

Oregon's Access & Habitat Board News

Winter 2008



The Oregon Legislature established the Access and Habitat Program in 1993 using a \$2 surcharge on hunting licenses. The A&H Board, composed of members of the public, identifies and recommends funding for projects that improve wildlife habitat and facilitate public hunting access on private lands.

A&H private timberland projects see successful hunting seasons

A typically successful deer and elk season rewarded those who hunted private industrial timberlands throughout Oregon last season. Owners of these properties have partnered with the Access and Habitat Program to develop travel management areas and law enforcement projects that provide public hunting access to more than 3.6 million acres that might otherwise be closed.



Roosevelt elk are one of a number of big game species pursued by hunters on A&H Program travel management and law enforcement projects.

These partnerships between private timberland owners, state and local law enforcement, and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife involve managing motor vehicle traffic to protect wildlife and provide a higher quality hunting experience as well as law enforcement patrols to reduce game and other violations. Often, these agreements involve wildlife habitat projects. Both the A&H Program and the involved timberland owners contribute to funding the projects.

Current project areas include the North Coast Access Area, Willamette Private Timberlands

Access Area, the Linn and Lincoln County access areas and the Jackson Access and Cooperative Travel Management Area in western Oregon along with the Sled Springs and Timbers/Spring Butte travel management areas east of the Cascades.

Because these areas are working timberlands, where logging creates forest openings that produce good wildlife habitat, they are popular with both big game and hunters.

That was particularly true on the North Coast Access Area where ODFW assistant district biologist Dave Nuzum noted a larger than usual number of hunters this past season along with an early black-tail deer rut that made for less wary animals and more opportunities for hunters to bag a nice buck. "We had reports of lots of 'stupid' deer wandering around," he said.

ODFW district wildlife biologist Brian Wolfer reported that hunters on the Willamette Access Area often preferred the private forests over public lands because of good elk and deer numbers. At Sled Springs, ODFW wildlife technician Mike Hansen found that hunters had typical success rates of 50 percent for deer and 30 percent for elk. He also noted that hunters took some nice two- and three-year-old bucks.

The number of violations were average, with most involving driving vehicles on closed roads. "If we want to keep these areas open," advises Wolfer, "hunters need to respect the companies' posted rules."

For more information on these and other A&H 'open to hunt' areas visit the A&H Website. See page 2 for the Web address.

8 wildfire seeding projects approved

More than \$142,000 in funding for eight emergency seeding projects totalling 5,480 acres were approved by the A&H Board last fall to help cover the costs of replanting private lands impacted by wildfires during 2007.

Although wildfire is a natural phenomenon and an integral part of the natural process, in some cases wildfire can burn hot enough to destroy trees and other vegetation, leaving a denuded landscape that is vulnerable to erosion and colonization by non-native, invasive plant species.

The idea behind these grants is to help landowners who have had their properties burned by wildfire get a head start on rehabilitating the land and to accelerate the process of restoring vegetation that is beneficial to wildlife. To qualify for a grant, the property must have been burned by wildfire during the year the grants are offered and the proposed seed mixture must be approved by the local ODFW biologist.

Normally, the A&H Program application process takes about six months. Because reseeding burned areas usually must be done in a timely fashion, a streamlined application review and approval process has been established.

The eight projects approved last fall include 750 acres in Harney County, 4,570 acres in Malheur County and 80 acres in Grant County

Some projects were completed last fall while others are slated for completion by late winter or spring 2008.

The A&H Program has been providing wildfire emergency seeding grants since 2002.



2008 A&H Auction Hunts Scheduled

Each year the A&H program partners with various hunting organizations to auction five elk and five deer tags at the sponsoring groups annual banquet or convention. The sponsoring organizations keep 10 percent of auction proceeds and the rest goes back to the A&H Program to be used to fund hunting access and wildlife habitat projects throughout the state. Successful bidders are awarded a three-month hunting season across multiple management units. People may bid on tags in person at the event or by telephone with advance arrangement with event sponsors. Below is the auction schedule and contacts. See the 2008 Big Game Regulations for more details.

February 2 — STATEWIDE DEER
Santiam River Chapter
Safari Club International
Linn County Fairgrounds, Albany
Contact: Dewey France, (503) 363-5644

February 2 — STATEWIDE ELK
Curry Coastal Chapter
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Curry County Fairgrounds, Gold Beach
Contacts: Tim Hawkins, (541) 247-2444
Scott Adams, (541) 247-2933

February 22 — STATEWIDE COMBO DEER/ELK
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Reno-Sparks Convention Center, Reno, NV
Contact: Kristy Bosworth, (405) 523-0242

March 1 — STATEWIDE ELK
Emerald Valley Chapter
Oregon Hunters Association
Valley River Inn, Eugene
Contact: Neal Reiser, (541) 998-9299

March 15 — STATEWIDE DEER
Rogue Gobblers
National Wild Turkey Federation

Red Lion Hotel, Medford
Contacts: Jeff Heil, (541) 779-8926
John Theibes, (541) 941-1089

March 29 — STATEWIDE DEER
Oregon Bow Hunters Association
Seven Feathers Casino, Canyonville
Contacts: Ty Stubblefield, (541) 672-6805
Karen Demaris, (541) 536-2252

April 5 — STATEWIDE ELK
Cascade Chapter
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation
Regis High School, Stayton
Contact: Gary Cooper, (503) 362-8833

May 3 — STATEWIDE ELK
Tillamook Chapter
Oregon Hunters Association
Tillamook County Fairgrounds, Tillamook
Contact: David Walker, (503) 842-4176

May 17 — STATEWIDE DEER
State Chapter
Oregon Hunters Association
Chinook Winds Casino, Lincoln City
Contact: Duane Dungannon, (541) 772-7313

Calendar of Events

March 21

A&H Grant Application Deadline
503-947-6087

April 22 - 22

A&H Board Meeting,
Seaside, 503-947-6087

May 1*

Oregon Fish and Wildlife
Commission Meeting, Salem
503-947-6044

July 21-22

A&H Board Meeting,
Halfway, 503-947-6087

October 14

A&H Board Meeting,
Salem, 503-947-6087

* Listed Commission meetings are those where A&H Project applications will be reviewed for final approval.

Have an idea for an A&H Project?

If you have an idea for a project that increases public hunting access to private lands and/or improves wildlife habitat, contact the A&H Regional Coordinator nearest you for advice and assistance on applying for an A&H grant.

Northwest Region

Troy Laws, Tillamook 503-842-2741
Jim Young, Corvallis 541-757-4186

Southwest Region

Vince Oredson, 541-826-8774
Central Point

High Desert Region

Larry Pecenka, Bend 541-388-6444
Dan Gonzalez, Hines 541-573-6582

Northeast Region

Jon Paustian, La Grande 541-963-2138

To receive a free subscription to *Oregon's Access and Habitat Board News* just fill out this form and mail it to: Access and Habitat Program, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, 3406 Cherry Avenue, N.E., Salem, OR 97303

Name _____

Street/P.O. Box _____

City/State/ZIP Code _____

To be removed from this mailing list check the box to the left and return coupon or contact: Matthew.T.Keenan@state.or.us

A&H on the Web

www.dfw.state.or.us/AH/



2008 A&H Raffle Hunt tickets on sale

A&H Program big game raffle hunt tickets are now on sale, offering hunters an opportunity to win deer and elk tags that permit a three month hunting season in virtually every place in Oregon where public hunting is legal. Revenue raised is used to fund wildlife habitat and hunter access projects throughout the state. Rocky Mountain goat and bighorn sheep raffle tickets are also offered with proceeds benefiting programs for those species.

This year, A&H raffle hunts include: statewide deer, combination elk and deer, northeast Oregon deer, southeast Oregon deer, central Oregon deer, northeast Oregon elk, central/southeast Oregon elk, western Oregon elk and statewide elk.

Tickets can be purchased from point of sale agents or ordered from ODFW's Salem headquarters using the form below. The deadline to purchase tickets is May 5. The deadline to return completed tickets to ODFW is May 16. Winning tickets will be drawn at the Oregon Hunters Association State Convention on May 17 in Lincoln City. See the 2008 Big Game Regulations for more details.

Two new A&H Board members appointed

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission appointed Ronald Borisch and Barry DelCurto to four-year terms on the Access and Habitat Board as landowner representatives.

A resident of Keizer, Ronald Borisch is assistant tree farm manager for Longview Fibre's Silver Falls Tree Farm. He is a member of the Linn Forest Protection Association board of directors and has been involved in a number of A&H projects that have provided public hunting access to industrial timberlands.

Barry DelCurto is a life-long rancher who lives in Halfway. He was a member of the A&H Program's Northeast Regional Advisory Council and is on the Pine Valley Rural Fire Department board of directors. He has also participated in A&H projects to improve wildlife habitat on his property.

Borisch and DelCurto replace Theo 'Tik' Moore of Baker City and Ward Armstrong of Salem, whose terms expired at the end of 2007.

BIG GAME RAFFLE TICKET MAIL/FAX ORDER FORM

BIGHORN SHEEP

1 ticket pkg. @ \$11/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____
 6 ticket pkg. @ \$51/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____
 13 ticket pkg. @ \$101/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____

PRONGHORN ANTELOPE

1 ticket pkg. @ \$11/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____
 6 ticket pkg. @ \$51/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____
 13 ticket pkg. @ \$101/ pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____

ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOAT

1 ticket pkg. @ \$11/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____
 6 ticket pkg. @ \$51/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____
 13 ticket pkg. @ \$101/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____

DEER

1 ticket pkg. @ \$4/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____
 6 ticket pkg. @ \$11/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____
 15 ticket pkg. @ \$21/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____
 40 ticket pkg. @ \$51/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____
 100 ticket pkg. @ \$101/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____

ELK

1 ticket pkg. @ \$6/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____
 6 ticket pkg. @ \$21/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____
 15 ticket pkg. @ \$41/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____
 40 ticket pkg. @ \$101/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____

COMBINATION DEER & ELK

1 ticket pkg. @ \$11/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____
 6 ticket pkg. @ \$31/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____
 15 ticket pkg. @ \$61/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____
 40 ticket pkg. @ \$151/pkg. x ___ pkg. = _____

Name _____

Phone () _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

✓ MAIL ORDER/FAX TICKET ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED AT ADDRESS BELOW BY 5:00 P.M. ON MAY 5, 2008.

✓ COMPLETED TICKETS MUST BE RECEIVED AT OUR SALEM HEADQUARTERS NO LATER THAN 5:00 P.M. ON FRIDAY, MAY 16, 2008. MAIL COMPLETED RAFFLE TICKETS TO: **ODFW RAFFLES, P.O. BOX 7760, SALEM, OR 97303** OR TICKETS CAN BE HAND DELIVERED TO THE 2008 OHA CONVENTION IN LINCOLN CITY ON SATURDAY, MAY 17, 2008, BETWEEN 5:00 AND 7:00 P.M.

PAYMENT METHOD (DO NOT SEND CASH)

Check/Money Order to ODFW enclosed
 MasterCard Visa Discover

Credit Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature _____

(Required for credit card purchases)

TOTAL REMITTANCE \$ _____



ODFW - Raffles

3406 Cherry Ave. NE
 Salem, OR 97303-4924
 503-947-6100 or
 FAX - 503-947-6117 or 6113

Access and Habitat Board
 Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
 3406 Cherry Avenue, N.E.
 Salem, OR 97303-4924



For information on applying for an Access and Habitat Program grant contact A&H Program Coordinator Matt Keenan at 3406 Cherry Avenue N.E., Salem, OR 97303-4924 503-947-6087

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