

New wolf area designated in Oregon

By **GEORGE PLAVEN**
Capital Press

A new group of wolves has taken up residence in Central Oregon, including parts of Deschutes and northern Klamath counties.

State wildlife officials designated an "Area of Known Wolf Activity" in the Upper Deschutes Wildlife Management Unit, which extends from near Bend south to Crescent along Highway 97 and west to the Pacific Crest Trail.

Ranchers in the area should consider non-lethal measures to protect their livestock, such as hiring range riders or using flashing lights and alarms to scare away wolves, according to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

ODFW also recommends removing any carcasses or bone piles that might attract wolves. Other deterrents may include guard dogs, electrified fencing of small pastures and fladry.

While Oregon's wolf management plan does allow for killing wolves in the event of repeated attacks on livestock, this does not apply west of highways 395, 78 and 95, where wolves remain federally protected under the Endangered Species Act. That includes the Upper Deschutes area.

The minimum known wolf popula-



A trail camera photo shows an adult wolf with five pups in the Upper Deschutes Wildlife Management Area in Central Oregon. ODFW has designated a new "Area of Known Wolf Activity" in the area, including parts of Deschutes and northern Klamath counties.

ODFW

tion in Oregon based on verified evidence was at least 175 at the end of 2021, though ODFW acknowledges the actual population is likely higher.

Biologists began monitoring reports of a single wolf in the area in August 2021, and one wolf was counted during ODFW's annual winter survey.

Earlier this year, tracks of four wolves were found in the area, though it wasn't immediately clear if they came from a new group of wolves or from the Indigo Pack, which occupies territory just to the south.

On July 4, a trail camera in the area

snapped a photo of an adult wolf with five pups, confirming the new group.

Depending on how many wolves are in the group by year's end, it may be designated the Upper Deschutes Pack. A pack is defined as having at least four wolves traveling together in winter — typically with at least two adults and their offspring.

ODFW says additional surveys will be conducted to learn more about the Upper Deschutes wolves' home range.

Wolf sightings from the public can be reported to ODFW online at www.dfw.state.or.us/wolves.



Don Jenkins/Capital Press File

The Supreme Court ruled July 21 that timber harvests in state forests benefits the public, but lawmakers have the power to change that.

Washington high court upholds state logging

By **DON JENKINS**
Capital Press

The Washington Supreme Court said the Department of Natural Resources has discretion on how it manages state forests, a decision that gave the timber industry an immediate victory, but was hailed by environmentalists as a "monumental conservation decision."

In the 8-0 ruling July 21, the court rejected claims that DNR's timber-harvesting plans were violating its constitutional duty to manage state-owned forests for "all the people."

Writing for the court, Justice Helen Whitener said the public gains from increased economic activity, and funding for education and government.

"As DNR emphasizes, generating revenue from timber harvests helps boost local economies and maintain state institutions," she wrote.

Whitener, however, was sympathetic to the environmental groups, saying they presented a "commendable argument" that state forests should be managed to "also combat climate change and protect our crucial ecosystem."

While DNR can allow logging, it's not required to, she said. It will be up to the Legislature, not the court, to order changes, she said.

The ruling dismisses a lawsuit led by Conservation Northwest. Nevertheless, Executive Director Mitch Friedman declared victory.

"The court issued a monumental conservation ruling," he said. "Over coming years and decades, this ruling will be cited in support of nature-protection policies made by the Legislature and the DNR."

DNR manages about 3 million acres. The federal government granted much

of the land to fund public services when Washington became a state. Counties and school districts in heavily forested areas rely on money from state timber sales.

Conservation Northwest, joined by the Washington Environmental Council and Olympic Forest Coalition, accused DNR of acting "like a private timber company."

Climate activists supported the lawsuit, while the timber industry and rural counties, school districts and fire districts intervened to support DNR.

DNR argued that it has an obligation to generate timber revenue, but also said it doesn't endanger the environment. Lands Commissioner Hilary Franz said the ruling affirms DNR's authority.

"I also recognize that in the face of a rapidly changing climate, we must do everything we can to safeguard public lands and protect our forests," she said in a statement.

American Forest Resource Council President Travis Joseph said the ruling should encourage DNR to stop being "publicly bullied by anti-forestry groups."

"This opinion rejects, once and for all, legal attacks by anti-forestry groups to upend the trust mandate and the many benefits it provides," he said.

A Thurston County judge dismissed the lawsuit, which originated over the state's plan to conserve marbled murrelet habitat. The environmental groups appealed and the Supreme Court accepted the case, skipping over the Court of Appeals.

The case drew widespread interest. In an amicus brief, the Washington Council of Machinists said that if the environmental groups won, state forests would become "theme parks for the affluent."

Analyst expects slowdown in dairy demand

By **CAROL RYAN DUMAS**
Capital Press

The combination of steep inflation and increasing interest rates heightens the risk of an economic recession, a dairy market analyst says.

"The central banks have noticed that inflation has got out of hand. It's their job to do something about it, but they have a very limited toolbox and the tools are pretty blunt," said Nate Donnay, director of dairy market insight for StoneX Group.

They're going to raise interest rates to slow investment and consumption. That will cause people to buy fewer goods, lessening demand and slowing price increases, he said during the latest "DairyLivestream" webinar.

Historically, the banks have had a hard time bringing down inflation from the 7-9% levels without pushing the economy into recession, he said.

"You look at it from a historical perspective and it seems likely that we slip into recession at some point here," he said.

Typically the start of a recession is marked by two consecutive quarters of declining real Gross Domes-



Capital Press File

The likelihood of an economic recession is increasing, a dairy analyst says.

tic Product. GDP was down 1.6% in the first quarter, and the Atlanta Federal Reserve Bank estimates it was down by the same percentage in the second quarter, he said.

"So it's very possible ... we already had two quarters of declining real GDP," he said.

Even if it's not a recession, central banks globally are intentionally trying to slow their economies to slow inflation, he said.

"So even if we don't tip into recession, we are looking at slower economic growth, which is typically not great for demand," he said.

"So we're likely look-

ing at a slowdown in dairy demand driven by a slower economy, and if not by a slower economy then by less purchasing power as inflation is running above wage growth," he said.

Commodity markets have already adjusted to the slowdown over the last four weeks. Crude oil has dropped from \$120 a barrel to \$100. Corn has dropped from \$7.50 a bushel to less than \$6, and cheese has dropped from \$2.20 a pound to \$2, he said.

"So we've already seen some downward movement in prices," he said.

Historically, commodity prices haven't always seen downward pressure during

the first half of recessions, he said.

"I think it takes some time for the weaker economic conditions to impact wages and for consumers to change their purchasing behavior. It's really in the second half of recessions that we tend to see the big downward pressure on commodity prices," he said.

Determining the impact of current conditions would depend on when the recession started. If it started in April, it probably suggests commodity prices could take a dive in September-October, he said.

"But maybe we haven't slipped into recession yet," he said.

The other factor for the dairy market is that expansion of the U.S. herd has been relatively small and milk production in Europe is still down. In previous recessions in 2001 and 2008-2009, milk production at the start was growing, he said.

This time around, the supply situation is weaker than at the start of those previous recessions, he said.

"So while we may see some negative impacts on demand, maybe the impact on prices will be less than we've seen in previous recessions," he said.

Report: \$2.66B annual crop value of Columbia Basin Project

By **MATTHEW WEAVER**
Capital Press

Crops in the Columbia Basin Project are valued at \$2.66 billion each year, or roughly \$3,800 per acre, according to a recent

study from the three irrigation districts within the federal project.

The report estimates an additional \$2.671 billion as the estimated value of animal and food processing production reliant on project crops.

The new report updates a 2010 study on the economic value of the project, said John O'Callaghan, secretary-manager of the South Columbia Basin Irrigation District in Pasco, Wash.

"The (project) is an economic engine, churning away producing things that society requires at a fundamental level — food, fiber, economic opportunities, social oppor-

tunities, recreational opportunities, and fish and wildlife habitat — and will continue to do so well into the future," O'Callaghan told the Capital Press.

The East and Quincy Columbia Basin irrigation districts also commissioned the study.

"The asset that is the Columbia Basin Project is taken for granted — from the food we eat to the jobs we hold, to the places we call home or our playground," said Sara Higgins, executive director of the Columbia Basin Development League, which advocates project completion. "These things wouldn't exist

without the (project). That's significant enough to pay attention to, understand, support, maintain and grow."

The project was authorized by Congress to irrigate 1,029,000 acres, but to date the network of reservoirs and canals irrigates about 700,000 acres in portions of Grant, Adams, Franklin and Walla Walla counties, with some land in Lincoln County authorized but not yet receiving water, according to the league.

Funding is the biggest need to complete the Odessa Groundwater Replacement Program, reinvest in aging infrastructure and overall completion of the

project, Higgins said.

"The value of the (project) is compromised if a declining aquifer prevents continued production at current rates," she said. "Completion of the (project) will increase the value of its contributions, not only economically, but also in areas like food security and sustainability."

The project is not directly dependent on the Snake River dams compared to inland agriculture, O'Callaghan said. But transportation, energy and agribusiness systems are complex and interrelated, he said, "in ways that are hard to understand until they stop functioning."

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR 2017 LNDL RRV LL
VIN = SALWR2FKXHA669153
Amount due on lien \$1515.00
Reputed owner(s)
TRAVIS JAMES STAFFORD
IQ CREDIT UNION

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR 2016 NISS V25 VA
VIN = 1N6AF0LY3GN802508
Amount due on lien \$1415.00
Reputed owner(s)
VERTICAL WINE/BEER CO LLC
NISSAN MOTOR ACCEPTANCE CORP

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The Soil and Water Conservation Commission (SWCC) will hold its regular quarterly meeting from 1-4:30 p.m. Monday, Aug. 15, 2022, and from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2022, at Upper Willamette Soil and Water Conservation District, 3291 W First Ave., Eugene, 97402. Virtual attendance also is available. Information on how to attend virtually can be found at <https://oda.direct/meetings>. The regular quarterly meeting agenda covers SWCC reports, advisor reports, Soil and Water Conservation District programs and funding, Agriculture Water Quality Management Program updates, and other agenda items. The Oregon Department of Agriculture complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need special accommodations to participate in this meeting, please contact Sandi Hiatt at (503) 986-4704, at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.

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PREMIER TOWING & RECOVERY
305 JEFFERSON ST SILVERTON, OR 2019 TOYT CAM 4D
VIN = 4T1B11HK1KU698403
Amount due on lien \$952.00
Reputed owner(s)
>WILLIAM WOODS & ANGELA EPPING
TOYOTA MOTOR CREDIT CORP

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR 2020 SUBARU IMP 4D
VIN = 4S3GKAB68L3606388
Amount due on lien \$1535.00
Reputed owner(s)
SUBARU OF AMERICA

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR 2015 TOYT CAM 4D
VIN = 4T1BF1FK9FU954779
Amount due on lien \$1415.00
Reputed owner(s)
RUBEN ESCOTT VILLA
TOYOTA MOTOR CREDIT CORP

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR 2017 CHEV EXP VA
VIN = 1GCWGAFF8H1249661
Amount due on lien \$1535.00
Reputed owner(s)
>SIDWELL AIR FREIGHT INC
FIRST BANK DIV OF GLACIER BANK

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR 2016 TOYT HIG LL
VIN = STDDKRFH1GS342805
Amount due on lien \$1415.00
Reputed owner(s) SAMIM NOORI & MOHAMMAD A MAULKZADA
TOYOTA MOTOR CREDIT CORP

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR 2016 HONDA CIVIC 4D
VIN = ZHGFC2F57GH539674
Amount due on lien \$1535.00
Reputed owner(s)
MARLANA HANEY
FIFTH THIRD BANK NATIONAL ASSOC

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR 2007 CHEV TIL ST
VIN = 4KBC481UXJ803101
Amount due on lien \$1435.00
Reputed owner(s)
NORTHWEST LANDSCAPE SERVICES
BANNER BANK

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR 2019 BMW X5 UT
VIN = 5UXCR6C59KLL04621
Amount due on lien \$1535.00
Reputed owner(s)
JOSHUA THOMAS CHRISTENSEN
FINANCIAL SERVICES VEHICLE TRUST

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR 2018 HOND CIV 4D
VIN = SHHF7G42JU239055
Amount due on lien \$1515.00
Reputed owner(s)
ZACHARY RYAN TAVARES
UNITUS COMMUNITY C.U

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR 2020 CHEV CLD PU
VIN = 1GCGS8EN2L143538
Amount due on lien \$1515.00
Reputed owner(s) CMTS LLC
CAPITAL LEASE GRP LTD/LSSR
BERSHIRE BANK

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COPART OF WASHINGTON INC
2885 NATIONAL WAY WOODBURN, OR 2008 JYCO FLIGHT C.T
VIN = 1UJBJ02N9878B0482
Amount due on lien \$1435.00
Reputed owner(s)
NICHOLAS HENRY ROBERT REYES