

Rancher asks ODFW to kill wolves after latest attack

By ERIC MORTENSON
EO Media Group

A rancher in Wallowa County requested the state Department of Fish and Wildlife use lethal control against the Harl Butte wolfpack, which has attacked calves six times in the past year.

An ODFW spokeswoman said the department received the request Friday afternoon and will make a decision in the coming days. The request came after ODFW confirmed a calf found dead July 26 had been killed by wolves.

The calf was estimated to have weighed 400 to 500 pounds but had been mostly consumed by the time the carcass was discovered. Only the skeleton and hide were left. An ODFW investigator estimated the calf was killed July 20-22.

Data from a GPS tracking collar showed a wolf designated OR-50 was within 200 yards of the carcass four times from July 21 to 25. Bite marks on the carcass and fresh wolf tracks in the area contributed to the confirmation.

ODFW has confirmed six attacks on calves by the Harl Butte pack between July 15, 2016 and July 22, 2017. In addition to the calf

found dead most recently, another calf was found alive July 21 with multiple bite marks, including one wound that was 4 inches long and 3 inches wide. That attack was estimated to have occurred about a week earlier. Both occurred on public land grazing allotments.

The Harl Butte pack also was blamed for killing a calf on private pasture in April.

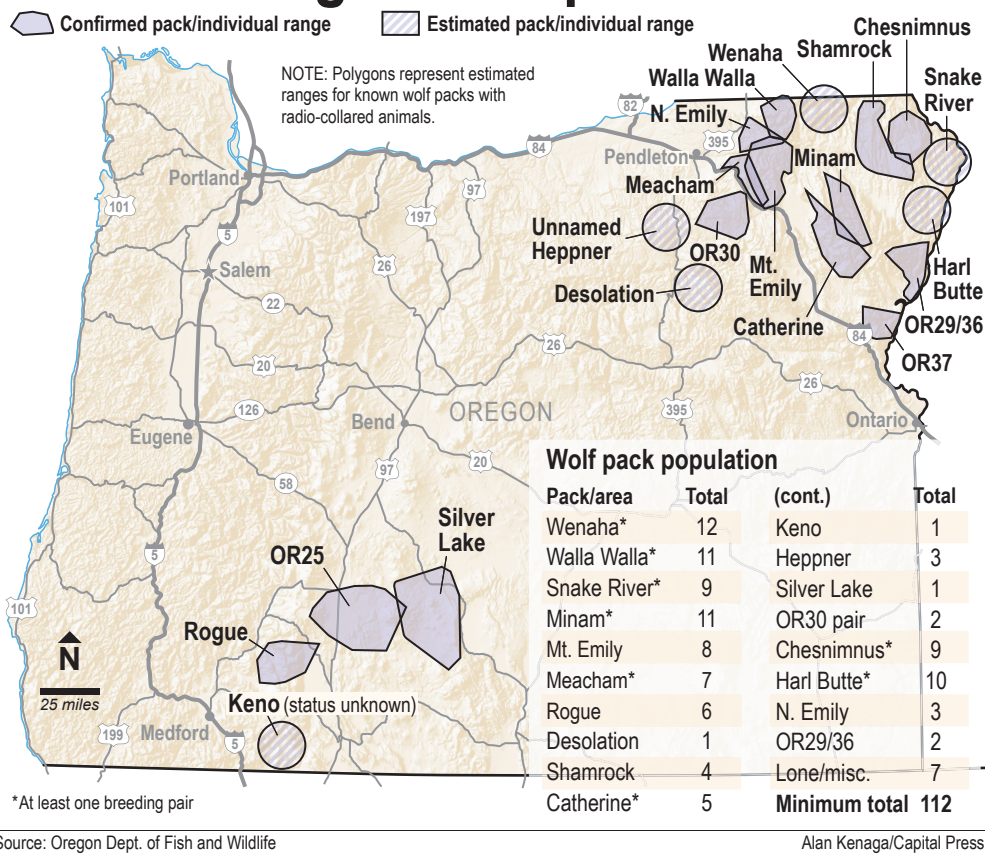
Killing wolves is not a simple process, however. Under Oregon's management rules, ODFW may authorize "lethal take" if there have been two confirmed livestock depredations by wolves in the area, or one confirmed depredation followed by three attempted attacks, which can include "testing or stalking," department spokeswoman Michelle Dennehy said in an email.

However, the person requesting lethal control must document that non-lethal protection has been unsuccessful, and the producer must show nothing was done that attracted wolf-livestock conflict and that he or she has complied with laws and conditions of any harassment or take permit.

ODFW may authorize lethal control to be done by its staff, by authorized agents or by USDA's Wildlife Services.

Known Oregon wolf packs

(As of Dec. 31, 2016)



Cellphone service could be spotty for rural eclipse-watchers

ST. LOUIS (AP) — If you plan to livestream next month's solar eclipse from one of the prime viewing spots, here's a thought: Keep your phone in your pocket, put on your paper shades and just enjoy the celestial wonder.

The Aug. 21 solar eclipse, when passage of the moon completely blocks out the sun, will be seen first in Oregon and cut diagonally across 14 states to South Carolina. It will be the first total solar eclipse visible coast-to-coast since 1918.

The best places to see it fall within a 60- to 70-mile-wide swath known as the "path of totality," where there will be periods of total darkness ranging up to two minutes and 40 seconds. The path carves through largely rural areas, where cellphone service can be spotty at best, though, so it may not be possible to quickly post to Facebook, Instagram and the like even though carriers plan to temporarily boost capacity in some places.

"We're expecting a good

experience but there will be times at peak where the network will struggle," said Paula Doublin, assistant vice president for construction and engineering for AT&T, the nation's second-largest provider.

Some communities are hosting eclipse-watch gatherings that are expected to draw tens of thousands of people.

The 6,700 residents of Madras will be far outnumbered by visitors, and Verizon, AT&T and Sprint all plan to bring portable towers for its event.

AT&T will deploy eight portable cell towers across the country — in Madras and Mitchell in Oregon.

"It is very much akin to a national championship week that occurs with the NCAA or pro sports, except it's happening in a 3,000-mile-long band," Doublin said.

Sprint and Verizon Wireless, which is the nation's largest cellphone company, say recent network enhancements have reduced the need for deployment of

temporary cell towers at large-scale events.

Still, Sprint plans to have portable towers in Madras and Mitchell and in Rexburg, Idaho. Other locations are still being evaluated, spokeswoman Adrienne Norton said.

Verizon spokeswoman Karen Schulz said that with such large crowds expected in parts of Oregon and Kentucky, Verizon will deploy portable towers in Madras and Bend and in Hopkinsville, Kentucky.

U.S. Cellular is still evaluating how best to ensure optimal connectivity and "will be implementing additional capacity and fine tuning the towers as needed," Robert Jakubek, vice president of engineering and network operations, said in an email.

"At large events such as this, we usually see a spike in text and data usage more than voice, so we are also looking at how we can prioritize services that are most important to our customers," Jakubek said.

Senate president considers retirement

Longest-serving current lawmaker

SALEM (AP) — Senate President Peter Courtney, one of the Oregon Legislature's most powerful members, has yet to decide on whether to stay on the job or retire.

The 74-year-old Democrat contemplates retirement after achieving career milestones such as being the most-tenured Senate president and longest-serving current lawmaker, with 33 years in office.

"I haven't decided what I'm going to do. ... I go back and forth when I do think about it," Courtney said in an emotional telephone interview with *The Oregonian/OregonLive*.

If Courtney finishes his full term, which ends in 2019, he will hold the record for longest-ever serving Oregon legislator.

Courtney downplayed his role in Senate lawmaking, calling himself a "rank-and-file" member and a "player-coach." But Courtney wields considerable power by controlling committee assignments, presiding over voting

and directing Senate operations.

He secured millions to renovate his beloved Salem YMCA. A new \$10 million footbridge spanning a side channel of the Willamette River in Salem was named for him.

Courtney retired in 2014 from his job as assistant to the president of Western Oregon University. He is receiving his public pension from that position but not from his legislative job, since he hasn't retired.

Despite Courtney's uncertain future, lawmakers close to him said he hasn't confided any plans to leave office.

"I've had no conversation with the Senate president on this subject," said his friend, Sen. Jackie Winters, a Republican.

"Obviously he's got to be thinking about it. But that's all



Courtney

I know," Majority Leader Ginny Burdick said. "I haven't pushed him for an answer. He's a professional. He'll figure out in his own time."

Whether he decides to retire or not, it's clear Courtney has

struggled for years with his eventual political exit.

"The hardest thing for me to do is to leave politics because I am afraid of retirement," he said in a 2015 commencement address to Western Oregon University graduates. "You know, there's gotta be that time in life you say, 'I've done all I can do, I can't do anymore.' I know they've got these cool phrases, 'You've gotta move on, you've gotta let go.'"

"I'm too old to know those words. So I'll put it in my words. You gotta say, 'I've done all I can do. Peter, you gotta go, you gotta mosey.'"

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	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HOT	HOT	HOT	HOT	HOT
Very hot with plenty of sunshine	Blazing sunshine and very hot	Very hot; mostly sunny	Very hot with sizzling sunshine	Heat wave continuing
101° 64°	103° 65°	104° 71°	105° 72°	102° 71°
104° 61°	106° 64°	107° 70°	108° 73°	105° 71°

ALMANAC

PENDLETON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	94°	58°
Normals	90°	60°
Records	108° (1971)	42° (1933)

PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"
Month to date	Trace
Normal month to date	0.37"
Year to date	11.30"
Last year to date	7.27"
Normal year to date	7.95"

HERMISTON

through 3 p.m. yesterday

TEMPERATURE	HIGH	LOW
Yesterday	96°	57°
Normals	90°	60°
Records	106° (2015)	40° (1933)

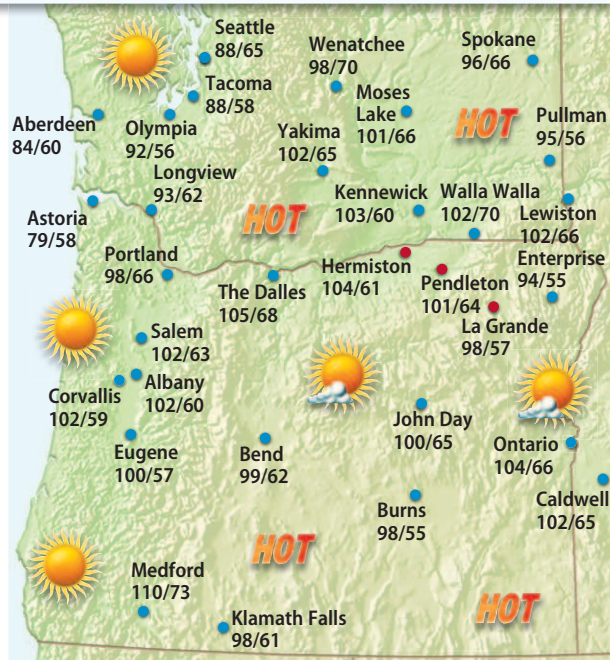
PRECIPITATION

24 hours ending 3 p.m.	0.00"
Month to date	0.00"
Normal month to date	0.22"
Year to date	6.59"
Last year to date	4.94"
Normal year to date	5.92"

SUN AND MOON

Sunrise today	5:39 a.m.
Sunset tonight	8:24 p.m.
Moonrise today	3:38 p.m.
Moonset today	1:00 a.m.

	Full	Last	New	First
	Aug 7	Aug 14	Aug 21	Aug 29



REGIONAL FORECAST

Coastal Oregon: Plenty of sunshine today; warm. Clear tonight. Sunny and very warm tomorrow.

Eastern Washington: Sunny today. Clear tonight. Plenty of sunshine tomorrow.

Eastern and Central Oregon: Sunny to partly cloudy and hot today. Clear tonight. Very hot tomorrow.

Western Washington: Plenty of sunshine today. Clear tonight. Plenty of sunshine and very warm tomorrow.

Cascades: Very warm today with plenty of sunshine. Clear tonight. Hot tomorrow with sunshine.

Northern California: Plenty of sun today; very hot in central parts. Clear tonight. Extreme heat tomorrow.

REGIONAL CITIES

	Today			Wed.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Astoria	79	58	s	84	60	s
Baker City	95	48	s	96	48	s
Bend	99	62	s	100	62	s
Brookings	74	57	s	70	56	s
Burns	98	55	s	98	54	pc
Enterprise	94	55	s	95	56	s
Eugene	100	57	s	107	62	s
Heppner	98	63	s	99	63	s
Hermiston	104	61	s	106	64	s
John Day	100	65	s	100	63	s
Klamath Falls	98	61	s	100	59	s
La Grande	98	57	s	100	57	s
Meacham	96	53	s	97	54	s
Medford	110	73	s	113	74	s
Newport	72	53	s	77	55	s
North Bend	73	56	s	77	56	s
Ontario	104	66	s	104	65	s
Pasco	103	61	s	104	61	s
Pendleton	101	64	s	103	65	s
Portland	98	66	s	107	69	s
Redmond	100	55	s	101	55	s
Salem	102	63	s	110	66	s
Spokane	96	66	s	95	66	s
Ukiah	95	52	s	95	52	s
Vancouver	97	65	s	104	69	s
Walla Walla	102	70	s	103	69	s
Yakima	102	65	s	103	66	s

WORLD CITIES

	Today			Wed.		
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W
Beijing	87	75	c	84	75	t
Hong Kong	92	85	t	92	83	sh
Jerusalem	91	70	s	89	68	s
London	72	59	pc	66	61	r
Mexico City	78	57	pc	78	57	pc
Moscow	78	59	pc	79	68	c
Paris	79	59	pc	80	65	pc
Rome	91	69	s	93	73	pc
Seoul	89	78	r	92	77	pc
Sydney	64	49	s	63	50	pc
Tokyo	82	72	r	82	72	r

WINDS

(in mph)	Today	Wednesday
Boardman	NE 4-8	NNE 6-12
Pendleton	N 4-8	N 6-12

UV INDEX TODAY

1	4	7	7	4	1
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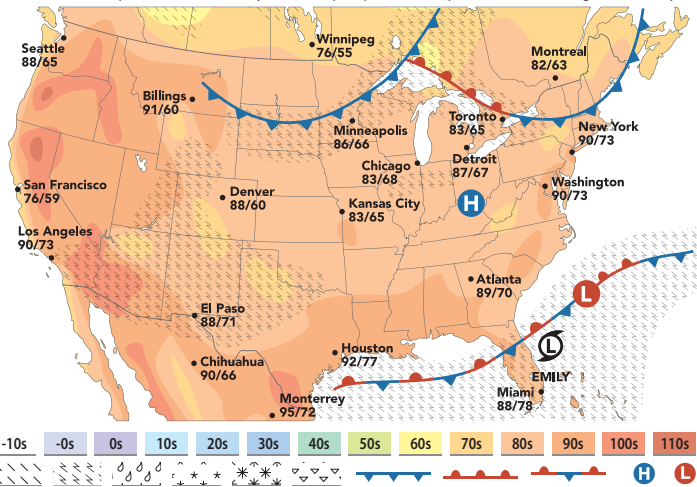
8 a.m. 10 a.m. Noon 2 p.m. 4 p.m. 6 p.m.
0-2, Low 3-5, Moderate 6-7, High; 8-10, Very High; 11+, Extreme

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

Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2017

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 113° in Thermal, Calif. **Low 28°** in Loveland, Colo.

NATIONAL CITIES

	Today			Wed.			Today			Wed.			
	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	Hi	Lo	W	
Albuquerque	84	64	pc	88	66	pc	Louisville	89	71	s	87	70	t
Atlanta	89	70	s	89	71	pc	Memphis	86	72	pc	89	70	t
Atlanta City	84	70	s	83	68	pc	Miami	88	78	t	93	80	t
Baltimore	89	68	s	88	67	s	Millwaukee	83	67	pc	78	66	t
Billings	91	60	s	72	55	pc	Minneapolis	86	66	pc	83	61	c
Birmingham	90	72	s	87	70	pc	Nashville	89	71	s	89	70	t
Boise	102	68	s	102	67	s	New Orleans	90	75	pc	87	74	t
Boston	82	68	s	83	67	s	New York City	90	73	s	88	71	t
Charleston, SC	88	66	s	90	68	pc	Oklahoma City	85	65	t	86	66	pc
Charleston, WV	85	62	s	85	65	t							