

Washington hemp pioneer has crop, but needs market



Don Jenkins/EO Media Group
Washington state hemp entrepreneur Cory Sharp said that his hemp crop has been harvested, but he's still looking for a market.

Industry already at a crossroads

By DON JENKINS
EO Media Group

An entrepreneur at the forefront of establishing hemp in Washington state says that he has harvested his first crop but doesn't know what he'll do with it, underlining the unpredictable future for sober cannabis in the state.

Cory Sharp said he figures he can store for a couple of years an estimated 70,000 to 80,000 pounds of hemp grain. He said he's trying to line up financing for a plant to make hemp-seed oil, sold

as a nutritional supplement. "It'll take millions to do it right," he said. "It's a lot of capital, and there are a lot of hurdles."

Sharp, owner of Hemp-Logic, oversaw last spring the first planting of hemp under rules set down by the Washington State Department of Agriculture. The rules carefully followed federal limits on cultivating hemp plants, which remain a federally controlled substance, even in states with legal recreational marijuana.

The grain harvested in Grant County by Sharp are viable seeds, so they can't cross state lines. They must be processed in Washington.

"We're out of harvest and trying to find homes for things," Sharp said. "We have

to find a market before we do anything."

The state licenses hemp growers and processors, monitors the seed supply and inspects farms. So far, the state has issued six hemp licenses, including one to a Washington State University researcher and two to Indian tribes. Meanwhile, other states, such as Oregon, Colorado, Kentucky and Tennessee, have each licensed dozens of hemp farmers or processors.

The Washington State Department of Agriculture says about 180 acres of hemp were planted this year. Once launched this year, the program was to be sustained by fees. But the fees have raised approximately \$8,100, while the department has spent

\$146,000 on the program. The department says it's not feasible to expect fees to support the program and will ask lawmakers to appropriate \$287,000 from the general fund to continue it.

Sharp and hemp consultant Joy Beckerman said high fees are a problem and so are the restrictions.

Beckerman said she has a long list of proposals for changing the state's program.

"It's at a crossroads," she said. "We need to remove some of these barriers. ... We need more seeds in the ground."

One of Beckerman's proposals is to make sure a marijuana grow can't push aside a hemp farm. Under a state rule, hemp can't be grown within 4 miles of marijuana. If a mari-

juana grow moves in the area, the hemp farm must go.

"I, unfortunately, have to tell people, 'Beware, don't go buy a farm,'" Beckerman said.

Although Congress authorized state-supervised hemp cultivation and marketing in the 2014 Farm Bill, the crop still faces regulatory uncertainty. Oregon U.S. Sens. Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley and three other senators sent a letter to U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions in June saying they were concerned that people involved in hemp programs are being denied banking services.

"This next year is going to be interesting," Sharp said.

"I don't have a rosy picture for you," he said. "Being a pioneer is never easy."

Federal wildlife agency says wolf was shot, offers reward

By ERIC MORTENSON
EO Media Group

State and federal wildlife officials are investigating the death of a second wolf discovered in the Fremont-Winema National Forest of southern Oregon in the past year.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service offered a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest of the person responsible for shooting a gray wolf designated OR-33

by Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The wolf's carcass was discovered in April and taken to a federal lab in Ashland for a necropsy. The results were not announced until Wednesday. The animal had one or more gunshot wounds, according to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. It's not clear when the wolf was shot.

A year earlier, on Oct. 6, 2016, an Oregon wolf designated OR-28 was found

dead in the national forest. That carcass also was examined at the Ashland lab, but the cause of death hasn't been announced.

Brent Lawrence, Fish and Wildlife Service spokesman, said the case is still open. The federal agency and Oregon State Police are jointly investigating.

The wolf deaths are not necessarily related. State Department of Fish and Wildlife spokeswoman Michelle Dennehy said the sites where

the wolves were found are "geographically far apart."

Still, conservation groups and wolf activists have long warned that wolf poaching is going on, and question whether the state is doing enough to protect them.

The news about OR-33 also comes on the heels of Oregon authorizing "lethal control" on the Harl Butte and Meacham wolf packs in north-east Oregon for repeated livestock attacks this summer.

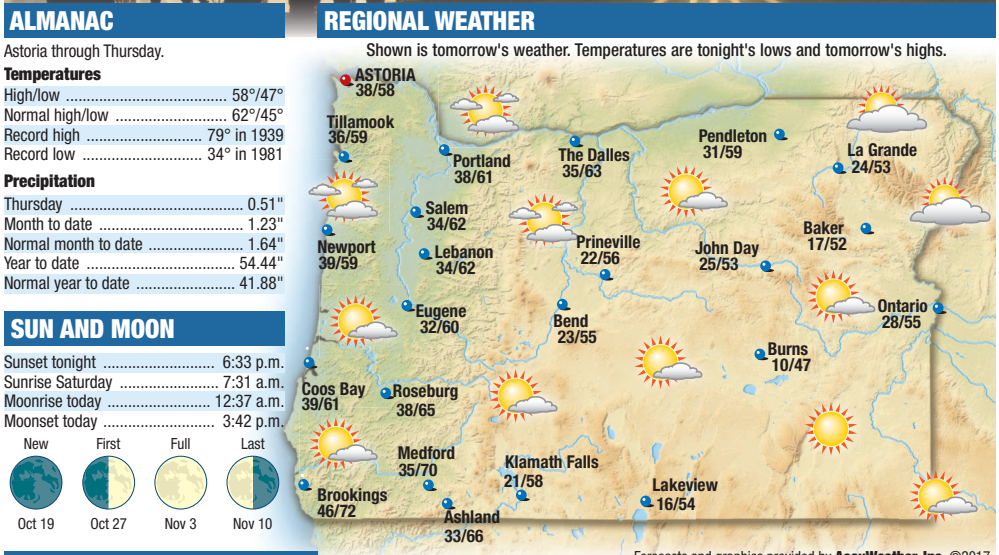
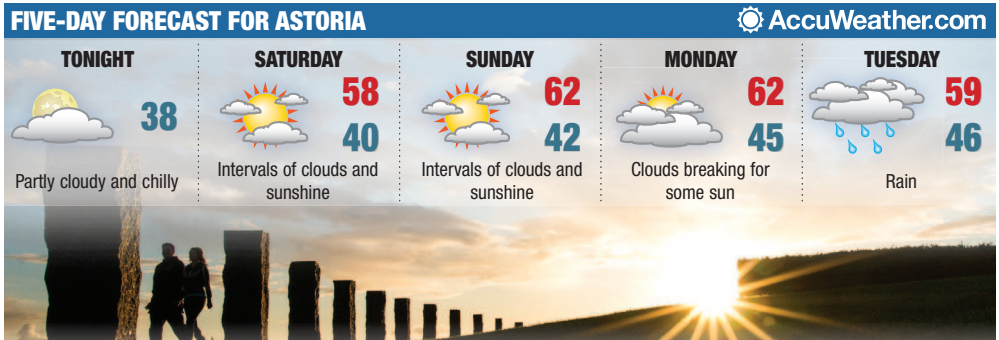
Four Harl Butte Pack wolves have been shot since August and the state recently authorized killing four more. One Meacham Pack wolf was shot before lethal authorization expired.

The two wolves found dead both dispersed from northeast Oregon.

OR-33, a male estimated to be 4-years-old, left the Imnaha Pack in November 2015 and was not known to be part of a pack. It wore a

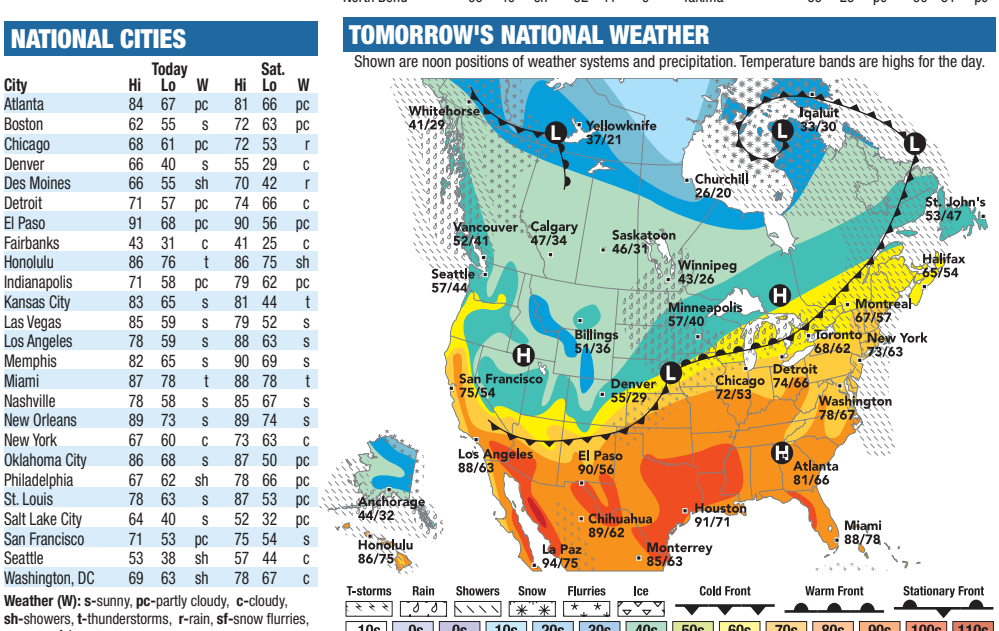
tracking collar, but it quit transmitting in August 2016, according to the state.

OR-28 was a 3-year old female that was collared in June 2014 and dispersed from the Mount Emily pack in November 2015. Within a month, tracking collar data showed it had traveled more than 450 miles and was in the Silver Lake area in south central Oregon. The wolf paired up with a male, OR-3, and had at least one pup.



Regional Cities

City	Today	Sat.	City	Today	Sat.
Baker City	48/17	52/23	Olympia	56/33	58/37
Bend	46/23	55/28	Pendleton	51/31	59/35
Brookings	59/45	67/48	Portland	57/38	61/41
Eugene	57/32	60/33	Roseburg	60/38	65/37
Ilwaco	56/44	56/45	Salem	59/34	62/38
Klamath Falls	51/21	58/21	Seaside	56/40	57/44
Medford	59/35	70/34	Spokane	45/31	49/33
Newberg	58/36	61/40	Springfield	57/33	62/35
Newport	55/39	59/42	Vancouver	57/37	60/41
North Bend	60/40	62/41	Yakima	59/25	60/31



Coast Guard hoists beachgoers stranded by tide

ARCH CAPE — The Coast Guard hoisted two women off a rock near Hug Point State Park Thursday evening after they became

stranded by the incoming tide.

Watchstanders at Sector Columbia River in Warrenton received a request for assistance at 5:50 p.m. from the Seaside Police Department.

ment. An MH-60 Jayhawk crew from Air Station Astoria arrived around 6:30 p.m. and deployed a rescue swimmer.

The women were hoisted and taken to emergency medical services in Cannon Beach.

OBITUARIES

Leo Kenneth Leard Jr. Kelso, Washington Dec. 18, 1928 – Oct. 10, 2017

Leo Kenneth Leard Jr., 88, was born Dec. 18, 1928, to Leo (Pop Leard) and Ina (Van Camp) Leard in Astoria, Oregon. Leo grew up in Seaside and graduated from Seaside High School in 1948.

He enlisted in the Marine Corps after high school. He worked as an instructor for plane simulators and in maintenance at his duty stations throughout the U.S. He retired from the Marines as a master gunnery sergeant in 1969, and moved his family back to Seaside.

He worked for Columbia Oil for several years, and decided to buy Service Oil with his brother-in-law, Frank Bradford, and his friend, Hank. Years later, he sold the business and went back to work for the military civil service in Fort Lewis, Washington.

Leo was very active in his community. He belonged to the Elks Lodge in Seaside and to

the American Legion Post 99, where he was a commander from 1975 to 1976.

He is survived by his wife of 66 years, Millie; two daughters, Viki McDonald of Kelso, Washington, and Kathi Winslow of Vancouver, Washington; and a son, Keith, of Elkhorn, Nebraska. He has several grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and a niece and a nephew. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Sherri Schlappi, and a sister, Phyllis Card.

A private military graveside service will be Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2017, at Willamette National Cemetery in Portland.

We would like to thank Hospice for all the special care that was given to dad. A special thank you to his nurse, Mia, and his case-worker, Lindsey, from Hospice, and the wonderful staff at Highlander Place. You all are truly our angels.

LOTTERIES

OREGON
Thursday's Pick 4:
1 p.m.: 8-5-8-1
4 p.m.: 3-0-1-9
7 p.m.: 2-4-7-6
10 p.m.: 5-9-7-9

Thursday's Lucky Lines: 04-07-12-14-19-23-26-29
Estimated jackpot: \$11,000

WASHINGTON
Thursday's Daily Game: 4-4-6

Thursday's Keno: 03-05-13-15-20-25-28-34-35-39-45-52-53-54-58-61-63-67-77-78
Thursday's Match 4: 03-07-15-20

PUBLIC MEETINGS

MONDAY
Astoria City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 1095 Duane St.

CORRECTION

Incorrect game date — The Seattle Seahawks play the New York Giants on Oct. 22. The date of the game was incorrectly listed as Sunday on 10A Thursday.

OBITUARY POLICY

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Obituaries may be edited for spelling, proper punctuation and style. Death notices and upcoming services will be published at no charge. Notices must be submitted by 9 a.m. the day of publication.

Obituaries and notices may be submitted online at www.dailyastorian.com/forms/obits, by email at ewilson@dailyastorian.com, placed via the funeral home or in person at The Daily Astorian office, 949 Exchange St. in Astoria. For more information, call 503-325-3211, ext. 257.

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