



OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

**Enhancing Habitat – Protecting Our Hunting
Heritage**

BEND CHAPTER

PO BOX 6618 BEND, OREGON 97708

ALL HANDS ALL BRANDS FOR YOUR PUBLIC LANDS

JUNE 27 – 29, 2025

Bend and Capital Chapter members began showing up on Monday June 23 in order to check past projects and do repairs. We maintain 12 guzzlers in the Ochoco's and 3 of them were destroyed by last years fires. The rest of the guzzlers were serviced on Tuesday and Wednesday by OHA and RMEF.

On Thursday we shifted our plans with the night before an OHA member contacted a USFS fire crew and requested a message be sent off to Robbie Piehl or Monty Gregg that we needed T posts and a roll of smooth and a roll of barbed wire. On Thursday 8 of us went to Derr Meadow where we built a mile long buck and pole fence in 2021. Approximately 20 locations along the fence had burnt and we put in temporary three strand wire between the bucks to keep the cattle out. This was a ten-hour day and the eight of us were pretty much exhausted.

Additional volunteers began arriving on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. On Friday some volunteers cut Willows in preparation for the BDA work to be done the next day. A USFS crew shocked fish and relocated them and four of us went about the forest replacing green dot information signs. Others cut juniper trees to be used for the BDA's.

Saturday was the primary BDA work reinforcing existing BDA's, shocking and moving more fish, cutting more Willows and cutting down a large section of Lodgepole that had encroached into the meadow. Another group-built fence at an area where many past problems have occurred with road closure violators. Later that day two OSP F&W Officers stopped by camp and greeted

those in camp. They then came to our project area and were elated that the fence had been built. Ross Scrocca, USFS also re-certified about 8 volunteer sawyers.

Tradition was carried on with our Saturday night potluck with a tasty 10-ounce Rib Eye on the BBQ prepared by Rich Stutheit and Greg Petsch. Raffles were held and the group was then entertained by two musicians and singers.

Sunday began with a breakfast provided by NWTF who were the lead brand this year and afterwards volunteers began departing. 2 Bend OHA members went to Rager to assist with a Hunter Safety Field Day put on by OHA member Gordon Brown.

This year saw a much bigger variety of NGO's coming to participate and some that travelled a long distance. Not in any particular order but some of those that came are:

Hannah McKinney, NW Storyteller for NWTF flying up from Utah to write a story on the event and participate in the work. [All Hands, All Brands Unites Conservationists in Oregon's Ochoco National Forest - The National Wild Turkey Federation](#)

Sierra Smith, Watershed Science and Engineering came down from Seattle. Sierra is a junior hydraulic engineer with skills to hydraulic and sediment related challenges.

Dr. Maureen Thompson, Beaver Works Program Manager for Think Wild. Dr. Thompson and her crew were staged at Deep Creek and out in the field all week working on BDA's on another part of the forest. She and others stayed and joined our effort.

Reese Mercer, Western Beavers Cooperative which is a grassroots group of people supporting landowners and Beavers in Eastern Oregon.

Allison Trout, High Desert Museum

Haley Jalinski, Heart of Oregon Corps

Hannah Dinell, Portland Zoo Non Lead Hunting Education Specialist

Vanessa Petro, Oregon Department of Forestry Lead Wildlife Biologist, Salem

Mikal Cline, ODFW Upland Game Bird Coordinator

Rob Ward, OHA member in the valley and professional drone operator. Rob flew his drones for three days capturing a ton of data and events. He will be putting together a two-part video which will be released on his YouTube channel and made available to all the groups that were at All Hands. With his drone he was able to locate two additional beaver houses that the FS was not aware of.

We had one other volunteer drive up from Utah to participate and she was one of the FS employees that had been cut by DOGE. Another volunteer from the UK was present as well.

In addition, there were at least 4 OHA chapters present, RMEF, BHA, NWTF, MDF, TRCP, Western Beavers Coop & Think Wild.

At least 87 people were present with the youngest being 16 months and the oldest in the high 70's. There was 22 OHA present with several being affiliated with other NGO's as well.

Our chapter is very fortunate to have the relationship that we have with Monty Gregg and Robbie Piehl, Ochoco USFS Wildlife Bios. These two have the personalities and desire to make All Hands happen. They have brought in several other USFS personnel that each have a specialty which involves the work we do.





Data from the 87 known people that were at All Hands:

TRAVEL HOURS TO ALL HANDS:	328
MILES TRAVELLED:	12,566
VOLUNTEER WORK HOURS:	833

Federal per hour volunteer rate is \$34.79

TOTAL HOURS TIMES THE FEDERAL RATE IS \$40,356.00

22 of the volunteers were OHA members who put in 474 of the above hours which has a federal volunteer rate of \$16,490.00

Eric R. Brown
Bend Chapter OHA