



# Yearlings

OHA Junior Newsletter

FALL 2023

For OHA junior members & children of family members

## EARN YOUR WINGS!

Blake and Troy Tow took these ducks at Mud Slough. Oregon offers some amazing youth bird hunting. See inside.

**O**regon's young guns will get a chance to earn their wings this fall at youth upland bird hunts and waterfowl hunts held all around the state.

Youth pheasant hunts will be held at several locations statewide in September with shotgun skills clinics available at many of the hunt sites. Oregon Hunters Association chapter members will help out at many of these hunts, offering food, taking kids afield with dogs, and helping run the shotgun skills clinics.

Youth hunters must have a Hunter Education

Certificate, Harvest Information Program validation and a permit for the area they will hunt. Youths age 14 or older also need an Oregon juvenile hunting license and an upland bird hunting validation.

The bag limit is two pheasants per day. Youths must be with an adult who is not allowed to hunt that day, and the adult may only supervise one young hunter at a time. Register early, because these hunts are very popular.

See the dates for youth bird hunts – including youth waterfowl hunts and an OHA youth chukar hunt – near you on the next page.



## ODFW YOUTH PHEASANT HUNTS IN 2023

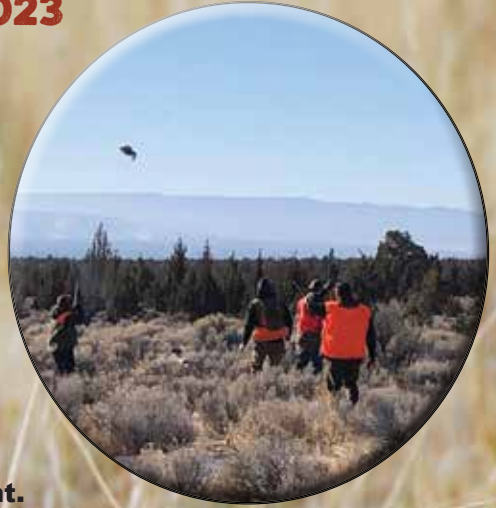
### LOCATION

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

### HUNT DATES

Sept. 9-10  
Sept. 16-17, Oct. 28  
Sept. 16-17  
Sept. 16-17  
Sept. 16-17  
Sept. 16-17  
Sept. 16-17  
Sept. 16-17  
Sept. 23  
Sept. 23-24  
Sept. 23-24

For reservations visit [www.myodfw.com](http://www.myodfw.com) or a license agent.



The youth extended weekend gives kids one last shot to bag a buck.

## 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. 10, may hunt the following two days in the youth western Oregon deer hunt weekend Nov. 11 and 12.

This special weekend hunt was started

by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission to give kids a chance 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 and refuges have reserved dates and places just for hunters 17 and under to hunt this fall, including hunts at the Baskett Slough NWR. 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.

### 2023-24 YOUTH-ONLY HUNTS:

**Fern Ridge:** Nov. 25 and Dec. 27.

**Klamath Wildlife Area:** Oct. 28.

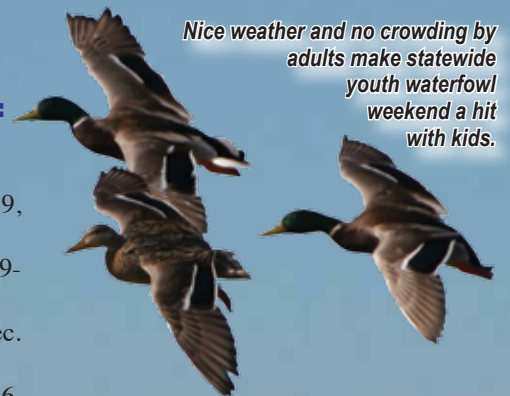
**Sauvie Island:** Oct. 28, Nov. 12, Dec. 9, Dec. 28, and Jan. 13.

**Umatilla NWR:** Nov. 18 (ages 10-17); 509-546-8300; [fws.gov/refuge/umatilla](http://fws.gov/refuge/umatilla)

**Tualatin River NWR:** Nov. 11, 19, 25; Dec. 3, 9, 17, 23, 31; Jan. 6; 503-625-5944.

**Baskett Slough:** Sept. 21-22. 541-757-7236.

See Game Bird Regulations for permit information and hunt rules.



*Nice weather and no crowding by adults make statewide youth waterfowl weekend a hit with kids.*

## 2 chances to chase chukars



The OHA Klamath Chapter will host a special chukar hunt just for kids on Oct. 21 and 22 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. Call Klamath Chapter OHA at 541-643-7077.

The OHA Bend Chapter will hold a youth hunt for chukars and pheasants on Oct. 21. Call 541-480-7323.

## 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. 30-Oct. 1. Daily bag limits, licensing requirements and other regulations apply. Not all public land is open to hunting during this weekend, so check with your local public land management agency.





# PUZZLE PAGE

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



## Across

3. A baby bear. Also a pro baseball mascot.
6. The science of bullets is called -----.
8. Indian name for elk.
9. A female elk.
10. A female game bird.

## Down

1. Another name for rock chuck is yellow-bellied -----.
2. Bullets leave this end of the firearm; the part you're taught to control when you handle a gun.
4. Another word for venom is -----; also an itchy form of "oak."

5. A male goat.
6. A kind of wild sheep with heavy head wear.
7. A tool for finding direction.

**Back-to-back bonus words:**  
Find the name of a male cougar or turkey, followed by the name of a male bighorn sheep. Hint: Put together, they form a puzzle word spelled backwards!

## Do You Know?

1. What native game bird OHA has helped to reintroduce to parts of eastern Oregon?
  2. What is Oregon's biggest lake?
  3. What duck regularly eats fish?
  4. The name for a baby turkey?
  5. What a female bighorn is called?
  6. What country Oregon's bighorns came from when they were reintroduced by ODFW and sportsmen?
- ANSWERS: 1-mountain quail; 2-Klamath Lake; 3-merganser; 4-chick or poult; 5-ewe; 6-Canada.

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





## Wildlife Close-up

### *Pheasant*

Ringneck pheasants have lived in Oregon for more than 100 years. They were first brought here from China in 1882.

Pheasants are large birds that live on grain crops. The males, called roosters, are brightly colored, while the females, called hens, are a light brown color that helps them blend in with their surroundings when they are on their nests.

Rooster pheasants are a popular game bird for hunters. Because most pheasants are found in or around farm lands, the best hunting usually takes place on private property.

Pheasant populations have dwindled in recent years because they are losing much of their habitat as homes and businesses are built where there used to be farms and fields.

Some wildlife areas now have special pheasant hunts for young hunters in the fall.





*Proudly sponsored by*



**LEUPOLD®**



# OHA HELPED OREGON KIDS HAVE A FIELD DAY!

**T**he Oregon Hunters Association held special youth field days for kids all around the state this spring and summer.

OHA's youth days give kids a chance to test their shooting and outdoor skills, and there's usually yummy food!

OHA's first youth event of the year was the OHA and ODFW youth turkey clinics in April.

More field days were held in May and June.

There were more big events in the summer.

Some of the events were free, while others charged a small amount to cover the costs of putting on the events.

In September, OHA will be involved in youth bird hunts around the state. (See the schedule on Page 2.)

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



OHA JOSEPHINE COUNTY CHAPTER

Young people got to try different outdoor skills at OHA youth events like this one in southern Oregon.

## Last call for Hunter Education!

**I**f 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 [MyODFW.com](http://MyODFW.com)



## 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

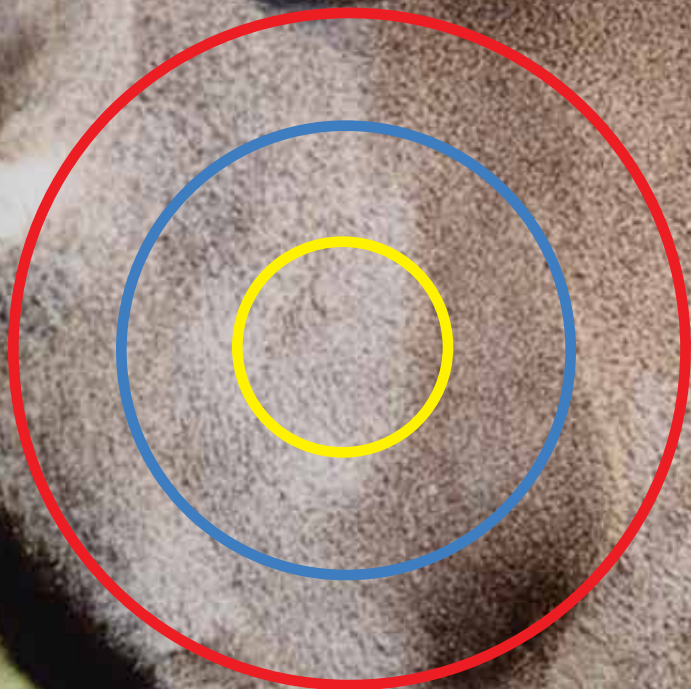




NOSLER<sup>®</sup>

*Proud sponsor*

# YOUNG GUNS MULE DEER TARGET





## 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

(541) 772-7313

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

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

## Good shots from Oregon's Young Guns



Hazel and Harding Huber found these whitetail antlers while hunting for shed antlers in Wallowa County last spring.



Collin Tacchini of Albany tagged this Columbian whitetail buck on the North Bank Habitat Area in Douglas County.



Jacob Burton of Union took this big mule deer on opening morning in Baker County.