

Woman is pressured to tell friend of husband’s flirting

DEAR ABBY: I have been friends with “Caroline” for more than 20 years. Her husband is present when they visit us because they live out of state, and when I visit her, he is there. I have been married for 28 years, and my husband doesn’t join me when I visit Caroline.

Caroline travels worldwide for work. Her husband has family near me. One time, when he was in town and she was traveling, I invited him to meet me for dinner. He got the wrong idea and thought it was a date behind his wife’s back. She knew we were having dinner; but I never revealed to her that he made a pass at me that evening. I corrected him, explained I wasn’t trying to start a romance and emphasized I would never do that to my friend.

When I got home that night, my husband asked how dinner went, and I shared what happened. He took it personally. He felt disrespected and told me to tell Caroline. Others I have spoken to about this said don’t say anything. This happened a year or two ago.

My husband and I are now invited to the wedding of Caroline’s stepdaughter. My husband refuses to go because of what happened. He insists I should tell Caroline and explain why he isn’t coming. I have no feelings whatsoever for her husband and would never engage in anything with him. Their marriage is already rocky. Both have had extramarital affairs, and he said he planned to divorce her last year but hasn’t. Should I tell Caroline what happened?

— COVERING UP

DEAR COVERING: I see nothing positive to be gained by telling Caroline at this late date. It’s ancient history. Caroline already knows that her husband has cheated in the past. I do not think it would be helpful to rock the boat.

DEAR ABBY: This is a delicate subject for me, one I’ve never been faced with before. I have been speaking to a really nice guy I met online, and after many weeks of talking, we decided to meet up. It wasn’t anyplace special or expensive; it was a lunch spot. I wore jeans and new shoes, and did my hair to look nice for him. We had a pleasant lunch, which

he insisted on paying for. Abby, in his pictures, he is very handsome. In most of them he was well-dressed and -kept. He showed up in a knit ski hat that covered nearly his whole head, and the rest of his attire was wrinkled and sloppy. It was not what I expected for our first date that we had been talking about for a long time.

I’m thinking I may be disappointed because I may have built up expectations in my head. We are talking about a second date, and I’d like to give him another chance to crisp himself up, but I would like to handle it delicately so as not to hurt his feelings. I never thought of myself as judgmental. Am I being unreasonable for wishing my new boyfriend wants to look good for me as I do for him? How do I handle this?

— SECOND THOUGHTS

DEAR SECOND THOUGHTS: Here’s how. Recognize that he is not your “new boyfriend”; he is only a candidate for the “job.” Go out with him a few more times and get to know him well enough that you can have an honest conversation with him. If he doesn’t shape up, at that point, tell him what you told me. Leave out the part about blaming yourself for your feelings. They are honest, and you are entitled to them, and frankly, you might be doing him a favor to speak up.

DEAR ABBY: The last of our children has graduated and left the nest. My wife and I are now starting to go through years of boxes, mostly papers and photos. In the process, we have discovered several checks written to us that we never cashed — mostly for Girl Scout cookies or other fundraising items and birthday gifts for the kids. The checks are mostly more than 15 years old, but they add up to around \$300. Would it be proper to ask the check writers to reissue their checks so long after they were written? We could use the money now.

— QUESTIONING IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR QUESTIONING: You should have been more careful with those monetary gifts. To ask that the checks be rewritten after 15 years would be an imposition and likely not well received.



DEAR ABBY

FEDERAL BUCKS FOR FEASIBILITY STUDY

Bringing back Oregon’s sea otters gets big boost

By Tom Banse
Northwest Public News

SALEM — A group that wants to bring back wild sea otters to the Oregon Coast is taking a big step forward. The federal government has awarded them a grant to launch a feasibility study for a possible reintroduction effort.

Once upon a time, sea otters were abundant along Oregon’s Pacific coast. But then fur hunters wiped them out more than a century ago. Sea otters were successfully reintroduced to California, Washington, British Columbia and southeast Alaska 50 years ago. But the animals have not naturally repopulated to Oregon in the time since.

The nonprofit that wants to restore sea otters to Oregon is named the Elakha Alliance, after the word for sea otter in the Clatsop-Chinookan language.

“Yes, they’re cute, but that’s not the reason we’re doing this,” said Bob Bailey, board president of the Elakha Alliance. “They’re a keystone species ... The ecosystem and its productivity and its resilience off the Oregon Coast has undoubtedly been compromised over what it would be if they were here.”

Among other things, sea otters keep sea urchins in check. Urchins mow down underwater kelp forests. So if sea otters came back, Bailey said you should get more kelp forests. Kelp provides shelter and food for a range of sea life and sequesters carbon.



Photo by Tom Banse/Northwest Public News

The only places to see sea otters in Oregon are at the Oregon Zoo and the Oregon Coast Aquarium, where this guy lives.

Bailey said he was “totally thrilled” to win \$40,000 in funding from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to conduct a feasibility study of sea otter reintroduction in Oregon.

“It means everything to us,” Bailey said in an interview. “This is the keyhole through which the key will fit or not. Everything else will depend on the outcome of this feasibility study.”

Bailey described the upcoming April launch of the study to attendees at the recent annual meeting in Eugene of the Oregon chapter of The Wildlife Society, a professional group for biologists, ecologists and land managers.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service field supervisor Michele Zwartjes discussed the many issues on the minds of the federal and state agencies that will have the final say on the possible restoration of sea otters to the Oregon Coast.

“Do we have enough suitable habitat?” Zwartjes asked rhetorically. “Do we have sufficient prey? What will the effects be on the community and on other species?”

Zwartjes stressed that the Fish and Wildlife Service funding for the feasibility study is purely “exploratory” and does not presuppose an eventual green light for sea otter reintroduction. She said the human dimension to the matter would be “just as important” as the biological or ecological considerations.

“Is there public support for it? What would the effect be on local economies along the coast?” she continued. “There could be some positive effects and negative effects. But we think it is important to lay all of those out so the public is fully informed and understands what the potential ramifications of a reintroduction could mean.”

weather

	TONIGHT	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Clear and cold	Sunny, but chilly	Mostly sunny and chilly	Sunny	Considerable cloudiness
Baker City	13	42 17	41 21	47 24	50 33
Comfort Index™	3	3	1	5	5
La Grande	14	38 22	37 23	43 27	45 34
Comfort Index™	3	1	0	3	3
Enterprise	13	37 18	40 20	44 24	46 33
Comfort Index™	3	3	3	5	5

Comfort Index takes into account how the weather will feel based on a combination of factors. A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable.

ALMANAC	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
TEMPERATURES			
High Sunday	45°	43°	43°
Low Sunday	25°	30°	30°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Sunday	0.01	0.35	0.82
Month to date	0.29	2.87	7.92
Normal month to date	0.33	0.63	1.35
Year to date	0.57	4.42	16.51
Normal year to date	1.13	2.26	4.52

AGRICULTURAL INFO.	
HAY INFORMATION WEDNESDAY	
Lowest relative humidity	40%
Afternoon wind	SE at 6 to 12 mph
Hours of sunshine	7.2
Evapotranspiration	0.05

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Monday)	
Phillips Reservoir	26% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	57% of capacity
Owyhee Reservoir	74% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	68% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	52% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	102% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Sunday)	
Grande Ronde at Troy	3960 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	131 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	25 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	413 cfs
Minam River at Minam	223 cfs
Powder River near Richland	314 cfs

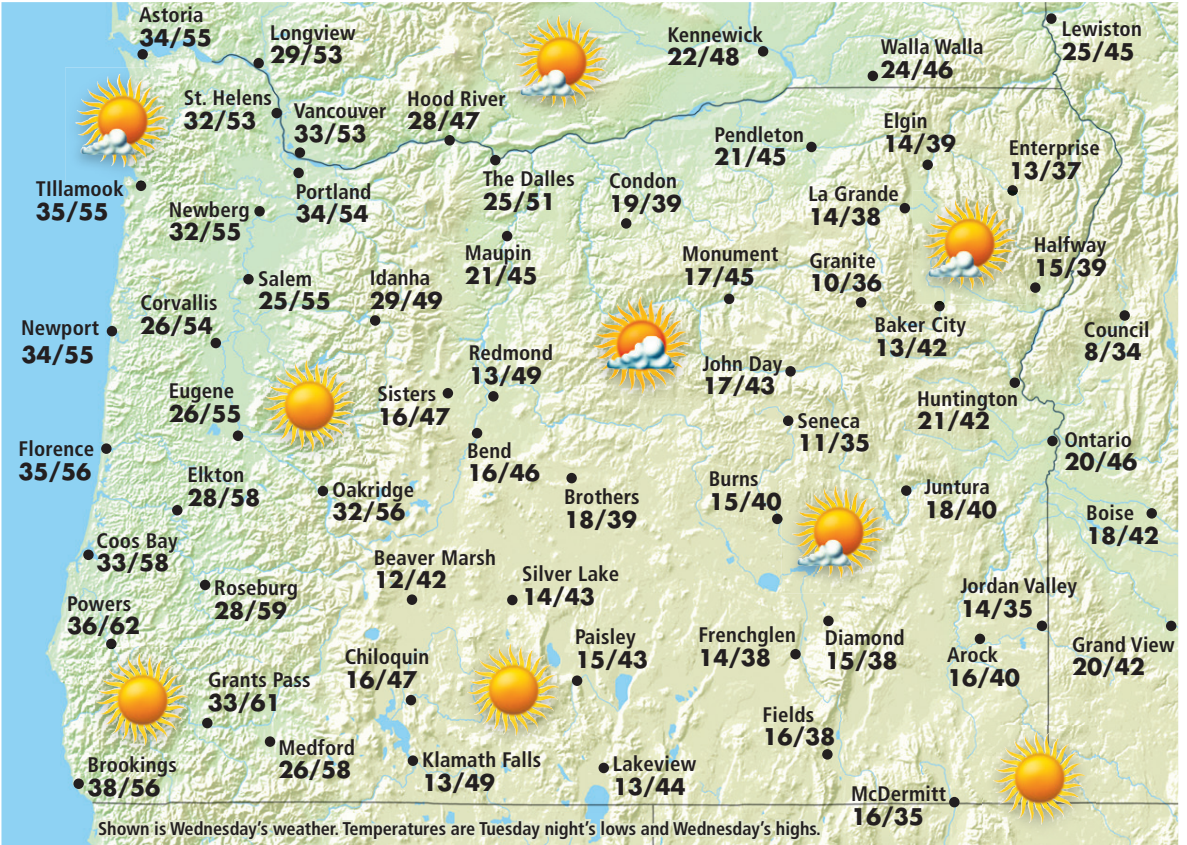
SUNDAY EXTREMES	
NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	
High: 87°	Falfurrias, Texas
Low: -28°	International Falls, Minn.
Wettest: 1.63"	New Orleans, La.
OREGON	
High: 54°	Brookings
Low: 23°	Crater Lake
Wettest: 0.97"	Brookings

WEATHER HISTORY	
Severe thunderstorms roared across north-eastern Indiana and northwestern Ohio late in the day on Feb. 18, 1992. The storm produced hail and funnel clouds.	

SUN & MOON	
TUE. WED.	
Sunrise 6:50 a.m. 6:49 a.m.	
Sunset 5:23 p.m. 5:25 p.m.	
Moonrise 3:45 a.m. 4:41 a.m.	
Moonsset 12:40 p.m. 1:33 p.m.	
MOON PHASES	
New First Full Last	
Feb 23 Mar 2 Mar 9 Mar 16	

AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2020



REGIONAL CITIES

City	WED. HI/Lo/W	THU. HI/Lo/W
Astoria	55/36/s	54/35/pc
Bend	46/22/s	49/25/pc
Boise	42/17/s	45/24/pc
Brookings	56/41/s	56/41/pc
Burns	40/17/s	40/19/pc
Coos Bay	58/36/s	54/35/pc
Corvallis	54/29/s	52/31/pc
Council	34/7/s	36/13/pc
Elgin	39/18/s	38/22/s
Eugene	55/29/s	52/32/pc
Hermiston	48/22/s	47/26/s
Hood River	47/26/s	47/26/pc
Imnaha	41/23/s	46/26/pc
John Day	43/22/s	45/23/pc
Joseph	36/18/s	39/19/s
Kennewick	48/21/s	47/25/s
Klamath Falls	49/22/s	51/24/pc
Lakeview	44/15/s	47/21/pc

City	WED. HI/Lo/W	THU. HI/Lo/W
Lewiston	45/26/s	47/29/s
Longview	53/30/s	52/32/pc
Meacham	38/20/s	37/22/s
Medford	58/32/s	57/32/pc
Newport	55/36/s	53/37/pc
Olympia	51/25/s	52/30/pc
Ontario	46/20/s	46/24/pc
Pasco	49/20/s	48/25/s
Pendleton	45/25/s	46/28/s
Portland	54/36/s	54/33/pc
Powers	62/35/s	60/37/pc
Redmond	49/21/s	51/23/pc
Roseburg	59/33/s	57/35/c
Salem	55/27/s	52/30/pc
Spokane	40/20/s	42/23/s
The Dalles	51/26/s	49/27/s
Ukiah	40/16/s	40/18/s
Walla Walla	46/25/s	46/29/s

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice

RECREATION FORECAST WEDNESDAY

ANTHONY LAKES

Plenty of sun

25 12

MT. EMILY REC.

Sunny, but chilly

30 17

EAGLE CAP WILD.

Plenty of sun

28 7

WALLOWA LAKE

Sunny, but chilly

36 18

THIEF VALLEY RES.

Plenty of sunshine

42 17

PHILLIPS LAKE

Plenty of sunshine

36 15

BROWNLEE RES.

Sunny, but chilly

41 14

EMIGRANT ST. PARK

Sunny, but chilly

35 14

MCKAY RESERVOIR

Plenty of sun

45 25

RED BRIDGE ST. PARK

Sunny, but chilly

38 22

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