

Fall 2003

BLUE MOUNTAIN MONITOR IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST



Umatilla National Forest
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife



Wallowa-Whitman National Forest
Washington Department of Wildlife



Elk Photo by Don Erickson



INSIDE....

- Prescribed Fire on the Umatilla.....Pg. 2
- Insect Agents Along the Grande Ronde.....Pg. 3
- Hay Quarentine.....Pg. 6
- Deer and Elk Tables.....Pg. 7
- Dates to Remember.....Pg. 8

FALL PRESCRIBED BURNING PLANNED ON THE UMATILLA NATIONAL FOREST

“Cooler temperatures and scattered rain showers have improved forest conditions enough to begin implementation of the Umatilla National Forest’s Fall Prescribed Burning Program,” announces Chuck Vickery, Umatilla National Forest’s Fuels Specialist. “Prescribed burns are used to achieve several goals. Some burns are prescribed for the purpose of reintroducing fire into fire-dependent ecosystems,” said Vickery. Resource objectives include species diversification and reducing potential impacts of wildfire, disease and insect infestation. “Prescribed burning is also used to significantly lower the risks that wildland fires represent to local communities, such as public safety, private property, and the economic base.”

There are two types of prescription burns, Activity Fuels and Natural Fuels. Activity fuels or “slash piles” are the accumulation of disposed material created by harvest activities. Activity fuel burns reduce potential fire hazards and prepare the area for reforestation. Reforestation will be accomplished by hand planting of tree seedlings or by natural seeding from seed trees selected and left standing in the unit. Removal of slash will also stimulate plant growth for wildlife winter forage and reduce fuel accumulations. Natural fuels are created by the normal collection of dead and down material and accumulations resulting from insect and disease mortality. Natural fuel burns, or “landscape burns,” are low intensity burns that cover a larger area and can take weeks to complete.

Ignition will either be done on the ground by hand crews with drip torches or by aerial release of ping-pong balls, filled with a dark gray, granule substance.

These plastic spheres burst into flames seconds after being injected with a chemicle substance. That’s just enough time to be dropped from a helicopter, hit the ground, and roll to a resting point before igniting. Ping-pong ball ignition is an efficient, cost effective method for igniting timbered areas surrounded by a road system. Ping-pong balls drop under the canopy, keeping flames small and close to the ground. The road system allows managers to strategically utilize their ground crews and equipment.

Prescribed burning is highly dependant on weather conditions. “Conditions have to be within a narrow criteria window in order to use prescribed fire,” said Vickery. “Wind speed and direction, temperatures, relative humidity, and fuel moistures are all taken into consideration.” Fall and spring weather provide the best conditions for prescribed burning: moist soil, dry material and cooler temperatures. The fall prescribed burning program should be completed by the end of November and may include parts of the hunting season.

All prescribed burning will comply with federal, state, and local air quality and smoke dispersal guidelines to reduce the impacts of smoke on forest visitors and local residents. The location of the areas to be burned is planned months before burning and may displace hunting camps in the specific area.

For more information concerning the Umatilla National Forest Prescribed Burning program, contact Chuck Vickery in Pendleton (541) 278-3716.



On the Walla Walla Ranger District



On the Pomeroy Ranger District



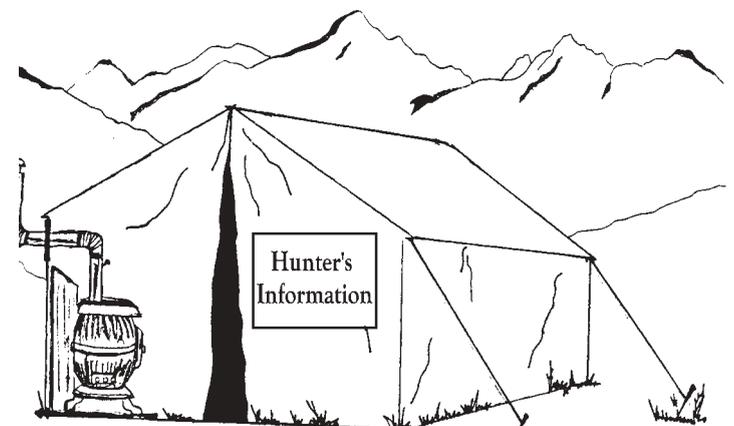
On the Heppner Ranger District

Hunter Information Station: A Familiar Site at Deadman Pass

Hunters traveling across the Blue Mountains a few days before the 2003 Rocky Mountain Elk seasons are invited to stop at the Deadman Pass Rest Area on Interstate 84 between Pendleton and La Grande for maps, information packets and refreshments. The station will be open daylight hours Oct. 25-28 and Nov. 5-7.

Since 1988, the hunter information station annually contacts an average of 1,500 hunters, answering questions pertaining to road closures, hunting regulations, hunter safety, and of course the most asked question, "where are the elk"?

The Station is sponsored jointly by the Wallowa-Whitman and Umatilla National Forests, the Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, Union County Search & Rescue, the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and the Oregon Hunter’s Association. We hope to see you there!



RESEARCH ATV RULES BEFORE YOU GO

All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) are being used more and more on National Forest lands. Before you load up your four-wheelers and head out on your hunting excursion, check to see what Off-Highway rules and regulations apply to the area you plan to hunt. "Go anywhere" abilities do not constitute the right to go anywhere. Here are just a few things to keep in mind before you ride:

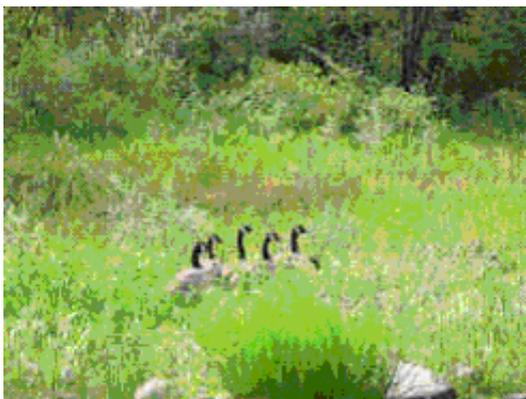


Many areas are closed to cross-country travel. That includes any travel to retrieve down game.

Public-Use Restrictions, pertaining to travel, may be in effect due to this year's extremely dry weather conditions and the high probability of wildfire.

It is illegal to operate an ATV with a loaded firearm in your possession. The same applies to a bow and arrow, unless arrows are in a quiver.

Do the research and know the laws!



A local environmental group showed up to show support for the all-natural treatment.



Obera erythrocephala, which were released to eat leafy spurge along the Grand Ronde river.



Spring Insect Agents Released Along the Grand Ronde River

The team of Larry Frank, Dave Flynn, Bud Porter, Dave Marr and Mark Porter recently floated the Grand Ronde river to release insects. The project is using natural (insect) agents to help control noxious weeds along the Grand Ronde corridor.

The crew checked for weevils released in previous years but didn't find any. They felt it was due to a matter of timing rather than there being no insects. If all goes as planned the insects released will devour tons of leafy spurge found in the Grande Ronde corridor. The Team also monitored a permanent transect for vegetation changes. A transect is a "slice" of forest that is permanently marked and revisited from time to time. This gives an accurate picture of changes that take place within the forest or the area being studied. Mark was amazed at the changes that have occurred since last year.

A trip down the Grande Ronde river affords a glimpse into another world many of us don't see when out in the Forest. The visitors saw Canadian Geese, River otter, Mink, Kingfishers, Dippers, Ospreys and Mergansers. The diversity of the wildlife along the river never ceases to amaze visitors.

The Grande Ronde corridor has many noxious weeds threatening its ecology. Pictured to the lower right is diffuse knapweed on Bear Creek island. This site will continue to be monitored in the future. Other weeds threatening the area are: Leafy Spurge, Redd Canary Grass, Mullein, St. Johnswort, Dalmation toadflax and Sulphur cinquefoil.

Through the efforts of Wallowa Resources and all the cooperators who manae land along the Grande Ronde River, our aim is to keep the corridor in its natural functioning ecosystem role for the survival of its inhabitants, and the pleasure of those who wish to sample its pleasures.

Story sent in by Larry Frank

Entering Wildland Fire Areas

Fire is part of a natural process that has shaped, and will continue to shape the environment you are enjoying today.

If you are near an area previously burned by a wildfire or a fall prescribed burning project is being monitored and fire activity is still evident, consider these hazards before entering the area:

WATCH OUT FOR THESE HAZARDS:

- Falling snags or trees
- Rapid spreading flames
- Rolling material such as rocks or logs
- Heavy smoke and limited visibility
- Holes from burned out stumps



To avoid these hazards, it is best to plan ahead and take appropriate safety precautions which may include changing your travel plans.



A permanent transect that will be monitored regularly for weeds.



TEN COMMANDMENTS OF FIREARM SAFETY

Accidents don't just happen. They are caused by ignorance or disregard of safety rules. The following firearm safety rules should be practiced until they become your personal hunting habits.

1. Treat every firearm with the respect due a loaded firearm.
2. Watch that muzzle! Be able to control the direction of the muzzle even if you should stumble.
3. Be sure the barrel and action are clear of obstructions and that you have only ammunition of the proper size for the gun you are carrying.
4. Be sure of your target before you pull the trigger; know identifying features of the game you hunt.
5. Unload guns when not in use. Take down or have actions open; guns should be carried in cases to the shooting area.
6. Never point a gun at anything you do not want to shoot; avoid all horseplay with a firearm.
7. Never climb a fence or tree or jump a ditch with a loaded firearm; never pull a gun toward you by the muzzle.
8. Never shoot a bullet at a flat, hard surface or water; at target practice, be sure your backstop is adequate.
9. Store firearms and ammunition separately beyond the reach of children and careless adults.
10. Avoid alcoholic beverages before or during shooting.

Watch for Dead Trees (Snags)

Snags are dead or dying trees. Hazard trees can be dead, dying, or green trees that are unstable. Over the years many people have been killed or injured in accidents involving hazard trees.

Size up snag hazards in area.

Never become complacent.

Always look up.

Get weather reports.

Scout out parking, sleeping and other safety zones.

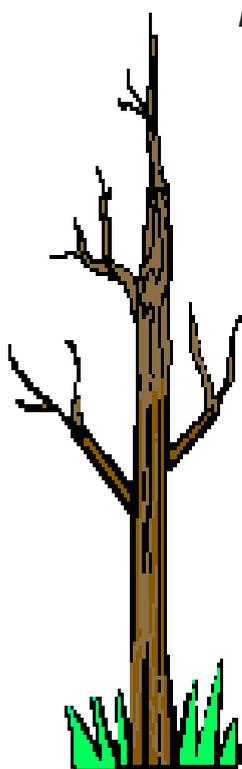
Advice group members of known hazards.

Face your hazard and take appropriate action.

Examine travel area for other hazards.

Take extra caution around heavy equipment.

You're ultimately responsible for your own safety.



New Fishing Opportunities on the Walla Walla Ranger District

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, in cooperation with the Umatilla National Forest, stocked six ponds on the south end of the Walla Walla Ranger District with catchable sized rainbow trout this past June. These ponds were created as rock quarries. The rock excavated was used for road surfacing. Some of the quarries later filled with water and began to grow algae and other aquatic vegetation. The resulting ponds looked to Tim Bailey of ODFW and Dave Crabtree of the USFS as if they were made to order for a recreational fishery, and so they made arrangements to have them stocked. About 900 fish were distributed amongst the six ponds.

These ponds are not located near developed campgrounds, so plan your fishing trip as a day-use activity, or come prepared for primitive camping. If you camp, please remember to tread lightly. Respect the environment and other users. If you clean your fish on site, please bury the waste parts.

Oregon State fishing regulations apply to these ponds, so check your fishing regulations pamphlet to make sure you have the appropriate fishing license and gear.



These ponds may still be used for rock sources as the need arises. Such use would be uncommon but could disrupt fishing activities. These ponds are also important water sources for stock watering (horses and sheep) and as water sources for firefighting and road watering for dust abatement. These uses will continue and may occasionally interfere briefly with fishing activities.

A brochure containing a map and directions to the ponds is available at the Umatilla National Forest Supervisor's Office in Pendleton, and at the Walla Walla Ranger District office in Walla Walla.



Remember, if you give a man a fish you have fed him for a day. If you teach a man to fish, he will ride around in a boat drinking beer.

Hunters and Campers... Thank You for Taking Care of Oregon's Natural Resources!

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife asks you to help protect Oregon's natural resources. Below are some tips for minimizing impacts to fish and wildlife during the hunting season.

Keep Streams Clean

Oregon's streams and rivers provide unique fish and wildlife habitat. When hunting or camping near waterways:

- Don't wash in streams and rivers. Carry water to your camp instead.
- Camp at least 200 feet from waterways.
- Tread lightly in and around waterways to avoid trampling fragile riparian habitat.
- Keep gas, diesel, chemicals and other contaminants away from streams and rivers.
- Do not use waterways as latrines.
- Dispose of human waste properly in establishing facilities or bury it at least 12 inches deep and 200 feet from streams.

Keep Wildlife Wild

Many wildlife species, such as bears, ground squirrels and raccoons, are opportunistic feeders. If they see and smell your food, they will find a way to get to it.

Wild animals may become habituated to humans and human food, cause serious personal and property damage, and have their health or survival compromised by feeding. Feeding a bear increases the chances of the bear becoming dangerous and usually leads to destruction of the bear.

To keep the wild in wildlife:

- Never intentionally feed wildlife.
- Put all leftover food and garbage in bear-proof cans, in a can with a tight-fitting lid, or in tightly sealed bags.
- Keep food and scented toiletry items, including toothpaste and deodorant, in bear-proof containers or out of sight in tightly sealed bags.
- Never store food or scented items in sleeping tents.



Safety Precautions – Cougars

Although still rare, human/cougar interactions have increased in recent years. If you encounter a cougar, these suggestions can help prevent an attack:

- Stay in a group.
- Don't approach the cougar.
- Don't run from a cougar. Running can stimulate the instinct to chase. Stand and face the animal. Make eye contact.
- Appear larger by raising your arms and tools, or by throwing stones or other objects without crouching or turning your back. Speak in a loud, firm voice.
- Fight back if attacked. Because a cougar tries to bite the head or neck, try to remain standing and face the attacking animal. Use rocks, sticks, jackets, tools and your hands to fend off the attack. If you are hunting, use your weapon.

Safety Precautions – Bears

Bear attacks are rare compared to the number of close encounters you encounter a bear:

- Stop. Stay calm. Back away slowly while facing the bear and speak softly. Avoid direct eye contact.
- Don't run or make any sudden moves.
- If on a trail step off the trail on the downhill side and slowly leave the area.
- If a cub is nearby, try to move away from it. Coming between a female and her cubs is very dangerous.
- In the unlikely event you are attacked by a bear, fight back. Use rocks, sticks, binoculars and even your bare hands. If you are hunting, use your weapon.



For more information
contact ODFW:
(503) 947-6000
(800) 708-1782

The Minam Hay Station will be open from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the following days during hunting season:

- 1 Three days prior to the controlled Buck Deer Season, opening September 30 - October 3.
- 1 Four days prior to the 1st Bull Elk Season, opening October 25 - 28.
- 1 Three days prior to 2nd Bull Elk Season, opening November 5 - 7.

For more information call Dan Sherwin (541) 426-3332, the Wallowa County Extension Office (541) 426-3143, or the Wallowa Mountains Visitor Center at (541) 426-5546.

HUNTERS NOTICE: Wallowa County is a Hay Quarantine Area

The Wallowa County Court passed an ordinance in 1989 making all of Wallowa County a Hay Quarantine Area. Hay cannot be lawfully imported into Wallowa County unless it is fed by landowners on their own land or land they lease. The person feeding the hay will be held responsible for all weed infestations caused by such feeding and all accompanying expenses.

The reasons for this ordinance are; noxious weeds are taking over the big game and livestock ranges; farmers; the County, ODF&W and other landowners are spending thousands of dollars for weed control; an effort is being made to reduce chemical use; weeds have destroyed major wildlife habitat areas in surrounding areas in surrounding states and counties.

Hay pellets are an excellent feed for horses, easily packed and lawful to import as the weed seed is sterilized in processing. Horse users are urged to use pellets when possible. The Wallowa County Court is asking all hunters, campers, and landowners to cooperate in this effort. Hay will be available at the Hay Station on the Minam, at Wallowa, Enterprise, and Joseph. In addition, some local farmers will have hay available.



Weather Service Office Provides Up-To-The-Minute Weather Information...



NWS Pendleton County Warning/ Forecast Area

Fall and winter hunting seasons can be an enjoyable time. It can also be hazardous and unpredictable. Since weather conditions change frequently and rapidly, before venturing out in the woods, play it safe.... be prepared by checking the current forecast.

Your local National Weather Service Office is the hub for weather information throughout Central and Northeast Oregon and Southeast Washington, and continuously broadcasts updated weather, water, and climate information. During any weather emergency, stay tuned to your NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio, or television station. For Weather, Water or Climate information, please feel free to stop by or call us at:

National Weather Service Weather Forecast Office

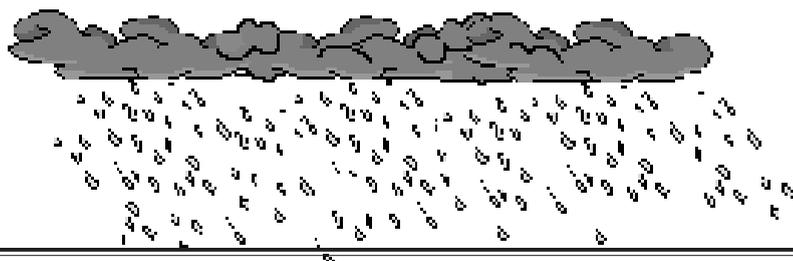
541-276-4493

www.wrh.noaa.gov/pendleton

NOAA Weather Radio

SITE	FREQUENCY
Pendleton, OR	162.400 MHz
Hermiston, OR	162.425 MHz
Heppner, OR	162.425 MHz
Richland, WA	162.450 MHz
Umatilla, OR	162.500 MHz
Bend, OR	162.500 MHz

Story sent in by Diana Locke



Can Hunters Take Radioed Elk?

With years of elk calf studies and adult elk habitat use studies underway on both the Washington and Oregon side of the Blue Mountains, there are many radio-telemetry-equipped animals of various ages running around out there.

Can a legally licensed hunter shoot one of these animals? Yes, says both the Washington and Oregon Departments of Fish and Wildlife, but please return the radio and information about the date and location of the kill to the nearest agency employee or facility.

Many radios cannot be detected at a distance by hunters, which keep the studies unbiased. It's usually when an animal has been killed and approached that the telemetry equipment is discovered.

Southeast Washington hunting prospects: Upland Birds, Deer good; Bear, Elk Fair

Upland game bird numbers and distribution look good this year, probably due at least in part to warm, dry conditions and lots of insects at hatching and rearing times.

Forest grouse hunting should be equal to or better than last year. Among the best areas for ruffed grouse are the forested streamside habitats in the Blue Mountains. Blue grouse are found at higher elevations in the Blues, usually areas associated with springs.

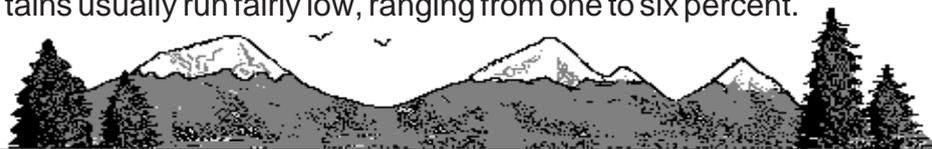
Pheasant hunting is generally best in the canyons along the Snake and Palouse Rivers in Whitman County. Hunters with good dogs and the willingness to hunt hard will also find fair pheasant opportunity further south in the breaks of the Snake, Walla Walla, Touchet, and Tucannon rivers. Pheasant releases will also be available again at selected sites; check Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife's Spokane office (509-456-4082) for details.

This year's over-wintering populations of **quail** are good and the expectation is for a good hunting season. A mix of brushy woods, stream, and farmland nearly anywhere in this region is good for quail. Good over-winter survival of adult **chukar partridge**, along with favorable weather during the brood season, is a good omen. Chukar partridge are nearly exclusively found in the breaks of the Snake River, especially from Central Ferry upstream to the Oregon border.

Deer hunting should be good in much of southeast Washington this year. The Blue Mountains= best mule and white-tailed deer populations (and hence, best hunting) occur along the Snake River breaks and in the foothills. But remember that most of this land is privately owned and you must have permission to hunt. Success rates in these areas can run as high as 20%. Deer populations in the mountains have declined in recent years, so hunting there will probably be half as productive.

The Blue Mountains **elk** herd populations have improved in most areas, with the exception of the Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness (unit 169). Hunter success rates usually average about 5%. This is a spike bull only area, with even fewer any-bull permits that usual due to high poaching of branch-antlered bulls last year. Hunters should be prepared for all types of weather, and should not camp in areas where they are susceptible to being trapped by drifting snow.

Blue Mountains **black bear** populations remain high but hunting will be difficult due to few and scattered natural foraging areas. Scout for old orchards, huckleberry fields, hawthorne thickets, plum thickets, and blackberry patches. Success rates in the Blue Mountains usually run fairly low, ranging from one to six percent.



NORTHEAST OREGON

UNIT	2003 Draw		Estimated Winter Population			2002 Deer Season				Ratio per 100 adults				
						ARCHERY		RIFLE						
# NAME	Buck Tags	1st Choice	2003	2002	M.O.	Buck Harvest	Hunters	Buck Harvest	Hunters	Bucks 2003	Bucks 2002	Bucks M.O.	Fawns 2003	Fawns 2002
60 Minam	600	944	3500	3400	5000	19	134	194	551	29	22	25	48	41
61 Imnaha	750	1148	4800	4800	5300	93	242	187	688	19	26	15	31	36
53 Catherine Creek	450	1028	1720	na	4300	168	599	266	520	17	27	15	28	29
63 Keating	650	1352	3686	2869	4600	1	173	330	773	8	na	15	36	25
62 Pine Creek	400	873	2218	2915	2500	37	226	153	491	8	na	15	34	40
64 Lookout Mtn.	160	815	3734	3795	3200	75	186	111	214	11	na	15	28	18
59 Snake River	300	658	2600	2650	6400	19	95	161	267	15	22	25	33	37
58 Chesnimus	550	1158	3600	3600	3600	19	193	356	563	16	16	12	40	43
57 Sled Springs	1800	2277	4800	4700	5000	57	190	854	1687	14	14	12	52	43
56 Wenaha	450	729	1200	1200	1500	68	187	195	421	12	18	12	46	24
55 Walla Walla	350	658	1850	1862	1900	38	134	198	326	11	9	15	40	34
54 East Mt. Emily	275	588	combined	na	combined	combined	combined	138	292	18	na	15	45	na
54 West Mt. Emily	700	1067	3900	4600	5000	57	412	231	666	10	15	15	45	41
52 Starkey	1600	2568	4350	na	3000	114	1213	526	1497	9	16	15	37	28
49 Ukiah	2500	3500	8900	6365	6700	37	953	697	2480	13	14	15	43	37
51 Sumpter	1650	3140	6780	6851	7000	186	561	575	1643	8	na	15	40	30
50 Desolation	1700	3366	2125	2000	2500	131	1026	540	1621	23	12	12	19	26
48 Heppner	3700	4312	11600	11475	13500	130	1175	1082	3614	16	9	12	29	30
45 Fossil	1800	2161	9100	10500	14000	0	169	739	1769	10	10	12	22	25
44 Columbia Basin	2000	2032	950	na	1000	38	130	1262	1915	15	7	12	37	29
47 Northside	1600	3185	12400	14000	15500	204	863	597	1624	11	17	15	33	29
46 Murderer's Creek	1200	3729	6100	5670	9000	135	836	596	1156	18	11	15	29	24
65 Beulah	1300	4649	11886	na	13700	132	657	704	1299	19	15	12	40	27
66 Malheur River	1650	3974	no data	11800	13700	225	804	665	1766	18	9	12	30	28
72 Silvies	1200	4681	8300	10700	11800	130	948	649	1567	8	na	12	17	23
37 Ochoco	5000	6340	na	na	20500	95	1187	861	4548	12	12	12	44	37

UNIT	Estimated Winter Population			2002 ELK HUNTING SEASON												Ratio Per 100 Cows			
				ARCHERY				1st RIFLE				2nd RIFLE							
# NAME	2003	2002	MO	Spike & 2 pt	3 pt+	Antlerless	Hunters	Spike & 2 pt	3 pt+	Antlerless	Hunters	Spike & 2 pt	3 pt+	Antlerless	Hunters	2003	2002	MO	2003
60 Minam	2000	1800	2000	0	34	0	238	8	34	na	403	23	40	na	431	16	18	20	32
61 Imnaha	1000	950	800	17	19	0	188	23	41	na	281	30	na	na	369	18	12	15	28
53 Catherine Crk	469	600	700	34	51	0	283	4	15	na	191	23	na	na	323	4	10	10	17
63 Keating	216	200	400	0	0	0	71	7	14	na	125	8	na	na	158	13	11	10	34
62 Pine Crk	500	420	400	4	34	17	188	36	33	na	284	23	na	na	241	15	20	15	31
64 Lookout Mtn	470	360	300	0	0	0	52	4	23	10	100	2	7	9	102	18	na	10	18
59 Snake River	3350	3000	3800	17	2	34	181	34	na	na	169	45	56	na	250	13	9	15	24
58 Chesnimus	2900	2900	3700	16	14	21	277	na	na	na	n	146	50	na	654	8	6	10	28
57 Sled Springs	2150	2100	2750	10	18	21	275	61	65	na	527	56	na	na	307	8	8	10	25
56 Wenaha	1400	1150	4250	34	7	na	206	31	na	na	201	83	5	na	609	13	11	10	20
55 Walla Walla	1500	1530	1800	0	3	2	128	9	na	na	114	60	5	na	397	5	10	10	28
54 Mt. Emily	4600	4800	5700	5	4	22	424	30	na	na	509	78	18	na	1047	6	6	10	30
52 Starkey	6678	4700	5300	2	55	138	1584	141	69	88	2046	75	na	na	2279	9	7	10	22
49 Ukiah	5000	5100	5000	34	20	59	1172	166	43	na	1714	196	na	na	1978	6	9	10	24
51 Sumpter	2031	2700	2000	0	34	17	691	27	21	19	937	15	na	na	857	9	14	10	35
50 Desolation	1365	2325	1300	23	125	86	1465	80	104	n	1549	68	na	na	1354	6	9	10	17
48 Heppner	2660	2800	2800	69	17	55	1070	111	48	136	1065	135	na	na	2512	8	7	10	27
45 Fossil	375	910	700	0	1	34	165	26	77	42	723	42	58	129	791	na	19	10	na
47 Northside	2300	2950	2000	19	61	40	868	38	86	27	512	42	82	194	730	12	12	10	18
46 Murderer's Crk	1800	2160	1700	17	53	73	1299	17	56	na	362	15	42	64	534	10	15	15	18
65 Beulah	na	na	1300	0	34	19	554	18	81	2	801	20	50	87	1048	6	14	15	33
66 Malheur River	1400	na	1500	17	0	19	631	9	55	na	447	22	24	na	456	9	16	15	30
72 Silvies	na	na	2200	34	70	86	1003	26	63	na	533	76	47	na	536	18	13	15	36
37 Ochoco	4600	5200	2600	19	2	86	1818	30	68	na	574	46	95	na	585	18	20	20	48

na = data not available

SOUTHEAST WASHINGTON

UNIT	2002 DEER and ELK HUNTING SEASON (Modern firearm, archery, muzzleloader combined)					
	Deer Hunters	Antlered	Antlerless	Elk Hunters	Antlered	Antlerless
145 Mayview	1497	358	14	35	1	1
149 Prescott	2323	691	31	87	0	0
154 Blue Creek	1024	190	34	628	33	16
162 Dayton	1867	331	46	1296	76	14
163 Marengo	619	113	17	103	0	0
166 Tucannon	709	99	40	374	15	1
169 Wenaha	197	31	4	297	7	0
172 Mountain View	312	62	10	310	27	0
175 Lick Creek	301	47	2	488	22	0
178 Peola	660	180	11	179	6	0
181 Couse	773	254	21	130	10	0
186 Grand Ronde	161	58	0	31	1	0

Mudding



Don't believe the T.V. ads

IT'S ILLEGAL!

I'M CONCERNED

about



CAMPFIRE SAFETY

Putting Out A Campfire

Don't Let Your Campfire Become A Wildfire During Hunting Season

As hunting season begins, don't let spells of cool wet weather fool you into thinking fire danger is over. Most abandoned campfires and warming fires have the potential to grow into large wildfires that threaten people, homes, and forest resources.

Check before you go
Campfires may be banned if wildfires are likely. Watch for signs and obey them. Follow all Public-use Restrictions



Keep plenty of water handy and have a shovel for throwing dirt on the fire if it gets out of control.



Be sure your match is out cold. Break it so you can feel the charred portion before discarding it.



Drown the fire with water. Make sure all embers, coals, and sticks are wet. Move rocks – there may be burning embers underneath.



Stir the remains, add more water and stir again. Be sure all burned material has been put out and cooled.



Feel all materials with your bare hand. Make sure that no roots are burning.



Camp Firewood

Firewood for campfires on National Forest land is free. A woodcutting permit is not necessary unless the wood being gathered is for home use or if you plan to transport leftover firewood. If this is the case, permits and designated woodcutting maps are available at any Forest Service office. Restrictions of chainsaw use may be in effect so....



CHECK BEFORE YOU GO!

More wildfire prevention information can be found by visiting the internet: www.or.blm.gov/nwfire

2003 Dates Worth Remembering

NORTHEASTERN OREGON SEASONS

Trout	May 24 - Oct. 31
Bear	Aug. 1 - Nov. 30
Archery	Aug.30 - Sept. 28
Pheasant	Oct. 18 - Dec. 9
Deer	Oct. 4 - Oct. 15
First Bull Elk	Oct. 29 - Nov. 2
Second Bull Elk	Nov. 8 - Nov. 16
Elk Watershed	Nov. 8 - Nov. 16

*OREGON TAG SALE DEADLINES

Bear & Cougar	October 3, 2003
Second Bull Elk	November 7, 2003

*All Controlled Hunt Tags Must Be Purchased Prior to the Start of the Hunt

SOUTHEASTERN WASHINGTON SEASONS

Cougar	Aug 1. - Mar 15
Forest Grouse	Sept 1 - Dec 31
Early Archery Deer	Sept 1 - Sept 30
Early Archery Elk	Sept 8 - Sept 21
Black Bear	Sept 2 - Nov 15
Early Goose	Sept 7 - Sept 12
Partridge (chukar & gray)	Oct 4 - Jan 19
Quail	Oct 4 - Jan 19
Early Muzzleloader elk	Oct 4 - Oct 10
Duck	Oct 11 - 15, Oct 18 - Jan 25
Goose - Adams, Benton, Franklin, Walla Walla Counties	Oct 11 - 13, Oct 18 - Jan 18 (Sat, Sun & Wed only, plus specific holidays, see pamphlet)
Goose - Asotin, Columbia Garfield, Whiman Counties	Oct 11 - 13, Oct 18 - Jan 25
Pheasant	Oct 18 - Dec 31
Modern firearm Deer	Oct 11 - Oct 19
Modern firearm Elk	Oct 25 - Nov 2
Late archery Deer, Elk	Nov 20 - Dec 8
Late muzzleloader Deer Elk	Nov 20 - Dec 8

* For specifics on YOUR favorite hunting site, check the Hunter's Pamphlet.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Please write, call, or visit any of the following offices:

Umatilla National Forest
2517 S.W. Hailey Avenue
Pendleton, Oregon 97801
(541) 278-3716
www.fs.fed.us/r6/uma/

**Baker Resource Area
Bureau of Land Management**
3165 10th Street
Baker City, Oregon 97814
(541) 523-1256
www.or.blm.gov

Wallowa-Whitman National Forest
1550 Dewey Ave. P.O. Box 907
Baker City, Oregon 97814
(541) 523-6391
www.fs.fed.us/r6/w-w/

**Oregon Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
Northeast Region**
107 20th Street
La Grande, Oregon 97850
(541) 963-2138
www.dfw.state.or.us

**Washington Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
Region One**
North 8702 Division Street
Spokane, Washington 99218
(509) 456-4082
www.wa.gov/wdfw

**Forest Supervisor
Malheur National Forest**
P.O. Box 909
John Day, Oregon 97845
(541) 575-3000
www.fs.fed.us/r6/mal/

Oregon State Dept. of Forestry
1055 Airport Road
Pendleton, Oregon 97801
(541)-276-3491
www.odf.state.or.us

24-hour Current Fire Restrictions:

ENTERPRISE (509) 522-6280	POMEROY (509) 843-1339
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PENDLETON
(541) 276-3405
1-877-958-9663

The Blue Mountain Monitor is published by the Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman National Forests-USDA Forest Service, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the Washington Department of Wildlife.



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