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## OHA fires back vs IP13 rhetoric

By Al Elkins & Amy Patrick, OHA Lobbyists  
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OHA continues to lead the fight against IP13 by spreading the word with several interviews and a letter to the editor submitted to The Oregonian.

OHA Policy Director Amy Patrick took part in a podcast interview with Robbie Kroger of Blood Origins regarding IP13 in December; that podcast episode is scheduled to be released in January. Additionally, another IP13 interview with The Outdoor View, a hunting and outdoor platform based in California, has been posted to their website and YouTube channel. OHA also submitted a letter to The Oregonian's editor in response to the IP13 proponents' opinion piece published earlier in the month.

Links to all of these items will be included on OHA's IP13 webpage as they become available: <https://oregonhunters.org/initiative-petition-13/>

IP13 would criminalize hunting, fishing and trapping, and it would make it virtually impossible to raise livestock.

## New pro-sportsman partnership lifts off

The Sportsmen's Conservation Partnership (SCP) will hold its inaugural meeting in January, when it will approve bylaws, install officers,

assign committees, solidify the goals and mission of the group, and hear from selected state agencies on timely topics.

The partnership was born from the increasing pressure of issues such as IP13, trapping bans, and other anti-hunting or non-scientific based wildlife management agendas.

By amplifying the voice of sportsmen's groups around the state, the SCP hopes to offset the more vocal contingent of animal-rights and anti-hunting groups before the Legislature, as well as at the agency level with policy and rule-making issues.

OHA has played a key role in the conception and creation of the SCP and will continue to work closely with the new organization.

## You're invited to the Oregon Sportsmen's Caucus online auction

Check out the 2022 Oregon Sportsmen's Caucus online auction, which will kick off Feb. 1 and continue through Feb. 10.

The online fund-raiser can be found at <https://oregonscf.cbo.io>. The live list of items for auction will be updated by mid-January.

The caucus consists of legislators, pro-sportsmen's groups and their lobbyists. This group works to pass legislation that has a positive impact on hunting, fishing, and wildlife in Oregon. Each year the caucus holds a fund-raising event to help pay for its activities and staff.

## OHA welcomes our new office manager

OHA is pleased to announce our newest staff team member, Michelle Duer of Grants Pass, who will serve as our new office manager. Michelle follows in the footsteps of Cindy Martinich, who is retiring after 27 years in OHA's office.

Michelle is a hunter and OHA member who comes to our staff from a position as a financial service representative at First Interstate, where OHA has accounts.

Michelle began her training in mid-December and steps into the position with both boots after the first of the new year, when Cindy will move into a consulting role to ensure a seamless transition. OHA thanks Cindy and welcomes Michelle!



New OHA office manager Michelle Duer took this buck in the Applegate Unit, but won't tell us where.

### IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- Jan. 31** Harvest reporting deadline for most tags
- Feb. 1** Deadline to file for OHA state elections; Legislative session opens
- Feb. 10** Spring bear app deadline

**TO DONATE TO OHA'S HUNTER VICTORY FUND, VISIT [HTTPS://OREGONHUNTERS.ORG/DONATE](https://oregonhunters.org/donate)**



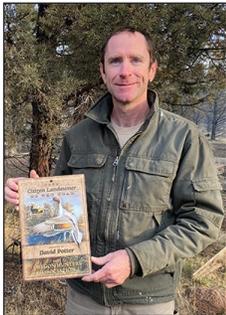
OHA staff and volunteers recently seeded an area of our new conservation easement that was damaged by the Grandview fire this summer.

## OHA seeds C. Oregon conservation easement

By Tyler Dungannon & Mike Totey

In response to the Grandview Fire that burned part of OHA's new conservation easement this summer, OHA conservation staff and more than a dozen members from the Bend and Redmond chapters planted sagebrush plants and seeded dozer lines on Dec. 2 for the benefit of mule deer.

In cooperation with the landowner, OHA seeded the affected area with a mix of local native seed that will provide multiple benefits. It will provide soil stabilization for the exposed ground, provide valuable wildlife forage, and help prevent invasive species from taking over the site.



OHA Citizen Landowner of the Year David Potter

The landowners and OHA staff worked with members of the ODF Incident Management Team during fire fighting efforts on the property. After the fire, OHA staff and the landowner assessed the area and developed the plan for restoring the burned area with technical assistance from ODFW and input from Monty Gregg of USFS.

The property owners, David and Pamela Potter, recently were recognized with OHA's Citizen Landowner of the Year Award. OHA conservation staff presented the award plaque to the landowner on the day of the seeding project.

# OHA will restore Interstate Unit wildlife habitat

By Tyler Dungannon, Conservation Coordinator  
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State OHA is leading a new project to restore mule deer habitat recently impacted by wildfires in the Interstate Unit. Over a half-million acres burned in this unit in 2021, including the colossal Bootleg Fire of more than 400,000 acres. As a result, mule deer and other wildlife are in need of habitat restoration.

Extensive acreage of two key plant species, antelope bitterbrush and mountain big sagebrush, burned in these fires. Though they are a vital component of these ecosystems, these plants are tremendously slow to regenerate naturally. However, planting and caging seedlings will considerably expedite their reestablishment.

This project is set to provide Adults in Custody at Warner Creek Correctional Facility sagebrush and bitterbrush seed in Winter 2022, and those seeds will be cleaned and sowed in spring 2022. In late fall 2022, a strong force of volunteers and OHA staff will plant and cage seedlings into previously burned areas for the benefit of wildlife. In 2022, we will plant a minimum combined total of 14,000 sagebrush and bitterbrush plugs in critical mule deer winter range identified by local wildlife biologists.

If all goes according to plan, we will duplicate our restoration effort and output in 2023 within fire perimeters.

State OHA and OHA's Klamath and Lake County chapters each contributed \$3,000 to the project. OHA conservation staff secured grant funding from project partners as follows:

- Conservation & Recreation Fund \$23,000
- Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation \$10,000
- OHA \$9,000
- Pending - Mule Deer Foundation \$5,000

Funds used for this project will benefit the Warner Creek Correctional Facility's Sagebrush and Prisons Program to ensure its longevity and increase its capacity to assist in habitat restoration projects in Oregon.



All OHA banquets offer an awesome array of great gear in lively auctions and raffles.

## You're invited to an OHA banquet near you

Enjoy a fun evening among friends and check out auctions and raffles featuring trips, great gear and more!

Watch for 2022 fund-raiser updates at:  
<https://oregonhunters.org/events-2>

## 2022 OHA BANQUETS

- Feb. 26 Columbia County 949-533-7271
- Feb. 26 Hoodview 503-314-3090
- Feb. 26 Redmond 541-233-3740
- Mar. 5 Emerald Valley 541-731-2403
- Mar. 5 Pioneer ➤ 503-710-1233
- Mar. 12 Bend 541-480-9848
- Mar. 19 Josephine County 541-821-1511
- Mar. 19 Clatsop County 503-738-6962
- Mar. 19 Rogue Valley 503-250-3000
- Mar. 19 Yamhill County 503-490-2489
- Apr. 2 Baker 541-403-0402
- Apr. 2 Blue Mountain 541-231-4384
- Apr. 2 Capitol 503-851-8409
- Apr. 2 Lake County 541-810-1617
- Apr. 2 Tioga 541-267-2577
- Apr. 9 Mid-Willamette 541-971-3351
- Apr. 9 Umpqua 541-430-7324
- Apr. 30 Klamath 541-882-9593
- May 7 Tillamook 503-801-3779

May 14 OHA State Convention, ➤ ➤  
 Seven Feathers Casino, 541-772-7313

- A&H Statewide Elk Tag auction  
 Feb. 19 at PNW Sportsmen's Show
- ➤ A&H Statewide Deer & Elk auction