



# OHA TRACKER



TURKEYS ON OHA OFFICE ROOF DURING HOLIDAYS

## Bills on cougars, trapping likely to be introduced

The 2017 Legislative Session will kick off soon, and there are already indications of what hunters and trappers will be facing. Two Legislative Concepts (LC) have been introduced: one deals with cougars and dogs, and the other mandates new trapping requirements.

Meanwhile, the Legislature in December confirmed the appointment of a new Fish and Wildlife Commissioner and the re-appointment of two others.

### House committee votes to sponsor cougar bill

The Oregon Hunters Association has asked the House Interim Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources to sponsor a bill dealing with cougars. By a unanimous vote the committee agreed to do so. Legislative Concept (LC) 2049 is similar to the bill (HB 2181) that was introduced at the request of the House Interim Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources in 2015.

LC 2049 provides that a county is exempt from applicability of statute banning use of dogs to hunt or pursue cougars if voters approve a county measure proposed by initiative petition or referred to the people by the governing body of county.

The concept will now be printed and distributed once the 2017 Legislative Session begins in January.



ODFW

*A bill introduced by an Oregon senator would clamp down on trapping in the Beaver State.*

### Senator supports tighter trapping regulations

Senator Peter Courtney, (D-Salem), president of the Senate, appeared before the Senate Interim Committee on Energy and Natural Resources in December to discuss a bill he will support in 2017. In his testimony in support of the bill before the committee, Courtney stated LC 1845 was brought to him by the Humane Society of the United States.

The concept requires ODFW to adopt rules for a wildlife operator control permit program for trappers. It would require that animal traps be checked every 24 hours. It makes exceptions for mice, rats, gophers, mountain beavers and moles and contains a mandatory reporting provision. LC 1845 also requires mandatory reporting of all animals trapped and mandatory signage when traps are placed on public lands to protect humans and their pets recreating in the area.

This concept is similar to legislation introduced in previous sessions that went nowhere.

### Commissioners approved

The Oregon Senate in December approved the appointment of a new Fish and Wildlife Commissioner and re-appointed two current members of the Commission.

Jim Biddle of Central Point became the newest member of the Commission. Biddle is a former fishing guide and president of Willie Boats, Inc. He is filling the seat vacated by Jason Atkinson. Biddle will represent Congressional District 2.

In a meeting with recreational enthusiasts, Biddle pointed out that he wanted to find ways to encourage youth and their families to spend more time outdoors and enjoy what Oregon has to offer in the way of hunting and fishing opportunities.

Commissioners Laura Anderson, who owns and operates Local Ocean Seafoods in Newport, and Greg Wolley, who manages small business development programs for the City of Portland, were re-appointed.

### Should bait be legal for deer and elk?

A proposal was submitted to the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to ban baiting for deer and elk. OHA wants to know your opinion. Answer OHA's poll question on the topic at [www.oregonhunters.org](http://www.oregonhunters.org) While you're there, join or renew your membership, sign up a hunting buddy, register to receive OHA email alerts, and enter the Nosler Photo Contest for a chance to win a Weatherby! We await your poll response with baited breath...

# LABOR OF LOVE

## OHA seeks part-time RESOURCE DIRECTOR

- Flexible 20 hours per week • \$20/hour + partial health reimbursement

**Job Summary:** Resource Director's primary duty is to advocate for Oregon's wildlife, habitat and sportsmen, and represent OHA in meetings and public appearances.

### PRIMARY FUNCTIONS

- Follow important conservation issues and keep OHA advised of their potential impacts on Oregon hunters and wildlife.
- Assist OHA chapters in organizing at the local level to be involved in habitat and wildlife management in their areas.
- Promote the conservation goals and accomplishments of OHA through the media, social media and public speaking engagements as assigned by OHA State Coordinator, including public agency meetings and legislative hearings.
- Review resource management plans as directed, and prepare and submit comments for OHA.
- Maintain daily contact with OHA State Coordinator and prepare written reports for the State OHA Board of Directors that include a timetable of work completed and planned.
- Effectively communicate with a wide range of stakeholders on land use and wildlife issues.
- Assist with the annual OHA State Convention and annual Chapter Summit workshop.
- Perform other duties that may be assigned by the OHA State Coordinator.

### KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES

- Bachelor's degree in natural resource field or work experience equivalent.
- Working knowledge of wildlife and land management.
- Must be highly organized and be able to organize and motivate volunteers.
- Must be able to take direction, and work closely with OHA staff and board.
- Must possess basic computer skills & knowledge, such as word processing, e-mail and Internet skills. Spreadsheet and database program skills a plus.
- Strong interpersonal, writing and public speaking skills.
- Must support OHA mission, values, and organizational structures.

For an application or more information, contact the  
OHA State Office, 541-772-7313, [oha@ccountry.net](mailto:oha@ccountry.net)  
Application deadline: Feb. 1, 2017



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