

Welcome to Grant County

In the heart of Eastern Oregon

With eight northeastern big game units located either partially or fully within its borders, Grant County is a popular spot for bow and rifle hunters. Controlled hunting seasons are staggered throughout the year. Tag drawings determine when and where hunters may hunt. There are controlled seasons for bighorn sheep, Rocky Mountain goat, black bear, pronghorn antelope, deer and elk. There are also general seasons for deer and elk bow hunting, and black bear and cougar hunts, and anglers have the option of fishing in numerous local rivers, lakes and ponds.

Gold was discovered in Canyon Creek in June 1862. The towns of Canyon City and John Day were born during this time, with Canyon City named as the county seat when Grant County was established two years later. Grant County was formed from parts of Wasco and Umatilla counties, and was named after Ulysses S. Grant. Grant was assigned to help protect the early settlers in Oregon in the 1850s before becoming famous for leading the Union Army to victory in the Civil War.

Prairie City is 13 miles east of John Day along the John Day River. It is near Beulah, Northside, Malheur, Desolation and East Murderers Creek Units. The Strawberry Mountain Wilderness is nearby.

Dayville is on Highway 26, 32 miles west of John Day. The Northside, Murderers Creek and Ochoco hunting units intersect at Dayville, and the area is popular throughout the state for deer, sheep and elk hunting, as well as upland game birds.

Mt. Vernon is 8 miles west of John Day on Highway 26. The area has premiere mule deer and Rocky Mountain elk hunting.

Monument, on the North Fork of the John Day River, is approximately 60 miles northwest of John Day and 120 miles southwest of Pendle-

ton. The area is known for its fishing, hunting and whitewater rafting.

Seneca is 26 miles south of John Day. It is a popular jump-off spot for the Murderers Creek, Malheur and Silvies units. The area is great for pronghorn, Rocky Mountain elk and mule deer.

Long Creek is about 45 miles north of John Day on Highway 395. The area is known for trophy mule and whitetail deer, along with Rocky Mountain elk.

To learn more about how the area was developed, visit any of the museums in the county, including the Ranch and Rodeo Museum in John Day, the DeWitt Museum at Depot Park in Prairie City, the Grant County Historical Museum in Canyon City and the Kam Wah Chung State Heritage Site in John Day.

For more information about the county, visit the Grant County Chamber of Commerce at 301 W. Main St. in John Day or online at gcoregonlive.com, or call 541-575-0547 or 800-769-5664.

Grant County borders eight counties, more than any other county in the state of Oregon. It's a great place to unwind and get back in touch with nature. You'll find the pace slow, the people friendly, the scenery spectacular and, hopefully, the hunting successful.

Grant County Hunting JOURNAL

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ON THE COVER

**Rylee Browning
with the buck she
shot Sept. 30 last
year. See pages
14-15 for story and
more photos.**

Contributed photo

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