

**Ike Says . . .**

**From page 3**

playing out. Rifle hunters declined by nearly 22%, bull harvest is down 30% and total harvest (including cow harvest) is down by 28%. Archers gained 25% more hunters; a 189% increase in bull harvest and an overall increase in elk take of 59.5%.

Some may conclude that the harvest simply shifted from rifle to archery, but if you look closely at the stats, overall harvest is down. Eastern Oregon's elk losses are the most dramatic, going from a combined archery and rifle harvest of 18,008 elk to 8,613 elk, a 52% decline, yet archers were able to increase their harvest under a declining elk population. So what happened?

As the elk populations declined, most likely due to predation, ODFW cut rifle tag numbers and more hunters switched to the archery ranks. But it can also be seen from the data that many hunters are waiting to draw tags or simply quit hunting. The bull-to-cow ratios were maintained because of the dramatic reduction in rifle harvest, but archers hunting during the elk rut were now intercepting a lot of these additional bulls and a large share of mature herd bulls.

Here are two examples of why I can make this conclusion. After securing phone surveys from ODFW that include antler point data, I gleaned this information. In 2011 in the Starkey unit in eastern Oregon, archers took 71- 6 point or larger bulls, rifle hunters took 15. In our own backyard in the Saddle Mt. unit, archers took 70- 6 point or larger bulls while the two rifle seasons combined took 31.

So, why is this a problem? Rifle hunters harvest their bulls after the rut, usually in late October and November. Archers, on the other hand, harvest their bulls before and into the elk rut. By removing these large, herd bulls before breeding is completed, we have undercut the very goals that ODFW set for its elk herds, and the very reason rifle elk hunters have been restricted since 1996. It can now also be seen, as in the Starkey elk herd, that archers, with a 42% harvest rate of mature bulls are taking two of a maximum of five mature bulls per 100 cows out of the herd, which simply leaves too few bulls to take care of all the cows. The Saddle Mt. unit is not much better, with archers targeting mature bulls at a rate of at least 35% of harvest. This not only causes concerns about breeding, but obviously short-changes the rifle hunters of an equal share of these older bulls.

The time for controlled archery hunts has come, we cannot continue down this path and still pass on the elk hunting tradition that we all so love.

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

**HELP WANTED**

**Vernonia School District** is currently accepting applications for PT Asst. Cook, and Asst. and Head Wrestling Coach. Job postings and applications are available at [www.vernonia.k12.or.us](http://www.vernonia.k12.or.us). B10/03

**CLASSES**

**Guitar lessons** taught by professional, 30 years experience. \$25 per hour, all styles. John 503-235-8996 or 503-789-3835. PTFN

**MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE**

**Clatskanie Mini Storage**, "Absoloot Storage" 503-728-2051, 503-369-6503. P09/05-01/16

**MISCELLANEOUS WANTED**

**I buy guitars, amps, and** other musical instruments. Call John 503-235-8996 or 503-789-3835. PTFN

**Action Ads**

INEXPENSIVE - EFFECTIVE

**503-429-9410**

**\$5.50 for the first 10 words, then just 10¢ for each additional word**

**SALES**

**Estate Sale** 60500 Edens Rd. Vernonia. Oct. 5 & 6, 9-4. Logging equipment; Caterpillar D4 dozer, Craftsman planer/molder, arch, GM truck with cat tracks, cables, fuel storage tanks & more. Tool chest, misc. tools, fishing gear, furniture, trunks, household items, camping gear, vintage glassware, other vintage items, jewelry, and more. **YOU HAUL. NO EARLY BIRDS, CASH ONLY, NO CREDIT CARDS.** B10/03

**SERVICES**

**Lulu's Antique Refinishing Repair & Caning**  
If your furniture isn't becoming to you, you should be coming to me.  
**Antiques Bought & Sold 429-7633 Eves.**

**KARMEL'S FLOWER PATCH**

**Floral Arrangements for all Occasions, Houseplants, Plant & Gift Baskets**  
503-429-9273

**SERVICES**

**If your computer needs repair,** I can fix it. 503-425-9360. P09/05-11/21

**RENTALS**

**\$701 - 3 bedroom, 2 bath** townhouse now available. Income Restrictions Apply. Water, sewer, garbage paid. 503-429-6052. *Equal Housing Opportunity* BTFN

**3 bedroom, 2 bath** on Vernonia 1/2 acre. \$950 per month. Available November 1. 503-429-5940. B10/03

**1 bedroom apartment,** upstairs. Has washer/dryer hookup. Water/sewer/garbage paid. \$535 per month + \$535 deposit. Available now. Call Linda, 503-720-2291 or David, 503-550-0795. BTFN

**Studio in 6-plex,** \$350.00 + refs & dep. 2 bedroom, \$565 + dep., w/s/t pd.24/7 message 866-305-6564 ext. 3. BTFN

**REAL ESTATE FOR SALE**

**Building lots,** Vernonia. Four buildable single-family lots, side-by-side, in beautiful 8-lot cul-de-sac subdivision. Four homes already built and sold. All utilities in place, owner will carry with \$1,000 down. Prices starting at \$49,900. Location: Rose Hedge Court. Call Ken or Carol for more information, 503-648-1951 or cell 503-781-7322. BTFN

**REAL ESTATE FOR SALE**

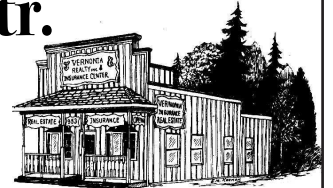
**REAL ESTATE FOR SALE**

**REAL ESTATE FOR SALE**

**Vernonia Realty & Insurance Ctr.**

953 Bridge Street, Vernonia, OR 97064 • 503-429-6203  
[www.vernoniarealty.com](http://www.vernoniarealty.com)

Real Estate Brokers: Rick Gardner, 503-720-6736  
Ken & Helen Bateman, 503-429-1032



**TO EACH HIS OWN!** With 7 bdrms, 2 baths, mud room, office/den & heated, detached shop, there's room for everyone. On a .46 acre lot w/towering trees, room for a garden, and in a quiet newer neighborhood, you can't ask for more....**\$189,000**



**SUPER CONVENIENT LOCATION** near city hall, library, banks, and stores. Lots of upgrades in this 3 bdrm, 2 bath dbl-wide that features a woodstove, heat pump w/AC, large 1 car garage, dog run, decks, trees and creek. No w just....**\$119,000**

**WORKSHOP & 3-BAY GARAGE** with plenty of room for RVs, autos, toys and tools. Plus a cozy, well-cared-for 2 bdrm bungalow w/covered front porch, rear deck, pantry and gas heat, on a chain-link fenced 1/4 AC lot....**\$139,000**

tic trees, lush foliage and rambling river. Over 4-1/2 acres of wooded splendor offers years of recreational fun for you and your family. **Just listed at.....\$54,500**

**LEVEL, QUARTER-ACRE LOT** w/utilities at lot boundries. In city limits with a country feel. Adjacent

7 bdrm home also for sale. **Just listed at.....\$45,000**

**HEAVILY WOODED BUILDING SITE,** this perfect spot for your dream home is screened by nature, but is only a short distance to Vernonia Lake, new school and state linear trail.....**\$150,000**

**PRIVATE RETREAT** with majes-

**Buying?**

**Selling? Renting?**

**We can Help.**

**The INDEPENDENT**

**503-429-9410**