



**Fish & Wildlife Reports**

Hunting prospects for 1985 are widely varied, but overall are generally brighter than they were in 1984. Northeastern Oregon again was hit by a long, cold winter which took its toll of upland birds and big game, but other areas east of the Cascades fared much better.

In Baker and Union counties, several big game management units will again be closed entirely to deer hunting as they were in 1984. In other areas east of the Cascades, a five-day season has been set, and in much of the central part of the state, the season will run for 12 days.

Reports from Department of Fish and Wildlife biologists indicate a better carryover of animals in these areas, and hunting prospects, from about the same to better than last year. They also point out that the animals will probably be widely scattered, and in some cases, because of the dry summer and lack of water and fresh forage, the deer are apt to be up fairly high and on the north slopes.

Hunters wanting a long season should seriously consider getting a western Oregon deer tag where the blacktail season will run over a month with an either sex season the last five days in the northwestern part of the state. Reports indicate that west side deer populations are equal to or slightly better than they were last year. Some areas are going past their peak production because brush and trees are growing up, but newly created openings provide hunting in new areas.

Upland bird seasons are more liberal than those of 1984 with bird populations in most of the state nesting seasons helped the birds in much of the state east of the Cascades, though spring rains did hamper nesting in some limited areas. Hunters will find season lengths similar to last year, but increased bag limits were set to allow the harvest of the increased number of birds.

There will be no sage grouse season this year; however, in contrast the wild turkey numbers are increasing and more than 100 additional tags will be available for next spring's seasons on these birds.

Waterfowl hunters will find the situation just about reverse that of the upland bird hunters. Poor nesting conditions in the north and generally lower numbers of both ducks and geese demanded restricted seasons and bag limits with a complete shut down on some species.

**Deer**

The general buck season will open

**Hunting prospects generally brighter than in**

**Northeast Region**

**Deer**

Bucks are widely scattered in the Heppner, Fossil and Columbia Basin units. Larger bucks are generally found at the higher elevations in heavy cover areas. Hunters are cautioned to stay on the main travel roads to prevent the spread of knapweed which is under several control programs. New road construction will prevent hunters from camping on Willow Creek in the Heppner Unit.

No hunting season in Keating, Pine Creek, Lookout Mountain, Catherine Creek, Sumpter, Starkey and that portion of the Sumpter Unit lying north of Hwy. 415 and the Burnt River Canyon Rd. from Unity to Durkee.

Archery hunters are reminded the Sled Springs Unit is either sex this year and the Noregaard Rd. closure went into effect August 21. The Chenimnus Unit is closed to deer and elk hunting. Snake River elk hunters should be aware that spikes and 2 pt. bulls are protected during the archery season and rifle season. Antlerless elk and 3-pt. and larger bulls are legal for bowhunters in the Snake River Unit. Prospects for deer are poor in the district and antlerless animals are protected.

Mule deer numbers are well below management objectives. The Hells Canyon Wilderness and river corridor is now open to limited entry for permit holders only.

The effects of two bad winters have made it necessary to close most of Union County to mule deer hunting this year. Included in the closure are the Starkey, Catherine Creek, East Mt. Emily and West Wenaha units. Consult 1985 regulation books for descriptions of those units only partially closed.

Elk populations remain stable in the Heppner and Fossil units and these animals are widely scattered until snow hits the higher elevations. Very few branched antler bulls remain after the 1984 season. Areas with hiding cover remaining and areas which provide some solitude will produce the best chances. Snow will improve hunting success.

Elk hunting in the Baker district will be comparable to last year. Wallowa County elk numbers are up slightly from last year. Vehicle restrictions will be in effect in the Noregaard, Chenimnus, Grouse-Lick and Hunt Springs areas. Both the Chenimnus and Snake River units are again limited entry.

Despite hard wintering conditions the last two years, Union County's elk populations remain generally above management objective levels.

Postseason bull ratios are up somewhat in the Starkey Unit and should be even better as a result of good calf crop last year. The Mt. Emily, Wenaha and Catherine Creek units will be fair to good for bull hunting. All cooperative road closures are nearly the same in the Starkey, Mt. Emily and Wenaha units. A new map will be available for the Starkey Unit.

Elk numbers in the Walla Walla, West Mt. Emily and Ukiuh units are comparable to last year. Branch antler bull carryover is only fair. Murderers Creek and Northside hunting prospects are fair, however, Desolation hunters are expected to have good success.

Bear Tag sale deadline is September 27. Wallowa District bear numbers appear to be up and hunting prospects are good. The Snake River and Innaha units should be good for black bear. Some large adult bears have been seen by district personnel in this unit this year.

Good numbers of bear have been reported in Union and Baker counties with hound hunting expected to provide the best success. Hunters must acquire tags prior to hunt. Umatilla district bear numbers appear to be up and hunting prospects are good.

Bear populations are high in the Murderers Creek, Desolation and Beulah units. There should be good hunting, particularly with those hunters with hounds. Upland Game All upland game species showed a slight improvement in production and survival compared to 1984 in the Columbia Basin areas of Morrow, Gilliam and Wheeler counties. Overall, adult upland game population remains low after poor hatches and survival in 1983 and 1984 due to cold and wet weather conditions.

Pheasant populations are low in Baker County this year; however, valley quail numbers are near average. Although there was a severe winter, the good nesting season allowed the chukar population to bounce back to numbers near the ten-year average.

All eastern Oregon counties (Malheur north of Hwy 20, Baker and Union Counties) will be open to chukar hunting this fall. Ruffed grouse numbers in the Wallowa district appear to be up, while blue grouse numbers appear to be low. Chukar numbers are up slightly, but population numbers still remain low.

Pheasant hunting is expected to be poor in the Grand Ronde Valley. A fairly good hatch of pheasants occurred, but the breeding population was at a low level. Hungarian partridge, valley quail and chukar partridge numbers are also down in Union County, again because of the hard winters effects on the breeding population. Hunting should be fair to poor on the Ladd Marsh Wildlife area where pen-raised pheasants will be released on the area throughout the season. Umatilla County pheasant production was up slightly from last year, but below the five-year average. Fair to good hunting is expected throughout the county.

Umatilla County quail, chukar and hun production was poor. Waterfowl Waterfowl hunting along the Columbia and John Day River and their tributaries in Gilliam, Wheeler and Morrow counties improves with adverse weather conditions. Poor weather conditions moves the birds from the north. Hunting conditions improve on foggy and windy days.

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migrants and winter residents appear later in the year. The Ladd Marsh Wildlife area will only be open on Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday following the close of pheasant season.

**Sheriff's Report**

The Morrow County Sheriff's Office at the Morrow County Courthouse in Heppner reports handling or dispatching the following business during the past week:

September 16  
9:13 a.m. - the Boardman Police Department received a report of vandalism done to a car.

8:39 a.m. - the Morrow County Sheriff's Office received a report of vandalism which occurred at the dam site near Heppner.

6:26 p.m. - the Boardman Police Department responded to a two-car non-injury accident in front of the Nomad Restaurant in Boardman. Steven Thomas Hilling, 27, Boardman, was cited for Failure to Yield Right of Way.

September 17  
12:11 a.m. - the Morrow County Sheriff's Office arrested Wade Forest Drury, 29, Irrigon on a Wasco County warrant. He was transported to Wasco County Jail.

September 18  
7:03 p.m. - Heppner Police Department responded to a two-car non-injury accident at Central Market in Heppner. Further details are unknown.

September 19  
The Irrigon Police Department arrested Roy James Partlow, 38, Boardman, for allegedly Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants. He was released on his own recognizance.

September 20  
The Irrigon Police Department arrested Joseph Paul Focht, 23, Irrigon on a Morrow County Circuit warrant for Burglary I. He was lodged at Wasco County.

September 21  
10:52 a.m. - Ione Fire Dept. responded to a grass fire on Cherry Street at the end of the football field.

September 22  
1:13 p.m. - Boardman Fire Department responded to a report of shed on fire on north Rippee Road in Boardman. Amount of damage was unknown.

3:29 p.m. - Morrow County Sheriff's Office and a Heppner ambulance responded to a motorcycle accident on Highway 74 near milepost 64 (between Heppner and Pilot Rock). Joseph Hull, 46, Pendleton, was transported to St. Anthony Hospital in Pendleton with serious injuries.

6:30 p.m. - Morrow County Sheriff's Office arrested John Oliver Line, 47, Irrigon for alleged Assault IV. He posted bail and was released.



**4-H Clubs**

**4-H Horse**

All Two-Trackers are invited to come with a friend and a parent to an organizational meeting of the 4-H Horse Club at 7 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 29 at the Fairgrounds 4-H annex in Heppner. Prospective members may sign up for the 4-H horse club, help plan the year's program and 4-H week promotion, meet the new leaders, and elect officers for the first half of the year. No horses need come to this meeting. A door prize will be given.

For further information, call leader Al Brazell at 989-8132.

**Sifting**

**through the Times**

**10 Years Ago**

The 14,000 acre Blackhorse Watershed land treatment and flood protection project was completed in late August according to David McLeod, executive director of local Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service office. The project treatment began early in 1974 under the 1973 Agricultural Conservation Program cost-share funding.

The land treatment in Blackhorse provides Lexington residents and downstream areas the same protection as the Shobe Canyon project provides Heppner and lower areas.

**25 Years Ago**

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Penland, publishers of the Heppner Gazette-Times announced the newspaper's sale to Mr. and Mrs. W.O. Wildman of Phoenix, Arizona. Governor Mark Hatfield, leading a group of Republican candidates on a whirlwind tour of Eastern Oregon, Friday afternoon told an audience of

several hundred in downtown Heppner that Oregon needs economic development but that government cost must be held down at the same time if the state is to gain the most from such development.

**50 Years Ago**

A fine exhibit in all the divisions was shown at the North Morrow County fair held here in the gymnasium Friday and Saturday when a large crowd of local and out-of-town people attended. An unusually fine showing of poultry and stock was there.

Expectations for the opening of the deer season were largely fulfilled as last weekend saw an unceasing procession of outside hunting cars passing through the city timberward bound, and the forepart of the week saw many happy hunter returning from the haunts of the famous mule tails with fine prizes of the hunt.

**FARMERS**

Get Your Seed Treating Material Now!

For Smut in Wheat & Barley

Terracoat LT2 Vitavax 25DB  
Granox N-M (Maneb-HCB) Dust  
Vitavax 200 (Flowable)

For Wireworm

Available in Wheat & Barley

Now At Lindane 75W Drinox 34HC

PETTYJOHN OIL AND 422-7511

CHEMICAL COMPANIES

**OPENING NIGHT Revelation Seminar**

Sunday, Sept. 29 7:30 p.m.

Seventh-Day Adventist Church 560 N. Minor.

Don Reiber, pastor, 676-5439

**Signs For Sale**

ABSOLUTELY NO HUNTING

NO VEHICLES BEYOND THIS POINT

HUNTING BY PERMISSION ONLY

Now At The Heppner

GAZETTE-TIMES

**You won't want to miss HUNTERS' NIGHT Thursday, Sept. 26**



Barbeque Rib Dinner

(Ladies Welcome)

Starts 6 p.m.

Come Early Eat Alot

See you there

Heppner Elks 358 "Where friends meet"

PRIZES PRIZES PRIZES 2 GUNS TO BE GIVEN AWAY

