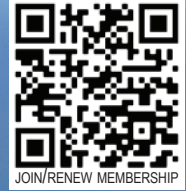


OHA TRACKER

JANUARY 2024



JOIN/RENEW MEMBERSHIP

DENMAN WILDLIFE AREA/RANDY SHIPLEY

OHA hosts statewide youth event Feb. 3

OHA has started a new program to welcome the whole family to hunting, shooting, fishing, glamping, backcountry camping and a lot more. It's called the Oregon Partners In Conservation Family Expo, and it is slated for Feb. 3 at the Deschutes County Expo Center in Redmond.

This free event is all about bringing the outdoors inside on a Saturday in February where more than 40 organizations will be gathered in one location, providing interactive, family-friendly exhibits to show how to get started, get back into, or get more involved in small game hunting, big game hunting, target shooting disciplines, rock hounding, hiking, crabbing, clamming, scuba diving, freshwater and saltwater fishing and kayaking.

Expect the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the US Fish & Wildlife Service, the US Forest Service and Oregon Department of Forestry to be represented, with information on access, habitat restoration and careers in the outdoors.

The Oregon Partners In Conservation Family Expo is a collaboration of

outdoors enthusiast groups seeking to reach families with the message that the outdoor lifestyle helps start young people on a path that leads to healthy living and healthy choices.

At the event, ODFW will provide information on ways to get involved by taking Hunter Education classes, while OHA will host a booth for its Learn To Hunt program funded by the Leupold & Stevens Foundation, and OHA's Bend Chapter will share information on participating in the chapter's Youth & Family Day (which takes place in June) and the Youth Pheasant Hunt (which takes place in November).

The event is funded in part by the Leupold & Stevens Foundation and OHA's Youth Heritage Fund, which is supported entirely by individual OHA member donations. To contribute to the Youth Heritage Fund, please visit <https://oregonhunters.org/donate>

For more, call 541-420-2741, email jr.tra19@gmail.com or visit: <https://oregonhunters.org/oregon-partners-in-conservation>

This event is free and open to the public. —GARY LEWIS



Ladies of OHA network launches in '24

OHA's new women's network, Ladies of OHA, will include a comprehensive resource hub specific to women in hunting, such as gear selection, safety concerns, fitness, and many other topics. Events with invited speakers, skills building courses, hunting clinics, and conservation projects are all planned for the coming year.

The program will launch in January 2024 with a monthly digital newslet-

ter, which will include information on upcoming events, useful articles and resources, and a profile of a program member. Women who would like to be included in the distribution list for the newsletter and information on events are encouraged to email Amy Patrick at amy@oregonhunters.org. This program is supported by the Leupold & Stevens Foundation with the goal of supporting women in hunting. —AMY PATRICK

OHA weighs in on wolf plan

OHA staff participated on a panel to share our thoughts on the current Oregon Wolf Conservation and Management Plan at the December Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission meeting. The latest version of the plan was completed in 2019, and the agency is required to review the plan every five years.

Much of the meeting, like wolf management around Oregon, focused on wolf depredation of livestock. OHA agrees that this needs to be a continued focus of the management of wolves in Oregon.

We also emphasized the need to continue implementing other parts of the plan, such as developing a more comprehensive population monitoring plan that is needed to inform the development of a wolf population model instead of using a "minimum wolf count" that everyone knows is insufficient. This would facilitate managing wolves like other wildlife.

OHA also stressed the need to better examine the impact of wolves on wild ungulates (moose, deer, elk) and employing the use of "controlled take" provisions that are spelled out in the plan by developing a damage hunt that could be used as another tool to address areas of chronic livestock depredation.

The Commission decided to continue with implementation of the current plan and focus on three primary areas. First is the growing need to focus on wolf-livestock conflicts, specifically those in northeast Oregon, where all tools, including lethal removal, are available. Second is to address illegal take or poaching of wolves in Oregon. Third is the development of a population monitoring tool.

—MIKE TOTEY

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

**WIN A 2024
DEER OR ELK HUNT
ON ZUMWALT PRAIRIE!**



**FOR EACH SEPARATE RAFFLE:
3-day guided hunt for 1
hunter. Value: \$4,900
Tickets: \$50 or 7 for \$300.**



**500 offered.
Drawing: 3/14/24,
OHA State Office.
Tickets & info:**

**call 541-772-7313 or visit
www.oregonhunters.org/store**

**OHA maintains
hunting access
at Crump Lake**

Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL) recently enacted a periodic public closure of state lands within and around Crump Lake in Lake County when the water levels recede due to chronic defacement of archaeological sites and removal of artifacts.

Throughout the rulemaking process, OHA Conservation Staff encouraged DSL to maintain hunting access, and as a result, hunters on foot in possession of a valid tag for the Beatys Butte Unit, and actively scouting or hunting deer or antelope are allowed to access the area despite the closure.

Game bird hunters will be allowed to hunt Crump Lake, but bird hunters will need to request written permission from DSL through the Real Property Program (Shawn.Zumwalt@dsl.oregon.gov).

OHA thanks Oregon State Police for collaborating with OHA to ensure hunters can still access these public lands during low water periods. —*TYLER DUNGANNON*

**YOU'RE INVITED TO AN
OHA BANQUET
NEAR YOU SOON!**

Enjoy a fun evening among friends and check out auctions and raffles featuring trips, great gear and more at an OHA chapter banquet near you soon.

Watch for 2024 fund-raiser updates at: <https://oregonhunters.org/events-2>

OHA banquets in 2024 will feature a Coastal Farm & Ranch Raffle for a Brown-ing Xbolt Speed LR OviX 7mm PRC!



2024 OHA BANQUETS

- Feb. 17 Ochoco 541-777-4830
- Feb. 24 Columbia Co. 949-553-7271
- Feb. 24 Hoodview 503-314-3090
- Feb. 24 Redmond 541-419-7215
- Feb. 24 Union-Wallowa 541-786-1283
- Mar. 2 Pioneer 503-710-1233
- Mar. 9 Bend 541-480-9848
- Mar. 16 Josephine Co. 541-821-1511
- Mar. 16 Capitol 503-930-8586
- Mar. 16 Rogue Valley 541-773-8736
- Mar. 16 Yamhill County 503-490-2489
- Mar. 23 Blue Mountain*541-231-4384
- Mar. 23 Clatsop County 503-440-9934
- Mar. 23 Tualatin Valley 503-502-0611
- Mar. 30 Mid-Columbia 541-490-2980
- Apr. 6 Tioga 541-294-7912
- Apr. 6 Umpqua 541-580-5660
- Apr. 6 Lake County 541-417-2983
- Apr. 13 Mid-Willamette 541-971-3351
- Apr. 27 Klamath 541-884-5773
- Apr. 27 Curry 530-351-5847
- May 4 Tillamook 503-842-7153
- May 4 OHA State Convention,**
Seven Feathers Casino, 541-772-7313

* A&H Statewide Elk Tag auction
** A&H Statewide Deer Tag auction

OHA revises board selection process

By Cindy Rooney, OHA Vice President
cindyrooneyoha@outlook.com



The OHA State Board of Directors has been working on restructuring the way our state board works and recruits new board members. These changes will allow for selection of board members based on qualifications and OHA's needs.

Starting in January 2024, the only board members to be elected by the membership will be the President and Vice President, and all officers and directors will be recruited by the board and our membership.

A Governance Committee has been established to review performance of current board members, vet new board candidates and present nominations to the board for approval. Any recruited directors will need to submit an application to be presented to the Commit-

tee and go through an interview process. Once all applicants are vetted, the Committee will present the candidates and its recommendations to the board. Once elected, directors will serve no more than four, three-year terms and will go through a yearly evaluation by the Committee. This process will allow the board to review each candidate, discuss where improvement is needed, and discuss the needs of the board to further advance.

If you are enthusiastic about serving OHA's mission at the state level, contact a state board member to discuss this new process and your interest and skills for serving on the State Board, or contact the OHA State Office for more information, 541-772-7313 or oha@oregonhunters.org

Deadline to file for President or Vice President is Feb. 1, 2024.