

## Deadline nears for spring bear hunt applications

Spring bear hunters are reminded that the deadline to apply for a controlled hunt is Friday, Feb. 10.

Apply online at a license sales agent or use the fax/mail order application form available online at [www.odfw.com](http://www.odfw.com).

Draw results will be available by Feb. 20.

Hunters who haven't yet

applied for the draw can purchase a first come, first serve SW Oregon spring bear tag.

As of Friday, Jan. 20, about 3,100 of these tags have been sold, with less than 1,300 remaining.

More information about conditions for the season will be available closer to the opener in April.

## Flooding means extra caution for boaters

Recent historic snowfall and the projected warm, wet forecast this week sets up the perfect scenario for potential flooding on area rivers.

With flooding comes debris flows with trees, root wads, and other material that can impact the safety of boaters on the water.

The Oregon Marine Board and marine law enforcement strongly urge boaters to take the following precautions:

- Make sure the boat ramp is open for launching.

- The Marine Board is working closely with facility managers and will include closure information on the Boat Oregon Map.

- Scout the river before running it. Rivers are dynamic, and don't stay the same over time. Boulders and logs move, trees fall and currents shift.

- When in doubt — scout and portage out.

- Wear a life jacket. Given the water temperature and equally cold air temperature, boaters are encouraged to wear a properly fitting life jacket on the outside of their cold weather attire.

- Boat with others and stay within sight of one another.

- Know your limits and how to self-rescue. Be sure your skills and experience are equal to the river and the conditions.

- Fill out a digital float plan

and print out a copy to let others know where you are boating and when to expect your return. The digital form, when submitted, sends an email to the Marine Board that can be used later to aid marine law enforcement should a boater need help.

Visit [www.boatoregon.com](http://www.boatoregon.com) and click on the Boat Oregon Map. The website and the application are optimized for mobile devices.

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### Siuslaw Baseball Association signups begin

Registration for the spring Siuslaw Baseball Association season will be Tuesday, Jan. 31, and Tuesday, Feb. 7, at 6 p.m. in the Siuslaw High School mall area.

Signups will be for baseball

players ages 5 to 14 years old.

Before that, there will be an open SBA Board meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 24, beginning at 7 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Bromley Room of the Siuslaw Public Library.



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### Coastal Gem Walkers announce January jaunt

The Yachats Coastal Gems invite the public to come along on Tuesday, Jan. 31, when we will be walking the Lincoln City Town YRE. This 10K walk has some hills with generally good footing. There is also a 5K option.

These walks would be difficult for wheel chairs and strollers.

Those wanting to carpool to Lincoln City should meet at the Commons in Yachats for a 9 a.m. departure, or meet at the Cozy Cove Inn in Lincoln City at 10:15 a.m. to register for the walk.

As always, leashed pets are welcome on walks, but bring water and clean-up materials for pets. A sturdy 6-foot leash, not the retractable type, is required.

On Wednesday, Feb. 1, there will be a monthly meeting at the home of the club president in Yachats.

The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. Those who would like to attend can call for directions. For more information or directions, call Maryann Brown in Waldport at 541-961-4279 or visit the club website at [www.yachatscoastalgems.org](http://www.yachatscoastalgems.org).

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