



# THE OHA TRACKER

March 2013



## Oregon House introduces gun ban bill

The Oregon House has recently introduced HB 3200, a bill that would make it a crime to possess or transfer a firearm that falls under the bill's broad definition of "assault weapon" or "large capacity magazine."

The bill also requires current owners to dispose of or register these firearms and magazines. In addition, it requires OSP to conduct background checks and maintain registry of these firearms and magazines.

The bill will likely be referred to the House Judiciary Committee.

OHA will work with National Rifle Association and Oregon Firearms Federation to defeat this bill.

### Newly Introduced Bills of Interest

#### • HB 3110 Preference Point Incentive for Mandatory Reporting

**Summary:** The bill requires the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Commission to establish an incentive program to increase compliance with mandatory hunting reporting requirements. The bill removes the current \$25 penalty and adds language to create an incentive program that would allow a preference point to be given to a person for every (X number) report(s) submitted by that person. (Note: X number of reports to be determined by legislature).

#### • HB 3261 Tax Credit For Gun Safes

**Summary:** This bill establishes a refundable credit against personal income taxes for purchase of qualifying gun safes. Applies to tax years beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2013, and before Jan.1, 2015.



*A new bill would require ODFW to recommend rules for a pilot program to allow dogs to hunt cougars.*

#### • HB 3395 Cougar Pilot Program

**Summary:** This bill requires State Department of Fish and Wildlife to recommend rules regarding the creation of a pilot program that allows the use of dogs to hunt or pursue cougars. The bill allows the county governing body to request inclusion in the pilot program.

### Anti-Trapping Campaign Update

PACWEST, the company heading the campaign to stop the anti-trapping initiative, reports the latest:

#### DOJ Rewrites Ballot Title

Based on overwhelming public comments (80 to 1) and the detailed legal arguments submitted by the Oregon Outdoor Council Association's Ross Day, the Attorney General's (AG) office rewrote and issued a certified ballot title for Initiative Ballot #5. The new ballot title is:

*Bans commercial, recreational, trapping, trading in resultant fur/body parts; poi-*

**For a complete listing of the bills we are following, visit the OHA website:**  
[www.oregonhunters.org/leg.htm](http://www.oregonhunters.org/leg.htm)

*soning mammals; body-gripping traps*

OHA submitted comments challenging the ballot title, and we thank all of you who sent in comments as well.

#### Next Steps

PACWEST will now appeal the certified ballot title to the Oregon Supreme Court, which must be done by March 7. The AG will then have five days to file a response, but can ask for an extension. After that, PACWEST will have five days to submit a reply brief. Finally, the case will be submitted to the Supreme Court, which can take as long as it likes to decide whether the ballot title is accurate or not. This can take a week or several months.

### Guides and Packers Bill

In February a hearing was held on HB 2039, the bill that tightens up the Guides and Packers program administered by the State Marine Board. The hearing before the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee went very well with no opposition of any kind from stakeholders

### Landowner Preference and ODFW Bills

In late February a hearing was held on the Landowner Preference bills. An ODFW LOP workgroup that had been meeting for some time on the subject of LOP has come to agreement on a new system for distribution of LOP tags based on unit management objectives.

# CALENDAR

## MARCH 2

OHA Chapter banquets:  
Josephine County 541-761-1852  
Emerald Valley 541-484-0767  
Pioneer 503-710-1233  
Rogue Valley 541-773-1587

## MARCH 7

C. Ore. Sportsman's show opens

## MARCH 9

OHA Chapter banquets:  
Capitol 503-910-7410  
Siuslaw 541-999-9222  
Tualatin Valley 503-259-9821

## MARCH 10

Goose seasons end: NW permit,  
S. Coast, Klamath and Malheur  
counties;  
Daylight Saving begins

## MARCH 16

OHA Chapter banquet:  
Clatsop County 503-359-3535;  
OHA State Board meeting,  
(541) 772-7313

## MARCH 23

OHA Chapter banquet:  
Yamhill County 971-241-0990

## APRIL 1

Spring bear season opens in W.  
Blue Mountains and W. Oregon  
hunt areas

## APRIL 6

OHA Mid-Columbia youth turkey  
clinic 541-296-6124;  
OHA Chapter banquets:  
Baker County 541-523-6626  
Lake County 541-219-2629

## APRIL 13

OHA Chapter banquets:  
Malheur County 541-216-0485  
Tioga 541-267-2577  
Statewide youth spring turkey hunt

## APRIL 14

Statewide youth spring turkey hunt

## APRIL 15

Harvest reporting deadline for  
winter tags;  
OHA election ballot deadline;  
Spring turkey season opens

## OHA election ballots in mail; please vote!

Your ballot to vote in the 2013 OHA state elections is contained in your March-April issue of OREGON HUNTER. Please do your part to elect the leaders who will guide OHA as we start our next 30 years of service to Oregon's hunting heritage by returning your ballot to OHA no later than April 15.

**Important clarification:** the accompanying information asks for your membership number on the return envelope, which it states is printed next to your name on the cover. Due to an addressing error, the membership number does not appear there. If you don't know your membership number, you can find it:

- On an old OHA membership card;

• In the "proof of membership" portion at the bottom of a recent letter of confirmation after you joined or renewed;

• On your address label adhered to any recent OHA chapter newsletter.

You may also contact the OHA State Office at (541) 772-7313 or email us at [oha@ccountry.net](mailto:oha@ccountry.net) and we will provide it.

The number is simply requested for easier verification, and the OHA State Election Committee can and will verify the elector's membership if an election envelope arrives without the membership number. *No ballot will be disqualified for failing to include the membership number.*

## OHA offers \$1,000 reward in elk poaching

The Oregon State Police (OSP) Fish and Wildlife Division at the Tillamook office is asking for the public's help in locating whoever is responsible for the unlawful killing and wasting of a five-point bull elk found in February off Blaine Road eight miles east of Beaver in southern Tillamook County.

A reward is offered through contributions from the State and local Tillamook County Chapter of the Oregon Hunters Association.

On Feb. 4, at approximately 7:30 a.m., OSP was notified by a citizen that a bull

elk was seen lying in a field near milepost 8 off Blaine Road. Another citizen reported seeing nearly a dozen elk at the same location about two hours earlier. A trooper responded to the location and seized the slain elk for salvage and evidence.

A reward of up to \$1,000 is offered by OHA's Turn-In-Poachers (TIP) reward program for information leading to the arrest and conviction in this case. Anyone with information regarding this investigation is asked to contact Trooper Geoff Smith at (503) 812-9876 or email [geoff.smith@state.or.us](mailto:geoff.smith@state.or.us).

Enter OHA's  
Bear &  
Cougar  
Contest!



Buy your new tags and enter OHA's 2013 Contest!

For complete details, visit OHA's website:  
[www.oregonhunters.org/cougarcontest](http://www.oregonhunters.org/cougarcontest)