




OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

BEND CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

October 2025

NEXT CHAPTER MEETING

Wednesday, October 8th
 *** 6:00 pm ***
Bend VFW

**(come early if you
want to purchase dinner)**

Please turn to *page 2* for *more
details* on our upcoming monthly
chapter meeting.

We look forward to seeing
YOU there!

LOOK INSIDE FOR:

- ♦ Meeting recap
- ♦ Bend Chapter info.
- ♦ Info on Youth Upland Bird Hunt:
reg ends at Bend ODFW on
10/14
- ♦ How to share your bird recipes for
our youth hunt recipe booklet
- ♦ Who harvested 2 big game ani-
mals *on the same day*
- ♦ COSSA Sight-In Clinic report
- ♦ OHA Tracker
- ♦ Photos & More!
- ♦ The Email to which you can send your
photos, articles and other items for the
newsletter. Thanks for your help!

Thank you, **Eric Brown**,
for the header photo.

See page 7 to find out where
the Bend Chapter's booth was
set up to promote OHA &
hunting

President's Message

Hello to all our members of the Bend Chapter of the Oregon Hunters Association.
Our Mission: Protecting Oregon's Wildlife, Habitat, & Hunting Heritage

As of September 22, our total membership was at 514. Welcome to our 5 newest members. Joining our chapter from Bend we now have **Paul Moresi** and **Bruce Sherwood**. From La Pine we have **Brooks Kline**, **Steve Roberson** and **Tyler Webber**. Thanks for joining and we hope to see you at an upcoming meeting, on a project or any of our other activities soon. We have 5 members that are this month's late to renew list as well. If you aren't sure when your membership expires, you can find that on the address label of your Oregon Hunter magazine.

Don't wait until that membership becomes late. Buying the Gun Raffle Calendar is a great way to extend your membership and it'll get you entered into the firearm drawings for next year. For just \$15 more than your regular renewal rate, you'll be entered into a chance to win one of 52 different firearms given away in 2026. Check with our Treasurer **John Bambe** and get that renewal taken care of early. If you've already renewed, why not buy one of the calendars for friends and family and gift them with it. You can even keep the raffle entry for yourself if that's your preference.

The regular archery season has come to a close for another year. As the leaves are starting to turn and Autumn with it's cooler nights falls upon us, those of us that use the smoke poles are looking forward to our turn in the field. No matter your preference as to what you carry on your quest, remember that for many of us, it's not about the take, it's about the opportunity to be out there.

For those of us who call this state home, who enjoy that privilege to commune with the outdoors and all it has to offer, we need to be mindful that there are others out there still attempting to take our chosen lifestyle away from us. The ballot initiative process that the state of Oregon has, is being used against our way of life. We must stay vigilant, and educate our neighbors, in some cases even our friends. It is the lack of accurate information, intolerance, ignorance in the process and apathy that will ultimately cost us our way of life. We can't let opinion be what drives decisions in the ballot box, but real data and the science to back it up.

Stay safe. Hope to see you out there.

Rex E Parks Sr
Bend Chapter President
Oregon Hunters Association

UPCOMING OCTOBER MEETING INFO:

We look forward to seeing YOU at our next monthly chapter meeting on **Wednesday October 8th**. Our meeting location is **the VFW Hall** in Bend. Remember to arrive early so you can purchase dinner from a nearby food truck (Midtown Yacht Club) and enjoy it before the meeting. Food is also available onsite at the VFW bar when the food truck in the parking lot is not open. (You are welcome to bring food with you) Arriving early also gives you the chance to visit with old friends or meet some new ones. Doors open at 5:00pm.
START TIME is 6:00pm

GUEST SPEAKER:

Our October guest speaker will be Fish & Wildlife Commissioner **Mark Labhart**. He'll update us on what the commission has been working on this year.

Your attendance is important to us and you might even win a prize. (see page 8 for last month's winners)

September Meeting Recap

In case you were unable to attend our monthly meeting at Bend VFW on Sept. 10th, here are a few highlights:

Our guest speaker was **Tim McClurg**, Bend Chapter member and FFL holder. As promised, through his detailed presentation, he showed us how to purchase (or sell) a firearm online, through online gun auctions and consignments, including how the firearm is shipped through an FFL. He explained the ins and outs of the whole process. He ran out of time to complete his whole presentation (how to sell a firearm online), but here are a few highlights:

- ◇ Define what you are looking for, what the parameters are, and what it should be worth. (MSRP, model #, any recalls) Do your research before starting to bid, otherwise you can get caught in a bidding war & end up spending a lot more than you should.
- ◇ Make sure you'll pass the background check before you start bidding and have permit if needed
- ◇ Each auction site has its own search engine. Read the reviews of the site.
- ◇ As an FFL, Tim charges \$80 to receive a gun
- ◇ Do you have a firearm that you would like to sell? Talk to Tim, as he does that for clients.

In case you forgot to grab a business card from Tim at the meeting, here you go.



The Bend Chapter's Youth Upland Bird Hunt is October 18th and registration ends at ODFW on the 14th. Talk to **Kevin Borst** 541.480.7323 if you need more info or want to volunteer (also see page 3)

Reminder: We have positions available for you to join the board, let your voice be heard, and help this chapter to remain strong. We also have non-board banquet committee positions open. Come join the fun.

CO Land Watch and the Warm Springs Tribe are appealing the recent decision to allow the Thornburg development to move forward.

As requested by the OHA state board/office, we discussed the concerns/advantages of hiring an Executive Director at the state level so the members' ideas could be reported. We recommend a 3 year Sunset Clause with benchmarks to be met. As the ED attains funds from other sources, then the extra 15% of banquet funds should be returned to the chapters.

Against the finance committee recommendation, the board passed the proposal requested at the July meeting to support the efforts of the Yow's Youth Hunting Camp with \$750. The board supported the members' decision.

IT IS TIME GATHER DONATIONS FOR THE 2026 BANQUET! THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!

Please share your suggestions for future guest speakers with **Rex**. Perhaps it could even be you.

Rex read the thank you card from **Kailei Ouellette**, one of the Beckley Scholarship recipients, who happened to also be at the meeting (the last one before she returns to school)

You missed out if you weren't at the meeting! Please join us at a monthly meeting. You might learn something new, have a good time, give us some valuable input . . .



Protecting Oregon's wildlife, habitat and hunting heritage.

Oregon Hunters Association Bend Chapter's Wayne Elliott Memorial Youth Upland Bird Hunt

**YOUTH
MUST HAVE
HUNTER
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Hunt site
is on the
East side of
Powell Butte



Find map
in
Registration
packet

Saturday October 18, 2025

Pre-Registration required:

Bend ODFW Office 61374 Parrell Road (Sept 2—Oct 14; limited space, reg. early!)

\$10 registration fee includes:

- ♦ Pre-hunt safety instruction
- ♦ Clay pigeons with shells; shooting practice/instruction
- ♦ Field guide with dog; upland birds
- ♦ Bird cleaning station with guidance
- ♦ Recipe booklet AND LUNCH

BEND CHAPTER



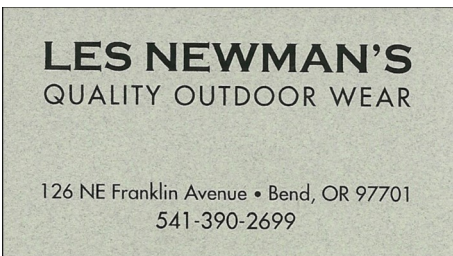
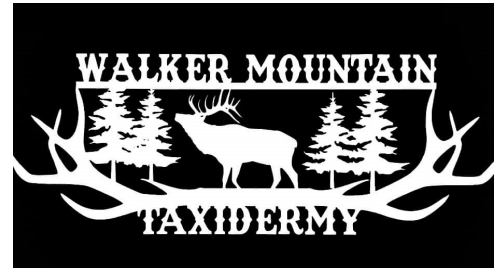
For more info call the **Bend OHA Youth & Family Activities Coordinator:**
Kevin Borst 541-480-7323

IMPORTANT:

Each month, the link to the digital newsletter will arrive in your email inbox, as well as appear on our website: oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter By drastically cutting the number of newsletters that are printed and mailed, the Bend Chapter is saving about \$10,000-\$11,000 per year. If you receive a hard copy, either you requested it, or we don't have your email address. If you didn't receive the email with the link, then we don't have the correct email address for you, or it might be in your junkmail folder. Please inform Wendy Borst of any problems and she will pass along the info to the correct person(s). Wenb.oha@outlook.com See below to learn how to update your info. Thanks for your help!



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IMPORTANT:



Staying in touch with members is vital to our mission, so if you have not been receiving Email Alerts and Reports from OHA Bend Chapter once or twice a month, then please scan this QR code or go to <https://oregonhunters.org/bend-membership-update> to **input your email**, phone and mailing address. If you are unable to do this, then call 817-472-4272 where we'll take your information over the phone.

SUCCESS IN THE FIELD!



Unbelievable day of hunting: **Jaret Lorimor** harvested his deer AND his elk IN THE SAME DAY! Proud dad, **JR** reports: spot & stalk on the deer, and tree stand on the elk; the buck took 1 hr 40 min to stalk within range. Congrats!



YOUTH:

Our 22nd annual
Youth Upland Bird Hunt
is Oct 18th!

Registration ends October 14th
at the Bend ODFW office.

The \$10 reg fee includes training, clay target practice, up to 5 birds, a field guide and dog, and lunch! (parents get lunch, too)

Look for your Hunter Ed card now in case you need to order a replacement. You must have the card with you.

Questions? Call Kevin Borst 541-480-7323

SUCCESS ON THE WATER!

Tyler Fahlgren proudly wearing his OHA hat he received from the Bend Chapter's Youth & Family Outdoor Day while showing off one of the fish he caught at Lava Lake.



THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!!:

WANTED

GAME BIRD RECIPES:

YOUR FAVORITE WAY TO
PREPARE CHUKAR & PHEASANT
(TO BE INCLUDED IN THE
YOUTH HUNT RECIPE BOOKLET)

PLEASE SEND RECIPES TO:
WENB.OHA@OUTLOOK.COM

OHA Bend Chapter Officers

President **Rex Parks Sr** firelt602@gmail.com (541) 480-0230
 1st VP **Doug Stout** (541) 312-8332
 2nd VP (newsletter editor) **Wendy Borst** (541) 480-0748
 Treasurer **John Bambe** (541) 480-9848
 Secretary **Carlie Holm** (interim)
 At-Large (Media) **Bob Buddenbohn** (817) 470-7018
 At-Large (Youth Events) **Kevin Borst** (541) 480-7323
 At Large (Outreach Coord.) **position available**
 Project Coordinator **Don Clark** (702) 460-3653
 Volunteer hrs. manager **Don Clark, Bill Littlefield**
 Banquet Chair **position available**
 Assistants to banquet coordinator: positions available
 Past President resigned

Website:

oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter

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CALENDAR

Check our website for Bend OHA event dates and more details

Oct 4	Deer season opens
Oct 11	Upland birds & waterfowl open (check regs)
Oct 8	Monthly Chapter Meeting, 6:00 PM
Oct 14	Last day to registration for Youth Hunt
Oct 18	Bend Chapter's Youth Upland Bird Hunt
Oct 25	*Deadline to submit items for November newsletter*
Oct 29	Rocky Mtn Elk 1st season opens
Oct	No Monthly Board Meeting
November 2	Daylight Saving ends
Nov 12	Monthly Chapter Meeting

CHECK YOUR OREGON HUNTER'S CALENDAR FOR
 TAG DEADLINES, HUNT END DATES, & EVENTS ACROSS OUR STATE



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COSSA Sight-In Days Report



Bend OHA and Lead Free Hunting
booths at the COSSA Sight In Clinic

Don Clark, Rex Parks and John Bambe worked the booth providing OHA and hunter info to shooters. **Hannah Dinell** from Lead-Free Hunting provided free ammunition to shooters at the clinic. **Andy Hamilton**, ODFW Hunter & Angler Specialist participated on the first Saturday of the clinic. **Overall 91 shooters participated with 108 rifles.** On the last weekend **Brent Baer**, Leupold Sales Manager assisted shooters along with bringing a lot of great swag and a very nice rifle scope to give away. Imagine being the shooter that showed up and needed some assistance with his Leupold scope which had a ballistic dial on it and having a person from Leupold spend time with him helping him out and getting him dialed in.



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It pays to attend our monthly chapter meeting:

Congratulations to **Larry Sharp** for winning the door prize at our September meeting.

Enjoy your \$25 Gun Dog Supply gift card!

John F Patterson of Bend drew for the Sept. monthly membership prize (\$500 reimbursement towards any outdoor/hunting item) but was not present to win.



Please help us to
personalize this
informative newsletter:

*Requesting photos of your
successful hunts, wildlife
in your yard or on your
hike, your huntin' buddy
(bird dog)*

**Send photos to:
wenb.oha@outlook.com**



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REMEMBER TO RENEW!

When does your membership expire? Check the address label of your Oregon Hunters magazine for your expiration date.
Welcome to any new members!

WILDLIFE SIGHTINGS

This deer was discovered
while enjoying
a snack in
Tim & Judy McClurg's
garden.



Volunteer Hours:

A new procedure to report them

In order to keep better track of the Bend Chapter's volunteer hours, Bill Littlefield created an online reporting system. By scanning the QR code or using the URL below, volunteers can easily complete the online form.



<https://forms.gle/Bghi5dBzor8t8Cbj8>

The QR code and link are also on our chapter website:

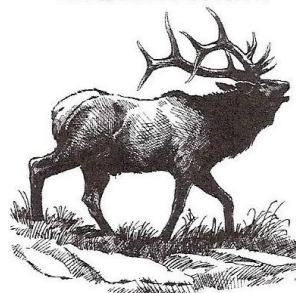
Oregonhunters.org/bend-chapter

The details have been printed on business cards so you can pick up one at the project/event and easily report your volunteer hours on your phone, tablet, or computer.

Thanks for your help!



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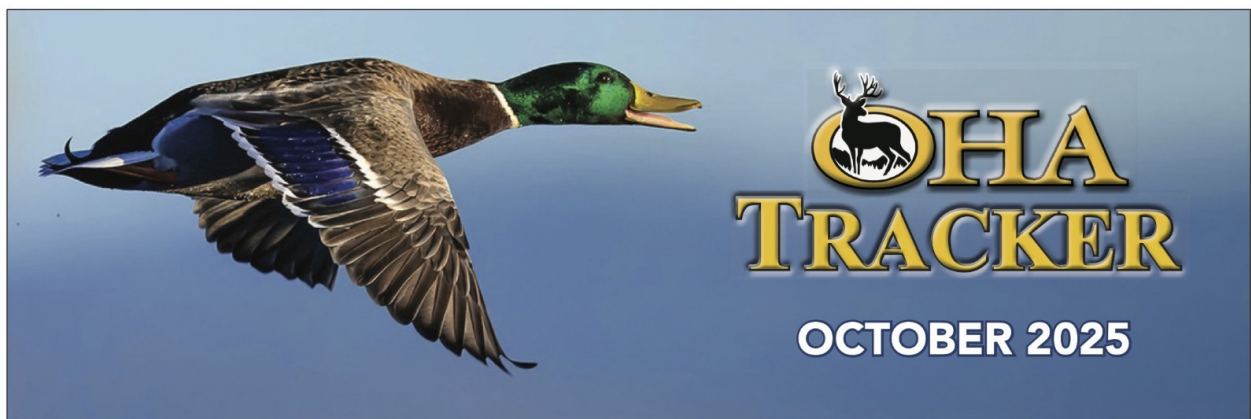
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Hunting for big bucks for wildlife

By Amy Patrick, OHA Policy Director
Amy@oregonhunters.org

The outlook on the 2026 Legislative Session, commonly known as the Short Session due to its 5-week timeline, is being shaped by fiscal shortfalls. Oregon's politics in 2025 have set the table for a challenging landscape for any bill concept that will require state funding. From the 2025 session ending without a transportation package, to the stop-and-start special session wrangling of an acknowledged short-term fix for roads and immediate needs, the lack of availability of state funding has been underscored. Add in the September Revenue Forecast predicting an \$373 million shortfall, and the picture becomes more clear.

Dollars & Sense

Even in well-funded bienniums, the Oregon Legislature does not prioritize the funding of natural resource agencies. The General Fund, otherwise known as our tax dollars, is used to fund state agency budgets every two years. Of the \$37 billion dollars of General Fund allocated for the 2025-27 biennium, a mere 1.5% goes to all 16 natural resource agencies, with only 0.2% ending up at ODFW.

What does this mean for OHA and the sportsmen and women around the state? Likely, it means we will need to continue finding other funding avenues for our priorities of protecting Oregon's wildlife, habitat, and hunting heritage.

Welcome to the Hotel Oregon

One plan to address this need was brought forward in 2025: the transient lodging tax bill. The original concept,

HB 2977, would have increased the state transient lodging tax (TLT) by an additional 1%, raising it from 1.5% to 2.5%. Even with this increase, Oregon's statewide TLT would remain among the lowest in the nation. The revenue created from this increase would go to ODFW for conservation efforts such as the State Wildlife Action Plan.

As the bill was worked in the session, it was amended to change the increase from an additional 1% to 1.25% for a rate of 2.75% and add additional programs to the list of funding recipients. The final version included funds for the Wolf Depredation Compensation Program, invasive species response, additional anti-poaching capacity, wildlife connectivity programs, Oregon Conservation and Recreation Fund, and a wildlife stewardship program. These changes garnered strong bipartisan support, moving the bill out of the House and to the Senate for final approval. Unfortunately, through late-session political maneuvering, the bill was not allowed on the Senate floor for a vote before the end of session.

Picking up the Tab for Wildlife

OHA has worked on this concept since its inception in 2021 and will support it again in 2026. We see the value in creating new revenue streams for ODFW that are additive to the costs currently shouldered only by hunters, anglers and trappers. Creating a funding stream that will be paid predominantly by out-of-state travelers is the first step in broadening the scope of fiscal responsibility for Oregon's wildlife management.

Women of OHA get coordinator

By Amy Patrick, OHA Policy Director
Amy@oregonhunters.org

The Women of OHA program, started in January 2024, has grown to the point of needing a part-time coordinator to help maintain the momentum of the program. Jennifer Braley, from Summer Lake, has stepped up to assist with the outreach work for the Women of OHA program, including coordinating volunteers for outreach events, planning the annual Weekend Away trip, and creating promotional opportunities to continue the rapid growth of the program.



Jennifer Braley

Jennifer has extensive background in outreach, project and grants management, and administrative-level support having worked previously for the U.S. Forest Service and USDA Agricultural Research Service.

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Changes coming to Oregon mule deer hunting in 2026

By Tyler Dungannon, Conservation Coordinator
TD@oregonhunters.org

Eastern Oregon mule deer hunt areas for the 2026 season were approved at the September Oregon Fish & Wildlife Commission meeting. Nothing has changed for the 2025 season, but it's official: mule deer hunt areas will look very different for the vast majority of hunters in 2026.

These changes are a result of ODFW beginning to monitor and manage deer harvest within Oregon's 22 individual mule deer herd ranges. Modeling mule deer population performance and harvesting deer within respective herd ranges is biologically sound and should improve management of mule deer.

Starting in 2026, there will be just 43 total mule deer hunt areas, and generally speaking, these hunt areas will be much larger than we're accustomed to. These larger hunt areas may provide additional opportunities to hunt multiple landscapes with the same tag and offer hunters the opportunity to move from emergency closures (e.g., wildfire) and still hunt.

However, hunters should know there are a slew of potential pitfalls associated with these new, larger hunt areas. Overcrowding in highly coveted spots, increased difficulty in drawing certain tags, and hunters' typical hunt areas being split by new hunt area boundaries top the list of concerns hunters are likely to experience in 2026.

As we harvest deer within herd ranges, the current hunt area boundaries within the herd ranges have little biological significance. The hunt area boundaries are essentially drawn to manage hunters, and that is why hunters' input after the 2026 mule deer season will be imperative to address obvious issues.

Mule deer herd range (and hunt area) names were recently changed to avoid confusion with existing wildlife management unit names still being used to manage elk, pronghorn, etc., so don't be alarmed by these new herd range names.

Old Range Name	New Range Name
Murderers Creek	Aldrich
Ochoco	Crooked River
Warner	DeGarmo
Deschutes	Deschutes
Crescent	Devils Garden
Sumpter	Elkhorn
Northside	Fox
Columbia Basin	Helix
Biggs	Jackknife
Beulah-Malheur	Juntura
Keno	Keno
Klamath Basin	Klamath Basin
Mid Columbia	Mid Columbia
North Blues	North Blues
Northeast	Northeast
Fossil-Grizzly	Painted Hills
SC Low-Density	Poverty Basin
Juniper-Silvies	Sage Hen
South Wallowas	South Wallowas
Southeast	Southeast
Steens Mtn	Steens
Trout Creek	Trout Creek



New '25 Gun Calendar winners announced

The latest winners in OHA's 2025 Gun Calendar Raffle have been announced, and the 2026 OHA Gun Raffle Calendar is on sale now! Call 541-772-7313 or visit <https://oregonhunters.org/shop/#raffles>

See weekly winners on OHA's website or download our app, which you can also use to enter OHA contests and get timely notifications.

★ **Howa 1500 carbon fiber 6.5PRC**

Jim Ross-Lyons, Redmond Chapter

★ **Stoeger M3000 Max 7 Camo 12**

Christina Cox, Ochoco Chapter

★ **Browning A-Bolt 3 Hunter Grade II .30-06**

Danny Miller, Emerald Valley Chapter

★ **Howa M1500 .22-250 T/C Kryptek Typhon**

Galen Johnson

★ **Remington 700 ADL .300 Win. Mag.**

Mike Gordon, Hoodview Chapter

WHY RENEW ANY OTHER WAY?



GUN RAFFLE CALENDAR

**OHA will give away
A GUN A WEEK in 2026!**

For \$50 you get:

- 2026 Gun Raffle Calendar.
- Chance to win 1 of 52 guns raffled (\$599-\$1,800).
- 1 Year OHA Membership (Join, renew, gift or \$35 toward life pledge)

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\$200 Game Fish & Shellfish
\$200 Game Birds or Furbearers
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\$200 Snagging/Attempt to Snag



ODFW Preference Points rewards

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