

Young hunters must wear orange in 2011

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission has made wearing hunter orange mandatory for youth 17 years of age and younger. The rule will take effect August 1, 2011.

The rule will require the wearing of a hunter orange upper garment OR hat for youth hunters while hunting game mammals and upland birds (except turkey) with any firearm.

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission also set the 2011 Oregon Big Game Regulations, which include season dates, bag limits and open areas, statewide youth hunts, and other information.

There were several additions to the 2011 big game regulations, including allowing the use of any legal weapon during "rifle" pronghorn, deer and elk hunts; and allowing hunters

who bought a Sport Pac to use the deer voucher for 600 series hunts.

Changes for 2011 include:

- Allowing any legal weapon during "rifle" pronghorn, deer and elk hunts (already legal for other species).
- Allowing Sport Pac hunters to use the deer voucher for 600 series hunts.
- Allowing limited tags sales after deadlines.
- Implementing a winter range closure at Phillip W. Schneider Wildlife Area.
- Extend Murderers Creek-Flagtail TMA so it begins 3 days prior to archery season (currently begins 3 days prior to buck deer rifle season).
- Replacing general late season archery cow hunts with controlled hunts in Santiam, Stott Mt., Alesia, McKenzie and

N. Indigo (due to declining elk populations and to better distribute hunters).

- Allow additional deer hunting on William Finley National Wildlife Refuge
- New "Wendling" Travel Management Area in a portion of McKenzie Unit on private timberland (north of Hwy 126, east of Marcola Road, south of Mohawk River Mainline).
- Bridge Creek Wildlife Area to open for public access April 15 (not May 1) to coincide with spring turkey season and opening of PW Schneider WA.

The Commission decided to continue current regulations and not allow archery hunters to use lighted nocks or cameras. It also decided not to begin a pilot program that would have allowed crossbows for some hunters with disabilities.

ODFW seeks Salmon advisory member

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is seeking qualified candidates to represent the North Coast on the Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program (STEP) Advisory Committee.

Oregonians who are involved with local fishing groups, have previous experience working with volunteers and/or in community service, and are able to travel at least four times per year, are encouraged to apply. The ideal candidate should be a resident of the area extending from Cannon Beach north to Warrenton, and up the Columbia River to Westport including the communities of Cannon Beach, Seaside, Warrenton, Astoria and Vernonia.

through their involvement in STEP, donating money, materials, equipment, and countless hours of time and labor.

The committee is comprised of 13 members representing all regions of Oregon. Members are appointed by the Governor and meet quarterly in various communities throughout the state to conduct STEP business and advise ODFW and the Fish and Wildlife Commission on issues regarding STEP. Committee members are volunteers; however, business-related expenses are reimbursed

Candidates are encouraged to apply by October 29, though this recruitment will remain open until filled.

For more application materials, visit the link below or go to <http://governor.oregon.gov/Gov/boards.shtml> and follow the link to "interest form." Information on STEP can be found at <http://www.dfw.state.or.us/STEP/index.asp> or by contacting Kevin Herkamp, ODFW Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program Coordinator, at (503)947-6232 or kevin.herkamp@state.or.us.

Columbia salmon fishing reopens

Chinook salmon fishing reopened on the lower Columbia River downstream of the Lewis River on October 15 and will stay open through the end of the year.

The Oregon and Washington departments of fish and wildlife decided to reopen recreational chinook salmon

fishing on the Columbia from Buoy 10 upstream approximately 88 miles to the mouth of the Lewis River.

This section had been closed for chinook since September 12 to reduce impacts to federally-listed wild "tule"-stock chinook salmon destined for

See Salmon on page 20

Power of the People

By W. Marc Farmer, General Manager, West Oregon Electric Cooperative



A groundbreaking ceremony was held for the new WOEC headquarters facility on October 8. With State Legislators, a County Commissioner, the City Administrator, WOEC Board and Staff, Five Star Builders, and Co-op members present, the project was officially begun. Actual construction began this week. Depending on the weather conditions during construction, the project

should take from eight to 10 months to complete. This facility will be using local contractors, goods, services and vendors to create and retain as much local employment as possible. The best part is that it is out of the flood plain.

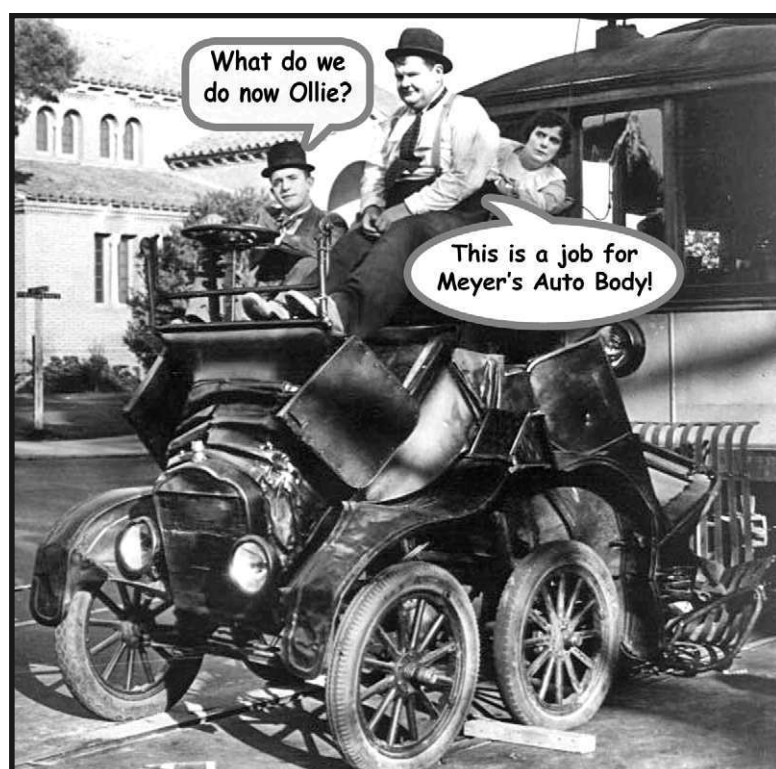
See picture from the groundbreaking ceremony on page 1.

BLM expands use of herbicides

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) announced the release of a Record of Decision for the Vegetation Treatments Using Herbicides on BLM Lands in Oregon. Weeds are currently spreading on BLM lands in Oregon at an estimated 12 percent per year, or 144,000 acres per year. This decision expands herbicide use beyond noxious weed treatments to include: the treatment of all invasive plants; the control of pests and diseases; and the control of native vegetation in rights-of-way, administrative sites, and recreation

sites. The broader array of herbicides available under the selected alternative will help slow the noxious weed spread rate by half and prevent 2.2 million acres from becoming infested.

There is a 30-day appeal period following issuance of the Record of Decision before the decision can take effect. Additional information, and a copy of the Record of Decision and Final Environmental Impact Statement, is available online at <http://www.blm.gov/or/plans/vegtreatmentseis/>



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