

ODFW: Wolf killed llama

Shamrock Pack likely responsible, officials say

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife on Wednesday officially confirmed a wolf depredation involving a dead llama that occurred Monday morning on private land in the Buford Creek drainage in northern Wallowa County near Flora. ODFW wildlife biologist Pat Matthews said the llama was in a pasture with cows and calves, but it was the only animal killed.

State officials believe the Shamrock Pack — formerly known as the Chesnimnus pair — is responsible for the kill.

The pack moved into its

current territory in the Sled Springs Wildlife Management Unit from the Chesnimnus unit about a year ago. Matthews said the population of the Shamrock pack is estimated at five or six wolves. It was the first confirmed depredation for the pack.

ODFW Assistant Wolf Biologist Roblynn Brown said llamas are not specifically recognized as a wolf deterrent but are considered an experimental animal for livestock producers in their wolf deterrent efforts.

It's the seventh confirmed wolf depredation in Oregon in 2016. Six of those occurred in Wallowa County.

On March 31, ODFW officials shot and killed four wolves in the Upper Swamp Creek area of Wallowa County following five confirmed depredations in March in the area.

Those killed were believed to be a splinter group from the Innaha Pack.

Joseph creates path for legal short-term rentals

By Steve Tool
Wallowa County Chieftain

The Joseph City Council on Thursday took the first steps in creating a pathway to legal operation of residentially zoned short-term vacation rentals by unanimously approving a set of regulations for the practice. The regulations apply only to people currently operating the rentals in areas zoned residential.

The council voted to ban short-term rentals in February, but questions remained regarding how to handle such businesses that already had been established.

A dwelling is considered a short-term rental if it is rented for periods of less than 30 days.

The council has been considering new regulations since several interested parties asked about the possibility of operating the rentals in residential zones. After



Sands

addressing the subject at several council meetings, it was determined that a significant amount of opposition to the practice came from people concerned that Joseph already is lacking in long-term rentals for its year-round citizens as well as from people who lived in residential areas because they wanted to avoid living near businesses.

Following the February vote, Mayor Dennis Sands appointed a committee council members to make recommen-

dations about existing businesses. The council examined the committee recommendations as well as statutes of cities that are already regulating vacation rentals, then made minor adjustments before Thursday's unanimous vote.

The regulations stipulate they are only intended to register some short-term rentals currently operating in the city's residential zones. For example, the application for vacation rentals stipulates that the owner of the property must have started paying the county's hotel/motel tax starting in January of this year. Delinquency in state or city taxes also is a deal breaker. Other requirements include registering before the city council's September meeting this year. The registration is not transferable to future owners of the property. Receiving the property as an inheritance also voids the registration.

The council is aware from

examining AirBnB and other vacation rental internet sites that about a half-dozen such rentals occur in Joseph's residential areas, and the council is crafting an ordinance that will lay out fines and penalties for those who illegally continue the practice. On the other hand, the city will not force them to immediately pull up stakes. Those rental owners will be asked bring the city a copy of their summer bookings, which they will be allowed to honor, although they will be warned against booking future clients.

Sands added that the regulations for the rentals are not set in stone.

"This is until some point in time where a future council may decide that our housing stock is adequate, and they may change it then," Sands said.

FOR THE RECORD

Dispatch log:

Monday, May 9

- 7:09 a.m.: Possible wolf depredation in Enterprise.
- 7:41 a.m.: Traffic complaint at Wallowa Lake.
- 8:45 a.m.: Theft reported in Wallowa.
- 12:20 p.m.: 911 reporting power lines down at Wallowa Lake.
- 3:25 p.m.: Vandalism reported at the Enterprise football field.

Tuesday, May 10

- 12:32 p.m.: Traffic complaint in the city of Wallowa.
- 3:47 p.m.: Lost large fawn-colored dog with black collar reported in the city of Enterprise.
- 5:47 p.m.: Dog complaint in Enterprise.
- 5:54 p.m.: Report of a cow on the highway in Enterprise.

Wednesday, May 11

- 7:40 a.m.: Criminal mischief reported in rural Enterprise.
- 9:39 a.m.: Wallowa County Sheriff's Office arrested Baltimore Leon Carper, 35, of Wallowa on charges of theft, unlawful possession of short-barreled firearms, and unlawful possession of meth. Carper was transported to Umatilla County Jail.
- 9:41 a.m.: Joseph Lawrence Maples Jr., 28, of Klamath

- Falls was arrested by Enterprise Police Department on a Klamath County Warrant for material witness. Maples was transported to Umatilla County jail.
- 12:06 p.m.: Harassment reported in Enterprise.
 - 12:48 p.m.: 911 requesting an ambulance in rural Enterprise.
 - 1:41 p.m.: Traffic stop in Enterprise.
 - 3:02 p.m.: Vandalism reported in Joseph.
 - 3:11 p.m.: 911 calls reporting buffalo on Highway 82 in rural Wallowa.
 - 3:57 p.m.: 911 requesting an ambulance in Enterprise.

Thursday, May 12

- 11:16 a.m.: 911 call for ambulance in Enterprise.
- 12:29 p.m.: Trespass complaint in rural Joseph.
- 12:43 p.m.: Becci Rhee Sasser, 60, of Enterprise was arrested for violation of release agreement by Wallowa County Sheriff's Office. Subject was transported to Umatilla County Jail.
- 5:36 p.m.: John Jerome Tye, 28, of Enterprise was arrested on two warrants by Enterprise Police Department for probation violation, assault on a public safety officer, assault, interference with a police officer, furnishing alcohol to a person under 21, unlawful possession of meth, and supplying contraband. Subject was transported to Umatilla County Jail.
- 6:32 p.m.: Possible drunk driver reported in Joseph.
- 7:13 p.m.: Routine traffic stop in Enterprise.
- 9:34 p.m.: Locator beacon

- activated for overdue hiker reported on Hurricane Creek Trail. Search and Rescue activated, subject was located and lifeflighted to the hospital.
- 10:38 p.m.: Overdue hiker reported on Ice Lake Trail. Search and Rescue activated, subject found his way out.
- Friday, May 13**
- 2:44 p.m.: 911 requesting an ambulance in Enterprise.
 - 3:00 p.m.: Two warrants issued for Doni Merrifield of North Bend for failure to appear on original charges of criminal mischief and disorderly conduct.
 - 4:28 p.m.: Trespass report-

- ed in Enterprise.
- 6:58 p.m.: Amanda Renee Carper, 28, of Kalispell, Mont., was arrested by Wallowa County Sheriff's Office.
 - 7:32 p.m.: 911 reporting a stolen vehicle in the city of Enterprise. Vehicle was located.
- Saturday, May 14**
- 3:12 a.m.: Doni Innes Merrifield, 55, of North Bend was arrested by Winston Police Department on two Wallowa County warrants for failure to appear on original charges of disorderly conduct and criminal mischief.
 - 11:35 a.m.: Possible aban-

- doned vehicle in rural Joseph,
- 6:08 p.m.: Abandoned vehicle reported on Highway 82.
- Sunday, May 15**
- 8:22 a.m.: Scam reported in Wallowa.
 - 8:48 a.m.: Theft reported in rural Wallowa.
 - 9:11 a.m.: Scam reported in Wallowa.
 - 9:47 a.m.: 911 requesting an ambulance in Joseph.
 - 10:15 a.m.: Subject brought in a gun he suspected of being stolen. Agency assisted in recovery of the stolen gun.
 - 11:15 a.m.: Cow loose in rural Enterprise. Owner located.

BIRTH

A daughter,
Olivia Aspyne Leith,
was born May 6, 2016
in Enterprise to
Brad and Orianna Leith
of Enterprise.
Grandparents are
JoAnn & Richard Smith,
and
Penny & Garry Leith.

WITH FONDEST MEMORIES

We remember those who have passed away and are especially dear to us.

On Wednesday, May 25 we will publish a special section devoted to those who are gone but not forgotten. The names will be placed in alphabetical order and will be similar to the sample below:

SAMPLE

Judy Andrews
June 27, 1951 – May 23, 2013

May God's angels guide you and protect you throughout time.

Always in our hearts,
John and Monda Andrews
and Family

If you wish, select one of the following verses below to accompany your tribute:

1. We hold you in our thoughts and memories forever.
2. May God cradle you in His arms, now and forever.
3. Forever missed, never forgotten. May God hold you in the palm of His hand.
4. Thank you for the wonderful days we shared together. My prayers will be with you until we meet again.
5. The days we shared were sweet. I long to see you again in God's heavenly glory.
6. Your courage and bravery still inspire us all, and the memory of your smile fills us with joy and laughter.
7. Though out of sight, you'll forever be in my heart and mind.
8. The days may come and go, but the times we shared will always remain.
9. May the light of peace shine on your face for eternity.
10. May God's angels guide you and protect you throughout time.
11. You were a light in our life that burns forever in our hearts.
12. May God's grace shine over you for all time.
13. You are in our thoughts and prayers from morning to night and from year to year.
14. We send this message with a loving kiss and eternal rest and happiness.
15. May the Lord bless you with His grace and warm, loving heart.
16. Write Your Own!

To remember your loved one in this special way, please fill out the form below and mail to:

Wallowa County Chieftain
209 NW First St., Enterprise, OR 97828
or stop by the office
Deadline: Friday, May 20, 2016

541-426-4567

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There are not enough words to express our heartfelt thanks for all the prayers, love, helping hands and support we received from our "family of friends" in our town.

Prayers & Big Hugs,
Roy & Robin

Please publish my tribute in the special Memorial Section in May

Wallowa County Chieftain

Cost: \$25.00 Make checks payable to Wallowa County Chieftain

E-mail photos to: cjenkins@wallowa.com

Questions: Call Cheryl at 541-426-4567

Name of deceased _____

Relationship to me _____

Date of birth _____ Date of passing _____

Verse # or special message (Limit 25 words) _____

Who the message is from _____

Print your name here _____

Address _____ Phone Number _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____