

Exhibit H

File 5

Public Correspondence Received
April 6, 2021 to April 21, 2021

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Andrew Sidelinger <amsidelinger@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 21, 2021 1:52 PM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Eastern Oregon archery elk hunting changes being considered

Hello,

I would like you to consider that newer hunters do not always understand the points system nor do some want to partake in it, especially when they are just starting out. I started elk hunting In Oregon during general rifle seasons about 7 years ago but was frustrated with the short season length and lack of elk in these units. This made me switch in 2018 to hunting the archery elk general seasons mostly in Eastern Oregon and I was much happier with the hunting opportunities I found there. This proposal severely limits good elk hunting opportunities for archery hunters in Oregon and will also likely lead to overcrowding in Western Oregon. When you look at the data you can easily see that rifle hunters harvest elk at around 10% or higher success rates than archery hunters. So in effect you will be taking away hunting opportunities to allow a smaller group of hunters to be more successful. I do not agree with this proposal. I also pursue elk during general rifle seasons on some years but this occurs in states with much better opportunity during general seasons such as Idaho or Montana. Making more units controlled and limiting the last bit of quality general seasons we have left as hunters is not a proposal that will benefit the majority of people.

Thanks,

Andrew Sidelinger

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Cammie & Gabe <gcdhale@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 20, 2021 11:10 PM
To: odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: 2022 Archery Elk Proposal
Attachments: ODFW 2022 proposed seasons.docx

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Please add my email and attachment to the comment record for proposed elk archery season.

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this as a proud life-long Oregon resident, sportsman and conservationist. I have participated in the survey and review of the proposed 2021 eastern Oregon archery elk and deer seasons. I grew up in Wallowa County and still call this wonderful place home. I have always supported the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation. Each year I buy my Sports-Pac to support management of the wildlife that I share this great place with. The Eagle Cap Wilderness, Hells Canyon, Wenaha, Zumwalt, Imnaha, The Divide, McGraw, The Minam to name a few. These are not just names but places in our hearts and souls. Even more so for those of us that grew up here and now raising the next generation of sportsmen and woman.

Looking at the data for Wallowa County units (Sled Springs, Chesnimus, Snake River, Imnaha, Pine Creek, Minam, Wenaha) there is more participation during rifle elk seasons than archery. Archery season success rates average 15% (2019) in these units and don't even come close to rifle success, average 35% (2019). So that should not be a criteria or case for change. When I do get an opportunity to archery hunt I don't just hunt one unit in Wallowa County but hunt 3 or 4 units during the season. Asking someone from Eastern Oregon to pick one unit is like asking someone to only pick one flavor of ice cream for the rest of their lives. Our herds of elk don't care about boundaries drawn on a map. By allowing multi-unit level hunts in the Blues and Wallowa Mountains gives people the opportunity to spread out and not have to pick only one unit. If we really are going to have controlled archery hunts in all of Eastern Oregon then we should get to choose which units we want to hunt at any time and not have to make a decision before we apply. This would be no different than the proposal states for the "multi-unit hunts in the High Desert, East Cascade and Columbia Basin."

March 10, 2021 Press Release quote "The primary elk population issue that ODFW staff used in refining the archery hunt proposal revolves around post hunting season bull ratios and the individual unit's bull ratio management objective. Units where the bull ratio (number of bulls per cows) have not met management objectives for three out of five years need a reduction in bull harvest and are being considered to go to controlled archery hunting with this draft proposal." **Please send me the post season bull rations for the units being proposed and the management objectives for the past 5 yrs?** If concerned about bull to cow ratios then a good option would be to make the harvest an either sex or any elk. Many people would just a soon shoot the first elk they have an opportunity at with bow or rifle for that matter. Another way to ensure a few more bulls survive rifle seasons is to eliminate the general and controlled spike only seasons. These additional tags could be used to increase the controlled rifle bull tags or archery tags.

I appreciate the thought process of trying to address hunter satisfaction and balance hunter densities. A better approach maybe to try a pilot project for a few years in some units across the state of Oregon.

Sincerely,

Gabe Hale

Father of Current and Future Sportsman and Sportswoman.

Oregon/ Wallowa County Resident of 39 years.

Ducks Unlimited member and Rocky Mtn Elk Foundation Life Member.

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Bryan Lovell <bbmicro@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 18, 2021 7:03 PM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: 2022 Archery Elk

I'd like to comment about the proposed 2022 archery elk season changes. Please leave the general seasons for east and west tied together and not separate seasons. I live on the west coast and go east for Labor Day weekend - sometimes for a whole week. I hunt the remaining weekends on the coast.

My friends and family do the same. If you separate the seasons we will come up with a new hunting strategy. Most likely, if we were to go east, we would rifle hunt. If we only have a week or less declared on the east side we would have a better chance of harvest using a rifle. I have bow hunted for 10 years or longer with my friends and family. I have personally never harvested a deer or elk with a bow. My friends and family I hunt with rarely harvest anything. For me it will be a reduction in opportunities.

Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely,
Bryan A Lovell

Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Allen Childs <allenjuliechilds@hotmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 17, 2021 11:10 PM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: EO Controlled Archery Elk

I understand the decision to change to limited entry for all of eastern Oregon archery seasons. I've now hunted Oregon for over 35 years and it's my favorite lifelong endeavor.

I support rebuilding our elk and deer herds, all that have been paying attention can see that the quantity and quality of big game hunting has been spiraling down and changes were needed years ago.

I sense significant bias from ODFW towards bow hunting, particularly at the District levels, but more important from the perspective of the way ODFW has approached the issue, sampling 2000 hunters and using that sample to develop purported significant data on the pulse of the hunting community.

That said, the pre-determined decision to change to archery draw only is short sight from several standpoints. Bull to cow ration and the proportion of older age class is below Oregon's MO's but I'd an even worse situation when you compare to nearby states using herd health metric to manage and set much higher Bull to cow ratios. The change to EO archery draw while keeping rifle over the counter EO spike seasons, not including exiting draw spike units, is plainly ridiculous. Same with leaving the west side over the counter. ODFW is going to shift the pressure higher in the recruitable and valuable component of the bull herd.

I have sent in multiple suggestions and comment early in this process and I know a lot of other hunters that have done the same. Interesting that none of us seem to be getting any updates on the process, particularly through our MyODFW accounts. I surmise that is intention, "managers" don't really want to here from the 10's of thousands of hunters that were never part of this "statical" survey early on in the process.

I'm tired of commenting to ODFW. I grudgingly support draw only for EO elk, but only do so with these conditions:

1. Odfw takes the mgt plans seriously and manages for biological MO's.
2. Do not punt this round and only shift the issues to a later time. Deal with current status of our deer and elk herds. Implement the management plans(which should be based on science) for establishing MO's in leu of managing for opportunity and \$.
3. All elk units should be draw. Don't shift or punt the issue.

4 Predator management. We need the state to start taking some action, incentivize predator hunting. Develop so new tools that we can apply.

Allen Childs
5419101983

Sent from my iPhone

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: tomjanvic@gorge.net
Sent: Saturday, April 17, 2021 12:40 PM
To: odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Archery Elk Proposal

I am a lifelong Oregon Hunter and completely endorse the Archery proposal. Needed a long time ago, Thomas H Mallery PO Box 134 Mosier, Oregon 97040

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Jeff <jritter048@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 16, 2021 3:36 PM
To: odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Cc: jricker >> joe Ricker
Subject: Eastern Oregon Archery Proposed Changes

As I read the proposed changes, I would have to select western or eastern or one of the controlled hunts. If not successful getting a controlled hunt, I would not be able to shift to a general eastern. With that said I would earn a point. Could I still hunt fall bear in a controlled hunt area as I can now? I like Chesnimnus for elk but also like it for bears. I just stay away from the archers if hunting bear with a rifle.

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: nathan Matlock <twobullz@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, April 16, 2021 9:40 AM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Archery Elk Draft

If you are going to limit the number of people during archery season, then limit the people who use archery as a fall back when they don't get their rifle tags. Archery is not a fall back sport. If you would go with choose your weapons you would take out the people who don't practice archery and just use it when they don't get their rifle tag. This would reduce the amount of people during archery season, which is the stated goal of these tags. Making archery go to a draw system is nothing but the agency buckling into the rifle hunting populous who say it is no fair they have to go through a draw and Archery hunters don't. Quit punishing archery hunters who take fewer animals with a lower success rate.

One suggestions to help in another issue in point creep. If someone draws a tag whether it is first or fifth choice they should loose their points. If they want to save up points for a certain hunt then they sit out until they draw their tag. This once again limits the number of hunters, Said goal of ODFW. Also you want to recruit young hunters. If someone was 16 and started putting in for one of the harder to draw hunts they would have to wait 30+ years. No kid is going to go through that, and you are just chasing the youth away because they have no chance. If people were forced to use their points you would bring more hunters into the sport and more money in because people would see a chance to actually draw a tag rather then waiting 30+ years.

I know the archery change is already set in stone with no regards to us hunters. This is just going to chase more and more people out of Oregon when it comes to hunting. Stop doing just what the rifle hunting contingent want and think about all hunters.

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Dale Webb <ikesays@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 16, 2021 9:21 AM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Archery Elk Proposals

Dear Commissioners,

I have a few final thoughts on the Archery Elk Proposals, first one needs to recognize that this is not just an archery proposal, the effects of making changes in the archery regulations will have effects on all users. Just as restrictions on rifle hunters ended up enhancing archery hunters opportunities in the early 2000's, the reverse will now be true if archery restrictions are enacted now.

I have noted the push to enact zone tag quotas by some archery groups, with the main concern being fire hampering archery opportunities. I am not in favor of having zone tag quotas because this would make managing bull harvest extremely difficult for staff. People naturally migrate to where the animals are and I have serious doubts that bull ratios could be successfully attained under a zone management program. I would rather see an option for archers to turn in a controlled tag for a general season tag in a unit that is being impacted by wildfires at a predetermined trigger point.

Calf elk ratios in eastern Oregon are hampering the continued opportunities of all hunters, I would implore you to take all reasonable steps that you can to try to correct this continuing decline. Bull ratios may very well be part of the equation to restore the calf ratios, the Starkey Project research does appear to validate that. I know this makes for some pain in the hunter ranks, but in the end our elk herds and the end users will benefit.

Sincerely,
Dale Webb

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Evan Gloor <evandonk17@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 16, 2021 6:19 AM
To: ODFW.WildlifeInfo@state.or.us
Subject: Elk

Hello this will be my first year hunting elk in oregon I'm planning on unit 10 during the general archery season. I was wondering what information I could get on bull hefier creek, trail over creek, sager creek and craw Ford creek. Any information will be helpful, bull-cow ratio, when I could typically expect the bulls to start bulging or just anything else thank you

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Clint Radford <radmansciteach@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 8:02 PM
To: odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Archery Elk Proposal

Hello ODFW,

My name is Clint Radford. I am an avid archery elk hunter (all species for that matter), and an ODFW volunteer teaching archery at one of our local high schools in Klamath Falls Oregon.

I am writing concerning the 2022 archery proposal changes. I am hoping that the process will continue to keep sporting groups and the public informed and the MAJOR changes proposed will be shelved for at least another year. Why?

1. I feel there are too many changes proposed at this time. When there are 7 units that are below management objectives, the proposal adds 9 additional units as draw hunts as well. These other 9 units are well above their management objectives. Overcrowding those units with OTC hunters is the worry and reasoning to expand the draws to 9 additional tags. This expansion would block some of the best elk populations and habitat in the state to OTC hunters. The remaining units outside of the proposal that would be left on the eastside have minimal elk numbers and I feel would eventually cause overcrowding on the west side of the state. This might lead to draws for archery all over the state. This proposal includes too many variables; 16 new draw units, and changing the OTC hunts to a west and east side are too many changes at once. Maybe having OTC hunters pick a west vs. east side first would give ODFW information to make a more measured proposal for later implementation? I also feel having hunters "choose your weapon" would lower the number of OTC archery hunters. During the proposal presentation Mr. Thompson stated there were ~ 4,200 rifle hunters that hunted archery. He went on to say that if a choose your weapon option was implemented that most would choose archery, so that change would be minimal in lowering the OTC archery "pressure/overcrowding". Is there actual data to support the assumption those hunters would pick archery? Even if 1,000 of those rifle hunters stayed in the rifle hunt pool, that would be huge in lowering the overcrowding, and potentially help the Management Objectives.

2. Once draws are established they do not go back to OTC opportunity. Draw hunts have historically created less and less opportunity rather than more.

3. The proposed unit draws would complicate established boundaries within units. A few years ago ODFW worked to make the regulations more streamlined and uniform. Changing the boundaries for Beulah and Malheur River units would add to confusion...it also takes the best elk hunting out of those units for OTC hunters.

4. I feel the user groups that have the biggest impact on the species SHOULD be the ones that are effected with reduction in opportunity. Archery success rates are still minimal compared to rifle hunters. In certain units it makes sense that archery hunters are more successful; just like in other units rifle hunters are more successful than archery hunters. For example the Owyhee and Whitehorse Units have very low success rates for archery hunters. Most of the filled tags are from rifle hunters. Those units are wide open with minimal cover for achers to get close for shot opportunities. Should we punish the rifle elk hunters in those units to make it more equitable for archery hunters? That wouldn't make sense at all. In some of the Blue Mountains archers can get closer because of the thicker terrain, and rifle hunters cannot get shot opportunities because of the thicker

cover. Archers still are not taking the number of animals rifle hunters are taking. Using the 2019 statistics archers took 2,990 total bull elk. In that same year rifle hunters took more than double the number of bulls with 6,607. The number of spike bulls taken by rifle hunters (2,079) was almost equal to the TOTAL number of bulls taken with archery equipment. Equal opportunity should not equate to equal outcome. Some units have a better advantage for a particular weapon choice, and that's okay. Why punish archers (most would be HAPPY to kill a spike) for being successful, especially when rifle hunters by far take more animals? Also I know there is concern for archers taking more branch antlered bulls in some units. This also makes sense with the timing of the hunts. Archery hunts happen during the rut, we can call them in and get close enough for shot opportunities during this time. Bigger bulls will be more active, and vulnerable during that time. During rifle seasons, those branch antlered bulls have left the bigger herds and become secluded to recoup from the breeding season. They are harder to find and then kill. Again, that's okay. Why punish archers for these natural, behavioral changes?

5. I am concerned the proposal changes would be VERY difficult to enforce. These new changes would put extra enforcement strains on Oregon State Police and many hunters would not comply with the new regulations. Without enforcement, cheaters and going to cheat. I fear many people will apply for the OTC tag on the east side and then hunt their "usual" spots within the proposed draw units. I have heard this is already an issue in some of the archery draw units already. With low OSP game officers, there aren't enough to regulate these proposed changes.

6. Public input through the pandemic has been minimal. I have been to several local ODFW meetings over the years. This year there was a grand total of 29 people on a Zoom meeting for the entire South Region for the archery proposal a few weeks ago. That included ODFW staff and biologists as well so the actual number of people from the public is lower. I feel this is an extremely low public turn out for such a critical, and major change to archery hunts in Oregon. We have had more people at a local meeting in Klamath than the entire South Region meeting. I did not know it was open to everyone. I would have helped publicize the meeting and asked more people I know to join the meeting. I was surprised at the low turnout. I appreciate ODFW's meeting during the pandemic, I feel I learned quite a bit during the meeting and I very much appreciated hearing Jeremy Thompson's presentation. I think when decisions are made without public input ODFW comes off as being against hunters. All of my interactions thus far with ODFW have been positive and constructive, but I feel making such big changes with limited public input could be bad for ODFW public relations.

I do hope ODFW will take a more measured approach moving forward if they make archery changes. I hope that Non-Transportable tags will be implemented. I was surprised a few years ago that a buddy of mine drew an archery tag but filled his tag in an OTC unit. At first I thought he poached the elk. I didn't realize some draw tags could be filled in OTC units. I don't think that's a good idea at all. After that, I would hope a "choose your weapon" option would be implemented before draw hunts. I think this would clear up a lot of confusion on who the committed archery hunters are and who are really rifle hunters. At a minimum I am in favor of an archery class for a certification or validation permit. Many other states have already implemented these requirements. I am an archery instructor and am in favor of people being required to know a little more about the sport than just picking up a bow 1 week before archery season because they didn't draw their rifle tag. I worked at Sportsman's Warehouse and have sold bows to rifle hunters doing just that. If after a few years the "choose your weapon" option didn't help much then create a non-resident quota system. I feel creating draw hunts for residence puts the burden on the tax-paying members of our state. I know several archery hunters that have the luxury of hunting other states for elk. Some have all but given up on Oregon's hunts. I do NOT have the resources or the time to do that; the new proposals would limit my opportunity to hunt our state. If we did a non-resident quota I feel this would lessen the "overcrowding" issues and take the burden off of Oregonians. The numbers show that Oregon non-resident archery hunters are definitely on the rise. Again, many other states do this already. After a few years of implementation of the non-resident quota then make the residents choose OTC west or east side. After that, if management objectives are not reached in a few years, then establish draw hunts in the units that have low management objectives. Each progression or change should be calculated and

measured. Did it fix the perceived problems of overcrowding and low M.O.? Give each change time to see how it effects the desired outcomes.

I know this is a long winded response, thank you for your time. I hope ODFW will listen to the public and sports groups, and take a more measured approach to these proposals and delay these decisions for at least another year. I feel there are better options than putting the burden of changes on the lower impact archery hunters, and onto the tax-paying members of our state. I respect the work you guys do and are doing to help our wildlife. Being involved in the meetings over the years, I know it is no easy task to sort through all of the different opinions of constituents.

Thank you so much,
Clint Radford
541-891-3795

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: t <tbar280@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 12:25 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: 2022 Archery Elk Proposal

I have reviewed the Draft proposal for the 2022 Archery Elk revision. I participated in one Zoom meeting on the topic. I also read and/or watched videos on alternate proposals by Oregon Outdoor Council and by Backcountry Hunters and anglers.

My opinion is that the current ODFW Draft is a more refined product as compared to the initial staff proposal. It addresses the issues of over-harvest of the mature bull component, as well as equity and crowding concerns. Further, the draft allows for a significant portion of Eastern Oregon to remain OTC ---- thus allowing for groups unsuccessful in the draw unit to still bow hunt every year. Groups and families will still be able to hunt together and hunters will still be able to plan vacations well in advance with a guaranteed opportunity to hunt annually.

To the contrary, both the alternative plans offered by user groups do not address the main concerns ----- over-harvest and crowding.

All the alternates do is re-configure units into zones or micro-units ---- all in an effort to maintain their hunting opportunity.

Another concern raised by the archery community is the impact of fire closures. One group claims fire has an impact on 20% to 30% of the Wildlife Management Units annually. While I have serious reservations regarding the accuracy of that estimate, ODFW already has a program readily capable of dealing with displaced hunters. The program has been used in recent years in fire-affected units such as Wenaha, and the vast areas impacted by the catastrophic fires of Labor Day 2020. It should also be noted that fire impact is not exclusive to just archery hunters. Rifle and muzzleloader

hunters face fire-based restrictions and habitat loss as well.

I believe the 2022 ODFW Draft proposal is a well-designed, reasonable, and justifiable plan that should move forward to the Commission.

Tim Barbouletos

tbar280@gmail.com

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Karl S <kfshl12@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 11:04 AM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Archery elk proposal

The part of the draft plan that changes controlled hunt tags to be non-transportable is not adequately supported for such an incredibly significant reduction in archer hunting experience and opportunities. Also inadequately supported is the requirement to choose either eastern or western for general season archery tags. The draft plan is based only on district speculation instead of actual data. District concerns with overcrowding are unrealistically based on previous non-archery changes which probably involved a larger number of hunters. The other reason, reduction in opportunity to draw a tag for your chosen unit because others might waste their drawn tag by using it to only hunt in a general season unit instead, is insignificant since the number of people willing to pay and go through the controlled hunt process and use their point(s) for no benefit is small.

While the draft plan says fire effects were considered, they were clearly not well understood. Archery hunters are typically impacted by fire significantly more than rifle hunters due to season timing, so I guess I can understand why the draft plan doesn't adequately address the problem. Saying that the hunter can simply exchange their controlled tag for a general tag *BEFORE* the season just shows a complete lack of understanding the reality of the situation this draft plan tag non-transportability causes. Fire locations and area closures change weekly if not daily during archery season. The loss of tag portability is hugely impacted during fire season and is enough reason in of itself to not take tag portability away from archery hunters.

There is insufficient justification to expand the proposed change of controlled hunts for the 7 identified units to then also include identified adjacent units. If the reduction in archery hunters in the identified units is as small as the draft plan numbers showed then that small number of displaced archers is not going to have significant detrimental impacts for adjacent units. Instead of relying on speculation from districts the plan should use the actual hunter reporting data and determine how those impacted could redistribute, which should show it is not likely to be significant.

The draft plan data said that the reduction in non-resident tags from a 5% limit for general archery tags would only be between 600 and 700 annually. But the plan failed to compare that number with the reduction in tags from the draft plan or even recognize where that reduction would occur. That number is a significant reduction if compared to the proposed impact and should have been used first, especially since a very high percentage of those nonresidents hunt in the area targeted by the plan. Using state-wide numbers for comparison was inaccurate and it should have instead used actual non-resident hunter reporting data to show potential units impacts. In my decades of hunting elk in this state I guarantee the only out-of-state license plates I even saw were always in the area proposed for controlled archery hunting. Your data shows that 65% of the current archery hunters do not currently use the controlled hunt system. The impacts from the draft plan to move to controlled hunts for so many additional units have not been fully considered.

As one of the 4,000 plus hunters with more than 7 elk preference points I would lose the ability to accumulate points to use for the hunt of a lifetime. Since many thousands more archers have fewer points but are actively trying to accumulate points, many thousands more than 4,000 would all be negatively impacted in the future. One issue not

considered at all in the draft plan is that hunters who use western or other general seasons would be at an advantage to continue to accumulate points for the hunt of a lifetime while others including myself would never accumulate any points by simply hunting where we previously used our general season tag. No longer would we have the ability to accumulate points to use for the hunt of a lifetime.

Tag allocations for units at or above management objectives were reportedly based on hunter reporting and limited to the unit the hunter reported using the most time or where they harvested. As I noted above, there is insufficient justification to include these adjacent units in the first place and therefore it is completely unacceptable to additionally limit archer opportunity using hunter reporting data. A 5-year average limited to hunters that spent the majority of their time in that unit is just too low for units at or above management objectives. This is simply an artificial reduction in opportunity not supported by management objectives.

Limiting units that meet management objectives to bull only for archery harvest would be completely unacceptable for any units that have rifle cow hunts. If that is allowed the plan would further show its rifle oriented mentality by purporting equity to justify a 35% limit on archer success while taking away archery cow harvest in units that allow rifle cow harvest.

As an archery hunter who hunts eastern with a general tag and who previously lost my general season western late-season archery cow opportunity when that was replaced by a controlled hunt unit (which can be drawn with a second choice after using a first choice for a possible hunt of a lifetime) I would now completely lose western late-season archery cow opportunity since my controlled hunt tag would be used to simply hunt where I previously used a general tag. The draft plan did not even consider the loss of that late-season cow hunt opportunity. Sure, the late rifle seasons for cows may still be allowed in those units but now the archers would be shut out of their opportunity.

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Charles Gallagher <kfallspatg@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 10:40 AM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Elk archery proposal

Personally, I feel making archery tags a draw for the best elk hunting units would have dismal results. It would end up eventually as the rifle seasons are now, waiting 5,6,7 years for a decent tag. The best areas will be crowded and tag numbers will again drop.

Why don't you make it an either or proposition when purchasing a license. We decide if we are applying for rifle or bow at that time. This will also open up rifle opportunities. Many hunters apply for rifle tags and when they do not draw, they bow hunt.

Lastly, I feel archery hunters should have to decide either east or west side for their tags. This will also cut down on numbers of hunters in the prime areas. Thank you, Charles Gallagher. Klamath Falls, Or.

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Thomas Kephart <thomasw.kephart@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 9:07 AM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Archery Elk 2022

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing to express my concern regarding changes to the 2022 elk season. As a traditional archer this will significantly impact my chances of success in coming years. I would hope that ODFW considers creating exclusive primitive hunting areas for traditional archers or would consider a traditional tag that is good for elk hunting the entire east side of the state.

Traditional archery is significantly more difficult than modern bow hunting and deserves to be given more exclusive access to areas than other forms of hunting.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

--

Thomas Kephart

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Keith Kemmerer <kemmerge@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 6:32 PM
To: odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Elk Bowhunter change to more eastern controlled units

ODFW proposal to change more prime elk bow hunting units in Eastern Oregon to controlled hunting will only reduce total hunter numbers archery & rifle. In the '80s, total number of hunters for eastern Oregon elk (rifle & bow) averaged 80,000. Elk populations averaged 50,000.

Now eastern Oregon elk populations are over 72,000 with hunter numbers at 58,000!

What is the PROBLEM? Problem according to ODFW is that archers are taking too many bulls in some Eastern units. ODFWs' "fix" for next year 2022, will move 14 general season units to controlled hunting only (RED ZONE map). 2021 regs half of those units were bulls only. Not clear for 2022 which of the 14 units will include antlerless. Another goal of the proposal is to improve regulations?

In 2019 statewide, rifle hunters harvested: 90% of all cows and 69% of all bulls. In about 1 week, rifle hunters took 6,607 bulls while archers in their 30-day season took 2,990 bulls. Rifle hunters took over 5,000 cows, archers only 581. Many Rifle controlled antlerless hunts are months long. Success 80%+, Nearly all archery elk tags are 30 days or less.

For 2021, archery elk there are only 29 ANY elk game units of the 63 total units! Of those 29 units, there are 14 good elk units. All of those 14 units (partial in 2 units) are proposed to be controlled in 2022 (RED ZONE). That would leave the GENERAL eastern elk ANY tag in units where there are not MANY ELK!!!

ODFW says they KNOW there will be a decline in nonresident hunters. And that's ok with them?

The problem I see is the continual added controlled units. Bulls only for archery has contributed to a reduction in all hunters. Bowhunters (probably 80% or more) were once rifle hunters. Prior to 2006, rifle hunters switched to bowhunting. They have not so much since 2006.

Suggestions for change instead of the ODFW 2022 proposal:

1- Leave Minam, Catherine Creek, Imnaha, Pine Creek and Keating as general season ANY elk. ODFW "Red Zone" proposal would change those units to limited controlled.

2-Change remaining units in the remaining "RED ZONE" to the same regulation as had been done in Saddle Mt & Tioga units until 2016. Bag limit for archery would be 3pt+ or antlerless. Maybe that would be a better model for the entire state. It seems like there has never been spike hunting in Saddle Mt & Tioga units. These two units have most elk of any unit. Spike hunting seasons are not very popular. Probably one of the reasons rifle hunters switched to bowhunting. There would not be as many bulls being taken by archers (no spikes). Most likely 30-50 percent of the harvest would be cows. It would lessen the archer's bull harvest. Isn't that one of the "problems" to be solved? It would let spikes become legal 3+ pt. bulls for future.

3-Restore some form of general season late elk hunt for bowhunters. New damage control hunt would be an option. Allow bowhunters with any unused bow elk tag the opportunity to hunt in these areas.

4- Ideally return bowhunting regulations (Entire State) to what was in effect prior to 2006!

Summary/Background

I have experienced the changes to hunting over 45 years. I've been a bowhunter only hunter EVERY year in Oregon since 1976.

Look at the past regulations and major changes for elk bow hunting:

1-In the 80's, Sled Springs, Chesnimus were the only controlled units. Archery general season elk tag was any elk in all other Oregon game units. Nearly every unit was any elk with a two week late general tag hunt in Wilson and Tioga units.

2-In early 90's Ochoco unit and the trophy units of Wenaha, Mt Emily and Walla Walla became controlled. All other units were any elk. Late general hunts changed to Alsea, Stott Mt, Mackenzie and parts of Santiam and Indigo.

3-In 2006 most of Eastern Oregon became bulls only. Total hunter numbers (rifle & bow) went way down to 51,000.

4-In 2011 Late general tag hunts were replaced by controlled hunts for Alsea and Stott mt. Odd thing about these units/tags is that early season is bulls only. Late two weeks is controlled for cows only!!!!

5- In 2011 Cascade Units within National forest became bulls only.

6-In 2016 Most of western units became bulls only.

What has been done consistently since 2006 in Eastern Oregon is bowhunters have limited COW hunting. Regulations in Heppner, Ukiah, Starkey (Shaw mt) and southern Sumpter required archers to apply for limited amount of cow tags. Also other good elk units have gone back and forth from any elk to bulls only. The bull only regulation has increased for archery in the entire state, again mainly since 2006.

The proposed 2022 bowhunter elk season change to controlled limited bull hunting by unit, with already limited cow hunting, will L I M I T the amount of all hunters. (not just nonresident hunters).

New Commissioner Curt Melcher asked at Oregon Bowhunters Convention in Feb 2015 for suggestions to increase hunter numbers.

THIS 2022 proposal will not do it!

Keith Kemmerer

An Oregon Bowhunter

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Kyle Stangel <stangelkyle@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 4:03 PM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Eastern Oregon Archery Elk Proposal

To Whom it may concern:

I oppose the current Eastern Oregon archery elk proposal for 2022. The proposal is a major change from the current season. Other options should be evaluated before changing the archery hunting in Eastern Oregon to controlled draw tags. Plans such as the "family hunting plan" suggested by Wayne Endicott or grouping units and having a harvest limit in those units would allow you to control harvest numbers. Another option would be to restrict hunters to one weapon, so if you put in for a rifle elk tag, you couldn't hunt general archery. This would help reduce harvest numbers as well by having fewer hunters.

While some of the plans that have been proposed are more thought through than the other general proposal, I do not believe that Eastern Oregon should go to controlled archery units. There are a lot more options that need to be evaluated before taking such measures.

There is no way that the proposal will help hunting as a whole. It will likely reduce hunting numbers overall and make it harder for new hunters to draw tags.

Please reconsider making Eastern Oregon Archery-controlled units.

Respectfully,
Kyle Stangel

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Rod Bremer <rbremer@crkt.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 12:07 PM
To: odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Archery Elk Tags

To whom it may concern;

I would like to go on record **NOT** to change the states Elk Archery seasons. Here are just a few reasons & things effected by changing the season both for the state and the hunters:

1. Economic Impact – hunters traveling from the west to the east will spend more days in the field and spend more money in the local economy
2. Fire Seasons – should the change go into effect and fires are active in the hunters zone of choice he / she would be unable to relocate and hunt therefore losing an entire season
3. Archery Seasons - Bowhunters are typically lower impact on the herds and the environment than rifle hunters, forcing some bowhunters back to rifles adding more pressure on the herds and the environment

Thank you,

Rod Bremer
Chairman of the Board / Founder
CRKT
503.218.2519
www.crkt.com

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: ROD ADAMS <radams@bendbroadband.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 10:45 AM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Big Game Hunting Season Review

To the Commission;

My thoughts on the Review are as follows, consider a Traditional Arms Season in Eastern Oregon for traditional archery and iron sights only for maximum enjoyment without an increased harvest, continue to add 5 days to the controlled hunts so Hunters can Hunt 4 weekends (especially for those who work and have a hard time getting time off to pursue one of their favorite pastimes, create a Traditional only tag that is good for the entire Eastside units except for the Premium units such as Mt. Emily, Wenaha, Walla Walla, etc. Also, I would like to see and understand how the Hunter numbers have faded down for the last 50-60 years and Wildlife have been driven down as much or more while the Elk numbers seem to be increasing during the same time frame. What has happened to the Mule Deer Initiative? There had seemed to be positive results in the first units to be worked on and then there has not been any word recently for that to proceed. ODFW needs to be an equal partner in highway and land development plans in the State and show the Biological findings to back up your reasons for restricting or modifying the plans being discussed. I want to continue Hunting and passing it down in the Family but with more restrictions in drawing we are not being able to go during the formative years of my Grandkids and I fear that they will be discouraged and not pursue it further down the line.

Thank You

Rod Adams

radams@bendbroadband.com

Bend, Or.

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Patrick Gottsch <pgottsch@crkt.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 8:08 AM
To: odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Archery Elk Tag regulations

I strongly disagree with the potential regulations that are being considered for archery elk tag regulations that require people to determine if they need to choose East vs West for tags. I travel throughout the state and provide economic value to the small towns we visit during hunts. This will definitely impact an already struggling business model and am concern that further small business will be affected.

I vote NO on these new potential regulations.

Sincerely,

Patrick Gottsch

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Douglas B. Flagg <dflagg@crkt.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 7:46 AM
To: odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Comment on Bow Elk Tags

All,

Another reason not to make the change to the bow elk tags is that elk season is during prime fire season. If your unit is on fire your elk season will be ruined! Keeping the rules as they are today allows flexibility to go where the fires aren't!

Thank you,

Douglas Flagg
CRKT
VP Marketing & Innovation
Direct: 503 218-2521
Cell: 503 504-4403

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Douglas B. Flagg <dflagg@crkt.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 14, 2021 5:55 AM
To: odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Comment on Controlled Tags for Elk Bow Hunters

To whom it may concern:

Don't do it!

I moved to bow hunting 8 years ago for the flexibility of being able to hunt when and where I could. Making bow hunters pick a unit will have a big impact on the hunters with little change to the elk herds.

Here are just a few reasons not to implement this change:

- Flexibility – current rules allow you to hunt the east side or west side of the state. That is a huge benefit to those who have jobs that are not flexible.
- Economic impact – I spend 1 week hunting in eastern Oregon spending money there. On weekends during the season I hunt the coast range and spend money there. Make this change and I will only hunt 1 week in eastern Oregon. I'm sure I'm not the only one that does this.
- Success ratios – in 8 years I have not harvested an elk with a bow. Make this change and I will go back to rifle where I was much more successful.
- Oregon has a BowTech manufactures here. The state should support rules that support this business.

I appreciate you taking this comments seriously. This is a rule change that will impact my life in a negative way.

Thank you,

Douglas Flagg
CRKT
VP Marketing & Innovation
Direct: 503 218-2521
Cell: 503 504-4403

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Thomas Downs <tedowns123@hotmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 7:58 PM
To: odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: archery elk proposal

Some limit on archer numbers is needed.

Other ideas:

Split season with a 3,5 or 7 day closure to include Saturday and Sunday.

Ban the use of trail cameras.

No tree stands or blinds within a certain distance of water sources, wallows etc. or a total ban.

Archery tag holders should not be allowed to use atvs, utvs, motorcycles in existing travel management areas. They should have to abide by the green dot designation. ODFW should ask the legislature to implement a license plate for utvs and atvs. So as the general public can have some way to report violators. A registration fee with all money going to ODFW.

The last week of the season archers can not possess any artificial calls while in the field.

Archers should have to decide on a cow or bull tag, it should not be an any elk tag. With the available quantity based on management objectives.

Maybe designate a portion of the season to traditional bow only , similar to the Trout Creek Mtn deer archery season.

Allocate more forage to elk on public lands so that we can increase herd numbers.

thanks

Sent from Mail for Windows 10

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Tom Vanasche <tomvanasche@icloud.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 3:41 PM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Traditional archery seasons

Dear ODFW,

I have hunted 57 years in Oregon. 34 of which has been with a wooden bow. I definitely have a lot of experience and I believe some significant wisdom. It is quite obvious that the compound bow is much more efficient and takes a greater toll on the herds. Traditional hunters can spend much more time in the field and the take of animals is significantly less. In your current process of changing regulations I have a few suggestions.

1. I recommend that you carve out a "primitive" area where only trad bows and muzzleloaders hunt. Take should be low and outdoor experience high and newcomers to the sport may be energized.
2. I would recommend that eastside elk tags be valid to trad hunters throughout the region except the trophy units.
3. I would suggest that 5 day extensions be put on for traditional hunters in units where this was feasible.

Thank you for your consideration,

Tom Vanasche M.D.

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Bob Halbert <safari.bobby@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 3:39 PM
To: odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Archery elk proposal

I have already sent u a comment but I wanted to add that the message that Brandon Gallagher sent you has excellent reasons why we should not have to draw a tag for a general season eastern Oregon bow hunt....read it and you'll see what I mean. Thanks

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Bob Halbert <safari.bobby@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 3:30 PM
To: odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Archery elk proposal

Please leave everything as it currently is because having a draw for eastern Oregon Archery is a bad idea. It's becoming harder and harder to find places to hunt on the west side with Weyerhaeuser's permit system and access to other private land that is being locked up . Thanks Bob Halbert

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: jobok29@charter.net
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 2:50 PM
To: 'odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us'
Subject: Archery elk proposal

I am pleased to see that ODFW is finally able to address the inequities of elk hunting opportunity and harvest in eastern Oregon. The many issues identified in the proposal have been around for a long time.

My only concern is that by having limited entry in the selected units, you will once again be initiating an overcrowding in the adjacent units that are not limited entry. Granted the adjacent unit(s) may not provide as many hunting opportunities or suitable habitat, but as archers are displaced from their preferred area they will move to the general archery units. At some point in the near future, the overcrowding issues and elk displacement issues will have to be addressed again. If you look at the history of limited entry in eastern Oregon with deer and elk, partial limited entry scenarios are bandages, not solutions.

I would suggest that the now identified general season units be added to the limited entry system. Tag numbers for those units could be based on a number that would be determined by using an average number of hunters hunting the unit plus an additional amount of hunters based on the available elk habitat/elk population. The final number of tags determined should accommodate some additional hunters in the unit, yet not cause hunter overcrowding or displacement of elk onto private land.

Thanks for reading and good luck with the process.

Bob Krein

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: S Jensen <sjensen595@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 13, 2021 9:41 AM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Controlled hunt expansion

Commission:

I am a traditional archery hunter, and support splitting the 'archery' season into two tags.

Modern tackle: short season, controlled hunt 100%.

Traditional tackle: Stick and string: keep the month long season, and few 'controlled' options, the rest of the state open to a general tag.

Modern tackle is no equivalent to traditional tackle. I have a 20 yard range. If I am going to harvest an animal I have to be both a good, and lucky hunter.

I have a strong memory from last summer listening to a mechanical bow shooter bragging about a "93" yard shot, which was only second to the shot he had from the year before, "104" yard shot that killed a near trophy buck. The ease and accuracy of the modern tackle is just no equal to the stick and string. It is common to hear mechanical shooters boasting about 40 and 50 yard shots.

Your current management of the archery season has me, with a 20 yard range, competing with, **and being penalized** for, the modern tackle efficiency. It is unfair that I have to compete with the unequal equipment.

One significant reason that I choose traditional archery is the fact that it is hard. I have to work all year to maintain any proficiency at all with the equipment. And my woodcraft skills have to be good enough to do all the work of hunting, and then cut the range to something less than 20 yards.

Your rule changes are working to drive me out of hunting all together by making it not only "hard", but 'impossible' to fill a tag with archery.

Thank you,

Steve Jensen
Bend, OR

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: TODD LYON <bugleor6x6@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 12, 2021 2:57 PM
To: odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: New proposals for controlled elk 2022

Hi my name is Todd Lyon from CT and Ive been hunting archery elk in Oregon for 20 years . I have had the most amazing time bringing friends and making friends in your beautiful state. Just started bringing my son and enjoyed him getting his first bow kill . Over the years ive brought many different people to show them what ive enjoyed . Ive made friends with a rancher and have gone out in the spring to help him with his work . I have hunted his property in the Ukiah unit with 4 or 5 of my friends and he has the chance to offer three any elk tags to none family members . Didnt know if things could be done to help land owners with Bull tags also or if there could be a buddy system where if one gets drawn the other gets drawn so you could have a hunting partner , Other thought would be a over 55 tag or over 60 tag to help older people that have limited years left in the woods the chance to enjoy the time they have left before age creeps up . Thanks for your time and thanks for giving us the chance to voice our opinions on new regulations and hopefully me and my friends get to enjoy many more years in the elk woods of Oregon , Todd Any questions or comments feel free to call 860-208-8407 , thanks

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Roger W. Sherman <xx32547@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, April 12, 2021 2:37 PM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: ODFW proposals for archery elk season

Dear ODFW officials,

Regarding ODFW proposals for archery elk season, I would like to make you aware of what's important to me as a longtime bowhunter and sportsman. I would like to see:

1. The creation of a Primitive Hunting Area with Traditional Archery and Iron Sight hunting only
2. The creation of a Traditional Tag that is good for elk hunting the entire east side (except Wenaha, Walla Walla, Mt. Emily...etc).
3. The continued adding of 5-day extensions to controlled units. This also gives you the ability to hunt the first 4-weeks in the same unit.

Best regards,

Roger Sherman
Portland, OR

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Kelly ward <kellywardlmt@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, April 12, 2021 12:23 PM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Archery

I totally understand the need to change tags as facts on the ground change. I want the ODFW to manage populations using statistics and good science. There's no point hunting for game that does not exist. So, if tags need to be restricted to offer hunters the best opportunity for game, so be it.

Thanks

Kelly Ward 541-598-5592 www.bodyworkofbend.com

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: hi my name is ray and if you still have your kitchen table and chairs give me a shout, as it looks like what I need. <relk@charter.net>
Sent: Monday, April 12, 2021 6:48 AM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Archery Elk in Eastern Oregon, After reading the data compiled in this site I am blown away at the time spent trying to justify turning all or part of the units in Eastern Oregon into draw units for archery.

As for the so called help with point creep relief I can only say that I don't have high hopes that this proposal will help . When White Horse Unit and Beulah were added to the late mule deer hunt it didn't help the point creep for those of us trying to draw the Metolius.

For what's its worth I am against this proposal! Leave it the way it is , if there are to many hunters I can go somewhere else. As for you MO you haven't met it for years so why is it so important now.

Ray Argo

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Jenny Wicks <jmree30@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, April 11, 2021 11:50 AM
To: odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Archery Hunting Changes

Hello,

My name is Jenny and I've been hunting archery in Oregon for the last six years. I got into the season for the awesome flexibility to hunt in my backyard and throughout the state as time off work allowed.

I understand that there's been a large increase in Archery hunters, largely due to the common misconception that Archery will be easier because it's during the rut. However there are are much more sense with ways to handle this influx and myself and everyone I know is absolutely against this new rule. You'll see below I put in today for my tags and it was hard to even be patient front desk at Sportsmens selling them to me because it's such an infuriating change.

Here are some alternative ideas:

- Increase the cost for out of state Archery hunters.
- Only allow out of state hunters to hunt by unit and allow all licensed Oregonians to still hunt as before.
- Allow cougar hunters to use dogs so that the animals preying on the deer population are reduced.
- Due to the high number of injured animals from new/untrained archery hunters, require all first year and lesser experienced archery hunters to take a multi week class, where they must successfully hit a Target from 30-60 yards to get at least 15 shots in a setting.

I was interviewed by Central Oregon daily news about this subject and if shared it on social media with others. The state of Oregon seems more concerned with making money off draw tags then actual population control, when they go straight to units instead of looking at ways to increase the deer population.

You can see my interview here:

<http://zolomedia.com/?p=400349>

Thank you,
Jenny Wicks
541-678-3724

On Sun, Apr 11, 2021 at 11:34 AM noreply@huntfishoregon.com <noreply@huntfishoregon.com> wrote:

Your Recent purchase from ODFW



Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife

Thank you for your purchase through the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife's licensing system. It is purchases from customers like you that ensure the thriving bounty of fish, wildlife and habitats that Oregonians love. We appreciate your contribution to the fishing, hunting and wildlife viewing community in Oregon.

If you have purchased a seat in a class, workshop, or event, additional information or materials may be necessary to support your purchase. ODFW will provide necessary materials in a separate correspondence, please stay tuned.

Date: 4/11/2021
Transaction #: T00003195373
Customer: JENNIFER M WICKS | ODFW ID: 4092164

Annual Combination License <i>Purchased for JENNIFER M WICKS (4092164)</i> Start Date: 04/11/21 – End Date: 12/31/21	\$73.00
<i>Combination annual recreational hunting and angling license</i>	
Annual Wildlife Area Parking Permit (Free) <i>Purchased for JENNIFER M WICKS (4092164)</i> Start Date: 04/11/21 – End Date: 12/31/21	\$0.00
<i>Permit for parking in wildlife areas managed by ODFW statewide. Includes parking at Sauvie Island. This permit must be printed and placed on vehicle dash when parked at a wildlife area.</i>	
Buck Deer - 100 Series Controlled Hunt Application <i>Purchased for JENNIFER M WICKS (4092164)</i> Start Date: 04/11/21 – End Date: 06/26/21	\$8.00
<i>Application period: December 1 - May 15. Results available by June 20.</i>	
Elk - General Season Archery Tag <i>Purchased for JENNIFER M WICKS (4092164)</i> Start Date: 08/28/21 – End Date: 09/26/21	\$49.50
<i>Open Season August 28 - September 26</i>	
	SUBTOTAL: \$130.50
	SHIPPING: \$0.00
	TOTAL: \$130.50

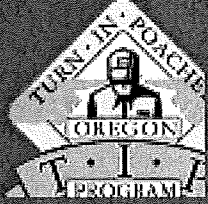
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dfw.state.or.us/

Contact Licensing
Main Phone (503) 947-6101
(800) 293-3762
Odfw.websales@state.or.us

Mailing Address
ODFW - Licensing Division
[4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE](http://4034-Fairview-Industrial-Drive-SE)
[Salem, OR 97302](http://Salem-OR-97302)



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Thank you,

Jenny Wicks

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Alex Muller <alexmullercabinets@gmail.com>
Sent: Saturday, April 10, 2021 1:05 PM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: 2022 archery elk proposal

The benefit of allowing hunters preference to archery hunt in the region they live in should not be overlooked.

I would propose if you live in the northeast region you should have draw preference over those that don't live in that region.

Accommodate the locals first. Allocate a small percentage of remaining tags as "out of region" tags. Works essentially the same as non-resident program.

Pros:

Less camping pressure during hunting season. Locals aren't traveling hundreds of miles requiring hunting camps. Obviously lowers the risk of camp related fires.

Environmental- less miles are travelled to access your hunting area. Reduces the carbon footprint.

Reduces total hunting pressure and harvest in the north east as a huge percentage of hunters are currently coming from the western region.

Evenly distributes hunting pressure statewide.

Preserves and protects the traditions and heritage of northeast hunters. These folks have been hunting, literally in their own back yards for generations.

Localization. Is the most practical solution to this dilemma facing our state.

Kind regards,
Alex Muller
Pendleton OR resident.

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Ryan Falk <mules4elk@outlook.com>
Sent: Friday, April 9, 2021 2:15 PM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Comments on ODFW Draft Archery Plan

Dear Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife,

I support your draft plan for archery changes in 2022.

Your proposed changes are timely and necessary considering the data you have assembled and my knowledge of Eastern Oregon elk herds. I live in John Day Oregon but have hunted many areas in Eastern Oregon. I have experienced hunter crowding during archery season and witnessed the effects of uncontrolled archery hunting and other factors on elk displacement to private lands.

My family members are a mix of archery and rifle hunters, so my support is based on the goal of providing equitable hunting and harvest opportunities for my family and the body of hunters in Oregon.

I do have a few suggestions for the final plan:

- **Match archery elk-controlled hunt boundaries to match deer-controlled hunt boundaries.** This will allow family members and friends to hunt together, if one member draws a deer-controlled hunt and another draws an elk- controlled hunt. I think this will help address concerns over engaging new hunters.
- **When designating hunt unit boundaries and hunt numbers consider hunting pressure in the more accessible backcountry areas on public land.** There has been an increase in archery hunting pressure in back country areas. I am sure this equates to elk distribution and roads. The increased hunting pressure often pushes elk out of the backcountry areas, and often onto private land. Examples: Murderer's Creek (Strawberry Wilderness; and Aldrich Mountain, McClellan Mountain, Shake-table roadless areas), Northside (Nipple Butte, Dixie Roadless Areas), Imnaha and Pine Creek (Eagle Cap Wilderness), and Desolation (North Fork John Day Wilderness, Jump-off Joe roadless area). I believe there is a strong correlation between the increase in backcountry hunting pressure during archery season and the decrease in rifle harvest and fewer branched bulls on public lands during rifle season.

Summary

I support your draft plan! Change needs to happen to be fair and equitable to all hunters. There will never be a perfect plan for hunting in Oregon and there will always be impacts. Some archery hunters may not get to hunt every year, or at least where they want every year. But in contrast rifle hunter are being impacted by point creep and drawing few controlled tags. This is having a profound impact on older rifle hunters that are in their last years of hunting, and the interest of young hunters that wait 3 to 5 years to draw a controlled rifle tag.

I deeply appreciate the opportunity to comment!

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Tara Tippy <tara.tippy@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 9, 2021 1:21 PM
To: odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Archery Elk Proposal

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

In general I support your proposal to increase the number of units to be controlled for archery elk.

While I wonder how great the pressure will become on open units, but the chance for better quality hunts when you do draw is appealing.

I have had the good fortune to archery hunt for elk in the Chesnimnus Unit 5 times since 2012. The first couple years, deer archery was restricted to successful elk tag holders. Crowding was not an issue. Cattle were grazing the areas, but only in certain pastures at a time. The quality of the hunt was wonderful.

The last couple of times, deer tags were wide open, hunter camps had lots more people who were "deer hunting", but were really scouting for the partners who had elk tags. Driving every possible road, bugling every quarter mile, or saying they were driving roads looking for bears. Deer numbers are low enough that archery hunting for them in this unit has to be a very low success rate. Cattle were in every pasture for the entire archery season and every riparian area was grazed down to the nubs. This cannot be what the FS allows. The hunting experience was severely diminished.

In the last couple of years there was also a large groups of hunters (5 or 6) and scouters (5 to 10) that had over 20 tree stands and trail cameras at many water holes over a very large area. Very organized and communicating which makes you wonder about fair chase.

Now that deer archery tags are controlled, how will that affect the number of extra scouters that are in the woods?

How many years and preference points will it take to draw a quality hunt in the future? I am 68 years old currently, and the thought of only drawing a couple more tags while I'm able to draw a bow and hike the hills does not seem bright. On the other hand, I hope that I've got another 20 years in me.

Thanks

Dan Tippy
Redmond Oregon
541-633-9320

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Chris N <fishitis@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 9, 2021 8:49 AM
To: odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: 2022 Archery Elk Proposal comment

I am in favor of the current proposal for archery elk controlled hunts in most of NE Oregon.
I am in favor of reducing hunting on those units below bull MO. I would add that I feel all units should have a bull/cow ratio of at least 15 and 10 is too low.

I have been a rifle hunter for 40 years. This year, I am switching to archery for elk as it has become very difficult to get a second choice rifle tag so our group is no longer able to build points to hunt together for our preferred unit. I also want a longer season and to get away from rifle hunters and their 1000 yd+ shooting.

I would also like to see more emphasis on hunt quality vs opportunity.

Chris Nordlund
Salem, OR

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Ken Sporalsky <mountainmissionarchery@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, April 9, 2021 7:46 AM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Archery seasons

As the president of the Bend Bowmen archery club. I feel compelled to weigh in on the archery season proposals. Our membership feels strongly that a choose your weapon during the draw ,and an option to choose east side or west side should be implemented first , before adding more controlled draw units on the east side.

Thank you ,
Ken Sporalsky president Bend Bowmen.

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: The Hunt School <thehuntschool@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 10:17 PM
To: odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Proposed Controlled Elk Hunts in Eastern Oregon

Dear Department Representatives,

In light of recent proposals to reduce general elk hunts in Oregon. Please consider the implementation of traditional/primitive only archery hunts as a way to maintain hunting opportunities while giving herds a chance to recover or maintain target populations and bull/cow and calf/cow ratios. The lower success rates driven by the necessity to execute shots would allow the agency to offer “over the counter” tags for traditional and primitive bows in place of going to controlled hunts. The agency could still allow limited tags for controlled hunts with modern archery tackle.

Very much appreciate your consideration of favorable scenarios for hunters, wildlife and agency revenue!

Regards,

Zachary Larsen

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Dave Hamrick <dhamrick53@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 12:38 PM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Archery elk hunting

I agree some changes need to be made. Out of state archery is out of control. I believe elk population is decreasing. If new changes are made, do not implement until you see if archery deer helps. I think deer change is waste of time, you are giving out way more tags than deer in most units. Any rifle hunter can get archery deer tags with second choice. Don't make same kind of mistake. We have to start somewhere.

DAVE HAMRICK

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Curtis Pedro <curtis.pedro@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, April 8, 2021 12:19 PM
To: Odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Archery Elk and Deer 2022

ODFW Commission,

My name is Curtis Pedro, I live at 60331 Leopard Dr. in Cove, OR 97824

I'm writing in regards to the 2022 archery elk proposal.

Will start by saying that I believe that we should slowly make changes to the Archery Elk Seasons in Oregon, below are some things IMO that will address some of the challenges and still create revenue for ODFW.

A good option that would help with crowding and would get ODFW revenue similar to going all draw would be to split the season into half and make the second half of the season draw and the first half of the season OTC. Splitting the season would get ODFW the application fee's, help with overcrowding and still leave OTC opportunities for north east Oregon residents so that they can continue to hunt at home every year. ODFW could actually do this state wide for elk and it would help tremendously with point creep while still allowing OTC statewide and addressing the overcrowding.

Bull escapement issues IMO from many years growing up in the mountains of NEO do not exist. IMO that is misleading ideology with no data to back it which help with the agenda to make a change to the system, the bull to cow ratios are much higher than posted over double from what I have seen living here for the last 39yrs. Elk numbers are growing and ODFW has in recent years implemented a 8 month long damage control season for population control in almost every unit that is being considered to go draw. Elk numbers are great and bull numbers are higher than they have been since I have started hunting in the early 90's, the #1 reason and IMO only reason these changes were ever brough to the table is due to overcrowding and hunters complaining about it. Splitting the season would address those issues as well and give ODFW additional revenue from almost every archery elk hunter in the state that does not already currently apply for tags.

Even if ODFW does decide to go draw in the NE I think it should only apply to the units that are being overcrowded, Starkey, Desolation, Hepner, Ukiah, Murders Creek. The units in the NE corner are mostly private outside of the wilderness or hard to access areas and there is no reason that the following should be made into a draw, Catherine Creek, Keating, Sumpter, Minam, Imnaha, Snake River, and Pine Creek, most of those units have very little hunter overcrowding if any and all have healthy elk herds, if they ever become an issue then they can be moved to the draw.

Non Related Deer and Elk Additional recommendations,

I think there is a few opportunities for ODFW to help with the point creep and also allow for some more hunting opportunity as well as spread out some of the hunting pressure across a larger period or even other units.

Addition of traditional deer tags in almost every unit; these tags could start the second week in August and stop the Sunday before general archery season. I am not currently a traditional hunter but the success rate is super low for traditional gear and this would allow people who are to use point toward that hunt and help with the deer point creep in every unit. People would get more opportunity and with the very low success rates deer numbers would be effected very little. A rut hunt for traditional Archery would be a great addition to OR as well.

Addition of traditional elk tags in almost every unit; I think the new tag for 2021 in the sumpter unit is a good move but I think a traditional tag could be placed in many unit across the state during the first week of Oct. this would help with point creep across the state and also have very little impact on the elk population.

Archery Big Horn Tags; I think every unit that offers a bighorn tag should also offer an Archery only big horn tag or two, these tags could bring additional revenue since people will feel like they have a better chance at drawing an archery tag. Most of these tags will be unsuccessful but people will still apply for the opportunity.

Archery Mountain Goat Tags; I think every unit that offers a Mountain goat tags should also offer an Archery only tag or two, these tags could bring additional revenue since people will feel like they have a better chance at drawing an archery tag. Most of these tags will be unsuccessful but people will still apply for the opportunity. I know the goat population in the elkhorns could easily support several more goat tags each year and by offering archery tags this would minimize the take while still offering opportunity.

Mule Deer Archery Rut Hunts; Adding more rut hunts similar to Beulah bow would help spread deer points out and give archers back something after making all of Eastern Oregon draw for archery in 2021. Adding one or two late rut hunts to Trout Creeks would be great and with such a high buck to doe ratio it should have very little effect on the unit, more bucks are getting killed there by predators and traffic than hunters every year.

Thank you very much for your time,

Curtis Pedro,

Hunting is and always has been a hunting heritage of my family, I've grew up rifle hunting in elk camps with my grandparents and parents. A couple years after Rifle hunting went to a draw we stopped the annual tradition of setting up elk camp and eventually my grandparents and parents stopped hunting all together due to the hassle of the draw and low odds of drawing tags. I've taken both of my boys hunting since they were old enough to walk and they are just getting old enough to start archery hunting and I really hate to see the OTC opportunity lost for us here at home. It is too hard to take school age kids across the state to hunt and even to leave the area during fall sports will take a toll on us hunting away from home.

I sincerely hope ODFW can figure out a way to come to a compromise and still allow OTC archery for eastern Oregon residents while trying to solve these complex overcrowding issues.

Thank you for your time!





BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Dustin Hollowell <dustinhollowell@hotmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 2:29 PM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Archery elk proposal

ODFW,

I appreciate the opportunity to provide comment on the proposal to establish controlled archery elk hunting in eastern Oregon. I also commend the Department for taking on such a complex and challenging need for change. The current OTC system is not sustainable with demands and technology.

It likely doesn't matter, but it's important for me to disclaim that I'm a bowhunter. I take advantage of being able to apply for higher quality hunts (sometimes rifle to accommodate other fall hunting plans) and bank points, knowing that I'll be able to hunt on a general OTC archery tag. To that point, I recognize this won't be possible in the future if the proposal passes but I am very happy to forfeit this benefit of the current system so long as it is replaced with one that meets the objectives identified by the Department.

Now, for my comments on the proposal:

First, to best meet the desired objectives and provide an equitable system between hunter groups I would recommend the Department go back to the initial unit by unit proposal from 2020. I suspect there would be plenty of opportunity (even second choice and leftover opportunities) in areas that are currently proposed as "green" general and the Dept would have the ability to better manage unit should unexpected challenges come up in the future.

The current proposal is still a great improvement over the OTC system. It is imperative that east and western Oregon units be separated. I have no familiarity with western Oregon elk hunting so I won't comment, except I would not travel from eastern Oregon to western Oregon to take advantage of a general tag. I have no interest in hunting that terrain. I would also ask that additional units be added to the controlled hunts proposed. Units with a higher demand from rifle hunters and/or units with large tracts of public land and manageable elk herds should be controlled. Leaving these areas general is not fair to rifle hunters, or the elk that inhabit those areas. For example, the Forest Service land in the Grizzly unit should not be managed as general. It could easily be lumped in with the Ochoco hunt for archery, managed separately or something different. Other units like Fossil and E Cascades should also be considered for controlled hunting. Selfishly, I would like to see West Beulah and North Malheur River managed together if you could evaluate the pros and cons of that.

If a zoned system is considered, I like the "micro zone proposal" submitted by BHA the best so far. I encourage the Department to make smaller zones, with similar habitat and hunting opportunities (i.e. backcountry) grouped, and the primary consideration with how the associated elk population can similarly be effectively managed.

I also recommend providing improved opportunity for youth hunters through this proposal. Allowing youth hunters a choice of a statewide, or east/west, archery tag would be consistent with R3 efforts and allow

families with youth hunters to hunt together. I wouldn't be opposed to this extending into the "big 3" as well, so long as an immediate family member or guardian also had the tag.

Again, thanks for the opportunity to provide comment. Please reach out anytime if you'd like any clarification or further communication.

Dustin Hollowell

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Nicholas Esch <ne69chevelle@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 12:31 PM
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Controlled hunt archery

Hello,

I wanted to take a minute to respond to your initial proposal on making eastern Oregon controlled in some units and dividing the west/east side for general season. Where I still understand what you think you are trying to do, I don't think that this is necessary. I for instance hunt archery in desolation and years that I decide I'm more benefitted in rifle then I will rifle hunt there. I typically hear or see multiple bulls in a day regardless of archery or rifle. There hasn't been a year that I could not have had a shot if I were willing to hike or didn't mess up my stalk. I don't think that your numbers are based on the reality of what we see in a typical season. I do not agree that rifle hunters are at a disadvantage as they have the ability to draw every 2-3 years in that unit and if they actually get out of their vehicles and walk, they may have better odds. If you want to meet better objectives, make the areas non accessible for vehicles, I've had trucks drive wilderness boundaries within feet and blow animals out of the area.. super frustrating but just because I am willing to walk doesn't mean they have to so I can't complain too much. In archery I've been there when the west side was closed down due to fires and there were substantially more people hunting in the vicinity of where I hunt every year.. I still have had chances and close encounters with bulls, doesn't bother me one bit that there are more people around. If they want opportunity then they can hike out further and get away from roads and more densely hunted areas. Now that the any elk designation has been removed I would venture to say that the hunters will now disperse to other areas and desolation will be less densely hunted. I don't believe taking away our option to archery hunt statewide if we so choose is going to benefit hunting opportunity in any way.. it may line ODFW's pockets with tag application money but that's about it. We don't know if the biologists are actually feet on the ground around the state often enough to make a solid determination of what the density of game animals really are. I propose you leave well enough alone and keep a system that works in place instead of complicating things and over governing something that isn't an issue. It's no different than saying that taking guns away from law abiding citizens is going to make the world a safer place, there's no proof that it would work and no proof that your new system would work either. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Nicholas Esch

Sent from my iPhone

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Matthew Sease <msease2017@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 10:29 AM
To: odfw.wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Elk plan comment

Micro management of elk hunting regulations will not ever achieve the goals listed in the plan. Controlled hunting has only caused different types of management shortfalls or issues.

Cow hunting is the only elk hunting that should be controlled and it should be strictly controlled right down to calling the hunters into the problem areas when the elk are present for a short and effective killing season that meets all objectives immediately. It should be nearly 100% successful if done properly. Cow hunting should be single shot rifle only for the weapon used. No archery cow hunting.

Other than that management tool, all elk hunting should be bull only and not controlled at all. Season should be shorter in units that attract more hunters, and more generous in areas that typically have less hunting pressure. The way to get hunters to disperse is to use the amount of open days for hunting.

You will find that if archery hunters must shoot bull only, the harvest rate during archery season will decline and the elk population will thrive. Therefore allowing more opportunity, and you will sell more tags.

Sent from my iPad

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Lucas Noling <lucas2468@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 7:20 AM
To: lucas2468@gmail.com
Subject: Contact Your Legislator Confirmation

I agree with the Oregon Outdoor Council with these requests:

Create a West and East side general archery tag for the 2022 season. Archery hunters will have to choose the side they want to hunt. Take public input to develop the boundaries.

Continue the Archery Elk Workgroup through next year to allow more work and collaboration on the ODFW and other plans that have been submitted. There are too many complex and overlapping management issues to consider that require more time and most importantly public input.

The current ODFW archery elk proposal provides zero hunting opportunity or exemptions for youth which directly contradicts the intent of their recruitment process.

The ODFW plan provides no options for units that are closed due to wildfires. Regional units, harvest quota's nor any other options have been on the table for fire danger closures.

The ODFW plan will push more hunters into the rifle draw system thus compounding the point creep issue. This will increase the years it takes to draw already limited rifle tags. It also creates the same issues for archery hunters in the future.

Archery season provides the MOST opportunity for sportsmen and women to hunt with little biological impact on the resource.

The ODFW plan claims to address bull escapement issues, but doesn't address spike harvest or the fact that elk populations are at 103% of management objectives.

There is no mention of managing predators. How does any plan that purports to scientifically manage a species pass the smell test when it doesn't address the impact of predation or other mortality on a species?

I also urge odfw to start looking long and hard at abolishing the point draw system in Oregon. The point creep is so bad that most new people getting into the sport will never have the opportunity to even draw certain tags. I suggest a fair draw system with not points like in Idaho and New Mexico. I have several points for several species in Oregon. I would gladly give them up to go to a no point system.

From: Blake Heinrich <blake.heinrich@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 9:40 PM
To: ODFW.Wildlifeinfo@state.or.us
Subject: Archery Elk Proposal

I am hoping you take some of these considerations as you move forward with your proposal. Many of my friends and fellow hunters have many of the same view points. Of course none of us will ever agree on a final decision but I truly believe there are better options out there than what's currently being proposed. I understand you have a very difficult job and no matter your choices people will be upset. However, it just feels like the hunting, trapping and fishing community continues to lose opportunities although we are the strongest supporters for wildlife and wildplaces. I'm just afraid if you continue to fail to listen to our concerns at this time, eventually you will lose our trust and confidence in you as an agency. Please give us credit. We are here to help.

1. Offering 2 x 2 week OTC options. Rather than a month you get a 2 week block early or later.
2. Creating regions rather than treating every unit as an individual.
3. I'm all for wolves, cougars and bears but I believe we can manage them much better.
4. I have hunted a handful of other states for elk in the west and it seems like Oregon is without a doubt becoming the most restrictive. A huge reason I choose to live here is for all the opportunities but it seems like it is becoming less and less every year.
5. I think groups like BHA and Oregon Archery have really valid points and there should be consideration to them. Their membership is constantly growing and is a great collittation to partner with.

Blake Heinrich
Stayton, Oregon
218-303-6963

BORISCH Roxann B * ODFW

From: Jason Siebers <jasonsiebers@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 9:12 PM
To: jasonsiebers@gmail.com
Subject: Contact Your Legislator Confirmation

I agree with the Oregon Outdoor Council with these requests:

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