



AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

BACKGROUND

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission (Commission) is statutorily authorized to allocate bighorn sheep, Rocky Mountain goat, pronghorn, deer, and elk tags to be auctioned and raffled annually to benefit wildlife and habitat management, as well as expand hunting access in Oregon. Auction and raffle tags provide unique hunting opportunities with expanded hunt areas and extended season dates. The auction and raffle of bighorn sheep, Rocky Mountain goat, and pronghorn tags generate dedicated funding for management and research for the respective species, while deer and elk tags generate revenue for the Access and Habitat (A&H) Program.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

At the April 20 meeting of the A&H Board, deer and elk auction and raffle tags were discussed. There was an opportunity for interested parties to provide public comment at this meeting.

ISSUE 1

2023 Auction and Raffle Tag Allocations

ANALYSIS

A number of unique hunting opportunities are available in Oregon through the use of special auction and raffle tags that offer expanded hunt areas and extended season dates. As a result, the auction and raffle tags are very popular. Revenue from these special tags is dedicated to specific programs. All funds raised by the auction and raffle tags for bighorn sheep, pronghorn antelope, and Rocky Mountain goats are dedicated for management and research of these respective species. All funds raised by auction and raffle tags for deer and elk provide funding for the Access and Habitat Program.

For 2022, the authorized auction and raffle tags consisted of:

- One bighorn sheep auction tag and one bighorn sheep raffle tag
- One pronghorn antelope auction tag and one pronghorn raffle tag

- One Rocky Mountain goat auction tag and one Rocky Mountain goat raffle tag
- Five deer auction tags and five deer raffle tags
- Five elk auction tags and five elk raffle tags

All auction tags are sold at fundraising banquets for various sport groups each spring. Host organizations receive 10% of the sales price for the tag being sold. Most of these funds are then allocated back to specific projects through grant programs managed by the sport group. For the first time in two years all the auctions in 2022 were carried out in person.

Bighorn Sheep

The Oregon bighorn sheep auction and raffle tag program was the first program of its type in Oregon and was established in 1987. Since then it has been the cornerstone of funding for bighorn management and research in Oregon (Table 1). The 2022 Oregon bighorn auction tag sold for an amazing \$345,000 via live hybrid auction in January 2022 by the Wild Sheep Foundation. The 2022 bighorn raffle tag was drawn May 14, 2022 at the statewide Oregon Hunters Association event. At the time of writing it appears interest in purchasing bighorn sheep raffle opportunities is very high with sales setting an all-time record for bighorn. Combined, the two tags have generated over \$450,000 this year for bighorn sheep management and research in Oregon.

Pronghorn Antelope

The Commission is statutorily authorized to annually issue one pronghorn auction tag and one pronghorn raffle tag. Funding generated from these tags is dedicated to pronghorn management and research. Over the last 19 years, these tags have generated more than \$525,000 (Table 2). The 2022 special auction tag was sold via a live auction in March 2022 for \$34,000 by the Rose City Chapter of RMEF (Table 2). The raffle tag was drawn May 14, 2022 at the statewide Oregon Hunters Association event. Combined, the two tags generated over \$45,000 for pronghorn management and research in Oregon in 2022.

Table 1. Income from Oregon bighorn auction (1987-2022) and raffle (1992-2022) tag sales. 2022 Raffle tag Sales and Grand Total Income are current through 2 May 2022.

Year	Auction Tag			Raffle Tag	
	Bid Price	Net	Host	Sales	Host
1987	\$56,000	\$56,000	OHA		
1988	\$35,000	\$35,000	OHA		
1989	\$47,000	\$47,000	OHA		
1990	\$46,000	\$46,000	OHA		
1991	\$25,000	\$25,000	OHA		
1992	\$57,000	\$51,300	FNAWS	\$26,207	OHA
1993	\$102,000	\$91,800	FNAWS	\$45,000	OHA
1994	\$110,000	\$99,000	FNAWS	\$45,683	OHA
1995	\$73,000	\$65,700	FNAWS	\$40,019	OHA
1996	\$50,000	\$45,000	FNAWS	\$41,043	OHA
1997	\$30,000	\$27,000	FNAWS	\$22,945	OHA
1998	\$59,000	\$53,100	FNAWS	\$16,682	OHA
1999	\$87,500	\$78,750	FNAWS	\$39,962	OHA
2000	\$76,000	\$68,400	FNAWS	\$47,716	OHA
2001	\$67,500	\$60,750	FNAWS	\$42,029	OHA
2002	\$74,000	\$66,600	FNAWS	\$77,085	OHA
2003	\$78,000	\$70,200	FNAWS	\$40,300	OHA
2004	\$86,000	\$77,400	FNAWS	\$31,479	OHA
2005	\$130,000	\$117,000	FNAWS	\$53,841	OHA
2006	\$120,000	\$108,000	FNAWS	\$85,351	OHA
2007	\$120,000	\$108,000	FNAWS	\$69,144	OHA
2008	\$87,500	\$78,750	FNAWS	\$68,353	OHA
2009	\$95,000	\$85,500	FNAWS	\$69,024	OHA
2010	\$110,000	\$99,000	FNAWS	\$62,696	OHA
2011	\$130,000	\$117,000	WSF	\$68,057	OHA
2012	\$110,000	\$99,000	WSF	\$42,653	OHA
2013	\$135,000	\$121,500	WSF	\$28,903	OHA
2014	\$155,000	\$139,500	WSF	\$46,754	OHA
2015	\$160,000	\$144,000	WSF	\$61,645	OHA
2016	\$95,000	\$85,500	WSF	\$30,655	OHA
2017	\$135,000	\$121,500	WSF	\$85,513	OHA
2018	\$160,000	\$144,000	WSF	\$122,444	OHA
2019	\$210,000	\$189,000	WSF	\$144,068	OHA
2020	\$160,000	\$144,000	WSF	\$107,512	ODFW
2021	\$210,000	\$189,000	WSF	\$127,364	ODFW
2022	\$345,000	\$310,500	WSF	\$145,582	OHA
Total	\$3,826,500	\$3,464,450		\$1,958,957	
Grand Total Net Income from Special Bighorn Tags:				\$5,423,707	

Table 2. Income from Oregon pronghorn auction and raffle tag sales (2004-2022). 2022 Raffle tag Sales and Grand Total Income are current through 2 May 2022.

Year	Auction Tag			Raffle Tag	
	Bid Price	Net	Host	Sales	Host
2004	\$13,000	\$11,700	Klamath OHA	\$7,934	State OHA
2005	\$34,000	\$30,600	Harney OHA	\$10,453	State OHA
2006	\$20,200	\$18,180	Lakeview OHA	\$8,473	State OHA
2007	\$4,200	\$3,780	Josephine OHA	\$12,479	State OHA
2008	\$10,000	\$9,000	Oregon FNAWS	\$14,942	State OHA
2009	\$5,000	\$4,500	Umpqua OHA	\$9,311	State OHA
2010	\$7,000	\$6,300	Klamath MDF	\$8,076	State OHA
2011	\$17,000	\$15,300	Eastern WSF	\$13,827	State OHA
2012	\$6,000	\$5,400	Eastern WSF	\$10,615	State OHA
2013	\$11,500	\$10,350	Bend OHA	\$11,725	State OHA
2014	\$10,000	\$9,000	RMEF Hood R.	\$9,734	State OHA
2015	\$18,000	\$16,200	Redmond OHA	\$14,185	State OHA
2016	\$14,000	\$12,600	Oregon FNAWS	\$14,500	State OHA
2017	\$11,000	\$9,900	Tillamook OHA	\$16,963	State OHA
2018	\$16,000	\$14,400	Lake County OHA	\$19,005	State OHA
2019	\$17,500	\$15,575	N. Oregon MDF	\$18,828	State OHA
2020	\$16,000	\$14,400	National WSF	\$24,112	ODFW
2021	\$19,000	\$17,100	Ochoco NWTF	\$39,819	ODFW
2022	\$34,000	\$30,600	Rose City RMEF	\$14,781	State OHA
Total	\$268,400	\$241,560		\$282,444	
Grand Total Net Income from Special Pronghorn Tags:				\$524,004	

Rocky Mountain Goat

The Commission is statutorily authorized to annually issue one Rocky Mountain goat auction tag and one Rocky Mountain goat raffle tag. Funding generated from these tags is dedicated to Rocky Mountain goat management and research. The 2022 Rocky Mountain Goat auction tag was sold for \$35,000 at a live auction hosted by the Oregon Wild Sheep Foundation on April 30, 2022 (Table 3). The raffle tag generated over \$24,000 and was drawn May 14, 2022 at the statewide Oregon Hunters Association event. Total funds generated from the two tags is now over \$710,000.

Table 3. Oregon Rocky Mountain goat auction and raffle tag sales (2004-2021). 2021 Raffle tag Sales and Grand Total Income are current through 12 May 2021.

Year	Auction Tag			Raffle Tag	
	Bid Price	Net	Host	Sales	Host
2004				\$7,210	State OHA
2005				\$8,400	State OHA
2006				\$16,149	State OHA
2007				\$25,498	State OHA
2008				\$17,886	State OHA
2009				\$8,893	State OHA
2010				\$24,742	State OHA
2011				\$18,646	State OHA
2012				\$22,963	State OHA
2013				\$11,612	State OHA
2014				\$12,920	State OHA
2015				\$18,548	State OHA
2016	\$30,000	\$27,000	State OHA	\$15,895	State OHA
2017	\$37,000	\$33,300	Oregon FNAWS	\$26,972	State OHA
2018	\$41,000	\$36,900	California WSF	\$24,291	State OHA
2019	\$52,500	\$47,250	Oregon FNAWS	\$28,468	State OHA
2020	\$40,000	\$36,000	Oregon Bowhunters	\$50,348	ODFW
2021	\$75,000	\$67,500	Oregon FNAWS	\$67,699	ODFW
2022	\$35,000	\$31,500	OR Wild Sheep	\$23,825	State OHA
Total	\$310,500	\$279,450		\$432,294	
Grand Total Net Income from Mountain Goat Tags:				\$711,744	

Access and Habitat, Deer and Elk Auction and Raffle Program

The annual auction and raffle of deer and elk tags is a valuable funding source for the A&H Program, accounting for an ever-increasing portion of the A&H Program’s revenue. These tags have generated over \$10 million in revenue (Table 4) with nearly 2/3 of this coming from the 5 deer and 5 elk auction tags. Combined proceeds from the auction and raffle tags, A&H license surcharge, and Green Forage & Deer Enhancement Restoration funds, have been used to implement hunter access or habitat improvement projects throughout Oregon.

Big game raffle entries are sold at department offices, license agents, and online beginning December 1 each year for the following year’s raffle event. The 2022 raffle drawing took place May 14, 2022, at the OHA State Convention in Canyonville. The raffle was livecast from the convention on our YouTube channel.

A&H deer and elk tags were once again auctioned at fundraising banquets for various sport groups this spring. The auctions in 2022 raised \$578,700 from the auction deer and elk tags for the A&H program. Proceeds from this year eclipsed last year’s all-time sales record of \$512,550.

These in-person banquet events provide an opportunity for A&H Board members and staff to discuss the benefits of the A&H program with the public. The A&H Board will select sponsoring organizations for 2023 at their July 19, 2022, meeting.

A&H Board and Department Recommendations

The department and the A&H Board recommend auction and raffle hunts for 2023 remain unchanged from 2022 seasons (Attachments 2 and 3). The Oregon Revised Statutes authorizing auction and raffle tags also establish annual limits on the number of tags that may be issued in this manner. The A&H Board and staff recommendations are within these established limits.

For 2023, the department recommends the Commission approve:

- One bighorn sheep auction tag and one bighorn sheep raffle tag
- One pronghorn antelope auction tag and one pronghorn raffle tag
- One Rocky Mountain goat auction tag and one Rocky Mountain goat raffle tag

For 2023, the A&H Board recommends the Commission approve:

- Five deer auction tags and five deer raffle tags
- Five elk auction tags and five elk raffle tags

The drawing for all raffle tags will occur in a single livecast event in late May or early June 2023. Proposed sponsors for the 2023 auction tags will be presented to the Commission at the September 2022 meeting.

Table 4. Access & Habitat deer and elk auction and raffle program revenue (1995-2022).

Year	Auction Tags			Raffle Tags	
	Bid Price	Net	Host (Number of tags)	Revenue	Host
1995	\$57,900	\$52,110	RMEF(8), OHA(1)	\$86,650	OHA
1996	\$107,950	\$97,155	RMEF(4), OHA, MDF(2), OFBD	\$62,339	OHA
1997	\$115,900	\$104,310	RMEF(4), OFBD, MDF(2), OHA	\$49,663	OHA
1998	\$124,250	\$111,825	RMEF(3), MDF(3), OHA(3)	\$48,455	OHA
1999	\$164,500	\$148,050	RMEF(3), OHA(3), MDF(2), SCI	\$87,535	OHA
2000	\$147,000	\$132,300	RMEF(2), OHA(3), FNAWS, MDF(2), SCI	\$73,806	OHA
2001	\$149,450	\$134,505	RMEF(2), OHA(3), FNAWS, MDF(2), SCI	\$81,332	OHA
2002	\$165,000	\$148,500	RMEF(2), OHA(2), FNAWS(2), CDA, MDF, SCI	\$100,558	OHA
2003	\$164,000	\$147,600	RMEF(2), MDF, FNAWS, CDA, SCI, NRA, OHA(2)	\$75,573	OHA
2004	\$179,000	\$161,100	RMEF (1), OHA(4), CDA, OBH, MDF, FNAWS	\$80,938	OHA
2005	\$218,000	\$196,200	RMEF(2), FNAWS,OHA(3), OBH, MDF, SCI	\$104,770	OHA
2006	\$230,000	\$207,000	RMEF (2),OHA(2),NWTF,OBH,SCI, FNAWS,MDF	\$99,404	OHA
2007	\$258,500	\$232,650	RMEF (2),OHA(2),NWTF,OBH,SCI, FNAWS,MDF	\$115,723	OHA
2008	\$246,500	\$221,850	RMEF (3), OHA (3), SCI, OBH, NWTF	\$114,142	OHA
2009	\$256,500	\$230,850	RMEF (2),OHA (2),MDF,OBH,NWTF,SCI, FNAWS	\$122,113	OHA
2010	\$251,000	\$225,900	RMEF (2), OHA (2), MDF (2), OBH, NWTF, SCI	\$83,675	OHA
2011	\$232,750	\$209,475	RMEF(2), OHA(2), MDF(2), SCI(2), WSF	\$89,170	OHA
2012	\$231,000	\$207,900	RMEF (2), OHA (2), SCI (2), MDF, OBH	\$98,054	OHA
2013	\$230,500	\$207,450	RMEF (2), OHA (2), SCI, MDF(2), DU, FNAWS	\$112,129	OHA
2014	\$257,750	\$202,275	RMEF, OHA(2), MDF(2), SCI, DU, OBH, NWTF	\$133,509	OHA
2015	\$311,000	\$279,900	RMEF(2), OHA(3), MDF(2), NWTF, FNAWS	\$133,850	OHA
2016	\$377,000	\$342,727	RMEF(2),MDF(2), OHA(2),FNAWS, SCI, NWTF	\$160,818	OHA
2017	\$336,000	\$302,400	RMEF(2),MDF(2), OHA(2),FNAWS, SCI, NWTF	\$174,339	OHA
2018	\$422,000	\$379,800	RMEF(2),MDF(2), OHA(2),FNAWS, SCI, NWTF	\$198,317	OHA
2019	\$387,000	\$348,300	RMEF(2),MDF, OHA(3), OBH, SCI, NWTF	\$217,811	OHA
2020	\$437,000	\$393,300	RMEF(2),MDF, OHA(3), FNAWS, SCI, NWTF	\$325,391	ODFW
2021	\$569,500	\$512,550	RMEF, MDF(3), OHA(3), SCI, NWTF	\$374,126	ODFW
2022*	\$643,000	\$578,700	RMEF, MDF(2), OBH, OHA(2), SCI, NWTF(2)	\$429,370	OHA
Totals	\$7,269,950	\$6,516,682		\$3,833,560	
Grand Total Net Revenue from Special Deer and Elk Tags:				\$10,350,242	

*As of May 5, 2022

Appendix 1. Host organization acronyms used in Tables 1 through 4

Acronym	Organization Name
CDA	California Deer Association
DU	Ducks Unlimited
FNAWS	Foundation for North American Wild Sheep
MDF	Mule Deer Foundation
NRA	National Rifle Association
NWTF	National Wild Turkey Federation
OBH	Oregon Bow Hunters
ODFW	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
OFBD	Oregon Foundation for Black-tailed Deer
OHA	Oregon Hunters Association
RMEF	Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
SCI	Safari Club International
WSF	Wild Sheep Foundation

OPTIONS

1. Approve staff and Board recommendations
2. Amend staff and Board recommendations

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Option 1.

DRAFT MOTION:

I move to approve the 2023 auction and raffle big game tag allocations as proposed by staff and the A&H Board and shown in attachments 2 and 3.

Effective Date: June 17, 2022