

McKenzie River Reflections 50¢

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Game Trooper named "Officer of the Year"



Left to right: Captain Markee, Trooper Boyd, and Sergeant Hulett.

SPRINGFIELD: An Oregon State Police (OSP) Fish & Wildlife Division trooper who patrols the McKenzie Valley has received the division's 2008 "Fish & Wildlife Division Officer of the Year" award. Trooper Marc Boyd, 44, known for having "an outstanding ability to place himself in the right place at the right time," was presented the award by Captain Walt Markee, OSP Fish & Wildlife Division director, and Sergeant Tom Hulett at the OSP Springfield Area Command office.

This is the third annual presentation of the division's award that is based on criteria including professionalism, dedication to citizens and natural resources of Oregon, as well as work ethic. Nominations were received from around the state and reviewed by regional and General Headquarters staff before the announcement of the award recipient.

In submitting Trooper Boyd's nomination, Sergeant Hulett praised his enthusiasm and professionalism while citing him as a model for the Department and fellow employees of the Fish & Wildlife Division.

"Trooper Boyd sets an outstanding example to his peers and to the public with his attention to fish, wildlife, traffic, criminal and marine enforcement. His self-motivation and high performance standard doesn't just attempt to meet our goals, he drives himself to exceed them each day," said Hulett.

Last year, Trooper Boyd investigated and successfully concluded a variety of cases including:

* An August investigation that started while the trooper patrolled the Quartz Creek drainage near Blue River and came across an unoccupied vehicle.

Suspecting the vehicle occupants may be engaged in growing marijuana, he searched the area and found three men tending a marijuana patch in an adjacent canyon. The three men were subsequently arrested for Unlawful Manufacturing a Controlled Substance.

* The February investigation of unlawfully dumped sheep carcasses, including one animal still alive

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Campgrounds readied for Memorial Day weekend

The Willamette National Forest is kicking off the summer season this Memorial Day weekend by expanding customer service hours at several locations. Many lower elevation destinations are available; visit our website (www.fs.fed.us/r6/Willamette), or call the local offices for more detail.

A few campgrounds have reserved sites, but most campgrounds are available on a first come, first serve basis. Details on each site are available on the web: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r6/willamette/recreation/tripplanning/index.html>. Campers can reserve sites at www.recreation.gov.

The McKenzie River Ranger District, at 57600 McKenzie Hwy. In McKenzie Bridge will be open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; 7 days/week. Call 541-822-3381 for more information. Similar hours are also scheduled for the Middle Fork Ranger District in Oakridge (541-782-2283).

The Willamette National Forest Supervisor's Office in Springfield is Open 8 am to 4:30 pm; Monday through Friday. They can be reached at 541-225-6300.

Crews at campgrounds in the Deschutes, Willamette and Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie National Forests managed by Hoodoo Recreation Services will be busy. "We will normally have about 10,000 campers in our Hoodoo managed campgrounds each evening during the weekend," according to company president Chuck Shepard.



Campers are expected throughout the area this weekend.

He notes those workers have spent a lot of time this year plowing out snow to be able to get into the campgrounds. "While opening the campgrounds we are also trying to get some early season projects done," he noted. "In the Deschutes Forest we will spend about \$600,000 this summer on improvements in the campgrounds plus another \$250,000 or more on maintenance."

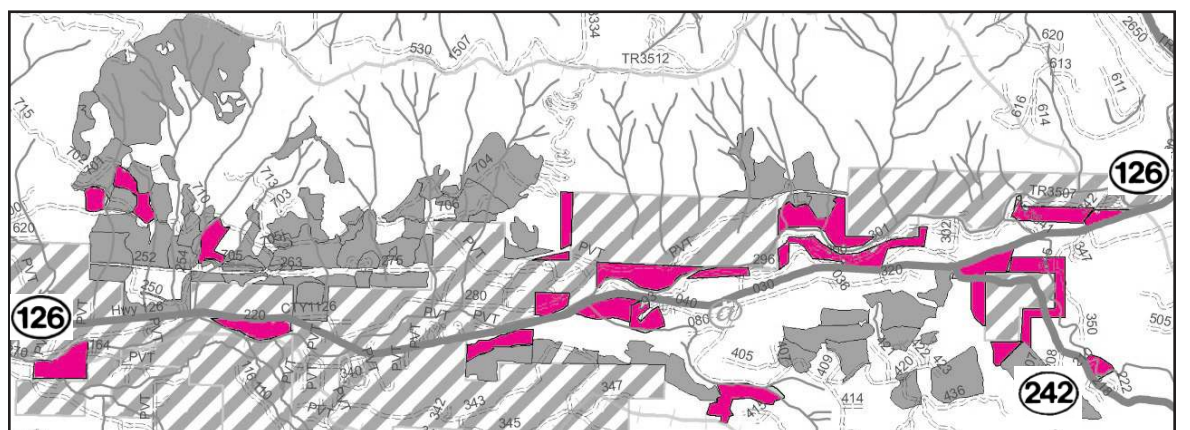
Other Forests also are getting improvements although not to the same degree. Hoodoo crews reworked the rocks at the Cougar Hot Springs for over \$25,000. "In the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie Forest we have about \$120,000 worth of improvements that we are doing, plus our normal maintenance projects that about equal that amount. The Willamette also

gets its share of maintenance and improvement money."

This year people will see Hoodoo trucks all over the Cascades. Shepard said they just bought 20 new trucks to work in the Deschutes. "We had about a dozen new ones last year in Washington. Plus we have a septic pumping truck, a couple of garbage trucks, maintenance trucks, trailers and so on," he added.

In the last two years he estimates for every \$10 the camper has paid in, Hoodoo has paid out \$11 in expenses and capital improvement. "Obviously that can't last forever, but for right now, you are getting a good deal," Shepard said. "We are trying hard and I hope that our efforts show."

Public invited to review Goose timber project



MCKENZIE BRIDGE: The McKenzie River Ranger District is proposing a timber planning project in the McKenzie Bridge and Lookout Ridge areas in an effort to diversify and improve the stand structure.

District officials have invited interested people to a field trip of their next timber planning area (Goose). A field trip is planned for Tuesday, June 2nd, at 9 am. People should RSVP by Friday, May 22nd, if you plan to attend.

During the field trip participants will visit three to four representative stands located in the Goose Project Area. There will also be an opportunity to consider possible stand/wildlife/fuels treatments in the Goose Project Area, while providing a forum for ideas, input, and discussion to take place.

To RSVP or for more information contact Kurt Steele at (541)-822-7214 or ksteele@fs.fed.us.

Legend	
@	Ranger Station
~	HWY 126/242
~	Streams
~	Possible Project Boundary
~	Roads
■	Possible Treatment Stands
■	East Meadow
■	Possible WUI Treatment
□	private polygon

It's time for Acoustics in the Park

BLUE RIVER: The Blue River Park Board will host a musical event, "Acoustics In The Park," on May 23rd, from noon to 4 p.m. The community fundraiser will focus on raising money for the McKenzie School District's music department, but is also a public invitation to enjoy and use the beautiful Blue River Park. This event will kick off the summer season with a bring-your-own-chair concert at the old stage in the park.

Musicians performing - two of them students at McKenzie High - are scheduled starting at 12:00 Noon - Spencer Bryson and Victor Ness, 12:30 - Eric Nicholson, 1:40 - Hilary Fox Green, and 2:50 - John Gray (joined by Kent Roberts, who will also emcee).

Spencer Bryson and Victor Ness, also known as Two Blokes En A Bottle, will play both acoustic guitar and electric, keyboards, and bongos with both original music and other works. These students have been playing music together for about three years and are worth coming to see.

Following them will be Eric Nicholson. Eric plays mostly guitar but may play some dulcimer, banjo or more. He calls himself a poetic singer-songwriter and plays folk,

original songs and old time music.

Hilary Fox Green will play next on her beautiful handmade harp that she designed. She will be playing and singing original, folk and Celtic music on the harp, guitar and dulcimer.

John Gray will be playing on both his 12-string guitar and 6-string guitar as well as a dobro. He will play Americana, folk and original music. Kent Roberts will accompany John on some songs. Kent plays banjo and likes to join John when he can.

This musical fundraiser is also sponsored by the McKenzie Arts Forum which is requesting a ten-dollar donation. It is not required for admission, but all donations will be gratefully accepted. Since our local schools have had severe budget cuts they are struggling to find ways to keep the education of the students on the same high level. Other local organizations participating will be the Blue River Community Development Committee and the McKenzie Area Renewal Committee - with information tables and people to answer questions about local activities. Picnic fare will be available in the markets in Blue River to help enjoy the afternoon event.