10
- Windy Saddle, Snake River, Seven Devils, Saddle Creek, Black Lake
- Trailhead parking fee of \$5
- Windy Saddle, Upper Snake River, Heaven's Gate, Hat Point

EAGLE CAP DISTRICT SITES

- Nightly camping fee of \$10
- Boundary, Twin Lakes
- Nightly cabin rental fee of \$80 — Lostine

WALLOWA VALLEY DISTRICT SITES

- Nightly camping fee of \$15 — Dougherty
- Nightly camping fee of \$10 — Canyon, Coyote

*campground fees would include \$5 extra fee for each additional vehicle per site

Proposed Recreation Fee Increases, Wallowa-Whitman National Forest

WHITMAN RANGER DISTRICT CAMPGROUNDS

- Nightly camping fee increase from \$5 to \$10
- Oregon
- Nightly camping fee increase from \$5* to \$15
- Eagle Forks, South Fork, Tamarack, Wetmore, Yellow Pine, Fish Lake* (current fee is \$6)

LA GRANDE DISTRICT CAMPGROUNDS

- Nightly camping fee increase from \$5 to \$10
- Bird Track Springs, Moss Springs, Spool Cart, West Eagle

LA GRANDE DISTRICT RENTAL CABIN

- Two Color Guard Station, from \$80 per night to \$100

HELLS CANYON NRA CAMPGROUNDS

- Nightly camping fee increase from \$5 or \$8 to \$15
- Pittsburg Landing, Ollokot, Indian Crossing
- Nightly camping fee increase from \$6 to \$10
- Coverdale, Hidden, Lick Creek
- Nightly camping fee increase from \$6 to \$15 — Lake Fork
- Nightly camping fee increase from \$8 to \$10 — Blackhorse

EAGLE CAP DISTRICT CAMPGROUNDS

- Nightly camping fee increase from \$5 to \$10
- Arrow Forest, Irondyke, Shady, Turkey Flat, Two Pan, Walla Walla
- Nightly camping fee increase from \$6 to \$10
- Williamson, Hurricane Creek

SITES WITH FEES ELIMINATED

- Buck Creek, PO Saddle campgrounds, Warnock Corral.T.H.

REC FEES

Continued from Page 1B

The Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act allows the Wallowa-Whitman to keep 95% of fees collected at most recreation sites to operate, maintain and improve sites on the forest.

Fees pay for work such as pumping and cleaning toilets, the most expensive task at most sites, according to the Wallowa-Whitman.

Of the forest's 248 recreation sites, 65 require fees now.

Teresa Fraser, the Wallowa-Whitman's recreation program manager, said that during the past 15 years the forest's costs to maintain many of its campgrounds and other recreation sites has exceeded the revenue they generate from fees.

At Pittsburg Landing campground, on the Snake River in Hells Canyon, the Wallowa-Whitman has collected less than \$10,000 per year over the past 3 years, while the average maintenance cost for the campground has been \$30,000 per

year. That doesn't include the cost of a new drinking water system, paving and building renovation at the site.

The Wallowa-Whitman also noted that since 2005, when fees were last increased, the federal cost of living index has increased by 36%, Oregon's minimum wage has risen from \$7.15 to \$11.50 in the part of the state that includes the Wallowa-Whitman.

The cost to hire a contractor to pump toilets has nearly doubled during that period, according to the Wallowa-Whitman.

Comments on the proposal are due by Nov. 15. Commenting options:

- Email to sm.fs.wvnf-webmail@usda.gov (include "fee proposal" in the subject line)
- Phone: 541-805-2769 (leave a voicemail with your full name, ZIP code, and email address)
- Mail comments to: Wallowa-Whitman National Forest, Attention: Recreation Program Manager, 1550 Dewey Ave, Suite A, Baker City, OR 97814

SKI SEASON

Continued from Page 1B

Judy said it's not known whether there will be any restrictions on skiers and boarders riding the chairlift, which requires people to sit shoulder-to-shoulder for the 7-minute ride to the top.

Anthony Lakes usually opens in late November or early December, depending on snow conditions.

Cross-country skiing and snowshoeing

The Nordic Center, in the Anthony Lake Guard Station east of the lodge,

will be open, but with limits on the number of people allowed inside at one time.

Judy said there will not be any limits on the number of daily trail passes sold.

Cat skiing and yurts

Cat skiing won't be available at least to start, since that service involves 12 people riding inside the relatively snug confines of a snow machine.

If the pandemic eases, cat skiing could resume during the season.

The yurts will be available for rent as usual, and employees will

thoroughly clean and disinfect them between guests. Reservations will be available at www.anthonylakes.com starting Oct. 15.

Rentals

There will be limits on the number of people inside the rental shop, and guests will enter on the ticket booth side and exit on the carpet side. Rental equipment will be sanitized between uses.

Retail shop

It will be open, but with limits on the number of people inside simultaneously.

Ski school

It will operate, but with COVID-19 precautions. Groups can book lessons online in advance.

Ski Patrol

Anthony Lakes Ski Patrol will operate as close to normal as possible this season with precautions, including patrollers wearing face masks and other protective equipment.

Ski For the Health of It

The program that offers free lessons for local fifth-graders is uncertain, but it could happen if the pandemic eases, Judy said.

PICK'N PATCH OPEN!

Where: Corner of Booth Lane and Lower Cove Road
When: Friday and Saturday: 9am-6pm
 Sunday: 10am-4pm
 Monday-Thursday: By appointment
What you will find: Small corn maze, several varieties of pumpkins and gourds, straw bales, corn stalks.
 If you would like to schedule a school field trip or other event, please call the number listed below.
 Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PickNPatchFarm
farmkidsatoregonwireless.net
 Please call 541-786-2421

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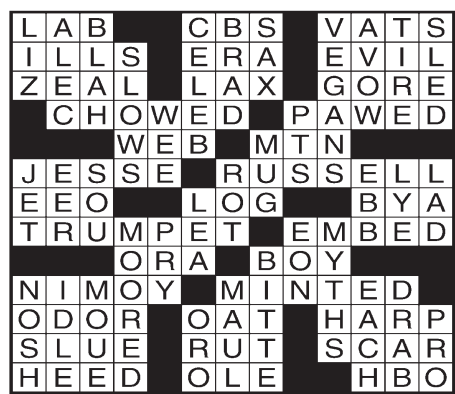
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CROSSWORD PUZZLER

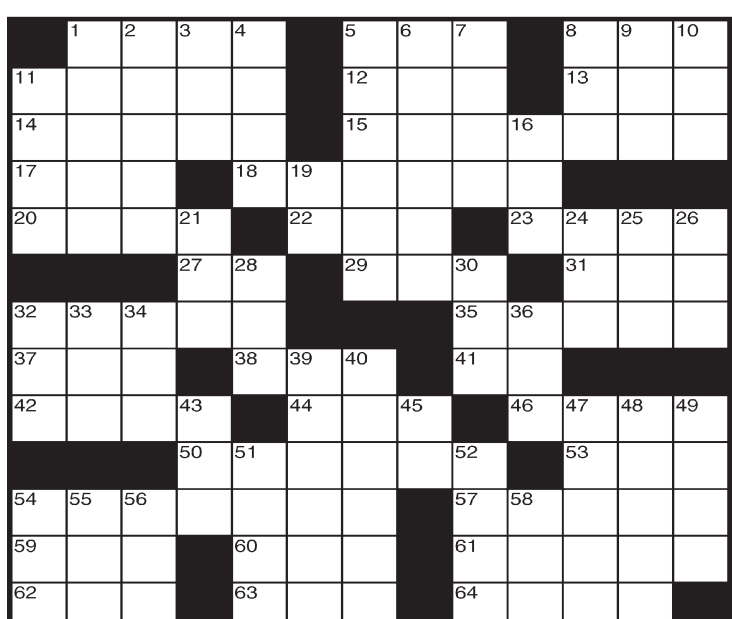
- ACROSS**
- Gave the once-over
 - Furrow maker
 - Gas pump qty.
 - Elf cousin
 - Pkg. slip
 - Use a charge card
 - Not deserved
 - Dappled, as a horse
 - Haul into court
 - Peace of mind
 - Sword part
 - Opposite of max
 - Back of the neck
 - Spanish article
 - Computer key
 - Freight unit
 - Mover's challenge
 - Yielded to pressure
 - Dow Jones fig.
- DOWN**
- Boredom
 - Matterhorn echo
 - Grounded bird
 - Bambi, e.g.
 - Flower child
 - Pizza topping

Answer to Previous Puzzle



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- Nights, in want ads
- Region of India
- Boring tool
- Took by the hand
- Erupt
- Affleck or Vereen
- Dash width
- Toe tally
- Dune buggy kin
- "The Bells" poet
- Finish
- Prune
- Vaccine amts.
- Waterlily leaf
- Kind of league
- Grow older
- Gothic novelist — Radcliffe
- Steers
- Kind of daisy
- Dit partner
- Type of elec. power
- Improve upon
- Curling venues
- Potter's need
- Valuable wood
- Grapefruit serving
- Grass
- Livy's hello
- Raven's call
- Dawn Chong



110 Announcements 110 Announcements

We regret to inform you that **BREAD OF LIFE FOODBANK** 3453 "H" St. in Baker City is **Closing Permanently**

Our last distribution will be: **October 13, 2020**

Thank you for your support during the years and God Bless You All

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 Transportation Safety — ODOT

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