



# Yearlings

**OHA Junior Newsletter**

**SUMMER 2014**

For OHA junior members and children of family members



**FREE POSTER  
AND TARGET  
INSIDE!**

## KIDS HELP OHA WITH PROJECTS

**O**regon kids rolled up their sleeves and helped out at wildlife and habitat projects this spring and summer. The Oregon Hunters Association is doing wildlife habitat projects around the state, and these projects help make food, water and shelter for wildlife – the three things wild animals need most.

Many of these are projects that kids and their families can do together with the OHA chapter in their area. Some of the projects are weekend campouts in Oregon's great outdoors, where the families who help out get to camp together and enjoy some good food and good times.

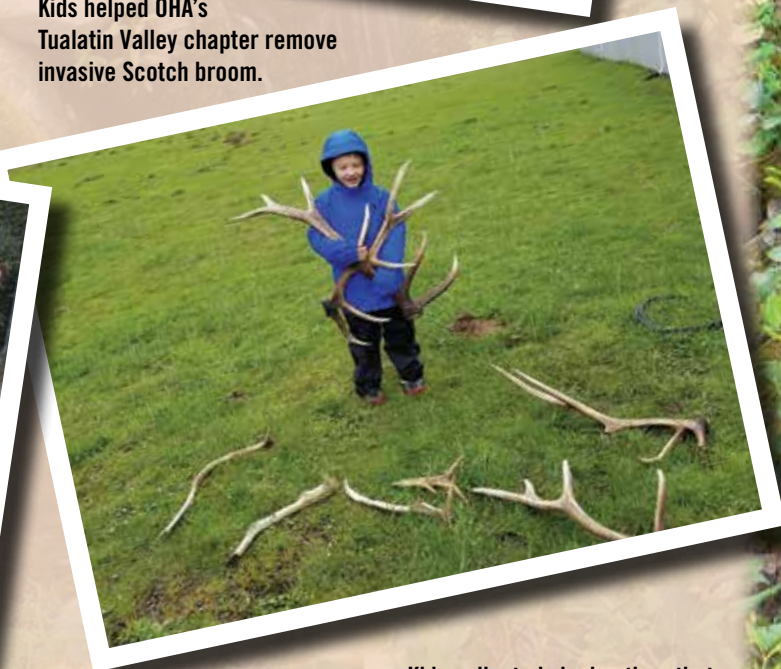
Watch your OHA chapter's newsletter for projects near you!



Kids helped OHA's Tualatin Valley chapter remove invasive Scotch broom.



Young OHA members helped clean up a target shooting area in northwest Oregon.



Kids collected shed antlers that will help raise funds for OHA's Tioga Chapter at Dean Creek elk viewing area.



# OHA HELPS KIDS BE OUTSTANDING IN THE FIELD



**K**ids all over Oregon got a chance to try outdoor skills when chapters of the Oregon Hunters Association hosted youth field days for kids this spring and summer. Most of the events were free, while some charged a small amount to cover the costs of putting on the event. Most events provided food kids love to eat.

OHA chapters kicked off the schedule of events with the yearly youth turkey clinic on March 31. The clinic got kids ready for youth turkey hunting weekend on April 7 and 8.

Youth field days were hosted by OHA chapters later in the spring and summer. Kids got a chance to try skills like archery, shotgun, small bore rifle and muzzleloader shooting.

The OHA Capitol Chapter held a youth shotgun skills clinic in July, as it does every year.

In September, OHA will help out at youth bird hunts around the state.

You can stay up to date on youth events in your area by logging on to [www.oregonhunters.org](http://www.oregonhunters.org)

OHA chapters helped kids learn skills in archery, shotgun and muzzleloader shooting, and even building nest boxes.

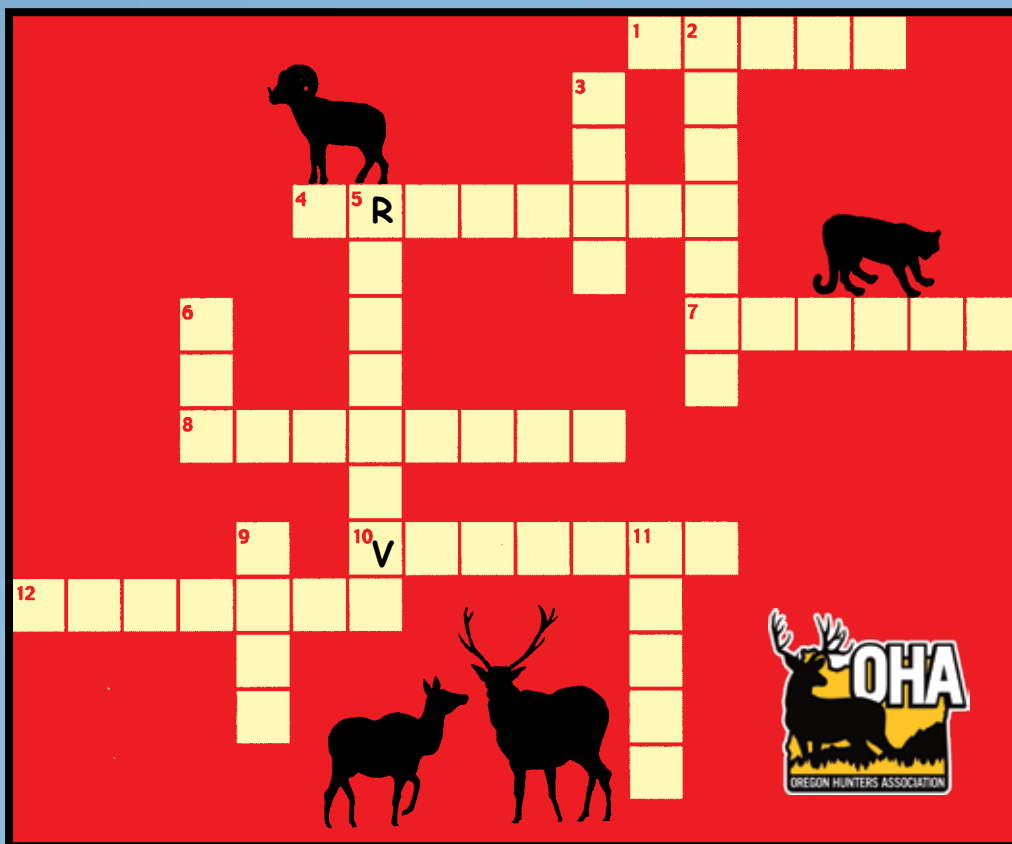




# PUZZLE PAGE



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



## Across

1. Antelope are the only animals that shed these.

4. \_\_, who catch beaver and other furbearers, need a furtaker license.

7. Quail are an \_\_\_\_\_ game bird.

8. Wild animals living in their natural habitat.

10. A pest that may be hunted (not good to eat).

12. To travel other habitats as the season changes.

## Do You Know?

1. What large predator has poor eyes but an excellent nose?
2. What animal has eyes like binoculars that allow it to see great distances in the open places where it lives?
3. What a group of quail is called?
4. The name for a baby bighorn?
5. What a male cougar is called?
6. Where turkeys sleep at night?
7. Oregon's only poisonous snake?
8. What 2 geese are mostly white?

Answers: 1-bear; 2-pronghorn antelope; 3-covey; 4-lamb; 5-tom; 6-in trees; 7-rattlesnake; 8-snow and Ross geese.

L	V	B	B	B	D	N	A	L	P	U	L
S	A	S	X	P	H	O	R	N	S	Z	M
O	R	R	B	G	E	W	Q	U	E	E	F
W	M	E	I	I	V	U	V	F	V	W	K
M	I	P	W	N	X	S	I	O	N	M	U
E	N	P	W	V	U	L	D	N	A	B	M
G	T	A	F	T	D	K	O	L	N	F	U
A	M	R	N	L	C	I	V	B	N	S	S
S	U	T	I	O	U	A	X	T	Y	Q	S
D	V	W	R	T	E	B	X	X	K	Y	O
U	E	T	A	R	G	I	M	V	P	R	P
Y	G	E	G	A	V	D	P	R	E	Y	O

## Down

2. This varmint hunts for food at night. When it is threatened, it lies very still, "playing dead."

3. Animal hunted or killed for food by other animals.

5. A varmint related to the pigeon.

6. A female bear.

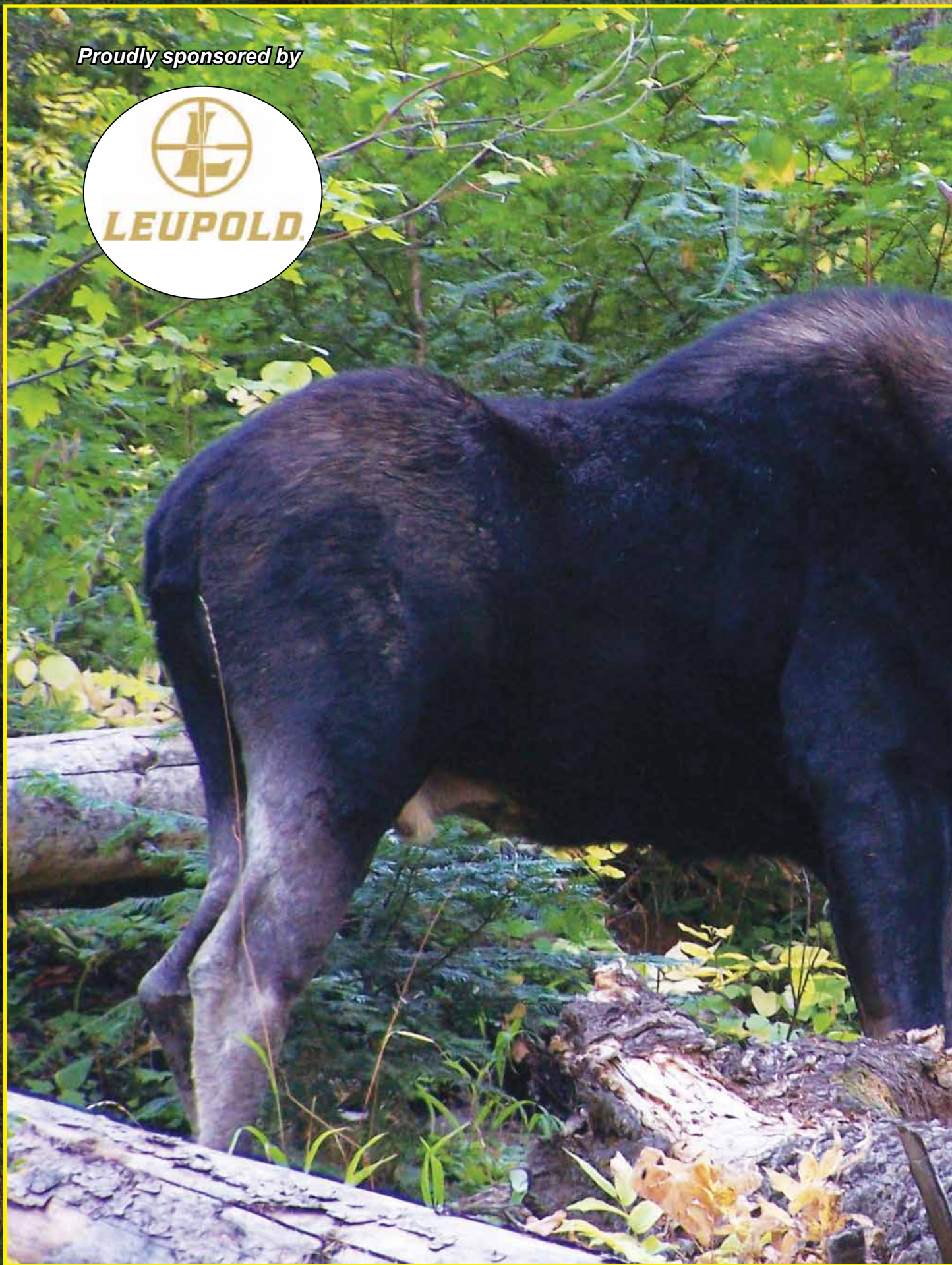
9. The \_\_\_\_\_ grouse is the second largest upland bird found in Oregon.

11. Female goat.





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# Moose

Moose have not always lived in Oregon, but they are moving here from Washington and Idaho. During the past eight years, small numbers of moose have made themselves at home in northeast Oregon. Wildlife managers think about 70 moose now reside in Oregon.

Moose are the largest member of the deer family, and like other species in the deer family, bull moose shed and grow a new set of antlers each year. Antler shedding happens between December and March with new antlers starting to grow by early spring. Adult bull moose in Alaska can weigh over 1,600 pounds, stand 7 feet at the shoulder, and may have antler widths that spread to 80 inches. Moose that live in Oregon are smaller and are the Shira's subspecies, but still stand over 6 feet at the shoulder, weigh up to 1,000 pounds, and can have antler widths close to 60 inches. Because of their long legs, moose can winter in much deeper snow than deer and elk, often spending winters in snow depths of 2 to 3 feet.

Moose use shallow ponds, lakes and marshes during summer months to feed on nutritious water plants. Otherwise, moose feed by browsing on willow and a variety of other deciduous trees and shrubs. In Oregon moose prefer dense conifer forests with openings created by wildfire or logging, where shrub and tree species provide plenty of browse for forage.

Normally cow moose give birth each May or June to single or twin calves.

Despite their large size, adult moose are sometimes preyed upon by cougars or wolves, while young calves often fall prey to coyotes, wolves, black bears, and cougars. There is no hunting for moose allowed yet in Oregon, but if their numbers keep growing, that could change.





# Summer is time for baby animals: leave 'em alone!

As Oregonians gear up for the start of the outdoor season, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife reminds those who come across baby deer, bear, raccoon, and other baby wildlife animals to leave them alone.

"It may or may not be an orphan when you find it, but if you remove any baby animal from the wild, it certainly becomes one and its chances of survival go down quickly," said ODFW Conservation Planner and Wildlife Biologist Holly Michael. "Our motto is, 'if you care, leave 'em there.'"

Michael said that deer, elk and other game animals often hide their babies while foraging for food during the afternoons. Hikers, bikers and other outdoor enthusiasts each spring encounter what appear to be "orphans" and attempt to rescue the animals by removing them from their habitat. Officials say that, unless the death of the adult animal is seen by you first-hand, no baby animal should be thought to be orphaned.

"Baby animals need their parents to



PHOTO BY DAVID DIETER

Baby animals like this deer fawn are often left by their mothers for a short time, but if you leave them alone, their mothers will come back to them.

teach them important survival skills, like finding food and escaping from predators," Michael said. "Animals raised by people never learn these skills, and are not ready to survive on their own in the wild. They often die shortly after release."

Wildlife managers offer the following tips for some of the more frequently "rescued" Oregon wildlife species:

- **Baby birds:** Nestlings (baby birds not

fully feathered) can be gently and quickly returned to the nest. If the nest is out of reach, place the bird on an elevated branch or fence, out of the reach of children and pets. Leave the area so the parents can return.

- **Deer:** Fawns often are left for several hours at a time, but are well adapted to their surroundings. Unless you see the parent killed, it is safe to believe the doe is nearby. In fact, your presence could be what is keeping the doe away.

- **Raccoons and squirrels:** Animal care centers in suburban and urban areas get overloaded with squirrels and raccoons each spring. Raccoons are a major transmitter of diseases dangerous to people and pets, including a virus that can cause permanent blindness in humans. Both species are highly adaptive animals, and many babies that appear too young to make it on their own are capable of surviving, especially in suburban and urban environments where food is plentiful and predators are few. So leave them alone.



## WILDFIRES DESTROY MORE THAN TREES.

#KEEPOREGONGREEN



## 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.



**Nosler**  
UP FRONT

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## Young Guns Target



PHOTO BY JIM WARD, WALLOWA MOUNTAINS MULE DEER



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## 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 / MC / Discover / AmEx

Card #: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_ CVV2# on back: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Return to:

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

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[www.oregonhunters.org](http://www.oregonhunters.org) [oha@ccountry.net](mailto:oha@ccountry.net)

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## GOOD SHOTS FROM OREGON'S YOUNG GUNS



Tristin Holmes took this bruiser blacktail buck last fall in the Tioga Unit.



Emma Ward, age 16, took this monster mule deer last year on a hunt with grandfather Jim Ward and Maddie in Malheur County.