

by ODFW

OCHOCO DISTRICT

GENERAL: 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.

TURKEY: Birds have moved from wintering areas to higher elevations, including national forest lands on Lookout Mountain and Paulina Ranger Districts. Areas to consider include Bear and Trout Creeks, and along the southern boundary of the Paulina Ranger District from N. Fork Crooked River to the breaks of the S. Fork John Day River.

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 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.