

BLM to gather wild horses in Harney County

Blue Mountain Eagle

The Bureau of Land Management Burns District announced plans to conduct a helicopter gather of wild horses within and immediately adjacent to the Stinkingwater Herd Management Area beginning in mid-August 2021. The gather is being conducted to remove approximately 390 excess wild horses.

The Wild-Free Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971 gives BLM the direction for protecting and overseeing wild horses and burros on public lands. In managing these animals, the BLM works to maintain a thriving ecological balance that supports healthy horses on healthy rangelands.

The Stinkingwater HMA is located approximately 25 air miles east of Burns in Harney County. The appropriate management level — the number of horses the range can sustainably support in conjunction with other animals and resource uses — for this area is 40 to 80 horses, and the current population is approximately 449.

Animals gathered from the range will be transported to Oregon's Off-Range Wild Horse and Burro Corrals in Hines. Here, about 30 horses will be selected for return to the HMA, 18 of which will be mares treated with GonaCon-Equine contraceptive and then released.

The remaining horses will

be prepared for adoption or sale into private care or long-term holding in Midwestern states.

The public is welcome to observe the gather. Details will be provided on the 2021 Stinkingwater Wild Horse Gather web page at: <https://go.usa.gov/xFkdZ>.

Supporting National Environmental Policy Act documents for this gather are available on the BLM's ePlanning web site at <https://eplanning.blm.gov/eplanning-ui/project/71905>.

The gather will likely last one to two weeks, though exact start and end dates will be determined by the contractor's availability.

For more information, contact Tara Thissell at tthissell@blm.gov or 541-573-4519.



EO Media Group/Ryan Brennecke

A herd of feral horses graze in the Ochoco National Forest near Prineville in 2018.

July warmer than normal

Blue Mountain Eagle

Temperatures in John Day averaged warmer than normal during the month of July, according to preliminary data received by the National Weather Service in Pendleton.

The average temperature was 73 degrees, which was 4.1 degrees above normal. High temperatures averaged 92.9 degrees, which was 4.7 degrees above normal. The highest was 104 degrees on July 6. Low temperatures averaged 53.2 degrees, which was 3.6 degrees above normal. The lowest was 44 degrees on July 24.

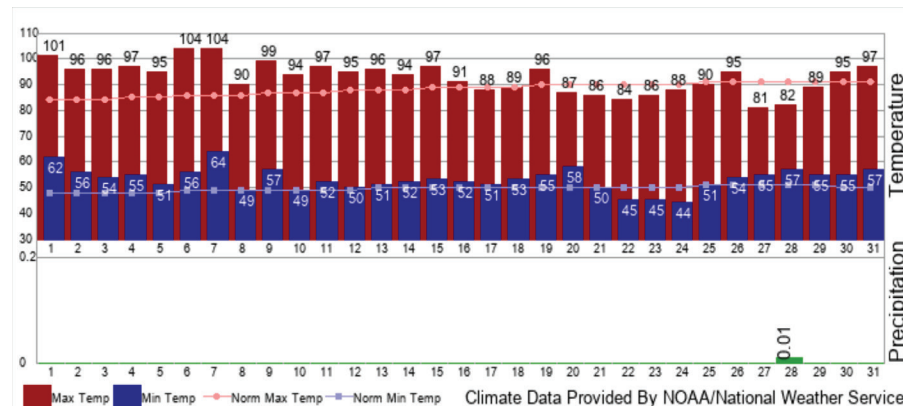
On 19 days, the temperature exceeded 90

degrees. It was at least 100 degrees on three days.

Precipitation totaled 0.01 inches during July, which was 0.59 inches below normal. Measurable precipitation was received on one day.

Precipitation this year has reached 3.16 inches, which is 5.16 inches below normal. Since October, the water year precipitation at John Day has been 4.53 inches, which is 7.37 inches below normal.

The outlook for August from NOAA's Climate Prediction Center calls for above-normal temperatures and near-normal precipitation. Normal highs for John Day during August are 88.2 degrees, and normal lows are 48.3 degrees. The 30-year normal precipitation is 0.64 inches.



John Day was warmer than normal in July. Above-normal temperatures are expected in August too.

Cottonwood Creek Fire near Fossil 40% contained

Blue Mountain Eagle

Fire crews have fully transitioned to mop-up work Monday after containment of the 159-acre blaze reached 40% and firefighters completed hose lays, the Oregon Department of Forestry reported in a Monday press release.

According to ODF, lightning from a Thursday thunderstorm ignited the Cottonwood Creek Fire, but it was not reported until Friday afternoon.

ODF's press release noted that dozers, wildland engines, helicopters and air tankers

were successful in stopping forward growth of the fire by late Friday evening.

Fire officials, ODF said, have been concerned about burning snags and "rollers" for the last several days as they worked to strengthen fire lines and keep the fire within the original footprint. "Rollers" are burning chunks of logs or other material that can ignite unburned fuels as they roll down steep terrain, according to ODF.

ODF said that the fire is being managed by a Type 3 organization from ODF's Central Oregon District.

Oregon Cattlemen open wildfire assistance fund for donations

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With the wildfire season already affecting cattle producers, the Oregon Cattlemen's Association has opened the Wildfire Stewardship Fund to receive cash donations. The donations will be made available to producers who experience loss due to the 2021 wildfires.

Donations can be made online at orcattle.com or mailed to the Oregon Cattlemen's Association office: 1320 Capitol Street NE, Suite 150, Salem, OR 97301, made payable to the Stewardship Fund.

OCA was able to provide

\$45,000 in wildfire assistance to ranchers and rangeland fire protection associations impacted by 2020 wildfires. However, OCA received a combined request for funds exceeding \$258,000. This year will be no exception to that request.

Additionally, as part of their GrangeGives campaign, Grange Co-op has also pledged to match up to \$5,000 in relief funds raised by customers. All Grange Co-op retail stores within Oregon are now offering the opportunity for customers to round up their transactions and donate funds to provide assistance for the cattlemen devastated by the Bootleg Fire.

OBITUARIES

Mary Lou McCleary

Mary Lou McCleary, age 92, of John Day passed away on July 28, 2021, at Valley View Assisted Living. No services are planned at this time. Memorial contributions may be made to Blue Mountain Hospice through Driskill Memorial Chapel at 241 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845. To offer online condolences, visit driskillmemorialchapel.com.

William Allen Richards

William Allen Richards, age 71, of Monument passed away on July 28, 2021, at his residence. A graveside service will be held Friday, Aug. 6, at 11 a.m. at the Monument Cemetery with a reception following at the Monument Senior Center. Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice through Driskill Memorial Chapel at 241 S. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845. To offer online condolences to the family, visit driskillmemorialchapel.com.

About Obituaries

News obituaries of 300 words or less are a free service of the Blue Mountain Eagle. The paper accepts obituaries from the family or funeral home. Information submitted is subject to editing. Obituaries submitted to the Eagle with incorrect information may be corrected and republished as paid memorials. Obituaries longer than 300 words may be published as paid memorials. Send obituaries by email, office@bmeagle.com; fax, 541-575-1244; or mail, 195 N. Canyon Blvd., John Day, OR 97845. For more information, or to inquire about a paid memorial, call 541-575-0710.

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PAINTED SKY CENTER FOR THE ARTS

UNDER THE STARS PAINT PARTY Thursday, August 05
We'll paint with acrylics on an 11x14 canvas
6:00 - 8:30 PM

MOVIE & CRAFTS NIGHT Friday, August 06
'THE WAR WITH GRANDPA'
7:00 PM

GREATER THINGS PAINT PARTY Thursday, August 19
We'll paint SUNFLOWER FIELD with acrylics on a 16x20 canvas
6:00 - 8:30 PM

MOVIE & CRAFTS NIGHT Friday, August 20
'CHARLIE & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY'
7:00 PM

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Last Week's Temps

Day	HI/LO
John Day	84/60
Tuesday	92/61
Wednesday	98/61
Thursday	100/64
Friday	95/69
Saturday	91/66
Sunday	95/66
Monday	95/66

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 AUG. 4-10

Day	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Icon	Thunderstorm	Shower	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny
High	101	90	84	83	85	87	91
Low	62	55	53	51	52	46	51