



Serving the McKenzie River Valley ... And Subscriber Joyce Barks of Castro Valley, CA

JP Doodles

Have any predictions on what this New Year will likely deliver?

PAGE 4

Catching Salmon

Tripods or 'horses,' as Minney called them, were used to build fish racks across the entire McKenzie River.

PAGE 4



'22 funded 25 projects

\$997,929 for Oregon conservation and recreation

The Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund (OCRF) granted \$997,929 in 2022 to support projects. The money was earmarked for projects that protect and enhance the species and habitats while also creating new opportunities for wildlife watching, urban conservation, community science, and other wildlife-associated recreation - as well as drought preparedness and wildfire research.

Since the formation of the OCRF three years ago, 91 projects have been funded through competitive requests for proposals. Officials say those projects have spanned the state and have provided needed funds to Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife partners promoting outdoor equity and access as well as science-focused conservation and research.

Oregonians have a long history of conservation leadership, dating back to the earli-

est days of statehood. "We have tried to balance the use and the protection of our natural resources," according to an OCRF spokesman. "Thanks to the foresight, passion and commitment of previous generations, Oregon remains a place of incredible beauty and tremendous recreational opportunity. We owe it to future generations to continue that tradition."

In 2019, the Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 2829 establishing the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund (OCRF), along with an associated Advisory Committee to guide expenditures, and directing the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to use the fund to carry out activities to protect, maintain or enhance fish and wildlife resources in Oregon.

Timber sale put on hold

Flat Country project will get USFS regional review

The Pacific Northwest Regional Forester has withdrawn a January 2021 Record of Decision that authorized the Flat Country Project near McKenzie Bridge. Officials say they will review aspects of the project including conservation of mature and old-growth forests and carbon stewardship. The action means will not go forward at this time.

The action came after Regional Forester Glenn Casamassa formed an interdisciplinary review team to review the Willamette National Forest's Flat Country project final Environmental Impact Statement analysis and decision. That team was comprised of six members from the Pacific Northwest Region and the Pacific Northwest Research Station. The team formed Aug. 1, 2022 and completed their review and report Sept. 27, 2022.



Last October, protestors in 70 boats took to Leaburg Lake to unfurl a banner declaring "Forest Defense is Watershed Defense" in opposition to the Flat Country sale.

The Flat Country timber sale was to include about 5,000 acres about 8 miles east of McKenzie Bridge.

At an October protest in Leaburg, Oregon Wild organizer Victoria Wingell criticized the Flat Country sale for aiming "to cut down some of Oregon's last remaining, biggest and oldest trees— precisely the ones we need to keep growing and storing carbon." She said "forests like these are already the

best wildlife habitat, the best climate mitigation, and the most resilient against wildfire."

At that time, Tammy Terrell Robinson, Public Affairs Officer for the Willamette National Forest noted that an internal review was underway. "We will use the review to ensure that our proposed actions are in alignment with the most salient science and shifts in environmental conditions," she said.

Are mountain trees in danger?

80 million high elevation Whitepines threatened

Some trees that normally live for more than a thousand years may be facing an end-of-life crisis. That was part of the warning on December 14th from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in announcing the agency was designating the whitebark pine as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Over the last two decades, more than a quarter of the trees have been killed by white pine blister disease, climate change, wildfires, and voracious beetles.

"As a keystone species of the West, extending ESA protections to whitebark pine is critical to not only the tree itself, but also the numerous plants, animals, and watersheds that it supports," said Service Regional Director Matt Hogan. "The Service now looks forward to continuing engagement with the many whitebark pine conservation partners during the recovery planning process to ensure this species continues to endure for future genera-

tions."

The five-needled pines are found at elevations up to 12,000 feet on more than 126,000 square miles in Oregon, Washington, California, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Nevada, and Canada. At those windy, cold, high altitudes, conditions are too harsh for most trees to survive. The whitebark pine's edible seeds are spread almost exclusively by a bird, the Clark's nutcracker. In addition to providing a high-energy food source for animals, healthy whitebark pine stands also play an essential role in slowing runoff from snowmelt and reducing soil erosion.

Over 50% of standing whitebark pine trees are dead, according to researchers. White pine blister rust had been killing them over the last century, wiping them

Trees in danger? - Page 8



Conditions above 5,000 feet on the Old McKenzie Pass pose a challenge to flora and fauna.

Planning on selling timber?

Log prices aren't where they were last winter

By Lauren Grand
Log buyers are actively looking for wood right now and while prices aren't where they were last winter, they are certainly good and on par with past years. Prices are likely seeing a dip from last year because housing interest rates are up quite a bit and home buying is less attractive. That being said, winter is usually a difficult time for small landowners to access their trees for harvesting anyway, but if you are set up for it, it can prove to be beneficial as inventories are typically lower now than in the summer. Douglas-fir prices are currently sitting in the \$800/mbf range for 6 to 9-inchers and \$900/mbf range for the 10-inch pluses. Of course, large logs and premium logs could see \$100-200 more per thousand depending on what you've got.

Chips haven't been exciting in the recent past, but conifer chips are up from last quarter at double what I usually report. You

can find chip prices in the \$50/ton range at the time of this report. Looks like supply has finally started to decrease as most of the material from past ice storms and fires is no longer viable.

The white woods (spruce, hemlock, grand and white fir) are getting more and more difficult to sell. Much of this wood made its way to China, but that market is weak right now. If you can find a buyer in the Eugene area prices are around \$500/mbf. Demand

in Douglas County is a bit better and prices are a little bit higher at \$550/mbf.

Alder still has some respectable prices, but many of the mills have been taking some downtime recently. Prices don't seem to be fluctuating too much for alder. Larger alder logs are in the \$650 range for the 12-inchers and the \$600 for the 10-11-inchers.

Redcedar prices are steady from last quarter and are at \$1200/mbf in the Eugene area. Incense-

Log prices - Page 9



Spruce, hemlock, grand and white fir are all getting a bit more difficult to sell in the Eugene area timber market.

Guest Opinion

Off target: BM 114 missing the mark

By Clifton Harrold

First, I would like to thank you for your support and understanding of the logistical difficulties the passing of Ballot Measure 114 has created for law enforcement agencies.

Many questions have arisen as to what will happen to the rights of gun owners in Oregon with the passing of Measure 114.

For the record, I believe BM 114 to be an unconstitutional restriction on the right to possess firearms, and I believe that the U.S. Supreme Court has already indicated as much in its review of other states' laws of similar nature.

That said, I also believe that the founding fathers of the USA specifically designed a three-part governance system so that no one person was given any kind of supreme power. In our three-part system, the judicial branch is charged with the responsibility to declare a statute or act as unconstitutional.

My responsibility lies in the organization and operation of the Office of Sheriff in Lane County. I can tell you that we don't have sufficient resources to do the primary function of the Office, which is "to conserve the peace."

We have the fewest number of deputy sheriffs per capita of any county in Oregon. We have an average response time to domestic violence calls for service of over an hour and a half. We have insufficient resources to properly respond and investigate burglaries in our county.

The Lane County Sheriff's Office is responsible for issuing Concealed Handgun Licenses (CHL) to qualified residents and there are roughly 25,000 CHL license holders in the county. Since the introduction of Measure 114 there has been a surge in applications for new and renewing CHLs.

We already are operating on limited resources and this unfortunately, carries over into our CHL department.

Currently, appointments are scheduled until May 2023 for new applicants and October 2023 for renewals. We also serve walk-in

applicants on Wednesdays in an attempt to lessen the lag time for scheduled appointments. However, the sheer volume of CHL applicants and the current state of our resources create an inability to adequately address that workload, let alone a new permitting process as required by BM 114.

As you may be aware the date Measure 114 is to take effect is in limbo due to recent rulings out of Harney County.

Myself, and other Sheriffs, often rely on the analysis of our legal advisor(s) through our Oregon State Sheriffs Association. Having reviewed the BM 114 and the legal analysis received, the following opinion is my understanding of the likely next steps.

Oregon State Police were charged with creating a permitting system which complies with the measure requirements. There is currently no permitting process in place.

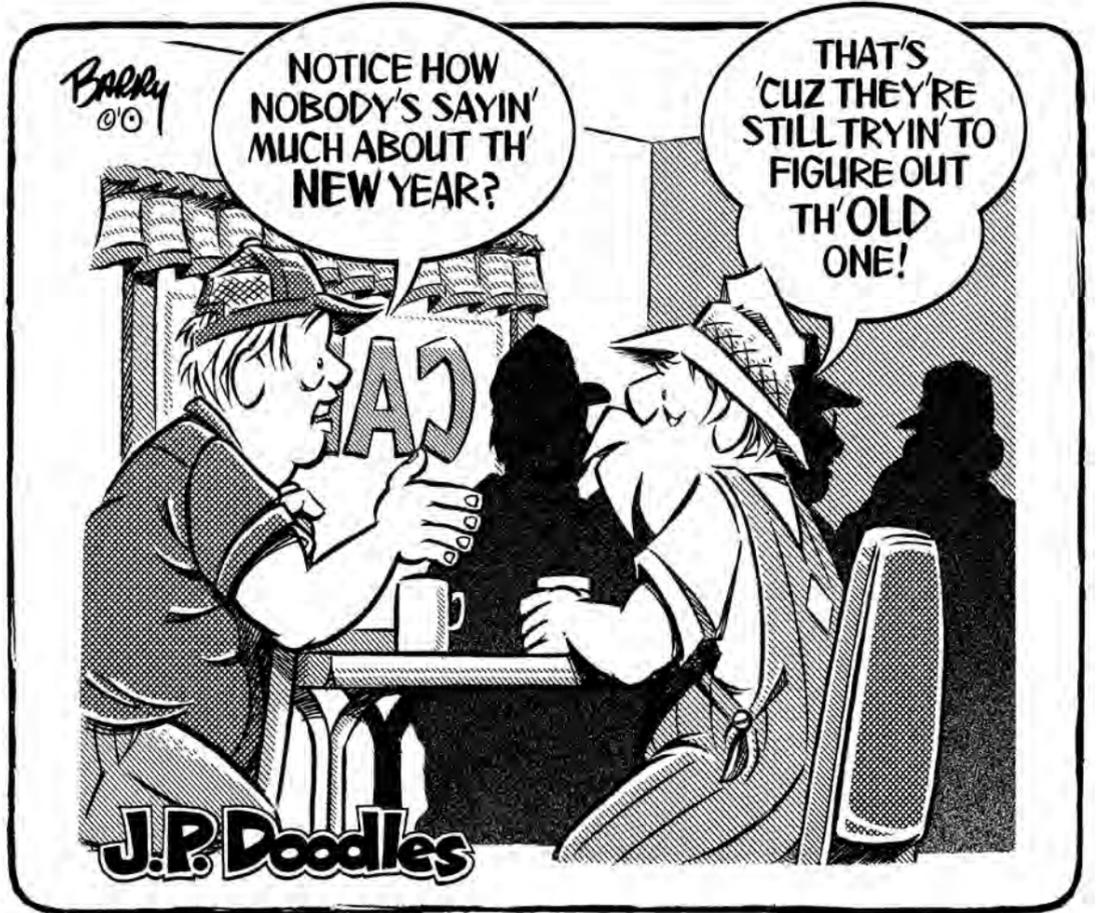
Court challenges often take years. One such challenge is underway on a California magazine ban that was sent back to the 9th Circuit Court by the U.S. Supreme Court for reconsideration due to a recent Supreme Court decision in the N.Y. Rifle v. Bruen case.

Since the measure as written provides an affirmative defense to possession of the magazine if it was owned prior to the effective date of the measure, you should document that you have them in your possession before this measure takes effect. One suggestion might be that you take a dated photograph of your magazines.

The Oregon State Sheriffs Association, the Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Oregon State Police will continue to meet to discuss these questions and concerns as the logistics of Measure 114 are worked through. I know there will continue to be questions surrounding this measure, and I am committed to providing that information as soon as it becomes clear.

One thing we all know for sure - no one currently has the staff or resources to take on the burden of this unfunded mandate.

Clifton G. Harrold is the Sheriff of Lane County.



Online spaces are ripe for harassment But there are ways parents can fight back

By Eric Tegethoff
Oregon News Service

It can be challenging for parents and caregivers to shield their children from bigotry and hatred online, but there are a few tips they can follow.

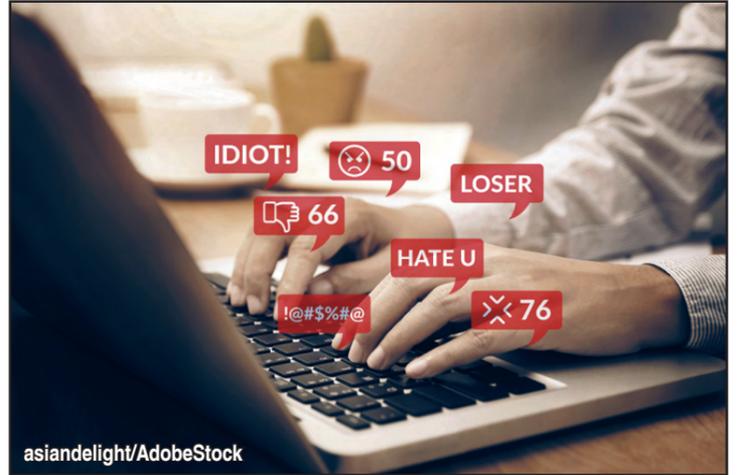
Lindsay Schubiner, Momentum program director at the Western States Center, said the work is especially crucial because white nationalist groups are using the internet to recruit people.

She pointed out young people are developing identities and ideas in relationship to everything around them, including what they see and hear online.

"As hate violence and threats to democracy continue and bigotry and conspiracy theories reach further into the mainstream, young people see that, and it has an impact," Schubiner asserted. "It's really important for parents and caregivers to provide an open space to critically examine what all of that means to them and to their future and to their values."

About 45% of middle and high school students said they have been the victim of cyberbullying, according to a survey from the Cyberbullying Research Center. The survey also showed cyberbullying has been increasing over the past decade.

Schubiner stressed vigilance is the first key to ensuring kids are staying safe online. She noted for example, hate groups use jokes



In a recent study, about 15% of middle and high school age young people admitted they had cyberbullied someone in the past.

minimizing violence, scapegoating or straw man arguments to manipulate people online, tactics she said both kids and parents need to be aware of.

"Helping them to recognize the kinds of strategies that are intended to influence them can be a really powerful way to push back against this," Schubiner emphasized.

Schubiner encouraged parents and caregivers to listen openly and non-judgmentally to their kids' about their online experiences. She cautioned cutting off

access to friends or to the internet can backfire because many white nationalists manipulate followers into seeing it as evidence of "political correctness" and attempts to curb free speech.

Schubiner added a better approach is to enlist people your child trusts.

"Really lean on relationships and relationships that the young person has with either older peers or other adults who share inclusive and equitable values," Schubiner recommended.

Letters to the Editor



Letters To The Editor should contain no more than 250 words. All letters must be signed and include an address and phone number. Addresses and phone numbers will not be published upon request. Deadline for submission is Monday at 5 pm.

Emergency?
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McKenzie River Reflections



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WEATHER REPORT

Friday 1/6		Saturday 1/7		Sunday 1/8	
McKenzie Valley AM Showers 30% chance precip High: 54 Low: 45	Santiam Pass Rain/Snow Showers 40% chance precip High: 36 Low: 29	McKenzie Valley Showers 40% chance precip High: 55 Low: 40	Santiam Pass Snow Showers 40% chance precip High: 37 Low: 28	McKenzie Valley PM Showers 50% chance precip High: 52 Low: 43	Santiam Pass PM Snow Showers 60% chance precip High: 36 Low: 26

READINGS TAKEN AT THE US ARMY CORPS COUGAR DAM					READINGS TAKEN AT THE EWEB LEABURG POWERHOUSE				
Date	High	Low	Rain	Releases	Date	High	Low	Rain	Riverflow
12/27	52	39	2.79	478 cfs	12/27	59	48	1.42	9,870 cfs
12/28	41	37	0.85	894 cfs	12/28	49	40	1.46	11,900 cfs
12/29	40	34	0.44	1,193 cfs	12/29	45	39	0.34	9,050 cfs
12/30	44	37	0.41	2,013 cfs	12/30	45	39	0.78	10,800 cfs
12/31	44	37	0.04	2,070 cfs	12/31	47	40	0.75	10,400 cfs
1/1	41	35	0	2,060 cfs	1/1	48	39	t	8,800 cfs
1/2	43	35	0.040	2,046 cfs	1/2	50	33	0	8,300 cfs

Sheriff's Report

Dec. 26: 4:38 a.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 45600 blk, N. Gate Creek Rd. Verbal dispute at a residence. Parties separated, no injuries reported.

1:01 p.m: Criminal Mischief - 47800 blk, McK. Hwy. Caller reported former tenant littered on the caller's property.

1:39 p.m: Citizen Contact - Showalter Creek Rd. & Shotgun Creek Rd.

2:28 p.m: Assist, Follow Up - 46100 blk, Goodpasture Rd.

2:55 p.m: Vehicle Stop - Marcola Rd. & Conley Rd.

Dec. 27: 9:12 a.m: Suspicious Conditions - 37300 blk, Tree Farm Rd. A caller's dog is missing. Caller suspects the neighbor took it.

1:05 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - 38400 blk, Wendling Rd. A caller reported that a previous tenant keeps coming onto the property without permission.

3:55 p.m: Motor Vehicle Acci-

dent, Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants - Marcola Rd. & Alder Branch Rd.

4:41 p.m: Harassment - 8400 blk, Thurston Rd. A caller reported that they have an email that contains threats to the caller's father.

6:27 p.m: Theft of Mail - 90400 blk, Hill Rd.

Dec. 28: 12:29 p.m: Fraud - 36900 blk, Goats Rd. Caller advised money was fraudulently taken from the caller's account.

1:41 p.m: Burglary - 89200 blk, Old Mohawk Rd. Caller believes a known suspect has been breaking into the caller's house at night.

3:58 p.m: Welfare Check - 40100 blk, McK. Hwy.

Dec. 29: 4:26 p.m: Assault - 39400 blk, Mohawk Loop Rd.

Dec. 30: 2:25 p.m: Suspicious Conditions - McK. Hwy. & River St.

2:37 p.m: Down Line - McK. Hwy. & Milepost 53.

Dec. 31: 12:02 p.m: Harassment - 51400 blk, Blue River Dr. Verbal dispute between neighbors about cutting up a tree.

12:49 p.m: Traffic Hazard - Marcola Rd. & Sunderman Rd.

2:26 p.m: Vehicle Stop - Marcola Camp.

3:04 p.m: Vehicle Stop - Marcola Rd. Mp. 6.

3:17 p.m: Vehicle Stop - Marcola Rd. Mp. 5.

3:27 p.m: Vehicle Stop - Marcola Rd. Mp. 5.

11:47 p.m: Medical Info Call - 92400 blk, Marcola Rd.

Jan. 1: 2:06 a.m: Suspicious Subject - Marcola Rd. Mp. 4. A female wearing a hooded sweatshirt was observed sitting alongside the road.

2:05 p.m: Reckless Driving - Marcola Rd. & Camp Creek Rd.

3:44 p.m: Assist, Information - Terwilliger Hot Springs.

Jan. 2: 10:52 a.m: Abandoned Vehicle - Wendling Rd. & Marcola Rd.

1:53 p.m: Burglary - 33600 blk, McK. View Dr. Undisclosed property was stolen from within a residence.

2:36 p.m: Information - Wendling Rd. & Marcola Rd.

5:36 p.m: Disturbance, Dispute - 92100 blk, Marcola Rd. verbal dispute between boyfriend and girlfriend.

Comments as reported may not be complete or accurate. If further information is required contact the Lane County Sheriffs Office.

State Police Report

Dec. 24: 15:22: Traffic Crimes, All Except DUII - Hwy. 126E, Milepost 15. Dispatched to a two-vehicle collision. On arrival trooper spoke to several witnesses who all gave the same account of what had happened. The driver of the at-fault vehicle was cited for Driving While Suspended violation and criminally cited for Reckless Driving. The vehicles were towed and no injuries were reported. Involved: white Chevy C15, black Ford Explorer, 44-year-old male, 48-year-old female, both from Springfield.

15:51: Driving Under the Influence - Hwy. 126E, Mp. 52. Dispatched to a single vehicle crash. A Hyundai Santa Fe was traveling eastbound, crossed into the westbound, onto the shoulder, and crashed into a tree. The driver exhibited signs of impairment and was arrested for DUII. The driver was transported to the Springfield Municipal Jail and denied a breath sample. A search warrant was written, approved, and executed. The driver was cited and released. Involved: red Hyundai, 33-year-old male from Canoga Park, CA.

Dec. 27: 16:20: Agency Assist - Alder Branch Rd. & Marcola Rd. Troopers responded to assist with a two-vehicle crash. Emergency Medical Services personnel advised the driver of a black Nissan involved in the crash was exhibiting signs of impairment. Troopers arrived on scene and located the suspected DUII driver, observed signs of impairment, and remained with the driver until Lane County deputies arrived on scene. LCSO deputies subsequently arrested the male driver for DUII. Involved: black Nissan Altima, 50-year-old male.

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Dec. 26: 1:04: 44000 block, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

7:49: 41000 blk, McK. Hwy Medical, Heart. Confirmed Deceased.

14:26: 7900 blk, Thurston Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

14:47: 42000 blk, Holden Creek Ln. Fire Alarm. Mistaken Alarm.

15:50: 42000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient

Upper McKenzie Fire/Rescue

Dec. 29: 10:18: MVA - Milepost 9, Clear Lake Cutoff. Jackknifed semi truck and pickup blocking both lanes, Non-Injury. Lots of vehicles are backing up.

11:18: Medical - 55000 blk, McK. River Dr. Male patient.

Dec. 30: 14:15: Illegal Burn - River St./McK. Hwy. Fire is under the highway bridge causing smoke. Subject is illegally parked on a public easement.

14:30: Down Line - McK. Hwy./Milepost 53. Power line down with a report of a fire. Unknown what's on fire.

Jan. 1: 15:32: Medical - Terwilliger Hot Springs. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

Jan. 2: 09:15: Medical - 54000 blk, McK. River Dr. Female, Conscious, Breathing.

Jan. 3: 09:12: Motor Vehicle Accident - 1 mile east of Mp. 19, Clear Lake Cutoff. White van spun out, 3 subjects were getting out.

The Upper McK. Fire District board of directors will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m on Wednesday, January 18th, at the McK. Fire Station, 56578 McK. Hwy. in McKenzie Bridge.

Explore a treasure trove of McKenzie River history - in the back issues of this newspaper. Go to: tinyurl.com/2rkpkxen

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Fish racks and the early hatcheries

Reprinted from McKenzie River Reflections April 23, 1982

We've probably all seen the old "Traveling The Old McKenzie Highway" photo that shows a touring car rounding the bend of the narrow, gravelled road that used to run up the valley. A closer look at that photo however, unlocks some of the early history of the area and gives some insights into the business of fish hatcheries and the raising of fish stocks that now play such a big role in our local economy.

One man who can take a look at that picture and talk for hours about it is Art Minney (formerly of Walterville and now deceased) who spent many of his early years in the area shown by the photo. Taken in the days before the creation of today's manmade Leaburg Lake, an island that is now flooded is visible to the left as well as some curious tripod shaped structures located both on the island and across the other side of the river.

These tripods or 'horses' as Minney called them were used to build fish racks across the entire river. By building the racks, early hatchery workers were able to catch spawning salmon and take them to dry land or fertilization of the eggs

"I wasn't born until 1911 but I can remember from 1915 on," Minney said. "My Dad worked at the Leaburg Hatchery for a number of years part time. We used to go down and live on the island, We stayed there for the summer and lived in a tent while my dad was working, rather than ride a bicycle or horseback two and a half miles



Structures, called weirs, were constructed across the entire river to stop the fish from migrating upstream.

to where we lived. I was only 4 and my mother tied me to a tree to keep me from drowning in the river. The bank was fairly high there on the stream."

Both Minney's father and grandfather worked at the hatchery when Matt Redmond was the manager, probably back in 1908-1911.

Art explained how the trout were caught in those days. "Mostly in the beginning, McKenzie River natives were captured by trapping them in the tributaries itself. They'd run up the side streams to spawn in the spring and they'd put these weir racks across the streams and build a box type trap. The fish would migrate upstream and end up getting dipped out and spawned artificially, with an upstream 'V' facing into the current the fish would go into a box trap about 6 or 8 feet square. They were there

to stay until someone came along with a dip net."

Salmon, however, were captured by building a weir across the entire river to stop the fish from migrating upstream.

"The horses (or tripods) were spaced across the stream either by being pulled into place by a team or a ferry boat or scow," Minney said. "They were dumped off about 15 feet apart until you spaced the whole span of the river. Large three-quarter to seven-eighths inch cables were later placed across the stream from bank to bank at sufficient height to carry the horses into position."

"You'd line your horses in a straight line using 50-foot poles as stringers, parallel to the water. Placed three high with 15-foot spacings between the horses, one set of poles would probably go across a span of 45-feet. In order to

get strength, you would put butts to tops in serious stream pressure. After the stringers are placed, you take 2x3's of sufficient length to clear high enough so during a flood the fish won't swim over the top. That creates a hazard for the man in charge because when he gets his water too high and can't keep it clean, it's just one more dam to break out. Then your fish just go hustlin' upstream."

As an example of theoretical versus practical knowledge, Minney recalled an experience he had on the South Santiam in the 50's. A weir he built there washed out on the bank side in a channel where the water pressure hit. Although each horse had been weighed, Minney's boss was sure even more rocks should have been added. "I tried to explain to him why I didn't want to do it but he

Fish racks - Page 9



By Slim Randles

Doc was just getting up to leave the philosophy counter as Herb walked in. Herb was grinning and flexing muscles and had the look of eagles in his eyes. We stared.

"Herb," said Doc. "You know, you can overdo a good thing."

"Why Doc ... whatever do you mean?"

"I realize that getting more exercise is your resolution for the new year, but a man your age ... you need to pace yourself a little, that's all. Don't try to get in shape all at once."

"Why Doc, I've never felt better in my life. Hey, you were so right to get me on this exercise kick. I've been meaning to thank you. It's just what I've been needing. What would you think about my playing some football in the spring? I mean, it's just touch football, but I miss the ol' razz-matazz, you know?"

Doc shook his head sadly and walked out. Herb started laughing and sat down with us and flipped his cap over for his morning eye opener.

"What was that all about, Herb?" Dud asked.

"A little joke I'm playing on Doc, that's all," Herb said. "You remember how Doc has been on my case to get more exercise and slim down some? Well, there was only one way to shut him up, so I started running. I bought a sweat suit and started running. I run past his house each morning. Then, about an hour later, I run past his house the other direction, huffing and puffing and looking at my watch."

"An hour? You run for an hour each morning?"

"Of course not," Herb said, laughing. "I run past Doc's house then walk the block to the library. An hour later, I run past Doc's house and then walk two blocks home."

We stared at him. "What?" he said. "You know Doc's going to worry about me one way or the other. I just thought I'd change it up a bit."

Brought to you by Saddle Up: A Cowboy Guide to Writing by Slim Randles. Now available as a Kindle book on Amazon.com.

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Gardening Tips

By Kym Pokorny



Oregon State University

OSU Extension Service

6 winter-blooming plants brighten dark days



Neil Bell

Mahonia 'Charity' is a beauty in the winter garden.

In January and February the flowers of winter arrive, blooming as cheerfully as the showoffs of spring.

"One of the coolest things about gardening in the Pacific Northwest is winter gardens," said Neil Bell, a horticulturist with Oregon State University's Extension Service. "Spring is overwhelming with flowers, but in winter it's surprising. It's nice to see something that's so unexpected. And then there's the scent; such an enjoyable thing."

One of the showiest of the cold-weather shrubs is Mahonia 'Charity,' a relative of native Oregon grape with bountiful spikes of yellow blooms. The large evergreen leaves give the plant a tropical look and make it a standout year round. Snow is no deterrent for this easy-care, 10-foot shrub that will take temperatures down to minus 5. A bonus is the multitude of blue berries.

For those who are only familiar with camellias that bloom in spring, Camellia sasanqua will

come as a pleasant surprise, Bell said. Blooming right smack in the middle of winter, this 8-foot camellia doesn't get the mushy, brown flowers some hybrids display. White-blooming 'Setsugekka' is easily found, as is 'Yuletide,' the most popular of the Camellia sasanqua with its Santa Claus-red flowers decorated with prominent puffs of yellow stamens that provide sustenance for overwintering Anna hummingbirds.

In the darkest part of the year – sometimes before Christmas – the vanilla perfume of sweetbox hovers on the air. The small white flowers aren't a big deal, but the scent more than makes up for that. The shiny, dark green foliage is similar to its relative the boxwood and useful as a hedge or backdrop for colorful perennials and annuals in other seasons. Several species are on the market, most commonly *Sarcococca ruscifolia* and *S. confusa*, both topping out at 5 feet. They'll take temperatures down

to around 5 degrees and grow happily in shady, dry areas of the garden, where most other plants turn up their toes.

Bell mentions *Grevillea victoriae* one of his favorite winter-blooming plants. The 8-foot tall and wide evergreen shrub with small gray leaves and stems can bloom September through April once it gets established. The unusual red-orange flowers emerge from rust orange buds making it a standout in the garden. It's attractive to hummingbirds and bees.

Blooming December through March, two months earlier than the Oregon native flowering currant (*Ribes sanguineum*), is the chaparral currant (*R. malvaceum*) of the California coastal ranges. The 5-foot shrub attracts hummingbirds that will sip the nectar and forage for bugs among downward-facing pink flowers. Because the foliage is aromatic, many gardeners will be happy to know that deer will typically leave chaparral currant alone.

Bell can't finish his list without mentioning native silk tassel (*Garrya elliptica*). There's no missing the waterfall of catkins dangling in long chains of 6 inches or more. The large shrub can grow up to 12 feet tall and wide, has glossy green leaves with white undersides and is drought tolerant.

These six shrubs, all of which are hardy down to about 5 degrees, are on Bell's short list. Others worth researching, he said, are witch hazel (*Hamamelis*), winter jasmine (*Jasminum nudiflorum*), 'Dawn' viburnum, wintersweet (*Chimonanthus*) and Harry Lauder's walking stick (*Corylus avellana* 'Contorta').

"Having color in the garden in winter is not that hard to do," Bell said. "Once you're aware of the possibilities, it's just a matter of planting the right plants."



Country Kitchen

By Mary Emma Allen



THE QUIRKS OF WINTER WEATHER

The weather can be unpredictable, often unusual, and fodder for the forecasters as they try to say it's the worst, a record breaker, something never experienced before. Perhaps that's so in their younger lives. But when you've accumulated as many years as I have and lived in different parts of the country, you've experienced many types of weather in all seasons.

No matter what the weather, it's a great time for cooking. My mother always had something appetizing cooking when we came inside from winter chores or sledding.

Favorite Winter Recipes

Do you have favorite winter recipes? These will vary depending on the part of the country, or the world, where you live.

* In northern climates, they often are hearty fare - soups, stews, and slow cooker meals.

* The southern, warmer weather favors salads, chilled soups, and even barbecues.

* Somewhere in between, we find a mix of the two.

* Busy folks, coordinating work, cooking, and family may rely upon prepared or from freezer

to microwave to table fare.

Try Hamburger Roll-ups for Variation

Hamburger Roll-ups - Mix a package of packaged stuffing as directed on the package. Stir together, one pound lean ground beef, 1 tablespoon catsup, 1 tablespoon mustard, 1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce, pinch of onion salt, sprinkling of salt and pepper.

Shape this mixture into 6 fairly large patties. Add some stuffing in the middle of the patties. Fold over and seal the edges. Place in a casserole or baking dish. Pour 1 can golden mushroom soup mixed with 1/2-cup evaporated milk or regular milk over the roll-ups. (Use low fat, low sodium soup if desired.)

Put any extra stuffing into a buttered casserole dish and bake until heated through and top is crisp.

Bake in a 350-degree oven for 45 minutes.

(c) Mary Emma Allen

(Mary Emma writes from her NH home. Here she researches the recipes in her family's history. E-mail: me.allen@juno.com)

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

Continued From Page 3

Assessed, 1 Transported.

Dec. 27: 15:54: Marcola Rd./Alder Branch Rd. Motor Vehicle Accident. Disregarded En Route.

17:09: McK. Hwy./Milepost 29. Landslide. Traffic Control.

21:46: 41000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, Refusal Signed.

Dec. 28: 9:09: 40000 blk, Booth Kelly Rd. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Refusal Signed.

Dec. 30: 4:25: 46000 blk, Goodpasture Rd. Medical Alarm. Mistaken Alarm.

16:09: 88000 blk, Chita Lp. Structure Fire 16:09 Mistaken Alarm

16:54: 41000 blk, McK. Hwy Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

21:14: 90000 blk, Angels Flight

Rd. Medical, Trauma. Patient Assessed, Patient Refusal.

Dec. 31: 12:21: 1300 blk, 66th St. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Jan. 1: 4:33: 37000 blk, Upper Camp Creek Rd. Structure Fire. Fire Extinguished.

23:28: 40000 blk, Deerhorn Rd. Medical, Heart. Patient Assessed, 1 Transported.

Jan. 2: 0:00: 51000 blk, McK. Hwy. Medical, General. Patient Assessed, Patient Refusal.

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting on Monday, January 16th at noon, in the Leaburg Training Center, 42870 McK. Hwy. The district maintains Facebook, Twitter, and web pages. If you have a question or concern about any Fire District business, give Chief Bucich a call @ 541-896-3311. If he is unavailable, please leave a message and he will respond ASAP.



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Community Notes

January 9

Springfield School Board

7 pm - 8:30 pm. The Board of Directors meet in the Administration Building, 640 A St, Springfield.

January 13

McKenzie Food Pantry

Free groceries provided in accordance with Oregon Food Bank and Food For Lane County guidelines for food distribution to those in need. 2nd & 4th Friday, at the McKenzie Bridge Christian Church from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Shop for yourself or have food delivered to car. Questions call Robin 541-844-8838.

January 13

McKenzie Wellness Mtg

McKenzie Valley Wellness will hold a board meeting on Tuesday, December 13th, at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Living Water Fellowship building, 5

January 14

Dime At A Time

The Blue River Bottle Boys Collection/Sorting sessions are held every Saturday from 9 - 11 a.m. at the Leaburg Store.

Donations can be dropped off there as well.

January 14

Blue River Drive Changes

A public meeting on Saturday, January 14th, to discuss possible changes to Blue River Drive, is tentatively between 1 and 4 p.m. at the McKenzie Community School.

January 16

McKenzie Fire & Rescue

McK. Fire & Rescue will hold its monthly Board of Directors meeting at noon, at the Leaburg Training Center from noon to 1 p.m.

January 15

McKenzie School Board

The McKenzie School Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. at the district office, 51187 Blue River Drive in Finn Rock.

January 18

Upper McK Fire Board

The board of directors will meet at 7p.m. 56578 McK. Hwy. in McKenzie Bridge.

January 19

Leaburg Food Pantry

Leaburg Food Pantry. Free groceries provided in accordance with Oregon Food Bank and Food For Lane County guidelines for food distribution to those in need. 3 - 6:30 p.m. Behind the McKenzie Bible Fellowship Church, 45061 McKenzie Hwy.

January 23

Springfield School Board

7 pm - 8:30 pm. The Board of Directors meet in the Administration Building, 640 A St, Springfield.

January 27

McKenzie Food Pantry

Free groceries provided in accordance with Oregon Food Bank and Food For Lane County guidelines for food distribution to those in need. 2nd & 4th Friday, at the McKenzie Bridge Christian Church from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Shop for yourself or have food delivered to car. Questions call Robin 541-844-8838.

February 7

Blue River Drive Changes

A Public Hearing before the Lane County Planning Commission will be held on Tuesday, February 7th, at 7 p.m. to discuss possible changes to Blue River Drive. People can attend at Lane County Public Works, 3050 N. Delta Hwy. in Eugene; or via a hybrid option (online and/or phone).

Honor a tree lover



Since 1994, 81 individuals, 56 organizations and businesses, and 24 Oregon Tree Cities of the Year have been recognized for their contributions to urban and community forestry.

Oregon Community Trees (OCT) and the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) are seeking nominees for their urban forestry award program. For the past 28 years, the program has recognized people, communities, and organizations in the state who have outstanding accomplishments and shown leadership in urban and community forestry.

The goal of the awards program is two-fold: to celebrate Oregonians who understand that healthy urban forests foster thriving communities and to encourage support from their community leaders.

Award categories

The Individual Award is given to a person who has made significant contributions to urban forestry in Oregon. This may be in tree planting and care, engaging people in community forestry, raising awareness about urban trees, and protecting Oregon's urban forests.

The Organization Award is given to a business, non-profit, school or municipality actively promoting healthier communities in Oregon through education, awareness, advocacy and invest-

ment in our urban forests.

The President's Award is selected by OCT's Board Chair. It recognizes outstanding contributions or lifetime achievements in the field of urban forestry.

The Oregon Tree City of the Year is selected by ODF's Urban and Community Forestry Program managers. ODF only considers cities in Oregon recognized by the Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA for this award. Typically, recipients have made urban forestry efforts beyond the four basic standards of a Tree City and have applied for a Growth Award.

Recipients are selected by the awards committee using a scored matrix that aligns with the mission of OCT to promote healthy urban and community forests through leadership, education, awareness, and advocacy. Selected nominees are then approved by the full OCT board of directors. Award recipients receive a letter of recognition from OCT, an engraved wooden plaque in the shape of Oregon, and a public presentation by someone from OCT or ODF. Recipients' names are also displayed at the Oregon Urban and Community Forestry conference in June.

Nominations on the OCT website at tinyurl.com/bdhdv87t, are due no later than Friday, February 17th.

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Sat. Eve. 5:00pm
Sun. Morn. 9:30am;
web page: sblodge.opwest.org

McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church
Please join us for worship Sundays at 10:30 am, either in church on Hwy. 126 just east of Waltherville, or on our Facebook livestream. You may also make prayer requests, or request an emailed or earth-mailed bulletin -- phone or send email to Nancy Ashley, nancy.w.ashley@gmail.com, 541-914-1986. We would love to meet you!
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Direct Answers

By Wayne & Tamara Mirthell

Skin Deep



I feel foolish soliciting advice on relationships because I have a Ph.D. myself and should be more sophisticated when it comes to these things. However, while I was raising my son alone, working full-time as a teacher, and pursuing my doctorate, I had no social life.

It's a bit embarrassing to admit that I hadn't had a relationship for 20 years! If a man who would have loved my son had come along, I would have been happy, but it never happened.

When my son was in college and my mother passed away, I suddenly became very lonely. I enrolled in a dating service and met three attractive and successful men. None of these relationships evolved into anything permanent, but at least I gained a bit of experience.

Five months ago, I met a man who is seven years younger than

I was. He is in so many ways the man of my dreams—intelligent, tall and handsome, kind, funny, and generous. At first, I was hesitant to date him because he said he had been looking for a younger woman since he thought he might still want children.

When I am with this man, I'm blissfully happy. He has a boat, and we spent some indescribably joyous times together this summer at sea. I feel as if I love this man, but I have never dared to speak the words.

He seems, in his actions, to show love for me, but he never talks to me intimately. Once in a while, I'll send an email suggesting the depth of my feelings for him, but he always responds casually, avoiding any talk of feelings.

I'm 53 and would like to find a partner with whom to share my life. I've been told by so many people that I'm a real "catch," and that I shouldn't settle for someone who is not of my "caliber." However, I'm very superficial when it comes to appearances. I know this is a flaw in me. Although I've had many men attracted to me, I am not attracted to them.

How long should I hang in there to see if he could also love me? I have a tremendous amount of pride and don't ever want to make

a fool of myself by blurting out my feelings, only to find out he doesn't feel the same.

Ella

Ella, some people get a Ph.D. because they want to put the word "Doctor" before their name. Some people do it to advance their career and make more money. But other people get a Ph.D. because they have an absolute passion for their subject. It doesn't matter what anyone thinks of their passion. Its fulfillment is its own reward.

So it is with love. You want to share your life with someone, but you seek to apply a qualification. You want love to be contained in a certain outer package, but love, not the package, is what makes a person the most attractive person to you.

There is a punishment for being superficial and a price to be paid. Your desire for appearances is a wedge between you and the love you seek. If the man you are dating shared your outlook, what would he think? "She is too old for me. I could easily get a woman 10 or 15 years younger than she."

That might sound hard, but does it not reflect your own attitudes? Do you think he is unaware of the basis on which some women date?

There is no reason you cannot date others while seeing if anything develops with this man, but what you are really looking for is a sense of connection. Focusing on appearances puts your pride,

and the opinion of others, ahead of love. It's a little like earning a Ph.D. to make money and then wondering why you don't feel inspired by your subject.

& Tamara

Wayne & Tamara are also the authors of *Cheating in a Nutshell*, *What Infidelity Does to the Victim*, available from Amazon, Apple and most booksellers.

Quote of the Week

"Only in a nation like ours could someone like me, the scrappy son of a simple carpenter, grow up to become a simple senator."

Orrin Hatch

A Moment in History
Info provided by History.com

January 5, 1933 - Construction begins on the Golden Gate Bridge, as workers began excavating 3.25 million cubic feet of dirt for the structure's huge anchorages. The structure spans the Golden Gate, a narrow, 400-foot deep strait that serves as the mouth of the San Francisco Bay, connecting the San Francisco Peninsula with the southern end of Marin County. It opened on May 27, 1937, as the longest bridge span in the world at the time. The first public crossing had taken place the day before, when 200,000 people walked, ran and even roller skated over the new bridge.

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If you want to drink, that's your business. If you want to stop, that's ours. AA Group meets Wednesday 6:00pm-7:00pm and Sunday 5:00-6:00pm at the McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church, 88393 Walterville Loop, a block from the Walterville Shopping Center. N/c-sub 5/15/-5/11/14

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UPPER MCKENZIE RURAL FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
IMMEDIATE OPENING
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Upper McKenzie Rural Fire Protection District has an immediate opening for a part-time Administrative Assistant position. Applications due January 13, 2023. Starting wage \$21/hour for a .5 FTE position. This job offers no benefits as part time.

Applications and Job Description available on our web page at <https://www.uppermckenziefire.com/> Applications accepted in person at the Fire Station, via USPS mail at 56578 McKenzie Highway, McKenzie Bridge, OR 97413 or email at uppermckenzie2800@gmail.com until 5pm January 13, 2023. We anticipate interviews will be conducted in mid-January and the start date to be February 1, 2023.

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- 61. *Broadway state
- 65. Loaded
- 66. Marbled bread
- 68. Bad car
- 69. South Pacific sailboats
- 70. "___ Milk?"
- 71. Related on mother's side
- 72. Unload on eBay
- 73. Gilligan's home
- 74. Tap, e.g.

- DOWN**
- 1. Spike, as in punch
 - 2. Iraq's neighbor
 - 3. Like a maxi skirt
 - 4. Soap plant
 - 5. *One of two countries to see Niagara Falls
 - 6. Mail a package
 - 7. Agha, alt. sp.
 - 8. Gloria Estefan's hit
 - 9. Disease-causing organism
 - 10. One of algae
 - 11. Diagnostic test
 - 12. One-trick ungulate?
 - 15. Sluggish
 - 20. ___-canceling earbuds
 - 22. Ambulance squad, acr.
 - 24. RE/MAX agent, e.g.
 - 25. *Amalfi Coast country
 - 26. Kenyan tribesman
 - 27. Amazon "club"
 - 29. Vegas cube
 - 31. Cone-shaped quarters
 - 32. Throat dangler
 - 33. *Mona Lisa city
 - 34. Go stealthily
 - 36. Nervous biting victim
 - 38. *Haleakal,, island
 - 42. Accent mark
 - 45. Software plug-ins
 - 49. Barack Obama, pre-pres.
 - 51. Waived
 - 54. Frustration, in a comic book
 - 56. Laughing African predator
 - 57. *Swiss or Italian skiing destination
 - 58. Steak option
 - 59. "White Wedding" Billy
 - 60. Eagerness
 - 61. Post-deductions amount
 - 62. Yemen's neighbor
 - 63. College cadet program
 - 64. ACL location
 - 67. Uncle Sam wanted this

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VACATION DESTINATIONS

- ACROSS**
- 1. Walt Whitman's dooryard plant
 - 6. Bag, ‡ Paris
 - 9. Sound of astonishment
 - 13. Smell of baking bread, e.g.
 - 14. Self-importance
 - 15. Ma Bell, e.g.
 - 16. List of Catholic saints
 - 17. Bobbsey twin
 - 18. Donor's bequest
 - 19. *Country to see Stonehenge
 - 21. *Country to see Neuschwanstein Castle
 - 23. Tokyo, in the olden days
 - 24. Way off freeway
 - 25. Gremlin or pixie
 - 28. Assistant
 - 30. Crunches alternative (2 words)
 - 35. Mountain lake
 - 37. Thailand, pre-1939
 - 39. Parlor piece
 - 40. *Maldives continent
 - 41. Plaudit and pomp
 - 43. Unadulterated
 - 44. Child-eating daemon, Greek mythology
 - 46. Red carpet purse
 - 47. Pelvic bones
 - 48. Gives way under force
 - 50. Like acne-prone skin
 - 52. Pose a question
 - 53. Letter opener
 - 55. Morse code dash
 - 57. *Grand Canyon state

Solution on Page 6

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	5			6				
3	1							
		7		4	8	1	9	
	4			6			3	2
7								9
2	8			7			1	
	7	6	2	1		4		
							6	1
			6				8	

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Fill in the blank squares in the grid, making sure that every row, column and 3-by-3 box includes all digits 1 through 9.

Solution on Page 6

Trees in danger?

Continued From Page 1

out in areas like the eastern edge of Yellowstone National Park, where seeds from the trees are a source of food for threatened grizzly bears.

Additional threats impacting the health of the species include mountain pine beetles, altered wildfire patterns, and climate change. As a result of these threats, scientists estimate that as of 2016, 51% of all standing whitebark pine trees are dead.

The protections for whitebark pine also make it illegal to remove, possess, or damage the tree on federal lands, or to engage in interstate or foreign commerce, including the prohibition of importing or exporting the tree. Unlike the prohibitions for federal lands, it remains legal to remove or possess whitebark pine on non-federal lands per the ESA, as long as those activities are otherwise allowed under state law.

With Endangered Species Act (ESA) protection federal agencies would be required to develop recovery plans and begin restoration work. At this point, wildlife officials have declined to designate which forest habitats are critical to the tree's survival, stopping short of what some environmen-

talists argue is needed.

The U.S. Forest Service is collaborating with the Whitebark Pine Ecosystem Foundation (WPEF) and American Forests to promote strategic range-wide conservation of the species, with the support of the USFWS. Officials say that effort will help guide the recovery process by leveraging ongoing work to create a strategy to save the species from further decline.

To allow for further conservation of the species, the Service has included a 4(d) rule with the listing of the whitebark pine. A 4(d) rule is one of the tools in the ESA that allows the Service to authorize activities that benefit and conserve the species. In the case of whitebark pine, the Service is allowing research, forest management, and restoration work on federal lands where it might otherwise be prohibited. This provision also allows for the collection of seeds on federal lands for Tribal ceremonial and traditional use.

The final rule to list the whitebark pine as a threatened species and accompanying 4(d) is available for public inspection in the Reading Room: tinyurl.com/yc65fjut.



Richard Sniezko/USFS

Whitebark pine cones in Crater Lake National Park.

Ski Report

January 3, 2022

The Hoodoo Ski Area is back to its regular schedule – closed on Mon. & Tues; open 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Wed. to Sat; and Sun. from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The temperature Tuesday morning was 23 degrees with SSW winds averaging 23 mph. An inch and a half of snow fell overnight, bringing the snowpack to 38 inches. For more information call 541-822-3337.

Mt. Bachelor reported temperatures of 12 degrees at the base and 11 degrees at the summit on Tuesday. An inch of new snow fell overnight, bringing the snowpack to 59 inches at mid-mountain. Cloudy weather was expected through the day and the summit lift is now open again for the season (weather permitting). Winds up top were averaging 36 mph. 120 of 121 trails were open. For more information call 541-382-7888.

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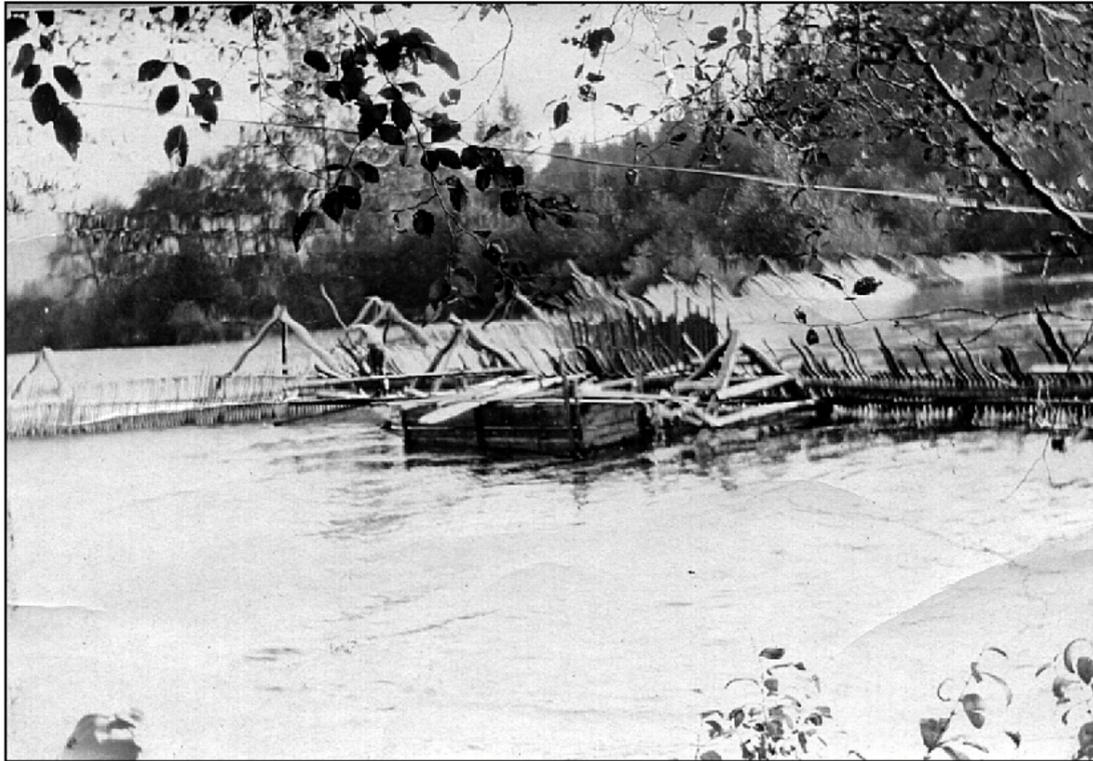
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Fish racks

Continued From Page 4



Made with 50 foot poles and 2x3 stringers, the weirs were susceptible to damage in flooding conditions.

was the boss and I was working there," he said. "No matter if you put more weight on them, you're still dealing with kindling."

"I put it in the way he wanted it done and spent a lot of time digging rocks off the bottom. We had another flood and of that span of 25 horses, only three were left! I knew that would happen, but I had to prove my point. Anyway, after that he left me alone."

Driving nails underwater was another problem easily overcome with experience. "You need a sledgehammer to drive a 12-inch spike. You don't use a hammer," Minney said. "And of course, you can't slug those nails in the poles without making an awful splash. Then your sledge will cut off and you can't see where it's going anyway."

The solution was a pipe gun - a three-quarter inch pipe with a sliding rod inside. The pipe gun could be loaded with a nail and

pressed against where the spike was wanted. Sliding the rod inside the pipe provided a dry, sure way that even Jacques Cousteau would have approved of.

Those 2x3 vertical pickets extended all the way down to the river bottom and were gapped about 2-inches apart, Minney said. Also, spacer blocks were added so that the powerful salmon couldn't nose their way through in the deeper water.

"The salmon run from April, May, and June to the tributary streams with a built in homing instinct. As the water warms up in the summer weather, a lot of them will die off. They all spawn at the same time, but the Fall Chinook comes in fresh from the ocean and make a quick run upstream. They spawn in August and September. You can tell when fish are ready to spawn. They all drift back into the shallow water where they're trapped, looking for the best

gravelly area. Without the trap, it'd sort of be like trying to put salt on their tails to catch them. You run around with a boat and a net, heading them into shallow water. Then you have to go in and sort them out. You have to pick the ripe ones and store them in box traps, in fresh running water. Those fish that are close can fool you. You waste a lot if you don't get pretty catty on deciding which ones are ready and which ones are only close," Minney remembered.

That decision is another area where experience pays off, since only old hands were able to tell exactly when the fish are ripe.

"It's a matter of trial and error, standing around and watching someone who does know and feeling a few of them," Minney admitted. "Holding one up by the gills and seeing a few eggs come out can fool you because they still can be green up around the gills. You just have to pretty much know by the sag of the vent," he said.

Log prices

Continued From Page 1

cedar in the Eugene area has been less interesting than in the past, but prices are holding here too at \$600/mbf with usually about a \$100/mbf more in the Douglas County area.

Poles are also in high demand and prices are strong if you got 'em. Pole buyers are always willing to walk around the property with you to check things out. Douglas-fir poles 35 - 60 feet long are fetching \$1200/bf and if you have taller trees, the 65 - 80 footers are \$1300/mbf.

The export markets have been bustling recently, offering \$1100/mbf. Remember to configure in trucking to the ports. If you are too far, those prices might not be worth it. And you'll have to act fast because the export market keeps a watchful eye on the domestic market and as our prices lower, so will theirs.

Around Christmas time it's the non-timber forest products game that's the buzz. Most other products are on hold now but will likely start up again now that the holiday season is over.

Prices aren't too shabby. I wish I could tell you what to expect in my crystal ball, but the recent market trends just haven't been playing out how they used to. Normally you would expect prices to be on their way up, but with interest rates as they are, lumber prices are declining which means likely so are log prices. But who really knows what the market will do? Prices seem to be up, down, and all around all times of the year. Makes it hard to plan!

With things all topsy turvy the best piece of advice I have for you is...Don't Be shy! If your management plan is suggesting it is time to sell wood, make it a point to call the log buyers frequently so that you can stay on top of these frequent changes. Good luck, and always remember to get your purchase order before you cut!

Lauren Grand, with OSU Forestry and Natural Resources Extension, is the Extension Agent serving Lane County.

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