PIONEER CHAPTER



PO Box 673, Aurora, OR

www.oha-pioneer.org

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OHA Mission: Protecting Oregon's Wildlife, Habitat and Hunting Heritage

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, June 6, 2018, 7:00 pm Canby Rod & Gun Club

Annual Adopt-A-Guzzler Campout



- ♦ Mark your calendars now
- ♦ Friday to Sunday June 8-10,
- ♦ Near Millican, Oregon.

Collectors West Gun & Knife Show

Saturday, June 16, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Sunday, June 17, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Portland Expo Center, Hall A

Duck Box Route

Saturday, June 23, 7:00 AM Meet at Forest Service in Estacada for breakfast

Board Meeting

Wednesday, June 27, 7:00 pm TA Truck Stop, Aurora

Canby Gun & Knife Show

Saturday, June 30, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Sunday, July 31, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm Clackamas County Fairgrounds

Next Month

Molalla Buckaroo

Sunday –Wednesday, July 1-4 Rodeo Grounds, Molalla

Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, July 4, 2018, 7:00 pm Canby Rod & Gun Club

Board Meeting

Wednesday, July 25, 7:00 pm TA Truck Stop, Aurora

MEET THE BOARD

For those of you that can't make it out to the monthly chapter meetings, the board will come to you through the newsletter. In the coming months we will feature a Chapter Officer or member of the Pioneer Chapter Board for you to meet. We gave our board members a list of questions they could choose from.

William Park Pioneer Chapter President

My first hunting trips when I was four were hunting for chukar with my dad while we were living in Madras. My maternal grandfather was the greatest influence on my outdoor obsessions. The hat in the picture with the turkey is his. I received it when he passed in 1977. It has been with me on some incredible adventures over the last 41 years. That picture is taken just a couple of miles from where he and I elk hunted in the 1970's. He had lived and worked in that area in the 1940's (my mom attended

fourth grade in a one-room school 4 miles from the picture site).

One important thing for us to tackle this year is succession planning. Because this is my last term as president, we need to cross-train people to fill that role. Many of our other project leaders are needing people to be ready to step into their roles at some point in the future.

A continuing focus in the next year revolves around our quest to pass our outdoor heritage on to those not

currently experiencing it. We can add to the great work we do with youth and really step up and get more involved with the ODFW Learn To Hunt program. My life has been greatly enriched by the small amount of time that I have been able to spend mentoring new hunters (both in the classes and in the wilderness).

CHAPTER OFFICERS

PresidentBill ParkPh 503.730.7650Vice Pres.Tim SowaPh 503.829.8695SecretaryTerry JonesPh 503.507.7366TreasurerBrian AndrewsPh 503.266.2900

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#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Melanie Bjerke-New Ph 503.415.1208 Tony Bjerke-New Ph 503.956.8426 **Steve Hess** Ph 503.949.1745 Jerry Holbrook Ph 503.349.2824 Duane Johnson-Chair Ph 503.829.2912 **Dean Kieling** Ph 503.860.3852 Scott Norris-New Ph 503.928.1639 **Buck Teasley** Ph 503.632.4017 Sam Saunders Ph 503.678.2552 **David Scott** Ph 503.710.1233

#### **Volunteer Work Parties for U.S. Fish & Wildlife**

When: Saturday, July 28th from 10 am - 12 pm What: This will be the first youth waterfowl hunt volunteer work party. The focus will be on painting the 5 blinds!

Where: Volunteers should meet at Baskett Slough Refuge, at the white office/barn located at 10995 Hwy 22 / Dallas, OR 97338.

What to Bring: We'll have the paint, gloves and supplies but volunteers should bring water, a hat, and dress to get messy and be outside in the sun.

When: Friday, September 14th from 9:30 am - 12 pm. What: We'll find and collect vegetation to dress the blinds, camouflaging them for the upcoming youth hunt weekend.

**Where:** Meet at Baskett Slough Refuge, at the white office/barn building located at 10995 Hwy 22 / Dallas, OR 97338.

FISH & WILDLIFE SERVICE

What to Bring: We'll have gloves and all of the supplies but volunteers should bring water and dress to get messy.

RSVP to Samantha Bartling: samantha bartling@fws.gov.

#### PASSING THE RAFFLE BATON

One of the many successes we as a chapter have had over the last few years has been the increase in our income. This has allowed us to increase our donations. to youth activities, scholarships, and support habitat and wild life projects throughout the state. The main reason for this increase has been the success of our Gun Raffles. Four years ago, the Gun Raffles brought in a profit around \$2000.00. Today they bring in a profit around \$7000-\$8000! This increase can be contributed to a number of factors, but none more than the hard work and dedication of our members, that work the gun shows, fair, and sports shows. The Board would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for this success. We specially, want to recognize Dick Crawford. His oversight and commitment to the Gun Raffles has been paramount to their success.

Recently Dick has made the decision to step back from overseeing the Gun Raffles. We are reaching out to you, asking if there is anyone with an interest in taking over Dick's role, or open to heading a group/committee that will have oversight of the Gun Raffles. The focus, would be to ensure the Gun Raffles are setup and taken down at the Portland/Canby gun shows and other events. Currently, we attended 8-9 gun shows per year. Setup for the gun shows occurs on Friday and the shows run Saturday-Sunday.

The Portland and Canby gun shows account for over 50% of the revenue generated from the Gun Raffles and provide an important outreach for OHA. If you are interested, please reach out to any board member, and as always, we would appreciate hearing your ideas on this and any chapter business.

Sincerely, Brian Andrews: Treasurer



A big thank you to Dick Crawford for taking care of setting up all the displays and raffles at guns shows, the Molalla Buckaroo and the Clackamas County Fair.



#### YOUTH DAY TRIFECTA WINNER

Skyler Pierce, age 9, won the Rossi Trifecta (20 gauge shotgun, 22 long rifle and 243 Winchester) at our raffle, boy was he one excited young man.

#### **YOUTH DAY 2018**

What a great day this year's Youth Day was. We had 80 kinds join us and 23 amazing volunteers. We were all pretty worried about the weather but the Big Guy upstairs had other plans.

This year the Pioneer Chapter donated a years membership to all the kids that wanted to join OHA. We had a great number of them take advantage of that.

We had many new faces join us this year which is very exciting; getting the youth involved in our club is always a good thing.

**Skyler Pierce**, age 9, won the Rossi Trifecta (20 gauge shotgun, 22 long rifle and 243 Winchester) at our raffle. Boy was he one excited young man!

- ◆ A big thank you to **Canby Rod and Gun Club** for allowing us to use their venue for this great event.
- ◆ As you all know we get a lot of support from ODFW, and they certainly didn't let us down this year, we couldn't do this event without their help.
- ◆ Sportsman's Warehouse made a very generous donation for the raffle prizes and gift cards. Their generous donation helped to make Youth Day even better.
- We also received a generous donation of 240 hotdogs from White's Country Meats in Gresham this year and we thank them so much.
- ◆ And speaking of food, thank you Dave Scott, Jeannie Hess, Thomas Allen, Kailee Allen and Mercedes Scott for doing a wonderful job of getting everyone fed.
- ◆ Thank you all for coming out for a fun day of shooting and archery and those wonderful kids!!!!
- ♦ And a big thank you to all the volunteers, this wouldn't be possible without YOU.

Duane and Peggy Johnson Youth Day Coordinator



#### **CAMPOUT TIME!**

If you haven't come along on this family oriented annual event, please plan on joining us this year.

Friday to Sunday, June 8, 9, & 10 (or come a couple days early and just hang out).

Bring RVs or tents, clothes for any kind of weather because you never know, and water (it's dry camping) along with food for breakfast and lunches. Friday night you arrive to dinner ready and waiting. Saturday night you will be treated again with ribeye steaks or burgers and corn. You supply the sides.

On Saturday we will form teams and go out to the guzzlers that provide much needed water to wildlife in the Oregon high desert during the dry season. We repair and fill them and return to camp for free time before dinner.

Let David Scott know ASAP so he can plan the food. Call 503.710.1233. You can also sign up at the May or June monthly chapter meetings.



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# **ODFW** proposes new bills

By Al Elkins, OHA Lobbyist alvinelkins@yahoo.com

At the OHA State Board meeting on May 12, ODFW gave an overview of the legislative concepts they will present during the 2019 legislative session. Here are just a few of them:

#### **Enhanced ODFW Licensing System**

- Allow licensing agents to pass on credit card transaction fees to customers;
- Remove mandatory requirement for mail order renewals;
- Remove mandatory requirement for duplicate license fees to be charged;
- Allow for providing incentives to license agents to collect information from customers.



- Model after aquatic invasive species check stations;
- Enhance Department's ability to survey for harvest, obtain biological information and monitor for disease.

# Reduce Fees by Delaying Implementation Date for the Final Fee Increase Outlined in 2015 Bill

The 2015 ODFW fees bill allows for the third fee increase not to be implemented if funding is available to offset.

ODFW has proposed this and will discuss with the Governor's office and constituents over the next year to determine if a bill is to be introduced to allow for a reduction in fees by not implementing the increase.

There is a need for approximately \$6 million to implement. This is the smallest fee increase of the three.

#### **Ewe Tags as Management Tools for Bighorns**

This concept is based on projected needs and ODFW would like to be able to use ewe tags in the future to manage bighorns.

### **ODFW** seeks funds for anti-poaching campaign

ODFW has included in its 2019-21 proposed budget a policy option package (POP) for the anti-poaching campaign that OHA has been working diligently on with ODFW since the 2017 legislative session. ODFW's \$4 million general fund request POP includes money for a public "anti-poaching awareness" campaign, more game enforcement officers on the ground, and money to work with district attorneys regarding poaching crimes.

This is just the first step of many in the process. The POP will be presented to the 2019 legislature for passage.

# **OHA** funds 3 major projects

By Ken McCall, OHA Resource Director Ken@oregonhunters.org



Three collaborative partnership projects were approved by the OHA State Board this spring, including safe wildlife passage on Highway 97 south of Bend, early seral habitat improvements on the central coast, and winter range forage improvement in the Rogue Unit.

A planned Highway 97 wildlife underpass near Gilchrist is the second major step to improve safe passage of deer and elk through the Highway 97 corridor between winter and summer range. The existing Lava Butte underpass resulted in 80-percent reduction in wildlife/vehicle crashes, saving wildlife and reducing vehicle damage or worse. The upcoming Gilchrist underpass is expected to yield similar results.

Partners involved are ODOT, ODFW, USFS, Protect Animal Migration (PAM), Oregon Wildlife Foundation (OWF), OHA and others. The group is seeking additional partners to fund and maintain wildlife directing fencing for the project. Our state board funded support to PAM for wildlife passage educational outreach. The OHA Bend Chapter has been active locally on wildlife passage issues.

The Dog Creek grant supports deer and elk winter range near Butte Falls northeast of Medford. This grant will expand existing winter big game forage projects on BLM lands. The Dog Creek project mirrors the board-approved 2017 Bowen Willow grant award on nearby USFS lands. Other partners interested in future expansion of forage producing and forest fuel load reduction treatments are the City of Medford municipal watershed and Hancock Forest Management. OHA's Rogue Valley and Josephine County chapters are involved also.

OHA had been working with Hancock Forest Management (HMF) prior to the January 2018 ODFW approval of a 220,000-acre central coast Access and Habitat project. In addition to providing more hunter access during fire season, HMF has been seeking opportunities to improve early seral forage for wildlife on sites that are less productive for commercial timber use. Two general categories are powerline right of ways and wet sites often associated with old homesteads. OHA state board awarded a powerline forage improvement grant in February 2018. OHA staff and local chapters are working with HFM on both habitat project planning and access improvements. Five local OHA chapters are interested and/or committed to either habitat or access volunteer work.

# **OHA** challenges gun initiatives

The OHA Board and Legislative Committee have reviewed IP 43 and 44, and we've been working diligently preparing comments and strategy to stop these ill-conceived and grossly misleading measures. OHA

OHA collected than \$6,000 in more than \$6,000 in donations & pledges to fight the gun initiatives at our State Convention.

collected more donations and pledges to fight the initiatives at our 35th Anniversary State Convention on May 12.

IP 43 would make felons out of law-abiding citizens who

own a semi-automatic weapon. Even citizens who registered their firearms would be prohibited from using them on public lands.

OHA is coordinating with gun rights organizations to block this measure from reaching the ballot box.

The Attorney General on May 23 issued a ballot title for IP 43 that gun rights organizations have vowed to challenge in the State Supreme Court. To view the ballot title, visit http://oregonhunters.org/documents

Clearly, IP 43 violates our right to bear arms under the Oregon Constitution and the second amendment of the U.S. Constitution. If a challenge to the ballot title doesn't stop it, we anticipate this ending up in court. OHA will be prepared to do everything it can on behalf of our members to defend our rights.

IP 44 also raises concerns over how it would affect young hunters, because minors would always need to be under direct supervision.

OHA comments outlining our objections to the draft ballot title on IP 43 were submitted to Oregon's Secretary of State and Attorney General. Our comments can be found at http://oregonhunters.org/documents

### Regulation simplification: is it good for hunters?

By Jim Akenson, OHA Conservation Director Jim@oregonhunters.org

ODFW is initiating a three-phased approach to making the Oregon Big Game Regulations easier to use, less redundant, and possibly more sensible for management.

Phase 1 has already been applied to the 2018 regulations and that involved moving "like-topic" information into one place, such as the youth hunt descriptions. Phase 2 will involve language, details, and some of the rules, and this phase is being proposed during this year for the 2019 regulations. Phase 3 will be proposed next year and be applied in 2020. For this year there are 32 issues being addressed; some are specific to units or areas, and others are statewide in scope. The full list of 32 items proposed for change will be discussed at the annual public meetings hosted by District or regional ODFW offices.

Here's a sampler of eight proposals under consideration:

- Spring Bear: Make SW limited spring bear hunt a controlled hunt consistent with all other spring bear hunts, which would enable late purchase of a point saver. This hunt, for which tags once went begging as leftovers, has been selling out well in advance of the spring bear application deadline in recent years.
- **Decoys:** Currently, the use of decoys with moving parts is prohibited for big game species. This proposal would eliminate regulations, and assumes that this regulation is not necessary and may be limiting cougar harvest.
- Minimum Muzzleloader Caliber: Currently, there's a restriction of .50 for bighorn sheep and mountain goat but .40 for bear, cougar, deer and pronghorn. Proposed is a reduction to .40 for all six species.
- Muzzleloader Open Ignition: Currently the muzzleloader must have an open ignition. The proposal would eliminate the requirement for open ignition.
- Muzzleloader Propellant: Currently, it is illegal to hunt with pelletized powder or propellants. Granular (loose) black powder and black powder substitutes are the only legal propellants. This proposal



Many of the proposed simplified big game regulations affect muzzleloaders.

### Find the ODFW proposals to simplify big game regulations:

http://oregonhunters.org/documents

would eliminate that rule, making powder pellets legal.

- Archery Minimum Draw Weight: Currently, there is a minimum draw weight of 50 pounds for elk, sheep and goat and 40 pounds for deer, pronghorn, bear and cougar. The proposal standardizes a minimum draw weight of 40 pounds for all big game.
- Leftover Controlled Tags (Legislative Concept): Currently, leftover tags can be purchased in addition to controlled hunt and general season tags. The proposal would allow leftover tags for purchase only by hunters who do not already have a tag for that species.
- Nonresident Tag Cap (Legislative Concept): Currently, there are different percentages allowed per species (3 percent for pronghorn and black bear hunts, 5 percent for deer and elk, and 10 percent for sheep and goat). The proposal would make it 5 percent cap for all big game species.

From these eight concepts it is obvious that the proposed simplifications vary from being a sensible change to something that Oregon hunters might oppose. It will be important to participate in public input opportunities, which will be scheduled mid-summer - so stay tuned for more details next month.

#### **OHA PIONEER CHAPTER**

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