

MNF welcomes new deputy forest supt.

VA, Chrysler, among Ryan Nehl's varied background

Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY – Ryan Nehl, Malheur National Forest's new deputy forest supervisor, brings a variety of rich experiences to his new job.

Nehl, who started in his new position June 14, previously worked for the Department of Veterans Affairs



Contributed photo

Ryan Nehl is the new deputy forest supervisor for the Malheur National Forest.

in Columbus, Ohio, where he was a facility planner for the Chalmers P. Wylie VA Ambulatory Care Center.

He started his career with the VA in 2007 in Cincinnati.

Prior to his federal service, Nehl worked for the Chrysler Corporation and the Howard County, Indiana Health Department.

He earned a bachelor's degree in psychology from Hanover College in 1997, and a master's in natural resources and environmental management from Ball State University in 2007.

Nehl said he's looking forward to learning about the Malheur and the communities adjacent to the forest.

"I firmly believe in the mission of the Forest Service, and am drawn to the challenge that it presents," he said.

Nehl added that even in the short time he's been here, he's met a lot of informed and passionate citizens and other stakeholders in Grant and Harney counties.

He said he and his family – wife Sherry, and four children, ages 18, 10, 9 and 5 – are "thrilled about the move to Eastern Oregon." They look forward to spending time outdoors here – bicycling, riding motorcy-

cles, fishing, camping and hiking.

The family has already joined the Gleason Pool crowd, Nehl said, where they've enjoyed swimming and meeting people from the community. They were also eager for the Fourth of July festivities in Prairie City, and getting to know their new neighbors.

Nehl said he looks forward to being a part of the MNF team.

"My ultimate goal is to engage the public in discussions that will help shape the strategic direction for the forest," Nehl said.

Crews successfully completed burnouts on Corner Creek fire

Fire 90 percent contained, enters mop-up phase

Blue Mountain Eagle

DAYVILLE – Fire crews successfully completed about 250 acres of burnout operations just south of Black Canyon Wilderness this past weekend, which finalized the effort to establish a solid line around the wildfire that started by lightning June 29.

Favorable weather conditions assisted fire managers in completing this critical piece of ground just east of Mud Springs campground, which will prevent the fire from moving northwest into more difficult terrain within the wilderness.

Light winds dispersed the smoke, instead of pushing a large column southward into the communities of Paulina and Burns.

The fire sits at about

29,657 acres and is currently about 90 percent contained. Firefighting efforts will focus on patrolling and securing containment lines, mopping up and monitoring. The fire continues to burn internally, creeping and smoldering at a low to moderate intensity.

As of Thursday the incident command post at Dayville School will be demobilized. Fire camp just west of Dayville is also being demobilized.

Meanwhile, a local Burned Area Emergency Response team has assembled and has begun working on an assessment of the burned area for immediate post-fire threats to human life, property, and natural resources.

The South Fork Road/County Road 42 reopened for public use last week, but an area closure remains in effect on the Ochoco National Forest, covering all National Forest lands west of Forest Service Road

5820.

For a detailed map of the closure area on Ochoco National Forest and a copy of the closure order, visit the forest website at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/ochoco/>.

West Fork Fire
Management of the West Fork Fire was transferred back to the Malheur National Forest effective July 13.

As conditions allow, fire crews will continue to mop up along the fire lines and patrol the area. Crews have completed a line around the northern and western perimeter, as well as most of the eastern perimeter.

At present the fire poses no immediate threat, but as seasonal weather returns and unburned fuels between the fire and the containment lines dry, the fire will continue to be monitored closely.

The closure on Forest Road 2150 from the intersection of Forest Road 2150-070 to the Aldrich Mountain Lookout has been lifted.

ODFW acts to help native fish

Fishing hours curtailed on most Oregon rivers

Blue Mountain Eagle

SALEM – The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has curtailed fishing hours on most of Oregon's rivers to avoid additional stress on native fish already suffering from high water temperatures and low stream flows from this year's drought.

Effective Saturday, July 18, and until further notice, all waterbodies defined as streams in the 2015 Oregon Sportfishing Regulations are closed above tidewater (where applicable) to fishing for trout salmon, steelhead and sturgeon from 2 p.m. to one hour before sunrise.

The following sections of the John Day River will have complete closures: The mainstem of the John Day River above Indian Creek near Prairie City; the Middle Fork of the John Day River above Mosquito Creek near the town of Galena; the North Fork of the

John Day River above Desolation Creek and Desolation Creek.

Some streams will remain open for angling under normal hours because they are less prone to high water temperature risks due to springs, tides, cold water releases from some dams and high elevations.

Streams that will remain open for angling under normal hours are:

Northeast Zone:
• The Wallowa River above Sunrise Road; Lostine River above Pole Bridge Campground; Prairie Creek; Hurricane Creek; Spring Creek; and all streams within the Eagle Cap Wilderness Area.

Southeast Zone:
• The Malheur River and its tributaries; the Owyhee River below the Owyhee Reservoir; and the Blitzen River and its tributaries above Page Springs Weir and Bridge Creek.

• The Klamath River and its tributaries.

Central Zone:

• The Deschutes River above Macks Canyon; the Metolius River; the Fall River; the Crooked River (from mouth to Bowman Dam); and Tumalo Creek.

• The Hood River and its tributaries and the White River and its tributaries.

Willamette Zone:
• The McKenzie River and its tributaries; the Middle Fork of the Willamette River below Dexter Dam; the Middle Fork of the Willamette River and its tributaries above Lookout Point Reservoir; and Alton Baker Canoe Canal.

• The mainstem of the South Santiam River below Foster Dam; Quartzville Creek; the North Santiam River above Detroit Lake; and the Breitenbush River.

Southwest Zone:

• The mainstem Rogue River from Fishers Ferry upstream to William Jess Dam and all tributaries upstream of the William Jess Dam and Lost Creek Reservoir.

COPS & COURTS

Arrests and citations in the Blue Mountain Eagle are taken from the logs of law enforcement agencies. Every effort is made to report the court disposition of arrest cases.

Grant County Sheriff

CANYON CITY – The Grant County Sheriff's Office reported the following for the week of July 10-16:

• Concealed handgun licenses: 10

• Average inmates: 12
• Bookings: 6
• Releases: 8
• Arrests: 1
• Citations: 1
• Fingerprints: 8
• Civil papers: 12
• Warrants processed: 3
• Asst./welfare check: 5
• Brad Hartwich, 38, Canyon City, cited for driving uninsured, failure to change address and failure to register.

Dispatch

John Day dispatch worked 122 calls during the week of July 13-19. Along with the various traffic warnings, trespassing, injured animals, noise complaints and juvenile complaints, these calls included:

• **John Day Police:**
July 13: Cited a Weston man for speeding.

July 14: Responded to a report of harassment at a Prairie City business; cited a 17-year-old driver for speeding.

July 16: Report of a trespasser at Riverside Mobile Home Park.

July 17: Cited a John Day man for no seat belt.

July 19: Responded to a burglar alarm at a West Main

Street business in John Day.

• **Grant County Sheriff:**
July 16: Theft reported in Seneca.

July 18: Theft of service reported at the West Shell gas station.

• **John Day ambulance:**
July 15: Responded for a 92-year-old woman.

July 16: Responded for a 63-year-old woman who fell.

• **Long Creek ambulance:**
July 13: Responded for a 51-year-old man with a back injury.

Justice Court

CANYON CITY – The Grant County Justice Court reported the following fines and judgments:

• Exceeding speed limit: Katholeen Kay Martin, 56, Baker City, 50/35 zone, fined \$135; Souphaphone Ounesivixay, 74, Pasco, Wash., 50/35 zone, fined \$160; Shabnam Ghazizadeh, 26, Portland, 41/25 zone, fined \$160.

• Failure to properly use safety belt: James Marion Hilburn, 46, Prairie City, fined \$95.

• No operator's license: Mark R. Colyer, 35, Nyssa, fined \$260.

• Driving uninsured: Mark R. Colyer, 35, Nyssa, fined \$260; Travis B. Farr, 22, Mt. Vernon, fined \$260; W. Mathew Kerstein, 38, Prineville, fined \$260.

• Violation of the basic rule: Joleen M. Moulton, 51, Burns, 75/55 zone, fined \$135; Gregory Allan Saranto, 56, Walla Walla, Wash., 72/55 zone, fined \$160; Mark D. Heidt, 52, Florence, 73/55 zone, fined \$160; Travis B. Farr, 22, Mt.

Vernon, 84/55 zone, fined \$260; Joshua J. Driscoll, 29, 49/25 zone, fined \$160; Scott Shelby McCallister II, 55, Portland, 72/55 zone, fined \$80; Cynthia Rae Ryan-Duke, 48, Central Point, 75/55 zone, fined \$160; Larry J. Strole, 65, Boise, Idaho, 75/55 zone, fined \$160; Lisa Warner Shullanberger, 43, Lakeview, 73/55 zone, fined \$160.

• Open container of alcohol: Scott William Hinkle, 32, Pilot Rock, fined \$260.

• Careless driving-accident: Taylor Don Meliza, 18, Salem, fined \$435.

• Driving while suspended-violation: Travis B. Farr, 22, Mt. Vernon, fined \$435.

• Dawn Marie Salanti, John Day, was convicted of harassment, and sentenced to 48 hours in jail, 18 months probation and 40 hours of community service, and fined \$350. She was ordered to have no contact with the victim.

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