

OHA TRACKER



JOIN/RENEW MEMBERSHIP

JULY 2026

PROTECTING OREGON'S WILDLIFE, HABITAT AND HUNTING HERITAGE

OHA provided \$10,000 and volunteer labor to construct a 2/3-mile buck-and-pole fence to promote aspen regeneration on the Elkhorn Wildlife Area in June.

OHA to meet with DAs, encourage prosecution of wildlife offenses

For decades, the Oregon Hunters Association has stood as the frontline defense for our state's wildlife resources. Through our unwavering financial and promotional support of the Turn In Poachers (TIP) program, OHA members have stepped up time and again. We have put our own dollars on the line, funding cash rewards and generating the vital leads that allow Oregon State Police Fish & Wildlife Troopers to track down and arrest wildlife thieves.

But our commitment to conservation cannot end when the handcuffs come out.

Enforcement of existing law is not easy, and OSP troopers do the grueling work of catching poachers, with alert citizens providing the tips; yet we also know that cases languish or get downgraded when they reach the local courthouse. Overburdened county systems often treat wildlife crimes as minor property offenses rather than the serious, intentional thefts they truly are.

With all this in mind, OHA is launching a new initiative to guarantee that violators of our existing hunting statutes and regulations face the full weight of the law – that each prosecutor treats game law violators seriously and prioritizes these cases.

“To kick off this initiative, I will travel to counties across Oregon to meet with district attorneys and prosecutors,” said Todd Adkins, executive director of OHA. “We need to find out why these cases fall through the cracks and what we can do to help fix the process.”



OHA typically pays over \$30,000 in TIP rewards. OHA is launching a new effort to ensure the courts are taking poaching cases seriously.

OHA's message to prosecutors is simple: wildlife crime is community crime. Poaching strips economic resources from law-abiding citizens, compromises public safety, and steals legal opportunities from sportsmen across the state.

“We do not need a notebook full of complicated restrictions on the books,” Adkins continued. “We need relentless, unyielding prosecution of the criminals who are breaking our clear, existing game laws. This is our goal with the initiative.”

OHA's strong support of the TIP program proves that the organization is willing to do the heavy lifting to clean up our woods. This new tour of our state's DA offices is the logical next step in that commitment.

OHA funds, installs aspen protection on Elkhorn W.A.

OHA, in partnership with ODFW, recently constructed a 3,500-foot buck-and-pole fence that will promote aspen regeneration and expansion, while improving habitat for wildlife on the Elkhorn Wildlife Area.

OHA's Mule Deer Fund awarded \$10,000 to this project, and ODFW leveraged OHA funds to attain an additional \$30,000, which covered the cost of materials for the project.



The Union-Wallowa OHA Chapter provided volunteer labor and recruited help from local trap shooting teams (Eastern Oregon University and Union and La Grande high schools). The Union-Wallowa OHA Chapter also financially supported these trap shooting teams.

“This project was a great example of how the OHA Mule Deer Fund catalyzes excellent work that will benefit deer, elk and other wildlife,” said OHA Conservation Director Tyler Dungannon. “OHA is fortunate to have chapters that not only financially contribute to our funds and projects, but also rally boots on the ground to implement projects, which exponentially increases our impact.”

This project was one of five excellent projects that were selected for OHA Mule Deer Fund funding in 2025.

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

OHA seeks funds for key species

With the advancement of HB 4134, OHA prioritized a list of species of greatest conservation concern, key habitats, and major conservation issues found within the State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP). OHA presented the list to ODFW and urged the agency to direct funds allocated to the SWAP toward those priorities. The species of greatest conservation concern include:

Columbian White-tailed Deer historically ranged from Roseburg into Washington, but have declined due to habitat loss and fragmentation. Better monitoring is needed to understand population trends.

Rocky Mountain Bighorn Sheep have been restored in limited areas of Oregon, but there are still population gaps in the historic range from which they were extirpated. OHA encourages that a portion of funds generated by HB 4134 be prioritized for a new bighorn sheep management plan, translocation efforts as needed, and improved disease monitoring.

Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse historically occupied a range encompassing more than half of the state of Oregon. A tenuous population of reintroduced birds remains in Wallowa County, but it is severely limited by habitat constraints and lack of supplemental project monitoring and implementation. To reestablish this iconic species in our state, it is key that we allocate SWAP funds toward identifying suitable habitats, habitat restoration, and restarting and monitoring translocation efforts.

Within the SWAP, OHA identified barriers to animal movement as its top conservation issue warranting wide-scale funding. Oregon ranks near the bottom of states in terms of its number of wildlife crossing structures. OHA requests additional funds be allocated from the SWAP funding to habitat connectivity and enhancement projects that help facilitate animal movement.

OHA supports all the key habitats within the SWAP and requested that ODFW allocate the majority of the \$55.7 million generated by HB 4134 to habitat improvement projects.

ODFW to present proposals for '27 big game regs

ODFW will host a series of online public meetings in July with district wildlife biologists presenting proposed changes to next year's big game regulations and getting feedback.

Meetings will include a presentation on 2027 proposed regulations, a Q&A and opportunity for public comment.

ODFW encourages people to submit questions in advance of or after the meeting. Questions can also be asked during the Teams meeting by using the chat feature.

Final 2027 Big Game Hunting Regulations are scheduled to be adopted at the September Commission meeting. Remote or in-person testimony will also be taken at the Commission meeting.

Comments can also be emailed to odfw.commission@odfw.oregon.gov

 **NW Public Meeting | July 9, 7-8 p.m.**

<https://tinyurl.com/msbkwwam>

 **SW Public Meeting | July 7, 6-7 p.m.**

<https://tinyurl.com/2n4n533z>

 **NE Public Meeting | July 8, 6-8 p.m.**

<https://tinyurl.com/3nv57rzt>

 **East Public Meeting | July 1, 6-8 p.m.**

<https://tinyurl.com/3zb7x48t>

OHA announces next winners in 2026 Gun Calendar Raffle

The next winners in OHA's 2026 Gun Calendar Raffle have been announced!

The 2027 Gun Raffle Calendar is on sale now; call 541-772-7313 or visit <https://oregonhunters.org/shop/#raffles>

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

- ★ 6/3/26 **Howa 1500 Carbon Fiber 6.5 PRC**
Wendy Von Seggern, Clatsop Chapter
- ★ 6/10/26 **Howa Superlite Walnut 7mm-08**
Jade Jennings, Columbia County Chapter
- ★ 6/17/26 **Sig Sauer P320 Coyote Striker 9mm**
Tom Debrie, Mid-Willamette Chapter
- ★ 6/24/26 **Stoeger M3000 Max 7 Camo**
James Cox, Prineville

**RENEW AND GET
A CHANCE TO
WIN A GREAT GUN!**



**GUN RAFFLE
CALENDAR**

**OHA will give away
A GUN A WEEK in 2027!**

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- 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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