



# CWD surrounds Oregon; OHA ups the ante

By Mike Totey, OHA Conservation Director  
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Chronic wasting disease (CWD) recently was discovered in Washington near Spokane. With the disease now confirmed in Idaho, California and Washington, it seems inevitable that this always-fatal disease will find its way to Oregon, where it could have devastating effects on our deer, elk and moose populations.

Our best hope is to do our part as hunters and conservationists. If you are hunting out of state, do not transport any of the brain or spinal cord back to Oregon with you. If you are successful in filling a tag (or hopefully two!) in Oregon, make sure you get your harvested deer or elk tested. Early detection of the disease gives wildlife managers the best chance to keep the impacts of the disease manageable, and testing harvested animals is the primary way to do this.

OHA is working hard with ODFW to ramp up testing in Oregon. OHA was instrumental in getting funding to add capacity for the field work needed with testing for CWD, and for laying the groundwork to get a testing facility started at Oregon State University.

OHA is offering an incentive to those who get their deer or elk tested. Everyone who submits their harvested animal for testing will be entered into a drawing to win a Howa 1500 .223 with a 4-12x40 scope.

For more information, check out the ODFW CWD web page at:  
<https://myodfw.com/CWD>



*One hunter who checks in an animal for CWD testing at an ODFW check station or field office will win this rifle and scope package donated by OHA.*

## Test your animal for CWD, get a chance to win a great gun donated by OHA

By Tyler Dungannon, OHA Conservation Coordinator  
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OHA is partnering with ODFW to offer an incentive drawing for hunters who submit chronic wasting disease (CWD) samples from their harvested deer and elk this season.

For every deer or elk sample provided, hunters will receive an entry to win a Howa 1500 .223 rifle with mounted Nikko Stirling Gamepro 4-12x40mm Scope combo. A second hunter will be drawn to receive a Sig Sauer Whiskey3 4-12x40mm Quadplex scope.

OHA and ODFW are committed to reducing the spread of CWD. In the 2024 Oregon Legislative Session, OHA's two-year effort to secure legislative funding toward CWD monitoring, detection, and testing culminated in the successful allocation of \$2.7 million in state funding.

CWD has now been detected in California, Idaho and Washington.

"With chronic wasting disease detected in three bordering states, it is more imperative than ever for hunters to provide our unique contribution toward CWD detection by voluntarily submitting samples from our harvests," said OHA Policy Director Amy Patrick.

ODFW has yet to detect a case of CWD in Oregon, but increasing sampling efforts will be critical in preventing the spread of CWD in Oregon.

Hunters who submit a CWD sample from a harvested deer or elk between Aug. 1, 2024 and April 30, 2025 will be entered to win the prizes. Successful hunters will receive one entry for every legally harvested deer or elk for which they provide a CWD sample. Hunters can submit samples at CWD check stations or at any ODFW office.

Visit <https://myodfw.com/CWD> for more information.

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**How fires may  
affect hunters**

Like OHA members, ODFW is very concerned about this year's record fire season and its impacts to wildlife, habitat and fall hunting opportunities.

We know hunters may have saved their points for years to draw a tag and are now wondering if they will even get to hunt this year, about the quality of the hunt, or what happens to their points.

ODFW staff are closely watching active fires and associated closures and evaluating how they will impact hunting.

Public land managers also know the importance of hunting seasons, and both our staffs are in close communication. Often, public land closures originally scheduled to be months long and covering large areas are substantially reduced in time for hunting seasons.

ODFW's commitment to hunters is that we will make decisions about reinstating points/refunding tags as soon as we have sufficient information to do so.

For hunts within large fires that have widespread public land closures that are assured to last for the entire hunt period, we can typically evaluate and make a decision within about two weeks of opening day.

For other hunts, we may not know until after the hunting season ends.

A few things ODFW asks of hunters:   
 ☞ Be sure you have a valid email in our licensing system, because that is how we will contact you about point reinstatement/refunds. Tell your hunting buddies, too.

☞ Understand that deciding not to hunt on your own is not grounds for having points reinstated. Neither are facing some closures to your hunt area, fire restrictions or inability to scout prior to the season.

☞ Finally, be aware that once you go hunting and start using your tag, you are ineligible for a point reinstatement.

For more, including a map of current fires within wildlife management units and spots to check for fire closures, see ODFW's hunting and fire danger page, <https://myodfw.com/articles/hunting-and-fire-danger-oregon> —ODFW

**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](http://www.oregonhunters.org/store)

- 🎯 July 17: *Sig Cross 6.5 CR*  
Ethan Cossitt of Prineville
- 🎯 July 24: *Weatherby VG 6.5 PRC*  
Phillip Disney of Medford
- 🎯 July 31: *Taurus Judge .45/410*  
John Shipley of Albany
- 🎯 Aug. 7: *Christensen Mesa .28 Nosler*  
Bruce Runia of Salem
- 🎯 Aug. 14: *Ruger American 6.5 CR*  
Ralph Buckingham of Salem
- 🎯 Aug. 21: *Henry Golden Boy 22LR*  
Austin Wilson of Longview



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