



# THE OHA TRACKER

March 2012



## Cougar bill finds traction in house

The 2012 Oregon Legislative Session began on Feb. 1, and the new annual legislative sessions law limits the length of the session to no more than 35 days. The 90 legislators want to get their work done early and go home. Here are a few bills that OHA is actively following:

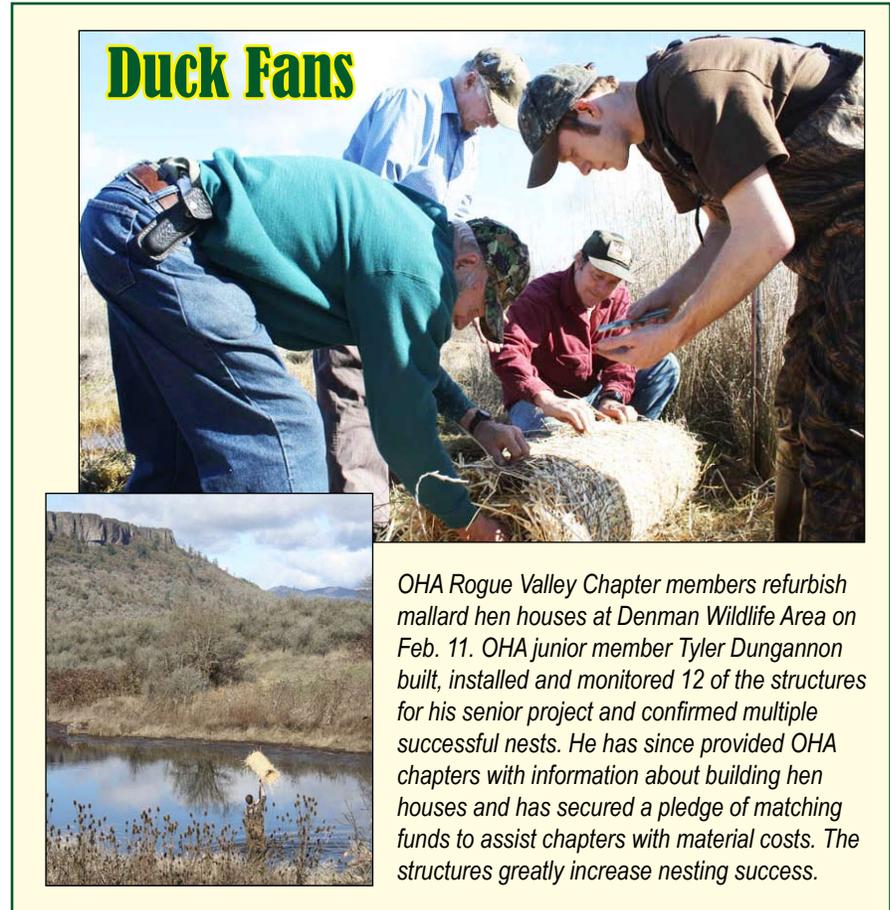
### House Bills

• **HB 4119 – Hunting Cougars with Dogs:** This is the same bill that passed the House last session, but died in the Senate. This bill passed out of the House Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources earlier this session and moved to Ways and Means. It would allow counties that want to participate to establish a pilot program that allows persons to use dogs to hunt or pursue cougars. The bill has a sunset provision of Jan. 2, 2020.

• **HB 4005 – Wolf Kill Income Tax Credit:** This bill would establish credit against income taxes in compensation for livestock killed by predators. Applies to tax years beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2012.

• **HB 4006 – City/County Consultation on Endangered Species:** This legislation would require that ODFW consult and cooperate with other state agencies, political subdivisions, other states, federal government and private landowners regarding fish and wildlife management. OHA helped amend the bill to protect hunters' dollars from being spent on unnecessary litigation. The bill passed the House and moved to the Senate.

• **HB 4158 – Killing of Wolves for Depredation of Livestock:** This bill was drafted to help clarify the language in the ODFW Wolf Conservation Plan. The bill would allow killing of wolves



### Duck Fans

OHA Rogue Valley Chapter members refurbish mallard hen houses at Denman Wildlife Area on Feb. 11. OHA junior member Tyler Dungannon built, installed and monitored 12 of the structures for his senior project and confirmed multiple successful nests. He has since provided OHA chapters with information about building hen houses and has secured a pledge of matching funds to assist chapters with material costs. The structures greatly increase nesting success.

to address depredation of livestock. The bill passed the House and went to the Senate, where it was expected to face a struggle.

### Senate Bills

• **SB 1590 Abolishment of State Agencies:** This bill caused a great deal of debate when the Senate Republicans tried to bring it to the floor of the Senate for a vote after it became stuck in a Senate committee. Although this bill will go nowhere this time, it is the second bill in the past two years to address this subject. The bill would abolish state agencies on a specific date. ODFW is one of those agencies listed in the bill. Expect more bills like this one in future Legislative Sessions.

## Wolf symposium planned

A wolf symposium is being planned for May 12 in Albany with the exact location to be announced. The all-day symposium will feature presentations from experts on topics of wolf depredation on livestock and wildlife. Watch future Trackers for more information.

## Remember to report your hunt

April 15 is the deadline for reporting hunts ending between Jan. 1 and March 31, 2012.

Find a link to report your harvest at: [www.oregonhunters.org](http://www.oregonhunters.org)

# CALENDAR

## MARCH 3

OHA chapter banquets:  
Pioneer (503) 266-1531  
Josephine County (541) 761-1852  
Klamath (541) 591-2452  
Rogue Valley (541) 890-2029

## MARCH 8

Central Oregon  
Sportsman's show opens

## MARCH 10

OHA chapter banquets:  
Capitol (503) 390-1451  
Siuslaw(541) 999-9222  
Tualatin Valley PDX (503) 259-9821  
Goose seasons end: NW  
permit, S. Coast, Klamath  
and Malheur counties

## MARCH 15

Leftover spring bear tags on sale

## MARCH 11

Central Oregon  
Sportsman's Show closes

## MARCH 17

OHA Clatsop County  
Chapter banquet, (503) 359-3535;  
OHA State Board meeting, Bend

## MARCH 24

OHA chapter banquets:  
Malheur County (541) 473-4010  
Yamhill County (971) 241-0990

## MARCH 31

OHA Mid-Columbia Youth Turkey  
Clinic, (541) 296-6124



## OHA offers reward in case of poached doe and fawn

The Oregon State Police (OSP) Fish & Wildlife Division is asking for the public's assistance in identifying whoever is responsible for the unlawful killing and waste of a blacktail doe and fawn deer in the Sixes Unit in Coos County.

OSP Trooper Ryan Keeler on Feb. 21 responded to a report of two deer carcasses wrapped in a blue tarp near milepost 3 on Two Mile Lane in the Bandon area. Based on information and the condition of the carcasses, Keeler believes the deer were killed approximately Feb. 18 or 19. The deer appear to have been shot with a small caliber firearm. Both deer were gutted and the remains left to waste. The fawn's head had been removed and wasn't found.

A reward of up to \$500 is being offered by the Oregon Hunters Association Turn-in-Poachers (TIP) Reward Program for information leading to the arrest and conviction in this case. Anyone with information related to this investigation is asked to call the Turn-in-Poachers TIP line at 1-800-452-7888 or Trooper Keeler at (541) 888-2677 ext. 243.

## Leftover spring bear tags on sale March 15

Leftover spring bear tags go on sale March 15 at 10 a.m. at license sales agents only. Tags for the following hunts will be available:

710A Saddle Mt./Scappoose (38 tags)  
731A South Central (95 tags)

### Youth Spring Bear Tags:

757T Sled Springs/Chesnimnus (12 tags)  
760T Minam/Imnaha Youth (27 tags)

Youth hunters must be 12-17 years old at the time they hunt.

Spring bear hunts offer the first chance to enter OHA's Statewide Bear and Cougar Contest for 2012. See details at [www.ohabearandcougar.webs.com](http://www.ohabearandcougar.webs.com)

## AIL offers OHA members increased AD&D benefit

The OHA State Board of Directors recently renewed its contract with American Income Life to provide OHA members complimentary accidental death and dismemberment insurance with a benefit value of \$3,500. Many families of OHA members have received a similar benefit from AIL in recent years.

OHA members soon will be mailed notification of this benefit, with an option to designate a beneficiary and receive additional no-cost benefits in a visit from an AIL representative. No member's name or contact information is supplied to AIL, and no agent will call if you do not return the card. Return of the card is not required to maintain the accident insurance.

# Enter OHA's 2012 Bear & Cougar Contest!



JIM WARD

Enter each 2012 Oregon bear and cougar tag you purchase in our drawing, and you could win some great optics prizes even if you don't bag a bruin, or you let the cat out of the bag! One successful bear or cougar hunter will win a Redfield spotting scope, too. For complete contest rules for 2012 and cougar contest winners for 2011, log on to: [www.ohabearandcougar.webs.com](http://www.ohabearandcougar.webs.com)



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