Lawsuit targets 40,000-acre Camp Lick Project on Malheur forest

By Mateusz Perkowski EO Media Group

An environmental lawsuit seeks to halt a 40,000-acre forest treatment project in the Malheur National Forest for allegedly evading federal limits on harvesting large trees.

The complaint, filed by the Blue Mountains Biodiversity Project, claims the Camp Lick Project violates the National Forest Management Act by per-

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 Circuit Court

Spencer E. Leifheit III, aka Spencer L. Heinrich, 44, Mt. Vernon, pleaded guilty Aug. 4 to second-degree disorderly conduct committed on May 26. He was sentenced to 10 days in jail with credit for time served. He also pleaded guilty Aug. 4 to driving under the influence of intoxicants on May 18. His driver's license was suspended for one year. He was sentenced to two additional days in jail and 18 months of probation. He was fined \$2,355. A count of second-degree disorderly conduct allegedly committed May 31 was dismissed based on a motion by Grant County District Attorney Jim Carpenter stating that plea negotiations and global resolution of all cases warrant dismissal.

Jason W. Wainwright, 31, pleaded guilty Aug. 4 to criminal driving while suspended or revoked and unlawful cut or transport of special forest products committed on May 22. He was sentenced to 10 days in jail, 18 months of supervised probation and 40 hours of community service. He was fined \$1,440.

Brian L. Gregg was found in violation of the conditions of his probation July 27 for failure to pay financials, failure to complete community service, failure to obtain evaluation and failure to complete treatment. He was sentenced to 45 days in jail to be served in 48 hour blocks with a test for alcohol and controlled substances upon entry to jail each time. A positive test will result in 20 days additional jail time plus the remaining sentence to be served straight through. The probation will terminate following the final day served.

mitting the removal of trees over 21 inches in diameter contrary to the "Eastside Screens" limit.

"The logging of large trees in projects such as Camp Lick is primarily driven by economic interests rather than true forest restoration," the complaint said. Within the project's bound-

aries, the U.S. Forest Service plans to commercially harvest about 12,000 acres, largely using tractor yarding "where toppled trees are dragged

Grant County Sheriff

for the week ending Aug. 4:

Average inmates: 13

Concealed

Bookings: 3

Releases: 4

Citations: 5

Fingerprints: 3

Civil papers: 20

Warrants processed: 1

Search and Rescue: 1

Assistance/Welfare check: 2

Aug. 3: Cited Tommy Cald-

Aug. 3: Cited Eugene Cur-

Aug. 3: Cited James Ruck-

Aug. 3: Cited Troy Nicoson,

Aug. 4: Cited Faith Myers,

well, 60, Lebanon, for speeding,

rey, 76, Mt. Vernon, for driving

without a license and insurance.

man, 42, Eugene, for speeding,

48, Mt. Vernon, for offensive

25, Elizabethtown, Indiana, for

Grant County Justice

Court

Rosco C. Nelson Jr., 72, Port-

land, July 18, 76/45 zone, fined

\$265; Juvenile, 17, Haines, July

4, 80/65 zone, fined \$265; Jacob

I. Gonzales, 35, Prineville, July

3, 50/30 zone, fined \$165; Tren-

ton A. Van Cleave, 24, Keizer,

July 4, 66/30 zone, fined \$440;

Keith B. Knie, 38, Boise, Feb.

10, 81/65 zone, fined \$225;

Charles E. Brown, 63, Baker

City, June 26, 87/65 zone,

fined \$225; Sharon L. Baugh-

man, 27, Ontario, June 2, 43/25

zone, fined \$165; Benjamin

J. Connor, 40, Bend, June 13,

74/45 zone, fined \$265; Sheila

C. Fries, 52, Kirkland, Wash-

ington, June 17, 47/30 zone,

fined \$165; Sara J. Hawley,

36, Burns, June 3, 82/65 zone,

Exceeding speed limit:

speeding, 73/35 zone.

Arrests: 1

56/30 zone.

71/55 zone.

littering

licenses: 5

through the forest by heavy equipment, causing soil compaction and erosion," the plaintiff said. The Eastside Screens standard, which prohibited logging trees over 21 inches in diameter in several Eastern Oregon national forests, was replaced by new guidelines earlier this year but was still effective when the project was approved in 2020.

The environmental plaintiff argues the Eastside Screens were established to rectify the dearth of large trees east of the Cascade Mountains but "this shortage has not been resolved and continues to this day."

The lawsuit alleges the Forest Service unlawfully made changes to the management plan for the Malheur National Forest to circumvent the Eastside Screens even though site-specific conditions did not justify the changes.

The broader changes to the

Eastside Screens provide "compelling evidence" that exceptions to the size standard within the Camp Lick project weren't warranted, the complaint said. "If the alleged need to remove large trees was site specific, a region-wide amendment would not be necessary."

The complaint claims the Forest Service violated the National Environmental Policy Act in approving the project without conducting an "in depth analysis" of alternatives to the project or sufficiently evaluating its cumulative impacts, such as potential harms to steelhead and redband trout.

The agency didn't properly take into account "on any consistent geographical scale" the effect that several other nearby projects will have on stream temperature, sediments and other factors, especially in light of future timber sales, the complaint said.

Tavlor A. Lovell, 20, Mt. Ver-The Grant County Sheriff's non, April 28, 63/45 zone, fined Office reported the following \$165; Kevin M. Lewis, 37, Spokane, Washington, July 5, 81/65 zone, fined \$265; Mariko H. handgun Dyson, 37, Seattle, Washington,

July 10, 47/25 zone. Exceeding speed limit in school zone: Juvenile, 16, Kodiak, Alaska, June 2, 35/20 zone, fined \$225.

Violation of the basic rule: Kelly A. Lorenz, 61, Paisley, July 10, 80/55 zone, fined \$165; Marc D. Barnes, 56, Philomath, May 27, 73/55 zone, fined \$165; Darroll W. Batke, 55, Hillsboro, June 27, 79/55 zone, fined \$265; Brent Dubreuil, 21, Redmond, July 5, 50/30 zone, fined \$165; Toni J. Zak, 43, Prairie City, July 4, 75/55 zone, fined \$165; Cade R. Tiller, 20, Hines, July 10, 75/55 zone, fined \$165; Dustin M. Wright, 23, Mt. Vernon, July 12, 75/55 zone, fined \$165.

Open container of alcohol: Franklin S. Sadlon, 59, Salem, June 27, fined \$265.

Failure to drive within lane: Franklin S. Sadlon, 59, Salem, June 27, fined \$265.

Driving uninsured: Caleb A. Batease, 25, Canyon City, July 4, fined \$265; Tiffani R. Blair, 20, John Day, June 12, fined \$440; Bucky A. Breck, 34, John Day, June 4, fined \$440; Ashlie R. Clark, 29, John Day, May 31, fined \$265; Erik I. Mountain, 43, John Day, June 12, fined \$265; Destiny D. Nolan, 20, Prairie City, June 8, fined \$265; Holly B. Smith, 38, Spokane, Washington, June 2, fined \$265; Mathew P. Walker, 38, John Day, May 30, fined \$265; Austin W. Sexton, 34, Portland, May 28, fined \$265; Raymon Glen McDonald, 56, Bend, July 2, fined \$265; Toni J. Zak, 43, Prairie City, July 4, fined \$265: Somer L. Robinson, 32, Day-

COPS AND COURTS

ville, June 30, fined \$265.

Driving while suspended: Tiffani R. Blair, 20, John Day, June 12, fined \$440; Bucky A. Breck, 34, John Day, June 4, fined \$440; Ashlie R. Clark, 29, John Day, May 31, fined \$265; Erik I. Mountain, 43, John Day, June 12, fined \$440; Destiny D. Nolan, 20, Prairie City, June 8, fined \$440; Holly B. Smith, 38, Spokane, Washington, June 2, fined \$440; Mathew P. Walker, 38, John Day, May 30, fined \$440; Thomas D. Shockey, 42, Springfield, June 18, fined \$440; Somer L. Robinson, 32, Dayville, June 30, fined \$440; Adrian Couey, 36, John Day, June 29, fined \$440.

Driving while revoked: Raymon Glen McDonald, 56, Bend, July 2, fined \$440; Toni J. Zak, 43, Prairie City, July 4, fined \$440.

No operator's license: David W. Cunningham, 57, Parma, Idaho, July 3, fined \$265.

Failure to install ignition interlock device: Keith B. Knie, 38, Boise, Feb. 10, fined \$440.

Failure to obey traffic control device: David A. Kodesh, 26, John Day, July 2, fined \$200.

Failure to carry proof of financial requirements: Thomas D. Shockey, 42, Springfield, June 18, fined \$265

Inadequate number of personal flotation devices: Benjamin Ives, 40, Hillsboro, June 26, fined \$115.

Careless driving - accident: Steven M. Hueckman, 34, John Day, June 11, fined \$440.

Operating without proper fenders: Sawyer R. Watterson, 31, Mt. Vernon, June 23, fined \$165.

Mason J. Gerry pleaded no contest July 26 to depositing trash within 100 feet of water and was fined \$440. He pleaded

guilty July 26 to minor in possession of alcohol and was fined \$440. He was ordered to attend a victim impact panel and complete a boating safety class.

Spencer E. Leifheit III, 44, of Mt. Vernon was convicted of violation of land use ordinance after trial by default after failing to appear July 12. He was ordered to pay a \$100 fine.

The court found Thomas Richard Taylor in default Aug. 4 and ordered a judgment of restitution for the premises for the plaintiff, Deborah J. Brown, at 211 S. Washington St., Canyon City. It was further ordered the defendant shall remove all personal belongings. A total money judgment of \$203 was ordered.

Dispatch

John Day dispatch worked 205 calls during the week of Aug. 1-8, including:

• John Day Police Department

Aug. 4: Responded to a report of a dispute on Northwest Canton.

Aug. 4: Dispatched to a report of pigs on East Main Street, near the L building.

Aug. 4: Responded to a driving complaint on Highway 26, near the Mullins Ranch.

Aug. 4: Conducted a welfare check on a subject having mental problems on Northeast Gunther.

Aug. 4: Responded to a report of a man who fell down on East Main Street.

Aug. 5: Responded to a report of a violation of a no-contact on West Main Street.

Aug. 5: Responded to an unattended death on West Main Street.

Aug. 6: Responded to a burglary at the Methodist Thrift Shop.

Aug. 6: Cited Anthony

Gallinatti, 26, of Boise on a traffic stop on Highway 26 and Third Street.

Oregon State Police

Aug. 4: Responded to a report that a deer had been hit by a vehicle on Mill Corner.

· Grant County Sheriff's Office

Aug. 4: Responded to a civil problem on Washington Street. Aug. 5: Responded with John Day police to a report of a disorderly patient on Schoolhouse Lane.

Aug. 5: Responded to a report of a vehicle rollover on Wall Creek Road and Highway 402 in Monument.

Aug. 5: Responded to a report of a suicidal subject at B Avenue.

Aug. 5: Took information on an overdue motorist near Dayville Merc.

Aug. 6: Cited Trevor Brown, 26, of Bend for speed, 75/55 zone, on Highway 26, milepost

Aug. 6: Cited Chandler Foster, 29, for driving on a suspended license on Highway 26, near Third Street.

Aug. 7: Received a report of a suicidal subject in Prairie City.

• John Day ambulance

Aug. 5: Responded to a report that a man, 37, with anxiety ingested pills on East Main Street.

Aug. 5: Dispatched on a call to a man, 82, with paralysis on the right side on South Overholt.

Aug. 6: Responded to a call of a man, 37, puking up blood.

Aug. 7: Cited Caleb Vielma, 32, of John Day for driving while on a suspended license and uninsured on Canton, near True Value.

• Prairie City ambulance

Aug. 7: Dispatched on a grass fire at the Oxbow Ranch.

fined \$265; Kelilu Kirby, 42, John Day, June 1, 38/25 zone, fined \$165; Nathan A. Martin, 59, Bonney Lake, Washington, June 19, 81/65 zone, fined \$265;



South Fork John Day Watershed Funding Available

The South Fork John Day Watershed Council, in partnership with the Natural Resource Conservation Service, is offering funding through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program for juniper removal, forest health, upland water developments and pasture fencing. Funding is available to private landowners within the South Fork John Day Watershed.

TO LEARN MORE CALL: 541-792-0435



Grant County Children need Resource Families now!



Foster or Adopt

High need for families to foster Teens, LGBTQ+ youth and children with mental health needs and behavioral challenges.

> 1-800-331-0503 fosterORadopt.com S254698-1

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541-575-0250

Pizza, Pub & Grill

Can you believe it is already August and school will be starting soon? This has been another summer we won't soon forget!

I hope you are all ready for and looking forward to the 112th Grant County Fair! I sure am! Mindy and her staff have been working hard to bring us the best Fair yet. So, plan to go and Have a Roaring Good Time!

The Chamber would like to welcome some new members – 1st Choice Auto Body, Station 62, and Restoration Fuels, LLC. ! We value your membership and we are here for you.

The Chamber Board of Directors has been working on revisions to the Chamber's By-Laws. According to the current By-Laws, the by-laws may be amended by a quorum vote of the Board of Directors providing the following:

a. a copy of the proposed amendments and by-laws will be delivered to all members at least twenty-one (21) days prior to Board of Directors vote.

A copy of the revised By-Laws are available on the Chamber's website – www.gcoregonlive. com under "Recent News" and copies are available at the Chamber office

b. special meeting of the membership be held for member comment at least fourteen (14) days prior to the Board of Directors vote. The Special Meeting date will be prior to the September Board Meeting. When the date is chosen, it will also be posted on the Chamber's website and emailed to our Chamber members.

c. changes resulting from member feedback will be posted at the Chamber office and on our website at least ten (10) days prior to the Board of Directors vote.

d. Board of Directors will vote on changes at the next regularly scheduled Board Meeting where a quorum is present. The vote be September 16, 2021.

The Events committee is working on the Grape and Grain Celebration. The date has changed to October 8th, so please SAVE the DATE! It is coming together, and will surely be an enjoyable evening!

We still have a large supply of face masks and gloves if anyone needs them. They are free, just come and get them or let us know you need them.

The August Board meeting will be Thursday, August 19th at 10:30 am. Stay well and cool!

Tammy Bremner Executive Director

