

# **Exhibit D**

**Public Correspondence received as of  
October 28, 2020**



# OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

Protecting Oregon's Wildlife, Habitat and Hunting Heritage

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October 26, 2020

RE: A&H Project Renewals for 2021

Dear Chair Wahl, Commissioners, and Director Melcher,

The Oregon Hunters Association has worked extensively with the state A&H Board in advancing critical access and habitat projects that benefit both wildlife and the hunting community. Two such projects are up for renewal – the C2 Ranch Habitat Improvement Project and the New River - Aleutian Goose Hunting Project (to alleviate agricultural impact) in the Bandon area. OHA enthusiastically supports continuation for both these projects.

**C2 Ranch:** These efforts involve removal of invasive Himalayan blackberry shrubs from pasture using a combination of cutting and herbicides allowing space for seeding of wildlife forage within Jackson County's sensitive deer and elk winter range. OHA sees multiple benefits and opportunities from this project with there being 5 unguided archery deer hunts, 5 guided deer rifle hunts, 6 spring turkey hunts. These hunts provide opportunities for new hunters and provide hunters with an important habitat conservation effort to engage with.

Our local chapter is a contributing partner for both habitat work and promoting both hunting and hands-on conservation opportunities.

**New River Project - Aleutian Goose Hunting:** Will continue allowing by-permission waterfowl hunting on 3,540 acres owned by private landowners plus 500 acres of BLM adjoining near Bandon. Local farmers/ranchers suffer extensive pasture use when these geese are staging during their southerly migration and the hunting provides them with damage relief. OHA is also a contributing partner in this effort.

Additionally, OHA would like to express appreciation for the A&H Board, and ODFW Director, providing emergency fire seeding funds to benefit wildlife, including over 7,000 acres in Lake County involving a much need partnership between multiple landowners and agencies. OHA is proud to be partnering with the A&H Board and other conservation partners on all these important efforts.

Sincerely,

Jim Akenson  
Senior Conservation Director

Fred Walasavage  
Board Chairman