

Lone turkey vulture sighted in Sisters

By Jim Anderson
Correspondent

A turkey vulture (TV) went sailing over Highway 20 just north of the Bend/Sisters Garden RV Resort at 9:25 a.m. Sunday morning. There's a good chance this may be a record for the earliest a TV has come back to Sisters. It was in for a rude awaking with all the snow.

The arrival on that windy morning was really no surprise. Oregon Birders On Line (OBOL) has been talking

about the presence of turkey vultures on the west side all winter. One was reported circling over Highway 99 south of Corvallis on January 11. The next day four TVs were reported close to Fern Ridge Reservoir near Eugene. Then on January 22, another was reported near Prospect, and one more the same day from near Portland.

There's a good chance the one sighted Sunday morning got caught at too high an altitude and was blown over the Cascades.



PHOTO BY JIM ANDERSON

Adult turkey vulture takes wing.

Hoodoo supports adaptive skiers

By Bunny Thompson
Correspondent

Hoodoo Ski Resort is having a banner year, thanks to heavy winter snowfall. As they always do, they are extending the joys of the slopes to all skiers.

Hoodoo is a supporter for Oregon Adaptive Sports (OAS) and OAS Alpine Adventures in Eugene. The OAS Alpine Adventures program is a collaboration between Oregon Adaptive Sports and the City of Eugene to provide adaptive ski and snowboard opportunities for people with disabilities in the Willamette Valley area.

The Alpine Adventures program has been one of the longest-running adaptive ski programs in the Northwest, and has enabled hundreds of adaptive ski and snowboard experiences over the years. Oregon Adaptive Sports had its beginnings in 1996 when Jack Alexander, a retired biologist with the U.S. Forest Service, gathered a number of dedicated volunteers to begin a grass-roots adaptive program aimed at sharing their love of skiing and the outdoors with people with disabilities who needed assistance on the mountain.

Both of these programs are adaptive alpine ski/snowboard and cross-country ski programs helping people with many different types of disabilities. Skiers are matched with trained volunteer ski



PHOTO BY BUNNY THOMPSON

Hoodoo supports Oregon Adaptive Sports.

instructors and learn to ski using the appropriate adaptive equipment and techniques.

Hoodoo donates the lift tickets to OAS for the many volunteers working with OAS and OAS Alpine Adventures and provides a room to store equipment and space for participants and volunteers to get ready for their ski day. They also provide space in their upstairs fireplace room for special OAS programs.

Each year OAS sponsors their annual Heroes in Sisters.

This event is held over the weekend and is one of OAS' largest and most popular events of the winter. The purpose of the event is to honor Pacific Northwest veterans with permanent physical disabilities and their families, and to have a great time skiing and snowboarding — at no cost to the veteran and family members.

“Hoodoo is a gracious host,” said Pat Addabbo, OAS program manager. “We love going to Hoodoo.”

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