



OHA TRACKER



CASCADE-SISKIYOU MONUMENT/BLM



NOVEMBER 2016

OHA weighs in on Cascade-Siskiyou Monument proposals

Hearing held on expansion; your comments on road closures needed by Nov. 18

The Oregon Hunters Association this fall is monitoring and questioning two drastic proposals for the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument – one that would nearly double the size of the monument, and another that could close more than half the road miles within the existing monument to public motorized travel.

OHA sent email alerts to members asking them to comment on the expansion proposal via email and by attending a public hearing held by the Jackson County Board of Commissioners on Oct. 27 in Medford.

“We look forward to hearing from the citizens of southern Oregon regarding this expansion,” said Commissioner Colleen Roberts prior to the hearing. “The outcome of this decision will have dramatic long-term effects on our communities.”

The hearing was scheduled to capture a comprehensive discussion concerning the expansion of the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument. The Board of Commissioners asked for testimony from all points of view to create a balanced report. From the public hearing testimony the Jackson County Commissioners will

forward the testimony to the Secretary of Interior, Sally Jewell, who they hope will then share with President Barack Obama before he reaches any decision.

OHA questioned the need, science, haste and lack of public process behind the proposal to nearly double the size of the monument, which was pushed by Oregon’s U.S. Senators Wyden and Merkley, who claimed broad support for the plan before it was even publicized.

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While many southern Oregon hunters are still stinging from the loss of traditional motorized travel routes in the area resulting from the original monument designation by Bill Clinton in the waning days of his presidency, news of a proposed expansion of the monument and a proposal to further restrict access in the existing monument area came as a devastating one-two punch.

BLM has cited numerous pressures to install additional gates in the existing monument that could close more than half the remaining road miles to public motorized travel.

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OHA’s southern Oregon chapters have voiced objections to the further restriction of traditional access, and OHA is asking its members to comment by the Nov. 18 deadline.

Find more information on the Cascade-Siskiyou National Monument proposals

For more, including easy-to-click links to the pages below, visit OHA’s Legislative web page at: <http://www.oregonhunters.org/legislative.html>
For an OregonLive article on proposed expansion, visit: http://www.oregonlive.com/travel/index.ssf/2016/10/oregonians_speak_out_on_expans.html
For more on proposed road closures, visit: https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/projects/nepa/59400/71291/78089/CSNM_Draft_TMP_and_EA_03.25.16_no_Plate_Maps_OPT2.pdf

See this week’s Hunting Headlines at www.oregonhunters.org

Fish & wildlife funding: How long can sportsmen carry most of the load?

Mark Labhart, Chair of the Task Force on Funding for Fish, Wildlife and Related Outdoor Recreation and Education, presented an interim report to the House Interim Committee on Agriculture and Natural Resources in October. Labhart stated that the task force has determined that for ODFW to implement its statutory mission, there is a need of an additional \$80 million a biennium.

The task force evaluated over 100 funding options and recently narrowed those options to two that are the most viable: an Oregon income tax surcharge and a bottle tax surcharge.

The task force is a result of HB 2402, which passed the 2015 Legislature by votes of 58-0 in the House and 24-4 in the Senate. The bill was supported by a variety of interest groups including hunt-

ing, fishing and conservation groups. Its 17 members were appointed by the Governor.

The task force will take its recommendations to the 2017 Legislature, which begins in January.

Noxious weeds program needs additional funds

At a recent legislative hearing, Oregon Department of Agriculture representatives described the importance of their Noxious Weed Program and the need for additional funding.

It is estimated that noxious weeds have an \$83.5 million annual impact on Oregon's economy and, if left uncontrolled, the impact could reach as high as \$1.8 billion.

ODA stated that for every dollar invested in early detection and response to noxious weeds, there is a \$34 benefit to Oregon's economy.

OUTDOOR OUTLOOK

NOVEMBER 4

Western deer rifle season closes;
2nd Rocky Mtn elk season tag deadline

NOVEMBER 5

Youth general rifle season western deer
hunt weekend;
2nd Rocky Mountain elk season opens

NOVEMBER 6

Youth general rifle season western deer
hunt weekend;
Daylight Saving ends

NOVEMBER 8

ELECTION DAY – PLEASE VOTE!

NOVEMBER 11

Tag deadline for 1st coast bull season

NOVEMBER 12

Coast bull 1st season opens;
Late SW deer bow season opens

NOVEMBER 13

Rocky Mountain elk 2nd season ends

NOVEMBER 15

Coast bull first season closes

NOVEMBER 18

Tag deadline for 2nd coast bull season;
comment deadline for Cascade-Siskiyou
Monument road closure proposals

NOVEMBER 19

Late NW deer bow season opens;
Coast bull 2nd season opens;
OHA Bend Chapter youth bird hunt
541-480-7323

NOVEMBER 25

Coast bull 2nd season closes

NOVEMBER 30

E. Oregon bear season ends

DECEMBER 4

Late SW deer bow season ends

DECEMBER 11

Late NW deer bow season ends

DECEMBER 31

Seasons end for pheasant, fall turkey,
Western Oregon bear

WIN A GUIDED BUCK HUNT ON THE NATURE CONSERVANCY'S FAMOUS ZUMWALT PRAIRIE PRESERVE!



**1 Hunter and up to 2 non-hunting
guests & 1 guide for 3 days in 2017!**

Tickets: \$50, or 3 for \$100. 300 offered.

Value: \$4,900. Drawing: March 9, 2017.

**To buy tickets: Call the OHA State Office at 541-772-7313, or mail
check and contact info to OHA, P.O. Box 1706, Medford, OR 97501.**

3-day guided deer rifle hunt for 1 hunter on the 33,000-acre Zumwalt Prairie Preserve in Oregon's Willowa County in the fall 2017 season (dates TBD; likely October). Hunter may bring up to 2 guests who do not hunt. Hunting is all on foot and hunters should be in good physical condition. Recent hunter success rate has been close to 100%. Trophy bucks are common. The Preserve is part of the largest remaining intact Pacific Northwest bunchgrass prairie in North America. Food, beverages, gear, & gratuity not included. Transportation to Preserve not included (once there, guide will provide transportation). Deer tag is guaranteed, but hunter is responsible for license/tag cost. Must make arrangements by April 1, 2017. Raffle hosted by OHA. **Drawing:** March 9, 2017, 7 p.m. Eagle's Club, 2000 Table Rock Rd., Medford, OR. Need not be present to win.