Oregon Department of Transportation

WILDLIFE COLLISIONS

Protect all the "dears" in your life.

Steps to avoid a deer collision

Watch for the rest of the gang.
If you've seen one, you haven't seen them all!

Wear a seat belt.
It won't prevent a collision, but wearing one can reduce injuries.

Take a moment to reflect.
Look for road signs. And always stay awake, aware & sober.

Illuminate.
Use high beam headlights if there's no oncoming traffic. The light will reflect in a deer's eyes.

Honk.
One long blast can scare deer out of the road.

Timing is everything.
Be extra cautious during the spring and fall and at dusk and dawn when deer are most active.

If a collision is unavoidable...

Stay on course.
Don't swerve, brake firmly and stay in your lane.

Alert other drivers.
Pull off the road and put on flashers.

Contact authorities.
If you collide with a large animal, you are legally required to report it to the police.

Report animals you move.
Refer to the ODFW webpage for animal salvage guidelines.

Each year from 2014 - 2018 ...

There are an estimated
7,000
crashes involving deer & elk....

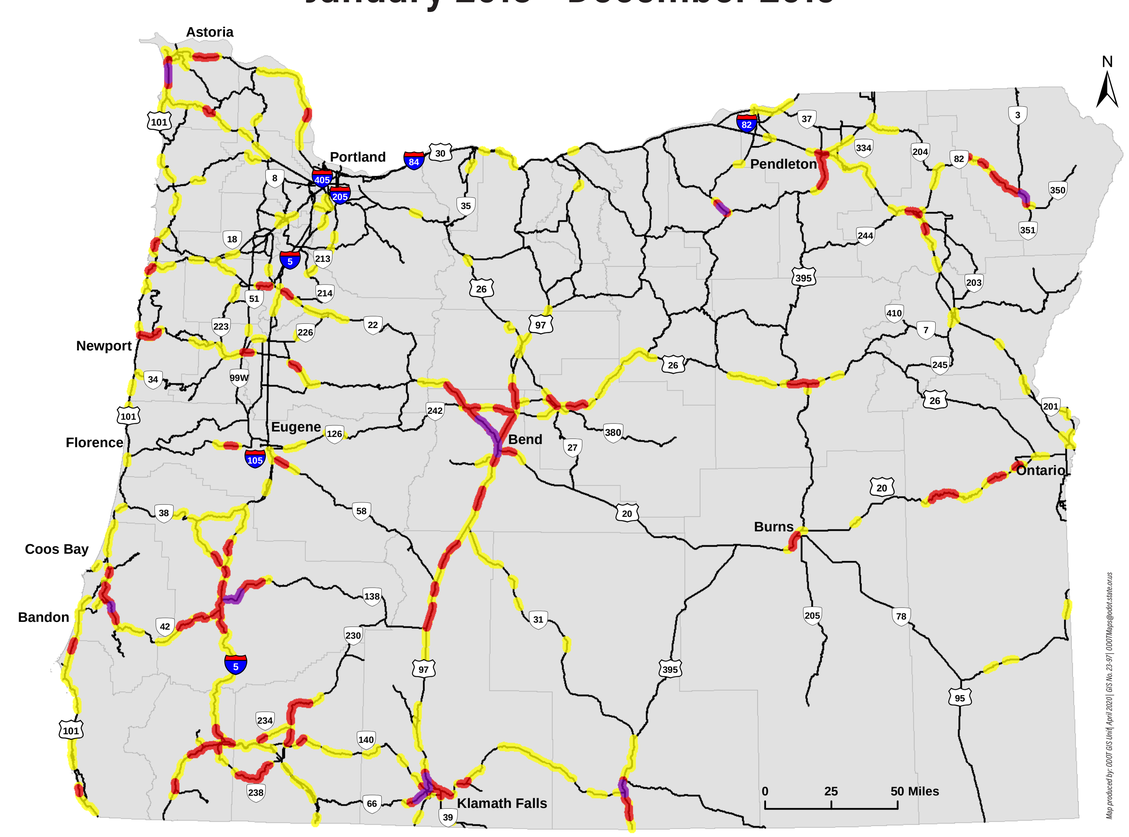
...causing an average of
2.2
human fatalities...

...resulting in
$44 million
in vehicle damages...

...and over
453
people injured.

Estimates, as only a third of wildlife vs vehicle collisions are reported.

Deer & Elk Collision Hotspots
January 2015 - December 2019



Reported collisions per mile, per year

2 - 4 | 5 - 8 | 9 - 12