

**Ike Says . . .**

**From page 2**  
 ODF&W biologists, they pointed out that the two fish bag is hoped to provide fishermen the chance to keep mortally wounded fish while practicing catch and release.

Talking about rivers, it is worth noting that our dry spring is definitely reflected in river levels. The level of the Nehalem, as of May 26, was less than half of the historic average for that date. As we start sum-

mer, we are, once again, looking at very low water conditions. The City of Vernonia is well prepared to gauge stream levels this year and water curtailment should go smoothly, if it is needed.

There is a proposal by ODF&W staff to reduce antlerless deer harvest in the North Coast units by 50 percent, a result of finally recognizing the decline in deer numbers in North Coast units. While many

of us think that ODF&W should suspend all antlerless deer hunting immediately, this proposal is a step in the right direction. I would expect that, as the deer population continues to decline, antlerless deer tags will continue to be cut. I have not seen a fawn yet this year, but as you read this article they should be hitting the ground.

I haven't seen many deer this year on my travels back and forth to work, either, and

those I have seen have usually been road kills. At least one of these deer fought back a little as I observed a large piece of the car lying beside the dead deer. Please be careful the next two months, especially if the weather continues to be dry, since female deer seem to go to the bigger streams for water and, of course, newborn fawns are not road-wise. Over the years I have noticed that deer  
**See page 20**

**Vernonia Justice Court**

May 18, 2004

William Loyd Castle, 45, Clatskanie, found guilty of DUII; A&D treatment, 1 yr probation, \$1295. FF&A.

Traffic..... 16  
 Boating..... 13



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