

# Outdoor Rec / Local

## HERBACIDE GIVEAWAY

For 2017, Baker County Weed District will again be giving out herbicide on the following locations, dates, and times. This fully mixed, ready-to-go herbicide will be targeting whitetop and scotch thistle. Folks need to bring chemical-resistant containers, preferably gas or oil cans, and a pair of chemical-resistant gloves. Please, no food containers. There will be a five gallon limit imposed for each residence.

Note location for Baker City Giveaways!

Where	Date	Time
Huntington Lions Park Richland/Halfway	May 5	9:00 - 12 AM
Wildflower Corner Baker City	May 12	7 - 12 Noon
Old ODOT Building 1050 S. Bridge Baker City	May 20	7 - 12 Noon
Old ODOT Building 1050 S. Bridge Street Hereford Hall	May 27	7 - 12 Noon
Unity Hall	June 2	9 - 10:30 AM
	June 2	11:00 - Noon

5.26

## BUDGET COMMITTEE NOTICE

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the Baker County Library District, Baker County, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018 will be held at Baker County Public Library, 2400 Resort St, Baker City, OR. The meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 24 2017 at 5:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message and to receive comment from the public on the budget. This is a public meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place. Any person may appear at the meeting and discuss the proposed programs with the Budget Committee. If a continuance is necessary, a 2nd meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, May 31 2017 at 5:00 p.m. A copy of the budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after May 15, 2017 at Baker County Public Library, weekdays between 9:00 am and 6:00 p.m. and weekends between 12:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. or on the library website at [www.bakerlib.org/about/budget](http://www.bakerlib.org/about/budget).

4.28

## BUDGET COMMITTEE NOTICE

### NOTICE OF BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

A public meeting of the Budget Committee of the Medical Springs Rural Fire, Baker/Union Counties, State of Oregon, to discuss the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017 will be held at Pondosa Station, 50393 Hwy 203 Baker City, OR. The meeting will take place on May 09, 2016 at 6:30 PM. The purpose of the meeting is to receive the budget message and to receive comment from the public on the budget. This is a public meeting where deliberation of the Budget Committee will take place. Any person may appear at the meeting and discuss the proposed programs with the Budget Committee. A copy of the budget document may be inspected or obtained on or after May 5, 2016 at 50378 Hwy 203, Baker City, OR, between the hours of 9 AM and 6 PM. 150-504-073-1 (Rev 12/10). 5.5

# More on wolf depredation . . .



**THE OUTDOOR COLUMN**  
By Todd Arriola

In a Letter to the Editor in the Friday, April 14, 2017 issue of *The Baker County Press*, echoing some of the sentiments of many members of the community, local Jim Scott voiced his puzzlement and frustration that livestock producers have been saddled with the burden of not only attempting to deter wolves from depleting their herds, but also with convincing the State that significant losses from wolf depredation are real, and that there is a major lack in funding to compensate for these losses.

Scott started out with a statement about the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) "...capture and introduction...of Canadian Wolves into Yellowstone Park and the state of Idaho. This was totally against the wishes of the people of those states." He emphasized that it was "...NOT re-introduction, because they were never here at any time in history..." and that the USFWS "...stole \$60,000,000 from the taxpayers out of the Pittman Robertson Tax Fund..." to

he understood that, in addition to dealing with wolf depredation itself, the legitimacy of livestock producers' claims could sometimes be doubted, because the amount of claimed losses seems "unrealistic" to State Wolf Grant administrators. Scott included a quote from the article, from this paragraph: "(Baker County Wolf Depredation Compensation Committee member Mike) Durgan said that, while the committee members agree that there are more than three wolves in Baker County, ODFW's (Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife) stance—and (Oregon Department of Agriculture Program Area Director Jason) Barber's—are that there are three, and the documentation needs to be complete, and Barber needs to be convinced that the missing livestock claims are realistic."

Scott criticized Barber, and he said that there are more than three wolves in the County, and that ODFW needs to be more

pay for the capture and introduction.

In referencing my article, "Wolf Depredation Compensation Committee Discusses ODA Concerns," in the Friday, March 31, 2017 issue of *The Baker County Press*, he said that

honest about that number (ODFW staff have stated that there are three known radio-collared wolves in the County, a claim disbelieved by County Wolf Depredation Compensation Committee members, among others).

In an e-mail addressed to Baker County Board of Commissioners Executive Assistant Heidi Martin prior to the March 31st meeting, Barber said, "With only having a grand total of approximately \$150,000 to \$160,000 to award for the entire state, the ODA is having a hard time reconciling/justifying this Baker County's missing livestock claim..."

The claim originally submitted was for a total of \$54,787, from four livestock producers, for 73 animals (54 calves, 18 cows, and one bull. Richland-based producer Chad Del Curto submitted the largest claim of the group, for 41 calves and 11 cows, which most likely prompted Barber's request for more detailed information). Barber said that this was the largest claim request received in the history of the program, and five times larger than Wal-lowa County's, or Umatilla County's claims for 2017 (\$10,140 and \$14,950, respectively).

After the Compensation Committee resubmitted the claims to Barber with more detailed information and amended loss totals, the total funding granted was \$23,219—\$16,125 of which was earmarked for compensation for the missing livestock, a significant shortfall, but one that was

anticipated by both the committee members, and the livestock producers. Still, Baker County Commissioner Mark Bennett expressed praise to Martin during the Wednesday, April 19, 2017 County Commission session, for playing a key role in acquiring that amount of funding—more than Bennett thought the County would receive (\$6,599 of the total is for implementing methods to limit wolf-livestock interaction, an amount reserved last year for a Range Rider; and \$495 of the total is for qualified County expenses).

Del Curto said he knew that compensation from the State program wouldn't even come close to covering the losses he incurred, and none of the producers or the committee members expressed any fantasies about funding for losses, with a statewide budget of only \$150,000 to \$160,000. However, without submitting the claims, the producers and the committee members knew there would be no compensation granted, and there would be less evidence of depredation available to the State.

Staff from Oregon Public Broadcasting (OPB) recently had planned a visit to eastern Oregon, in order to form a more complete picture regarding wolves, and with any luck, this will help showcase the regional issues livestock producers and others face, in this frequently forgotten but frequently regulated and equally important region of the State...

# Ladies bridge scores

Following are the Quail Ridge Ladies Bridge scores for three weeks of April. Golf scores will be available later in the season.

April 5: 1st Jessie Ritch, 2nd Martha Cassidy, 3rd Della Steele.

April 12: 1st Della Steele, 2nd Judy Karstens, 3rd Marlene Cross.

April 19: 1st Della Steele, 2nd Karen Lewis, 3rd Konnie McManus.

# Monuments via executive order to be reviewed

WASHINGTON – This week at the Department of the Interior headquarters in Washington, D.C., President Donald J. Trump, accompanied by Vice President Mike Pence and Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke, signed the Antiquities Act Executive Order. The order directs Zinke to consult local governments and tribes in order to review national monuments created by the Antiquities Act since January 1, 1996, that are greater than 100,000 acres in footprint and report back to the President on suggested legislative or executive action, if applicable, within 120 days.

The Antiquities Act of 1906 authorizes the president to declare federal lands of historic or scientific value to be national monuments by designating the "smallest area compatible with proper care and management of the objects to be protected."

"The Interior is the steward of America's public lands. Part of being a good steward is being a good neighbor and being a good listener. In the Trump Administration, we listen and then we act," said Secretary Ryan Zinke. "For years, the people of Utah and other rural communities have voiced concern and opposition to some monument designations. But too often in recent history, exiting presidents make designations despite those concerns. And the acreage is increasing."

Since the 1900s, when the Act was first used, the average size of national monuments exploded from an average of 422 acres per monument. Now it's not uncommon for a monument to be more than a million acres.

The designations of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in 1996 and the Bears Ears National Monument in 2016 are considered the book-ends of modern Antiquities Act overreach. Each monument is more than 1.3 million acres.

"Historically, the Act calls for the President to designate the 'smallest area compatible with proper care and management of the objects to be protected,'" Zinke continued. "Despite this clear directive 'smallest area' has become the exception and not the rule. Under the President's leadership, I will work with local, state and Tribal governments to review monument designations made the past 20 years and make sure they work for the local communities.

"The view from the Potomac is a lot different than the view from the Yellowstone or the Colorado. Too many times, you have people in D.C. who have never been to an area, never grazed the land, fished the river, driven the trails, or looked locals in the eye, who are making the decisions and they have zero accountability to the impacted communities. I'm interested in listening to those folks. That's what my team and I will be doing in the next few months."

What the Executive Order does do:

The Executive Order directs the Department of the Interior to review monuments designated using the Antiquities Act as of January 1, 1996, that are in excess of 100,000 acres, or monuments that were expanded without adequate public outreach and coordination with relevant stakeholders.

This Executive Order restores trust between local communities and Washington and roots out abuses of power by previous administrations.

This Executive Order puts America and the Department of the Interior back on track to manage our federal lands in accordance to traditional "multiple-use" philosophy by directing the Secretary of the Interior to make recommendations to the President on whether a monument should be rescinded, resized in order to better manage our federal lands.

This Executive Order gives rural communities across America a voice and restores land use planning by directing the Secretary of the Interior to consult and coordinate with the Governors of States affected by monument designations or other relevant officials of affected State, Tribal, and local governments.

What the Executive Order doesn't do:

This Executive Order does NOT strip any monument of a designation.

This Executive Order does NOT loosen any environmental or conservation regulations on any land or marine areas.

# Walden speaks out on Trump's monument review

Rep. Greg Walden (R-Hood River) released the following statement after President Trump signed an executive order directing a review of national monument designations declared under the Antiquities Act since 1996:

"Today's action sends a clear signal to communities throughout the West – including in Oregon – that this administration is

serious about taking a new approach to the management of our federal lands.

"In Oregon we've watched the problems left behind in the wake of national monument designations that lock up land without meaningful public input. A review of the Antiquities Act is long overdue. I'm pleased that President Trump has finally ordered one. Farmers,

ranchers, and local residents in Oregon have been ignored for too long by presidents who look up the land without local consultations. This executive order is a refreshing sign that their concerns are being taken seriously.

"Now, Congress needs to take action to reform the Antiquities Act. That's why I've also introduced the Public Input for Na-

tional Monument Act, to require these designations to go through the public National Environmental Policy Act process like all other land management decisions.

"I will continue to work with the Trump Administration to rebuild public trust in federal land management policies. Today's action will assist in that effort."

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