

Speakers to discuss rangeland

Nearly 50 speakers will share their perspectives on topics related to rangeland ecosystems at a symposium to be held at Easter Oregon State College at La Grande, Aug. 29-31.

The "Sustaining Rangeland Ecosystems" Symposium is aimed at range, fisheries, and wildlife professionals, students, and interested citizens, and is designed to increase understanding of rangeland management and issues associated with rangelands.

Symposium topics include: healthy rangeland components, blending new knowledge with old paradigms, managing exotic vs. native flora and fauna, social and economic values, legal issues, partnerships, and threatened/endangered species on rangelands.

Local, regional, and nationally-recognized speakers will focus on northwest rangeland issues and

management but the topics are applicable to the entire Great Basin rangelands and beyond.

The cost for registration is \$70 per person if registered by July 1. After July 1, registration will be \$100 per person. High school and college students from an accredited institution may register for \$30.

For more information and a registration packet, contact: Joanne Parsons, Linda Fratzke or Deb Crowell at 503-963-7122, or write to SRE Symposium Coordinators, Blue Mountains Natural Resources Institute, 1401 Gekeler Lane, La Grande, 97850.

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New tire man at MCGG



Charlie Graybeal is the new tire manager at the Morrow County Grain Growers. Graybeal brings 14 years experience in the tire business to the job.

Workshop held on food handling

Twenty-five community volunteers, Family Day Care providers, Adult Foster Caregivers, school food service personnel and other people attended a "Basics of Food Handling" workshop sponsored by the Morrow County Extension Service, at A.C. Houghton School in Irrigon.

The workshop was taught by Chuck Stahl, state health inspector for nine counties in eastern Oregon. The program included investigation details of the recent E. Coli O157:H7 outbreak in the Pacific Northwest. The outbreak infected 500 people, resulted in the deaths of four children and was traced to undercooked ground beef and cross contamination.

Class participants learned about routes of cross contamination such as unwashed lettuce mixing with salad dressings and food preparation, staff illness and hygiene. Food preparation and serving volunteers were remind-

ed that hands must be washed twice after using the bathroom: once in the bathroom and again after touching the bathroom door.

Stahl also explained that the increase in Hantavirus illness is related to the increase in rodent population, and rodent proximity to humans. The increase in rodent population is probably related to that extra dose of rain in the spring of 1993 and increased vegetation that resulted. A fact sheet for rodent control was distributed for anyone concerned about rodents in homes, barns or cabins.

Anyone interested in learning more about how not to make people sick can request the publication PNW 250 "You Can Prevent Food Poisoning" from the Morrow County Extension Office, Pettyjohn Building, Heppner, 676-9642 or toll free 1-800-342-3664. There is no charge for the publication but the mailing cost is 75c.

WCCC plan men's tournament

The annual Willow Creek Country Club Men's Championship will be held Sunday, July 10 at the golf course in Heppner. Registration is at 7:30 a.m. with tee off to follow at 8 a.m.

Howard Gilliam is the defending champion. The competition consists of three nine hole rounds of medal play. The golfers will be divided into three flights by handicap. Prizes will be award-

ed by flight for gross and net scores and special events.

WCCC members are eligible to participate in the tournament. Players should sign up in the club house.

Coffee, fruit and rolls will be served before play. Sandwiches will be provided by the People for the Pool as a fund raiser.

For further information contact John Edmundson, 676-5177.

Ranchers intervene grazing lawsuit

An eastern Oregon rancher has filed a motion along with a group of Forest Service grazing permit holders in U.S. court to intervene in a lawsuit to protect their livelihoods.

Bob Burril, a Grant County rancher, and the Eastern Oregon Public Lands Coalition (EOPLC) filed to intervene in the case of Oregon Natural Desert Association, et al. vs. Jack Ward Thomas, U.S. Forest Service chief.

In an "East Oregonian" article May 12, Bill Marlett of the Oregon Natural Desert Association stated that if successful, the suit will be used to attack grazing on 320 million acres of public land in the West. The lawsuit, brought by eight environmental groups, claims that the Forest Service improperly issued a grazing permit to Burril in the Camp Creek Allotment of the Malheur National Forest without obtaining certification from the state of Oregon under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

As defendants, Burril and the EOPLC will prove that the Clean

Water Act is not applicable to livestock grazing and would only burden state and federal officials with additional administrative work at taxpayers' expense. Furthermore, recent studies indicate that modern grazing techniques have improved habitat in the Camp Creek drainage, according to the EOPLC.

The Farm Bureau, the Oregon Cattlemen's Association, and the Grant County Stockgrowers are collaborating to defend the ability of permittees to manage public lands in a beneficial manner. Timber industry groups which may also be affected by the suit have expressed interest in supporting the defendants along with out-of-state groups.

"Burril now finds himself in the eye of a controversy that threatens to engulf agricultural use of public lands in most of the Western states," said Doug Breese, a cattle rancher from Prineville and president of the Oregon Farm Bureau.

"Agricultural use of public lands is itself a resource which must be protected to the benefit of all Americans," said Breese. "That is a public interest perspective not offered by the original parties in the Camp Creek case," he said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Morrow County School District #R-1 will be accepting bids on July 22, 1994 at 2:00 p.m., at the District Office, 270 W. Main, PO Box 368, Lexington, Oregon 97839, for roof repair/replacement at Columbia Junior High School, S. Division & Country Road, Irrigon, OR.

A mandatory job walk will be held on July 11, 1994, at 1:00 p.m. Specifications will be handed out at that time. Please meet at the entrance area of Columbia Junior High School. Charles D. Starr Superintendent
Published: July 6, 1994

In the Service

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Shawn M. Hams is deployed aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Guam, homeported in Norfolk, VA. Hams recently participated in the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of D-Day.

Fifty years ago, Allied forces stormed the beaches at Normandy, France, in the greatest amphibious assault in history. Code-named Operation Overlord, D-Day marked the turning point in the European campaign of World War II. An allied fleet of 2,727 ships and 2,606 landing craft transported the invasion force which broke through the Nazi's "impregnable" Atlantic Wall and dug a toe-hold in Europe.

In a little more than a month, one million soldiers were carried demanded by modern warfare; the drive to liberate Europe was not turned back.

During the commemoration Hams's ship visited Southampton, England and Cherbourg, France, and has now joined the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean.

USS Guam and the three other ships of the Mediterranean Amphibious Ready Group are carrying more than 2,000 Marines of the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit. Today the Navy and Marine Corps are full partners in joint operations, poised to respond quickly to crisis in distant lands from the Sea.

Hams is the son of Wayne and Dianna Hams, Ione. He joined the Navy in May 1992.

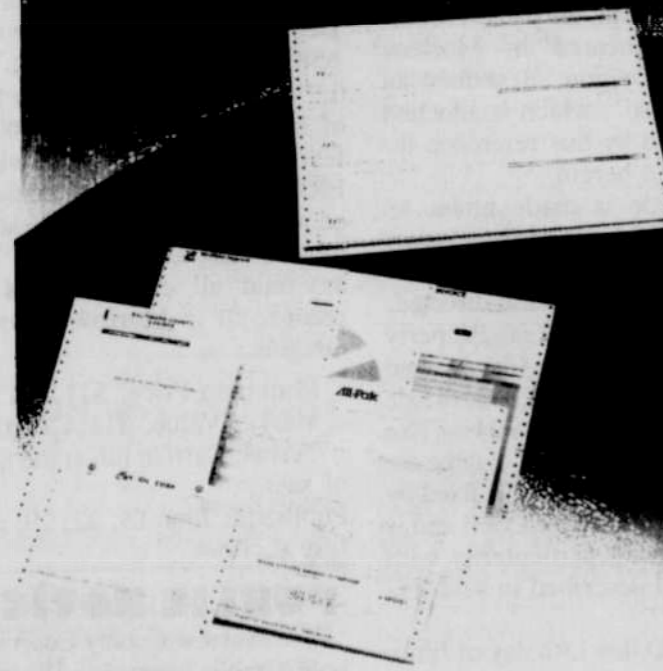
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