



Alex Wittwer/The Observer, File

A herd of elk roam through a field at sunset in Elgin on Tuesday, April 14, 2021. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife are proposing changes to the 2022 big game season, with more details coming soon.

IN BRIEF

ODFW sets meetings to discuss proposed hunting changes

SALEM — Staff from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) will present proposed changes to 2022 hunting seasons, and answer hunters' questions, during a series of local meetings scheduled in July at agency offices across the state.

The only major potential change for 2022 big game seasons being considered is to archery elk seasons. Controlled hunting is being considered for certain Blue Mountains units where there are ongoing concerns with low post-season bull ratios, high archery harvest and hunter density, according to a press release from ODFW.

A more detailed proposal should be available at the local meetings, and the Fish and Wildlife Commission is expected to make a decision about 2022 archery elk hunting at its Aug. 6 meeting. For more information on what is being discussed, see the big game hunting review page, <https://myodfw.com/articles/big-game-hunting-season-review>.

Meetings scheduled in Northeastern Oregon:

- La Grande, Riverside Park, July 12 from 6-8 p.m.
- Enterprise district office (outdoors meeting), 65495 Alder Slope Road, July 12 from 6-8 p.m.

ODFW limits fishing hours in some areas

SALEM — The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has enacted emergency fishing regulations, as of July 1, to protect salmon, steelhead, trout and sturgeon that are at risk due to severe drought.

The regulations will be in effect until Sept. 30, but could be lifted earlier, or extended later, depending on conditions.

In some rivers and streams, fishing for salmon, steelhead, sturgeon and trout is not allowed from 2 p.m. until one hour before sunrise. This "hoot owl" regulation is designed to protect fish from stress when water temperatures are warmest, according to a press release from ODFW.

"There is a tough summer and early fall ahead for fish, and we want to take steps to help them survive," said Shaun Clements, ODFW deputy administrator for inland fisheries. "We appreciate anglers following the regulations and being flexible with their plans to help fish this year."

In Northeastern Oregon, rivers and tributaries that have the hoot owl regulation are:

- John Day River and all tributaries.
- Umatilla River and all tributaries (not including reach within the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, where ODFW does not have jurisdiction).
- Willow and Butter creeks.
- McKay Reservoir, McKay Creek and tributaries (hoot owl applies to steelhead only).
- Walla Walla River and all tributaries.

For full details, see the emergency regulations for your angling zone at <https://myodfw.com/recreation-report/fishing-report/>

ODFW also urges anglers to use these practices when fishing in areas where catch-and-release is required:

- Use appropriate gear and land fish quickly. The longer the fight, the less likely the fish will survive.
- Avoid removing the fish from the water.
- If taking a photo, cradle the fish at water level and quickly take the picture.
- Remove hooks quickly and gently while keeping the fish under water.
- Use long-nosed pliers or hemostats to back out a hook.
- If a fish is hooked deeply, cut the line near the hook.
- Revive fish (point them into slow current or move them back and forth until gills are working).
- When possible, let the fish swim out of your hands.

— EO Media Group



Jessica Stucki/Contributed Photo

Several youths age 2-14 turned out for the inaugural Airplane Flying Contest, an event part of the Wallowa Public Library Summer Reading Program, on Thursday, July 1, 2021, at Evans Park.

Airplane contest a success, 'Colorful Storytime' next

Chieftain staff

WALLOWA — "Colorful Storytime" is the next event on deck as part of the Wallowa Public Library Summer Reading Program. It takes place at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 10, at Wallowa Memorial Park.

"It's going to be several stories, (and) one story is also going to be read by a kid," said Holly Goebel, Wallowa Public Library director. "In going with the summer reading theme, which is 'Reading colors our world,' we are adding in color art activities."

The activities will include scratch-art pinwheel kits and some chalk-art activities. It's open to all youth up to age 18.

"I think it will be a good

activity," she said.

It comes on the heels of a highly successful inaugural Airplane Flying Contest, which took place Thursday, July 1, at Evans Park in Wallowa.

"This event was such a surprise hit," Goebel said in an email to the Chieftain. "It started as an impulse idea and just grew and grew as more kids signed up. We'll definitely be doing it again next year."

In all, 36 airplanes were registered for the contest, which was for youths ages 2-14, and 21 kids took part in the activity on July 1. The contestants flew their way through a single-elimination bracket. Airplane kits were provided for free by

the library, with the only rule being to use the kit, though children were allowed to add their own flare. The focus was to have the farthest-flying plane, or the most creative.

Thirteen-year-old Vander Stucki had the plane that flew the farthest, with a plane that was turned into a baseball, Goebel said. Calvin Stucki, 8, Vander's brother, had the plane voted most creative — one that was decorated with flames.

Goebel said there are more activities planned this summer.

"I definitely have some more youth-centered activities in the works," she said, adding that they include events to involve pre-teens and early teens.

Commissioners adopt budget for 2021-22

Half-million less than last year

Chieftain staff

ENTERPRISE — A budget of \$25,608,575 for the fiscal year 2021-22 was adopted by the Wallowa County Board of Commissioners at a meeting in the late afternoon Wednesday, June 30, a decrease of about a half-million dollars from the previous year.

Details of the budget can be found in a legal advertisement published in the Chieftain.

The largest items in the budget include:

- General Fund of \$7,642,152.

- Video Lottery/Economic Development Fund of \$154,051.
- Land Use Planning of \$121,210.
- Solid Waste of \$371,360.
- Solid Waste Closure of \$143,517.
- Public Transit of \$206,953.
- County Parks of \$306,271.
- 911 Emergency of \$603,000.
- County Fair Board of \$1,340,799.
- Weed Tax Levy of \$177,979.
- Courthouse Repair Reserve of \$126,400.
- Computer Reserve of \$250,321.
- Vehicle Replacement Sinking Fund of \$296,500.

- Vacation/Sick Leave Sinking Fund of \$140,800.
 - Unemployment Sinking Fund of \$145,150.
 - Building Codes of \$619,900.
 - Public Works of \$9,053,024.
 - Road Equipment Sinking Fund of \$404,929.
 - Road Vacation/Sick Leave Sinking Fund of \$135,798.
 - Community Complex Sinking Fund of \$125,129.
 - Museum Fund of \$123,531.
 - Community Corrections Fund of \$769,384.
- The commissioners also levied taxes at \$2.5366 per \$1,000 of assessed property value and a weed levy of \$0.19 per \$1,000.

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HEAT EXHAUSTION

Raised body temp Thirsty
 Headaches Sweating heavily
 Fatigue/Weakness Poor coordination
 Nausea/Vomiting Anxiety
 Weak, rapid pulse

WHAT TO DO

Lie down in the shade or A/C
 Cool compress or Tea towel
 Cool shower or bath
 Drink Water

HEAT STROKE

Delirious/Slurred speech
 Headaches Nausea/Vomiting
 Extreme thirst Rapid pulse
 Deceptively cool skin
 Body temp over 103°
 Dry, swollen tongue

WHAT TO DO

CALL 911 IMMEDIATELY
 Reduce temperature until ambulance arrives

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