



# JEFFERSON COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

JIM ADKINS, SHERIFF

675 NW CHERRY LANE, MADRAS, OREGON 97741

PHONE: (541) 475-6520 • FAX: (541) 475-3847

[www.co.jefferson.or.us/sheriff](http://www.co.jefferson.or.us/sheriff)

---

Date 10-20-14  
To: Media Release  
Re: Cattle Theft

The Jefferson County Sheriff's Office has taken three separate reports of cattle rustling occurring in the area surrounding Juniper Butte near Culver in rural SW Jefferson County. Each incident the victims reported unknown person(s) entered their property in the middle of the night and removed newborn baby calves.

The Oregon Department of Agriculture says that higher than normal beef prices have lead to an increase in cattle theft state wide, and warn ranchers to be extra vigilant in prevent rustling.

As many as 200 head of cattle are estimated to be stolen each year in the State of Oregon but many losses aren't reported to law enforcement. Sheriff Jim Adkins says these reports are the first his office has received and is seeking help from the public in identifying suspects. Sheriff Adkins said "any livestock theft is a felony," and my office will treat these incidents as high priority.

On the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office home page ranchers can find valuable information on things they can do to reduce their chances of being a victim of cattle rustling. [www.co.jefferson.or.us/sheriff](http://www.co.jefferson.or.us/sheriff)

If you have any information, contact the Crime Stoppers Tip Line at 1-877-876-TIPS, or use the form on KTVZ.COM's [Crime Stoppers page](#). You may also contact Detective Bryan Skidgel of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office at 541-475-6520 to report any tips.

You can stay anonymous, and you could be eligible for a cash reward.

Respectfully submitted,

Marc Heckathorn

Patrol Captain

Jefferson County Sheriff's Office