Elk Foundation assists fire survivors

Hunts are still on with Elk Foundation help

By Angel Carpenter Blue Mountain Eagle

JOHN DAY - The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation is filling a unique need among some of the people who survived the Canyon Creek Complex fire.

Ryan Torland, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's district wildlife biologist, came up with an idea to help people whose hunting licenses and tags burned in the fire.

ODFW is unable to waive the fees, but Bob Bastian, head of the Oregon Elks, sent out an email to the Oregon chapters requesting donations from the members.

Grant County resident Tim Unterwegner is handling the

Steve Corwin drew a tag for the first time in several years, Unterwegner said.

His tags and two hunting licenses have now been replaced, and he was also given a hunting rifle, since his firearms were also destroyed.

Two other people have been assisted, including one whose sports package was lost to the fire.

As of Sept. 29, RMEF has raised \$900 for the cause.

Anyone who would like to donate may contact Unterwegner at 541-575-1219, and they don't have to be an RMEF member.



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The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) has set up a fund to assist people affected by the Canyon Creek Complex fire, replacing hunting licenses and tags which burned. Above: Steve Corwin, center, shows the rifle which the Foundation gave him. RMEF member Tim Unterwegner, left, and Darren Pettyjohn of Nydam's Ace Hardware join him in the photo.

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- 5. Employees of the Blue Mountain Eagle or members of their immediate families are not eligible for prize money.
- Winners will be announced in the Wednesday paper following the games. \$50 will be awarded to the winner. In case of a tie, the prize will be split. Contest ends in 13 weeks
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