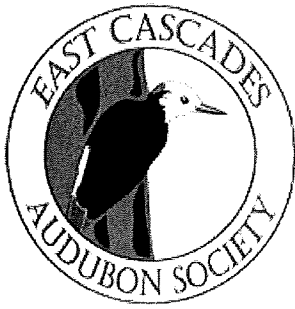


Exhibit B

**Public correspondence received as of
July 22, 2020**



East Cascades Audubon Society
PO Box 565
Bend, OR 97709

Via Email: odfw.commission@state.or.us

June 16, 2020

Chair Mary Wahl
Commission Members
Oregon Fish & Wildlife Commission
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, R 97302

RE: Hunting Regulations for Greater Sage-Grouse

Dear Chair Wahl and Members of the Commission:

As you consider the upland game bird hunting seasons for 2020 we would like to share concerns relative to possible impacts to declining greater sage grouse (GSG) populations.

We understand ODFW's conservative approach to hunting the greater sage grouse and support the reduced tag numbers in areas that have had significant population reductions. Furthermore, we understand the desire for the data that hunting provides through the collection of harvested sage grouse wings and tails. In discussions with field biologists it has not always been clear how this information is used. We would like ODFW to explain the analysis and application of wing-bee data and how it and other biological factors inform the level of hunting opportunities proposed for sage grouse in the State of Oregon and within each of the Oregon PACs.

As per the 2011 ODFW Sage Grouse Strategy: "At some level of harvest, hunting mortality is likely to become additive, requiring the implementation of a conservative and controlled recreational harvest management strategy that is adaptive". Currently, because of the deteriorating situation of the GSG population over time in the Brothers Priority Area for Conservation (PAC), east of Bend Oregon, we think that implementation of more hunting restrictions are warranted. Based on the past 5 years of lek counts in this area the population has met the ODFW threshold of a hard trigger for population declines indicating a need to take actions to reverse the trend. Although hunting harvests have been minimal, we believe this could be additive to the overall population decline when populations like the Brothers PAC are at

historically low levels. We are working closely with BLM, ODFW and other concerned partners to address additional threats to these sage grouse populations as well as proposing cooperative habitat improvement projects. Until those are demonstrating effectiveness in restoring populations to this area, we believe the population stressor of hunting needs to be curtailed. We appreciate your consideration of our concerns and look forward to a response to the question above regarding the factors used for establishing hunting seasons and tag numbers for sage grouse.

Sincerely,
The ECAS Conservation Committee

The following organizations sign on to this letter:
Cape Arago Audubon Society, Harv Schubothe
Corvallis Audubon Society, William Proebsting, President
Kalmiopsis Audubon Society, Ann Vileisis, President
Klamath Basin Audubon Society, Darrel Samuels, President
Lane County Audubon Society, Debbie Schlenoff,
Portland Audubon, Bob Sallinger, Conservation Director
Rogue Valley Audubon Society, Carol Mockridge, President
Salem Audubon Society, David Harrison, Conservation Committee Chair
Umpqua Valley Audubon Society, Diana Wales



OREGON DUCK HUNTER'S ASSOCIATION

P.O. BOX 2213 PORTLAND, OR 97208

Curt Melcher
4034 Fairview Industrial Dr. SE
Salem, OR 97302

ODFW

JUN 13 2019

Director's Office

Director Melcher:

The Oregon Duck Hunters Association (ODHA) represents over 300 waterfowl hunters from across Oregon, seeking to create greater public access to hunting areas. I am writing to address a likely reduction in public hunting opportunity.

Senate Bill 320 mandating year-round daylight savings time has passed the Senate and House, and is headed to the Governor's office, where it is likely to be signed into law. Regardless of perceived merits of this bill by legislators, it will have a severe impact on hunting opportunity at those wildlife management areas that stop shooting at a specific time rather than at sunset. During typical waterfowl seasons, there are three weeks of daylight savings time and twelve weeks of standard time. So this change will delay the start of shooting hours by one hour for 4/5 of the season. As examples of that impact on waterfowl hunting, let's examine two specific examples:

- Sauvie Island – Hunting hours stop at 4:00 PM. Currently, about 8,000 hunter-days occur during standard time days of hunting. Shifting from a nominal hunting day of 7:00 AM – 4:00 PM to 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM represents an 11% reduction of hunting time available, up to 900 hunter-hour reduction in opportunity.
- Fern Ridge – Hunting does not start until mid-November, which is currently all during standard time. Hunting hours stop at 1:00 PM each day. Shifting from a nominal hunting day of 7:00 AM – 1:00 PM to 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM represents a 17% reduction of hunting time opportunity.

Waterfowl hunters should not lose this opportunity.

ODHA implores the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Department to adjust cessation of shooting hours back by one hour at all wildlife management areas with fixed stoppage times. And, this adjustment needs to be enacted as soon as SB 320 is implemented, not following a period of analysis and adjustment.

Please lead your agency to enact this policy.

Respectfully submitted,

Graig Spolek
President



Roxann B Borisch

Subject: FW: Game Bird Shooting Hours

-----Original Message-----

From: Curt Melcher <Curt.Melcher@coho2.dfw.state.or.us>

Sent: Thursday, August 8, 2019 8:23 AM

To: Bryan Davis <dumbaddress.bryan@gmail.com>

Cc: curt.melcher@state.or.us; Jeff Adams <jadams@deltawaterfowl.org>; Jeff Josifek <jjosifek@gmail.com>; brandon.staehely@gmail.com; seawahl@frontier.com; spiritlabs@aol.com; Brandon Reishus <Brandon.S.Reishus@coho2.dfw.state.or.us>; Kevin Blakely <Kevin.L.Blakely@coho2.dfw.state.or.us>

Subject: Re: Game Bird Shooting Hours

Thanks Bryan. If this is implemented, we will have a proposal to modify our shooting times accordingly.

I copied Brandon Reishus and Kevin Blakely on this message.

CM

Sent from my iPhone

> On Aug 7, 2019, at 10:58 PM, Bryan Davis <dumbaddress.bryan@gmail.com> wrote:

>

> Dear Mr. Melcher,

>

> I'm writing you to express concern over the impacts of a current bill that has passed legislation.

>

> Oregon lawmakers passed Senate Bill 320 which could keep most of Oregon on permanent daylight savings time. If Oregon Governor Kate Brown signs the bill into law, and congressional approval is given, Washington and California would be required to make permanent changes for the law to take effect.

>

> Lawmakers in Olympia passed such a law this spring. California currently has a similar measure under construction.

>

> This could potentially impact Oregon bird hunters causing them to loose one hour of shooting light daily as Oregon Game Bird Hunting Regulations are currently written. Further

more, the protected dusky goose could be at greater risk of mistaken harvest under low light conditions with shooting light starting one hour earlier than ideal light conditions for identification.

>

> Please consider these potential impacts to Oregon bird hunters and wildlife, and the potential need for Game Bird Regulation changes or amendments as this legislative movement gains traction.

>

> Sincerely

> Bryan Davis

> Delta Waterfowl - Columbia Chapter

> Board Member

> (541) 903-1181

>

>

Roxann B Borisch

From: gladto begone <rgullett1@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 16, 2019 4:52 AM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Info

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: Forwarded to Fish

Dear Fish and Wildlife,

I realize that license fees go up and regulations happen. My father and I quit hunting in 1996. The reason is because waterfowl hunting had become a rich mans sport and hunting in general was no longer fun for us. Steel shot had tripled the cost of our shooting plus other costs like duck pond rental had made waterfowl hunting too expensive. Tighter regulation may be for the hunter but it also amounts to take aways. We constantly worried whether we were within the parameters of the law, regulations and had bought all the necessary licenses, stamps or tags. Hunting was no longer fun. So we quit hunting and never looked back. All of my friends have quit hunting. Fishing was fun but I need an attorney to interpret the rules and regulations. I certainly see your point of view, I'm emailing you in the hope that you want to know my point of view. We don't get nearly as much for our license money now. You don't need to respond to this email.

Reece Gullett

Brandon Reishus

Subject: FW: Waterfowl Proposal
Attachments: BIRD regulations.docx

Brandon S. Reishus
Migratory Game Bird Coordinator

Oregon Dept of Fish & Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Dr SE
Salem, OR 97402
Office: (503) 947 6324
Cell: (503) 580 8725
Fax: (503) 947 6330
Email: Brandon.S.Reishus@state.or.us

From: Dominic M Rocco
Sent: Wednesday, March 18, 2020 4:41 PM
To: Brandon Reishus <Brandon.S.Reishus@coho2.dfw.state.or.us>
Subject: FW: Waterfowl Proposal

Hey Brandon,

Here is the email that was sent to me.

Thanks

Dominic

From: bartbigfish@gmail.com [<mailto:bartbigfish@gmail.com>]
Sent: Wednesday, January 29, 2020 9:17 AM
To: dominic.m.rocco@state.or.us
Subject: Waterfowl Proposal

Thanks!

Best regards,



Bart A. Lewellyn
Lewellyn Financial Management
714 Cardley Ave.
Medford, OR 97504
Phone: 541-772-1380
Fax: 541-772-0176
www.lewellynfinancialmanagement.com

Bart Lewellyn
1/29/2020

Waterfowl Proposal for Klamath County

February 3, 2020

These proposed changes to the waterfowl regulations are presented by a group of hunters who primarily hunt in Klamath County. The group consists of lifelong hunters who have experienced firsthand the flyway and migratory bird population changes over the last 50 years. We respectfully submit these changes based on that firsthand experience and what we have seen over the most recent decade. We believe we can only speak intelligently about Klamath County, but the enclosed proposals may be effective in other parts of the state of Oregon as well. We prefer to recommend about the region we have specific knowledge and a high level of personal experience.

Goal of new proposals:

1. Re-energize interest in waterfowl hunting for people of all ages. We have seen a lack of interest develop over the last decade due to complex regulations, restriction of access during white front geese seasons, and closures during the prime hunting weeks in December.
2. Increase success rate of novice and young hunters.
3. Maximize depredation goals when most opportune take can occur.

Proposal 1

Discontinue the September Goose hunt in Klamath county, and have a continuous season beginning in October.

Our understanding is that the September hunt originated as a depredation hunt. We have witnessed first-hand from farmers and landowners in the county that crops are at maturity and that vehicles, hunters, retrievers, and all that comes with waterfowl hunting is not conducive to the crop. Temperatures are warm and birds must be handled promptly to preserve. Most waterfowl hunters are also big game archers or hunters and are preparing for those seasons rather than hunting geese. We believe far more birds could be harvested in December with increased interest and more birds in the region. Many years ago, the closure in December was initiated based on Canada goose populations for that era, much has changed since then, but regulations have not. We now have a depredation hunt in September because numbers are so robust. In Klamath County we are closed in December when we typically have the largest

number of birds, better weather than January, and youth have better opportunity to hunt with school closures for holidays.

Proposal 2

Re-instate battery operated motion decoys.

In our flyway, both California and Washington allow powered motion decoys. Motion decoys typically allow closer range shooting. Closer range means fewer crippled birds, better success for novice and young hunters, and easier retrieves for young dogs and hunters alike. Use of motion decoys does not expand limits, rather it allows hunters better shot selection and fewer wounded birds. Hunters may reach limits quicker or have better success than they would without any motion. These benefits could be statewide like Washington and California. I have read the report on the ODFW website and believe it comes to no conclusion about the subject but our real world experience is much different, way better shooting percentages.

Proposal 3

Change the season for white fronted geese.

Over the last decade we have seen the daily bag limit for white fronted geese increase significantly. We understand that there are a limited number of federal days to hunt waterfowl, 107. What we have witnessed first-hand is that the white fronted geese best opportunity timeline is late November and December, but we are closed in Zone 2 during that time.

When the season re-opens January 24-March 10, the spring hunting is restricted to private ground and waterways, so hunters who purchased a license to waterfowl hunt are truly "shorted" on white-geese opportunity unless they have access to private land, which many do not. We propose having the white fronted season run congruent with the dark geese. This would simplify the regulation, allow more opportunity to hunters who are buying licenses, and in our opinion serve the depredation goals better. As a compromise, consider shortening the late season white and white fronted by an equal number of days in November and December.

Again, these proposals are from a group of hunters with many years of local Klamath county experience. We propose these changes for our county and cannot speak for all of Zone 2 as we are not as familiar with Lake or Harney counties for example. But we humbly submit that these counties may also see increased enthusiasm and participation if similar proposals were approved in all of Zone 2. Maybe our county can serve as a beta test.

Brandon Reishus

From: April H Mack
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2020 8:52 AM
To: Brandon Reishus
Subject: FW: 2019 Duck Migration/Hunting Report Observations

April

April Mack
Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
Fish Rules Coordinator
503-947-6233
503-947-6202 (Fax)

-----Original Message-----

From: Preston Henry <sp14henry@onlinenw.com>
Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2020 7:48 AM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: 2019 Duck Migration/Hunting Report Observations

Dear Commission Members,

I would appreciate your consideration of my personal observations on the just concluded 2019 duck season. As a lifelong west side Oregonian, farmer, avid outdoorsman and especially a bird hunter residing in Yamhill County, I pay close attention to the changes in the seasons and am mindful of the year to year changes reflected in rural and urban development, population increases, impacts on habitat (climate and cropping), etc. We have set aside over 20 acres in WRP & CREP beginning in 1994. We realized soon after that, significant increases in the presence of fauna year round and seasonally. With cooperative efforts between NRCS, USFWS, ODFW and our aggressive efforts to control non-native vegetation and nurture native flora the habitat has done very well.

Since we carefully control how much hunting takes place we have enjoyed relatively good sport. By design and choice we impose a personal limit of 4 ducks per outing. Shooting no more than 2 days a week — often less than that. I have kept a comprehensive journal since 1994 of our days afield. Since 2000 the decline of duck numbers observed has fallen dramatically! I am well aware of the processes that go into monitoring populations, the setting of seasons, the impacts of weather/climate and cropping changes and so much more but I feel compelled to question if seasons and bag limits, etc. are too liberal in light of what I personally witness here in Yamhill County, around Oregon and other areas of the PNW where I travel and occasionally hunt. The anecdotal reports from fellow hunters, “birders” and reports I read on internet sites would tend to lend credence to my concerns. I realize the biologists tasked with monitoring waterfowl population health are dedicated professionals. However, I also realize other factors affect how ODFW and USFWS operate and that the political, social and financial components are no small matters. So, please for the sake of the long term health of duck populations here and across the country I hope the Commission will consider reducing the bag limits, call for a total ban on all lead shot and bullets and increase the efforts for hunter ethics and lawful compliance. I know too many “hunters”, killers really, that don’t use what they shoot. It is passed off to others or simply allowed to go to waste in some cases. The “kill your limit” mentality remains all too prevalent and as such I believe many more

waterfowl are wounded and die and never recovered than are put to bag. There is significant data over the years to support that too.

I am writing because I truly care and am very concerned. As a lifelong Oregonian, a supporter of ODFW and one who has a long history of family connections to ODFW, the land and wildlife I hope the Commission will continue to act on the basis of sound science and data and not give in to commercial, development, financial and political interests or pressures!

Sincerely,
Preston Henry

Roxann B Borisch

Subject: FW: Waterfowl season Umatilla county and north eastern Oregon

From: Owen Frost <pastorowen@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2020 9:20 AM
To: Odfw WebSales <OdfwWebSales@coho2.dfw.state.or.us>; odfw.info@state.or.us
Subject: Waterfowl season Umatilla county and north eastern Oregon

I think if I understand correctly Oregon is allowed a 107 day waterfowl season by the fed. Early season around North East Oregon has only a few local ducks. The major duck population arrival doesn't seem to happen until December then increases in January and is at its peak in February. I would gladly trade the fist 45 days of duck season if we could hunt through February when there are ducks here. I called Odfw about this and the response was that ducks are beginning to get paired up in February. But I've seen drakes breed hens in November which indicates to me they're paired up. Duck are not monogamous breeders so it seemed like a weak argument to me. What would it take to get our season to take in February? Please advise me as to who those decision makers are and how much hunter input would it take to influence the season dates decision.

Thank you,
Owen Frost
509-301-3793

--
Pastor Owen Frost
Stateline Community Church

“Experimental harvest regulations reveal that water availability during spring, not harvest, affects change in a waterfowl population”

Dr. Benjamin Sedinger

Several years ago, perplexed by the continuing changes in the pintail limit, I sat down with Dr. James Sedinger and asked him to explain. Jim is a Professor of Waterfowl Ecology based at University of Nevada and has worked his entire career measuring changes in waterfowl populations. He told me that the USFW uses a program called Adaptive Harvest Management to set hunting seasons and bag limits. The idea behind AHM is to make adjustments based on the current populations: If there are lots of ducks, increase bag limits to harvest more; when ducks are few, then reduce limits so more survive to breed. That way, the breeding population stays large enough to sustain itself. The underlying assumption is that every duck that is shot does not return to breeding grounds, so the breeding population is reduced in size by one bird. Regulatory agencies have not tested this assumption because they cannot run experiments to see what happens to duck populations if they change limits arbitrarily. However, somewhat accidentally, that experiment was performed many years ago when the bag limits in the Pacific flyway abruptly reduced from seven pintails per day to just one. If duck populations were dramatically affected by harvest, then such a significant drop in harvest should have immediately boosted the number of pintails. It did not change. But that fact was ignored by regulators who claimed that it was not a valid experiment because other factors were not controlled.

The apple does not fall very far from the tree.

Ben Sedinger, Jim’s son, followed in his dad’s footsteps in trying to show the effect of harvest on duck populations. The anecdotal data from the reduction of the pintail limit from seven to one was interesting, but not the result of a controlled, scientific experiment. What if you could run a controlled experiment to test the hypothesis that the duck limit has no effect on the number of ducks? That is just what Ben did.

To complete his Ph.D. dissertation at the University of Nevada. Ben located an isolated population of wood ducks in northern Nevada that he could band every bird and track it throughout its life over many years. He artificially changed the bag limit for seven birds to one bird, then back to seven and back to one, in alternating years. Then he counted the number of birds mating and living in the area. The only other variable was the weather – how much rain fell to create nesting ponds. The result was that nesting habitat – pond water – was the only factor that predicted the size of the population. If hunters shot birds based on a 1-bird limit or a 7-bird limit had no effect whatsoever.

Ben’s findings confirmed the same conclusion as for the pintail experiment: reducing the pintail limit from seven to one does nothing to increase the number of pintails flying up and down the Pacific Flyway. Habitat, not hunters, controls that. So, why won’t waterfowl biologists juggling the pintail limit every year recognize science? Adaptive harvest management makes no sense.

Brandon Reishus

From: susan Massini <jmassini@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 5, 2020 7:56 PM
To: Brandon Reishus
Subject: Re: ODFW Migratory Game Bird Regulation Considerations for the 2020/21 hunting season

Why is Oregon one of only two or three states that do not allow motion decoys?
This regulation is not consistent throughout the U.S and is discriminatory to Oregon hunters.

Sent from my iPad

On Mar 5, 2020, at 4:18 PM, Brandon Reishus <Brandon.S.Reishus@state.or.us> wrote:

Waterfowl hunters and other interested individuals,

You are receiving this email because you have indicated you would like to stay informed about the Migratory Game Bird Program at ODFW. If you wish to have your contact removed from this list please let me know. Additionally, please share this email with other interested individuals or have them contact me to be added to the list if you believe they would like to receive these updates.

I hope you all had an enjoyable waterfowl season!

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission will be adopting game bird seasons and associated hunting regulations for the 2020/21 season this April 17th. **I have attached a draft document outlining potential hunting season proposals** from the Department in order to solicit public comment. Final proposals, based in part on your public comment, will be presented to the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission on April 17, 2020 (details here: <http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/>).

Season Dates

We envision dates for migratory game bird seasons will be proposed similar to last season except date adjustments to allow for calendar shift. The 2020/21 season represents the "shift back" season in the cycle, when opening dates for waterfowl seasons will occur nearly a week later than they did last season, which was the earliest in the cycle they open.

Bag Limits

Bag limits for 2020/21 are unchanged from last year with the following exception:

1. Approved Federal frameworks for the 2020/21 hunting seasons **call for a decrease in the bag limit for scaup** from 3 per day to 2 per day in the Pacific Flyway, within the overall bag limit of 7 ducks (the open season for scaup would remain at 86 days, the same length was recent seasons). This decrease is based on the status of scaup observed during spring 2019 surveys and is the "RESTRICTIVE" bag limit option in the national harvest strategy. Similar bag limit reductions apply to all four flyways for the 2020/21 season.

Veteran & Active Duty Military Waterfowl Hunting Day

Recent federal legislation allows states hold special waterfowl hunting days for veterans and members of the Armed Forces on active duty. The Department is considering holding a veteran

Brandon Reishus

From: Don Davidson <DrDuckHunter@charter.net>
Sent: Thursday, March 5, 2020 7:45 PM
To: Brandon Reishus
Subject: Re: ODFW Migratory Game Bird Regulation Considerations for the 2020/21 hunting season

Brandon,

Because of our exceedingly large population of Western Basin Canada geese and their continuing expanding numbers (with extensive damage to the Harbor Isles Golf course at the south end of Klamath Lake), I proposed one minor change to the regulations concerning federal marshes on Klamath Lake. I proposed allowing Canada goose hunting during our September five day season on federal marshes on Klamath Lake. I discussed this last May with the Tulelake Fish and Wildlife biologist. He had no objections to opening the federal marshes on Klamath Lake during the month of September.

I next discussed this with Tom Collum, ODFW biologist at Miller Island, on two occasions. During our August conversation, he complimented me for reminding him, since it had slipped his mind. He said he would make sure he contacted you to implement that specific regulation change.

I am writing you to see if this change is recommended for the 2020-2021 waterfowl season. Thank you.

Don Davidson

drduckhunter@charter.net

541-883-8721

On 3/5/2020 4:16 PM, Brandon Reishus wrote:

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Brandon Reishus

From: Daniel C Carroll <danielccarroll@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2020 7:18 AM
To: 'Brandon Reishus'
Subject: RE: ODFW Migratory Game Bird Regulation Considerations for the 2020/21 hunting season

Looks good to me Brandon. Wish we could get that extra pintail back again.

-Dan

From: Brandon Reishus [mailto:Brandon.S.Reishus@state.or.us]
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2020 4:17 PM
To: Brandon Reishus <Brandon.S.Reishus@state.or.us>
Subject: ODFW Migratory Game Bird Regulation Considerations for the 2020/21 hunting season

Waterfowl hunters and other interested individuals,

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Veteran & Active Duty Military Waterfowl Hunting Day

Recent federal legislation allows states hold special waterfowl hunting days for veterans and members of the Armed Forces on active duty. The Department is considering holding a veteran and active duty military hunt day on Saturday, February 6, 2021. Per federal rule, only persons who are veterans (as defined in section 101 of title 38, United States Code) and members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including members of the National

Brandon Reishus

From: ted vacek <tedvacek@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2020 7:02 AM
To: Brandon Reishus
Subject: Re: ODFW Migratory Game Bird Regulation Considerations for the 2020/21 hunting season

Brandon,

Thank you so much for keeping us informed with clear, concise, relevant information.

I have no concerns with the draft proposal.

ted

On Thursday, March 5, 2020, 04:18:25 PM PST, Brandon Reishus <brandon.s.reishus@state.or.us> wrote:

Waterfowl hunters and other interested individuals,

You are receiving this email because you have indicated you would like to stay informed about the Migratory Game Bird Program at ODFW. If you wish to have your contact removed from this list please let me know. Additionally, please share this email with other interested individuals or have them contact me to be added to the list if you believe they would like to receive these updates.

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Bag Limits

Brandon Reishus

From: DAVID SMITH <swimbait@comcast.net>
Sent: Friday, March 6, 2020 10:05 AM
To: Brandon Reishus
Subject: Re: ODFW Migratory Game Bird Regulation Considerations for the 2020/21 hunting season

My only comment is I truly miss the permit zone goose season. I've been lost without it. & day a week hunting has changed everything. Birds are holed-up inside city limits and harassed instantly if they venture outside city limits. I miss the really good and really fun hunting. I suppose the current situation is best for farmers, I just miss the really good hunting because what's left?? Springers? Steelhead? Big game hunting??? All things that suck horribly, and now the last good thing we had is all but gone, too. DS

On March 5, 2020 at 4:16 PM Brandon Reishus <Brandon.S.Reishus@state.or.us> wrote:

Waterfowl hunters and other interested individuals,

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Brandon Reishus

From: PHIL SPERR <bearflip@aol.com>
Sent: Saturday, March 7, 2020 1:19 PM
To: Brandon.S.Reishus@state.or.us
Subject: Scalp

Never thought you would let get this bad. Three drakes alone hen Just like green heads. 🤔🤔🤔

Sent from my iPhone

Brandon Reishus

From: Dale Mazar <mazar.or@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 9:34 AM
To: Brandon Reishus
Subject: Re: ODFW Migratory Game Bird Regulation Considerations for the 2020/21 hunting season

Brandon,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed regulations. My comments are:

1. I am disappointed with the limit on Pintails remaining at one, considering the large numbers I have seen this year.
2. Too bad about the reduction of Scaup from 3 to 2, but I support it.
3. I also support the Veterans hunting day in February.

Thank you,

Dale Mazar

On Thu, Mar 5, 2020 at 4:17 PM Brandon Reishus <Brandon.S.Reishus@state.or.us> wrote:

Waterfowl hunters and other interested individuals,

You are receiving this email because you have indicated you would like to stay informed about the Migratory Game Bird Program at ODFW. If you wish to have your contact removed from this list please let me know. Additionally, please share this email with other interested individuals or have them contact me to be added to the list if you believe they would like to receive these updates.

I hope you all had an enjoyable waterfowl season!

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission will be adopting game bird seasons and associated hunting regulations for the 2020/21 season this April 17th. **I have attached a draft document outlining potential hunting season proposals** from the Department in order to solicit public comment. Final proposals, based in part on your public comment, will be presented to the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission on April 17, 2020 (details here: <http://www.dfw.state.or.us/agency/commission/minutes/>).

Brandon Reishus

From: Graig Spolek <spolekg@pdx.edu>
Sent: Monday, March 9, 2020 2:05 PM
To: Brandon Reishus
Subject: Re: ODFW Migratory Game Bird Regulation Considerations for the 2020/21 hunting season
Attachments: Pintail Harvest.pdf

Brandon,

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to comment on the proposed 2020-2021 waterfowl regulations.

While overall they are reasonable, once again the pintail limit has not been adjusted to reflect current science. Adaptive harvest management seems to be employing what Richard Feynman so famously called "cargo-cult science."

In case you did not read my article in a recent edition of the ODHA monthly newsletter, The Quack, I am attaching a copy. As you can see, the opening quote cites the scientific finding of Ben Sedinger that was presented at the 2019 North America Duck Symposium. I trust that you are familiar with Ben's work; it should not be ignored. Restricting pintail harvest to one bird per day does not increase the breeding pintail population. All that is accomplished by this 1-bird limit is the creation of disillusionment among hunters who are sustaining waterfowl hunting through their license purchases and Pittman-Roberts contributions.

Please work with us to turn this around.

Graig Spolek

On Thu, Mar 5, 2020 at 4:18 PM Brandon Reishus <Brandon.S.Reishus@state.or.us> wrote:

Waterfowl hunters and other interested individuals,

You are receiving this email because you have indicated you would like to stay informed about the Migratory Game Bird Program at ODFW. If you wish to have your contact removed from this list please let me know. Additionally, please share this email with other interested individuals or have them contact me to be added to the list if you believe they would like to receive these updates.

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Brandon Reishus

From: Doug Jones <dougjonesdr@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 6:16 AM
To: Brandon Reishus
Subject: Re: ODFW Migratory Game Bird Regulation Considerations for the 2020/21 hunting season
Attachments: 2020-21 ODFW Migratory Game Bird Hunting Season Concepts.pdf

I still recommend that the opening and closing dates for zone 2 ducks season coincides with the opening and closing of goose season (excluding early 5 day hunt). I'm tired of running into people that are hunting birds on days when the season is closed. I even ran into people hunting ducks after the season closed this year.

I agree on the limit for pintails, as this was the worse year I've observed in 10 years in Eastern Oregon.

I still suggest increasing the dark goose limit in Jefferson county from 4 to 5 to help the farmers. They do a lot of damage on carrot fields and sometime blue grass fields.

Work with Congressional and Senators to increase the date for spring snow goose hunting from March 10 to the end of April. Close the season for 10 days to coincide with the bird festival in Burns.

Thank-you for your time and consideration of my comments.

Doug Jones

On Thursday, March 5, 2020, 04:18:19 PM PST, Brandon Reishus <brandon.s.reishus@state.or.us> wrote:

Waterfowl hunters and other interested individuals,

You are receiving this email because you have indicated you would like to stay informed about the Migratory Game Bird Program at ODFW. If you wish to have your contact removed from this list please let me know. Additionally, please share this email with other interested individuals or have them contact me to be added to the list if you believe they would like to receive these updates.

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Season Dates

Roxann B Borisch

From: Dave Budeau <dbudeau@frontier.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2020 6:08 PM
To: Mikal L Cline
Subject: Re: 2020 Proposed Upland Frameworks Changes

Hi Mikal!

Thanks for sending me the upland framework proposals. Overall, I think they make a lot of sense. Historically the upland opener for pheasants etc. was the second Saturday in October. I would be concerned about returning to the second Saturday opener if the deer season opener was remaining the same because there are a number of folks who like hunting deer the first 7 days and then pursuing chukars/pheasants the second weekend of the trip. However, with the change in the deer opener this makes much sense as you don't want concurrent deer and upland openers in some years - definitely would hear negative feedback on that.

The one proposal where I have some concern is changing the two general fall turkey seasons in eastern Oregon to unlimited tags. At one time these were highly sought after tags - with the limited number of tags selling out in a week or two. If adopted, it will be important to carefully evaluate harvest data, and make any necessary changes to avoid negatively impacting the much more popular spring season.

Thanks for the opportunity to review the proposals and keep up the good work!
Dave

On Feb 4, 2020, at 4:42 PM, Mikal L Cline <Mikal.L.Cline@state.or.us> wrote:

Hi Dave,

Hope you enjoyed the end of upland season in good fashion. I wanted to share with you the changes we are proposing for the 5-year frameworks in April. Glad to discuss with you, and as always would welcome your input. We'll be doing a press release soon.

Thanks, and hope all is well!

Mikal

<2020 Proposed Upland Changes.pdf>

Roxann B Borisch

From: Luke Aldrich <skidder_la@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 5:30 PM
To: mikal.l.cline@state.or.us
Subject: Turkey tag pricing

Lower the cost of turkey tags.....pricing is ridiculous!

Roxann B Borisch

Subject: FW: ODFW considering next five-year framework for upland bird hunting seasons

From: lhopman2004 . <lhopman2004@gmail.com>

Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 3:22 PM

To: Mikal.L.Cline@state.or.us

Subject: Re: ODFW considering next five-year framework for upland bird hunting seasons

Mikal,

As an upland hunter, all of these proposals affect me, and I am in support of all of the proposals. I will say that I'd like it if Eastern OR upland opening day coincided with the Duck opener as we often make that a combo trip.

Thank you,

Lance Hopman

On Thu, Feb 6, 2020 at 3:12 PM Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife <odfw@public.govdelivery.com> wrote:

You are subscribed to News Releases for ODFW. This information has recently been updated, and is now available.

ODFW considering next five-year framework for upland bird hunting seasons



Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

ODFW considering next five-year framework for upland bird hunting seasons

February 6, 2020



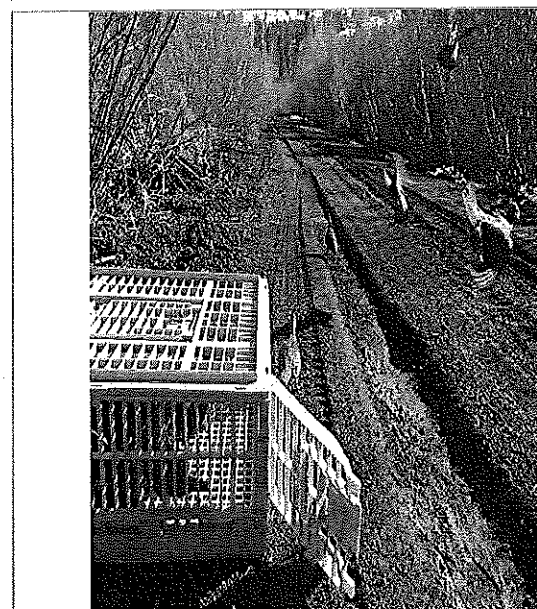
SALEM, Ore.—Upland bird hunters have a chance to weigh in on possible changes to upland bird hunting seasons as ODFW is considering the framework for 2020-2025 seasons.

ODFW sets the general framework for upland bird hunting seasons once every five years, rather than making major changes annually, because upland bird numbers can fluctuate widely each year due to weather.

Long-term changes in upland bird numbers are largely due to the quality and quantity of habitat available, with little impact from hunting,” explains Mikal Cline, ODFW Upland Bird Coordinator. “Our goal is always to maximize upland game bird hunting opportunities while adequately protecting bird populations,”

Some staff proposals being considered are:

- **Open mountain quail season statewide with a 10-bird bag in western Oregon and a 2-bird bag limit in eastern Oregon.** Hunters have the potential to encounter mountain quail in every county of the state due to successful translocation efforts in eastern Oregon. This change would protect hunters who may not be able to distinguish mountain quail from California quail on the wing, while still maintaining a conservative management approach. This change also aligns mountain quail seasons with California quail seasons in Hood River and Wasco counties, but does reduce the bag limit for mountain quail from 10 to 2 and delays the mountain quail opening until the second Saturday in October in these two counties. (Previously, hunters could hunt mountain quail in Hood River and Wasco counties on Sept. 1, but not California quail.) Similar to western Oregon, eastside quail bag limits would be combined (e.g. 10 birds singly or in aggregate with mountain quail, within the daily bag limit you may not have more than 2 mountain quail.)
- **Eastern Oregon upland bird seasons (chukar, pheasant, mountain quail) opening changed from “Saturday closest to Oct. 8” to “second Saturday in October.”** This change is necessary to adhere to a season opening one week after most eastern Oregon controlled deer seasons begin. Controlled deer seasons are proposed to open the first Saturday in October beginning in 2021. This change would not affect the proposed 2020 eastern Oregon upland bird opener, which is already scheduled for the second Saturday in October.
- **Extend fall turkeys season to Jan. 31 statewide.** Extending the hunting season for fall turkey by one month will allow additional opportunity for hunters and provide a tool for managers dealing with nuisance and damage, particularly on private land. Many fall turkey tag holders do not actually use their tags and harvest is low (approximately 1,000 birds statewide in 2018). Eastern Oregon fall turkey hunting seasons will remain private land only from Dec. 1 – Jan. 31.
- **Change western Oregon fall turkey opener to be concurrent with eastern Oregon.** Currently western Oregon fall season opens on Oct. 15 and the eastern Oregon season is proposed to open on the second Saturday in October. Having a concurrent opener simplifies regulations and adds more hunt days to the western Oregon fall turkey season.



Hunters have the potential to encounter mountain quail in every county of the state now due to successful translocation efforts in eastern Oregon. ODFW is proposing to open the season statewide.

- **Remove caps on total tags available for Oregon fall turkey hunts.** Wild turkey populations continue to expand throughout Oregon. Western Oregon fall turkey tags have never sold out, so tag limits are not necessary. Eastern Oregon fall turkey tags always sell out, but based on mandatory reporting, harvest rates and actual hunter participation are low. Removing artificial tag caps will increase opportunity for hunters and provide an additional tool for Wildlife Districts seeking to address turkey damage using licensed hunters.
- **Eliminate White River WMU controlled fall turkey hunt (ending fall turkey hunting on the wildlife area and unit).** The White River WMU hosts one of the most popular spring turkey hunts in Oregon with the highest hunter density. Maintaining the White River WMU turkey population is a management priority, but hunter success continues to decline. Fall seasons are a management tool to control turkey populations by potentially removing breeding hens from the flock, and therefore incompatible with White River WMU turkey management goals. Removing the White River Controlled Fall Turkey Hunt (K41) also simplifies turkey hunting regulations by removing the last controlled turkey hunt in the state.

To comment on these proposals, or make other suggestions, contact Mikal Cline, Mikal.L.Cline@state.or.us, (503) 947-6323.

The Commission will adopt a framework and 2020-2021 Game Bird Regulations at their April 17 meeting in Reedsport. Interested people can also testify in person about the topic at the meeting.

###

Contact:

Mikal Cline, Mikal.L.Cline@state.or.us, (503) 947-6323

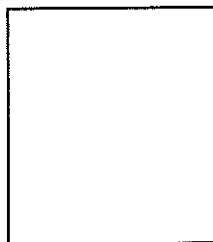
Michelle Dennehy, Michelle.N.Dennehy@state.or.us, (503) 947-6022

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Roxann B Borisch

From: garyjt04@exede.net
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 7:00 PM
To: mikal.L.Cline@state.or.us
Subject: Upland bird eastern oregon

Dear Sir,

I would like to see the upland bird season and deer season in eastern Oregon opening the first Saturday in October. Therefore, the people who like to hunt deer can hunt deer and the people who like to hunt the pheasants can hunt the first Saturday in October. With the same opening days for these 2 hunts, will reduces the number of hunters for deer and pheasants with the same opening day. A hunter will have to make a choice. Deer is not the problem, but trying to find an area to hunt pheasants without a lot of hunts is not easy. It is also a lot safer with few hunters in the field. Thank you for letting me state my opinion and thank you for place to hunt.

Regards,
Gary Thomas

Roxann B Borisch

From: boatman@eotnet.net
Sent: Thursday, February 6, 2020 6:01 PM
To: Mikal.L.Cline@state.or.us
Subject: hunting

sir would be nice if someone could help a vet that's in a wheelchair for hunting deer and upland birds I have hunted all my life in Umatilla country but its getting very hard to hunt anymore all I can do is drive around. thank you also in the fishing dept maybe be nice to get a handy left into and out of boats on the Columbia river docks something anyways to help us

Roxann B Borisch

From: MICHAEL BIBBEE <ilive2hunt@msn.com>
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2020 5:44 PM
To: Mikal.L.Cline@state.or.us
Subject: Turkey tags

Hi my name is Mike Bibbee. I have been a volunteer for the Fern Ridge Wild Life area for many years. The cost of the Turkey tags need to be looked at. You want to have more taken but the cost of the tags is the same for one as for five. If you want to sell more tags make the first one regular price and then offer a discount on the extra tags that people buy. You finally lowered the price for youth which is great. I gave up Turkey hunting due to the price of the tags.

Thanks
Mike Bibbee
ilive2hunt@msn.com

Roxann B Borisch

From: Terry Otto <orotto@wavecable.com>
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2020 8:18 PM
To: Mikal.L.Cline@state.or.us
Subject: fall turkey seasons

I wish to protest the possible ending of the White River Unit fall turkey hunt. The unit is an area we used to hunt in the spring, but the crowds and the early youth hunt just made it too hard. It is no longer an enjoyable experience when you can not find an area to hunt in peace. We had had our spring hunts molested by people using ATV's in areas closed to vehicles, have watched as a hunter that pointed his RIFLE at our hen decoy, and many more disruptive and illegal acts.

We have given up on those spring birds, and while that hunt is popular, the harvest rate is terrible compared with other Oregon areas. That's because the pressure is just too high.

And now, with the youth hunt weekend, most of the birds are pushed off the public lands by the regular opening day.

On the other hand, the fall hunt is fun. There are tons of birds, little competition, and it is one of our most enjoyable hunts of the year. There are so few permits put out, that I can't believe it makes any difference at all to the total population.

As for simplifying rules, The deer hunts are a mosaic of permits and general hunts that is complicated beyond belief. Why is it too hard to keep this one permit hunt?

Yes, the spring hunt in White river is popular, but why does it always have to be quantity instead of quality?

Please, leave the White river hunt fall hunt for us to enjoy.

Terry Otto
Outdoor reporter
The Columbian
503-410-1554

Roxann B Borisch

From: Mark Zoller <mark@mhzoller.com>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2020 11:44 AM
To: Mikal.L.Cline@state.or.us
Subject: Eastern Oregon Pheasant season

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Mikal, I am personally ok with the proposed change to open day for eastern Oregon pheasant season provided the season continues through December 31st or later. However, since I agree with your statement that bird populations are not serious affected by hunting pressure; I would suggest that the pheasant bag limit be increased to 3 rooster per day. This would help justify and help motivate long trips east for us hunters coming from western Oregon or Washington locations.

Thanks for all that you do for us bird hunters.

Mark H Zoller

Roxann B Borisch

From: Terry Otto <orotto@wavecable.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 15, 2020 11:28 AM
To: 'Mikal L Cline'
Subject: RE: fall turkey seasons

Mikal, referring your note on private lands, I have spent 20 years trying to gain access to private lands in those areas, and have not been successful even once. Unless you are ready to pay thousands of dollars for access, land owners are not interested.

Once again, may I talk with you about this?

Terry Otto
Outdoor reporter
The Columbian
503-410-1554

From: Mikal L Cline <Mikal.L.Cline@state.or.us>
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2020 11:55 AM
To: Terry Otto <orotto@wavecable.com>
Subject: RE: fall turkey seasons

Mr. Otto,

Thank you for your response regarding the proposal to end the White River Controlled fall turkey hunt. It is always a difficult decision to suggest removal of an opportunity.

Fall turkey season is singularly considered a depredation hunt, for units that are experiencing a buildup of turkeys and the nuisance and damage complaints that come with them. Given the spring hunting pressure on the White River WMU, from a responsible management standpoint, we can't justify the removal of breeding hens that are the backbone of this population, especially when we are currently having to transplant birds into the unit to sustain the flock. This comes at significant time and expense to our staff.

We are also seeing a declining interest in this tag in terms of utilization with 24-52% of successful tag holders not even hunting in recent years. I wonder if this is due to the difficulty in finding birds as flock size decreases. I'm glad that hasn't been your experience and you found enjoyment in the hunt.

In terms of alternative opportunity, I would like to call your attention to the 2019 opening of both the Biggs and Maupin WMUs to general fall turkey hunting. While the challenges of finding places to hunt on private land remain, we are seeing quite a flock buildup in these units. I would be glad to discuss alternative fall hunts at your convenience.

Kind regards,

Mikal Cline
Upland Game Bird Coordinator
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Dr SE
Salem, OR 97302-1142

(503) 947-6323 (office)
(503) 947-6330 (fax)
Mikal.L.Cline@state.or.us

From: Terry Otto <orotto@wavecable.com>
Sent: Friday, February 7, 2020 8:18 PM
To: Mikal.L.Cline@state.or.us
Subject: fall turkey seasons

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Please, leave the White river hunt fall hunt for us to enjoy.

Terry Otto
Outdoor reporter
The Columbian
503-410-1554

Roxann B Borisch

From: no name last name <grousehunteroregon@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, February 15, 2020 11:25 AM
To: Mikal.l.cline@state.or.us
Subject: Fall turkey hunt.

I am writing to protest the ending of the w.r. fall turkey hunt. The way you hold the youth spring hunt chases all the birds onto private land where they stay until the end of the season. If you cant figure out why success rates in the spring hunt are so low.... you need to get a new job. Between hunters riding atvs in closed areas, using rifles for the hunt and having to stand elbow to elbow with other hunters, I have completely given up on the spring season. It is not enjoyable. This closure is just another example of odfws campaign to reduce public access, increase fees and cater to the wealthy.

As a subsistence hunter I rely on public land and the animals on it to feed myself and family. Maybe you would prefer that all hunters were billionaires who freely and joyfully shell out 5 grand for a elk tag? You claim you are simplifying regulations... yet deer and elk regulations still need a phd in hunting law to understand. This excuse is B.S. and everybody can see it. Why not simplify some regulations that are ACTUALLY COMPLICATED? Oh... because you are really following the Trump administrations yearning to pull access of public land and resources to give it away freely to large mining and drilling companies. Remember you work for us. The land is not yours to do with as you please. If you take away our legal rights to hunt than we are left with only one option. To poach. I am sure you dont want that. But what option would be left? As a concerned hunter... I am sure you will disregard this letter.

Roxann B Borisch

From: Robin & Charlie Corrarino <chasrobcorrarino@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, February 21, 2020 6:14 PM
To: Mikal.L.Cline@state.or.us
Subject: bird regs

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Mikal,

I support the upland bird regulation proposal changes the department has put forth and have a couple of proposals for additional consideration.

Change the opener for pheasants from the second Saturday in October to the third Saturday in October. Makes is easier to ID roosters and provides another "opener".

Hard wire the dates. For example make eastern Oregon upland opener Oct 10th (except for pheasants). Make pheasant opener Oct 20th (or??). Easy to remember, just like many states have trout opening dates. Reduces conflict with deer seasons.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment and provide input.

Charlie Corrarino
971-219-1742

Dennis Beam

Phone call 2/24/20

Blue grouse and ruffed grouse season used to close at the end of November. Doesn't need to be open until the end of January. Also consider a combined forest grouse bag limit.

Pheasant season used to close around first part of December, not the end. Doesn't need to be open that long.

Doesn't like the split waterfowl season, can cause hunters to make mistakes during mid-season split.

A lot of people don't like January chukar hunting, but fine as long as the weather isn't too bad. ODFW should have closed the chukar season in the winter of 2016-17.