

OHA fights anti-hunting, gun control petitions

By Al Elkins & Amy Patrick, OHA Lobbyists
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The 2021 Oregon Legislative session is over, but the work continues for the OHA legislative team, as initiative petitions threatening hunting and gun ownership have been filed, and we are currently working on defeating them. Here is the latest from Salem.

IP13: Hunting, Trapping and Fishing Ban

IP13 has passed another milestone on the way to the ballot. As of July 15, the petitioners have approval to solicit signatures to place the measure on the November 2022 general election ballot.

After successfully challenging the ballot title to better reflect the sweeping implications of the extreme proposal, OHA continues to spread the message about IP13 through interviews with American/NW Outdoor Radio and participation in the Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation's regional policy briefing. We are heavily involved with two coalitions working in tandem to keep the measure from making the ballot, and our web page dedicated to IP13 information and updates (<https://oregonhunters.org/initiative-petition-13>) remains the most comprehensive information source.

How can you help? Three simple ways to help keep IP13 off the ballot:

1) Make sure the people in your family, friends, and coworkers are aware of the ramifications and understand the reasons not to sign.

2) Donate to OHA's Hunter Victory fund for this and other legislative or legal battles (<https://oregonhunters.org/donate>).

3) Talk about the importance of our self-reliant lifestyle. Being less reliant on the national food network and understanding where our food comes from is a conversation that resonates well with people even if they don't hunt or fish.

IP17 & IP18: Gun Control Initiatives

Two gun control initiatives aimed for the November 2022 ballot have been filed with the Oregon Attorney General:

- IP17 - Prohibits the use and possession of ammunition magazines to those that hold more than 10 rounds.
- IP18 - Prohibits manufacturing, possessing and transferring many semiautomatic firearms.

OHA submitted a letter about IP17 to the Attorney General stating that the petition violates the constitutional provision that initiatives only address one subject.

OHA also sent a letter to the Attorney General on IP18 that in part stated:

"IP18 also purports to prohibit the use of covered firearms for practice and target shooting expressly permitted under federal law on federal public lands such as the national forests and BLM lands, which comprise almost 50 percent of Oregon's land. The Draft Ballot Title does not inform voters of this radical, indeed unprecedented effect of IP18."

OHA is working closely with gun advocate groups to stop these two petitions.



Sign of the times? Initiative Petition 13 would ban hunting and fishing in Oregon. To support OHA in this and other legal and legislative battles, donate to OHA's Hunter Victory Fund at <https://oregonhunters.org/donate>

OHA's Amy Patrick named Sportsmen's Caucus Chair

Elections for the Oregon Sportsmen's Caucus Foundation Board were held last week. Here is a list of the newly elected board members:

Chair – Amy Patrick, Oregon Hunters Association; Vice Chair – Bob Oleson, Association of Northwest Steelheaders; Secretary/Treasurer – Sherrie Sprenger, Linn County Board of Commissioners.

Congratulations to the new officers!

OHA signs group letter on elk archery regs

By Jim Akenson, OHA NE Director

OHA has been actively involved in giving input on ODFW's proposal to make changes to eastern Oregon's archery regulations, primarily as part of a series of sport group meetings spanning the last couple years.

This proposal culminates with the Fish and Wildlife Commission putting these or similar changes into rule at the Aug. 6 Commission meeting.

The ODFW staff proposal would add eight wildlife management units to

the seven existing controlled units for archery and leave the rest of the state in one general season for archery. There would also be a five-unit Eagle Cap Zone including and surrounding the Eagle Cap Wilderness. OHA supports these changes, including the zone concept, assuming that elk tag numbers were within objectives for biological factors and equity in harvest distribution for all weapon types.

In addition, OHA has strongly encouraged establishing a statewide controlled archery youth hunt, which would al-

low youth to hunt the newly proposed controlled units, and general hunt units, during archery season.

OHA will submit a separate letter encouraging this youth hunt concept and hope that our membership will also contribute support for future bowhunters.

OHA submitted a detailed letter to the Commission jointly with Backcountry Hunters & Anglers, Oregon Outdoor Council, and Traditional Archers of Oregon. The joint letter can be viewed at <https://oregonhunters.org/documents>

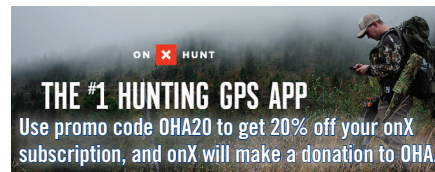
OHA safe crossing work continues

By Mike Totey, OHA Conservation Director
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OHA has been actively engaged with our conservation partners to help forge the way for both identifying critical wildlife crossing locations, and securing funding for construction of passage structures in Oregon.

The Watch for Wildlife license plate campaign, participation in a work group for HB 2834 to look at state funding sources, taking advantage of Secretarial

Order 3362 for projects on Department of the Interior lands, and pressing for passage of the federal transportation bill that includes \$100 million for wildlife crossings in the western U.S. are recent examples of our work.



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