

Oregon has at least 173 wolves, a 9.5% increase over last year

State wildlife biologists counted 173 wolves in Oregon this past winter, a 9.5 percent increase over last year's count of 158, according to the Oregon Wolf Conservation and Management 2020 Annual Report released recently at odfw.com/wolves.

This annual count is based on verified wolf evidence (like visual observations, tracks, and remote camera photographs) and is considered the minimum known wolf count, not an estimate of how many wolves are in Oregon. The actual number of wolves in Oregon is likely higher, as not all individuals present in the state are located during the winter count.

A total of 22 packs were documented during the count. (A pack is defined as four or more wolves traveling together in winter.) Of those packs, 17 reproduced and had at least two adults and two pups that survived through the end of 2020, making them "breeding pairs." Seven other groups of 2-3 wolves were also identified.

While no new packs formed in western Oregon, the total number of wolves in the region increased by 29 percent (from 17 to 22 wolves) over the 2019 count. Eight collared wolves dispersed from their packs with four dispersing

to other locations in Oregon, two to Idaho, one to California, and one wolf left California and became resident in Oregon.

"While northeast Oregon continues to host majority of state's wolf population, dispersal to other parts of Oregon and adjacent states continues," said Roblyn Brown, ODFW Wolf Coordinator.

A total of 21 wolves were captured and radio-collared during 2020, up from 14 last year. Four of those were thanks to licensed trappers promptly reporting their incidental capture of a wolf; ODFW was able to radio collar and safely release those four wolves from foothold traps.

Through collar data and surveys, the department collected 17,279 wolf location data points in Oregon in 2020. Of those, 57 percent of locations for resident wolves were on public lands, 38 percent on private lands, and 5 percent on tribal lands.

Wolf mortalities-Nine wolf mortalities were documented during 2020, including two young wolves that died from natural causes (a Wenaha pup and Indigo yearling).

Seven wolf mortalities were human caused. One wolf was killed when hit by a vehicle on I-84, another was appar-

ently killed when hit by a boat while swimming across the Snake River.

One was taken lawfully under the "caught in the act" rule which allows livestock producers to shoot a wolf found in the act of biting, wounding, killing or chasing livestock. (As of January 4, 2021 "caught in the act" is legal statewide but rules differ for East and West Zones which are in different phases of wolf management; livestock producers should visit ODFW's webpage to find out more.)

Four wolves were killed illegally in 2020. Three deaths are still under investigation, and OSP is actively seeking more information. The breeding male of the Ruckel Ridge Pack was shot in Umatilla County in May. The breeding male of the Cornucopia Pack was shot in September in Baker County. A subadult wolf, believed to be from the Pine Creek Pack, was shot in October in Baker County.

Rewards ranging from \$2,500 to \$15,000 have been offered for information leading to a conviction. Public reports help protect Oregon wildlife from poaching. Reports can be made anonymously to the OSP Turn In Poachers (TIP) Line at 800-452-7888 or by email: TIP@osp.oregon.gov. Finally, a livestock owner

shot a wolf mistaken for a coyote. The owner was warned by Oregon State Police after self-reporting the incident to OSP.

"Hunters and livestock producers in areas of wolf activity really need to be careful and be able to tell the difference between wolves and coyotes," said Brown. Review ODFW's Coyote vs Wolf ID quiz for tips.

ODFW did not lethally control any wolves in response to chronic depredation in 2020. Livestock depredation increases, mostly attributed to Rogue Pack. Confirmed depredation events increased 94 percent in 2020 from 2019. The majority of the depredation (52 percent) was attributed to the Rogue Pack, which depredated 16 times in 2020.

In all phases of wolf management, Oregon's Wolf Plan mandates that non-lethal efforts are undertaken to address conflict before lethal removal is considered. In 2020, those measures included removing attractants, hazing, electrified

fladry, radio-activated guard boxes, increased human presence, range riders and other husbandry practices.

In the Rogue Pack area, ODFW and partners U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and USDA Wildlife Services worked extensively to try to limit depredation, including a coordinated nighttime patrol in Klamath County to haze wolves out of livestock pastures in the northern Wood River Valley where depredation was concentrated. Agency staff hazed all night on 99 nights between July 30-Nov. 25. This overnight agency presence leveraged real time information about wolf locations derived from howling, radio-telemetry, cattle disturbance and visual observation through night-vision thermal imaging devices in an attempt to deter wolves. The hazing pushed the wolves back into the forest on some nights, but other nights they depredated.

"The personnel costs of this collaboration with USFWS, WS and the Department was significant

during the four months," said Brown. "We appreciate the work of our partners and all livestock producers for their efforts to co-exist with wolves."

Counties can seek grants from Oregon Department of Agriculture's (ODA) Wolf Depredation Compensation and Financial Assistance Grant Program to help fund non-lethal measures and compensation for lost livestock. In 2020, ODA awarded \$251,529 to 12 counties, up from \$178,319 awarded in 2019.

ODFW staff will present an overview of the Oregon Wolf Conservation and Management 2020 Annual Report to the Fish and Wildlife Commission at their April 23 meeting. No public testimony is being taken during that portion of the meeting, but it can be watched online and public comments can be sent to odfw.commission@state.or.us.

**DEADLINE:
MONDAYS
AT 5PM**

QUALITY TESTED
GOOD HOUSEKEEPING
Since 1909
LIMITED WARRANTY - ghseal.com for details

LeafGuard
16 YEARS BACKED BY THE SEAL

ENGLERT LeafGuard
Get it. And forget it.®

Clog Free Guaranteed!
Guaranteed not to clog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free.

BONUS OFFER
Receive a \$25 Lowe's gift card
with FREE in-home estimate

All participants who attend an estimated 60-90 minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$25 gift card. Retail value is \$25. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID, be able to understand English, and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail or e-mailed within 21 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored or promoted by Lowe's and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Expires 6/30/21.

- **Seamless, one-piece system, keeps out leaves, debris & more.**
- **Eliminates the risk of falling off a ladder to clean clogged gutters.**
- **Durable, all-weather tested system.**

85% Off Labor
Does not include cost of material. Expires 6/30/21.

Call Today for a FREE In-Home Estimate
(855) 943-5735

LeafGuard operates as LeafGuard of Oregon in Oregon under license number 223377

GENERAC

Prepare for power outages with a Generac home standby generator

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!
844-942-3614

FREE 7-Year Extended Warranty*
A \$695 Value!

Offer valid February 15 - June 6, 2021

Special Financing Available
Subject to Credit Approval

*To qualify, consumers must request a quote, purchase, install and activate the generator with a participating dealer. Call for a full list of terms and conditions.

GENERAC PWRCELL
SOLAR + BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEM

A Smarter Way to Power Your Home.

Power your home, save money and be prepared for utility power outages with the PWRcell, a solar + battery storage system.

REQUEST A FREE QUOTE!

ACT NOW TO RECEIVE A \$300 SPECIAL OFFER!*
(866) 943-1192

\$0 DOWN FINANCING OPTIONS!***

*Offer value when purchased at retail.
**Financing available through authorized Generac partners. Solar panels sold separately.

3 BIG MYTHS WINDOW REPLACEMENT

When it comes to window replacement, there are too many myths floating around and not nearly enough facts.

- FALSE Myth #1: "Vinyl windows are the best solution."**
Fibrex® composite material is two times stronger than vinyl and makes for **stunningly beautiful windows** with a durable finish that, unlike vinyl, won't peel, crack or fade. **2x STRONGER THAN VINYL**
- FALSE Myth #2: "Window replacement is difficult."**
It depends on who you call. Renewal by Andersen is the full service window replacement division of 116-year-old Andersen Corporation, the **most trusted family of window brands in America.**
- FALSE Myth #3: "All warranties are the same."**
As both the manufacturer and installer of your windows, Renewal by Andersen gives you both product and labor coverage! As a homeowner, you get absolute peace of mind.

BUY ONE, GET ONE 40% off
WINDOWS & PATIO DOORS
MINIMUM PURCHASE OF 4

Plus
NO Money Down
NO Interest
NO Monthly Payments for 1 year!
MINIMUM PURCHASE OF 4 - INTEREST ACCRUES FROM THE PURCHASE DATE BUT IS WAIVED IF PAID IN FULL WITHIN 12 MONTHS

RENEWAL by ANDERSEN
FULL-SERVICE WINDOW & DOOR REPLACEMENT

Installation always included

CALL BY JUNE 30
to schedule your FREE in-home consultation
888-351-9341

*DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 6/30/2021. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Buy one (1) window or entry/patio door, get one (1) window or entry/patio door 40% off when you purchase four (4) or more windows or patio doors between 5/1/2021 and 6/30/2021. 40% off windows and entry/patio doors are less than or equal to lowest cost window or entry/patio door in the order. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender, or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. *See Renewal by Andersen® Products and Installation Transferable Limited Warranty for details. ©2018 U.S. Homeowner Brand Study of the Renewal by Andersen brand versus competitive brands. *Renewal by Andersen® and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. © 2021 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. #BAI2589