

COUGARS: Residents have mixed feelings about cats

Continued from page 1

Cougars can be killed if they become a threat. Heath said there is no such ODFW control action imminent.

“We don’t have anything planned at the moment,” he said. “We hope it doesn’t come to that and most sightings don’t rise to that level

and the cats just move on on their own. And that’s kind of the outcome everybody is hoping for.”

Heath said that opinions and attitudes toward cougars mixed among residents of Sisters Country — including among those who have them in their neighborhood.

“Some like having them there; they hope to see one; think that it’s their habitat,” he said. “Others want them out of there. So, it’s a balancing act.”

Do’s and don’ts of cougar contacts

ODFW has a list of do’s and don’ts regarding cougar contacts. Report any cougar sighting or encounter to a local ODFW office (Bend, 541-388-6363), or the Oregon State Police. If

you pay strict attention to the guidelines and should come into contact with a cougar in its territory — or wandering around in yours — everything should come out well for all parties.

IF YOU LIVE IN COUGAR COUNTRY...

- Learn your neighborhood. Be aware of any wildlife corridors or places where deer or elk concentrate.
- Walk pets during the day; keep them on a leash.
- Keep pets indoors at dawn and dusk. Shelter them for the night.
- Feed pets indoors.
- Don’t leave food and garbage outside.
- Use animal-proof garbage cans if necessary.
- Remove heavy brush from near the house and play areas.

- Install motion-activated light outdoors along walkways and driveways.
- Be more cautious at dawn and dusk when cougars are most active.
- Do not feed any wildlife. By attracting other wildlife, you may attract a cougar.
- Keep areas around bird feeders clean.
- Deer-proof your garden and yard with nets, lights, fencing.
- Fence and shelter livestock. Move them to sheds or barns at night.

IF YOU RECREATE IN COUGAR COUNTRY...

- Be aware of your surroundings at all times.
- Leave your dog at home or keep it on a leash. Pets running free may lead a cougar back to you.
- Hike in groups. Make noise to alert wildlife of your presence.
- Keep children close to you. Teach them about wildlife.
- Keep campsites clean. Sleep 100 yards from cooking areas.
- Store food in animal-proof containers.
- Carry deterrent spray.

- Be cautious at dusk and dawn.
- Never feed any wildlife. Prey attracts predators.
- Do not approach any wildlife; stay at least 100 yards away.
- Steer clear of baby wildlife. Mother is likely nearby.
- Be alert when sitting quietly or stopping to rest.
- Be especially alert at dawn and dusk when cougars are most active.
- Be aware that animal calls and animal kills can attract a cougar.

IF YOU ENCOUNTER A COUGAR...

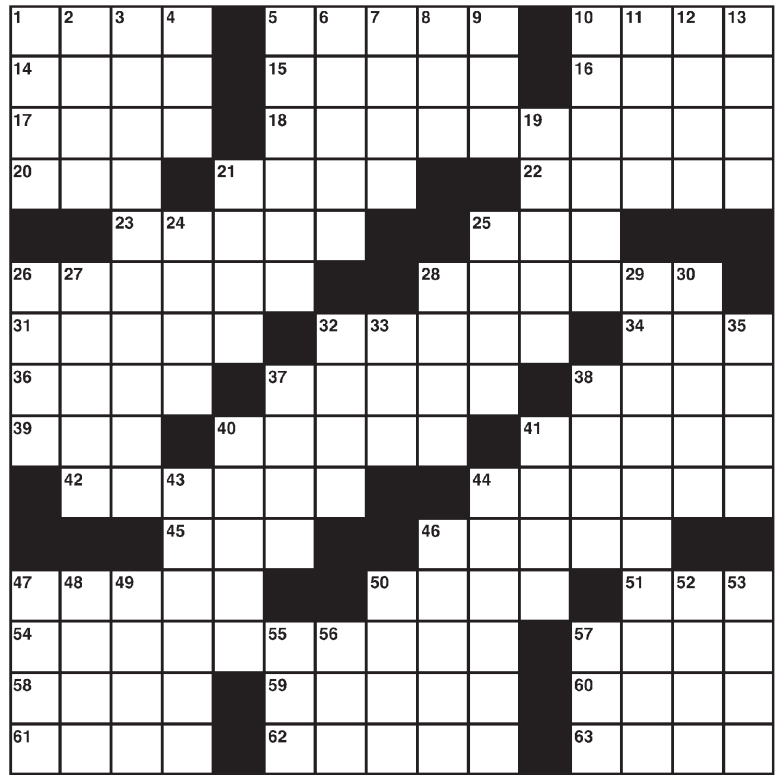
- Cougars often will retreat if given the opportunity. Leave the animal a way to escape.
- Stay calm and stand your ground.
- Maintain direct eye contact.
- Pick up children, but do so without bending down or turning your back on the cougar.
- Back away slowly.
- Do not run. Running triggers a chase response

- in cougars, which could lead to an attack.
- Raise your voice and speak firmly.
- If the cougar seems aggressive, raise your arms to make yourself look larger and clap your hands.
- If in the very unusual event that a cougar attacks you, fight back with rocks, sticks, bear or pepper spray, tools or any items available.

The Nugget Newspaper Crossword

By Jacqueline E. Mathews, Tribune News Service

- ACROSS**
- 1 Icky residue
 - 5 Barn sound
 - 10 Make a mess at table
 - 14 Woman’s nickname
 - 15 Dome-shaped home
 - 16 Scoop holder
 - 17 Haley or Trebek
 - 18 Percussion instruments
 - 20 Potato variety
 - 21 Bigwigs, for short
 - 22 Uneasy feeling
 - 23 Wall covering
 - 25 Facial twitch
 - 26 ___ up; amassing
 - 28 Under ___; being forced
 - 31 Worship
 - 32 ___ prize winner; loser
 - 34 President Coolidge
 - 36 “___ who?”; skeptic’s query
 - 37 Asks nosy questions
 - 38 Word of agreement
 - 39 Feminine pronoun
 - 40 Banisters
 - 41 Puts on weight
 - 42 Most peculiar
 - 44 South American plains
 - 45 One not to be trusted
 - 46 Wet
 - 47 “77 Sunset ___” of old TV
 - 50 Some of Ray Charles’ music
 - 51 North American nation: abbr.
 - 54 Small radio
 - 57 Carey, for one
 - 58 Sty cry
 - 59 Landlord’s contract
 - 60 Doe or buck
 - 61 Cookware
 - 62 Beer
 - 63 Catch sight of
- DOWN**
- 1 Hang around
 - 2 Vending machine drink
 - 3 In between jobs
 - 4 Recipe verb
 - 5 Vetoing
 - 6 Aswan Dam’s location
 - 7 Woes
 - 8 Hair gel, for example
 - 9 Toad’s movement
 - 10 Candlestick bracket
 - 11 Yearn
 - 12 Change for a five
 - 13 Pain in the neck
 - 19 As ___ as an ape
 - 21 Climbing plant
 - 24 Put on ___; act snobby
 - 25 Bathing spots of frustration
 - 26 Football play
 - 27 Potato exporter
 - 28 “That ___ it!”; cry of frustration
 - 29 Books of the Bible
 - 30 Steam bath
 - 32 Londoner, for short
 - 33 Lubricate
 - 35 Not as much
 - 37 In the ___; once



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

— Last Week’s Puzzle Solved —



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- 38 Glasgow souvenirs, perhaps
- 40 Gathers crops
- 41 Max ___ of “Barney Miller”
- 43 Beverages
- 44 Bartender
- 46 Bullwinkle, for one
- 47 “___ and smell the roses”
- 48 Threesome
- 49 Angry speech
- 50 Male animal
- 52 Ooze out
- 53 Crooked; askew
- 55 Not well
- 56 Body of water
- 57 Ike’s monogram

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