



OHA supports game bird hunting opportunity, presses for sharp-tailed grouse restoration

By Tyler Dungannon, Conservation Coordinator
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At the April ODFW Commission meeting, OHA once again showed up to ensure we are maximizing hunting opportunity within the confines of sound science-based wildlife management.

✓ **WILD TURKEY** - OHA previously supported a proposal to increase wild turkey hunting opportunity to address damage on private lands in Grant County, and now in western Oregon counties (Marion, Polk, Yamhill, Benton, Linn, and eastern Lane counties, excluding private industrial forest land).

We are supportive of the beardless fall turkey permit program, as long as ODFW continues to monitor turkey populations to ensure we don't see population declines among turkeys that predominantly use public lands.

✓ **SAGE-GROUSE** - It seems every year, sage-grouse hunting is on some Commissioner's chopping block, and every year OHA is there to remind Commissioners that our conservative sage-grouse hunting season doesn't contribute to any population decline. Further, it was hunter-harvested wing data that determined sage-grouse productivity (chicks per hen) in 2023 was the highest recorded since data were first collected over 40 years ago.

✓ **SHARP-TAILED GROUSE** - OHA made the Commission aware that we're embarking on another effort to reintroduce native Columbian sharp-tailed grouse to northeast Oregon. This species was extirpated from Oregon in the 1960s/70s, so we feel it's time to work with sharp-tail experts from across the West to determine the best available habitat for another potential reintroduction effort.

OHA protects SW Cascade meadows, watershed; join us for next project phase on June 15-16

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OHA and its 30 volunteers installed the final mile section of wildlife-friendly fence and completed protection of Whiskey Springs and Fourbit Creek meadows in April. These fences that OHA installed will both increase habitat quality for wildlife and help purify spring water for the Big Butte Springs Municipal Watershed. Of broad importance, these high groundwater infiltration areas ultimately provide drinking water to 140,000 people.

On June 15 and 16, OHA will move on to wildlife-friendly fence Willow Prairie about 10 miles from Whiskey Springs. Willow Prairie is another high-risk Cascade meadow that has seen its share of

damage caused by intensive livestock grazing, illegal off highway vehicle use and other sources.

Plan to join us for this great project. Meals will be provided for volunteers, camping will be free at Whiskey Springs Campground, and you could win great prizes, including a deer shoulder mount donated by North American Taxidermy, and a Howa 1500 6.5 Creedmoor from Legacy Sports International. Contact Tyler Dungannon (td@oregonhunters.org) for more information.

Grant funds for this project were awarded to OHA by the Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund, and OHA's Josephine County Chapter provided additional funds for this project.

M-114 ruling faces challenge by state; status still on hold

By Amy Patrick, OHA Policy Director
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Measure 114, the gun control measure narrowly passed in the 2022 election, is the subject of an appeal by the State of Oregon with the intent of implementation.

In November, Judge Raschio of Harney County ruled Measure 114 unconstitutional, issuing a final ruling in January that permanently banned its implementation. Oregon Attorney General Rosenblum then filed notice of the State's intent to appeal Judge Raschio's ruling.

As part of the appeal, the State requested a stay against Judge Raschio's ruling, which would allow the implementation of Measure 114 components while the case was further litigated. This request was recently denied by the Oregon Court of Appeals, which means Judge Raschio's injunction against Measure 114 remains in place.

The State's appeal will be before the Oregon Court of Appeals for the next three months with a ruling expected in August.

Meanwhile, the lawsuit filed against Measure 114 in federal court is pending an appeal to the Ninth Circuit following a July ruling that found the measure constitutional. OHA participated in this litigation by filing amicus briefs in support of the lawsuit. That appeal has been paused pending a ruling on a similar case, making its timeline unknown.

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Legacy Sports International
Proceeds will be used for OHA
Regional Habitat Projects where
multiple OHA chapters come
together with State OHA to
implement landscape-scale
projects to benefit wildlife.
Drawing: 3 p.m. Sept. 4, 2024,
OHA State Office, 301 Crater
Lake Ave. Suite C, Medford, OR.
NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN.



Make sure OHA has your email and/or sign up for online auto-renew and win!



As part of an emphasis on investing more funds in our mission and less on printing and mailing, OHA is setting our sights on obtaining email addresses for more of our members and encouraging online auto-renewal of memberships.

As reward, OHA will hold drawings later this summer to award prizes (including guns, knives and optics) to some of those for whom we have emails and those who have signed up for auto-renewal.

If you currently receive OHA emails, we already have your address, so you are entered. If you don't receive OHA emails, simply send us an email containing your name and address to OHAcontests@gmail.com and you'll be entered to win great prizes. We don't share your information.

Sign up for OHA auto-renewal, and you'll be entered for a chance to win more! Visit <https://oregonhunters.org/joinrenew>

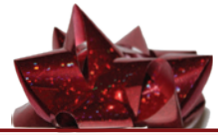


Latest Gun Calendar winners announced

OHA Gun Calendar Raffle winners are posted every Wednesday on OHA's social media, but Facebook and Instagram have been taking down the posts because they contain guns. See weekly winners on OHA's website or download our app, which you can also use to enter contests and get timely notifications.

Get your 2025 OHA Gun Raffle Calendar now by calling the OHA state office at 541-772-7313 or visiting OHA's website at: www.oregonhunters.org/store

- **April 3: Kimber 84 Hunter 280 Ackley**
James Settie of Estacada
- **April 10: Henry Golden Boy .22LR**
Dave Hamrick of Coos Bay
- **April 17: Stoeger M3500 Max 5 Camo 12 Ga**
Randy Pridham of Brookings
- **April 24: Browning A Bolt III Syn. Gray**
Nicole Taylor of Estacada



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