

Idaho, Forest Service renew timber vows

Officials reveal goal to double logging in effort to improve forest health, reduce wildfire risk

By ERIC BARKER
LEWISTON TRIBUNE

Idaho and the U.S. Forest Service said Friday they will attempt to double logging volumes on federal land as they seek to improve forest health and reduce the risk of wildfires.

The goal was embedded

green light any new tools or authorities. Instead it amounts to a celebration of their past work under the Good Neighbor Authority and a pledge to take it further.

“We are building on a foundation of cooperation and resource-sharing and expanding that work across entire landscapes and ownership boundaries,”

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Idaho Gov. Brad Little, center, is joined by Dustin Miller, left, and Tom Schultz.

Royce McCandless/
Idaho Press
(Nampa)

PARADE PREP



ABOVE: Jimmy Dixon, from left, and Jaydin Rodriguez put up a banner Thursday as Steve Pelton directs from below while working on the First Church of God float for the Clarkston Lighted Christmas Parade in Clarkston. The group has been working on the float for about two weeks. The 39th annual Clarkston Lighted Christmas Parade will be at 4:30 p.m. today along Sixth Street in Clarkston.

RIGHT: Jim Sorenson holds a sign while working on the same float.

Photos by August Frank/Lewiston Tribune



Providers: Expensive changes due in mental health care

Medicaid cuts will cost the state millions: officials

By RACHEL SUN
LEWISTON TRIBUNE AND
NW PUBLIC BROADCASTING

Health care providers say budget cuts that went into effect Monday to programs serving people in crisis and those with severe mental health disorders could end up costing the state upward of \$150 million in the first year, and add financial and staffing burdens to local governments, mental health care providers and law enforcement.

THE COST

A report by the Idaho Association of Community Providers and the Idaho ACT Coalition said the cuts to those programs, which total roughly \$20 million, could cost some \$150 million in other areas through the increased utilization of emergency services, law enforcement, involuntary psychiatric holds, child welfare programs, and other costs such as homeless encampments.

The program cuts included the elimination of Assertive Community Treatment, or ACT; in-home residential treatment and Partial Hospitalization Programs; Early Serious Mental Illness teams; and peer support programs.

“By the time you calculate increases in predictable (state program) usage, hospital usage,” said Ric Boyce, co-director of the Idaho Association of Community Providers, “that’s gonna cost \$150 million to \$180 million on the very conservative end.”

In Region 2, which includes Nez Perce, Latah, Clearwater, Lewis and Idaho counties, IACP predicts the

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When a cluster of bees counts as central heating

The first seriously cold week of the season and here I am shivering in my backroom office and paying first-of-the-month bills.

In spite of the chill, it’s kind of nice to do these regular tasks, like paying bills and changing the calendar to the last month of the year. It’s been a year and a half since I retired and I have found that it’s easy to slip into the kind of relaxed mode I was in when I was a teenager — meaning, things get done if and when they get done. That’s the whole purpose of becoming an adult: You start cleaning up your act

UP FRONT/ COMMENTARY

Kathy Hedberg



and becoming responsible so you can hold down a job, raise a family and make enough money to begin therapy.

I’m not a big fan of winter, but it does tend to focus one’s attention. Isn’t that what they also say about standing in front of a firing squad? Winter requires some forethought about

how to keep warm, how to stay fed and how to prevent every pipe in your house from freezing into an icicle so you don’t have to call the plumber and try to bribe him into coming to your house to fix them, which is futile because all the other bozos who failed to winterize their house got to him first. I love that joke about the lawyer who hired the plumber to come to his house and when he got the bill, the lawyer exclaimed: “Geez, even I don’t make this much money!” and the plumber replies: “Neither did I, when I was a lawyer.”

I tell this joke to my lawyer

son and he doesn’t laugh.

My sister, who is such a good gardener, came to help me clean up the backyard to get ready for winter and she noticed that there were a lot of dead bees in front of the hive on my back patio. It’s normal, I explained. Bees don’t live long, anyway, and in the winter some of them die and the ones inside the hive kick out the bodies. But even though it looks bad, dead bees in front of your hive are actually a good thing because it means there are still live bees inside. When you stop

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WSU grid coach bolts for Iowa State > 1c

Coming in Sunday's Tribune



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Clarkston parade

A visit to 6th Street's annual extravaganza

