



# Above normal snow reported in Oregon

Blue Mountain Eagle

Oregon's mountain snowpack remains at normal to above-normal levels and continues to surpass last year's peak levels, according to the February Water Supply Outlook Report from the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Current statewide average snowpack is 121 percent of normal.

Parts of southeastern Oregon are enjoying the highest snowpack levels, due to above-normal snowfall precipitation during January. The Owyhee Basin in Malheur County measures the highest in the state for snow water, equivalent to 153 percent of normal. The John Day Basin is at 141 percent of normal.

Mountain temperatures in February and March will determine whether mountain

precipitation continues to fall as snow or rain, which will impact the summer water supply picture.

"With about half of the snow season left, we are still hopeful that the current trends of precipitation and snowpack continue through the spring," said Scott Oviatt, NRCS Oregon snow survey supervisor. "In Eastern Oregon, we are seeing well-above normal snow levels that are not typically met until springtime."

Of course, increased snowpack and precipitation may also increase the risk of flooding following the Canyon Creek Complex fire in Grant County.

For the latest information on Oregon's streamflow forecasts, visit NRCS Oregon at [www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/or/home/](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/site/or/home/).

# Input welcome on Magone project until March 21

## Open house rescheduled for March 8

Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY — The Blue Mountain Ranger District welcomes public input on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Magone Project.

The 45-day comment period began Feb. 5 and ends Monday, March 21.

The Magone Project proposes — depending on the alternative — silviculture

## County Court to discuss project roads

The Grant County Court is scheduled to discuss the Magone Lake project roads as time allows during the regular meeting that begins at 9 a.m. today, Feb. 17, at the Grant County Courthouse.

treatments, prescribed burning, road activities, recreation opportunity improvements and Magone Lake restoration activities. In addition, typical road maintenance activities designed to meet Malheur Forest Plan standards and guidelines will be performed.

An open house for the Magone project, previously scheduled for March 1, has been changed to Tuesday, March 8, due to unforeseen conflicts. The open house will be from 5-8 p.m. in Juniper Hall at the Malheur National Forest Supervisor's office,

431 Patterson Bridge Road, and will provide opportunities to contribute information, ideas and concerns and discuss the project with members of the project's interdisciplinary team.

Written comments can be submitted to Dave Halemeier, c/o Sasha Fertig, Blue Mountain Ranger District, P.O. Box 909, John Day, OR 97845.

The document is available at <http://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=44907>. To request a CD or hardcopy, contact Sasha Fertig at 541-575-3061 or [sashafertig@fs.fed.us](mailto:sashafertig@fs.fed.us).

# What's your 'kicker' refund?

## Oregonians can claim a surplus credit on their 2015 return

Blue Mountain Eagle

Many Oregon taxpayers could get a boost in their favor on their 2015 tax returns.

The state is returning over \$402 million in tax surplus in the form of a credit or "kicker" to eligible Oregonians. Unlike the past, no kicker checks will be issued.

The Oregon Department of Revenue has launched "What's My Kicker" — a new online tool in which people can calculate their credit amount based on information from their 2014

Oregon tax return.

The tool can only be used if the 2014 and 2015 filing statuses are the same. Those who have different statuses can calculate their credit amount by multiplying their 2014 tax liability before any credits — except credits for taxes paid to other states — by 5.6 percent.

Those who filed a 2014 Oregon tax return and had tax due before credits are eligible. People who don't have a filing obligation for 2015 still need to file a 2015 Oregon tax return to claim their credit. The state may use all or part of the kick-

er to pay any child support, court fines, school loans or state debt — such as taxes due for other years.

To learn more, get tax forms or make tax payments, visit [www.oregon.gov/dor](http://www.oregon.gov/dor).

To calculate your credit amount, click on the "What's My Kicker" link.

For more information, call 1-800-356-4222 or email [questions.dor@oregon.gov](mailto:questions.dor@oregon.gov).

## 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.

### Circuit Court

CANYON CITY — The Grant County Circuit Court reported the following fines and judgments:

- Evelyn May Arnett, 48, pleaded guilty to second-degree criminal mischief. She was sentenced to bench probation for 18 months and 40 hours community service, and ordered to have no contact with the victim. She was fined \$200, plus \$730.20 in restitution to the victim.

### Grant County Sheriff

CANYON CITY — The Grant County Sheriff's Office reported the following for the week of Feb. 5-11:

- Concealed handgun licenses: 11
- Average inmates: 15
- Bookings: 8
- Releases: 8
- Arrests: 3
- Citations: 1
- Fingerprints: 6
- Civil papers: 14
- Warrants processed: 6
- Asst./welfare check: 8
- Justin Scheidegger, 21, John Day, was cited for driving while suspended-violation and driving uninsured.

### Justice Court

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

- Exceeding maximum width: Dennis Waggoner, 49, Prairie City, Jan. 27, fined \$110;
- Driving uninsured: Vanessa Ranae Kite, 34, Prairie City, Jan. 19, fined \$260; Cory Allen Slayton, 24, John Day, Jan. 15, fined \$300; Travis James Freniere, 29, John Day, Jan. 8, fined \$260.
- Driving while suspended-violation: Vanessa Ranae Kite, 34, Prairie City, Jan. 19, fined \$435; Travis James Freniere, 29, John Day, Jan. 8, fined \$435.
- Failure to install an ignition interlock device: Evan Jacob Hodge, 48, Mt. Vernon, Jan. 22, fined \$370.
- Operating without required light: Matthew Michael Broemeling, 19, John Day, Jan. 17, fined \$135.
- Exceeding maximum weight limit: Kenneth D.

Round, 71, Dayville, Jan. 13, fined \$300; Loren G. Thissell, 63, Mt. Vernon, Jan. 12, fined \$75.

### Dispatch

John Day dispatch worked 129 calls during the two-week period of Feb. 8-14. Along with the various traffic warnings, trespassing, injured animals, noise complaints and juvenile complaints, these calls included:

#### John Day Police:

- Feb. 8: Burglary reported at the Grant County Fairgrounds in John Day; report of a vehicle's window shot out at Riverside Mobile Home Park.
- Feb. 9: Cited a La Grande man for speeding.
- Feb. 11: Criminal mischief reported at Prairie Wood Products in Prairie City; responded to a reported explosion in Prairie City.

Feb. 14: Responded to a reported theft on North Johnson Street in Prairie City.

#### John Day ambulance:

- Feb. 9: Responded for a 68-year-old woman.
- Feb. 11: Responded for a 40-year-old man.
- Feb. 13: Responded for a woman who fell.
- Feb. 14: Responded to assist an 83-year-old woman.

#### Prairie City ambulance:

- Feb. 11: Paged for an elderly woman who fell; dispatched for a woman with head pain and dizziness.

#### Dayville Fire Department:

- Feb. 9: Advised of a fire at the cemetery.

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\$5 for both days 9am-6pm

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For Information or class sign up send email to [gcpiecemakers@gmail.com](mailto:gcpiecemakers@gmail.com)

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The Lake Creek Youth Camp

Board of Directors would like to thank all our friends and supporters who have faithfully invested time and given financially to maintain and improve the camp for the many persons who have been our guests. The generosity of Grant and Harney counties and surrounding areas is amazing. Last Summer, we saw an outpouring of help and support of every kind from businesses and private households in the wake of the Canyon Creek Complex Fire. For that reason, we have decided not to have our fundraiser dinner this Spring. We do want to invite you to visit our camp and take a tour to see what is available for Youth Groups, Church Groups, family reunions, or whatever event you would like to schedule at our beautiful camp.

THANKS AGAIN for all your donations and support in the past years.