

Crow project objection period open

Blue Mountain Eagle

The Emigrant Creek Ranger District has announced the 30-day objection period for the Crow Hazardous Fuel Reduction Project Environmental Assessment.

The project area is Emigrant Creek watershed, Crowsfoot Creek-Emigrant Creek, Whiskey Creek-Emigrant Creek and Bear Canyon Creek subwatersheds, within Harney County. The project is identified in the Harney County Community Wildfire Protection Plan as a Wildland Urban Interface. The objectives are to (1) reduce hazardous fuel loadings to alter fire behavior and move the area towards conditions that will allow fire to play a more frequent and natural role on the landscape while exhibiting historical fire effects from burning at low to moderate intensities during planned

and unplanned ignitions, and (2) salvage harvest recently killed trees that are surplus to other resource needs in order to reduce hazardous fuels and capture the economic value of those dead trees.

Alternative 3 has been identified as the Preferred Alternative. Alternative 3 would reduce hazardous fuels on up to 28,000 acres of forested stands in the project area with the use of commercial and non-commercial treatment activities. Prescribed fire would also be utilized on up to 31,060 acres to remove excess fuel accumulations and reduce the risk of large stand-replacement fires. Forest road activities are proposed as connected actions and include road maintenance and use, temporary road construction, and confirmation of previous administratively closed roads.

This proposed hazardous fuels reduction project is subject to the objection

process pursuant to 36 CFR 218, subpart A and C.

Objections, including attachments, may be filed with the Reviewing Officer (Malheur National Forest, Forest Supervisor, Craig Trulock), Attn: 1570 Appeals and Objections, by regular mail at P.O. Box 909, John Day, OR 97845, by fax to 541-575-3001, or by hand-delivery, to Malheur National Forest Supervisor's Office, 431 Patterson Bridge Road, John Day.

Electronic objections, in acceptable formats, may be submitted electronically to objections-pnw-malheur@usda.gov with Subject: OBJECTION: Crow Hazardous Fuels Reduction Project.

For further information contact Joshua Giles, the responsible official, at the Emigrant Creek Ranger District Office, 265 Highway 20 South, Hines, or at 541-573-4300.

OBITUARIES

Derwin 'Dude' Arnold May

Feb. 29, 1944 - March 21, 2021

Derwin "Dude" Arnold May, age 77, of Seneca, Oregon, passed away Sunday, March 21, 2021, at Blue Mountain Hospital in John Day, Oregon. The family will spread his ashes along with his dog Fred at his favorite hunting grounds and at the Oregon Coast in the summer of 2021.

Dude was born in Tillamook, Oregon, on Feb. 29, 1944, to Arnold and Beulah (Aspinwall) May. He graduated from Nestucca High School in Tillamook, Oregon, and served in the Army for four years. He married Regina (Cantrell) May in Reno, Nevada, on May 14, 1993. Dude worked as an electrician and a mechanic for 22 years for Canby Utility in Canby, Oregon, retiring in 2005.

He enjoyed hunting, fishing, bowling and softball. He spent approximately 30 years coaching fast pitch softball. He was a high school coach for the Canby Tornados, Molalla Indians and the Canby Cougars. Dude also played a bit of slow pitch softball in his early years.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Arnold and Beulah May, and one sister.

Dude is survived by his loving wife, Gina May, of Seneca, Oregon; brother, Stan May, of Cloverdale, Oregon; sister, Eleanor Sherk, of Spokane, Washington; stepson, Matthew Kunzman, of Welches, Oregon; and stepdaughter, Zena Peik, of St. Charles, Illinois.

Memorial contributions can be made to the Children's Heart Foundation/American Heart Association or the Alzheimer's Association through Driskill Memorial Chapel, 241 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845.

To leave an online condolence for the family, visit driskillmemorialchapel.com.



Hire awarded OTEC trade school scholarship

Blue Mountain Eagle

Oregon Trail Electric Cooperative awarded five local students scholarships to attend either a trade school or lineman school.

Katie Hire of John Day, Jacob Swindlehurst of Burns and Riley Youngblood of North Powder were each awarded a \$2,500 OTEC scholarship to attend trade school.

Aidan Patton of Imbler and Nolan Scheen of Burns were recently each awarded a \$5,000 OTEC scholarship to pursue a career as a lineman.

"We are pleased to award these scholarships to help support these students as they pursue their career paths and gain the valuable skills needed for in-demand jobs in the trades or in the electric utility industry," said Joe Hathaway, communications manager at OTEC. "Member-owned cooperatives like OTEC are,



Katie Hire

by their very nature, community partners and we have always been proud to support the educational goals of local students and give back to the communi-

ties in our service territory."

Scholarship winners are selected from a pool of candidates from OTEC's service territory in Baker, Grant, Harney and Union counties. Scholarship funds come from unclaimed capital credits.

"We encourage all OTEC members, regardless of age, who want to pursue a trade or attend lineman school to apply for our scholarships," said Hathaway. "Lineman schools and trade schools provide excellent opportunities for those who don't want to pursue college, but want to learn marketable skills, work in an interesting living-wage job and carry little or no student debt."

Applications for both trade and lineman school scholarships are open year-round: otec.coop/scholarships.

OTEC's 2021 academic scholarship recipients will be announced this spring.

New Oregon FBI head says focus is on violence, not ideology

By Garrett Andrews
EO Media Group

Kieran Ramsey

The FBI's new special agent in charge for Oregon stressed the bureau will continue targeting violent extremists, whether they're white supremacists or antifa.

Kieran Ramsey said his agency will keep its focus on "the crime and not the ideology" in a press conference March 10. It's a phrase also favored by his predecessor, Renn Cannon, whom Ramsey replaced in January.

"It doesn't matter about the ideology in the end," Ramsey said. "Our concern is those specific threats of violent criminal activity."

Ramsey was introducing

himself to media members from rural Oregon. He met with Portland-area journalists and called gun violence in the state's largest metropolitan area a public health crisis.

Questions on March 10 concerned black-market marijuana, sex trafficking and cow mutilations, though extremism was the most popular topic. Ramsey said the bureau doesn't prioritize among the various forms of violent extremist, from anarchists and militia members to racially or ethnically moti-

vated white supremacists.

"All forms are prevalent in Oregon, unfortunately," he said.

As to whether the FBI is eyeing U.S. Capitol riot suspects in Central Oregon, Ramsey cited a recent statement by FBI Director Christopher Wray that 55 of the FBI's 56 field offices were currently involved in investigations related to the insurrection.

"I'll leave it to you to assume whether that's here in Oregon or not," he said. "The fact is our efforts are focused on identifying and disrupting any potential domestic extremists."

In light of property damage associated with protests, Ramsey said the FBI works to distinguish lawful protesters from disruptors who would damage property and injure police.

"What we saw through the summer, through the fall, even as recently as this past January with the insurrection, is there are actors out there who are committed to violent activity, no matter what the banner is above them and no matter who is in the seat of government," Ramsey said.

"They are intent on burning, rioting and destruction."

Ramsey will work out of the FBI's Portland Field Office overseeing satellites in Bend, Eugene, Medford, Pendleton and Salem. A major function of the FBI in Oregon is in coordinating the responses of federal and local law enforcement. In addition, FBI agents in Oregon commonly conduct investigations into terrorist threats, hate crimes, organized crime and child pornography.

Ramsey's most recent assignment was overseeing the FBI's Hostage Recovery Fusion Cell, an interagency group focused on recovering American hostages held overseas. In that role he reported to both the FBI director and the national security adviser to the president.

Ramsey said reports of high turnover at the bureau in the Trump era do not match his experience.

"I had a front seat in terms of dealing with executives at the highest level, and I can tell you, in the FBI, we keep our heads down, we keep going. We're mission-focused and mission-driven," he said.

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Forest hosting Passport in Time project this summer

Blue Mountain Eagle

Applications are due April 19 for a Passport in Time project on the Malheur National Forest planned from June 28 to July 2.

This is the final season of a multi-year project to learn more about the lives of Chinese miners as part of the Oregon Chinese Diaspora Project. Field surveys in known placer mining areas will be conducted looking for evidence of camps.

A metal detector survey and limited test excavation at likely camp locations are also planned.

COVID-19 protocols will be followed, including wearing masks and social distancing.

For more information, contact Katee Withee at katee.withee@usda.gov or Don Hann at donald.hann@usda.gov. Apply at passportintime.com/or-chinese-diaspora-malheur-mines-2021.html.

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Last Week's Temps

John Day	HI/LO
Tuesday	47/30
Wednesday	44/28
Thursday	44/32
Friday	53/34
Saturday	62/31
Sunday	71/30
Monday	43/28

24/7 FORECAST

AUTOMATED: 541-575-1122

ROAD CONDITIONS: 511; TRIPCHECK.COM

NOAA WEATHER RADIO FOR JOHN DAY

162.500 MHZ

WEATHER FORECAST FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 31 - APRIL 6

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Sunny	Sunny	Mostly sunny	Mostly cloudy	Slight chance of showers	Partly sunny	Mostly sunny
62	69	70	68	59	58	58
38	38	41	39	34	25	32