

## Roadkill will be legal to eat in Oregon, but not yet

A new law has been passed allowing the salvage of road-killed deer and elk but will not take effect until Jan. 1, 2019, at the latest.

Salvaging roadkilled deer and elk remains unlawful until new rules are adopted to implement the new statute.

The Legislature gave the department up to two years to develop a safe, responsible salvage program.

Until that time, current Oregon wildlife regulations remain in place and state "No person shall possess or trans-

port any game mammal or part thereof, which has been illegally killed, found or killed for humane reasons, except shed antlers, unless they have notified and received permission from personnel of the Oregon State Police or ODFW prior to transporting."

Even licensed hunters may not pick up roadkilled deer and elk during legal hunting seasons.

SB 372 was passed by the 2017 Oregon State Legislature and asks ODFW to make a wildlife salvage permit avail-

able for deer and elk that have been accidentally killed as a result of a vehicle collision.

The new law states that deer and elk can only be salvaged for human consumption; that antlers must be returned to ODFW; and that people will recover the roadkill and consume the meat at their own risk. As with all regulations, ODFW staff will write draft rules and present them to the Fish and Wildlife Commission for public comment and consideration before adoption. Salvaging roadkill has been

unlawful to discourage people from deliberately hitting a game animal with their vehicle in order to keep the meat or antlers.

"ODFW will work to write rules that make getting a permit to legitimately salvage a road-struck deer or elk as simple as possible, but that also discourage poaching," said Doug Cottam, ODFW wildlife division administrator.

For more information about roadkill and what to do if your car hits a wild animal, visit ODFW's webpage.

## COASTAL GEM WALKERS ANNOUNCE JULY JAUNTS

The Coastal Gems Volkswalkers invite the public to come walk with the group on Wednesday, July 5, at the Gerdemann Gardens YRE in Yachats.

The group will meet at the Overleaf Lodge in Yachats at 2 p.m. to register.

This 10K walk includes some hills and forest trails, and is not appropriate for wheelchairs or strollers.

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.

Following the walk, there will be a potluck picnic at the Yachats picnic shelter behind the Commons at 5 p.m. Bring a salad, main dish, side dish or dessert to share with the group. For more information or directions, call Maryann Brown in Waldport at 541-961-4279.

## Fishing from 1B

**YAQUINA RIVER: Trout**  
Trout season opened May 22, and there should be some nice cutthroat around.

Remember the limit on streams and rivers is two per day over 8-inches.

**COOS COUNTY LAKES AND PONDS: Trout, warmwater fish**

Largemouth bass fishing has been good in many of the area smaller lakes. Bluegills can be found in area lakes right along the weed lines.

Trout fishing continues to be good at Empire Lakes and Eel Lake but trout fishing will slow down as through the month as water temperatures continue to warm. Anglers are having good success using PowerBait at Empire Lakes, while trolling a wedding ring spinner has worked very well at Eel Lake.

**UMPQUA RIVER, SOUTH: Trout, bass**

The South opened on May 22 to trout and warmwater fishing.

**TENMILE BASIN: Trout, bass**

Streams and rivers are now open to trout fishing until Oct. 31. Fishing is restricted to artificial flies and lures in streams above tidewater. Anglers may harvest 2 trout per day that are a minimum of 8 inches long.

Trout fishing in Tenmile Lakes, Eel Lake, Saunders Lake are open all year. Anglers have been catching trout in Eel Lake trolling wedding ring spinners tipped with a worm.

Largemouth bass fishing has been very good with anglers catching lots of bass on Senkos and other plastics. Now that the bass spawn is almost over, fish will be spreading out and moving to deeper water. Fishing for bass will be best early mornings

and evenings.

**WINCHESTER BAY: Bottomfish, perch**

Fishing for bottom fish in the Triangle and South jetty has been successful.

**PACIFIC OCEAN and BEACHES: Bottomfish, surf perch, crab, salmon, halibut**

Recreational crabbing is open along the entire Oregon coast.

Bottom fishing has been good when the ocean conditions allow. Fishing for bottom fish is now restricted to inside the 30-fathom curve. Fishing for rockfish and ling cod was good this past weekend.

Recreational Chinook salmon fishing is open from Cape Falcon to Humbug Mountain. Anglers may have two salmon per day but is closed to retention of coho except during the selective and non-selective coho seasons.

The selective coho season opened this past weekend and

will remain open until July 31 or until the 18,000 marked coho quota has been met.

Anglers have reported catching

(and releasing) hatchery coho in the Charleston area before the season opened.

As of June 17, there is 24

percent of the All Depth Halibut quota remaining. The nearshore halibut season is now open seven days a week.



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