

## Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Hunting Report

by ODFW

Hunters in the Hoold Unit will have better access to the mid elevations due to the lack of snow in those areas. GENERAL: Spring has arrived and recreationalists should be prepared for variable weather conditions. Snow accumulations are disappearing; however some persistent drifts remain above 4000 feet. Off road motorized travel should not be attempted without proper equipment and checking with local BLM and Forest Service officials regarding motorized access regulations.

PRINEVILLE RESERVOIR WMA: The north side access road is open, with motorized access limited to this route only. This is an unimproved dirt road not suitable for travel by low clearance vehicles or with travel trailers.

COUGAR: Cougar are reported regularly in the Maury, Ochoco, and Grizzly units, at all elevations and habitat types. Deer, elk, and pronghorn have moved off of wintering areas and are scattered at higher elevations across transition and summer ranges. Cougar will be following them and be harder to find as big game move on to the more expansive summering areas on the Ochoco National Forest.

GROUND SQUIRRELS: Squirrels have emerged and are active in agricultural fields and pastures. Best opportunities are on private lands east of Prineville along the Crooked River between Paulina and Post. These are private lands where permission from landowners is necessary before hunting.