

## Agenda Item Summary

**BACKGROUND** In 1993, the Oregon Legislative Assembly created the Access and Habitat program to improve habitat and public hunting access in Oregon. The bill created a board of citizen volunteers to provide recommendations to the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) on projects requesting A&H funds. The Access and Habitat Board (Board) is comprised of three landowner representatives, three hunting representatives and the Chair representing the public at large. The Commission appoints members to four-year terms and may reappoint members to a second consecutive four-year term. Responsibilities of the Board, in addition to funding recommendations, include appointment of representatives to Regional Advisory Councils (Councils). The six Councils provide the first level of review for projects, only recommended projects are sent on to the Board. The Board evaluates projects at the statewide level and recommends project proposals to the Commission for final consideration and approval.

**PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT** The Chair and Hunter Representative vacancies were advertised to the public through news releases, internet postings, and direct communication with sporting organizations. The Department accepted applications for the vacancy from mid-September through October 14th 2016.

### Item 1

### Access and Habitat Board Chair Appointment

#### ANALYSIS

After eight years of service, Jim Morrell current Chair of the Access and Habitat Board completes his second term on the Board December 31, 2016 creating a vacancy. From an open advertisement for interest, two current Board members submitted applications for the Chair. Brief descriptions of the candidates are listed below (complete applications are included in Attachment 2).

#### Candidate A

- Name: Craig Ely
- Location: La Grande, OR
- Occupation: Retired ODFW NE Region Manager

Appointed to the Board in March 2014, Craig is currently nearing the end of his third year as a Landowner Representative. An avid hunter and angler, Craig owns a 166-acre farm on critical big game winter range providing him with a unique perspective on wildlife related issues landowners face from a professional and personal level.

Craig actively participates in Board meetings and field trips, consistently providing input during discussions and is not afraid to ask difficult questions when evaluating project proposals. Craig helped establish one of the first Advisory Councils and served as Chair of the NE Region Council for two years before he was appointed to the Board. Currently serving on the board of the Union/Wallowa OHA Chapter, and the Starkey Research Forest Animal Welfare Committee, Craig has years of experience with wildlife management and habitat work. He brings to the Board his experience as the NE Regional Supervisor for ODFW as well as serving on the Grande Ronde Model Watershed Council, Blue Mountain Habitat Restoration Council, and in the 2000's was instrumental in the creation of an advisory committee that developed the Wolf Conservation Plan.

**Candidate B**

- Name: David Stiefvater
- Location: Ontario, OR
- Occupation: Hunter Education Instructor (10+ years)

During his first four-year term as a Hunter Representative on the A&H Board Dave has dependably participated in all the Board meetings, bringing valuable insights on hunting and hunters to the program. Dave was elected by the Board members to be Vice-Chair of the Board during the April 2016 meeting. With 30 years as a committee member for Pheasants Forever, decade as a National Wild Turkey Federation committee member and Hunter Education instructor, his insight into what hunters want and expect is vital to the program. Dave is unflagging in his efforts to organize volunteers for habitat improvement projects and was instrumental in the creation of the Ontario City Access Area, which he continues to actively manage and improve.

A retired electrician, Dave is an avid bird hunter working his German shorthairs any chance he gets while also finding time to pursue deer and elk. Dave is passionate about recruiting new hunters to the sport and has spent countless hours educating hunters in safety and ethics.

<b>DRAFT</b>	I move to appoint <u>Craig Ely</u> as Chair of the Access and Habitat Board.
<b>MOTION</b>	
<b>EFFECTIVE</b>	December 2, 2016
<b>DATE:</b>	

## ANALYSIS

Dave Stiefvater's first four-year term as a Hunter Representative on the Access and Habitat Board expires December 31, 2016. Mr. Stiefvater is eligible for appointment to a second four-year term. All appointments to the Board are open and competitive, ODFW advertised the opening and accepted applications from mid-September through October 14th 2016. The Department received 7 applications and formed an internal review committee to rank them using the following criteria:

- Experience and knowledge of hunting
- Involvement in sportsmen/hunter/conservation organizations
- Leadership in sportsmen/hunter/conservation organizations
- Leadership and experience on or with councils/boards/commissions/legislature
- Experience working with and/or representing the public
- Ability/interest in working collaboratively with others
- Participation in the A&H Program
- Ability to foster positive relations between landowners, hunters, and ODFW

Input from the internal review committee, Wildlife Division staff and the Directors office resulted in the following candidates for Commission consideration. Listed in alphabetical order below are the top five candidates. (Complete applications are in Attachment five.)

## Candidate A

- Name: Charlie Corrarino
- Location: Portland Or
- Occupation: Retired ODFW Fish Biologist

Starting as a young boy fishing with his grandfather, Charlie fished and hunted across the US with incursions into Canada, Mexico and Russia. Along the way he spent thirty years as a fish biologist for ODFW including working as the Restoration and Enhancement Coordinator and Salmon Trout Enhancement Program Coordinator for several years. Charlie was the ODFW sport fishing regulation coordinator which required working with people and groups interested in changes to fishing regulations as well as coordination with Oregon Department of Justice and Oregon State Police. Retired now, he pursues upland birds and is the current president of the Oregon German Wirehaired Pointer Club. For over a decade he has leased and managed bird hunting on 1,000 acres in the John Day area and is working with ODFW and the landowners to treat knapweed and other habitat improvements on this property.

## Candidate B

- Name: Philip Hamm
- Location: Hermiston Or
- Occupation: OSU Research and Extension Station Director

Semi-retired, lifelong Oregon hunter, Philip has worked in forestry and agriculture and currently is Station Director at the Hermiston OSU Research and Extension Office. A former professor of plant pathology, Philip is currently on the Hermiston Planning Commission and has extensive experience with boards and commissions including; 12 years on the Hermiston School District Board of Education, including two years as president, as well as serving on the Oregon Processed Vegetable

Commission, Oregon and Washington Potato Commission, and the Washington Commission on Pesticide Regulation. He annually attends the local Ducks Unlimited banquet.

**Candidate C**

- Name: Wendell Lock
- Location: Gaston, OR
- Occupation: Retired Business Owner

Seventy-eight year Oregon native, Wendell Lock is an active member of the Oregon Hunters Association, having served on the board and as Clatsop County chapter president. Seventeen years of service on the A&H North Willamette Council, including serving as Chair, have given Wendell experience with A&H and the duties of the Board.

A member of the Northwest Oregon Region Forest Practices Committee for over ten years, Wendell worked with ODFW Assistant Wildlife Biologist Meg Eden (Retired) to form one of the first Travel Management Areas in the NW.

**Candidate D**

- Name: John Patterson
- Location: Philomath, OR
- Occupation: Retired Elementary Teacher

A passionate bird hunter John learned of the A&H program through hunting Columbia Basin properties. A Sponsor member of Ducks Unlimited, member of OHA, and former board member with NW Steelheaders, John has worked to give back to our resources and ensure future generations can enjoy the same hunting and fishing experiences he has had. A former elementary school teacher, John is committed to maintaining our state's natural resources and providing hunting opportunities for future generations through collaboration to reach mutually acceptable consensus.

**Candidate E**

- Name: David Stiefvater
- Location: Ontario, OR
- Occupation: Retired electrician; Hunter Education Instructor (10+ years)

Dave's first term as a Hunter Representative on the A&H Board ends December 31, 2016. During his first four-year term as a Hunter Representative on the A&H Board Dave has dependably participated in all the Board meetings, bringing valuable insights on hunting and hunters to the program. With 30 years as a committee member for Pheasants Forever, decade as a National Wild Turkey Federation committee member and Hunter Education instructor, his insight into what hunters want and expect is vital to the program. Dave is unflagging in his efforts to organize volunteers for habitat improvement projects and was instrumental in the creation of the Ontario City Access Area, which he continues to actively manage and improve.

A retired electrician, Dave is an avid bird hunter working his German shorthairs any chance he gets while also finding time to pursue deer and elk. Dave is passionate about recruiting new hunters to the sport and has spent countless hours educating hunters in safety and ethics.

**DRAFT  
MOTION  
EFFECTIVE  
DATE:**

I move to appoint David Stiefvater to serve a second four-year term as Hunter Representative on the Access and Habitat Board.  
December 2, 2016