



SHERIFF

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Media Release

Early Morning Crash Leaves 11 Elk Dead; Driver Not Injured

January 4, 2018 – Deputies investigated an early morning crash between a pickup truck and a herd of elk.

On Thursday, January 4, 2018, at 4:25 a.m., Washington County Sheriff's Office deputies responded to a traffic crash on Sunset Highway near NW Dersham Road, west of North Plains. Several motorists called in regarding a crash involving a pickup truck and several elk.

During the investigation, deputies learned that a 2004 Chevrolet Avalanche was traveling eastbound when it crashed into several elk that were crossing the highway. The driver of the truck, 36-year-old James W. Childers III, cooperated with the investigation and thankfully did not suffer any injuries. A total of 11 elk were killed as a result of the crash.



The Sheriff's Office would like to thank the Oregon Department of Transportation and the Oregon State Police (OSP) for their assistance. OSP Fish and Wildlife Troopers responded to assess whether any of the elk meat was salvageable for processing and donation.

Mr. Childers does not wish to speak with the media.

Sheriff's Public Information Officer: Deputy Shannon Wilde

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Sheriff Pat Garrett