



Yearlings

OHA Junior Newsletter

Summer 2022



**FREE POSTER
AND TARGET
INSIDE!**

Porter Hopman
of Tigard bagged
these pheasants
at White River
Wildlife Area.

SET YOUR SIGHTS ON A YOUTH BIRD HUNT!

 Oregon's young hunters will get a chance to earn their wings this fall at youth upland bird hunts all across Oregon. Youth pheasant hunts will be offered around the state in September with shotgun skills clinics available at many of the hunt sites. Members of the Oregon Hunters Association will be on hand at many of these events, cooking food, taking kids afield with dogs, and assisting with the shotgun skills clinics.

Youngsters must have a Hunter Education Certificate, Harvest Information Program validation and a permit for the area they're hunting. Hunters age 14 or older also must have an Oregon juvenile hunting license and an upland bird hunting validation.

The bag limit is two pheasants per day. Kids who are hunting must be with an adult who is not allowed to hunt that day, and the adult can only supervise one young hunter at a time. See the dates for youth bird hunts near you on the next page, and reserve your spot now, because these hunts are very popular.



YOUTH PHEASANT HUNTS FOR 2022

LOCATION

Fern Ridge
Willow Creek (Madras)
John Day Area
Sauvie Island
Ladd Marsh
Denman Wildlife Area
Klamath Wildlife Area
White River
Irrigon Wildlife Area
E.E. Wilson
Coquille Valley

HUNT DATES

Sept. 10-11
Sept. 17-18
Sept. 17-18
Sept. 17-18
Sept. 17-18
Sept. 17-18; Oct. 22
Sept. 24-25
Sept. 24-25
Sept. 24-25
Sept. 24-25

For reservations or more information visit myodfw.com



Nicholas Johnson took this buck in the extended youth deer weekend.

KIDS GET EXTRA WEEKEND TO HUNT DEER!

Oregon kids who have hunted hard in the western Oregon deer rifle season but have not tagged a deer by the end of the season will get one last shot this fall.

Youths ages 12-17 who have not filled their western Oregon deer tags by the time the season ends on Friday, Nov. 4, may hunt the following two days in the youth western Oregon deer hunt weekend Nov. 5 and 6.

This special weekend hunt was started

in 2007 by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to give kids a weekend to go afield and enjoy a fun weekend with their families without so many adults crowding the woods.

The hunt is open to kids with one of these tags that they have not filled: either a general season Western Oregon deer, or West High Cascade (119A).

The bag limit is one buck that has a visible antler.

WATERFOWL HUNTS JUST FOR KIDS

Young Oregon hunters will get to hunt certain state wildlife areas this season without crowding by adult hunters. Some state wildlife areas have reserved dates and places just for hunters 17 and under to hunt this fall. An adult over 21 must accompany the youth, and the adult may not hunt.

Hunters over 12 need a state waterfowl validation and hunting license. Those over 16 also need a federal waterfowl stamp.

Registration is required. See the game bird regulations for more information and contacts.

2022-23 YOUTH-ONLY HUNTS:

Fern Ridge: Nov. 26 and Dec. 28.
Klamath (Miller Island): Oct. 22.
Sauvie Island: Oct. 29, Nov. 13, Dec. 10, Dec. 28, and Jan. 15.
Umatilla NWR: Nov. 12 (ages 10-17).
Tualatin NWR: Nov. 12, 20, 26; Dec. 4, 10, 18, 24; Jan. 1 & 7. 503-625-5944.



KIDS GET THEIR OWN WEEKEND FOR WATERFOWL

A statewide youth waterfowl hunting weekend for hunters under age 18 will be held in Oregon on Sept. 24-25.

Daily bag limits, licensing requirements and other regulations apply.

Check Page 26 of the 2022-23 Oregon Game Bird Regulations for more information.

Hunt chukars in Klamath



These kids got chukars last year in Klamath OHA's Youth Chukar Hunt.

The Klamath Chapter of the Oregon Hunters Association will host a special chukar hunt just for kids on Oct. 22-23 in the Klamath Hills area south of Klamath Falls.

There is no charge for the hunt, and kids may take up to two birds a day. Kids must hunt with an adult.

Reservations are required, and only a few kids are allowed to hunt at a time.

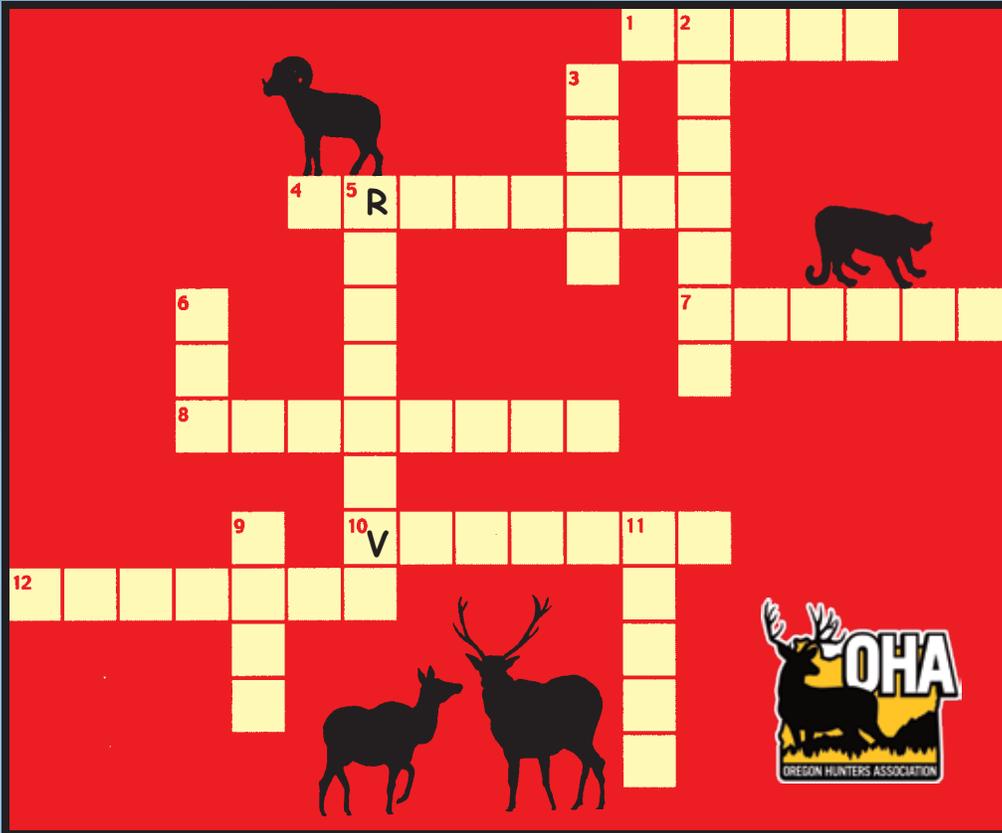
To make a reservation, call 541-643-7077.



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.

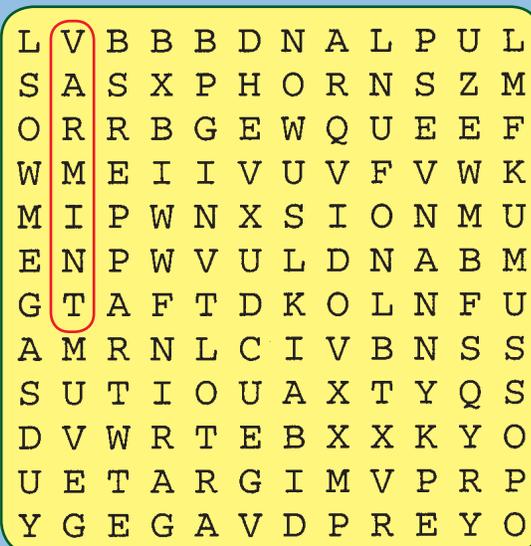
10. A pest that may be hunted (not good to eat).

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-cove; 4-lamb; 5-tom; 6-in trees; 7-rattlesnake; 8-snow and Ross geese.



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 Shiras' 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 start 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 TYLER DUNGANNON

Baby animals like this elk calf 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.

Last call for Hunter Education!

If you haven't passed Hunter Education yet and you plan to hunt with your own licenses and tags this fall, you need to get in a class now! Oregon's Hunter Education course is required for all first-time hunters under the age of 18. It's hard to find a class by fall, so don't wait! For information about enrolling in a Hunter Education program, visit: <https://myodfw.com/articles/hunter-education-classes-field-days>



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:

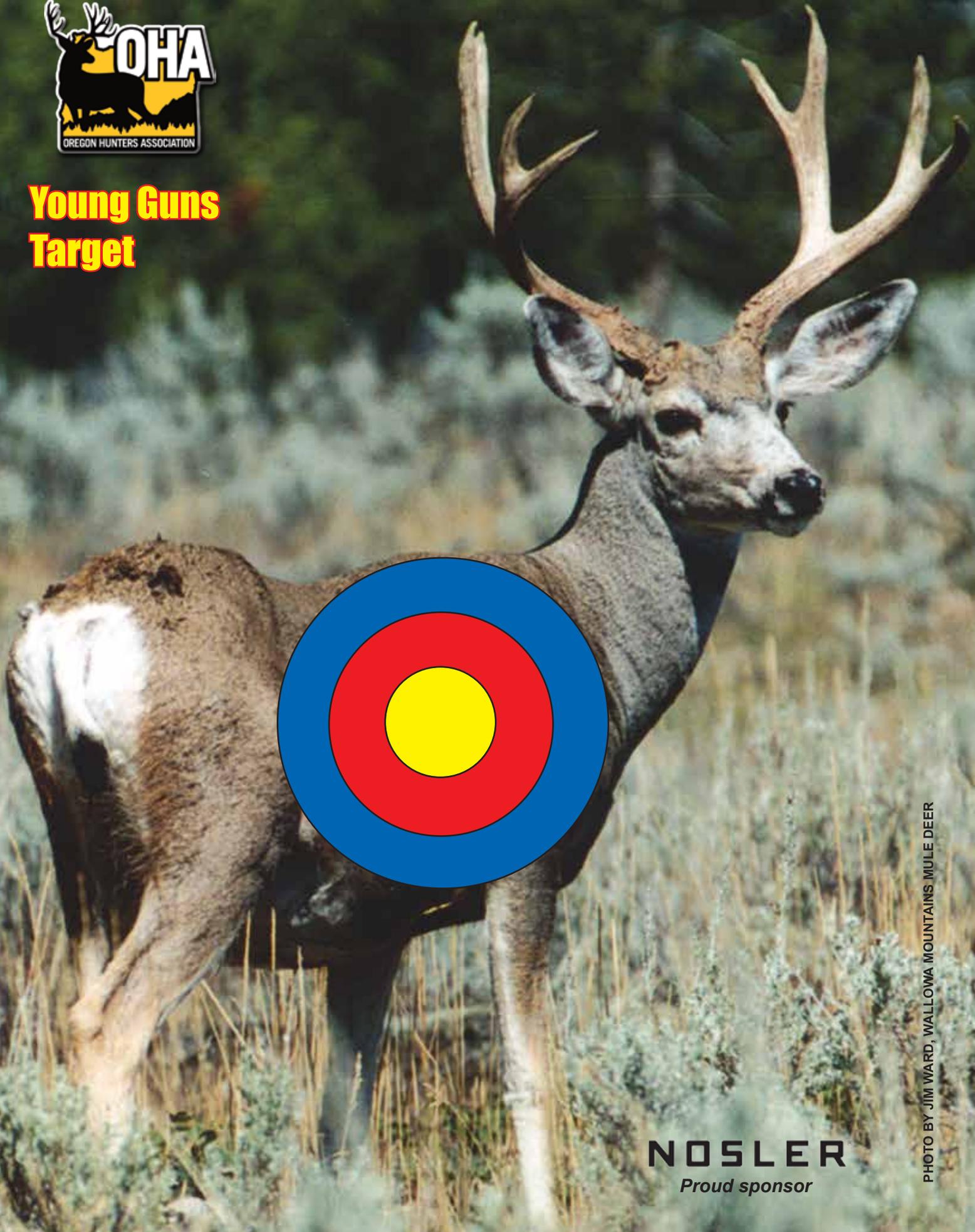
- Respect the environment and wildlife;
- Respect property and landowners;
- Improve my outdoor skills and understanding of wildlife;
- Support wildlife and habitat conservation;
- Know and obey the law;
- Hunt safely;
- Show consideration of nonhunters;
- Abide by the rules of fair chase;
- Hunt only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



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



Young Guns Target



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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)

Charge to: Visa / Mastercard / Discover / Amex

Card #: _____

Expiration date: _____ CVV2# on back: ____

Parent Signature: _____

Return to:

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

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

Good shots from Oregon's Young Guns



OHA member Eric Hostetler of Culver tagged this pronghorn antelope last year in the Steens Mountain Unit.



OHA member Carson Davis took this whitetail buck last fall in the Pine Creek Unit while participating in the Mentored Youth Hunter Program.