

# New mom doesn't take kindly to MIL's unwelcome opinions



**DEAR ABBY**  
ADVICE

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm married to a wonderful husband and I am a new mom to an 11-week-old baby boy. I am fortunate to have 12 weeks of maternity leave, after which my baby will be starting day care. This decision was difficult, but necessary. I enjoy my career, and my husband has a good career as well. My parents still work full time, and his parents are too old (in my opinion) to safely watch their grandbaby while also keeping him engaged.

My mother-in-law, "Ella," is sometimes very rude, and we have never seen eye to eye. Four days ago, my in-laws and other family came to visit the baby. When the topic of day care came up, Ella said, "Babies in day care cry and no one picks them up." She also said, "He's going to be sick and miserable all the time."

Abby, I am furious about her comments. As if I don't already have enough anxiety over sending my baby to day care. I ignored her because I didn't want to cause a scene in front of the other family members. I know she said it because she's mad she's not going to be watching him. She has made nasty comments in the past about

other stuff, which I always let go.

I told my husband he needs to stick up for me and tell her she needs to cut it out, but he wants me to ignore her comments as he has his entire life. I told him either he or we need to tell her we will no longer tolerate her nasty remarks or she's no longer seeing her grandson.

My husband hates confrontation in general, but especially with his mother. Ever since Ella said what she did, I have been on edge with him. I think he should stand up for me, but he doesn't want to rock the boat. Am I being too extreme by not allowing Ella to see her grandson? — **DAY CARE MOM IN PENNSYLVANIA**

**DEAR DAY CARE MOM:** You have a wonderful husband, but part of the package is his mother, who has a big mouth and poor judgment about what comes out of it. While I sympathize with your predicament, it occurs to me that your dislike of her is coloring your thinking in this instance. Rather than take it out on your husband, develop a thicker skin where Ella is concerned. Of course she should be allowed to visit her grandchild. Remember above all, YOU are the mother and YOU get to make the decisions about your son's care.

**DEAR ABBY:** I need help! I don't know how to tell my wife of 21 years that her breath smells awful. I really miss our passionate

kissing. I just can't get past the smell of her breath. How can I tell her without hurting her feelings? — **AT ARM'S LENGTH**

**DEAR AT ARM'S LENGTH:** For the sake of your marriage, speak up. Telling someone their breath is "strong" should not cause embarrassment. (I would certainly want to know!) There can be more than one reason for halitosis. Could it be her diet? Is she drinking enough water? Does she need to make an appointment with her dentist for a checkup?

If none of those things helps, she should consult her physician to make sure her bad breath isn't a symptom of something serious.

# Judge restores protections for gray wolves across much of U.S.

By **MATTHEW BROWN** and **JOHN FLESHER**  
The Associated Press

**BILLINGS, Mont** — A judge restored federal protections for gray wolves across much of the U.S. on Thursday, Feb. 10, after their removal in the waning days of the Trump administration exposed the predators to hunting that critics said would undermine their rebound from widespread extermination early last century.

U.S. District Judge Jeffrey White in Oakland, California, said the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service had failed to show wolf populations could be sustained in the Midwest and portions of the West without protection under the Endangered Species Act.

Wildlife advocates had sued the agency last year. The ruling again puts wolves in Western Washington, Western Oregon and California under federal protection.

The decision does not cover wolves in Eastern Washington, Eastern Oregon, Idaho or Montana. Wolves in those areas will remain off the federally protected list of species and will still be managed by state officials.

Attorneys for the Biden administration had defended the Trump rule that removed protections, arguing wolves were resilient enough to bounce back even if their numbers dropped sharply due to intensive hunting.

At stake is the future of a species whose recovery from near-extinction has been heralded as a historic



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**A judge on Thursday, Feb. 10, 2022, has ordered federal protections for gray wolves across much of the U.S. after they were removed in the waning days of the Trump administration. U.S. District Judge Jeffrey White said in his ruling that the Fish and Wildlife Service failed to show wolf populations could be sustained in the Midwest and portions of the West without protection under the Endangered Species Act.**

conservation success. That recovery has brought bitter blowback from hunters and farmers angered over wolf attacks on big game herds and livestock. They contend protections are no longer warranted.

Interior Department spokesperson Melissa Schwartz said the agency was reviewing the decision and offered no further comment.

Wildlife advocacy groups said the judge's order would most immediately put a stop to hunting in the Great Lakes region, where Wisconsin officials had come under criticism after a wolf hunt last year blew past the state's

quotas, killing 218 wolves in four days.

"Wolves in the Great Lakes region have a stay of execution," said John Horning with the environmental group WildEarth Guardians.

None of the Great Lakes states with established wolf populations — Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin — had scheduled additional wolf hunts prior to the judge's ruling. All three were updating their wolf management programs and officials said that work would continue.

A state judge in Wisconsin in October had blocked a hunt two weeks before it was to begin,

responding to a lawsuit that claimed it was illegally scheduled.

In Michigan, where the wolf population numbers about 700, Republican legislators introduced pro-hunting resolutions but no formal proposal was before the wildlife commission that sets hunting seasons.

Before hunting is considered, Michigan officials want their legal status more permanently settled "given the long history of legal challenges to delisting decisions and the resulting shifting status of wolves," said Ed Golder with the state Department of Natural Resources.

The status of northern

Rockies wolves was not challenged in the lawsuit decided Thursday. However, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in September began a separate review of whether protections should be restored for the region's wolves, after Republican state lawmakers in Montana and Idaho passed laws last year intended to drive down wolf numbers by making it easier to kill them.

Under the loosened rules, hunters and trappers primarily in Montana have killed a record 23 wolves that wandered outside Yellowstone National Park this winter. That's sparked public outrage due to the

popularity of Yellowstone's wolf packs among tourists who visit from around the world.

Following the killings, Interior Sec. Deb Haaland published an op-ed this week saying federal officials could give northern Rockies wolves emergency protection if the species is put at significant risk.

"Recent laws passed in some Western states undermine state wildlife managers by promoting precipitous reductions in wolf populations, such as removing bag limits, baiting, snaring, night hunting and pursuit by dogs — the same kind of practices that nearly wiped out wolves during the last century," Haaland wrote.

Wolves once ranged most of the U.S. but were wiped out in most places by the 1930s under government-sponsored poisoning and trapping campaigns.

A remnant population in the western Great Lakes region has since expanded to some 4,400 wolves in Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. And more than 2,000 wolves occupy six states in the Northern Rockies and Pacific Northwest.

Yet wolves remain absent across most of their historical range. Wildlife advocates argue that continued protections are needed so they can continue to expand in California, Colorado, Oregon and other states.

Democratic and Republican administrations alike, going back to former President George W. Bush, have sought to remove or scale back federal wolf protections first enacted in 1974.

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# weather

	TONIGHT	SUN	MON	TUE	WED
	Mainly clear	Mostly sunny	Cloudy with a bit of snow	A touch of afternoon rain	Low clouds
<b>Baker City</b>	14	39 22	38 24	41 20	40 19
Comfort Index™	3	3	1	1	1
<b>La Grande</b>	27	42 33	42 29	44 30	44 28
Comfort Index™	3	2	0	3	1
<b>Enterprise</b>	21	46 32	48 27	40 26	42 26
Comfort Index™	6	5	3	3	0

Comfort Index takes into account how the weather will feel based on a combination of factors. A rating of 10 feels very comfortable while a rating of 0 feels very uncomfortable.

## ALMANAC

TEMPERATURES	Baker City	La Grande	Elgin
High Thursday	40°	60°	55°
Low Thursday	16°	29°	27°
PRECIPITATION (inches)			
Thursday	0.00	0.00	0.00
Month to date	Trace	0.29	0.64
Normal month to date	0.21	0.44	0.87
Year to date	0.38	1.56	4.57
Normal year to date	0.91	2.11	4.14

## THURSDAY EXTREMES

NATION (for the 48 contiguous states)	
High: 91°	Santa Ana, Calif.
Low: -9°	Angel Fire, N.M.
Wettest: 0.30"	Grand Marais, Minn.
OREGON	
High: 85°	Brookings
Low: 16°	Baker City
Wettest: none	

## AGRICULTURAL INFO.

HAY INFORMATION SUNDAY	
Lowest relative humidity	45%
Afternoon wind	S at 8 to 16 mph
Hours of sunshine	8.2
Evapotranspiration	0.07

RESERVOIR STORAGE (through midnight Friday)	
Phillips Reservoir	2% of capacity
Unity Reservoir	29% of capacity
Onyhee Reservoir	21% of capacity
McKay Reservoir	38% of capacity
Wallowa Lake	23% of capacity
Thief Valley Reservoir	41% of capacity

STREAM FLOWS (through midnight Thursday)	
Grande Ronde at Troy	1330 cfs
Thief Valley Reservoir near North Powder	1 cfs
Burnt River near Unity	13 cfs
Umatilla River near Gibbon	225 cfs
Minam River at Minam	126 cfs
Powder River near Richland	86 cfs

## WEATHER HISTORY

On Feb. 12, 1899, an Atlantic coast blizzard pulled extremely cold air southward, causing a low of 8 below zero in Dallas, Savannah, Ga., received 2 inches of snow.

## SUN & MOON

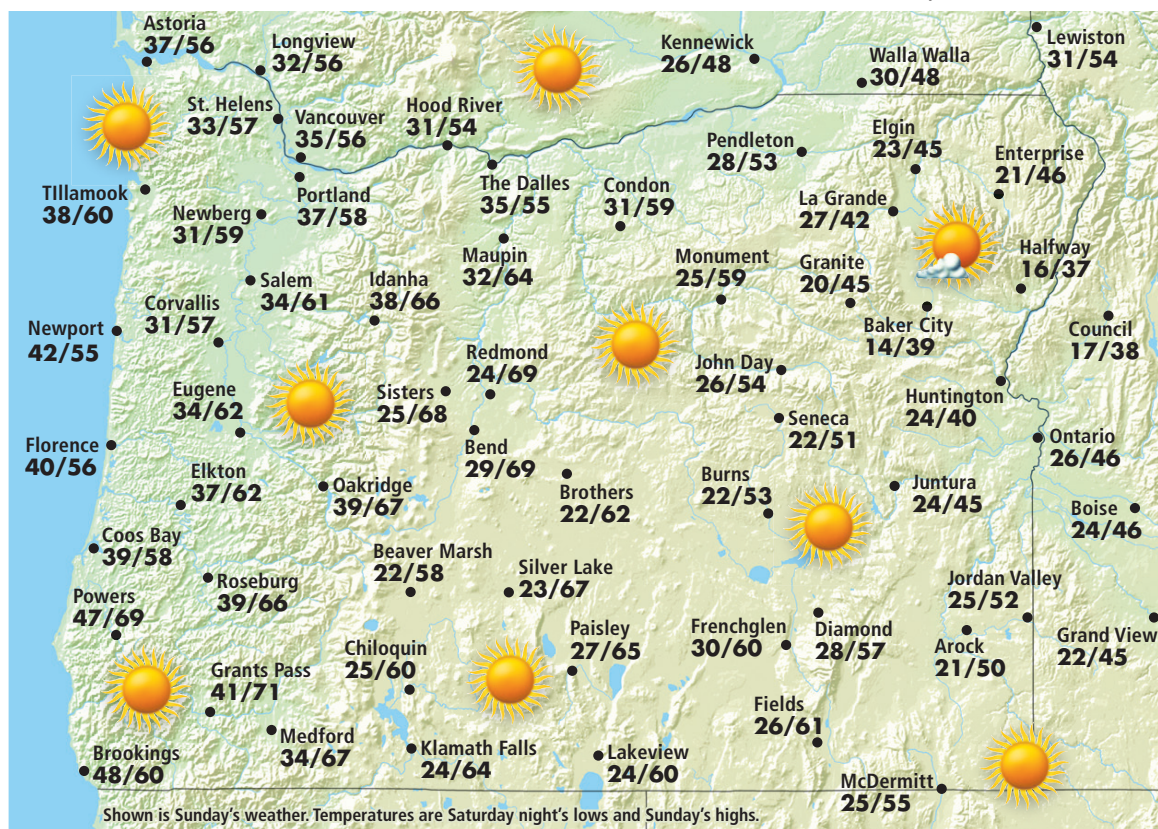
	SAT.	SUN.
Sunrise	6:59 a.m.	6:57 a.m.
Sunset	5:15 p.m.	5:17 p.m.
Moonset	1:09 p.m.	2:06 p.m.
Moonrise	4:52 a.m.	5:41 a.m.

## MOON PHASES



## AROUND OREGON AND THE REGION

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## REGIONAL CITIES

City	SUN. HI/Lo/W	MON. HI/Lo/W	City	SUN. HI/Lo/W	MON. HI/Lo/W
Astoria	56/42/c	49/38/sh	Lewiston	54/38/s	51/40/c
Bend	69/41/s	53/30/c	Longview	56/45/pc	49/39/sh
Boise	46/31/s	51/32/sh	Meacham	44/34/s	44/30/sn
Brookings	60/45/pc	52/39/r	Medford	67/37/pc	50/33/r
Burns	53/29/s	50/26/r	Newport	55/43/pc	49/36/sh
Coos Bay	58/43/pc	47/38/r	Olympia	55/41/pc	47/36/sh
Corvallis	57/41/c	49/34/r	Ontario	46/29/s	45/34/r
Council	38/25/s	38/27/sh	Pasco	50/31/pc	50/32/c
Elgin	45/30/s	45/31/sn	Pendleton	53/39/s	47/33/c
Eugene	62/43/pc	47/36/r	Portland	58/43/pc	48/41/sh
Hermiston	53/34/pc	50/34/c	Powers	69/44/pc	49/40/r
Hood River	54/41/pc	51/43/r	Redmond	69/41/s	52/27/c
Imnaha	53/39/s	52/38/r	Roseburg	66/43/pc	47/39/r
John Day	54/36/s	51/30/sn	Salem	61/45/c	51/37/r
Joseph	47/34/s	46/27/sn	Spokane	42/32/pc	42/32/c
Kennewick	48/31/pc	48/31/sh	The Dalles	55/41/pc	57/41/sh
Klamath Falls	64/31/c	53/25/r	Ukiah	54/33/s	49/30/sh
Lakeview	60/33/s	52/25/c	Walla Walla	48/38/pc	44/35/c

## RECREATION FORECAST SUNDAY

<b>ANTHONY LAKES</b> Mostly sunny	36 26	<b>PHILLIPS LAKE</b> Mostly sunny	41 26
<b>MT. EMILY REC.</b> Mostly sunny	39 34	<b>BROWNLEE RES.</b> Mostly sunny	44 27
<b>EAGLE CAP WILD.</b> Mostly sunny	36 19	<b>EMIGRANT ST. PARK</b> Mostly sunny	46 29
<b>WALLOWA LAKE</b> Mostly sunny	47 34	<b>MCKAY RESERVOIR</b> Mostly sunny	57 41
<b>THIEF VALLEY RES.</b> Mostly sunny	39 22	<b>RED BRIDGE ST. PARK</b> Mostly sunny	42 33

Weather(W): s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice