

ODFW announces 2025 annual wildlife art contest



2024 winner upland game bird: Gray Partridge by Roberta Wise

SALEM, Ore. — Artists are invited to compete in one or all three of ODFW's 2025 stamp art competitions. The winning artist in each contest receives a \$2,000 award and winning artwork is used to produce collector's stamps and other promotional items with sale proceeds benefitting Oregon's fish, wildlife, and their habitats.

For more information on contest rules and to order stamps and art prints, visit: https://www.dfw.state.or.us/stamp_contest/index.asp Entries will be accepted starting August 30 through Sept. 27, 2024, by 5 p.m., at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife headquarters, 4034 Fairview Industrial Dr., SE, Salem, OR 97302.

Habitat Conservation Stamp Art entries must feature a Strategy Species identified in the Oregon Conservation Strategy in its appropriate habitat. Not all species in the Strategy are eligible, so please use the qualifying list of species. See contest rules and entry form for more information and a list of eligible species.

Waterfowl Stamp Contest Art entries must feature one of the following species in its natural habitat setting: Ring-necked Duck, White-winged Scoter, or Barrow's Goldeneye. See contest rules and entry form for more information. <https://www.dfw.state.or.us/resources/hunting/waterfowl/contest/index.asp>

Upland Game Bird Stamp Contest Art entries must feature California Quail in its natural habitat setting. See contest rules and entry form for more information.

A panel will judge artwork based on artistic composition, anatomical accuracy of the species and general appeal. Collector's stamps, art prints and other promotional materials are produced from first-place artwork. Proceeds from product sales are used for habitat improvement, research surveys and conservation projects.

Interested artists are encouraged to visit ODFW's stamp art competition webpage for more information on the contests and to view entries from previous years.

Heppner Daycare seeks partnerships to expand services

The Heppner Daycare is actively seeking partnerships to expand childcare services for South Morrow County families. The local licensed certified childcare center offers Preschool for children ages 3 – 5 years old plus afterschool care. The afterschool program supports enrolled preschoolers that need full-day care and additional children 5 – 8 years old.

Currently, there are no childcare centers that provide infant/toddler care in South Morrow County and limited slots for both preschool-aged and afterschool children. Morrow County remains a childcare desert – defined as a county with fewer than 33% of the county's children having access to a slot. In Morrow County, only 14% of children ages 0-5 years old have access to a childcare center.

The first step to solve this problem – a facility to meet the pressing needs of the community. The Heppner Daycare has begun a capital campaign toward a new facility expansion. The current location on Gale Street in Heppner will not adequately meet the critical

community need to serve infants and toddlers and expand their preschool and afterschool program.

"Heppner Daycare, like almost all childcare centers, relies on public and private investment to provide affordable services to its families and to provide a livable wage to staff," comments Heppner Daycare Executive Director, Jessica Britt. "Childcare centers across the state and in our town are a community effort."

With community support, Heppner Daycare looks to increase its maximum capacity of 3–8-year-olds to up to 40 children and expand service to include an infant and toddler center. In addition, the project will include providing staff with sufficient space for both their roles as teachers and caregivers, and as administrators of the facility.

If you are interested in partnering with Heppner Daycare or being a part of this community conversation, reach out to board member, Katie Murray at ksirimurray@gmail.com, or by phone at 503-504-8508.

Heppner Water Control District to hold annual meeting

The Board of Directors of the Heppner Water Control District will hold their Annual and regular meeting Tuesday, March 5th beginning at 6:30 pm in the AG Service Center Conference Room. The agenda includes minutes of the last meeting, treasurer's

report, election of officers and an update on the year's activities. The regular meeting will also include an update on the Shobe Creek Project and appointment of the Budget Officer for the 24/25 budget year. Meetings of the district are open to the public.

ODFW seeks Hunter Representative for statewide A&H Board; apply by March 29

SALEM, Ore.—Do you have a love of hunting and passion for wildlife conservation? If so, consider applying to serve as a Hunter Representative on ODFW's statewide Access & Habitat (A&H) Board.

ODFW is accepting applications to fill the position through March 29, 2024. Individuals with knowledge and experience in hunting and wildlife conservation, and ideally with an understanding of forestry or agriculture, are encouraged to apply. Application forms are available at http://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/AH/get_involved.asp

Statewide Board members are appointed to four-year terms by the Fish and Wildlife Commission. They meet four times each year in various communities throughout the state to review project funding applications, hear public testimony and act as liaisons between the program and

the public. Hunter Representatives review project proposals from a hunter's perspective and ensure hunters wants and concerns are addressed.

The A&H Board is made up of seven volunteers—three hunter representatives, three landowner representatives, and the Chair—who review and recommend wildlife habitat improvement and hunter access projects to the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission. The A&H Program is funded by a \$4 surcharge on hunting licenses and the sale of deer and elk raffle entries and auction tags.

See the A&H Program webpage and most recent A&H Biennium Report for additional information on the A&H program. Please contact Travis Schultz at (503) 947-6087 if you have any questions on the position.

Morrow SWCD to meet

Morrow SWCD will meet Tuesday, March 5th beginning at 6pm at the Ag Service Center in Heppner. To join via Zoom or conference call, please contact the SWCD beforehand at 541-676-5452. Meetings of the Morrow SWCD are open to the public.

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This classic split level 2 bed, 2 bath home overlooks Heppner with a relaxing back deck and beautiful backyard. 1 car garage leads into the lower game room/office with bathroom. New furnace in 2020 with ac and air purifier, new roof in the last 5 years, new carpet in 2021. Cozy living room, dining room and bedrooms. Upper and lower Sqft is approximate. 140 S Gilmore St. MLS#:23505395

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