

## Ike Says . . .

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decline around by ODF&W, and sports people continue to buy over-allocated tags while grumbling how bad the hunting is.

Roosevelt elk are one of the bright spots in our state and are believed to be stable to slightly declining. I predict that this will continue into the near future although there most likely is starting to be more pressure coming into play on the elk herds from an ever-increasing cougar population. ODF&W will need to pay close attention

to antlerless harvest from hunting and the predation from cougars to properly continue managing the elk herds. One thing we have seen over time is the unwillingness of ODF&W to cut antlerless tags in a timely fashion, to head off herd declines. ODF&W in our region has cut some tag numbers and reduced season lengths in the cow hunts, but this was mainly to address the increased cows being taken by handicapped hunters during regular seasons. With low deer numbers in our area, the cougars have to

be impacting elk at a higher level than would be normally expected, and this will have to be figured into the population dynamics or we will eventually have a declining herd.

The one bright spot in Oregon is predator hunting; there are lots of coyotes, bears, bobcats and cougars. While these populations are up, they may not continue into the future once their primary prey species decline to a point that cannot support their numbers. Then they will simply stop producing offspring and, in the worse

case, starve to death.

The other day, a co-worker told me a quote that I think applies to us sportspeople, "people will treat you the way that you allow them". We all need to step back and ponder if what we are allowing to happen to wildlife in our state is the direction we want to head. Will we continue to sit back and allow it?

Izaak Walton League, Nehalem Valley Chapter meets monthly on the 3rd Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Call 503-429-7193 for location.

## Action Ads

INEXPENSIVE - EFFECTIVE

**503-429-9410**

**\$4.50 for the first 10 words, then just**

**10¢ for each**

**additional word**

## Just for Fun

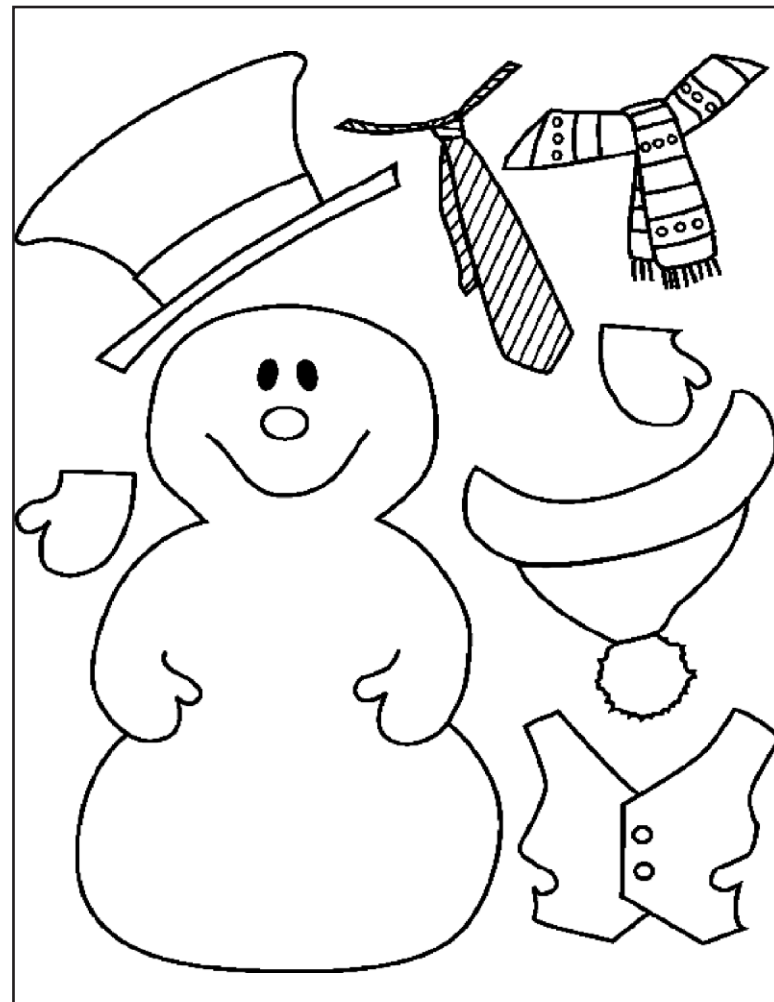
Casey and Kyle by Will Robertson



Solve this Sudoku

				7		5		
7	9			1				6
			4			3		
5	8			9				
9			7		5			1
				3			8	5
		9			1			
8				7			2	3
	2		6					

Answer to December 16  
Sudoku is on page 22



We have no right to assume that any physical laws exist, or if they have existed up to now, that they will continue to exist in a similar manner in the future.

MAX PLANCK  
German  
physicist  
(1858-1947)