# Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Report

OPEN: COUGAR

Wolves are protected by state law and it is unlawful to shoot them. Coyote hunters in northeastern Oregon need to take extra care to identify their target as wolves can look like covotes, especially wolf pups in the mid-summer and fall. Please report any wolf sightings or wolf sign to La Grande office (541) 963-2138 or online with the Wolf Reporting Form Use the Oregon Hunting Map to see where

#### MORROW, GILLIAM AND WHEELER COUNTIES

Cougar hunting is open. Cougar are well distributed in our forested areas. Calling with distress calls or cougar vocalizations can be effective. However, locating a fresh, naturally made kill has the best chance of success. The Coyote population is healthy with good numbers of coyotes available for those who wish to pursue them. Watch wind direction to help prevent giving away your location. Calling with game distress calls can be very successful

#### **UMATILLA COUNTY**

Cougar are well distributed in forested areas of the Walla Walla, Mt. Emily, and Ukiah units. Hunters will have best success by finding a fresh naturally made kill and sitting on it, or by using predator calls. Some success has come from following tracks until the cougar is located.

Coyote are numerous throughout the County and hunters should have good success calling. Remember to ask permission before hunting on private lands. **BAKER COUNTY** 

Check the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest website or call them for the latest on Forest Service Rd 39 construction and detour route information. Remember it is a designated snowmobile route until April 15 and is not maintained for passenger travel until mid-June. The southern 18 miles may be closed due to construction, please call or check the

Cougars can be found throughout Baker County but hunters should target areas with high concentrations of deer and elk. Setting up on a fresh kill or using distress calls can all be productive techniques. Hunters are required to check in the hide of any cougar taken, with skull and proof of sex attached. Remember to pick up a 2015 tag.

Coyote numbers are good throughout the district. Try calling in early morning and late afternoon. Remember to ask for permission before hunting on private properties. GRANT COUNTY

Cougar hunting remains open. Successful hunters should remember that check-in of the hide with skull and proof of sex attached is mandatory; see the regulations for details Remember to pick up a 2015 tag. Coyote numbers are good in most of the district. Coyotes may respond to distress calls. Try calling in the early morning and late

#### UNION COUNTY

Cougars are common in Union County. Focus on game rich areas with long ridge lines or saddles that cats typically travel. Setting up downwind of a deer or elk killed by a cougar can be productive. Nonresident hunters can include a cougar tag with others tags for only \$14.50. All cougars taken must be checked in within 10 days of harvest; call for an appointment before check in. Remember to pick up a

Coyote numbers are good throughout the district. Try calling in early morning and late afternoon. Remember to ask for permission before hunting on private properties. Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area

Hunting now closed. Note: all visitors including hunters must have in their possession a free daily permit to access the wildlife area. Permits and area maps/regulations are available at several selfcheck-in stations at entry points and parking lots. Wildlife hunters, viewers and anglers also need a parking permit to park on the wildlife area. Hunters receive a free parking permit with their hunting license. The \$7 daily or \$22 annual permit can be purchased online or at an ODFW office that sells licenses or at a license sales agent. Parking permits are to be

#### displayed on the vehicle dash WALLOWA COUNTY

website or call them for the latest on Forest Service Rd 39 construction and detour route information. Remember it is not maintained for passenger car travel until mid-June. The southern 18 miles may be closed due to construction, please call or check the website

Coyote: Good numbers of coyotes can be found throughout Wallowa County. Calling coyotes with rabbit distress type calls has been effective for hunters. It is important to choose areas with abundant coyote sign and little human activity.

Cougar numbers are moderate throughout Wallowa County. Most lions are taken inciden tal to other hunting; however, calling with fawn bleat, or locating a cougar kill and waiting for a cat to return are often successful techniques NORTHEAST ZONE WILDLIFE VIEWING

MORROW, GILLIAM AND WHEELER COUNTIES

The last of our winter migrants are still around but not many. Merlins and rough-legged hawks can be seen in the northern part of the district, but not for much longer. All the early migrants are here or passing by, Say's phoebe, longbilled curlew, white-crowned sparrow, Rufus sided towhee have been seen in the yards of the District. Sandhill cranes have been seen passing overhead headed north for the

Our year round raptors are easily found American kestrels, northern harriers, red-tailed hawks, and barn, short-eared and great horned owls. Golden eagles and ferruginous hawks can be seen near their nests. Swainson's hawks should be showing up fairly soon in the northern portion of the district. In the grasslands grasshopper sparrows horned larks can be seen flying. Snakes are starting to get more active with gopher/bull snakes being the most common

Canada geese should be hatched by now; one can see adults with their young on the major waterways of the district. Deer and elk can be seen in the forest, try meadows at daylight and dusk for the best

**UMATILLA COUNTY** 

chance for seeing an elk. 4/28/15.

Early spring conditions have provided early green up of annual grasses in mid elevations along the Blue Mountains. Deer and elk are distributed throughout the mid and upper elevations foraging on the new growth of perennial grasses, shrubs and forbs, Large groups of elk can be viewed for the next few weeks during early and late hours of daylight along south facing ridges. These groups will be on or near the boundary of the Forest Service intermingled between open grass slopes and timbered drainages. Deer will be more widespread and dispersed in smaller groups amongst the mid and high elevations Bears will be distributed in similar areas of the Blue Mountains and are many different colors other than black and provide a unique viewing opportunity.

#### **BAKER COUNTY**

Bighorn sheep can be seen in the Burnt River Canyon west of Durkee or along the Snake River Road south of Richland. Young lambs can be seen this time of year with ewes across most of the bigborn sheep range. The best viewing is in the early morning and late in the evening. Please remember to leave wildlife alone. It is crucial for their survival to keep human interactions to a minimum Bald and golden eagles can be seen along the Snake River. Take the Snake River Road between Richland and Huntington. 6/2/15. **GRANT COUNTY** 

Countywide Songbirds have arrived in the valley and are beginning to nest. Redwing blackbirds can be seen and heard as you drive from Prairie City to Dayville on Highway 26. Western meadowlarks can be heard singing in and around pasturelands. Great horn owls have been hatching young (owlets) over the past month when walking through the forest be on the lookout for a "witches broom," a typical great horn owl nest found in large fir trees. Bald and Golden eagles can be viewed along the John Day River. The best time to see them is early in the morning. Watch for other raptors including Redtail Hawks and Northern Harriers, roosting in large trees and on power

Watch for deer and elk crossing the highways Dawn and dusk are the most active time for deer and elk and are not easily seen due to low light conditions by drivers alongside the road.

Migratory passerine and raptors can be observed nesting throughout Umatilla County Federal, State and Tribal wildlife areas and refuges along with public road access throughout the county provide good viewing opportunities for Ferruginous, Rough-legged Red tailed. Coopers and Swainson's hawks along with both Bald and Golden eagles Riparian and wooded corridors and large grassland areas can also provide good viewing opportunity for Warblers, Robins and Sparrows. 5/11/2015.

#### **UNION COUNTY** Ladd Marsh Wildlife Area

Note: All visitors must have in their possession a free daily permit to access the wildlife area.

Permits are available at several self-check-in stations at entry points and parking lots. Wildlife viewers and anglers also need a parking permit to park on the wildlife area. The \$7 daily or \$22 annual permit can be purchased online or at an ODFW office that sells licenses or at a license sales agent. Learn more about ODFW's Wildlife Area Parking Permit

The Tule Lake unit, including the autoroute. is open for the season. The Glass Hill unit is open to foot traffic only. Visitors are advised to carefully read posted signs and consult the wildlife area administrative rules. Rules that apply to all areas are at the top (at the above link), and then scroll down to page 8, #635-008-120, for additional rules specific to Ladd Marsh

Dogs are not permitted within the Wildlife Area, on or off leash except during authorized hunting seasons. There are numerous quality viewing opportunities from county roads that pass through the area. Binoculars or a spotting scope will help as many animals are best viewed from a distance.

Canada goose goslings at a variety of stages of growth can be seen throughout the area. Duck broods are also being seen in several locations. It is the season for babies on the

Nearly all great horned owl chicks have

fledged but they may still be seen perched in trees hoping to be fed by a parent. Barn owls are having a good nesting season. New fledglings seem to be everywhere. Red-tailed Hawk chicks can be seen in several nests and Swainson's hawks are very close to hatching Other raptors in the area include Northern Harrier, Cooper's and Sharp-shinned Hawks and American Kestrel. Watch for prairie falcons and golden eagles as well. Both American avocet and black-necked stilt are nesting. American white pelicans have been seen both in the air and on ponds. Al expected songbirds have returned from their wintering areas and many are in full song,

especially early in the mornings. Common

yellow-breasted chat was a one day visitor

yellowthroats seem to be everywhere. A single

Most crane nests have hatched; some of the chicks are just over a month old now and the pairs may be seen, from a distance, with their young in meadows. Please report any sandhill cranes wearing leg bands to the Ladd Marsh staff (541-963-4954). If possible, note the color and order of bands on each of the bird's legs (e.g., pink above white on left leg; silver above black on right leg). The specific combination and order can identify individual birds. 6/2/15.

#### WALLOWA COUNTY

As we move into summer, many raptors will be feeding young at their nests. Common raptors in the open areas of the county are red-tailed hawks, with occasional ferruginous and Swainson's hawks also present. Most migrating bald eagles have moved north by now, but a resident pair of bald eagles is again using the nest at the south end of Wallowa Lake. Look for them in a large cottonwood tree near where the Wallowa River runs into the lake. A good place to observe mule deer is along the Wallowa Lake highway between Joseph and the south end of Wallowa Lake. Drive slowly and watch along the moraine on the east side of the lake around dawn and dusk Be careful to use the turnouts when stopping to watch these animals, as there will be other traffic on the road. White-tailed deer can be found throughout the Wallowa Valley on or near agricultural lands.

Many elk have returned to the Zumwalt Prairie now. Try driving the Zumwalt and Pine Creek Roads and looking carefully at ridge tops. Once you find a herd, use binoculars or a spotting scope to observe the animals. While most of our migrant waterfowl have already headed north with the advent of warmer weather, some can still be seen flying into Wallowa Lake in the evenings from the county park at the north end of the lake. Canada geese (including new goslings) and several species of ducks can also be seen feeding in agricultural fields and along streams around the county. Other migrants and summer residents are moving into the area including, western tanagers, Say's phoebes, horned larks, killdeers, and robins. Mountain bluebirds are also arrived back from their southern haunts and can be seen in open grassland areas near tre RESERVOIR FISHING

BROWNLEE RESERVOIR: crappie, bass perch, catfish, bluegill, trout Fishing continues to be good for crappie throughout the reservoir, but the fish are smallish, averaging 7 to 8-inches. Bobber and jigs are working well. As the weather warms the fish will be deeper. Call the Idaho Power Company's recording at 1-800-422-3143 to get information

on access at recreational sites. OXBOW RESERVOIR: trout, crappie, bass catfish

Fishing has slowed some for trout, but remains good at tributary mouths. Fishing for crappie has slowed some but remains good for fish averaging 10 inches. Bass fishing is good and fishing for channels cats is picking up. HELLS CANYON RESERVOIR: trout, crappie bass, catfish Fishing has slowed some for trout, but remains

good at tributary mouths. Fishing for crappie has slowed some but remains good for fish averaging 10 inches. Bass fishing is good and fishing for channels cats is picking up SNAKE RIVER below HELLS CANYON RES-ERVOIR: trout, steelhead, salmon, bass The Snake River is closed for steelhead angling as of April 30, 2015. Spring Chinook season is open on the Snake River from the Dug Bar boat ramp up river to the boundary below Hells Canyon Dam. The bag limit is 4 Chinook salmon per day with no more than 2 adult fish over 24-inches. Barbless hooks and a Columbia Basin Endorsement are required when fishing for salmon, steelhead and sturgeon in Hells Canyon. Most anglers will access the canyon via iet boat launched at Heller Bar or Hells Canyon Dam. Oregon and Idaho regulations require barbless hooks in the Snake River when fishing for salmon, steelhead or sturgeon. SNAKE RIVER (above Brownlee Reservoir):

#### channel catfish, flathead catfish, smallmouth bass

Catfish on the Snake River has been good, as is bow fishing for carp. Fishing for bass has been slow, most bass appear to be post-spawn and are trickier to catch. Bass fishing will improve gradually over the next few weeks

#### COLUMBIA FISHING Weekend Fishing Opportunities:

Angling for summer Chinook, sockeye and summer steelhead is open between the Astoria-Megler Bridge and the OR/WA border. Shad angling is open from Buoy 10 upstream to the Oregon/Washington border. The Bonneville Pool is open to the retention of white sturgeon Friday June 19 – Sunday June 21, Friday June 26 – Sunday June 28, and Friday July 3 - Sunday July 5, 2015. Sturgeon retention is open through Friday July 31 from McNary Dam upstream to the Oregon/ Washington border.

White sturgeon retention is closed from Buoy 10 upstream to McNary Dam (except in the Bonnville Pool during the above mentioned weekend openers in June and July), but remains an option for catch and release fishing Anglers are reminded that spawning sanctual ies take effect May 1 (see special regulations for details).

Current Columbia River regulations for salmon, steelhead, shad and sturgeon can be found at the Sport Fishing Regulation Update page.

SALMON, STEELHEAD AND SHAD On the lower Columbia this past weekend salmonid angling was poor to good. Shad angling was good for bank anglers in the gorge In the gorge, boat anglers averaged 0.88 spring Chinook caught per boat, while anglers fishing in Troutdale averaged 0.34 spring Chinook caught per boat. In the Portland to Westport area, boat anglers averaged 0.46 spring Chinook caught per boat. Bank anglers in the gorge averaged 0.29 spring Chinook caught per angler. On Saturday's (6/12) flight, 391 salmonid boats and 135 Oregon bank anglers were counted from the Columbia River Estuary to Bonneville Dam.

Gorge Bank: Weekly checking showed 12 adipose fin-clipped adult spring Chinook and two adipose fin-clipped jack spring Chinook kept, plus five unclipped adult spring Chinook and one unclipped jack spring Chinook released for 49 salmonid anglers; and 720 shad kept for 149 shad anglers.

Gorge Boats: Weekend checking showed 12 adipose fin-clipped adult spring Chinook kept and 16 unclipped adult spring Chinook released for 32 boats (94 anglers); and eight shad kept for 12 boats (34 anglers).

The Dalles Pool (Columbia River between The Dalles Dam and John Day Dam): No report. John Day Pool (Columbia River between John Day Dam and McNary Dam): No report.

# STURGEON

Gorge Boats (below Marker 82): Closed for retention. No report. The Dalles Pool (Columbia River between The Dalles Dam and John Day Dam): Closed to

John Day Pool (Columbia River between John Day Dam and McNary Dam): Closed to reten-WALLEYE

Bonneville Pool: No report. The Dalles Pool: No report John Day Pool (Columbia River between John Day Dam and McNary Dam): No report.

# Controlled hunt draw results now available

Hunters can now check to see if they drew a big game tag for the fall by visiting the My Hunter Information website at https://or.outdoorcentral.us/or/hunterreport or calling 1-866-947-6339.

Hunters will need to provide their Hunter/Angler ID number, which is printed on all ODFW license documents and stays the same from year to year. They can call ODFW's licensing division at 503-947-6101 if they are unable to locate their ID number

A total of 137,015 fall big game hunt tags were available in the draw this year. ODFW received 407,402 fall controlled hunt applications, up from 389,172 last year.

As results are available

both online and by phone, ODFW no longer mails postcards notifying applicants of controlled hunt draw results.

ODFW limits the number of tags for some hunts to control hunting pressure and fairly distribute tags for popular hunts. All eastern Oregon rifle deer hunting, pronghorn, bighorn sheep and Rocky Mountain goat hunts are limited entry, along with most eastern rifle elk hunts. Hunters who apply for a tag and don't draw it receive a preference point for that hunt series, which increases their chances of drawing the following year.

Hunters who drew a tag are reminded to purchase it no later than the day before the hunt begins.

## **SPORTS IN BRIEF**

# Youth triathlon coming up

The registration deadline for the city's Kid's Triathlon is Friday. The cost is \$15 for residents and \$18 for non-residents.

Participants will be divided into groups depending on age. Five- to 7-yearolds will swim 50 meters, bike one mile and run .75 miles. Four- to 6-year-olds will swim 50 feet (lifejackets are included), bike .6 miles (training wheels are allowed) and run .4 miles. Each participant needs to pick up a shirt and pre-race packet at the Hermiston Family Aquatic Center June 23-26 during facility hours.

## Junior golf summer program underway

Though the first session of the junior golf program is closed for registration, session two is still open. Registration for the

second session, which begins June 30, is open until June 26

The cost is \$40 for residents and \$50 for non-residents, and the program is for boys and girls ages 6-14 of all skill levels.

Each participant will learn golf etiquette, driving, pitching, putting and rules of the game and more from local pro Jason Sperr.

The camp runs from 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., or 10:30 a.m. to noon.

#### GO SEE IT

## Wednesday, June 17

No events scheduled

# Thursday, June 18

Hermiston vs. Kibe (DH), 4 p.m.

# Friday, June 19

# Baseball

Hermiston vs. Sandy (DH), 3 p.m. Community Kid's Triatholon registration deadline

# Saturday, June 20

No events scheduled

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\$125,000 **EXTRA** Large Living Room with high ceilings enhances this comfortable family home. Nice kitchen with dining. separate Master suite, Detached garage, parking. Matt Vogler, 541.377.9470 MI S15079110

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Homes for Sale, Pendleton

Homes for Sale, Pendleton



Well maintained 3 bdrm, 2 bath (Pendleton, OR)
One level with double garage with lots of storage overlooking Rice Park w/sunset view. Newer vinyl, siding, roof, deck, updated kitchen. Gas heat/gas fireplace,

central air, sunken living room, large

master suite, fenced low maintenance yard.

**Pendleton** 100 Pendleton \$109,000, ONE level \$135,000 - 3 Bed-1.5 Home. Over 2,000

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Garage.

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nice

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2 Bath on

Hard-

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1924 Sq.

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Bath

3 bedroom, flat lot with fenced backyard. New Roof, Open Concept, Nice kitchen, Excellent Might Value, Fast! Matt Vogler 541.377.9470 MLS:15127217

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\$155,000 - 3 Bedroom 2 Bath View Home. Large .6 acre Nice condition throughout. geous view from the deck and living room. Sherwood School MLS# Dist. 15115206 **Rocky Mikesell** 

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room 3 Bath Home. Office or 4th Bedroom. Fenced Yard 2 car garage. Plenty of Parking. Located on 18th Street Needs cosmetics MLS# and carpet.

#### Homes for Sale, **Pendleton** 100

\$209,900 - 4 Bedroom 3 Bath sq ft. Home. Very condition nice throughout. Large back deck. Fenced back yard. geous view. MLS# 14029793

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