



MALHEUR MULE BUCK, SPRING 2017
PHOTO BY TYLER DUNGANNON

Governor signs bills supported by OHA

As the 2017 Legislative Session winds down, many bills OHA supported have been signed by the Governor.

HB 2566 Mentored Youth Age

In a big victory this session for Oregon youth, the OHA bill (HB 2566) that expands the upper age of the Mentored Youth Hunter Program to 16 was passed and signed in early May by the Governor. The bill passed the House and Senate without a single No vote.

HB 2030 Spring Bear Tag Cap

This bill allows more bear tags to be sold both to resident hunters and nonresidents. The bill to remove the cap passed the floor of the House 39-16 and the Senate 28-1. The Governor has signed this bill.

HB 2883 Outfitters and Guides

This bill increases penalties for outfitters and guides. It authorizes the Commission to revoke all licenses, tags and permits issued to a person with culpable mental state who is convicted of violations of wildlife laws involving taking or killing of wildlife if that person was an outfitter or guide registered with the Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB). The bill prohibits the person from applying for another such license, tag or permit. It increases the length of time OSMB may suspend an outfitter and guide registration from 24 to 60 months. The bill passed the House 57-0 and the Senate 28-0. The Governor has signed this bill.

HB 3158 Poaching

This bill directs ODFW to set up a rewards program to report poaching. The bill passed the House 56-0 and the Senate 27-3. The Governor has signed this bill.

SB 372 Wildlife Salvage Permits

This bill requires the Commission to adopt rules for issuance of wildlife salvage permits to salvage deer or elk accidentally killed as result of vehicle collision. The bill passed the Senate and the House. The Governor signed this bill.

SB 373 Urban Deer Conflict

This bill requires ODFW to adopt a pilot program for urban deer population control. The bill passed and the Governor signed it. —AL ELKINS, OHA LOBBYIST

OHA weighs in for hunting access on Metro properties

OHA weighed in on behalf of public hunting access at the first of three meetings on Metro Parks and Nature rules on June 16. Metro's five-county Portland based organization owns 17,000 acres of parks and open spaces, and Metro's recent land purchase trend is expanding their land purchases to larger parcels in more rural areas.

Metro's purchase of a 1,200-acre former tree farm outside Gaston got our attention. The parcel was immediately posted "No Hunting" when purchased, eliminating hunting access completely.

OHA asked for re-consideration of the early 1990s "No Hunting" policy in the fall of 2016.

Metro's current stance is: hunting represents a safety hazard to other users; hunting opportunity is widespread on regional private and public lands; and



Sign greeting visitors at Metro's new property on Chehalem Ridge.

the Metro properties represent a haven for wildlife. We disagree on two of the points. Many private and public lands are beneficial to wildlife while allowing hunting.

The meeting featured a review of several policies in the Metro code (use rules) including subjects like dogs, drones, geocaching and hunting, among others. The meeting goal is to provide recommendations to the Metro Council and

staff for code rule change considerations.

Our stance recognizes the adoption of a no-hunting policy was very valid when Metro was buying small parcels for local parks and playgrounds, but Metro should consider hunting along with other traditional and newer forms of human use on larger, more rural properties.

OHA believes limited hunting is consistent with Metro's goals. We have pointed out hunting opportunity and access is being reduced statewide, and that's just as true close to town as it is on private forest and agricultural lands of Oregon. All options for limited seasons, limited access numbers, limited range hunting methods and youth hunts will be discussed, as will landowner and neighbor considerations. The meetings continue in July and August. —KEN MCCALL, OHA RESOURCE DIRECTOR

BRYAN COOK

ODFW to set 2018 regulations; make your voice heard

Oregon's new hunting regulations are being set this summer, so now is your chance to be heard and make a difference.

For the 2018 season, this process started with ODFW district biologists meeting June 13-14 to make season recommendations for their respective districts. Every district will offer a forum

for public input in July, either as an open house or informal evening meeting. (See schedule below.)

Staff recommendations will be submitted Sept. 1, and then the Fish & Wildlife Commission will vote to adopt 2018 regulations on Sept. 15 in Welches.

Attend one of these public meetings

and make your voice heard. If you have questions or want advice about submitting your suggestions, contact OHA Conservation Director Jim Akenson (jim@oregonhunters.org), your OHA chapter leadership, or regional state board member (see contacts in OREGON HUNTER magazine or at www.oregonhunters.org).



2017 Big Game Public Meeting Schedule



City	Date	Time	Location
Seaside	July 6	4 – 7 pm	Seaside Civic & Convention Center, Seamist Room 415 First Ave., Seaside OR
Salem	July 6	7 – 9 pm	ODFW Headquarters Office, Commission Room 4034 Fairview Industrial Dr SE, Salem OR
Lakeview	July 11	6 - 8 pm	Eagles Lodge 27 South "E" Street, Lakeview OR
Redmond	July 11	6 – 8 pm	Redmond High School, Community Development Rm 675 SW Rimrock, Redmond OR
Ontario	July 11	12 – 7 pm (MT)	Ontario ODFW Field Office (Open House) 3814 Clark Blvd, Ontario, OR
Roseburg	July 11	6:30 pm	ODFW Roseburg District Office Conference Rm, 4192 N Umpqua Hwy, Roseburg OR
Springfield	July 11	6:30 – 8:30 pm	Oregon Dept. of Forestry 3150 East Main St, Springfield OR
Newport	July 11	6 pm	OSU Extension Office 1211 SE Bay Blvd., Newport, OR
Burns	July 12	7 - 9 pm	Harney County Community Center 484 N Broadway, Burns OR
Heppner	July 12	6 pm	ODFW Heppner District Office 54173 Highway 74, Heppner OR
La Grande, Baker & Enterprise	July 12	6 – 9 pm	La Grande City Library, Conference Room 2006 Fourth St, La Grande, OR 97850
John Day	July 12	5:30 – 7 pm	John Day District State Forestry Office 415 Patterson Bridge Rd, John Day OR
Charleston	July 12	7 – 8:30 pm	North Bend Public Library 1800 Sherman Ave, North Bend OR
Pendleton	July 12	4 – 7 pm	ODFW Umatilla District Office 73471 Mytinger Lane, Pendleton, OR
Klamath Falls	July 13	6 – 8 pm	Shasta Grange Hall 5831 Shasta Way, Klamath Falls OR
The Dalles	July 13	6 pm	The Dalles Screen Shop 3561 Klindt Dr, The Dalles OR
Clackamas	July 19	5:30 – 7:30 pm	ODFW Clackamas District Office (Open House) 17330 SE Evelyn Street, Bldg 16, Clackamas OR
Grants Pass	July 20	7 pm	Elmers Restaurant 175 NE Agness, Grants Pass OR