

SPECIAL AUCTION AND RAFFLE TAGS

A number of unique big game hunting opportunities are available in Oregon through the use of special auction and raffle tags. These tags offer both an expanded hunt area and expanded season dates. As a result, special auction and raffle tags have become very popular.

The primary purpose of the tags is to generate funding for specific programs. Auction and raffle tags for bighorn sheep, pronghorn, and Rocky Mountain goat generate funding for management and research for respective species. Auction and raffle tags for deer and elk generate funding for the Access and Habitat Program.

Bighorn Sheep

The Oregon Bighorn Sheep Auction and Raffle tag program has been the cornerstone for funding bighorn management and research in Oregon since its inception (Table 1). The 2010 Oregon bighorn auction tag sold for a bid price of \$110,000 in February 2010. Overall, individual bid prices for state tags at the 2010 Foundation for North American Wild Sheep (FNAWS) auction were stable. The 2010 bighorn raffle tag was drawn at the May 15, 2010 Oregon Hunters Association (OHA) convention in Canyonville, OR.

Table 1. Income from Oregon Bighorn Auction (1987-2010) and Raffle (1992 – 2010) tag sales.

Year	Auction Tag			Raffle Tag	
	Bid Price	Net	Host	Sales	Host
1987	\$56,000	\$56,000	OHA		
1988	\$35,000	\$35,000	OHA		
1989	\$47,000	\$47,000	OHA		
1990	\$46,000	\$46,000	OHA		
1991	\$25,000	\$25,000	OHA		
1992	\$57,000	\$51,300	FNAWS	\$26,207	OHA
1993	\$102,000	\$91,800	FNAWS	\$45,000	OHA
1994	\$110,000	\$99,000	FNAWS	\$45,683	OHA
1995	\$73,000	\$65,700	FNAWS	\$40,019	OHA
1996	\$50,000	\$45,000	FNAWS	\$41,043	OHA
1997	\$30,000	\$27,000	FNAWS	\$22,945	OHA
1998	\$59,000	\$53,100	FNAWS	\$16,314	OHA
1999	\$87,500	\$78,750	FNAWS	\$39,962	OHA
2000	\$76,000	\$68,400	FNAWS	\$47,716	OHA
2001	\$67,500	\$60,750	FNAWS	\$42,187	OHA
2002	\$74,000	\$66,600	FNAWS	\$75,966	OHA
2003	\$78,000	\$70,200	FNAWS	\$40,300	OHA
2004	\$86,000	\$77,400	FNAWS	\$31,479	OHA
2005	\$130,000	\$117,000	FNAWS	\$53,841	OHA
2006	\$120,000	\$108,000	FNAWS	\$85,351	OHA
2007	\$120,000	\$108,000	FNAWS	\$55,730	OHA
2008	\$87,500	\$78,750	FNAWS	\$68,353	OHA
2009	\$95,000	\$85,500	FNAWS	\$51,225	OHA
2010 ^a	\$110,000	\$99,000	FNAWS	\$26,324	OHA
Total	\$1,821,500	\$1,660,250		\$855,645	
Grand Total Net Income from Special Bighorn Tags:				\$2,515,895	

^a Raffle ticket sales as of 4/30/10.

Pronghorn Antelope

The Commission is authorized to annually issue one special pronghorn auction tag and one special pronghorn raffle tag. Patterned after the bighorn sheep auction and raffle tags, funding generated from these tags is dedicated to pronghorn management and research. After six years, these two tags have generated close to \$150,000. The 2010 special auction tag sold for \$7,000 at the 2010 Klamath Mule Deer Foundation banquet on February 20, 2010 (Table 2). Raffle sales for the 2010 pronghorn tag were over \$6,000 during 2010. The raffle tag was drawn at the May 15, 2010 OHA convention in Canyonville, OR. Proposals for the 2011 special pronghorn tags will be presented to the Commission in October 2010.

Table 2. Oregon Pronghorn Auction and Raffle tag sales (2004 – 2010).

Year	Auction Tag			Raffle Tag	
	Bid Price	Net	Host	Sales	Host
2004	\$13,000	\$11,700	Klamath OHA	\$7,934	State OHA
2005	\$34,000	\$30,600	Harney OHA	\$10,453	State OHA
2006	\$20,200	\$18,180	Lakeview OHA	\$8,473	State OHA
2007	\$4,200	\$3,780	Josephine OHA	\$6,646	State OHA
2008	\$10,000	\$9,000	Oregon FNAWS	\$14,942	State OHA
2009	\$5,000	\$4,500	Umpqua OHA	\$9,311	State OHA
2010 ^a	\$7,000	\$6,300	Klamath MDF	\$6,403	State OHA
Total	\$93,400	\$84,060		\$64,162	
Grand Total Net Income from Special Pronghorn Tags:				\$148,222	

^a Raffle ticket sales as of 4/30/10.

Rocky Mountain Goat

The Commission is authorized to annually issue one special Rocky Mountain goat auction tag and one special Rocky Mountain goat raffle tag. Also patterned after the bighorn sheep auction and raffle tags, funding generated from these tags is dedicated to Rocky Mountain goat management and research. After six years, this tag has generated over \$95,000 (Table 3). Due to the limited number of controlled Rocky Mountain goat tags, the department does not issue an auction tag. The raffle tag was drawn at the May 15, 2010 OHA convention in Canyonville, OR. Proposals for the 2011 special Rocky Mountain goat tags will be presented to the Commission in October 2010.

Table 3. Oregon Rocky Mountain goat Raffle tag sales (2004 – 2010).

Year	Sales	Host
2004	\$7,210	State OHA
2005	\$8,400	State OHA
2006	\$16,149	State OHA
2007	\$25,498	State OHA
2008	\$17,886	State OHA
2009 ^a	\$8,893	State OHA
2010 ^a	\$11,336	State OHA
Total	\$95,372	

^a Raffle ticket sales as of 4/30/10.

Access and Habitat, Deer and Elk Auction and Raffle Program

The Access and Habitat (A&H) deer and elk auction and raffle program has been a valuable funding source, generating almost \$4 million in revenue since 1995 (Table 4). Auction and raffle proceeds have accounted for approximately 35 percent of A&H Program revenue. These funds, together with a license surcharge and a portion of the Green Forage and Deer Enhancement and Restoration funds, have been used to implement over 400 hunter access and/or habitat projects in Oregon.

A&H deer and elk raffle tickets, along with other 2010 department big game raffle tickets, were sold at ODFW offices and point-of-sales license agents beginning in December 2009. The raffle drawing took place at the 2010 Oregon Hunters Association annual convention on May 15, 2010. Raffle tickets can be purchased singly or in multi-packs for deer (1 for \$4.50, 6 for \$11.50, 15 for \$21.50, 40 for \$51.50, and 100 for \$101.50), elk (1 for \$6.50, 6 for \$21.50, 15 for \$41.50, and 40 for \$101.50), and combination deer and elk (1 for \$11.50, 6 for \$31.50, 15 for \$61.50, and 40 for \$151.50).

A&H deer and elk tags are auctioned at the fundraising banquets of sponsoring sport groups. Each summer the department solicits applications to sponsor an A&H auction tag. The A&H Board will select sponsoring organizations at their July 20, 2010, meeting in Salem. Sponsoring organizations receive up to 10 percent of the proceeds from the sale of the auction tag and the remainder is forwarded to the A&H Program. The 2010 A&H auction program was successful, with sales comparable to previous years.

The open season for deer and elk auction and raffle hunts is defined in rule as **September 1 – November 30**. There is currently a request to extend the season of these hunts until December 31. Some auction tag and raffle ticket purchasers have indicated that they would pay more if the seasons were longer; others have suggested that although they would prefer a longer season, they do not think it would increase the value of the hunt.

A comprehensive review of auction and raffle programs sponsored by other western fish and wildlife agencies revealed that although many states offer longer hunting seasons, most of them experienced a decrease in auction revenue over the 2007 – 2009 period, whereas Oregon's revenue increased during that time frame. The requested extension could have a negative impact on vulnerable herds utilizing limited winter range resources. The impact may be greater than expected from 10 deer and 10 elk tags because some auction and raffle hunters hire scouts and guides that would contribute to the disturbance.

Due to the increased disturbance to herds on critical winter range and the anticipated lack of revenue increase, the staff and the A&H Board does not support extending the deer and elk auction and raffle hunt seasons.

Table 4. Access and Habitat deer and elk auction and raffle program revenue (1995-2010).

Year	Auction Tags			Raffle Tags	
	Bid Price	Net	Host	Revenue	Host
1995	\$57,900	\$52,110	RMEF(8), OHA(1)	\$86,650	OHA
1996	\$107,950	\$97,155	RMEF(4), OHA, MDF(2), OFBD	\$62,339	OHA
1997	\$115,900	\$104,310	RMEF(4), OFBD, MDF(2), OHA	\$49,663	OHA
1998	\$124,250	\$111,825	RMEF(3), MDF(3), OHA(3)	\$48,455	OHA
1999	\$164,500	\$148,050	RMEF(3), OHA(3), MDF(2), SCI	\$87,535	OHA
2000	\$147,000	\$132,300	RMEF(2), OHA(3), FNAWS, MDF(2), SCI	\$73,806	OHA
2001	\$149,450	\$134,505	RMEF(2), OHA(3), FNAWS, MDF(2), SCI	\$81,332	OHA
2002	\$165,000	\$148,500	RMEF(2), OHA(2), FNAWS(2), CDA, MDF, SCI	\$100,558	OHA
2003	\$164,000	\$147,600	RMEF(2), MDF, FNAWS, CDA, SCI, NRA, OHA(2)	\$75,573	OHA
2004	\$179,000	\$161,100	RMEF (1), OHA(4), CDA, OBH, MDF, FNAWS	\$80,938	OHA
2005	\$218,000	\$196,200	RMEF(2), FNAWS,OHA(3), OBH, MDF, SCI	\$104,770	OHA
2006	\$230,000	\$207,000	RMEF (2),OHA(2),NWTF,OBH,SCI, FNAWS,MDF	\$ 99,404	OHA
2007	\$258,500	\$232,650	RMEF (2),OHA(2),NWTF,OBH,SCI, FNAWS,MDF	\$115,723	OHA
2008	\$246,500	\$221,850	RMEF (3), OHA (3), SCI, OBH, NWTF	\$114,142	OHA
2009	\$256,500	\$230,850	RMEF (2),OHA (2),MDF,OBH,NWTF,SCI, FNAWS	\$122,113	OHA
2010	\$228,000¹	\$205,200¹	RMEF (2), OHA (2), MDF (2), OBH, NWTF, SCI	\$53,993²	OHA
Totals	\$2,812,450	\$2,531,205		\$1,356,994	OHA
Grand Total Income from Special Deer and Elk Tags: \$3,888,199					

¹ 8 of 9 tags have been auctioned as of 4/30/10. The last auction will be held on 5/15/10

² Raffle ticket sales as of 4/30/10. Raffle ticket sales will end on 5/15/10.

A&H Board and Department Recommendations

The department proposes the Commission reauthorize one bighorn sheep auction and one bighorn sheep raffle tag in concept for 2011. The department recommends one special bighorn tag be auctioned to the highest bidder during the 2011 FNAWS annual convention in Reno, NV, and one special bighorn raffle tag to be drawn in conjunction with all raffle tags at the 2011 annual big game raffle drawing event.

The department recommends continuation of the special pronghorn auction and raffle tags for 2011 and proposes that the raffle tag be drawn in conjunction with all other department raffle tags (e.g. A&H hunts, bighorn, Rocky Mountain goat). The department is soliciting bids from organizations wishing to sponsor the 2011 pronghorn auction tag through the summer. The department will propose a recommended sales date and location in October 2010.

The department recommends continuation of the special Rocky Mountain goat raffle tag for 2011 and proposes that the raffle tag be drawn in conjunction with all other department raffle tags (e.g. A&H hunts, bighorn, pronghorn antelope). Since controlled tags for Rocky Mountain goats continue to be limited at this time, the department is not proposing implementation of an auction program for 2011.

The A&H Board recommends continuation of the allocation of five deer and five elk raffle tags and five deer and five elk auction tags for the 2011 season. The Board recommends that the A&H auction and raffle tags remain unchanged from the 2010 season.