

yearlings

OHA Junior Newsletter

Winter 2017

For OHA junior members and children of family members

**POSTER
AND TARGET
INSIDE!**

It's still winter, but it's already time to plan your 2017 big game hunts. The 2017 Oregon Big Game Regulations are out, and inside you will find great hunting opportunities for kids, such as youth hunts for deer, elk and antelope. The deadline to apply for controlled hunts is May 15, so pick up the 2017 Big Game Regulations and plan your big game hunts now. See the next page for more.

*Mattie Maggard
took her first buck
on a youth hunt in
the Interstate Unit.*



GEAR UP NOW FOR YOUR FALL BIG GAME HUNTS

Young guns in Oregon will get a number of special big game hunts to apply for in 2017. The new 2017 Oregon Big Game Regulations are out, and there are many youth hunts for kids only, plus guaranteed first-time tags in the general big game tag drawing again in 2017. Also, the Mentored Youth Hunter Program allows kids who haven't yet passed Hunter Education to hunt under the close supervision of an adult.

Oregon will offer fall youth hunts again this coming season for deer, elk and antelope. The new regulations list 35 youth deer hunts, 58 youth elk hunts, and 4 youth antelope hunts, including a fairly new Hart Mountain Refuge hunt. Some of the youth hunts can be harder to draw than adult hunts, so pay attention to how many hunters applied last year.

The deadline to apply is May 15.

Oregon's "first-time hunter" program

allows a hunter under age 18 who is unsuccessful in the controlled hunt drawing for deer or elk tags to reapply for a controlled hunt having a minimum number of tags and be guaranteed a first-time tag. For more details about Oregon's "First-time hunter program," see the 2017 Oregon Big Game Regulations. For more information about Oregon's Mentored Youth Hunter Program for kids ages 9-13, visit the ODFW web site at www.dfw.state.or.us



These girls took pheasants at the youth pheasant hunt hosted by OHA's Bend Chapter in November.

OREGON KIDS PUT FEATHERS IN THEIR HUNTING CAPS

Oregon youngsters got a chance to earn their wings last fall at special youth upland bird hunts hosted by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife at locations around the state. Wild birds live at many of the hunt areas, and more birds were released for the youth hunts.

The pheasants are raised and released with money that hunters pay for their state Upland Game Bird Stamps. The Oregon Hunters

Association and other hunting groups also buy birds to give kids more chances in the field.

OHA and other sportsmen's groups cook breakfast and lunch for young hunters and their families, and some of these folks and their dogs go out in the field with kids to help them find birds. Besides the pheasants that are released, kids can take wild birds like doves and quail that are in season.

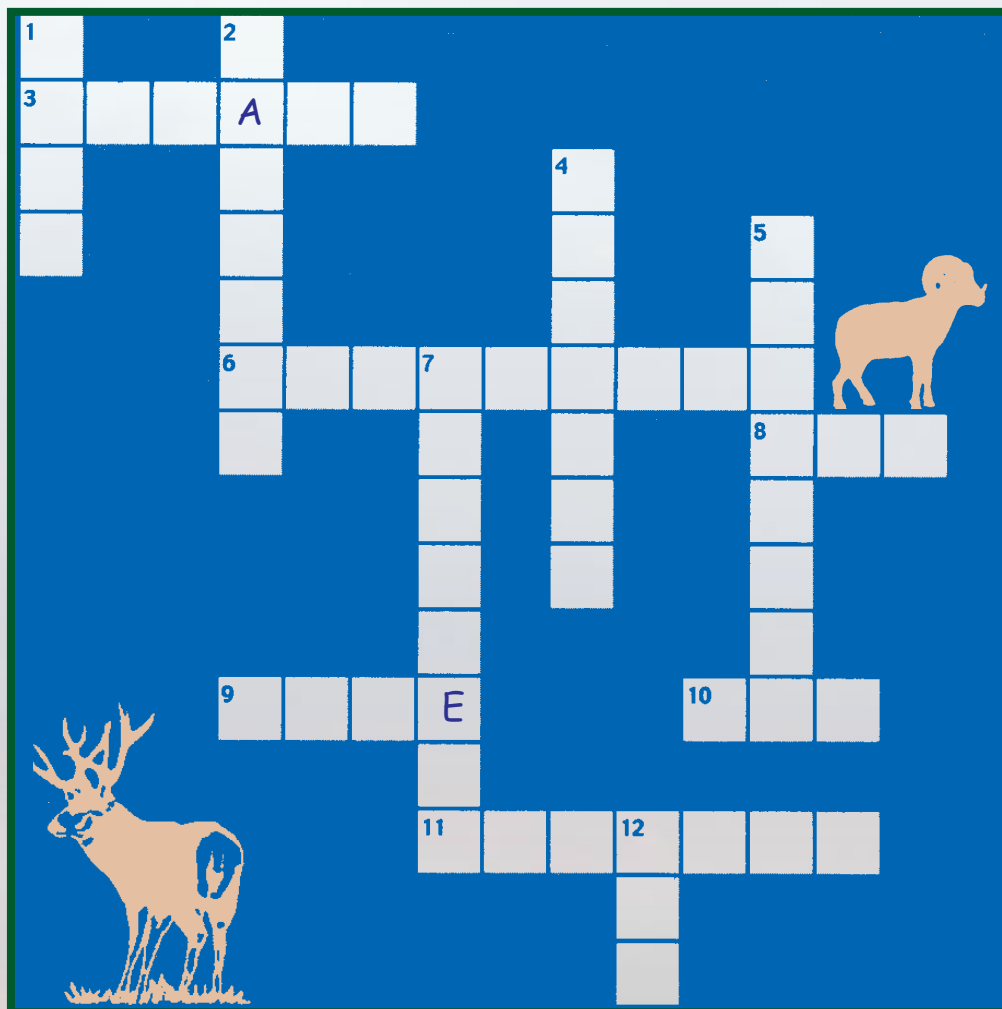




PUZZLE PAGE



When you finish the crossword puzzle, find your answers in the word hunt below.



Across

3. Quail and grouse are _____ game birds.
6. _____ means active at night.
8. An adult female deer.
9. _____ grouse is the largest upland game bird native to Oregon.
10. A home for a bear or a coyote.
11. The only legal firearm for spring turkey.

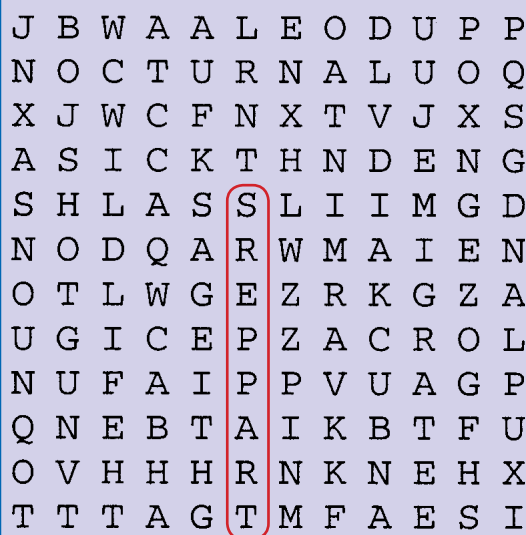
Down

1. A male deer is called a _____.
2. A pest that may be hunted is called a _____.
4. Ducks and geese do this in spring and fall.
5. Wild animals in their natural habitat.
7. _____ need a fur-taker's license.
12. To hunt big game, you must buy a _____.

Do You Know?

1. What a female mountain goat is called?
2. Which side of Oregon black-tailed deer live on?
3. What male duck is called a green head?
4. What is the only goose to nest in Oregon?
5. Oregon's tallest mountain?
6. What bird kills fawns?

Answers: 1-nanny; 2-western Oregon; 3-mallard; 4-Western Canada goose; 5-Mt. Hood; 6-eagles.



WILDLIFE CLOSE-UP

Black-tailed Deer

Black-tailed deer live in western Oregon, while mule deer live on the east side of the Cascade Mountains. Blacktails are smaller deer than mule deer, both in body size and antler size.

How can you tell a blacktail from a mule deer? The easiest way is by looking at their tails. A mule deer has a big white patch on its rump, with a tail that is white on the top part and has a big black spot on the end. A blacktail has a tail that is black from top to bottom, although it's white on the underside.

While mule deer like the big, open country found in eastern Oregon, blacktails like to hide in thick, brushy cover. Big blacktail bucks are mostly nocturnal, meaning they usually only come out at night. This makes them hard to hunt. The best times to hunt blacktails are in the early morning and just before dark.

Blacktails eat broadleaf plants that grow in openings, such as areas that have been logged, but they also love vegetables and flowers that grow in your garden. For that reason, deer can cause a lot of damage where people live.



Proudly sponsored by



John C. McFarland III
creation-moments.com

What to do if you find a dead bird

Birds die every day in Oregon from cats, vehicles, and other causes, so don't be alarmed if you find a dead bird. Some diseases, like West Nile Virus and the deadly "bird flu" (which has never been found in North America), are causes for concern and are checked by ODFW and public health officials. Here's what you can do to help.

Call ODFW's dead bird reporting hotline at 866-968-2600, a number checked daily:

- When you see lots of birds are ill or dying.
- If the dead or sick bird is a duck, goose, swan, or shorebird (sandpiper, phalarope, dowitcher).
- If the incident is unusual or unexplained (bird acting sick, dies while flying).

If you think the bird died due to a cat or vehicle, you or your parents can safely



TYLER DUNNANON

Sage grouse with West Nile Virus usually die within a week.

dispose of it by doing the following:

- Pick up the dead bird, but avoid direct contact with it by wearing disposable rubber gloves, gloves that you can immediately put through a hot soapy wash, or use a plastic bag over your hand.
- Double-bag the bird in plastic bags and place it in a sealed garbage can or other

safe container where it cannot be disturbed by other animals.

- Do not bring the bird into your home.
- Do not eat, drink, or touch your face with the gloves while handling the bird.
- Wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds after handling the bird.

Don't let your birdfeeder become a source of bacteria or diseases like salmonella. Keep it clean by:

- Providing fresh seed that does not have mold.

• Cleaning feeders, water containers and bird baths weekly.

- Cleaning up old seed that has fallen on the ground below the feeders.

Stop feeding for at least one month in the event that birds die at your feeder.

Remember to always wear rubber or plastic gloves when handling or cleaning dirty feeders.

SIGN UP NOW FOR HUNTER EDUCATION!



The time to sign up for Hunter Education courses is not when you want to hunt. Classes fill up fast, and it's very hard to find a class by summer, so get in now. Oregon's Hunter Education course is required for first-time hunters under the age of 18. For information about enrolling in a Hunter Education program, call 503-947-6028, or log on at:

www.dfw.state.or.us/education/hunter



10 COMMANDMENTS OF SHOOTING SAFETY

1. Control the direction of your firearm's muzzle. Carry your firearm safely, keeping the safety on until ready to shoot. Keep your finger off the trigger until ready to shoot.

2. Identify your target and what is beyond it. Know the identifying features of the game you hunt.

3. Treat every firearm as if it is loaded.

4. Be sure the barrel and action are clear of obstructions and that you have only ammunition of the proper size for the firearm you are carrying.

5. Unload firearms when not in use. Leave actions open. Firearms should be cased and unloaded while in a vehicle traveling to and from shooting areas.

6. Never point a firearm at anything you do not want to shoot. Avoid all horseplay with a firearm.

7. Never climb or jump with a loaded firearm. Never pull a firearm toward you by the muzzle.

8. Never fire a bullet at a flat, hard surface or water. With targets, be sure your backstop is adequate.

9. Store guns and ammunition separately in locked spaces out of reach of children and careless adults.

10. Avoid alcoholic beverages and drugs before or during shooting.

OHA MEMBER PLEDGE

As an OHA member, I pledge to:

- Respect the environment and wildlife;
- Respect property and landowners;
- Improve my outdoor skills and understanding of wildlife;
- Support wildlife and habitat conservation;
- Know and obey the law;
- Hunt safely;
- Show consideration of nonhunters;
- Abide by the rules of fair chase;
- Hunt only with ethical hunters; and
- Pass on an ethical hunting tradition.

* Adapted from the Hunter's Pledge of the Izaak Walton League of America



Nosler
UP FRONT

Proud sponsor

YOUNG GUNS TARGET



COYOTE

Coyotes are smart predators that will eat anything from mice to deer. They feel at home anywhere from wilderness to city parks, as long as there's food and cover. In Oregon, all you need to hunt them is a hunting license. You can hunt them all year with no bag limits.



John C. McFarland III
creation-moments.com

DON'T MISS A THING! JOIN OHA TODAY!

When you join OHA as a Junior Member for just \$10, you'll get everything adult OHA members get – and MUCH MORE!



* You get 6 issues of OREGON HUNTER magazine.

Just \$10 for kids!

* You get an Oregon Hunters Calendar, with 12 colorful game animal pictures, and all the hunting season dates and deadlines!

* You get 4 issues of OHA's junior newsletter *Yearlings*.

* You'll be invited to OHA events where there may even be prizes for kids!

* You'll get your own OHA decal!



OHA Jr. Membership Application

I want to be an Oregon Hunters Association Junior Member! Please sign me up, send my Oregon Hunters Calendar and OHA decal, and start my subscriptions to OREGON HUNTER magazine and the OHA junior newsletter *Yearlings*!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____

Telephone (_____) _____

Please enclose one-year dues of \$10

___ Payment enclosed (check or money order)

___ Bill my parent's: Visa / Mastercard / Discover

Card #: _____

Expiration date: _____ CVV2# on back: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Return to:

OHA, P.O. Box 1706, Medford, OR 97501

Telephone (541) 772-7313 FAX (541) 772-0964

www.oregonhunters.org oha@ccountry.net

Yearlings is published quarterly for OHA junior members and the children of family members.

GOOD SHOTS FROM OREGON'S YOUNG GUNS



Erin Klepper of Bend took her first buck last year in central Oregon's Paulina Unit.



Grant Carleton took this spike bull elk last November in the north coast's Scappoose Unit.



Grant Olson took this blacktail buck with a rifle last October in Douglas County.