

Officials applaud enforcement action, but take no credit

By HILLARY BORRUD and PARIS ACHEN
Capital Bureau

SALEM — Oregon public officials are commending the FBI and other law enforcement for arresting protesters occupying a federal wildlife refuge in Harney County, but stopped short of crediting their pleas to the Obama administration for prompting Tuesday's action.

Eight protesters were arrested by state and federal officials Tuesday afternoon, while a ninth was shot and killed. Officials also sealed off the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, denying remaining protesters free movement to and from the facility.

In a statement Tuesday night, Sen. Jeff Merkley linked the actions of law enforcement to requests from people in Eastern Oregon for the FBI to move against the armed occupiers. "I am pleased that the FBI has listened to the concerns of the local community and

responded to the illegal activity occurring in Harney County by outside extremists," Merkley said in a press release.

Merkley had also urged the FBI and the U.S. Department of Justice to "bring this incident to an end," Merkley's state communications director Courtney Warner Crowell wrote in an email Wednesday.

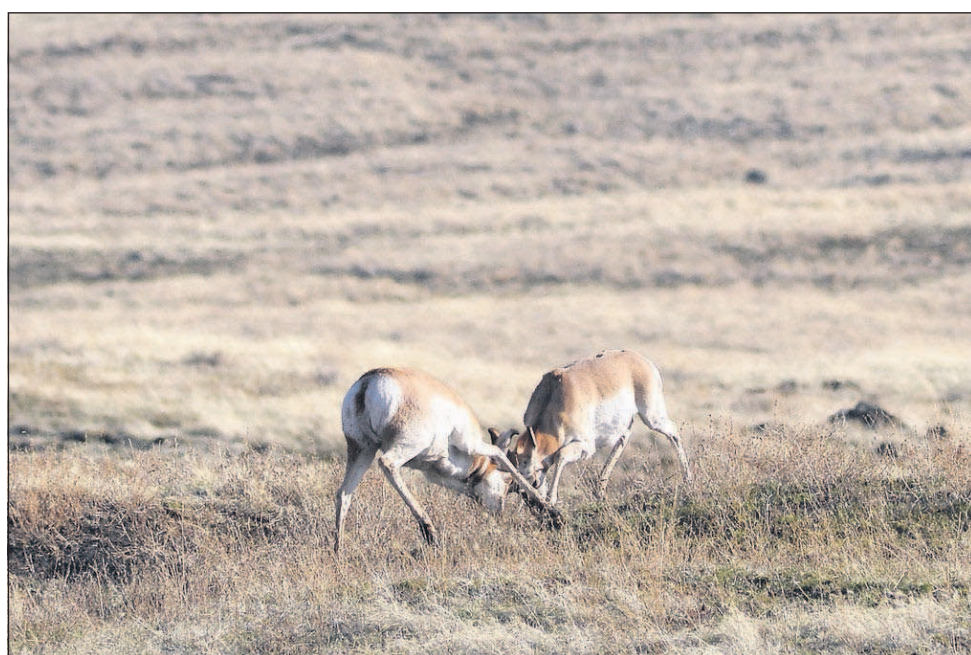
Sen. Ron Wyden also had pushed for federal law enforcement to act. "Sen. Wyden repeatedly emphasized the need to end the standoff as swiftly and safely as possible in conversations with (U.S. Department of Justice) officials, most recently in a meeting with FBI Director Comey yesterday," Wyden's press secretary Keith Chu wrote in an email Wednesday.

However, Wyden and Gov. Kate Brown, who pressed President Barack Obama and other federal officials earlier this month to take action to remove occupiers from the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, stopped short of drawing a

connection between their calls to action and the activities of law enforcement.

"Oregonians expect their safety and the rule of law to be preserved, so I commend the FBI for moving to arrest the leaders of this illegal occupation," Wyden said in a press release Wednesday. "It is deeply unfortunate that these militants' actions have resulted in violence. There was an immediate threat that the occupation in Harney County would spread to nearby communities as outsiders sought to use Eastern Oregon to advance their extremist agenda."

Brown's staff declined to draw any connection between the governor's letters and discussions with federal officials, and Tuesday's enforcement actions. The governor's communications director, Kristen Grainger, wrote in an email that Brown "had numerous phone conversations with federal officials, including the White House, between January 8th and January 26th and those conversations are likely to continue."



Staff photo by E.J. Harris

Collision course

A pair of pronghorn battle it out Wednesday in a field south of Fox, in Grant County.

Insufficient marijuana labs may cause bottleneck in Oregon

No labs are currently licensed by regulators

By MATEUSZ PERKOWSKI
Capital Bureau

Oregon has no shortage of people willing to grow and sell marijuana under its regulatory system for the recently-legalized crop.

However, the state is facing a dearth of labs that can test marijuana products for the psychoactive chemical THC as well as prohibited pesticides and contaminants, as required by law.

At this point, 228 growers, 96 retailers, 28 processors, 31 wholesalers and one researcher have applied for marijuana licenses with the Oregon Liquor Control Commission, which oversees the regulatory tracking system for the crop.

The number of laboratories that have applied? Zero.

Complications and expenses, rather than a lack of interest, have prevented laboratories from enrolling in the system so far, said Steve Marks, OLCC's executive

director.

While no existing laboratories have yet been licensed by OLCC for marijuana testing, a handful have expressed interest in obtaining certification from the Oregon Health Authority, Marks said. Both agencies must approve labs for the tracking system.

Insufficient laboratories could prove to be a bottleneck in Oregon's marijuana regulatory system, at least initially. The system will be in "good shape" if six or seven facilities are licensed, but will face challenges with only one or two, he said.

"We're going to have enough eventually, it's just how quickly they can do it," Marks said.

Some laboratories that provide testing for industrial companies may be able to enroll without significant changes, but smaller facilities that already serve marijuana producers may have to undertake significant upgrades, he said.

New equipment needed to comply with testing standards can cost \$50,000 and needs to be calibrated for marijuana, Marks said. Labs will also need to train existing employees or hire more personnel to handle the added workload.

Medical marijuana dispensaries can currently sell the recreational crop from "grandfathered" grow sites, but retail marijuana sold to consumers must meet testing requirements by June 1.

Growers who want to produce recreational marijuana for retail sales must demonstrate they have water rights to grow the crop and obtain a statement from their city or county government attesting they meet land use requirements.

Producers can grow canopies of marijuana up to 10,000 square feet indoors and 40,000 square feet outdoors, but commercial marijuana production is currently prohibited by 76 cities and 19 of Oregon's 36 counties.

Mammoth bones unearthed on OSU football field

PORTLAND (AP) — Construction workers have unearthed the bones of a mammoth and other ice age mammals on the Oregon State University football field.

The Oregonian reports crews working on an expansion around Reser Stadium found a femur from one of the ancient elephants and bones from a bison and camel, all dating back 10,000 years.

A spokesman says the OSU archaeologist believes the 10-foot pit where the remains were found could have been a pond or watering hole.

OSU associate professor of anthropology Loren Davis says sick animals often went to a body of water to die.

Davis says the find isn't unusual since thousands of mammoths and other long-gone creatures once roamed the surrounding Willamette Valley.

Construction work has been moved elsewhere while experts examine the bones.



Theresa Hogue/Oregon State University via AP

In this Tuesday photo provided by Oregon State University, is the femur of a mammoth found at an OSU construction site by a football field in Corvallis.

Corrections

The East Oregonian works hard to be accurate and sincerely regrets any errors. If you notice a mistake in the paper, please call 541-966-0818.

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AccuWeather.com Forecast

| TODAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY | MONDAY |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | | | | |
| Mostly cloudy with a little rain | Periods of rain | Clouds and sun with a shower | Some sun, then turning cloudy | Mostly cloudy with snow showers |
| PENDLETON TEMPERATURE FORECAST | | | | |
| 51° 37° | 45° 35° | 46° 31° | 43° 31° | 43° 30° |
| HERMISTON TEMPERATURE FORECAST | | | | |
| 54° 34° | 44° 36° | 49° 31° | 47° 30° | 46° 30° |

ALMANAC

PENDLETON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE

| HIGH | LOW |
|------------|-------------|
| 45° | 31° |
| 43° | 28° |
| 69° (1934) | -22° (1957) |

PRECIPITATION

| | |
|------------------------|-------|
| 24 hours ending 3 p.m. | Trace |
| Month to date | 1.13" |
| Normal month to date | 1.24" |
| Year to date | 1.13" |
| Last year to date | 0.72" |
| Normal year to date | 1.24" |

HERMISTON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE

| HIGH | LOW |
|------------|-------------|
| 45° | 34° |
| 43° | 29° |
| 60° (1983) | -28° (1957) |

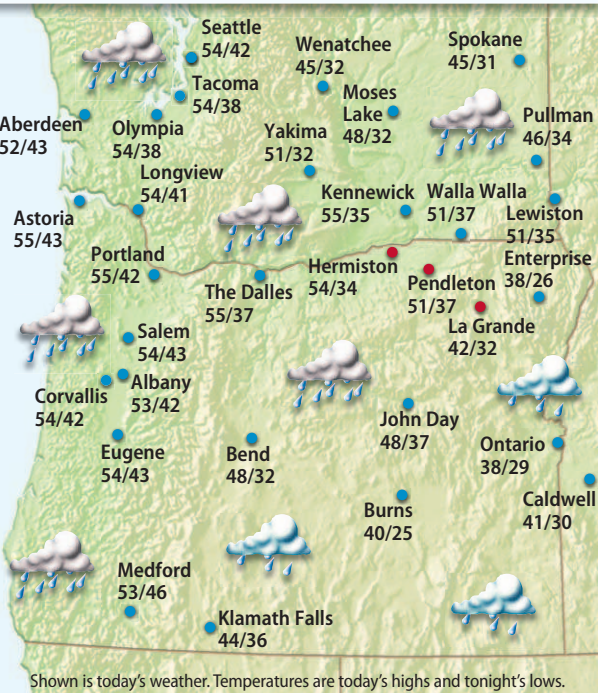
PRECIPITATION

| | |
|------------------------|-------|
| 24 hours ending 3 p.m. | Trace |
| Month to date | 0.87" |
| Normal month to date | 1.12" |
| Year to date | 0.87" |
| Last year to date | 0.44" |
| Normal year to date | 1.12" |

SUN AND MOON

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| Sunrise today | 7:22 a.m. |
| Sunset tonight | 4:55 p.m. |
| Moonrise today | 10:01 p.m. |
| Moonset today | 9:32 a.m. |

| Last | New | First | Full |
|--------|-------|--------|--------|
| Jan 31 | Feb 8 | Feb 14 | Feb 22 |



REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Morning rain, then a shower or two today; however, heavy rain in the south.

Eastern and Central Oregon: A little rain today, except rain in central parts and near the Cascades.

Western Washington: Rain today; only in the morning at the coast.

Eastern Washington: Periods of rain today. Partly cloudy tonight; areas of fog late in the north.

Cascades: Cloudy today. Rain; morning rain, then a brief shower or two across the north.

North Central California: Mostly cloudy today; periods of rain, but dry in the interior mountains.

REGIONAL CITIES

| | Today | | | Fri. | | |
|---------------|-------|----|---|------|----|----|
| | Hi | Lo | W | Hi | Lo | W |
| Astoria | 55 | 43 | r | 52 | 41 | r |
| Baker City | 38 | 26 | r | 40 | 23 | sn |
| Bend | 48 | 32 | r | 46 | 29 | r |
| Brookings | 53 | 48 | r | 52 | 40 | r |
| Burns | 40 | 25 | r | 42 | 19 | r |
| Enterprise | 38 | 26 | r | 39 | 26 | sn |
| Eugene | 54 | 43 | r | 48 | 39 | r |
| Heppner | 49 | 32 | r | 45 | 31 | r |
| Hermiston | 54 | 34 | r | 44 | 36 | r |
| John Day | 48 | 37 | r | 48 | 32 | r |
| Klamath Falls | 44 | 36 | r | 44 | 27 | sn |
| La Grande | 42 | 32 | r | 43 | 31 | r |
| Meacham | 40 | 32 | r | 40 | 30 | sn |
| Medford | 53 | 46 | r | 52 | 35 | r |
| Newport | 54 | 45 | r | 50 | 41 | r |
| North Bend | 55 | 47 | r | 53 | 42 | r |
| Ontario | 38 | 29 | c | 43 | 28 | r |
| Pasco | 56 | 35 | r | 46 | 35 | r |
| Pendleton | 51 | 37 | r | 45 | 35 | r |
| Portland | 55 | 42 | r | 48 | 40 | r |
| Redmond | 51 | 33 | r | 48 | 28 | r |
| Salem | 54 | 43 | r | 49 | 40 | r |
| Spokane | 45 | 31 | r | 39 | 31 | r |
| Ukiah | 44 | 30 | r | 42 | 28 | r |
| Vancouver | 52 | 42 | r | 46 | 39 | r |
| Walla Walla | 51 | 37 | r | 47 | 36 | r |
| Yakima | 51 | 32 | r | 42 | 29 | r |

WORLD CITIES

| | Today | | | Fri. | | |
|-------------|-------|----|----|------|----|----|
| | Hi | Lo | W | Hi | Lo | W |
| Beijing | 41 | 12 | s | 31 | 14 | pc |
| Hong Kong | 67 | 62 | r | 67 | 57 | r |
| Jerusalem | 44 | 28 | s | 48 | 33 | pc |
| London | 48 | 45 | pc | 54 | 47 | c |
| Mexico City | 63 | 36 | pc | 68 | 46 | pc |
| Moscow | 37 | 33 | sn | 35 | 30 | sn |
| Paris | 49 | 34 | sh | 49 | 41 | c |
| Rome | 58 | 42 | s | 59 | 43 | pc |
| Seoul | 39 | 26 | pc | 42 | 28 | c |
| Sydney | 82 | 68 | t | 84 | 69 | t |
| Tokyo | 54 | 39 | s | 47 | 38 | r |

WINDS

| (in mph) | Today | Friday |
|-----------|---------|----------|
| Boardman | SW 6-12 | N 6-12 |
| Pendleton | S 8-16 | SSE 7-14 |

UV INDEX TODAY

0 1 1 1 0 0

8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.

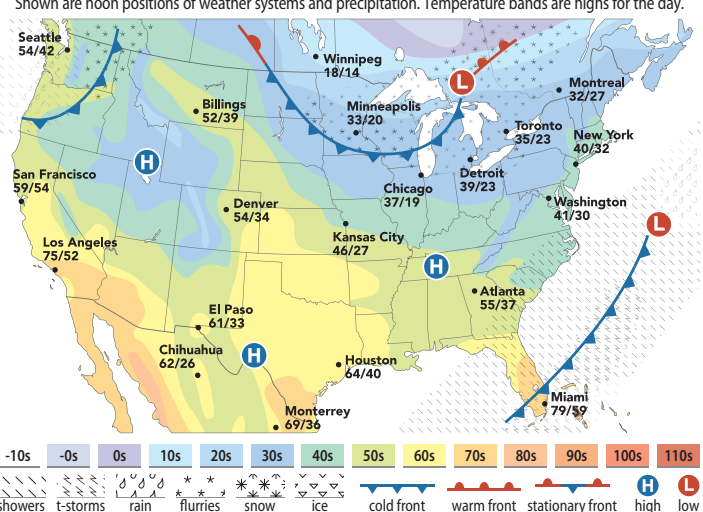
0-2, Low 3-5, Moderate 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme

The higher the AccuWeather.com UV Index™ number, the greater the need for eye and skin protection.

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NATIONAL WEATHER TODAY

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are highs for the day.



Yesterday's National Extremes: (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 83° in Opa Locka, Fla. Low -21° in Angel Fire, N.M.

NATIONAL CITIES

| | Today | | | Fri. | | | Today | | | Fri. | | | |
|----------------|-------|----|----|------|----|----|---------------|----|----|------|----|------|----|
| | Hi | Lo | W | Hi | Lo | W | Hi | Lo | W | Hi | Lo | W | |
| Albuquerque | 54 | 28 | s | 57 | 32 | s | Louisville | 47 | 29 | pc | 43 | 33 | pc |
| Atlanta | 55 | 37 | pc | 55 | 34 | s | Memphis | 57 | 32 | s | 58 | 44 | s |
| Atlanta City | 44 | 31 | pc | 41 | 26 | c | Miami | 79 | 59 | t | 68 | 52 | pc |
| Baltimore | 39 | 26 | pc | 41 | 20 | pc | Millwaukee | 36 | 17 | sf | 30 | 30 | c |
| Billings | 52 | 39 | pc | 49 | 35 | c | Minneapolis | 33 | 20 | c | 35 | 30 | i |
| Birmingham | 54 | 34 | pc | 55 | 37 | s | Nashville | 52 | 28 | s | 47 | 35 | s |
| Boise | 45 | 32 | c | 47 | 31 | r | New Orleans | 58 | 43 | s | 66 | 46 | s |
| Boston | 42 | 31 | pc | 41 | 28 | sn | New York City | 40 | 32 | pc | 39 | 27 | sf |
| Charleston, SC | 50 | 37 | r | 59 | 36 | s | Oklahoma City | 62 | 37 | s | 67 | 38 | s |
| Chicago | 43 | 32 | pc | 37 | 24 | sf | Omaha | 41 | 25 | s | 45 | 32 | pc |
| Chicago | 37 | 19 | sf | 34 | 30 | pc | Philadelphia | 41 | 27 | pc | 41 | 22 | sf |
| Cleveland | 38 | 23 | sf | 29 | 23 | c | Phoenix | 73 | 45 | s | 74 | 49 | s |
| Dallas | 65 | 39 | s | 71 | 49 | s | Portland, ME | 38 | 27 | pc | 37 | 23 | sn |
| Denver | 54 | 34 | s | 56 | 36 | pc | Providence | 42 | 30 | pc | 42 | 25 | sn |
| Detroit | 39 | 23 | sn | 32 | 25 | pc | Raleigh | 44 | 33 | r | 51 | 28 | s |
| El Paso | 61 | 33 | s | 66 | 38 | s | Rapid City | 52 | 35 | pc | 46 | 30</ | |