

Umatilla National Forest lightning wildfire update

Road and trail closures implemented

Pendleton—Multiple fires have been reported to the Blue Mountain Interagency Dispatch Center (BMIDC) and John Day Interagency Dispatch Center (JDIDC) as a result of recent lightning activity. A reconnaissance observation flight was scheduled for last Sunday to scout for new fires and search for fires that were reported but not located. Several fire lookouts across the forest are also staffed and on the lookout for smoke. More fires are expected to be reported throughout the day and lightning is in the forecast for this evening.

The Heppner Ranger District reported four new fires Sunday and three new fires Monday.

The Texas Fire, which is located on the Heppner Ranger District two miles east of Madison Butte Lookout, is estimated at nine acres in size and is currently 40 percent contained. It is burning in heavy fuels with short range spotting. By Tuesday the fire was staffed with 16 rappellers and one 20-person hot-shot crew. Heavy dead and down material and spotting continue to present challenges in containing this fire. Crews will continue to strengthen control lines and mop up the fire.

Current closures related to the fire in the Texas Butte Roadless area include Copple Butte Trailhead and the entire length of Copple Butte Trail #3052.

The Old Misery Fire, which is located two miles SE of Bull Prairie, is estimated at six acres and is 80 percent contained. Resources on scene include one engine and a dozer. Tuesday firefighters focused suppression actions on completing control lines and mopping up the fire.

The Rocky Flat Fire, located near Highway 207 and Big Flat Road, is currently at 127 acres and is 80 percent contained. The fire is burning in grass and juniper. Resources were on scene to complete control lines and mop up the fire Tuesday.

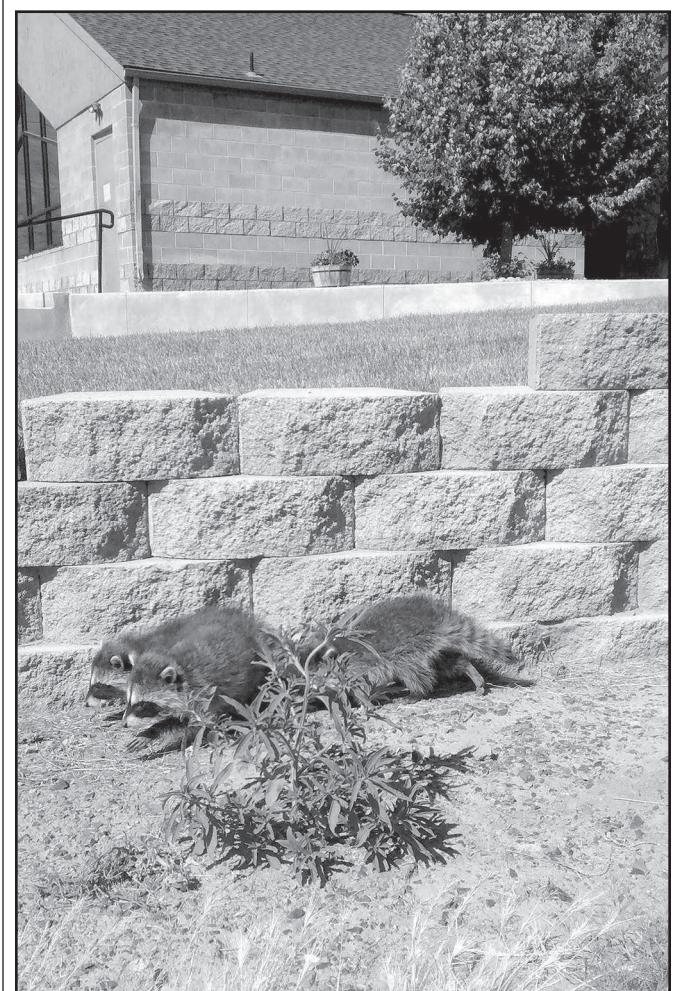
The Collins Butte Fire, located four miles northeast of the community of Winlock, was approximately

87 acres in size and 100 percent contained on Tuesday. A single engine air tanker, one helicopter with bucket, three engines, two dozers, two water tenders, a heavy air tanker and one 20-person crew were on scene. Additional resources continue to improve the control line.

A fire is burning in the Potamus area south of Forest Service Road 2105 was estimated at one acre. Another fire burning near Little Potamus Creek was estimated and is being monitored.

The fire danger rating remains at HIGH and Public Use Restrictions involving campfires and chainsaw use are in effect. (See following story.)

Beating the heat...



Even the local wildlife is trying to find ways to beat the heat, as evidenced by these raccoons that seemed to be trying to sneak into Willow Creek Water Park in Heppner recently. -Photo by Megan Futter

Public Use Restrictions increased on the Umatilla National Forest

PENDLETON, OR—Due to increased fire danger and dry weather conditions, Phase A of the Public-Use Restrictions (PURS) involving chainsaw use, smoking, off-road travel, and campfires went into effect on the Umatilla National Forest at 12:01 a.m. (PDT) on Monday, June 29. The seasonal campfire restriction remains in effect.

“The hot weather forecasted for this weekend will quickly elevate the fire danger across the forest,” said Brian Ebert, Deputy Fire Staff for the Umatilla

National Forest, in a statement last week. “Beginning Monday, chainsaw use will be prohibited between the hours of 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. Firewood cutters will want to get an early start to beat the heat,” said Ebert.

Phase A is the second level of restrictions, generally implemented when the fire danger is moderate to high. PURS are phased in collectively, as conditions warrant, and may differ from forest to forest.

Phase A restrictions include restrictions regarding chainsaw use, smok-

ing, forest travel, and use of campfires and cooking stoves.

Forest personnel say the public’s awareness of the increasing fire danger and cooperation is essential to a safe fire season. Recreationists, firewood cutters, hunters, and other forest users can all help by closely adhering to restrictions, operating safely and cautiously and keeping up-to-date on the latest orders and regulations.

Please check with your local Oregon Department

of Forestry office for public use restrictions on lands protected by ODF. Visit the Blue Mountain Interagency Dispatch webpage at: www.bmidc.org or contact a local Oregon Department of Forestry office for more complete information.

For more information about the Umatilla National Forest’s Public Use Restrictions, contact the Pendleton, office at 541-278-3716, call Forest Information Hotline at 1-877-958-9663, or visit the website at www.fs.usda.gov/umatilla/.

DA’s Report

Morrow County District Attorney Justin Nelson has released the following report:

-Amanda Sue Walton, 33, was convicted of Possession of Methamphetamine, a Class C Felony, and sentenced to six months driver’s license suspension and 18 months supervised probation subject to 90 sanction units with 30 jail units. Probation conditions include 80 hours of community service. Fines, fees and assessments totaled \$500.

-Daniel Joseph Avila, 27, was convicted of Possession of methamphetamine, a Class C Felony. The defendant’s driver’s license was suspended for six months and the defendants sentenced to 60 days jail time with credit for time served, and one year post-prison supervision. Fines, fees and assessments totaled \$200.

-Jeremy Wayne Smith, 37, was convicted of Theft

II, a Class A Misdemeanor, and was sentenced to discharge. Fines, fees and assessments totaled \$120.

-Jeremy Wayne Smith, 37, was additionally convicted of Burglary II, a Class C Felony, and sentenced to 18 months prison time with credit for time served, to run concurrent with the following Criminal Mischief case, and one year post-prison supervision. The defendant was also convicted of Theft II, a Class A Misdemeanor, and sentenced to discharge. Fines, fees, assessments and restitution totaled \$600.

--Jeremy Wayne Smith, 37, was additionally convicted of Criminal Mischief I, a Class C Felony, and sentenced to 18 months prison time with credit for time served, to run concurrent with the previous Burglary case, and one year post-prison supervision. Fines, fees, assessments and restitution totaled \$1,428.66.

Sheriff’s Report

November 5: Morrow County Sheriff’s Office received report from a man in Heppner that he hit a deer near the Heppner City Park on Main St. He wasn’t sure if it was alive or dead. MCSO was unable to locate the deer.

-MCSO received report from an Irrigon woman that her storage unit at the Irrigon Mini Storage was broken into and gone through. She reported that a male subject had her keys while she was in jail.

-MCSO received report of a vehicle parked in front of the bar in Heppner for almost a week. She said she would call in the plates when she arrived at the bar and requested that MCSO call the owner.

-MCSO received report from a woman that she was walking to work in Heppner

and noticed a syringe lying on the ground. She said she pushed it to the fence line with her foot and requested a deputy respond and dispose of the needle.

-MCSO received report from the Irrigon Shell station that they have evidence of criminal mischief against a male subject.

-MCSO Deputy arrested Michelle Dawn Alldritt Holtz, 39, on a Heppner Justice Court warrant for Failure to Appear. She was transported directly to Irrigon Justice Court to go before the judge.

-MCSO received report of a lost female boxer puppy in Boardman. The caller said the puppy was deaf.

-MCSO received report of a domestic dispute on Linden Way in Heppner with the female allegedly strangled and punched by

her husband. The incident was under investigation.

-MCSO received report of a pitbull in Irrigon that charges the caller when she walks by.

-MCSO received report of two dogs on Water Street hill in Heppner in the road off and on for the past two weeks becoming a hazard for the dogs and traffic.

-MCSO received report of the theft of around \$500 worth of clothes from the laundromat at Sergio’s Mexican Restaurant on Hwy. 730, Irrigon.

-MCSO received report of a female student leaving Heppner High School and the school was unable to get a hold of her parents to make sure she was safe.

-MCSO received report from a citizen that the Irrigon Post Office released his mail to another person.

-MCSO received report that an Irrigon man was looking for his bay mare.

-MCSO received report of a motor vehicle accident with unknown injuries at Taggares Lane/Tower Road.

-MCSO received report of juveniles playing underneath the stairs on Water St. in Heppner, sticking their legs out into traffic and almost getting run over. The caller requested a deputy to advise the children.

-MCSO arrested Cindy R. Whitbeck, 41, on an Irrigon Justice Court warrant for Failure to Appear/Criminal Trespass I. She was lodged at Umatilla County Jail with additional warrants.

-MCSO received report from a woman at A.C. Houghton Elementary School in Irrigon that her vehicle was hit in a parking lot. She said she would wait for a deputy at the front entrance to the school.

November 6: Morrow County Sheriff’s Office received report of a car that rolled in the median on I-84 Boardman. Boardman Fire Department, Boardman Ambulance, Boardman Police Department, MCSO and Oregon State Police responded. The subject refused transport by ambulance.

-MCSO received report of a tan horse loose in the area of Main St. Ione. Dispatch contacted the owner who had already received a call from the Post Office. The horse was returned.

-MCSO received report from the vice-principal at Irrigon Junior/Senior High School that a junior high student was shot with a paint ball gun while walking to school that morning.

-MCSO received report that TransCanada Pipeline was activating their pipeline at Station 9 near Ione. They advised there may be a loud noise for around 10 minutes.

-MCSO received report from a subject on Penland

Lane that someone had hit his truck while he was out hunting the previous week.

-MCSO received report from a Boardman subject that two dogs charged him and his grandson, bit his pant leg and tore the jeans.

-MCSO, Heppner Fire Department received report that a resident at Lakeview Heights, Heppner, pulled a fire alarm. The caller said the resident then left the facility.

-MCSO received report of an incident of road rage with subjects in a white hearse with stickers on the back, all over the road, almost causing accidents and yelling and screaming out the window on I-84 Boardman.

-MCSO received report of a car without its headlights on almost hitting the caller’s car by driving into her lane on I-84.

-MCSO Deputy advised he was out with someone possibly living in an RV on Third St. in Irrigon.

-MCSO received report of loud music as early as 5:30 a.m. in the RV lot on Main St. in Ione.

-MCSO received request for deputy contact concerning threats made against her daughter by other students at school in Irrigon.

-MCSO received request for a welfare check on a subject at the Oasis RV Park in Irrigon. The caller said that she had spoken to the subject, who said he thought he had a stroke, spent the night on the floor and wasn’t doing well. The caller was concerned

because she had not heard from him all day.

-MCSO received report from a subject at Utah Ave. in Irrigon that his kids’ house had been broken into and was trashed. MCSO responded.

-MCSO received report of a customer at the Boardman Shell station who had been there for several hours, wouldn’t leave and was trying to get to the other side of the counter. Boardman Police Department and MCSO responded.

-Heppner Ambulance received request for an ambulance for an 83-year-old woman who was confused and unable to speak. Heppner Ambulance responded and transported her to Pioneer Memorial Hospital in Heppner.

-Heppner Ambulance received report of a 68-year-old male who had fallen of a ladder at Willow Creek Rd./Forest Service 21 Rd. He was transported.

-Ione Ambulance received report of a 56-year-old male with abdominal pain. He was transported.

November 7: Morrow County Sheriff’s Office received report of neighbors peeling out and revving up their engines in front of his residence at Irrigon Mobile Court. He said he had issues with them making noise in the past.

-MCSO received report of a cow and calf near the caller’s camp off the 2110 Rd./40 Rd. A deputy advised it was open range. Messages were left for the possible owner of the cow.

Pioneer Memorial Clinic

For Any Morrow County Students

FREE SPORTS PHYSICALS

- **Tuesday, Aug. 11th, 1:30 to 5 p.m.**
- **Thursday, Aug. 13th, 1:30 to 5 p.m.**

If exam is not done during these two days there will be a \$34 charge.

Pioneer Memorial Clinic is located at 130 Thompson Avenue, Heppner, OR

541-676-5504



MORROW COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT

Excellence in Healthcare