



OHA TRACKER

DECEMBER 2025



JOIN/RENEW MEMBERSHIP

SOUTHERN OREGON WANNABE SNOW GEESE

Hunters get CWD test results faster

By Amy Patrick, OHA Policy Director
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OHA's diligent work in the Capitol has produced important results for Oregon's hunting community yet again. This fall, the Oregon Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory (OVDL) at Oregon State University began testing deer samples collected in Oregon for Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD), with elk samples to be online soon.

In 2023, OHA worked with Oregon legislators to author the original funding bill to establish in-state testing at the OVDL. It took two sessions of work to finally pass the bill in 2024 and allocate \$2.7 million in state funds toward monitoring and testing for CWD. Of that funding, \$1.9 million went to the OVDL for personnel, training, and equipment to set up their laboratory for CWD testing; the remaining funds were directed to ODFW for sample collection and monitoring efforts.

With in-state testing at the OVDL, hunters no longer must wait 7-8 weeks for results, as was previously the case when samples were sent to Colorado State University. Now, the OVDL has the capacity to turn around results within a week of receiving the samples. The speed of the results not only benefits the hunting community but also allows for a much faster response time from ODFW, should a positive sample be found.

OHA will continue to advocate for funds to maintain and expand the OVDL's capacity to assist the hunting community and to ensure our wildlife populations remain healthy.

OHA hires Executive Director

Dr. Todd Adkins will bring experience from Sportsmen's Alliance, NRA to work for OHA

The Oregon Hunters Association Board of Directors has approved the hiring of Dr. Todd Adkins as OHA's new Executive Director, effective immediately. After an extensive national search and comprehensive evaluation process, Dr. Adkins emerged as the exceptional candidate our organization needs during this critical period of transformation and growth. His track record in strategic leadership, fundraising excellence, stakeholder management, and conservation advocacy makes him ideally suited to lead OHA into the future.



Dr. Todd Adkins

"Throughout the search process, Dr. Adkins kept rising to the top of our candidate pool," said Fred Walasavage, OHA's Chairman of the Board of Directors. "He has a unique combination of training, experience, and dedication that make this a very exciting time at OHA, especially when we look to the future and how this key hire will prove vital to our continued growth."

Dr. Adkins brings an impressive combination of academic credentials and practical executive leadership experience, including a PhD from the University of Notre Dame and a law degree from the University of Iowa. Together with his nearly 30 years of work on behalf of

hunting and conservation for organizations large and small, he is ideally suited to lead OHA at this pivotal time.

Most recently, Dr. Adkins was Senior Vice President of Sportsmen's Alliance, where he oversaw a major expansion of staff and resources dedicated to protecting hunting (and hunters) in every corner of the country. He is also a former Managing Director of State & Local Affairs for the National Rifle Association's Institute of Legislative Action (NRA-ILA), overseeing 25 staff members and an eight-figure budget. Throughout his career, Dr. Adkins has led significant organizational change, but always with an eye on improving member service, satisfaction, and solidarity.

Dr. Adkins is a life-long hunter and angler, was a hunting guide on Maryland's Eastern Shore for several years and spends all of his free time in the outdoors. His decision to dedicate his life to hunting and conservation has been a guiding polestar throughout his professional life.

"I wake up every day thinking about how to protect hunters and our amazing conservation legacy, so I am honored by the Board's decision to appoint me as OHA's executive director," Adkins said. "We have a fantastic opportunity before us, and working with OHA members throughout the state, we will get there, of this I have no doubt."

Dr. Adkins will be reaching out to chapter leaders and other members in December to introduce himself personally and learn about OHA's chapters, challenges, and aspirations. We ask for your partnership in welcoming him to the OHA family and supporting this important transition.

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

New ODFW Commissioners confirmed

By Amy Patrick, OHA Policy Director
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With the confirmed appointments to the Fish and Wildlife Commission in November, the Commission is back to full capacity after nearly a year of operating with a vacant position.

Dave Moldal and Hugh Morrison were appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate to serve as the Commissioners from the Northwest Region. They replaced Commissioner Kahlil, who stepped down in January due to moving out of state, and Commissioner King, who was not reappointed for a second term.

The sportsmen's community participated in the appointment process, working with the Governor's office to provide input on potential candidates. During the process, the new Commissioners met with stakeholder groups and sportsmen's organizations with none of the groups voicing concern at their appointment.

Both Moldal and Morrison have backgrounds in conservation, wildlife management, and working with private landowners. Both have experience in hunting, fishing, and the outdoors. OHA looks forward to working with them in their new capacity as Fish and Wildlife Commissioners.

Latest Gun Calendar winners announced; last call for 2026!

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>

The deadline to bag a 2026 calendar is Dec. 23, so don't be slow on the draw!

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

★ **Ruger American Go Wild Bronze 7mm PRC**
 Erik Parks, Emerald Valley Chapter

★ **Stoeger M3000 2023 Max 7 Camo 12 gauge**
 Jeff Vian, Pioneer Chapter

★ **Browning A-bolt 3 Hunter Grade II .30-06**
 Shawn Toot, Tualatin Valley Chapter

★ **Sig Sauer P320 M18**
 Ed Netter, Pioneer Chapter

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 BEAR
 HUNT!**



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Hunt over bait in Maine's backcountry for 4 weekdays in mid-September. Includes transportation to and from cabin, Big Game License & Bear Permit.

Tickets: \$20; 7 for \$100. 500 offered. Value \$4,999. Drawing: April 1, 2026.

Drawing: 3pm 4/1/26, OHA Office, 301 Crater Lake Ave. #C, Medford, OR.
 Need not be present to win.

Call 541-772-7313 or visit
oregonhunters.org/shop/#raffles

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