



## IP17 qualifies for November ballot

*Gun control measure would ban magazines over 10 rounds, force new layers of red tape on buyers*

By Amy Patrick, OHA Policy Director  
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Initiative Petition 17, the “Reduction of Gun Violence Act,” has qualified for the November 2022 ballot with over 130,000 valid signatures submitted at the July 8 deadline.

The initiative contains several changes to firearms ownership and purchasing ability, including a new permit-to-purchase procedure administered by a police chief or county sheriff that would include a background check, including fingerprinting and photographing of purchaser. Additionally, the purchaser must show proof of an approved firearms training course that includes a live fire component. The permit-to-purchase, if approved, is valid for 5 years.

As part of the permit-to-purchase procedure, a searchable database will be created and maintained of all permits issued, including expired permits. All firearms purchased by a permit-holder will be recorded in the database and the information is allowed to be stored for an indefinite period of time. The initiative also states that a valid permit-to-purchase must be verified before any firearm transfer at a gun show. “Large capacity” magazines, defined as holding more than 10 rounds, would also be banned from sale, possession or use.

While OHA understands the need

## IP18 gun control bid fails

Initiative Petition 18, the “Reduction of Harm from Weapons Act,” failed to qualify for the November ballot. Petitioners did not submit the required signatures by the July 8 deadline.

While OHA is pleased this measure will not be on the ballot, we are certain to see a bill version in the legislature.

IP18 would have prohibited manufacture, import, purchase, transfer, possession, and use of many semiautomatic firearms, including rifles, pistols, and shotguns. Any of these weapons currently owned would be allowed to be retained only if registered with the state and if use is limited to owner’s property, shooting ranges, and hunting.

for action against gun violence, we believe these purchase restrictions will only affect legal firearms owners who already conform to the current laws in place and will have no substantial affect to the criminal aspect of gun violence. Additionally, the searchable database containing purchaser information and an itemized list of purchased firearms takes this measure far beyond “common sense” gun laws. OHA will continue to stand with our partners against this measure.

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## RETURN Act aims to gut Pittman-Robertson Act

By Amy Patrick, OHA Policy Director  
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Filed by Rep. Andrew Clyde (R-GA), the RETURN (Repeal Excise Tax on Unalienable Rights Now) Act would repeal the 11-percent excise tax on hunting firearms, ammunition, bows and arrows that funds the Pittman-Robertson Act.

The Pittman-Robertson Act was established in 1937 and is a major funding source for fish and wildlife agencies across the nation. These funds, often referred to as “PR funds,” are designated to wildlife conservation work, as well as outreach and hunter education. PR funds have provided more than \$14 billion in funding to states since the act’s inception 85 years ago, with several recent years surpassing \$1 billion annually.

The bill seeks to replace the PR funds with appropriations totaling \$800 million or less from the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act and the Mineral Leasing Act, which are funded by offshore oil and gas drilling leases, as well as coal, natural gas, and minerals extracted from federal land.

Pittman-Robertson funds, paid by hunters and recreational shooters, have been foundational in establishing hunters as true conservationists who provide a majority of the funding for on-the-ground conservation work. Hunting, conservation, and sport shooting associations across the nation are speaking up to protect the Pittman-Robertson Act.

Join them by using Howl For Wildlife’s platform to contact your legislators:  
<https://www.howlforwildlife.org/returnact>



COURTESY OF INSTITUTE FOR APPLIED ECOLOGY

Seedlings are being grown at Warner Creek Correctional Facility for a November planting project in the Interstate Unit.

## Restoring Hope & Habitat planting in Interstate Unit set for Nov. 19-20

By Tyler Dungannon, Conservation Coordinator  
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OHA is on the hunt for 50-100 OHA volunteers to plant and cage 14,000 sage and bitterbrush seedlings to restore mule deer habitat recently affected by wildfires in the Interstate Unit. Over a half-million acres burned in this unit in 2021, including the colossal 400,000-acre Bootleg Fire.

The seedlings are growing and will remain at the Warner Creek Correctional Facility in Lakeview until Nov. 15. As with any outplanting project, weather is a critical component and by planting in November, plants should remain dormant until spring when moisture will be readily available. OHA staff have strategically set the outplanting dates (Nov. 19 and 20) to accommodate volunteers who are holding late season Rocky Mountain elk tags.

State OHA and the Klamath Chapter each contributed \$3,000 to the project, while OHA's Lake County Chapter donated \$2,500. OHA conservation staff successfully attained grant funding to make this project possible.

Some project details are still to be determined. Please contact Tyler Dungannon ([td@oregonhunters.org](mailto:td@oregonhunters.org)) for more information.

## Refuges consider more hunting

By Mike Totey, Conservation Director  
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Two Oregon refuges are considering new hunting opportunities.

Wapato Lake National Wildlife Refuge near Gaston currently offers limited duck hunting through a reservation system. OHA staff recently visited with refuge managers at the site to consider current and future hunting opportunities. The refuge is conducting restoration and habitat improvement operations. Until that habitat work is completed, hunting will continue to be limited until the fall rains bring enough water to attract birds. At this time, the only public use of the refuge is the limited duck hunting season. OHA is helping USFWS staff implement other public use of the area that will not negatively affect our hunting opportunity.

Baskett Slough National Wildlife Refuge near Dallas is managed under the Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex and provides valuable habitat for ducks and geese throughout the fall and winter. Until recently, no hunting was allowed. Currently there is a limited opportunity for youth duck hunts, and there is a new opportunity to expand hunting opportunities to include the September Canada goose season and the entire duck season. OHA will support these additional opportunities.

## ODFW floats regs changes for 2023

ODFW hosted public meetings across the state in July to introduce hunting season dates and changes being considering for 2023. The Fish and Wildlife Commission will discuss the proposed rules and set regulations at its Sept. 16 meeting.

OHA is always involved in this discussion and provides input at this meeting.

Changes and information being considered for 2023 include duck season start dates, travel management changes, and tag allocations. See proposed changes at: <https://myodfw.com/articles/big-game-hunting-season-review>

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