

# **Exhibit H**

## **File 3**

**Public Correspondence Received  
March 16, 2021 to March 23, 2021**

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Matt Starley <mstarleydmd@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2021 10:01 AM  
**To:** odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery elk proposal input

To the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Commission:

As a passionate conservationist, I am writing you to express my recommendations for the upcoming proposed changes to our archery elk seasons. My recommendations have been created to meet the goals that ODFW has established for the 2022 archery season.

I first wanted to say thank you for the work you are doing! These changes will affect my favorite thing to do in life, and that is archery hunt. I am IN SUPPORT of the commission preserving as much hunting opportunity as possible. With that being said, I also know that there is a need to reduce hunter harvest & hunter density in units with ongoing management challenges. To do this, I am in favor of utilizing a similar strategy that the State of Oregon used back in 1979.

In 1979, General archery seasons were created when archery was less popular, technology was limited, and success rates were lower. The 30-day season that was established in 1983, was created to draw some hunters away from the crowded rifle seasons.

Now our archery seasons are crowded. My recommendation is to utilize primitive hunting methods as a tool to draw other hunters away from the crowded seasons. This will maintain hunter opportunity, while achieving the goals of reducing over-harvest and overcrowding.

This recommendation would be just one small aspect of the overall changes. Traditional archery is currently less popular, technology is limited, and the success rate is lower than modern archery seasons. Creating Traditional archery opportunities will reduce hunter harvest rates, and lower hunter density while sustaining opportunity. The archery hunting opportunity will be available for anyone who is willing to limit their success rate by using primitive equipment. Traditional archery historically has always had less of an impact on wildlife.

By providing general traditional archery opportunities in our state, we will also be allowing for equitable utilization of our state's elk resources, and the seasons could be created in a way that is consistent and easy to understand.

Top 3 recommendations for utilizing Traditional archery to meet ODFW commission goals:

#1. Pick a region of units that is currently under management objective and has lower hunter participation to create a three year pilot program assessing the popularity and impact that primitive hunting has on wildlife. In this region, there would be a cluster of units in close proximity (Keating, Minam, Imnaha, Pine Creek, and Snake river). This region would be considered an unlimited quota general Traditional archery opportunity.

#2. Pick a single unit that is currently under management objectives and/or having crowding concerns (i.e. Desolation, Starkey, Silvies, N. Malheur, etc.) and make it an unlimited general traditional archery opportunity. This also could be a pilot program that would be revisited in three years to assess participation and effect on objectives.

#3. Create a 5-day traditional archery only, extended season to all controlled, and general archery elk seasons in Oregon. If you obtain any archery elk tag in the state, you will be given 5 extra days to hunt if you choose to use Traditional archery equipment.

Please Consider utilizing Traditional archery as a tool to meet your current objectives.

Sincerely,

Matt Starley DMD

92401 Walluski loop

Astoria, OR 97103

541-602-0051

Lifelong Oregon resident archery hunter

LIFETIME Member:

-Rocky Mountain elk foundation

-Back Country Hunter and Anglers

-Traditional Archers of Oregon

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Ron Van Domelen <ronaldvandomelen@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2021 9:47 AM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Starkey Unit

Jeremy Thompson

We hunted the Starkey Unit 8 years with rifle with 8 hunters, early season & late season, the full season. Our success was three spike bulls in eight years with eight hunters each year. We left I-84, Ladd Canyon & drove in 14 miles & drove in a dead end road & camped. We hunted in stands over looking the Grand Rhonde Resivor. It was a 3 mile walk on a trail ( WE cut the dead trees 4th of July weekend out of the trail ) to these stands. I would get up at 3 AM walk out to the stand by daylight, sit all day till dusk & return to camp at 7 PM. This was when I was 65 years old till I was 73 years old. I'm 83, selling my rifle. In that eight years I saw one cow elk one year, a herd of eight cows one year & a four point & five point which I didn't have a tag for. This is what ARCHERY Hunting did to the area & the 30 days they were allowed to hunt.. This hunting area is close to Anthony Lakes & winter feeding area off I 84. Please keep me informed as to changes in that area ?

Respectfully, Ron

Ronald Van Domelen  
20322 SW Erin PI  
Beaverton OR 97003  
503-848-9607  
ronaldvandomelen@ yahoo.com

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Joe Welke <joewelke@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2021 3:06 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery Elk Proposal

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal.

Based on what I read about making more units in Eastern Oregon controlled hunts for Archery Elk, and based on my experiences hunting elk in eastern Oregon, I am supportive of this proposal.

I have archery hunted elk for 2 seasons now in Oregon. One of those seasons I went to Murderer's Creek where we rifle hunted in the past. Big mistake. I was totally blown away by the amount of hunters. I knew it was general season and all, but the volume of people was overwhelming and the experience not a good one. I've since hunted closer to home in Central Oregon (Upper Deschutes unit) where there are fewer archery hunters but also fewer elk. That's a tradeoff I'm glad to make.

One other observation I've had is how, overall, I'm seeing way fewer elk in Murderer's Creek and Silvies. Compared to 2014 and 15, the numbers seem down significantly. Just anecdotal, but I spend a lot of time out there, and I hike a lot of ground, and my observation matches what others are seeing. The elk are few and heavily pressured. I'm not saying the archery hunters are to blame, but I'm inclined to favor tag reductions generally, to improve the experience.

Thanks for all your work crafting these proposals and implementing them. I'm sure you hear criticisms from all angles. But my hunch is that like me most elk hunters would support this.

Sincerely,  
Joe Welke  
Bend, OR

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2021 9:47 AM  
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## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Matt Starley <mstarleydmd@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 23, 2021 10:01 AM  
**To:** odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery elk proposal input

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As a passionate conservationist, I am writing you to express my recommendations for the upcoming proposed changes to our archery elk seasons. My recommendations have been created to meet the goals that ODFW has established for the 2022 archery season.

I first wanted to say thank you for the work you are doing! These changes will affect my favorite thing to do in life, and that is archery hunt. I am IN SUPPORT of the commission preserving as much hunting opportunity as possible. With that being said, I also know that there is a need to reduce hunter harvest & hunter density in units with ongoing management challenges. To do this, I am in favor of utilizing a similar strategy that the State of Oregon used back in 1979.

In 1979, General archery seasons were created when archery was less popular, technology was limited, and success rates were lower. The 30-day season that was established in 1983, was created to draw some hunters away from the crowded rifle seasons.

Now our archery seasons are crowded. My recommendation is to utilize primitive hunting methods as a tool to draw other hunters away from the crowded seasons. This will maintain hunter opportunity, while achieving the goals of reducing over-harvest and overcrowding.

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By providing general traditional archery opportunities in our state, we will also be allowing for equitable utilization of our state's elk resources, and the seasons could be created in a way that is consistent and easy to understand.

Top 3 recommendations for utilizing Traditional archery to meet ODFW commission goals:

#1. Pick a region of units that is currently under management objective and has lower hunter participation to create a three year pilot program assessing the popularity and impact that primitive hunting has on wildlife. In this region, there would be a cluster of units in close proximity (Keating, Minam, Imnaha, Pine Creek, and Snake river). This region would be considered an unlimited quota general Traditional archery opportunity.

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#3. Create a 5-day traditional archery only, extended season to all controlled, and general archery elk seasons in Oregon. If you obtain any archery elk tag in the state, you will be given 5 extra days to hunt if you choose to use Traditional archery equipment.

Please Consider utilizing Traditional archery as a tool to meet your current objectives.

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-Rocky Mountain elk foundation

-Back Country Hunter and Anglers

-Traditional Archers of Oregon

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** karl swanson <karlswanson61@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2021 1:56 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery elk proposal

I have many comments on the proposal, but this part just makes no sense so I am going to focus on this first.

*Under the initial Department proposal, tags would only be valid in the unit or general area that the hunter chooses or draws. For example, a controlled hunt tag would not be valid for the general season areas.*

Not only does this in no way improve the stated goals, it actually works against them, as shown in the following examples:

1. If an archery elk hunter draws a controlled hunt tag but has an opportunity to hunt with family or friends in a general eastern or western area for just part of the season why not let them. If they spend fewer days in the controlled hunt area or harvest an elk in a general area and then don't hunt in their controlled unit it benefits all stated goals.
2. If an archery elk hunter draws a controlled hunt tag but their familiar area of the unit is impacted by fire or logging or other activity, why force them to only hunt in that unit? If they spend fewer days in the controlled hunt area by hunting in a general area or harvest an elk in a general area and then don't hunt in their controlled unit it benefits all stated goals.
3. If an archery elk hunter draws a controlled hunt tag but they can only get part of the season off work to travel there, why not let them hunt nearer home in a general area? If they use their vacation at the end of the season in the controlled unit but hunt weekends or after work weekdays near home they spend fewer days in the controlled hunt area or possibly harvest an elk in a general area so they don't hunt in their controlled unit at all which benefits all stated goals.

A few archery elk hunters in the general areas might feel that it is unfair that successful controlled hunters can also hunt their areas. But that is not a real problem because it has always been that way. I have met several hunters over the years that were in my general eastern unit with their controlled hunt tag, and that was completely acceptable. If for lack of elk seen in their unit, or desire to meet family or friends, or just because it was closer to home for a short hunt it really did not matter at all.

Limiting hunters to their drawn unit must not be part of this change. If at a later time there is a problem with allowing a little flexibility in hunt locations then that could be a later change, but I have been hunting in Oregon for over 40 years and I am completely positive that this limitation will not be necessary. Hunters will use their controlled hunt tag as much as they can, so maintaining a little of the flexibility available historically in the system will benefit the stated goals not detract from them.

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Michelle Tate <Michelle.L.Tate@coho2.dfw.state.or.us>  
**Sent:** Monday, March 22, 2021 8:23 AM  
**To:** Brian Wolfer  
**Cc:** Roxann B Borisch  
**Subject:** FW: Who's opinion anyway?

BG PC

**From:** Richard Preston  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 5:27 PM  
**To:** odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Re: Who's opinion anyway?

What it looks like to me is that units with higher elk numbers are being moved to controlled hunts for bow hunters because of rifle hunters agendas. Units that are or were popular either sex bow units are turned into controlled hunts to move meat hunter bow hunters into areas with fewer elk.

Desolation elk numbers were lowered to below MO and now it conveniently will be bull only, reducing 1700 possible elk in a very challenging unit to less than 170 bull only tags. Who benefits? Rifle hunters and bow horn hunters.

These horn hunter agendas have to be identified and their income assessed. They are the ones who can afford the high end technology bows that the rifle horn hunters object to. Your statement in regards to technology advances as a justification for cutting back bow seasons is suspect.

What about rifle technology? I know a rich wheat farmer who bought a super expensive rifle, scope, and spotting scope. He proudly told me he could see 5 trophy bulls the opening morning of his Umatilla watershed controlled hunt. He took a one shot and down at 906 yards killing a massive 6x6.

With my old bow and 50 years experience I won't shoot over 40 yards. The new bows should not be shot over 70 yards if that. It's pure manipulation to change bow seasons for all bow hunters because a few horn hunters can afford \$1500 for a bow when rifle hunters can see and shoot a bull a half a mile away. I used to shoot rock chucks at a half mile on the Powder River breaks with a .270.

Ok. Enough for today. I spent two and a half years learning Desolation so I could get an elk within a half mile from the road so I can get it out in hot weather. Now I have 170 animals with horns I can't eat. At 70, I bought my last Sportspac I believe. Today anyway.

Richard Orestin

On Fri, Mar 19, 2021, 4:09 PM Richard Preston <[osoforall@gmail.com](mailto:osoforall@gmail.com)> wrote:

As part of the Big Game Review, the Department prioritized collecting unbiased information on the preferences and opinions of Oregon's deer and elk hunters.

Ask a mixed group of rifle hunters, bow hunters, University big game biology majors, ODFW employees, rifle hunting guides, bow hunting guides, land owners who have large elk numbers selling access on their property, successful bow hunters, unsuccessful bow hunters, successful rifle hunters, unsuccessful hunters, animal rights activists, etc. their opinion about all of the subjects on the public input forums and you get some very manipulative opinions.

Then write a propaganda statement that says:

As part of the Big Game Review, the Department prioritized collecting unbiased information on the preferences and opinions of Oregon's deer and elk hunters.

Unbiased? There is no such thing! These surveys should be made a part of hunter reporting in order to qualify for next year's tags. Then you can evaluate the unbiased opinion of those who got lucky and not. You can identify rifle and bow hunters with hidden agendas to simply try to control anything and everything they can for everyone but themselves. You can see why it's bowhunters turn to take the hit so vocal rifle hunters don't cause problems.

How do we know big game counts are honest? How and when are post bull survival rates established? It is so easy to get biased science data and support dominant and powerful ODFW biologist agendas.

Look at Mike Wisdom's Starkey Experimental Station studies that were used to institute TMAs. Why does an elk cross the road? If Mike's work were true there wouldn't be elk crossing roads as we all know they do.

We need to get some scientists to create tests for bias in every part of ODFW and public inputs or any opinion can be considered as unbiased regardless of the agenda behind it.

Richard Preston

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Steve Quinn <stevep@wtechlink.us>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 21, 2021 5:33 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunting

To whom it may concern

I have been hunting for years and this is the first time I have responded to any of your questions. It does not take a rocket scientist to figure out where the game is going. Once you have introduced wolves back into the program an added cougar population and bear population. Where do you think all the game is going ? Then here in Eastern Oregon you had a big brainstorm and let's have damage control hunt for six months. So now you're killing a cow elk that is pregnant and taking two animals out of the herd.

Maybe actually you should get some people in there that hunt instead of just sitting in an office coming up with these ideas. So why don't we try no cow hunting more cow elk more bulls . Because what you're doing is not working so the more predators you introduced into the wild the more animals are killed. And where do the animals come from the Cow elk and Does .

Of course you're going to say the bull to cow ratio has to be a certain number . But who makes up the Numbers ? I much rather go out and hunt and see elk whether they are cows or not then no elk at all.

I am sure this is going against death ears because I'm sure most people in ODFW now are Nonhunters and liberals or at least environmentalist. Because it seemed like a pretty easy fix from where I stand. One other thing since I'm writing you places like Mount Emily and the watershed it's great that you have made it a 15 day hunt. But personally take the Spike hunters out of there people wait 20 to 25 years to hunt there they should have it to themselves.

For what it's worth  
Steve

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** The Warner Family <mwarnar@eoni.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 21, 2021 10:45 AM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** archery elk hunting .

Its about time ODFW does something about limiting tags for archery hunting. Lets take the Snake River unit. Right now it takes me 7 years to get a tag to hunt with a rifle that is if I'm lucky enough to get a tag this year. During the archery season there are more people in that unit hunting than during rifle season. Its one of the units that they can go into and hunt big bulls with out having to draw a special permit. They should have no better privileges than rifle hunters any more. There is constant pressure on these elk from the last of August thru the second week of November. There is no wonder there is a calf shortage due to the constant pressure during breeding season. I have a neighbor that is an archery hunter he has no problem hitting a target at 70 yards he is very good. The equipment that archery hunter have at their access is unreal. I'm well aware that your main goal of selling unlimited archery tags is revenue. But hunting numbers are going down which means less revenue which means less employees. Animal numbers are going down and you know the main reason is predators. Unless you start controlling this problem you will continue to loose hunters at a faster rate than the cost of buying the tags. We hear the wolves every time we are hunting in the Snake River unit. We probley seen one of the first ones that swam the river in Temperance Creek 20 years ago. I went into the Minam with some people during elk season last year. We seen or heard wolves every day except one and that was because the wind was blowing to hard.

When my boys were just starting hunting if they didn't draw a tag they would get a LOP tag on my Aunts or cousins place. The other kids that grew up with them gave up on hunting because they couldn't draw a tag. I believe if you want to help promote hunting you should give tags to kids up to the age of 16 years of age every year.

Bottom line is archery hunters should have no more privilege than rifle hunters.

sincerely,

Mike Warner

[mwarner@eoni.com](mailto:mwarner@eoni.com)

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** donturner <donturner07@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 21, 2021 9:28 AM  
**To:** ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** I agree with archery draw for eastern Oregon units , good job .

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** CHARLES & MARIA COOKSON <ccookson@bendbroadband.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 8:00 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery Elk Proposal

I am a long time dedicated hunter that hunts both Archery and Rifle depending on year and other tags I draw. I am also a Vice President with the Bend Chapter of Oregon Hunters Association. I am heavily engaged and interested in the conservation of our wildlife and continuing our hunting heritage. I am in favor of Eastern Oregon going to 100% draw for Archery. Your current plan for only a few units to be controlled and others to remain General is a HORRIBLE Plan!! If you talk to folks that were out in the woods this fall, you would hear that it was the most heavily hunted/crowded experience we have ever seen. Finding a camping spot was a challenge. IF you change the proposed units to Controlled, it will make them better but will also move any extra pressure from those units into other units that already experience too much pressure. This does not solve the problem. It simply congregates and compounds the pressure onto a few units. I have no problem with going controlled but it needs to be all units! PLEASE DO NOT PROCEED DOWN THIS PATH!!

If you would like to have a more in depth conversation about this, feel free to give me a call

Charlie Cookson  
Bend Oregon  
541-280-7525

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Chris Cunningham <chris15cunningham@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 20, 2021 12:07 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery elk hunting proposal

To address the issue of over crowding in archery hunting areas, I have always felt that the increasing number of hunters comes mostly for those who apply for rifle tags but then go archery hunting when they are not successful drawing their rifle tag. The hunters that choose to hunt archery as a second option are obviously people who JUST LOVE HUNTING, no matter how they get to hunt. With the increased number of archery hunters, obviously the successful harvest rate will increase accordingly. I feel that the best way to take back control of the management numbers would be to increase tag availability for rifle hunting while at the same time force all hunters to choose at application time if they will hunt with a rifle or with a bow. In other words, if you choose rifle, you could apply for any rifle tag, be it a draw unit or a general season, but not be allowed to hunt archery for that season. Same stipulation if you choose archery, then you would only be allowed an archery tag. This would need to be optional by species. This would move dedicated hunters back to their preferred weapon while increasing rifle opportunities and decreasing crowded archery hunts. I feel that this would bring the archery success rates back down proportionally to the decrease of hunters, and still allow harvest management through the new archery success rates and controlled rifle success rates.

I do not think that adding the controlled hunts, as shown in the proposed map, is going to do anything more than over crowd the areas that will remain general season archery locations. I believe that over time, those who can afford to will end up taking their revenue to other states on years that they do not draw. Those of us that can not afford to hunt other states will be forced to hunt the remaining over crowded general season locations when we do not draw our hunt choices or not hunt at all.

As for public input, apparently I missed the open forum time in 2020. The idea that a survey of 4000 hunters at a time or 2000 hunters at a time could be an accurate representation of all of the hunting population of Oregon, is ridiculous. A questionnaire attached to the license purchase would be a simple way to reach out to EVERY hunter.

Please consider that most of the hunters in Oregon are working class and use time in the woods as family vacation time. To add the draw units as they are currently proposed will greatly affect the family time / vacation time of those of us that are the working class hunters of Oregon.

Thank you for considering my opinions. I would gladly have a one on one phone conversation with someone that is interested in my views.

Thanks, Chris 503-720-7137 evenings and weekends.

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Roger Schnoes <rogerschnoes@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 8:15 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery Elk Proposal

I am a long-time archery elk hunter and I hunt with a recurve bow. I began going over to the east side years ago because it seemed more likely I could hear elk bugle and hunt them using that approach. I've been disappointed over the last decade with fewer elk bugling, many more hunters afield and over all far fewer encounters with elk, both on the east side and in the coast range. So, I understand the need to reduce the pressure.

But I'm curious why the only tool ODFW is looking at is reducing hunter numbers. I suggest you take a page from the fisheries playbook and limit equipment as well. If the huge increase in numbers of archery hunters is fueled by the rise of compound bows, why not increase the number of units where longbows and recurves are required? I greatly value encountering elk and the challenge of getting within 35-40 yards. Killing an animal is less a priority.

I urge you to consider expanding the requirement for primitive equipment as part of your management plan.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment. Good luck!

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** James Asp <jmbolouie@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 5:24 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery elk proposal.

I am strongly opposed to these changes.

I have bowhunted Oregon most of my life

and have no interest in becoming a rifle hunter. Especially for elk. One of the things I love most about my archery season is the freedom I have to hunt most of our state in September. This change will directly affect my favorite places to hunt. I can handle the crowding by finding pockets no one else is hunting and outworking the other hunters. Changing the rules and putting more pressure on western Oregon just creates new problems. I know it's a revenue thing but I would suggest a cap on out of state hunters. Most of the hunters I encounter in the eastern units are out of state. It's shocking to me. Jim Asp.

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Richard Joe Hardegger <gunner1@mac.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 3:07 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** 2022 Oregon Archery Proposal

Hello,

I'm a previous Oregon resident and still enjoy archery elk hunting in the Snake River unit while building points for a better tag in the future. What I'm worried about is I will need to use all of my points to draw a Snake River archery tag which I'm guessing will take 1 to 2 points for a non-resident to draw. While I don't mind spending a couple of points to draw I certainly don't want to risk using the 16 points which I've built up to go on a tag which has been previously purchased over the counter. If the Snake goes to a draw it would be nice if us high point holders could allocate the points needed to draw the tag versus having to push all of points over to draw the tag. I hunt with Oregon residents there and have been for many years, we have a nice camp and really enjoy the outing. With the new proposal I think this is likely going to come to a end. We don't usually kill a bull as the success is rather low and the five of us have not taken an animal in the last three years. The archery hunters aren't having an impact on taking many bulls. If you look at the percent success its very high for the rifle season and very low for the archery. It would really be a shame if in 2022 I had to give up all of my 16 points to go spend time with my good friends while still being able to hunt. Please consider the impact this will have on those who have been patiently waiting for a Big 3 tag while still buying a non-resident bull tag every year. Our group of 5 includes two non-residents.

Thank you,  
Joe Hardegger

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** scott simon <srs386903@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 2:55 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** More regs for now hunters

I don't really have a important thing to add to the topic, just wanted to say that it's about time bow hunters get more rules imposed on them to in Oregon.

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Bruce Wilcox <borsky56@charter.net>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 9:59 AM  
**To:** 'odfw.commission@state.or.us'  
**Subject:** Archery Elk Comments

Thank you for allowing input to be made on upcoming changes to the archery elk hunting on the east side of our state.

1) To decrease hunting pressure, hunters should be required to choose their weapon of choice. This would prevent hunters from applying for rifle premier bull units, if unsuccessful they build points and then go archery hunting. If a hunter is unsuccessful in drawing a controlled archery tag, they would not be able to purchase a general season rifle tag. Elk are pressured from early August through the end of the year by hunters in general, this is too long.

2) I support the idea of going to a draw system for elk archery hunting on the east side of Oregon. I look at the statistics on your website regarding archery hunting, I question how accurate these figures are. There are a lot more archery hunters in the Heppner Unit than what is stated. Visit the hunting units during the archery season and there are lots of hunters.

3) If the ODFW goal is to promote better elk populations by limiting the number of mature branch antlered bulls being harvested, then spike only tags and any bull tags should be part of the archery draw system implementation.

Sincerely,  
Bruce Wilcox  
Pioneer Hunter  
Hermiston, OR

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Tim Martinez <tim.martinez805@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, March 19, 2021 9:19 AM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Question Regarding Newly Proposed Archery Elk Guidelines

Good Morning,

I was wondering if you could answer a few questions for me regarding the upcoming proposal.

1. What percentage of out of state hunters can be awarded archery elk tags in newly proposed draw units?
2. How will you handle the existing preference point structure while implementing the newly proposed draw units?
3. How will the newly proposed draw units affect Jr and Apprentice tags?

My family has been hunting elk on the same mountain tops in north eastern oregon since the 1950s. With my son's finally making it into camp, they will be the 4th generation to participate in our hunting camp. I'm concerned that they will not be able to participate year in and year out due to the newly proposed regulations. My hope is that you come up with a system that will be more like a first come/first serve to those areas. Then when a percentage cap is reached, open it to preference point draw odds. This would provide a great balance moving forward and may be a way to achieve everyone's needs. Including the elk!

Thank you for your time and I look forward to your response.  
Tim Martinez

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Jerome Reynolds <jreynolds80@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 10:18 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery Elk Proposal

While I don't disagree with there needing to be change, the largest point not considered is that western Oregon archery elk hunting has gone through the roof in terms of new hunters in the last 5 years. While I don't have data aside from anecdotal to support this claim, trust me, anything west of Portland is insanely crowded similar to Heppner. By changing these proposed units to controlled units, western Oregon is going to suffer as a consequence. This is NOT fair to lifelong western Oregon archery hunters.

While the thought of a controlled western Oregon sounds awful, hunting here is borderline awful as well. I'm not sure what the answer is...

Sincerely,  
Jerome

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Jackie Hayden <norjac60@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 8:15 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** I do believe that it all should be controlled hunts

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Debbi Clark <cdebbi00@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 8:03 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery Elk Proposal

I do not agree to make the proposed units draw archery. Once again you do not listen to the bulk of the hunters. You created the problem during archery season when you made rifle season draw and allowed the rifle hunters that didn't draw to pick up a bow. Make hunters pick their weapon for that particular type of hunt. Limit out of state hunters. Do this and then see what kind of pressure there is in hunt units during archery. This means decide if you want to hunt elk with a gun or a bow. Leave archery open. NO DRAW. If you put in for rifle sorry no bow. I know many hunters that put in for rifle tags and then don't draw they then pick up a bow. Bow hunters were never allowed to pick up a gun to go hunt elk. Your own numbers say there are around 60,000+ rifle hunters in the state for elk. How many of those hunters don't draw an elk tag and then pick up a bow? Myself and my friends hunt 2-3 different units during bow season depending on pressure. You want to take that away. This is not right. You work for us. You also need to control the predators. You are allowing wolves to get establish. This is unconscionable. Is your goal to reduce hunter numbers so there are more elk to feed wolves? Stop screwing the hunters. And, why not revisit the draw lottery. I see hunters year after year draw their tags while other rack another point. Point creep is real. I also think your season are messed up for rifle hunters. I think one of the reason elk are moving to private land is because of the rapid influx of people and elk move out. Spread out the season and combine more hunts. There is no reason not to allow rifle hunters 3-4 weeks to hunt elk with a rifle. They all won't be out hunting at the same time. Mid October to end of November. Actually, combine some of the units into mega units so hunters can move to different units if they run into to much pressure. Options is where it's at. Remember you work for the hunters. We pay your wages.

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Mike Avgi <mikeavg@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 7:08 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** No elk changes

This has gone too far in the wrong direction. These hunts need to stay in place get rid of all spike hunts if you want to change it for the better for us hunters. Since I started hunting when I was 12 years old, my dad has not bought any meat. We live off the wild animals God has given us to feed our families. I'm 27 years old now and still rely on the wild game Gods given us to provide my family food. Get rid of the wolves and now I hear you guys want to introduced grizzlies. Bad for us hunters, its never been not about us hunters, but about money im very upset about the changes ODFW is doing. Let's come together with hunters and staff and come up with a real solution that will benefit us all. Thank you for your time reading this.

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** mike longhorn <mikeslonghorn@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 6:43 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery elk proposal

To whom it may concern, I for one believe this is completely unnecessary and wrong. First off if elk numbers are that bad, which they are not, why in the world would we be issuing general season slaughter tags for rifles that are almost 6 MONTHS long, damage control right, yeah let's let big ranchers make more money for trespass fee's to kill antlerless animals that are possibly carrying bucks or bull's, BRILLIANT. All while charging a TAX FREE FEE on top of what WE pay for crop damage even though they do not allow any access. And most of this comes from corrupt organizations like OHA because some of there members are to lazy to get out and do the work to be successful in the field, if it's no li on tv or the internet there's a problem right, it's a lot easier to blame it on overcrowding or predators. What will they blame it on next landowners growing the wrong crops?? oh but wait all the animals get pushed onto private property due to all the overcrowding pressure, well news flash people it doesn't take much if any pressure to make animals move where they are not as disturbed. Secondly it is total crap that the people and groups pushing this are really not going to be affected since if they don't draw eastern Oregon they can still just go buy a tag for there backyard, what is so FAIR about that but if they are going to get there way the only fair way is you either apply for eastern Oregon or you buy your general western tag, that's pretty fair for us eastern Oregon people that are NOT going to be able to hunt OUR backyard. Oh but wait there is the supposed information that archery hunters kill more bulls and bucks then rifle hunters, are you for real, spend a little time on the highways during or right after the seasons and COUNT. There is a reason it is harder to get a rifle tag, 400 yards is nothing to shoot something at, just watch tv or YouTube, and the people that say it's easy to hunt during the rut have absolutely no idea what they are talking about but then again the hunting shows make it look that easy right. There is absolutely no reason that choosing your weapon prior to the draw would not also lower hunter numbers if that is what you are trying to accomplish. I am completely against this and this is just another way for the west side to screw the LOCAL TAX PAYERS. I know this will never be read or even looked at for that matter because the east side of this state does not matter but makes me feel a little better, I will have to get better at writing since I won't be hunting.

From a outdoor loving EASTERN OREGONIAN.

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** TJ Forrester <tjthedrafter@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 5:16 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Comment on Elk archery season framework

Hello,

I am responding to the invitation to comment on the proposed changes for archery elk hunting.

Let me start off by saying I was a little disappointed to find out about the online public forum well after the fact. This solicitation for opinions should have been distributed with every tag or license sold. If it was, then I guess I was just not paying close enough attention.

Like a lot of hunters, I spend most of time working and providing for a family. We want to be able to escape to the woods and enjoy the hunting experience at a minimum of fuss and expense. The trend I have noticed in the 44 years I've hunted in Oregon (as well as occasionally in other states) is that it has gotten progressively more fussy and expensive, especially the last dozen or so years. It seems you now need a degree in statistics and/ or computer science to draw a tag and expect a reasonably good hunt. You also need deep pockets.

It should not be this way.

I spent about 20 of those years off and on rifle hunting, mostly in Tioga, Willamette and a handful of eastern units. I was not overly successful, harvesting maybe half a dozen deer and one elk in that time. It was certainly not for lack of effort. Maybe I'm just not that good a hunter?

I switched to archery hunting several years ago (still buying preference points for that 'someday' rifle hunt) because archery was more like what rifle used to be with a long season and NO DRAW. It seemed to be a good fit. I've spent all of my archery seasons pursuing elk. I've had some very enjoyable times in the woods, even though I've only harvested one cow in about 5 seasons. The exception was this last year, when I hunted a little later in the season, just past peak rut. I was amazed and very disappointed to see all of the amateur hunters (and I mean amateur to hunting, not just archery hunting) and all of the out of state hunters that had descended on the unit I usually hunt (Desolation). It was a madhouse.

I've seen this same phenomenon happening the last few years in NE Montana where I go to upland bird hunt. I call them 'magazine readers'. Armed with GPS coordinates, e maps, and data and suggestions from magazine articles and most importantly software like On X, they allow anyone who is computer and data savvy to do what takes most hunters many years, and some a lifetime: locate, stalk, and harvest game successfully. I myself subscribed to On X this past year so I could have a ready property line and hunt unit boundary reference in hand. What I did not expect was the tons of data readily shared by anyone to pinpoint game locations. Between this and game cameras, how do the animals stand a chance? I think this system is being exploited at an alarming rate and is causing undue pressure at areas of game concentration. I am seriously considering giving On X up, as I do not want to support something like this. Certainly, anyone interested should have a fair and equal shot at pursuing game. But using electronics and shared data to locate and pattern animals, selling

high priced 'premium hunt' opportunities, auctioning off 'super tags' to highest bidders, etc do NOT create a level playing field for hunters.

Getting back to the question (opinion) at hand, I am disappointed to see that archery hunting in Oregon will become a draw system like rifle. It becomes more expensive, more complex, and supports a computer savvy, deep pocketed, hunter who aggressively pursues game, particularly trophy animals. Is it better for the animals? I'm not sure it is.

T.J. Forrester

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Cody Lund <codylund7@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 5:15 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery elk proposal

To whom it may concern,

I am writing on behalf of the proposed change from a general bow season tag to a controlled tag for eastern elk tags. I understand that there are many issues that are trying to be addressed with this change and finding a fix all solution is hard. I believe that changing these to a controlled tag will not solve the issue with bull management objectives or bull cow ratios and over crowding of hunting season.

To ultimately fix the overcrowding issue during bow season I believe would take more then just changing a general tag to a controlled tag. Having areas become controlled tags and some stay general would only intensify the overcrowding issue in the units that remained a general tag. Also, fall/winter of 2020 I looked at some stats ODFW put out of how many hunters hunted elk in a specific Eastern Oregon hunting unit in a particular year and how many controlled tags were proposed for these units. Looking at the numbers there was not a dramatic reduction that would address the over crowding. Looking at a few of the units of how many proposed controlled tags and number of hunters from the previous year would only reduce the number of people 0-10% depending on the unit. I believe if you wanted to address the overcrowding issue you would need to reduce the number of tags dramatically and that would not go over well with the hunting community.

I also don't think making the general elk bow tag a controlled tag will help with the issue of meeting bull management objectives. With the percent reduction I stated above that ODFW proposed I believe that will reduce the number of bull elk harvested but that reduction is not guaranteed to be all bull elk since you can still harvest cows. I believe one solution to reduce the amount of bull harvested to meet future management objectives would be to eliminate the harvest of spike bulls in units not meeting objectives or all units. I believe eliminating harvesting spike bulls during archery season and even rifle seasons would increase bull elk numbers in areas and let more bulls mature to breeding age. To be brutally honest spike bull elk are not the smartest elk when it comes to avoiding hunters. Spike bull elk are pretty easy to call into bow range from my experience. I grew up hunting in Montana most my life. Right before I started elk hunting in Montana, Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks changed most the state not allowing you to harvest a spike bull elk. This change is still in affect to where to harvest a bull elk it has to be a "brow tine bull" or 2.5 year old. I asked a few Wildlife Biologist from Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks why they decided to eliminate spike bull harvest from most the state. The Wildlife Biologist said this change in Montana was brought forward by mostly hunters to better provide opportunity for hunters to harvest a mature 2.5 or older year bull and to help districts where bull cow ratios were low and not meeting management objectives. I hope you consider eliminating the harvest of spike bull elk and talk to Wildlife Biologist about their experiences with how eliminating harvesting spike bull elk has helped bull populations in the state of Montana.

If you are to move forward with making particular Eastern Oregon units controlled bow tags will they stay controlled forever? What if units start meeting bull management objectives and surpass the objectives? Will you then make them general bow tags again?

Thanks  
Cody

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** mike longhorn <mikeslonghorn@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 4:55 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** 2022 archery change

To whom it may concern, I for one believe this is completely unnecessary and wrong. First off if elk numbers are that bad, which they are not, why in the world would we be issuing general season slaughter tags for rifles that are almost 6 MONTHS long, damage control right, yeah let's let big ranchers make more money for trespass fee's to kill antlerless animals that are possibly carrying bucks or bull's, BRILLIANT. All while charging a TAX FREE FEE on top of what WE pay for crop damage even though they do not allow any access. And most of this comes from corrupt organizations like OHA because some of there members are to lazy to get out and do the work to be successful in the field, if it's no li on tv or the internet there's a problem right, it's a lot easier to blame it on overcrowding or predators. What will they blame it on next landowners growing the wrong crops?? oh but wait all the animals get pushed onto private property due to all the overcrowding pressure, well news flash people it doesn't take much if any pressure to make animals move where they are not as disturbed. Secondly it is total crap that the people and groups pushing this are really not going to be affected since if they don't draw eastern Oregon they can still just go buy a tag for there backyard, what is so FAIR about that but if they are going to get there way the only fair way is you either apply for eastern Oregon or you buy your general western tag, that's pretty fair for us eastern Oregon people that are NOT going to be able to hunt OUR backyard. Oh but wait there is the supposed information that archery hunters kill more bulls and bucks then rifle hunters, are you for real, spend a little time on the highways during or right after the seasons and COUNT. There is a reason it is harder to get a rifle tag, 400 yards is nothing to shoot something at, just watch tv or YouTube, and the people that say it's easy to hunt during the rut have absolutely no idea what they are talking about but then again the hunting shows make it look that easy right. There is absolutely no reason that choosing your weapon prior to the draw would not also lower hunter numbers if that is what you are trying to accomplish. I am completely against this and this is just another way for the west side to screw the LOCAL TAX PAYERS. I know this will never be read or even looked at for that matter because the east side of this state does not matter but makes me feel a little better, I will have to get better at writing since I won't be hunting.

From a outdoor loving EASTERN OREGONIAN.

Sent from my iPhone

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Jim Tyler <dollar.jim.jt@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 2:42 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** RE: ODFW archery regulations changes

Hi,  
I applaud your efforts to examine the quota system and by considering making the North Eastern GMU's a lottery, just like rifle season. It's about time. I urge you to pass this regulation change.

I've been hunting NE Oregon rifle season for 20 years and have never had the opportunity to harvest a bull elk. Oh, I've seen elk here and there. Branch bulls in units with a spike tag, or nothing but cows. Truth be told there have been years where I didn't even find a bull, a cow, or a track. Admittedly, I don't hike in 6 miles and run the chance of having to take a shot at a bull and not be able to get it out. I have never even had a spike bull in my cross-hairs. Ok, not true, I had one at over 400 yards but couldn't be sure it was a legal bull so I didn't pull the trigger.

My point is this. Archery hunters get a month, a month!, to harvest an animal while they are in the rut and aggressively looking to do their male species stuff, all without a quota, no limits, no caps. Rifle hunters get 5, five, 5 days at a time of the year where snow may be too deep to hunt, or it rains in buckets, or it will snow then turn off to frigid temperatures causing the snow to freeze. You might as well stay in camp because you are not going to get anywhere quickly or quietly.

Let's add that your rifle season is very disadvantageous to those workers with little to no vacation time. Consider this:

The season opens on Wednesday, closes on Sunday. For those who don't have the advantage of time off from their jobs, have to pack for home on a Saturday, drive to the west or central side, then get ready to go to work on Monday morning. They lose a full day of hunting. The rifle season should run from Tuesday - Saturday. Give the working man, who buys licenses and tags to support ODFW initiatives a break.

I would love to get into the wolf management (mismanagement) problem but that is fruitless. I see wolves every year and have for the last 8ish. Last year in Chesnimus, we had one in camp at night that howled. Talking about raising the hair on the back of your neck while sleeping in a canvas tent! Without fail I see one or more in the Weneha unit.

Thanks for reading my mail. In summary, please pass the quota system for archery. The newspaper article in the La Grande Observer, written by Jayson Jacoby of the Baker City Herald was a good article and he is correct, the rifle hunters have suffered the most sacrifices during the hunting seasons.

Jim Tyler

## **BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** ODFW Commission <ODFW.Commission@state.or.us>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 12:43 PM  
**To:** 'Borisch, Roxie'  
**Subject:** FW: Elk season 2022

**From:** James Simpson  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 17, 2021 5:28 PM  
**To:** odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Elk season 2022

Name Jim simpson 62 years old hunted and fished since I was old enough to by a license went along with family before that it was fun and lots of deer ,elk , bear bobcats today not so good ,do not agree with your plan it won't help anything u must really have a different agenda your not telling us I now your educated and smarter than that .to point fingers at any hunter be it with rifel or bow. The fault is in your laps mismanaged for years for money first and not the animals and fish . U complain about numbers bull to cow rato being down while at the same time interdusin wolf's and stoping the use of hound's to help control cougar's . I have friends who have hunted your east draw areas gave up all there points to draw them came back saying it suckt not quality bulls and not that many branch bulls ,and when they found groups of elk there where as many wolf's hang around them as there where elk . What your planning will be the same as what u have in those units u already no it don't work. Now here's what works no spike or cow hunts in any unit ,get rid of the wolf's before they get any worse ,use hound's to control cougar's with a season for any one that wants to hunt with hound's or without , put wildlife over money . U want to end the human population get rid of all the females none to breed equals 0 births equals end of human population how's that for education . And I do understand that general hunt tags will be over populated with hunters and soon the elk and deer population will be worse then what u say u are trying to fix in units you plan to make draw only .

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Matt Lux <huntncraze@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 12:27 PM  
**To:** ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Draw for Eastern Oregon elk

To Whom it may concern,

I am writing to voice my opinion. I would like to see Eastern Oregon archery elk be just like the rifle hunt. It should be a draw. If the rifle hunters have to draw a certain unit so should the archery hunters. I believe the biologist need to figure out how many animals can be harvested to keep animal numbers improving. Unfortunately most archery hunters think they should be able to hunt anywhere in the state. Unfortunately that mindset is the number 1 problem in over crowding. Thank you for you time. Sincerely A concerned bow hunter.

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Chris Jones <jonesthomaschristopher@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 8:12 AM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery elk 2022 proposed changes

I understand the concern of having too many hunters in a particular unit. What I don't understand is why the general east and west seasons you would not be able to hunt in both.

What is the purpose of this change?

I would think that with the hunter success reported to you would give you the information needed to change a particular unit to control hunt only.

Many people including myself hunt both sides of the state annually and haven't harvested an elk in many years. It is this opportunity to hunt both sides is one of the only reasons I continue to buy tags and "hunt". It might be time to pick up a camera instead of a bow.

Chris

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Patrick Stone <patjstone@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 18, 2021 6:53 AM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** controlled archery elk hunting in eastern oregon

Your proposals do not take into account the social fabric of the archery/hunting community. It takes most of us years to learn a area and to create a social network of friends and families who wish to hunt with us. Many of us simply give up hunting when faced with the challenges of finding new areas to hunt each year. Our long standing hunting group disintegrated after trying to accommodate the challenges of this process. Also, for those of us advancing in years, these new barriers become insurmountable and a reason we do not encourage our children and grandchildren to follow in our footsteps.

Thank you for listening to my voice.

Pat Stone, a life long archery hunter and disabled combat veteran from Vietnam ( WIA, November 22, 1970).

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** wendy <wwelektra@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 17, 2021 11:56 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Controlled Archery Elk 2022

Hello,

Just an email NOT in favor for archery hunters having to choose Western or Eastern Oregon to archery hunt for 2022 for general tag. Please dont take that option away for archery hunters.

Definitely approve having controlled archery hunts in north eastern Oregon where needed.

Thanks,  
Wendy Ward

Sent from Yahoo Mail on Android

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Alan Gronewold <algronewold@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 17, 2021 7:45 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery elk proposal

If you're going to make some units in the east controlled, they all need to be controlled. Otherwise those who didn't draw a controlled tag will just flood the general units on the east side.

Also, are you going to add more controlled rifle tags back? You need to, if you want to move archery hunters back to rifle. Or point creep on all rifle hunts will increase, further reducing hunter opportunity.

Failure to control predators is basically killing big game hunting in Oregon. Which will lower ODFW license revenue. Which will cause you to increase tag fees, which will encourage more hunters to quit or leave, further reducing revenue, and the destructive cycle continues....

Alan Gronewold  
Sublimity, OR  
5r1-215-3266

Sent from my iPad

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Arthur Bohms <awbohms@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 17, 2021 5:09 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us

Would definitely like to see draw tags for bow hunting, I see a bow hunter in Baker City says to stop the spike bull hunts and produce more branch bulls, as most of the bow hunters I know shoot only branch bulls am sure that would be great for them and we rifle hunters get the shaft again, I have been a licensed big game hunter in Oregon since 1962 and remember well how wonderful hunting was before the state was opened up to unrestricted hunting, then when the cougars were protected that finished off what was left of public hunting opportunities, I shot my last buck around 7 or 8 years ago and will be surprised if I ever get a chance at another but I will go up to the same area where I shot my 1st buck in 1964, a 4 point and enjoy the memories.

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Aaron Bailey <aaronbailey81@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 17, 2021 2:10 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery elk proposal

According to the information you provided the number of elk in the current policy has met or exceeded objective goals. So why would you change some thing that is working in the process give hunters less opportunity, while having to pay more every year? Very disappointing to hear you really don't want hunters to be successful in Oregon! Don't change some thing that is working! You are giving less area to general season hunters which means those areas are going to be crowded even more. I'm not sure by making the general season area smaller you are going to disperse the hunters better and have less crowding. By the way current private landowners in Western Oregon are changing the hunting experience for access to land you are driving people to eastern Oregon even more and then making the area smaller for them.

Aaron Bailey(disappointed Hunter)

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Josh Hagel <Josh.Hagel@pgn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 17, 2021 11:01 AM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery elk

I am in favor of the proposed changes. Limit the amount of people in over ran units such as Heppner.

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Randy Reed <rsreed59@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 17, 2021 7:52 AM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** In 5 years major elk reduction population

Hi I live on the Middle fork of the John day. The last 5 years the deer population has dwindled to almost non existent. My projection the elk population will do the same in the next 5 years or less. Recently we have seen a pack of eight wolves in our area. Come On man these wolves kill to kill. They need to go....I recently watched odfw try to catch wild turkeys with nets with intention to relocate them to another part of the state. After watching this for two days not one bird was caught from my observation. What a joke!!!! Some Of your programs are just ridiculous. How much money was spent on this. Why has odfw not contacted the ranchers to ask about the wolf problem. I ask you does the ranchers need to do your work? I also witnessed all the money spent on the steelhead tagging atthe Ritter fish trap. Not one of your fish programs have helped on the middle fork of John day. It has been unsuccessful and odfw should be held accountable for these programs and reevaluated. I know nothing will happen but be careful the elk population will be gone as well. You guys are to blame for the deer population and the elk will be next. I can't wait to post this in 5 years or less when the elk population is gone and I show this email. Good luck odfw on continued unsuccessful programs. Hopefully we will become a part of Idaho and join there state beliefs.

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Dan Casebier <dancasebier@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 17, 2021 5:17 AM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Change in Elk opportunities.

Why not study the change that you made in archery deer before you change elk. Will out of state hunters revenue fall off? I have 14 points saved for a rifle deer hunt so I can't hunt archery deer anywhere in the east now. Archery deer and elk seasons run concurrently. If you don't draw both you have to give up one or the other. look at your stats, most hunters hunt about 10 days, (2 week vacation) and that's all. I've been archery hunting in Oregon since 1980 and for the first time thinking about giving it up because of this change. I say study the deer change and let Elk alone for now. Thank you ,Dan Casebier

Sent from my iPad

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** B Ricks <brtreedogs@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 9:01 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** 2022 Archery Elk Proposal

I'll be darned if I'm gonna burn my elk points on Archery or to shoot a cow.

And if you don't think the over crowding is just going to shift your crazy. Were all just gonna pile into the next best area.

Then there will be more crying from the lazy road hunters that all the elk are on private and within a few years the entire state will be wall to wall draw. I've said it before if you need money just charge us money.

If the entire stat goes draw I'll probably move out of state or give up hunting because I'm not gonna stay in this good of shape and have all this gear laying around for a tag once every 5-10 years.

I want to hunt and eat elk.

Id rather see a first come first served with caps.

Pick a unit or block of 3-4 a "zone"

Split the season, ether early or last.

Separate Cow points like doe deer.

Heck I'd go entire state traditional bow only just to keep my opertunity.

I'll just work even harder to be successful.

You'll see this year when all the hunters pile in on the Western deer tags.

Points are a crock of crap and point creep just keeps getting worse and worse. How does anyone expect to recruit youth?

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** BJ Grimmer <bjgrimmer@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 7:43 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery Elk Proposal

I would encourage you to not make these changes to General Archery Tags. The Biologist I have talked with state that the vast majority of Eastern Oregon units are at or above Management Objectives. I would like to see some way to allow more rewards for dedicated Archers. I know a lot of rifle hunters put in for their rifle hunt, if they are not drawn they then just go buy an archery tag to hunt. Make it so if you apply for a rifle hunt you can not get a OTC Archery tag. Or if you do have to apply for Archery make it zones or regions covering several units or apply for a General tag that covers all the units a general tag currently covers. I think if you took the rifle hunters that "fall back" on archery hunts out if the equation you would find the number of archery hunters would dramatically decrease. The success for archery hunters is like 10% we are not contributing to the herd population decline. Why don't we address our habitat problems as well as our "OUT OF CONTROL" predator problem.

Thanks for your attention  
BJ Grimmer  
503-453-4726

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Dan Turley <danturley2018@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 3:48 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery Elk Proposal

Hello,

For the Starkey Unit I feel you present misinformation by stating that 60% of the branched bulls are taken during archery season versus rifle season and that this justifies turning archery to limited entry. The 60% indicates a large number, but what is it exactly, how many bulls, and regardless of the number of bulls taken, it is not and has not reduced the number of bulls per cows in this unit.

What were the other options you explored that would NOT have reduced the opportunity for hunters to pursue game every year instead of creating longer wait times for everyone and forcing hunters into other units, which likely do not have the bull to cow ratio that Starkey has? Depending on the tag numbers you decide to allot, I can foresee it taking 2 to 3 years to get a Starkey archery tag as it is a premium unit and the bull numbers are exceptional, that is why there are so many bulls taken by archers!

Is it not obvious to you that allowing unlimited archery hunters 4 weeks and 5 weekends to hunt elk with a bow during mild weather will result in a significantly higher harvest of any type of animal verses a rifle season allowing only about 400 branched bull hunters who depending on the weather may only hunt 3 to 4 days? As you must know if you spend time in the field, most hunters do not hunt on Sunday as they are breaking camp and need to be back to work on Monday. Did you not think about just shortening the archery season and changing the rifle branched bull hunt to the second season to allow the rifle hunter more time to harvest a branched bull? There is no lack of mature bulls in Starkey and the high success rate of the archery hunters has not reduced the numbers so this is not about a bull to cow ratio issue it is in someone's mind an equity issue between the harvest method you choose?

Many years ago the ODFW asked hunters when they preferred to hunt branched bulls in Starkey and about 70% responded that they prefer it to be second season, but Leonard Erickson at that time decided evidently due to some influential minority that it should be kept as the first season, so if you want to balance the harvest between archery and rifle lets first rethink this along with limiting the the length of archery season before we take away the opportunity of our local hunters to hunt their traditional hunting area.

Sincerely,

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Daniel Webb <danielwebbsmt@hotmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 2:31 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery elk proposal

Hello.

As an avid outdoorsman and father I would encourage you to not put your proposed archery elk draw for Eastern Oregon into effect. I have grown up hunting and fishing in Eastern Oregon and can tell you that the problem with the decline in Elk and Deer numbers is not the result of hunters over harvesting the animals. It is because of the over abundance of the natural predators in the mountains. Mountain Lions and Wolves are 100% carnivores. I have seen the decline of deer since we could not hunt Mountain lion with hounds. Since the wolves have been introduced the deer population in the Walla Walla, Mt. Emily and Wenaha in the high elevations are almost nonexistent and the elk have decreased dramatically. This makes me very concerned on what the future holds for the younger generation and passing down family traditions of passing on the outdoorsman knowledge. The predators must be managed! That is just plain common sense and as "Biologists" you should understand this. If this is put into place as outlined in your proposal I guarantee that I will never buy another Oregon Hunting and Fishing license again and will just travel to another sportsman's friendly State to teach my son how to hunt and fish and will probably move my residence permanently. With my Profession I can work anywhere in the U.S. I am not one to throw stones, but it is clear that the ODFW is mismanaged by people who have interest that do not support the Hunters and Fisherman of this State. I know that if I do not do my job I would not have a job anymore. So as a resident of Oregon if this proposal is put into effect with out any real and effective way to control the natural predators, especially the ones that the ODFW introduced I will fire you and you will not receive anymore money from me in anyway.

Thank you for your consideration.

Daniel Webb

Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** Matt Allen <mattie8908@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 1:20 PM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** 2022 Archery Proposal

To whom it may concern,

As a lifetime Oregonian, and hunter. I disagree with the proposal to faze out the general season for Eastern Oregon archery elk season. First the areas you have lined out for controlled application are our states most public land, leaving general hunting to limited areas of public land and more private, you will be sending people into areas to make even more over-crowding issues. Our elk numbers and deer numbers declining are a result of mismanagement by our ODFW and not a case of hunters wiping out herds.

This is trying to be laid out as who is to blame between rifle hunters and archery hunters. I have seen a proposal that is being thrown out to the ODFW by Wayne Endicott called the Family Hunting Plan that I can agree with and I think the ODFW should heavily consider it. It is a well thought out plan to address the overcrowding. As for our decline in numbers, it doesn't take a blind man to see since the state banned the use of baiting and the use dogs to help manage the predators, there has been a decline in numbers for our big game.

I propose that the State, if they wont let us use dogs or bait to help minimize the predator population. Review if we have EVER met management objective quota for any unit. Issue your lion and bear tags, then when we are unable to reach those quotas offer specialty tags to harvest lions with hounds. This specialty tag with use of hounds can run through the prime season of winter (WINTER LION SEASON) and be by draw only to generate more revenue (which we all know is the most important thing for the ODFW which seems to be the trend). This could generate large sums of money similar to spring bear, offer Winter Lion season with appropriate large amounts of tag allotments in the states most sought after country for lion hunting.

My last thing, hunters are allowed to hunt Bobcat with the use of dogs. When was last time we have ever heard of Bobcats mauling hikers, killing livestock and or stalking outdoorsmen? What is the difference of allowing the use of hounds for bobcat but not Mt. Lion, it is very contradictive. Whether a hunter is tracking a lion by foot, or behind the tail of a hound the end result will always be the same...a dead lion, so why remove whatever kind of aid a hunter can have against hunting an apex predator? All this does is give lions a better chance of population growth, and elk and deer numbers

will continue to shrink. I firmly disagree with making archery season a controlled season, and I am a big advocate for reversing the decisions on our predator hunting options.

I wont even start on the introduction of wolves, that's a debate for another day...

Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion.

-Matt Allen

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** T M <zevrali@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 11:17 AM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Re: Archery Elk Proposal

One more point I would like to make is to expand the Travel Management Area in the proposed draw units. One of the issues in the Imnaha unit is off road and on road motor vehicle use, which is also causing major disruption to elk, mule deer and wildlife.

All of the points I have mentioned will contribute to healthier elk and mule deer numbers and most likely bull to cow elk ratios.

I am looking forward to these changes!

Thank you,

Trent

Sent from my iPhone

> On Mar 16, 2021, at 6:59 AM, T M <zevrali@yahoo.com> wrote:

>

> This is an excellent proposal!

>

> Over the last 10 years the Imnaha Unit has been overrun with bow hunters. In the area I hunt, Imnaha Divide, I would estimate there are four times the amount of bow hunters then there was 10 years ago. The pressure and disturbance this causes elk and all wildlife is immense and disrupts the Elk's rutting/mating season and natural migration movements. This proposal will reduce the amount of bow hunters and have great benefits for elk, mule deer and all wildlife.

>

> I hope tag numbers will also be limited in all the archery elk draw units and I believe looking at dividing the season into the first two weeks and the last two weeks in these units is also a good idea. For example, where I hunt, in the Imnaha Unit there would be 200 draw tags for the first two weeks and 200 draw tags for the second two weeks. This would provide for far less environmental disturbance, a quality hunt and still allow for a good number of tags for the season- 400. In comparison I think the Chesnimus Unit currently has 300 draw tags for archery elk.

>

> I am in favor of the current archery elk proposal and I also want a limit on draw tags and looking at dividing the draw tags to a first and second season.

>

> Thank you for addressing this issue.

>

> Trent Morrell

> Portland/La Pine

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> Sent from my iPhone

**BORISCH Roxann B \* ODFW**

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**From:** matt.turley@northwoodmail.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 16, 2021 10:55 AM  
**To:** odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Archery Draw Tags

In your data on success rates for a 30 day archery season verses a 5 day season for branch bulls in the Starkey unit, did you take any consideration to the 30 days of mostly fall like weather with little to no snow or adverse weather to hamper a early hunt verses a 5 day hunt that historically has rain or snow high winds and fog or low clouds that would adversely effect a 5 day hunt? I ask this question because in the past we have seen a 5 day Starkey branch bull hunt with only 2 or 3 days of decent weather to even be able to hunt with out frost bite or wind burn skin in much more adverse condition than you would find in the 30 day archery hunt, so having said that i think there is no way you can make a comparison to success rates for a 30 day season verses a 5 day season that may or may not result in hunting for 5 days. Thanks Matt