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A Tale of Two Big-Footed Buds Discovering Winter Adventures in Oregon

- Travel Oregon Launches Limited-Edition Storybook Featuring Only Slightly Exaggerated Characters Yeti and Squatch-

PORTLAND, Ore. – Nov. 20, 2019 – To celebrate the changing of the seasons, Travel Oregon has created "<u>Yeti & Squatch in the Winter Wonderland of Oregon</u>," a playful storybook that aims to inspire travelers to find happiness this fall and winter in Oregon...whether they are a winter person or not.

The new illustrated story tells the heartwarming tale of two big-footed buds, Yeti and Squatch. Yeti loves the wintertime, but Squatch is more of a summer creature. The friends set out on a road trip through Oregon where Yeti shares their favorite winter adventures. The two enjoy a variety of activities — from birding to snowshoeing and soaking in hot springs. Spoiler alert: by the end of the book, Squatch realizes that winter in Oregon is just as enjoyable as summer.

To celebrate the launch of this new wintry tale, Travel Oregon and Powell's Books are hosting a free story time event on Saturday, December 7 at 11 a.m., where beloved Oregon author of *Wild*, Cheryl Strayed, will read the story. Those in attendance will receive a free copy of the book, while supplies last.

"Our aim is to inspire Oregonians and visitors to experience the wonder of winter in Oregon," said Todd Davidson, Travel Oregon CEO. "And what better way to do that than to showcase the adventures of Yeti and Squatch, who have been fixtures in our popular Only Slightly Exaggerated campaign. Follow along on their adventures, or, better yet, make winter adventures and memories of your own."

Additionally, Travel Oregon is taking the book on a statewide book tour with readings at local, independent bookstores where attendees will have the opportunity to take home a copy of the book. <u>Oregon Welcome Centers</u> in Ashland, Boardman, Brookings, Oregon City and Portland will also have copies of the book, posters and stickers to give away. English and Spanish versions of the book are available at <u>traveloregon.com</u>.

The campaign is a continuation of the successful "Only Slightly Exaggerated" (OSE) campaign, which was originally launched in spring 2018. Following that, OSE had two additional successful iterations in fall 2018 and spring 2019. Utilizing the strong creative teams from the previous OSE campaigns, the new illustrations have been brought to life in collaboration with long-time advertising partner Wieden+Kennedy, Psyop and Sun Creature Studio.

Travel Oregon Yeti & Squatch Book Tour

Portland Region

Saturday, Dec. 7, 11 a.m.-noon <u>Powell's City of Books</u> 1005 W. Burnside St., Portland, OR 97209

Mt. Hood & Columbia River Gorge Sunday, Dec. 8, 1-3 p.m. North American Big Foot Center 31297 SE Hwy 26, Boring, OR 97009

Saturday, Dec. 21, 11 a.m.- 1 p.m. <u>Klindt's Booksellers</u> 315 E. Second St., The Dalles, OR, 97058

Southern Oregon

Sunday, Dec. 8, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. <u>TreeHouse Books</u> 15 N. Main St., Ashland, OR 97520

Eastern Oregon Saturday, Dec. 14, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. <u>Betty's Books</u> 1813 Main St., Baker City, OR 97814

Willamette Valley Saturday, Dec. 14, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. <u>The Book Bin</u> 450 Court St. NE, Salem, OR 97301

Central Oregon Sunday, Dec. 15, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. <u>Roundabout Books</u> 900 NW Mount Washington Dr. #110, Bend, OR 97703

Oregon Coast Thursday, Dec. 19, 10-11 a.m. <u>Curry Public Library</u> 94341 Third St., Gold Beach, OR, 97444

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About Travel Oregon

The Oregon Tourism Commission, dba Travel Oregon, works to enhance visitors' experiences by providing information, resources and trip planning tools that inspire travel and consistently convey the exceptional quality of Oregon. The commission aims to improve Oregonians' quality of life by strengthening the economic impacts of the state's \$12.3 billion tourism industry that employs more than 115,000 Oregonians. Visit <u>traveloregon.com</u> to learn more.