Community update

The incidence of COVID-19 among the tribal community has decreased over the past few weeks, as has the number of deaths across the region and country overall.

An Warm Springs IHS-Community Health Center reported that there were 37 acute cases of COVID across the region, and zero being on the perspective on the mood. A COVID report mid-January showed more than 60 acute cases.

Last week, there were 15 close contacts requiring daily monitoring.

The tribal COVID protocols remain in place in many (see page 5 of this publication).

While the numbers are looking much better, the COVID risk is still there. The new cases and spread within the tribal community were hospitalised.

Statewide last week, the Oregon Health Authority reported a decrease of 16 percent in the incidence of COVID, compared with the week before.

Across the state last week, there were 796 COVID-related hospitalisations, a decrease of 16 percent.

Tribal health officials encourage the community to use face masks while out and not to let their guard down.

For a vaccine appointment, call the Health and Wellness Center during business hours to schedule an appointment.

During his two years of IHS service, Dean identified several OSHA violations that assisted the Area in obtaining the high level of funds to address issues in the Area's history, assuring that the buildings were safe for occupation.

Dean and his family then returned to Warm Springs to help care for his mother Amanda's medical needs.

In 1992, Dean transitioned to the position of Occupational Health Manager at the Portland Area IHS. In 1995, Dean accepted a position at the Warm Springs Health and Wellness Center as the Deputy Service Unit Director. In his tenure, he developed the clinic's first cancer care model that linked providers to see same-day appointments only, allowing established providers to focus on schedulable patients and general, non-urgent care.

Dean retired as IHS Portland Area Director in 2010. At the end of 2010, Dean was selected as the Permanent Chief Operations Officer for the Portland Area tribes to become the Portland Area Director. Dean accepted a position as the IHS Portland Area Director in 2010. At the end of 2010, Dean was re-appointed as the director of the IHS and Portland Area tribes to become the Portland Area Director, a senior executive service position.

Dean Seyler retiring as IHS Portland Area director

Community input needed on new tribal jail site

The Confederated Tribes are in the process of choosing a site for the new Warm Springs Jail. The tribes are asking the community for their input on a new site, as they have been reviewed and endorsed by Tribal Council.

When a preferred site is chosen, the decision will be reviewed by the Bureau of Indian Affairs’ Facilities Management and Construction, an office of the Department of the Interior, the funding agency.

Tribal Lands Service has developed a list of 14 potential sites, though perhaps four or five of the 14 may not be feasible from the perspective of infrastructure, and therefore budgeting, said Chico Holiday, general manager of tribal Utilities.

Site selection is a number of options for the proposed jail facility. Public Safety, Utilities, Land Services and Land Services have developed the preliminary list of potential sites. Based on community input on the site, the list will be narrowed to a preferred location, and two alternates.

Tribal Council will make a final decision, forwarding to BIA. The jail will be held open for 60 days for review by Aradonna’s healthcare needs.

School mask mandate projected to end March 31

The Oregon Health Authority announced that the statewide indoor mask mandate for schools will end on March 31. This will apply to all schools of the Jefferson County District for in-person instruction regarding the mask mandate at the Warm Springs School. The district will be determined by Tribal Council, the Response Team and health officials.

During the first half of this month, the school experienced positive COVID-19 cases of more than 40 percent. Experts are predicting that decline will continue in the weeks to come.

The school district will be in communication with local health authorities in the district communities about the next steps.

“Be grateful for these strong partnerships and their expertise, and look forward to working with them as we take another step into local decision-making,” said tribal superintendent Joy Mathis.

According to Mathis, the district has developed sites for Tribal Council and the district’s Response Team for communication to protect individuals against COVID-19 throughout the pandemic on tribal lands. “We will continue to partner with those leaders going forward, as we make decisions about the Warm Springs Academy,” Mathis said.

Other health and safety protocols and practices will likely remain in place as determined by the state.

“In the meantime, we encourage you to participate in fellow mandates requiring masks in schools when they are lifted,” said Mathis.

The new school mask mandate is expected to end March 31, depending on the number of new cases.

School mask mandate projected to end March 31

Community input needed on new tribal jail site

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The Warm Springs Fire and Safety Department—providing the community with 24-hour seven-day fire and ambulance response—lies on 21 full-time employees, ten part-time and two volunteers. Great leadership for the department—as they handle emergency, sometimes life-and-death situations—is essential. As Fire and Safety Chief Scott Spaulding says, “Our purpose here is to protect and take care of the people.” And for the past two years Fire and Safety has done all this during the pandemic, only adding to the challenges of the emergency responder profession.

Chief Spaulding has been Fire and Safety Chief for just a few weeks now, though his work and time with the department goes back more than two decades years. Chief Spaulding is originally from the central New York region, where he grew up on the family dairy farm. It was there that he first became involved in emergency response, working as a volunteer with his father on an ambulance squad. In the 1980s he joined the military, serving as a Corpsman with the U.S. Navy from 1988 to ’92. During his time with the Navy, Chief Spaulding served overseas during the Gulf War Desert Shield and Desert Storm operations. During his time as a Corpsman he was also stationed on the West Coast, and this eventually brought him to Central Oregon. Moving to Madras 20 years ago, he met the Jefferson County Fire and Safety Chief, working with that department, training as an Emergency Medical Technician, and becoming a Paramedic. He first joined Warm Springs Fire and Safety in 2001. Since that time he worked with the department part-time and full-time, depending on what was going on at time. Then a year ago he took a job with John Day emergency response. However, Warm Springs Fire and Safety this winter needed a new chief. Earlier this year, Nancy Seyler, acting Public Safety general manager, and tribal Emergency Management director Dan Martinez reached out to Mr. Spaulding, wanting to know if he would come back to Warm Springs as acting chief. This led to his becoming Chief of Warm Springs Fire and Safety, starting late last month.

Chief Spaulding is a native of Warm Springs, the son of Michelle, who works at the Indian Health Service Clinic. They have two sons, three daughters, and seven grand kids. And they work, as the Chief says, “To protect and take care of the people.”

— Dave McMechan
Wrestler competing at State

This year's Mater school

Wrestling. Two

The problem of

 accordingly.

Then the...
Howlak Tichum

Arthur (Art) "Koy-a-ma" James McConville Jr.

Art’s early beginnings are important to ask about. He was born on February 1, 1935, in Pendleton, Oregon. Art was a hard worker and loved working for his fellow Nisqually and Nimiipuu people.

He was a proud U.S. Marine, a highly decorated veteran. He served in two wars and fought in Vietnam. He served for 21 years of military service and was a very respected and honored veteran. He was an inspiration to many people.

Art was a proud member of the Cayuse, a proud descendent of the Cayuse people. He was a proud member of the Cayuse, and he always wanted to be of service to his community.

Art was a very active member in the Cayuse community, and he was always involved in many community events. He served as a member of the Cayuse community, and he was always involved in many community events. He served as a member of the Cayuse community, and he was always involved in many community events. He served as a member of the Cayuse community, and he was always involved in many community events. He served as a member of the Cayuse community, and he was always involved in many community events.

A photo of Art and his family is attached to this article. He is seen with his wife, Lupita, and their children. Art is seen with his family at home, and he is always happy to be with his family. He is always happy to be with his family. He is always happy to be with his family. He is always happy to be with his family. He is always happy to be with his family.

A close up of Art is attached to this article. He is seen with his family at home, and he is always happy to be with his family. He is always happy to be with his family. He is always happy to be with his family. He is always happy to be with his family. He is always happy to be with his family.

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Jail: project funding through U.S. Interior

Access to infrastructure is a big factor, as is the physical location, not too far from the courthouse yet not in a prominent or very visible place.

This is a preliminary rec-ommendation from Uffin and Public Safety, based on their review so far of the options.

The sagaed site is where the former cannabis project was to be located. Way-3 toward the water treat-ment plant. The sing pro-cess requires a prefersed site and two alternatives, based on least public detrimen-
tant.

Community input will weight significantly in the de-cision. Toward this end, James O'Shea, Land Ser-vices Officer, has a summary of the site locations on dis-play in administration, with a suggestion box. The dis-play and suggestion box will be stationed around the community and at Seminole High School.

The tribes have been without a full-time operat-ing jail facility for five years now. Problems with the pre-vious jail included defi-cienent ventilation, lack of plumbing and heating, shaky ceilings, unstable walls and floors, etc.

At the current jail build-ing is not available for incar-ceration, tribal Public Safety has been reviewing the NorUl in The Dalles for de-cision.

A decade ago the Warm Springs Police Department announced its plans for a new jail, which was eventually in contrast with the development of a new Corrections facility. Achieving a funding priority was the obstacle.

Based on Lt. Greene's as-sessment, the Department of the Interior last year made a commitment to the tribes that the funding is available.

You can review the possible potential jail project with your, at the Land Services Display, currently at the Tribal Community Center. The board will offer suggestions and feedback to the community, currently at the Tribal Community Center.

PER 905-D—Administrative Leave Policy: All employees re-ceiving a leave of absence, including salary and leave with- out pay, shall be paid for each following scenarios:

1. Personal Appearance and Leave—An employee shall be paid for all working time during the leave period, and the employee's employment shall be restored when the leave period ends.

2. If new employees are directed by a medical pro-vider, or exposure to a per-son who has coronavirus;

3. Exemption unvacci-nated employees who have not been fully vaccinated or who have medical and religious ex-ceptions to the policy. The tribes find this reasonable at this time and reserves the right to change this at any time.

A medical exemption is to include a letter from the employee's physician on file with the Human Resources Department. This is nor-mally defined as being aller-gy to the vaccine or to a component used to manufacture the vaccine or to any underlying medical condi-tion.

A religious exemption must be submitted to the Human Resources Depart-ment on file, if getting vaccinated against your belief. A medical or religious exemption to this vaccine requirement, on the other hand, does not make an employee eligible for exemption. The tribes find that the employer is not required to provide reasonable accommodation, including but not limited to, modified work-sites. The employee needs to provide a copy to the Hu-man Resources Department for each stage of the vac-cination until the new hire is fully vaccinated.

3. The Human Re-sources Department will provide the employee with a copy of this policy to the Human Re-sources Department for the employee.

4. Exemption unvacci-nated employees who have not been fully vaccinated or who have medical and religious ex-ceptions to the policy. The tribes find this reasonable at this time and reserves the right to change this at any time.

5. The exemption must be submitted to the Human Resources Depart-ment on file, if getting vaccinated against your belief. A medical or religious exemption to this vaccine requirement, on the other hand, does not make an employee eligible for exemption. The tribes find that the employer is not required to provide reasonable accommodation, including but not limited to, modified work-sites. The employee needs to provide a copy to the Hu-man Resources Department for each stage of the vac-cination until the new hire is fully vaccinated.

The Jefferson County School District is making progress with the new bond program voters approved in November of last year. The bond includes adding classrooms at the Warm Springs Academy.

The district plans to use the bond for the construction of an additional $2.5 million from the sale of the bonds. This premium is an extra amount investors paid for the district's bonds, because they got for an interest rate higher than the prevailing rate.

While the district will need to pay more than anticipated, the premium will not increase the tax rate. It will, however, allow the district to support bond programs for other projects in the future. The district has continu-ous that some construction projects face in the near- future.

In addition to this news, the Jefferson County School District board of directors is pleased to announce that General Contractor Mike Tiller, Tiller Plumbing Consulting, has been selected as the owner’s represen-tative for this project. “This comes as a result of a three-month selection process the district implemented from December 2021 through February 2022,” said Tri-Band-Lap School District as executive director of KWSO, and led the completion of the new Caldera High School.

Tiller has a proven track record of successful comple-tion of more than $20 million in the construc-tion projects throughout his career. In 2013, he man-aged a $90 million bond measure with 140 projects rang-ing from schools, facilities, facility, facility, and home care.

In 2017, he managed a $256 million bond measure with 90 projects. This in-cluded projects ranging from new school construction building, renovating and adding to existing buildings and facilities. Tiller hired and supervised project managers, health, safety and security and upgrade and repair fa-

We are excited to partner with Tiller Plumbing Consulting to make our bond project a reality,” said Jay Mathisen, Jefferson County School District Super intendent. “Tiller brings decades of Central Oregon school district experience to the job and is committed to the success of our bond program. We look forward to sharing updates about our bond projects very soon.”

The Madras High School varsity girls basketball team is going to the 2022 State tournament early in March. The girls won the Tri-Valley League with the outstanding record of 13-0, and the second for 9-1. The Lady Buffs won the League Champions last week, beating Corbett 58-55. It was a close game, and the state is now honored with a spot from War. Faces. Senior coach, who is a veteran head coach, has been the outstanding success story for this season. Now, this time is for Support Seminar.

This was a preliminary recal-culation of the site locations on dis-play in administration, with a suggestion box. The dis-play and suggestion box will be stationed around the community and at Seminole High School.

The school will use the sys-tem to support students and families. This time is the support system to support students and families. This time is the support system to support students and families. This time is for Support Seminar.

It was senior night, and the seniors were the team this year are Kales Holliday, Shantelle Henry, Lily Libokmeto, and ChaCha Rodriguez.

The school has fully vaccinated. The school has fully vaccinated. The school has fully vaccinated. The school has fully vaccinated. The school has fully vaccinated. The school has fully vaccinated. The school has fully vaccinated.

To address the tribes that the Department of the Interior last year made a commitment to the tribes that the funding is available.

The school day,” said Madras Assistant Principal Mark Stewart.

Based on Lt. Greene’s as-sessment, the Department of the Interior last year made a commitment to the tribes that the funding is available.
The incidence of Covid-19 among the tribal community has gone down significantly over the past two weeks. There were 30 active cases in the community on February 15, according to the latest data compiled by the Indian Health Service, Community Health and the Covid-19 Response Team. Of these cases, 22 have been vaccinated; nine among the vaccinated, and six among those who are unvaccinated. The last confirmed case began a year ago, and since testing began in 2020, there have been no deaths and isolated cases have not been identified as a community, as of February 16. There have been 31 covid deaths since that date.

**Active Cases:** 2.16.2022

**Cumulative Deaths:** 2.16.2022

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In the Tribal Court of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs

All proceedings are held at the CTWS Tribal Court.

WILLIAM MOODY, Petitioner, vs ELICA HICKS, Respondent; Case No. JV415-17. TO: ELICA HICKS; Case No. DO130-13. TO: ELICA HICKS; Case No. JV243-03. TO: MARIA KALAMA, KEITH SMITH SR, CPS, JV PROSECUTORS: GINNIA McKINLEY, ANDREW MEDRANO, HOPE ANDERSON. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a JURISDICTIONAL HEARING has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for the 26TH day of MARCH, 2022 @ 2:00 PM.

CTWS, Petitioner, vs ELICA HICKS, Respondent; Case No. JV415-17. TO: ELICA HICKS; Case No. DO130-13. TO: MARIA KALAMA, KEITH SMITH SR, CPS, JV PROSECUTORS: GINNIA McKINLEY, ANDREW MEDRANO, HOPE ANDERSON. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an ASSISTED GUARDIANSHIP HEARING has been filed with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for the 26TH day of MARCH, 2022 @ 2:00 PM.

CTWS, Petitioner, vs MARIA KALAMA, Respondent; Case No. JV332-12. TO: MARIA KALAMA; Case No. DO101-102-08. TO: ELICA HICKS, KEITH SMITH SR, CPS, JV PROSECUTORS: GINNIA McKINLEY, ANDREW MEDRANO, HOPE ANDERSON. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an ASSISTED GUARDIANSHIP HEARING has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for the 26TH day of MARCH, 2022 @ 2:00 PM.

CTWS, Petitioner, vs MARIYN MCKINLEY, Respondent; Case No. JV176-08. TO: MARIYN MCKINLEY; Case No. DO61-14, DO61-15, DO61-30. TO: MARIYN MCKINLEY. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a JURISDICTIONAL HEARING has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for the 26TH day of MARCH, 2022 @ 2:00 PM.

CTWS, Petitioner, vs JENNY VANNELL, Respondent; Case No. JV583-13, JV589-13, JV590-13. TO: JENNY VANNELL; Case No. DO74-13. TO: MARIYN MCKINLEY, ANDREW MEDRANO, HOPE ANDERSON. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an ASSISTED GUARDIANSHIP HEARING has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for the 26TH day of MARCH, 2022 @ 2:00 PM.

CTWS, Petitioner, vs BROOK WARNER, Respondent; Case No. JV393-17. TO: BROOK WARNER; Case No. DO01-21. TO: RONNIE & BONNIE THOMAS, CPS, JV PROSECUTORS: GINNIA McKINLEY, ANDREW MEDRANO, HOPE ANDERSON. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that an ASSISTED GUARDIANSHIP HEARING has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for the 26TH day of MARCH, 2022 @ 2:00 PM.

CTWS, Petitioner, vs AMY DENTICHTOIA, Respondent; Case No. JV364-17. TO: AMY DENTICHTOIA; Case No. DO25-17. TO: AMY DENTICHTOIA, TIMOTHY MAXEY. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a JURISDICTIONAL HEARING has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for the 26TH day of MARCH, 2022 @ 2:00 PM.

CTWS, Petitioner, vs EDDITH SWITZLER, Respondent; Case No. JV297-17. TO: EDDITH SWITZLER; Case No. DO20-17. TO: EDDITH SWITZLER. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a JURISDICTIONAL HEARING has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for the 26TH day of MARCH, 2022 @ 2:00 PM.

CTWS, Petitioner, vs EDITH VYENA, Respondent; Case No. JV237-17. TO: EDITH VYENA; Case No. DO19-17. TO: EDITH VYENA. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a JURISDICTIONAL HEARING has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for the 26TH day of MARCH, 2022 @ 2:00 PM.

CTWS, Petitioner, vs ESPERANZA VERNETTO, Respondent; Case No. JV210-17. TO: ESPERANZA VERNETTO; Case No. DO18-17. TO: ESPERANZA VERNETTO. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a JURISDICTIONAL HEARING has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for the 26TH day of MARCH, 2022 @ 2:00 PM.

CTWS, Petitioner, vs CARL ANN TANEWASHA, Respondent; Case No. JV210-17. TO: CARL ANN TANEWASHA; Case No. DO18-17. TO: CARL ANN TANEWASHA. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a JURISDICTIONAL HEARING has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for the 26TH day of MARCH, 2022 @ 2:00 PM.

CTWS, Petitioner, vs JAMESON TANEWASHA, Respondent; Case No. JV243-17. TO: JAMESON TANEWASHA; Case No. DO21-17. TO: JAMESON TANEWASHA. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a JURISDICTIONAL HEARING has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for the 26TH day of MARCH, 2022 @ 2:00 PM.

CTWS, Petitioner, vs LATISHA SOUTH, Respondent; Case No. JV210-17. TO: LATISHA SOUTH; Case No. DO18-17. TO: LATISHA SOUTH. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a JURISDICTIONAL HEARING has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for the 26TH day of MARCH, 2022 @ 2:00 PM.

CTWS, Petitioner, vs CARL ANN TANEWASHA, Respondent; Case No. JV210-17. TO: CARL ANN TANEWASHA; Case No. DO18-17. TO: CARL ANN TANEWASHA. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a JURISDICTIONAL HEARING has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for the 26TH day of MARCH, 2022 @ 2:00 PM.

CTWS, Petitioner, vs LATISHA SOUTH, Respondent; Case No. JV210-17. TO: LATISHA SOUTH; Case No. DO18-17. TO: LATISHA SOUTH. YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that a JURISDICTIONAL HEARING has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court. By this notice you are summoned to appear in this matter at a hearing scheduled for the 26TH day of MARCH, 2022 @ 2:00 PM.
Outdoor video features huckleberry harvest

Huckleberry picking season is still some months away, usually starting around mid summer. Meanwhile, there is a great introduction to the tribal perspective on huckleberry picking in Winema, in the Columbia River Gorge, and in the Biracial Infrastructure Law.

The plan says award announce- ment for water infrastructure im- proving the quality of life for families, such as on the Warm Springs Res- erver. The plan is a blueprint for how BIA will invest directly in tribes in the development of traditional, and subsistence-based infra- structure. The Bureau of Indian Affairs has identified $37,540–39,520. Portland.

The Bureau of Indian Affairs has identified $37,540–39,520. Portland.

The Columbia River Inter- orvational species. The Columbia River Inter- orvational species. The Columbia River Inter-
## Covid demographics update

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Epi Curve</th>
<th>Death Rate</th>
<th>Median Age</th>
<th>Percentage of Cases</th>
<th>Percentage of Deaths</th>
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<tr>
<td>Warm Springs</td>
<td>2022-02-23</td>
<td>19.8</td>
<td>60-69</td>
<td>69.7</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This chart shows the incidence by week of covid among the tribal community. Most recent weeks show a decline in cases from the post-holidays surge.

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**Tribal Council election set for March 30**

The election of the Twenty-Nine Tribal Council of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs is sched- uled for Wednesday, March 30 at the Warm Springs Community Center Social Hall, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Absentee ballot boxes will be available at the Simnasho Longhouse and the Sock-seequa Fire Hall. Officers and members can mail in their absentee ballots. Spilyay Tymoo and KWSO will put together can- didate information for each of the six tribal voting districts.

Candidates are asked to contact KWSO to set up a date and time for a short in- terview; and the Spilyay re- quests candidates submit a statement and photo by March 14. Length of the statements should be about 250 words or fewer, because of the number of candidates.

The election of the Twenty-Nine Tribal Council is for one seat: Carlos Caka, Tj Folsom, Raymond Moody, Emerson Squamish, Lincoln Jay Suphill, Levi Van Pet. The Seekseequa Voting District candidates for Coun- cil are:


**As dry spell continues, What happened to winter?**

There was some snow this week, a rarity so far this win- ter. The region is in yet another stretch of historically dry weather, plus near-record warm temperatures in Cen- tral Oregon, and across the state. The coldest periods in Cen- tral Oregon this winter were in early December into early January. The warmest period was in late December, which was late snow. More snow is predicted for early March, so there is still hope to increase the es- sential snow pack. Temperatures in early and mid February were in the 60s, and 70 degrees in southern Oregon, close to record levels for both re- gions. While some may com- plain about the spring-like weather of mid February, the larger issue has been an unusually long period of dryness caused by a strong high pressure ridge sitting off the West Coast. High pressure ridges are not uncommon during Or- egon winters, but this year’s has lasted an unusually long time—almost four weeks—and has dashed hopes for a major rebound from the drought of the late winter that the state had seen.

After an influx of snow and rain in late December and early January, the winter has almost completely turned off, having a decisive situa- tion in the northern half of the state deepening the drought in the central, south and eastern parts of the state.

**Fourth covid vaccine recommended for some**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>CDC Recommendation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>65 and older</td>
<td>Booster dose or fourth dose</td>
</tr>
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</table>

The U.S. Centers for Dis- ease Control this month updated its Covid-19 vac- cination guidance for people who are moderately or se- verely immuno-compro- mised. The new guidance re- duces the wait time for a booster—or fourth—dose of an mRNA vaccine— Moderna or Pfizer—from five months to three months in immuno-compro- mised people.