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Update

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OR7's yearlings thrive; new pups for Rogue pack

Recent trail camera images confirm that the three pups born to OR7 and his mate in 2014 have survived the winter and remain with the Rogue Pack. A short time-lapsed video showing two of the now full-size yearlings playing in the early morning hours of June 24, is posted at <http://www.fws.gov/oregonfwo/>.

OR 7 became famous in 2011 after dispersing from his pack in the northeastern corner of the state to cross over the Cascades and wandering into California. After returning to Oregon in 2013 and settling in the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest, last year he found a mate and sired three pups, eventually forming the Rogue Pack.

Fresh pup scat found during retrieval of the trail cameras confirms a second set of pups for OR7 and his mate. State and federal biologists will continue to survey the Rogue and other wolf packs for pups.

"This is very exciting news," said Paul Henson, state supervisor of the Oregon U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Office. "It continues to illustrate that gray wolves are being recovered."

Biologists will continue efforts to collar a member of the Rogue Pack later this summer. While OR7's GPS collar is no longer functioning, its VHS radio equipment continues to work, which enables biologist to find the wolf's location using radio telemetry equipment.

Gray wolves in Oregon have made remarkable recovery since they first began returning to Oregon in the late 1990s. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife documented a total of 77 wolves among nine packs, including eight breeding pairs in 2014. As of January 2015, the State's conservation population objective of four breeding pairs for three consecutive years was reached.

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission is expected to consider removing gray wolves from the list of state endangered species this fall. Gray wolves in Oregon are still federally listed west of highways 395-78-95.

Find out more about wolves in Oregon at the ODFW site <http://www.dfw.state.or.us/wolves/>

And throughout the U.S. at the USFWS site <http://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/species/mammals/wolf/>

The mission of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is to protect and enhance Oregon's fish and wildlife and their habitats for use and enjoyment by present and future generations. The agency consists of the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, a commission-appointed director and a statewide staff of approximately 950 permanent employees. Headquartered in Salem, ODFW has regional offices in Clackamas, Roseburg, Bend, and La Grande with ten district offices located throughout the state. For additional information, please visit <http://www.dfw.state.or.us/>.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. Our priority is to make implementation of the Endangered Species Act less complex, less contentious and more effective. We seek to accelerate recovery of threatened and endangered species across the nation, while making it easier for people to coexist with these species. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.