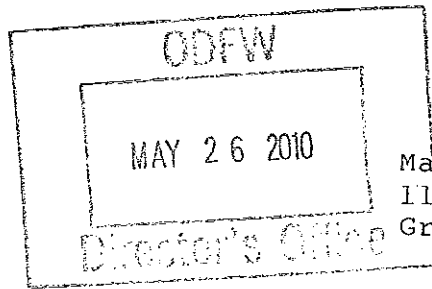


Exhibit C

Public Correspondence

**Public Correspondence as of
September 15, 2010**



May 23, 2010
1190 Slagle Crk. Rd.
Grants Pass, OR 97527

ODFW Information and Education Div.
3406 Cherry Ave., NE
Salem, OR 97303

Below are my comments regarding Oregon hunters being required to use blaze/orange clothing while hunting.

From my perspective as one who lives in the rural Applegate Valley of SW Oregon with federal forest lands therein and utilized by hunters, I am enthusiastically in favor of all hunters wearing blaze/orange apparel while hunting any prey, including turkeys.

I include turkeys based on personal experience, when I discovered two bow hunters on my property, trying to locate a lost arrow which they had used to bring down a Tom from adjacent land and missed. I was fortunate to be out of the line of the arrow's trajectory since I neither saw or heard the bow hunters in their hunting effort.

As an aside, if ODFW had not introduced turkeys into SW Oregon, an area they are not known to have historically used, for money generated from hunting tags, I would not need to worry about bow hunters that miss, nor the fact that turkeys messed the ecological balance in the area where I live. Turkeys do not only eat seeds, acorns and the like. They eat snakes, amphibians, and lizards, to the point that I no longer see aquatic garter snakes at my pond, nor rough skinned newts, and no western fence lizards sunning on my fence rails. Plus mountain quail; that used to use the pond has a water source, no longer appears. So much for ODFW providing balanced management.

That also applies to the expansion of cougar hunting months in the Applegate. I haven't seen evidence of them on my property for months, nor black bears since ODFW has increased the months they can be hunted.

For the 23 years I've lived in the Applegate Valley I've recognized I live in wild creature country, not the reverse. It would seem to me the education part of ODFW should do more to educate the public about living in such locations, than increasing hunting seasons on animals that people complain about or think they see lurking behind every tree.

I haven't heard of any cougar taking a human for a snack, nor a black bear treeing a hunter. And should it ever happen there'd be cries from the hunters for bringing back dogs & more hunting months. But blaze/orange while hunting? If they don't want it after a teenager is killed by his uncle last year while hunting together in heavy brush, why would they want it now?

It is up to ODFW and the Commission to bite the proverbial bullet or hunting arrow to at least make the hunters of this state safer and more cognizant of their responsibilities in the forests, and the animals that live within them.

PR Kellogg - Option 5
P.R. Kellogg

cc: ODFW Commissioners

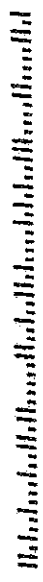


WEDFORD OR 975
24 MAY 2010 PM 4 L

PR Kellogg
1190 Slagle Crk. Rd.
Grants Pass, OR 97527

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission
3406 Cherry Ave. NE
Salem, OR 97303-4924

MAY 26 2010
O.D.F.W. MAIL DEPT.



9730334924

Roy Clicker

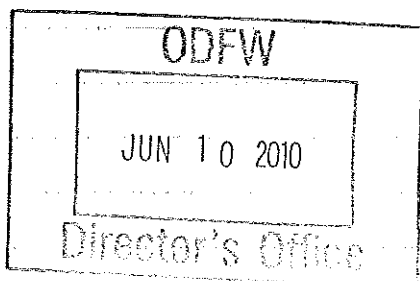
Dear Sir

I will not wear orange or any clothes the government tells me to wear. This is a Communist government. What right do you have to tell me what to wear? Who pays your wages? The hunters do. Deer like can see orange a mile away. I proved it many times.

Long Gortzen should lose his hunting license for life. He should serve 10 years in prison. Any body who shoots in the brush the way he did is insane. He is a brush shooter. Was he drunk or on drugs? A person does not look a deer or a elk. He would have shot the kid anyway even if he was wearing orange.

I am 72 years old and have hunted all my life.

Joseph D. Stovene



RECEIVED

JUN 10 2010


O.D.F.W MAIL ROOM

Eugene
6 June 2010

Dear Mr. Willard —

Thank you for the opportunity to exchange views with you last Friday on the blaze-orange issue.

I have enclosed copies of letters which I sent to Roy Elcker and Marla Rae on my reasons for opposing a blaze-orange requirement. I wish to emphasize that I support Oregon's current **OPTIONAL** blaze-orange policy. Indeed, hunters should wear blaze orange, red, pink or any other color if it suits them. However, a blaze orange requirement in my way of thinking reflects a state's apprehension about its lax licensing laws and inadequate hunter education programs for both adolescents and adults, as well as weak hunter ethics. When I see a state imposing a blaze-orange requirement I am very concerned about the quality of some hunters in the state.

I strongly urge Oregon to tighten up its licensing laws, expand hunter education programs, and work to improve hunter ethics before tinkering with the current **OPTIONAL** blaze-orange policy. Sincerely, 

2189 Elysium Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401-7421
April 26, 2010

Mr. Roy Elicker, Director
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
3406 Cherry Ave., N.E.
Salem, OR 97303-4924

Dear Mr. Elicker,

I am writing in response to a report that the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) is considering the possibility of requiring hunters to wear blaze orange while hunting. I strongly oppose such a requirement which, in my opinion, would not rectify the fundamental problems responsible for shooting accidents—deficiencies in hunter education and ethics—and it could result in more dangerous conditions for non-hunters traversing wildlife areas.

Before continuing I am obliged to make a disclaimer. For almost 10 years I have had the pleasure of serving as an ODFW volunteer at the Fern Ridge Wildlife Area. In preparing this letter I have not consulted ODFW staff nor have the contents herein been shared with ODFW members prior to posting the letter to you. Any comments on my position should be directed to me.

At the time I started hunting with my father in Michigan in the late 1950s, hunting requirements and mores had changed little from those of the nineteenth century. An adult could purchase a gun, ammunition, and hunting license in less than an hour, and then embark on a hunting trip immediately afterward. Since Michigan (as well as other states) did not require hunter certifications, it was possible, for example, that some hunters had never seen a deer in the wild, but yet they were armed and (dangerously) engaged in the search of an apparition. My father was troubled by hunting accidents, which he attributed to hunter inexperience and carelessness in virtually all cases. Years before I carried a gun in the forest, my father made certain that I knew my quarry well and that I put safety above all other considerations. I remember his words: "No hunter resembles an animal under any conditions." If there is doubt, your vision is impaired, the animal is out of range or it is obscured by natural conditions (fog, foliage, contours of the land, etc.) When blaze orange appeared on the market my father and I eschewed the fad and continued to hunt in our red-and-black-plaid wool jackets.

When Michigan (and later, Virginia and Maryland where I lived for several years) considered the mandatory wearing of blaze orange by hunters, I vigorously opposed the move. Now, hunters should wear blaze orange if they feel safer. However, I think a

requirement to wear blaze orange is not a strength but rather a weakness of hunting regulations and ethics. Can you see the contradiction? Hunting is a sport requiring extraordinary visual and mental skills, but yet hunters would be required by the state to wear blaze orange to avoid being mistaken for animals? Now think of the danger that might arise from a blaze-orange requirement. Hunters may reach a point where they look first for blaze orange. If they do not see blaze orange in an object, they might have a higher propensity to think that the target is legitimate. If the wearing of blaze orange becomes mandatory for hunters, should the same apply for hikers during hunting seasons.? If not, might non-hunters face greater danger than their gun toting brethren?

How many times have you heard an Oregon hunter say that he bought a magnum rifle to shoot over 500 yards across a canyon at deer or elk? In addition to contravening a fundamental hunting tenet; i.e., certainty that you can make a humane one-shot kill, the practice is downright dangerous for anybody near the target, even one who is wearing blaze orange. At such a distance, extraordinary optics would be necessary to make a positive identification of a blaze-orange-clad hunter walking in tall grass. Imagine an astute hunter who works hard to get within an acceptable range of an elk but gets caught in the line of fire from a hunter on the opposite side of the canyon. And, have you ever seen a deer jump up in front of you and disappear in a nearby thicket? Moments later you see movement approaching you in the thicket. Your inclinations tell you: "most certainly it is the same deer". But nonetheless, good hunter ethics dictate that you wait patiently with the safety on and the gun barrel pointing at the ground. To your utter astonishment, a hunter wearing blaze orange emerges. (This actually happened to me.) How many hunters wearing blaze orange have been injured or killed in such circumstances? In considering whether or not to adopt blaze orange requirements, it is wise to ask why states with such regulations continue to report shooting injuries and fatalities.

In the late 1980s I had the good fortune and honor to receive a Polish hunting license while working as a Foreign Service officer in the U.S. Embassy in Warsaw. I emphasize that it was an "honor" because through study under the tutelage of Poland's chief gamekeeper I passed in about six months the country's examinations for small and big game hunting. The average Pole had to study several years for a small game license and many more years to hunt for big game. A Polish employee in the U.S. embassy told me that he had studied for over 10 years and still had not completed requirements for a big game license.

While hunting in Poland for two years my hunter ethics improved considerably. I became a more patient, respectful and observant hunter. I passed up literally hundreds of opportunities to bag game (to the consternation of gamekeepers who were tasked with culling Poland's abundance of game) for the sake of a humane one-shot kill and a better trophy. In addition, loden became my hunting attire of choice, a practice which continues today.

Toward the end of my tenure in Poland I accepted an invitation from a local gamekeeper to hunt wild boars at his preserve. One evening the gamekeeper queried me about hunting in the United States. He was particularly interested in reports about

hunters wearing orange clothing, and wondered if such attire might be helpful in attracting game. I informed him that the reports were true but rather sad because orange clothing was worn to help distinguish hunters from their quarry. Then he asked rhetorically if I could ever confuse a hunter for a wild boar, even a hunter wearing a boar skin? I replied "bynajmniej" ("of course not"!). Indeed, a hunter wearing a boar skin looks like a human dressed in a boar skin. If I had appeared even somewhat equivocal it is unlikely that I would have been invited back to the preserve.

While in Poland, I met only one gamekeeper who was aware of a hunting accident with a firearm. But he emphasized the accident involved two foreign hunters (not Polish hunters). The hunters were not licensed by the state but rather were approved for a big game hunt by the tourist industry. Although both hunters were under the constant supervision of gamekeepers, a moment of complacency led to the accident. While I do not have published data on Polish hunting accidents, the fact that I only heard of one shooting accident in the lifetimes of several gamekeepers is quite impressive, especially when you consider that hunters wear loden and brown. Let me be clear, my intention is not to suggest that Oregon should adopt European hunting policies. Such policies clearly would be unacceptable anywhere in the United States, just as our hunting practices would be culturally unacceptable in Europe.

When hunters are involved in shooting accidents, politicians and those who work closely with them have a tendency to take the most expedient (politically correct?) course—place the onus on faulty vision—and not the fundamental cause--shortcomings in hunter education and ethics. I note that ODFW has attributed "vision related" causes to hunter injuries and fatalities. If so, I think the best solution is not to require all hunters to wear blaze orange, but rather to require all hunters with vision related problems to be under the constant supervision of a mentor who advises the hunter whether or not to shoot.

Several years ago I perused Oregon's comprehensive Big Game regulations in a futile search for a discussion on hunter ethics. I wrote to your predecessor asking him to consider the possibility of adding a section on hunter ethics to the regulations. I mentioned several points for consideration, including: 1) safety above all other considerations; 2) know your quarry inside and out (requiring formal study and field experience before carrying a firearm); 3) show respect for fellow hunters, hikers, landowners, wildlife, and the environment; 4) while hunting, identify your target beyond a shadow of a doubt; 5) make certain that a view of your quarry is unobstructed, that no unintended target is in the vicinity of your quarry, and that you are close enough for a humane one-shot kill; 6) never point a firearm in the direction of a target unless you intend to shoot (hunters who have a penchant for using their rifle scopes as viewing optics should take note); and 7) celebrate your fallen quarry with respect. I am happy to report that a section on hunter ethics has been included in the Big Game regulations for several years now. However, I note that hunter ethics comprise a very small part of page

83 in the 2010 regulations. I think ethics should have a more prominent place in the regulations and I hope ODFW will agree.

My letter should not be seen as a diatribe against ODFW. On the contrary, as an ODFW volunteer (i.e., an insider on the periphery) I can attest that you have a cadre of well educated, dedicated, and helpful stewards of the environment, fish and wildlife. It is indeed a pleasure and honor to serve with such fine men and women.

While I may disagree with the National Rifle Association's interpretation of the Second Amendment, I support every law abiding U.S. citizen's access to firearms and ammunition. Likewise, I support, with some apprehension, Oregon's current policy of offering residents the possibility of purchasing within an hour a firearm, ammunition, and a hunting license. Although most would-be hunters will take their responsibilities seriously and seek guidance from textbooks, ODFW and experienced hunters, a few, alas, will not. However, limiting access to hunting licenses might result in far too many future good hunters from entering the sport. On that theme, I applaud ODFW, and in particular the Fern Ridge Wildlife Area, for its initiatives to instruct young hunters.

Should Oregon adopt a blaze orange requirement, I hope that ODFW will continue working vigorously to strengthen hunter education and ethics. By doing so, Oregon will remain focused on the real solution to resolving accidental shootings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Harrison". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John W. Harrison

2189 Elysium Ave.
Eugene, OR 97401-7421
May 3, 2010

Ms. Marla Rae, Chairperson
Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission
C/O Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
3406 Cherry Ave. N.E.
Salem, OR 97303-4924

Dear Commissioner Rae,

I am writing in response to a report that the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission is exploring the possibility of requiring Oregon hunters to wear blaze orange while hunting. I strongly oppose the mandatory wearing of blaze orange and I recently sent a letter to ODFW Director Roy Elicker expressing my views. A copy of my letter to Mr. Elicker is enclosed.

The crux of my position is that hunter carelessness, in large part the result of shortcomings in hunter education and ethics, is the fundamental cause of accidental shootings. In my opinion "vision related" problems are convenient excuses to gloss over the shortcomings. As I mentioned to Mr. Elicker, I had the pleasure of hunting in Europe for over two years where blaze orange was not used, and where accidental shootings were extremely rare. In general, European hunters wear loden and brown. Yet they are not mistaken for their quarry nor are they in danger of being caught in the cross fire from other hunters shooting at nearby game. Indeed, in Europe a hunter dressed in an elk skin would have little concern of being mistaken for anything more than a (foolish) human trying unsuccessfully to look like an elk. Years before a European hunter enters a forest with a firearm, he or she has: embraced a strict code of ethics; observed game inside and out; qualified as a marksman; studied hunting regulations extensively, and passed rigorous examinations.

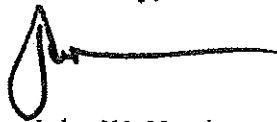
As I emphasized to Mr. Elicker, I am not suggesting that Oregon should adopt European hunting practices. However, I wish to reiterate that in Europe, shooting accidents among hunters are extremely rare, and that European hunters have no better vision than their American counterparts. Thus, it seems to me that blaze orange would have little or no effect on the root cause of accidental shootings—shortcomings in hunter ethics and education. A mandatory blaze orange requirement would be akin to requiring all Oregon motorists to travel in armored cars for the sake of allowing accident prone drivers to stay behind the wheel.

When blaze orange became an option for hunters, I did not jump on the bandwagon because I thought it would result in a new class of American hunters who might use the unnatural color as a crutch in deciding whether or not to pull the trigger. I do not want hunters to rely on blaze orange to make a safe shot but rather to contemplate painstakingly their actions based on solid hunter ethics and instincts. Clearly, if a blaze orange requirement is adopted I will feel more at risk while hunting. Before the Commission takes action, I hope you will research carefully the records of states that have adopted blaze orange requirements. You may very well discover that shooting accidents continue in those states. Moreover, under Oregon's optional blaze orange policy, hunter fatalities from accidental shootings are very rare. Thus, I wonder what precipitated the Commission's interest in the blaze orange requirement.

While maintaining an enviable hunter safety record, Oregon should not rest on its laurels. Although hunting fatalities are rare in our state, I often observe hunter behavior that could have resulted in serious accidents. In virtually all cases, shortcomings in hunter ethics and education were responsible. In his thoughtful message in the 2010 Big Game Regulations, ODFW Director Roy Elicker emphasized the importance of hunter safety and ethics. However, I note that the section on hunter ethics is buried on page 83 of the regulations. While Oregon's big game synopsis is an impressive compilation of information, hunter ethics are not given the prominence they deserve. In my opinion, ethics should not play second fiddle to any section of the regulations. I call on the Commission and ODFW staff to join Mr. Elicker in expanding the discussion of hunter ethics. The ethics section should cover an array of topics including: zero tolerance for alcohol and drugs; guidelines for ensuring a humane one-shot kill (which rules out shots exceeding 150 yards in virtually all cases); respect for fellow humans, wildlife and the environment; strict adherence to regulations; etc. I suggest at least two full pages on ethics placed at the very beginning of the synopsis.

Another tool for promoting hunter expertise might be a textbook on Oregon hunting, drafted by ODFW staff with assistance from Oregon hunters. When you consider that Oregon law allows adult residents to purchase a hunting license whether they are skilled hunters or not suggests to me that such a textbook would be useful. I would like to see a requirement that all Oregon residents applying for their first hunting license attest that they have read the ODFW textbook. Moreover, I suggest that the Commission and ODFW seriously consider the possibility of requiring all hunters to swear every time they receive a hunting license to uphold the code of ethics printed in the ODFW hunting regulations. I think the aforementioned suggestions would improve hunter safety far more than a requirement to wear blaze orange.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John W. Harrison". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John W. Harrison

ODFW
3406 Cherry Ave.NE
Salem, Oregon

June 14, 2010
RECEIVED

JUN 17 2010

Dear Sirs,

O.D.F.W MAIL ROOM

Re: Hunter Orange

My support goes with Option One.

Where does common sense come into the thinking by the people making rules that we have to live with?

First, one must have a problem that needs fixing before it needs to be fixed. Hunting is one of the safest sports in our society.

If we need to fix a so called problem, the answer is not one answer fits all areas.

When I hunt in a brushy area I make sure, on my own, to error on the side of safety and wear orange. When I am hunting in the desert I don't want to do something I don't need to, to be safe.

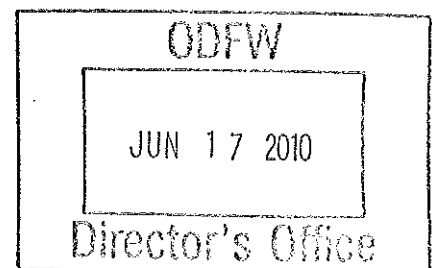
Stay out of our lives in an area that is not needed. We firmly instill good safety rules in our grandchildren and would not let them participate if the rules are not followed.

Please don't make problems where there are none.

Very Sincerely,

Virgil Wridge

Virgil Wridge



780 W. Indianola
Roseburg, OR 97471
July 7, 2010

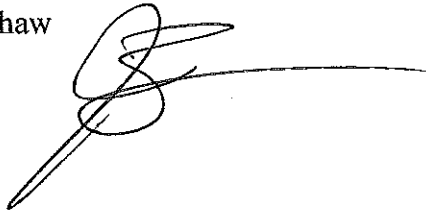
ODFW
3406 Cherry Ave NE
Salem, OR 97303-4924

Dear Sirs:

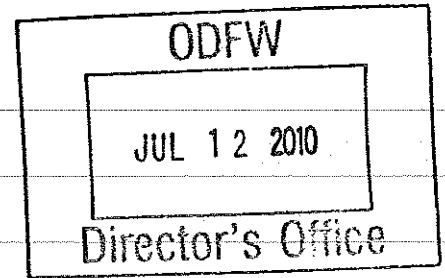
Concerning the upcoming decision on whether hunter orange should be required in Oregon, I strongly support option #1-No change to current status. Oregon hunters have a very good safety record as has been noted in several articles discussing this issue. Adding additional regulations is not necessary.

Enforcement personnel have a lot of hunting regulations to enforce now without adding to their load. Also, anyone wishing to wear hunter orange is free to do so if they feel it improves their safety in the field. If parents of hunters under age 17 feel that hunter orange is important to the young hunters safety they should stress this point.

Joe Bagshaw

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Joe Bagshaw', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

JULY 9, 2010
694 OAKVIEW DR
ROSEBURG, OR 97471



ODFW
3406 CHERRY AVE NE
SALEM, OR 97303-4924

DEAR SIRs:

CONCERNING THE UPCOMING DECISION
CONCERNING WEARING OR HUNTED ORANGE
I STRONGLY SUPPORT OPTION #1 -
NO CHANGE.

HUNTERS WHO FEEL SAFER WEARING
ORANGE ARE MOST CERTAINLY FREE
TO DO SO. YOUNGER HUNTERS ALSO
MUST LEARN TO DECIDE FOR
THEMSELVES.

I HAVE HUNTED FOR 59 YEARS AND
HAVE HAD NO PROBLEM IDENTIFYING WHAT
I WANTED TO SHOOT AT. PLEASE DON'T
STACK ON MORE RULES. ENFORCEMENT
OFFICERS HAVE PLENTY TO WORK WITH.

Clayton Needham
CLAYTON NEEDHAM

694 OAKVIEW DR
ROSEBURG, OR 97471
541-673-5982

TO: ODFW Comments.

From: Louie Dix

3406 Cherry Ave NE

27330 SE Graham St

~~123~~ Salem OR 97303-4924

SHERWOOD OR 97140

JUL 21 2010

RE: Hunter Orange

O.D.F.W MAIL ROOM

I've been hunting Oregon for 55 years, and at one time I used Hunter Orange to protect myself from other hunters. While hunting the Northside Unit of John Day Oregon, wearing my Hunter Orange, I noticed another hunter at a distance from me put his rifle to his shoulder to take a look at who I was, now he would not have seen me with my regular hunting clothes, and from that time on, I never used Hunter Orange.

I think if you really want to impact safety of the hunter, I would recommend an issue of what colors people see, when they would shoulder their rifle. If in the woods I saw the color light brown, light grey, black etc I would put my rifle to my shoulder to see what it was. I would not put my rifle to my shoulder if I saw light greens, blue, red, orange, etc. Why not make it mandatory to read about the colors that would not be appropriate ^{to wear} in the woods. P.S. NO change to current status.

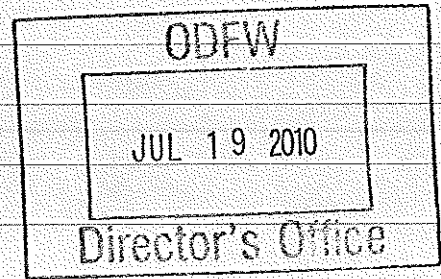
Sincerely



TO: OREGON FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION

FROM: RANDY R. RECORDS SR.

SUBJ: BLAZE ORANGE.



I AM A FIRM BELIEVER IN IT AND I, AND EVERYONE ELSE IN MY HUNTING PARTY, WERE A LOT MORE THAN THE STANDARD 144 SQ. INCHES THAT IS REQUIRED BY MOST STATES.

THIS IS WHY I WEAR IT!

EXP. # 1 BACK IN THE MID '70'S I WAS HUNTING A DRAW BOTTOM WITH MY BROTHER. AS WE GOT CLOSE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE DRAW, WE STARTED HEARING GUN SHOTS... TO FAST, THEY WERE HITTING ROCKS AND BRANCHES AROUND US. SO WE VERY RAPIDLY GOT DOWN AND CRAWLED OUT OF THE DRAW AS FAST AS WE COULD.

WHEN WE GOT OUT THERE WAS A MAN IN HIS MID 40'S AND HIS TEEN AGED SON, STILL SHOOTING UNTIL THEY SAW US.

"THEY HEARD SOMETHING IN THE DRAW, (US) AND WERE TRYING TO FLUSH IT TOWARDS THEM."

AT THAT TIME THE BLAZE ORANGE WAS NOT YET ON THE MARKET.

BUT LEARNING FROM OUR FATHER, WE BOTH HAD ON BRIGHT RED SHIRTS AND HATS.

THE SECOND TIME I WAS ON THE WRONG END OF A RUN...

I WAS SITTING ON A HILL SIDE IN THE BLUE MOUNTAINS THE NEXT SEASON, I WAS GLASSING THE HILL SIDE ACROSS FROM ME WITH MY B.I-NOCS. I FROZE SOLID AND ALMOST WET MY PANTS AS I GLASSED IN ON ANOTHER HUNTER GLASSING ME WITH HIS SCOPE. ALL I COULD DO WAS PRAY THAT HE SAW THE RED HAT AND SHIRT I WAS WEARING. BECAUSE ANY DUMMY SHOULD KNOW THAT WHEN THE CROSS HAIRS ARE ON YOU, SO IS THE BARREL. HE KEPT IT ON ME FOR OVER 2 MIN., WHICH SEAMED LIKE ALL DAY.

(I ALSO FEEL THAT IT SHOULD BE A LAW THAT IF YOU HAVE A SCOPE MOUNTED YOU SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO CARRY B.I. NOCS)

NOW, FOR THE TRIGGER END EXPERIENCE. I HAD A REAL GOOD CLEAN SHOT AT A BIG 3x4 MULLY. HE WAS 125 YARDS AWAY, HIS LEFT SIDE BROAD SIDE TO ME. A HILL WENT UP ABOUT 60 YARDS

BEHIND HIM, I DIDN'T TAKE IT!
I JUST HAD A REAL BAD GUT
FEELING THAT SOMETHING WAS
GOING TO GO WRONG.

AS I PULLED MY TMM MAY DOWN,
HE COUGHT MY MOVEMENT AND
BOLTED OFF LIKE HE WAS RUNNING
FROM FIRE.

I BROUGHT MY GLASSES UP JUST
IN TIME TO SEE A YOUNG MAN
STAND UP NEXT TO A TREE, IN
FULL CAMO INCLUDING FACE MASK.

HE SAID HE DIDN'T SHOOT BECAUSE
HE SAW ME AND ASK IF I DIDN'T
SHOOT FOR THE SAME REASON. WHEN
I SAID NO, I DIDN'T SEE HIM, HE
WET HIS PANTS.

I ALWAYS CARRY TWO CHEAP EXTRA
BLAZE ORANGE VESTS WITH ME. I
TOOK ONE OUT AND GAVE IT TO
HIM. THEN WE SAT AND HAD A LONG
TALK ABOUT TRUE GUN & HUNTING
SAFETY REGARDLESS OF LAW REQUIRE-
MENTS.

THE OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION,
WHICH I AM A MEMBER ONCE
PRINTED "THEY WANT US TO DRESS
~~I~~ LIKE INMATES."

TO THAT I SAY, IF THE SHOE
FITS, WEAR IT AND DON'T CRY
LIKE A BABY IF YOU GET COUGHT.

I HAVE LIVED IN THE SMALL TOWN OF WESTON, OREGON GOING ON 4 YEARS. I HAVE TALKED TO A LOT OF PEOPLE AROUND HERE THAT SAY THEY HUNT EVERY YEAR. THEY DON'T BELIEVE IN THE DRAW TO HUNT METHOD BECAUSE THEY WERE TOLD ABOUT 20 YEARS AGO THAT IT WOULD ONLY LAST ABOUT 5 YEARS.

SO THEY SAY THEY DON'T EVEN BUY A LICENSE OR PUT IN FOR ANY DRAWS.

WITH AT LEAST TWICE AS MANY ILLEGAL HUNTERS AS LEGAL ONES, NO WONDER YOU CAN'T MAKE YOUR NUMBERS BALANCE.

HOME PHONE

541-566-0274

CELL

541-861-9778

VERY RESPECTFULLY,

Randy R. Record

Mr Randy Record
PO Box 430
Weston, OR 97886



I AM A LIFE MEMBER OF:

NORTH AMERICAN HUNTING CLUB AND
THE SOUTHEASTERN WASHINGTON SPORTS COUNCIL

I AM A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING WITH:

THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN ELK FOUNDATION,
OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION, THE
NATIONAL RIFELMANS ASSOCIATION, AND
THE EAST SIDE ROD + GUN CLUB IN M.-F., OR.



THIS PICTURE REPRESENTS THE SIZE THE AVERAGE MAN WOULD BE AT ABOUT 75 YARDS

WITH THE BENEFIT OF DOUBT, PLACE IT 30 YARDS AWAY FROM YOU.

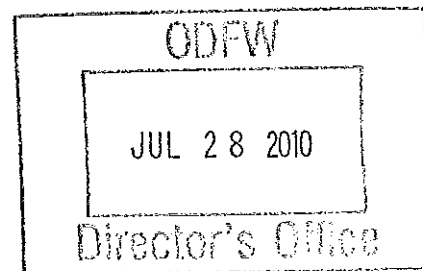
COULD YOU SEE HIM IN THE BACK GROUND OF A 200 YARD SHOT?

REALTREE APG

SEE HOW THE HUNT ENDS AT WWW.REALTREE.COM/ALLPURPOSEGREENHUNT »

July 27, 2010

Commissioner Bob Webber and All Commissioners
Oregon Fish and Wildlife Department
3406 Cherry Avenue N.E.
Salem OR 97303



Re: Wearing blaze orange

Dear Commissioner and Commission Members,

Thank you for seriously considering input on a possible new regulation requiring the wearing of blaze orange in the field.

Regardless of whether I personally wear orange in the field (or require my minor children to do so), I strongly urge you to not change the current status.

That is, I urge you to leave wearing orange as voluntary. I now give you several reasons:

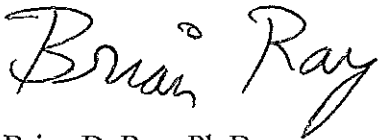
1. America is built on solid principles of liberty and allowing citizens to take care of themselves. And this is an essential trait of hunting. Whether a hunter chooses to wear orange, if he or she thinks it will make him or her safer, is the hunter's business, choice.
2. In the United States, the long tradition of history and society is that we citizens are free to live and act as we so choose unless we are clearly harming others. We do not need to first prove we are not harming others in order for there to be a law that allows us to choose to live as we want.
3. A hunter choosing to not wear orange does not harm another person. (And I really do not want the ODFW to try to dive into the psychology of how a hunter might "feel" if he or she shoots a person not wearing orange – this is far outside the proper role of the government and ODFW.)
4. We do not want Oregon to increasingly become a mommy and daddy to citizens with government officials deciding how to keep one person safe from himself or herself. The government's view of how an individual should keep himself or herself safe is not my or most other citizens' primary concern. The ODFW should concern itself with caring for the fish and wildlife for all in Oregon to share and enjoy, not get into deciding for me about how I should take care of myself.
5. Hunting is already one of the very safest of outdoor activities. ODFW does not need to get into trying make it better in this regard by deciding for hunters how to protect themselves.

6. Even if the conceptual reasons I have given above are not important to the ODFW, please answer the following two questions:
- a. What compelling empirical evidence is there, if any, that forcing hunters to wear orange would statistically reduce shooting injuries in Oregon by at least a half of a standard deviation from the current incidence of such injuries?
 - b. And what compelling empirical evidence is there that Oregon hunters want the state to protect them from themselves (assuming that wearing orange effectively does this)?

Would you please respond to my comments and queries, especially my questions #a and #b at the end above?

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

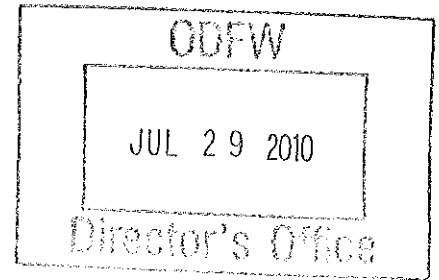
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Brian Ray". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and contact information.

Brian D. Ray, Ph.D.
PO Box 13939
Salem OR 97309
503-364-1490
bray@nheri.org

p. 2 of 2.

July 27, 2010

Commissioner Bob Webber and All Commissioners
Oregon Fish and Wildlife Department
3406 Cherry Avenue N.E.
Salem OR 97303



Dear Commissioner and Commission Members,

I have heard that the State of Oregon is considering requiring hunters to wear blaze orange. I urge you to not adopt this requirement. As a long time hunter, I believe that requiring hunters to wear blaze orange will actually do more harm than good.

From my experience, the most active hunting hours are at dawn and dusk. In fact the first and last 30 minutes of legal shooting time is the most critical. During this time, there is not enough light to activate the color receptors in the human eye. We can see shapes and light and dark but it is difficult to see colors. I do not think that blaze orange is appreciably distinguishable from other colors to the human eye during these minutes.

I believe that requiring hunters to wear blaze orange will lull some hunters who wear that color into a false sense of security about their movements in the forest. Hunters in the forest with other hunters around are justifiably cautious about their movements. Wearing orange may cause some hunters to dangerously assume that they will be positively identified as a human to other hunters and may place themselves in situations they would normally avoid.

We already have a problem with hunters shooting at movement in brush without positively identifying their target. Requiring hunters to wear blaze orange will further encourage this dangerous practice. Some hunters will wrongly assume that because they do not see blaze orange on the source of movement that it must therefore be safe to shoot at it.

If there are no laws about the wearing of orange then hunters take upon themselves the risk and responsibility of wearing or not wearing that color. When the State actively requires hunters to wear orange then the State must bear the responsibility for exposing to danger those hunters who comply. It is therefore best for the State to not adopt a policy requiring hunters to wear blaze orange.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard W. Johnston".

Richard W. Johnston
512 Wayne Dr. N.
Keizer, Or. 97303

RECEIVED

AUG 02 2010

O.D.F.W MAIL ROOM

7-30-10

To: Oregon Fish + Wildlife Commission
Subject: Hunter Orange clothing

Dear Commissioners:

Myself and my whole family are asking you to vote for Option # 1. With the proven safety record of our hunters in Oregon hunter Orange is not needed. We hunt on our own land and some public, and we don't want to have to wear hunter Orange on our own place. If the hunters of Oregon had a bad record I would say OK, but not at this time. Please leave it the way it is now!

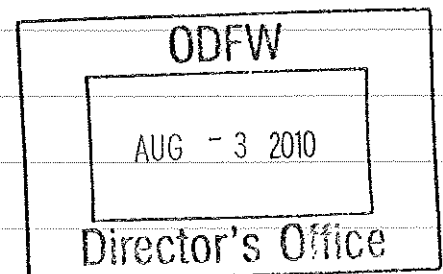
Thankyou in advance

Bruce Hansen

RECEIVED

AUG 06 2010

O.D.F.W MAIL ROOM



August 24, 2010

ODFW
3406 Cherry Avenue N.E
Salem, OR 97303

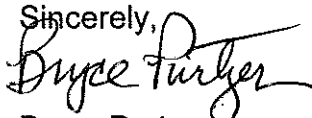
RECEIVED
AUG 26 2010
O.D.F.W MAIL ROOM

Re: Mandatory Hunter Orange

As a father of four, I can sympathize with the heartbreak the father who lost his son must feel. Wearing hunter orange while big game hunting with firearms is common sense and educating the public is the best way to convey this. While I don't believe more laws are the answer, I would not be opposed to requirements for rifle hunter to wear hunter orange.

I am however, strongly opposed to Mandatory Hunter Orange for ARCHERY hunting.

Sincerely,



Bryce Purtzer
27165 South Primrose Path
Canby, OR 97013
503-341-5450

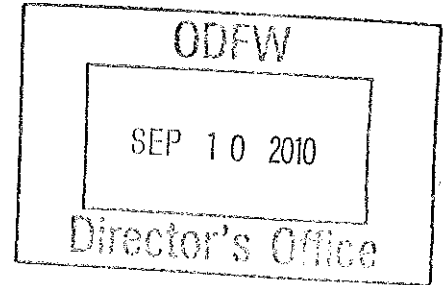
44 Year Oregon Resident
34 Year Hunter – 32 Year Archery

ODFW
AUG 26 2010
Director's Office

Allan R. Mackey
12825 SE Scott Creek Lane
Happy Valley, Oregon 97086

9 September 2010

Marla Rae, Commission Chair
Skip Klarquist, Commissioner
Dan Edge, Commissioner
Carter Kerns, Commissioner
Jon Englund, Commissioner
Bobby Levy, Commissioner
Bob Webber, Commissioner
The ODFW Commission
3406 Cherry Avenue N.E.
Salem, OR 97303-4924



Re: Should Oregon require wearing orange while hunting as mandatory?

Dear ODFW Commissioners,

Let me say right up front that I am **against** mandatory wearing of orange while hunting in Oregon. This is just another taking of our freedom by the government. I am a **hunter**. I have hunted, mostly for elk, for about 45 years in this, my native State. On some occasions I may wear some orange clothing while hunting, but it is my choice to do so, or not do so if I wish. I usually will wear a camo type orange if I can, such as a hat or gloves, however there are times when I am hunting where it is either impractical or impossible to wear orange. Weather conditions and availability of proper weather attire in orange are just a couple of the reasons I may choose **not** to wear orange.

You cannot legislate or regulate stupidity. I believe hunting related deaths and/or injuries have been decreasing over the last few years. People who are unsafe hunters / gun owners will continue to remain unsafe hunters / gun owners. Why don't you put your efforts into hunter/gun education for those people instead of trying to force **everyone** to wear orange just because of a few bad apples? Why should the majority of hunters be punished by mandatory law requirements? Why do something like this just because other states do it? Like your mother may have said – just because a bunch of people are getting in line to jump off a bridge... – are you going to get in that line too? Government should not be in the business of protecting people from themselves. If you force us to do this, then what is next... mandatory Kevlar flack jackets and helmets? Guns are inherently dangerous, so where do you stop?

I say NO. Stop it. Please leave well enough alone, and don't try to fix something that isn't broken. Don't take away my freedom or liberty.

Sincerely,

Allan R. Mackey
Allan R. Mackey

P.S. Thanks for your time.

From: Greg Clayton [mailto:ganddclayton@q.com]
Sent: Sunday, June 06, 2010 8:31 AM
To: odfw.info@state.or.us
Subject: hunter orange

NO- on mandatory hunter orange I do believe if you want to wear it you should. If you have a youngster you are concerned about wear it. I feel very sad for the young man killed by A stupid idiot that shot at movement without seeing that it was a legal animal or not I dont believe hunter orange will fix that, you cant fix stupid.
Sincerely... Greg Clayton

From: JIM GASKINS [mailto:jimgaskins2@msn.com]
Sent: Friday, June 11, 2010 1:50 PM
To: Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us;
odfw.commission@state.or.us
Subject: Blaze Orange

Gentlemen,

The issue of wearing blaze orange should be a matter of personal choice and not a topic of further government control in the lives of an Oregonian or other U.S. Citizen. Statistics clearly show that Oregon is a safe place to hunt. As well, polling shows that Oregon hunters do not want the government to create a law requiring them to wear blaze orange.

Passage of a law requiring blaze orange would be against the will of the people of the state of Oregon. Remember, every facet of our government is in existence to aid its citizenry and to do the bidding of 'the people'. All too often laws are passed by governmental bodies simply because a specific group of employees and elected officials have the power to do so. The personal preferences of members of these groups becomes the deciding factor, rather than actual need and real world justification.

When Oregon enacted a mandatory seat belt law, our government justified passage of the law with a majority vote of the people; drivers and passengers of automobiles. In the case of blaze orange, the majority of those affected; hunters, do not want the law enacted.

I am in my fifties and live in Douglas County Oregon. I cannot think of a single person who desires more government intrusion into their life. We are fed up with hikes in taxes, increased fees for services provided by *our government*, government officials who act for themselves and not for the benefit and desires of their employers - the public, and we

have reached our limit of tolerance with persons holding elective office. I can't remember a time when I agreed less often with decisions made by government employees and elected officials.

People wanting the government to hold their hand and solve all their problems is a rather new phenomenon. Those people, primarily urban dwellers, do not live an outdoor lifestyle that even slightly resembles the majority of Oregon's hunters. Most probably spend three to five days a year in the pursuit of wild game. They want the government to be there for them on every logging road and at the head of every ditch in which a pheasant could possibly reside. The majority of Oregon's hunters spend weeks in the field, learning geographical areas and studying the habits of its wild game. Those spending three or four days a year afield think the government should pass laws to keep them safe. The rest of us believe individuals are responsible for their own actions and their own well being.

I do not want further governmental intrusion in the bottom of a canyon where I search for elk, or on a mountain top where I glass for bears. I do not want you to enact a law requiring me to wear blaze orange.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Respectfully,

Jim Gaskins
Roseburg, Oregon

-----Original Message-----

From: limo@colton.com [<mailto:limo@colton.com>]

Sent: Friday, June 11, 2010 11:26 AM

To: Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us

Subject: Hunter Orange

Dear Mr. Anglin,

I have been hunting in Oregon for 40 years now. And occasionally I will wear hunter orange, it depends on the conditions, time and place of my hunt. Usually I will simply wear a red hat or shirt.

But I absolutely DO NOT want to be told what I have to wear out in the field!

Are you also willing to tell every birdwatcher, hiker, sightseer, etc..... that they have to wear blaze orange whenever they are anywhere a hunter could possibly be during every hunting season?

Now I would support hunters under 18 wearing blaze orange. It would condition them to the use and make their parents feel better. And then they could make their own decision as an adult.

Regards, Lynn Springer

From: David Butscher [mailto:davidbutscher@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2010 12:25 AM
To: odfw.info@state.or.us
Subject: hunter orange

I do not want hunter orange in Oregon mandatory, it's another money grab by the state, big brother telling you what to do. If people want to wear it, it should be voluntary. I don't need someone telling me how to hunt. Fee's keep going up and tag prices have doubled, It's ridiculous, game is less plentiful and between youth hunts, bow hunting, cougar/bear kills by the time rifle hunting comes the game is so spooked good luck finding anything. Now you also have to report your kills saving the guts of bears. I've been hunting in Oregon for forty years. Everyone I know are angry there are other issues were going to present. So you know there is a petition circulating to do something about it.

From: Joe & Lacey Coy [mailto:mrandsmrscoy@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 09, 2010 9:05 AM
To: ODFW.Comments@state.or.us
Subject: orange

I believe the orange law thought has good intentions, but I oppose mandatory orange. Here's why. a man goes hunting with out his " mandatory orange' for one reason or another, and is out walking through the brush. Another hears the brush move and sees no "mandatory orange" then pulls his trigger. BAD NEWS

For kids under 17, orange is a great idea. However the proposal is garment AND hat. It gets hot in Oregon, not every one wants to wear a hat. This should be an option for the kids of either or , not both. I say NO to the proposed mandatory Orange ;as the proposal stands.

thanks, Joe Coy

From: Ron Hendrickson [mailto:rsb96@embarqmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, June 02, 2010 4:22 PM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: hunter orange

I do not think hunter orange should be mandatory . I DO wear blaze orange ca.

mo vest. however if I am bow hunting I do not. I hate the idea of having gun hunters in the woods at the same time as archery hunters that to me is very unsafe.
I think having hunter orange would help during " hair tags" seasons so people don't see a deer and just shoot into the brush to find out it was a hunter with a deer on his back that's my two cents thanks

life member Oregon hunters association Ron

From: Diana & Denver Mason [mailto:dmason@gorge.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 12:30 PM
To: "Undisclosed-Recipient:;"@FwhqIMSVA.dfw.state.or.us
Subject: ODWF HUnter Orange General Comments

I believe hunters should have a choice on personal clothing. We do not need this to be mandated. Perhaps motor vehicles should all be mandated to have orange paint since they are much more dangerous than hunting. If all sportsmen quit purchasing license and tags perhaps it would have a greater impact.
Denver Mason

From: JAMES D ELLISON [mailto:glocknw@msn.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 11:31 PM
To: ODFW.comments@state.or.us
Subject: orange

I would prefer the rule stay the same.

From: Chris Chandler [mailto:chrisc1@bendbroadband.com]
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 6:18 PM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: Hunter Orange Proposal

Greetings,

As a long time Oregon resident and hunter, I would like to give my input into the Hunter Orange proposal. I would prefer option #1 of doing nothing. I have been hunting since I was 12 and have always worn a Hunter Orange vest during rifle deer and elk

seasons, but not during bear season or when I'm trying to get as close as possible to the game. I think that Hunter Orange does increase safety during rifle seasons, but I handgun hunt 95% of the time and need to get as close as possible to be an ethical hunter. If not option #1 then my second choice would be option #3. It has been shown that Hunter Orange hats are too visible to the game when a person moves their head even just a little bit. I do not think that requiring a hat is the ethical thing to do. My children are fourth generation Central Oregonians and DO wear Hunter Orange under the same conditions as I do. I firmly believe in individual choice in these types of matters and am convinced that the fact that sight related accidents are on the decline is proof that education and the suggestion of wearing Hunter Orange is working.

Thank you for allowing the public to e-mail comments on these type of matters.

Regards,

Chris Chandler
chrisc1@bendbroadband.com

1302 NW Helmholtz Way
Redmond, OR 97756-9170
541.548.1276

From: Kcjengineer@aol.com [mailto:Kcjengineer@aol.com]
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 2:36 PM
To: ODFW.comments@state.or.us
Subject: DRESSING US FOR HUNTING

I strongly oppose mandatory flame or hunter orange clothing!!!!

From: Stephen D. Finlayson [mailto:finlaysonlaw@centurytel.net]
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 2:10 PM
To: ODFW.comments@state.or.us
Subject: required clothing to hunt unreasonable

**I strongly oppose mandatory flame, hunter orange or any such clothing for hunters.
What's next, training wheels for adult bicycles & motorcycles?**

Stephen D. Finlayson

Burns, OR

Internal Virus Database is out-of-date.
Checked by AVG.
Version: 7.5.519 / Virus Database: 269.22.0/1342 - Release Date: 3/25/2008 10:26 AM

From: Jeff Dorroh [mailto:dorrohj@highdesertair.com]
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 12:25 PM
To: ODFW.comments@state.or.us
Subject: requirement for hunters to wear orange.

No, absolutely not! Let the individual decide whether or not he/she want to wear orange, or any other color for that matter. I think you are inventing a "problem" where none exists. Besides, you can't prevent stupidity with more laws.

thank you,

Jeff Dorroh
Harney County, OR

From: Berklund, Rodney [mailto:Berklurw@nv.doe.gov]
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 11:37 AM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: mandatory hunter orange

I don't support Mandatory wearing of hunter orange, even though I generally wear it when hunting in the field. Hunter education and safety training is a much better avenue for safety in the field while hunting in my opinion.

Rodney Berklund
CH2M HILL/National Securities
Engineering
702-295-1652

From: Alec Stewart [mailto:alec@stewartltd.com]
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 8:07 AM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: hunter orange

Please do **not pass** the hunter orange law especially regarding big game hunting. I have watched animals that see the hunters wearing the orange and hide or run the other direction. A person in camo can be fifty feet away from hunter in orange and the same animal will not detect him. Who ever said animals cant see the orange has never hunted. I will organize as much resistance as possible to defeat this proposed law.

Alec Stewart

Stewart Marketing
541 233-3226 cell
alec@stewartltd.com
www.stewartltd.com

From: M&G Willis [mailto:miwillis@centurytel.net]
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 5:37 AM
To: ODFW.comments@state.or.us
Subject: hunter orange

I support option one, leaving the choice up to the hunter and the situation.

-----Original Message-----
From: ed l farmer [mailto:elfsr@canby.com]
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 1:30 AM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: hunter orange

NO No NO & NOOOOO most accadents are within your own party and close range. This should be my choice, not big brother, its my responsibilty, this rule just another FREEDOM we are loosing no no no besides ogame makes for a BETTER target. Vote no on this rule.Thanx Ed @ elfsr@canby.com

From: Clay Bundy [mailto:claybundy@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 11:12 PM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: HORC

To Whomever May Read This:

I am opposed to any mandate by the state requiring me to wear orange clothing while hunting. That is a decision I rightfully own for myself. No one has a right to decide what color I will wear. Not only does it represent just another intrusion by government entities, it makes no sense. The whole idea is not based in reason. If wearing hunter orange made hunting safer, how would you explain the fact that Washington State, which requires the wearing of orange while hunting, has a rate of 4.65 incidents per 100,000 license sales compared to Oregon's rate of 1.56?

Respectfully Submitted by

Clay Bundy
Portland, OR

From: Dale Brown [mailto:dbrown@jcieug.com]
Sent: Monday, June 07, 2010 9:02 AM
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us
Subject: Hunter Orange

To whom it may concern:

Please do not saddle us with unneeded regulations! Oregon is already one of the safest states to hunt in, and I believe part of the reason is that hunters know that not everyone is wearing hunter orange and so they know they must be certain of their target before they shoot. When you try to make things idiot proof it only spawns better idiots.

Most people I know wear some hunter orange voluntarily. Let's keep it that way.

Thanks for your consideration,

Dale A. Brown

From: Phil Jarmer [mailto:pjarmerz1@charter.net]
Sent: Monday, June 07, 2010 9:01 AM
To: ODFW.Comments@state.or.us
Subject: hunter orange

I prefer option 1. My second choice would be option 3 for the wearing of hunter orange.

From: Don and Fara [mailto:faraquilts@charter.net]
Sent: Sunday, June 06, 2010 11:36 AM
To: ODFW
Subject: mandatory hunter orange

Dear ODFW Commissioners June 6 2010

Subject: Mandatory hunter Orange.

I'm relieved that you have narrowed down the alternatives to just three. I still favor number one. No mandatory hunter orange, and I'm about to tell you why.

First of all alternative two mandatory orange for just young hunters is stupid. What, in effect, the state is saying is, the State, not the hunter is responsible for the hunter's safety so you have to wear what the state says. This is a huge

mistake and it removes a teachable activity that parents can use to emphasize self reliance, responsibility to their kids. If the state passes the regulation it's well kid you have to wear hunter orange because that's the law. You get a ticket if you don't wear it. It isn't about safety, and the thing that makes hunting safe is a safe mind set. With the passage of this regulation you have eliminated one of the best tools we have to put people in the right mind set. It would be different if hunting wasn't one of the safest things we can do, or if Oregon had a high accident rate, but I believe we have been in the top three, as far as safety goes for quite a while. Don't try to fix something that isn't broke.

In this day and age of political correctness I'd also say that alternative two is discrimination. The fact of the matter is for some reason the accident level is higher among us older folks than it is youth. Alternative two just isn't right. It targets a group of hunters that are safer, at least statistically than untargeted hunters. The last three fatalities we've had the two up on Tioga, and the one up at Lemola are good examples. The shooter in each case was not a young hunter, and one of those who were shot was wearing a bright yellow raincoat. The shooter had apparently seen a bull previously, then saw the kid and his grandfather, probably because they were wearing bright yellow rain coats, and then not only misidentified them as elk, but a branch antlered elk. That in my opinion was murder.

Now for alternative three. I'm glad the state is accepting responsibility for hunter safety. Maybe now you will eliminate some of the regulations you have, such as road closures, which tends to concentrate hunters in more confined areas, which is far more dangerous than not wearing hunter orange. Statistics show, more than anything else that hunter density has more to do with accidental shootings than any color code. Maybe it will make you limit the number of over-the-counter tags. I don't think you are ready to do those things, and since those things would make hunting more safe than the passage of a hunter orange regulation, you aren't ready for a hunter orange regulation either.

Mandatory hunter orange does law does not maximize a hunters ability to be seen if they want to. Studies by Remington, Colombia sportswear, and Browning all say that hunter orange is not the most visible color in low light, or fog, and guess what western Oregon has a lot of. Low light, such as in the timber on cloudy days, and of course fog. By passing a mandatory hunter orange law it makes it more difficult to wear more visible colors. Lightning Yellow by the way was the most visible in low light. The color that stands out most in the fall is bright blue's. There are a lot of yellow, orange and red leaves in the fall. No blue ones. Now don't get me wrong. I'm not suggesting that the state require hunters to wear blue, any more than I am hunter orange. I'm just

saying that passing a mandatory hunter orange law does not maximize hunter visibility, and the state shouldn't pass any law which would allow hunters to dress as they wish.

I noticed that none of your alternatives addresses the public at large. Only hunters have to wear hunter orange in the woods. So if I elect not to buy a hunting license, or tag, I guess that allows me to exercise my own good judgment if I chose to poach deer, elk, or any other game animal. I resent any regulation that singles out one segment of law abiding people, and ignores berry pickers, hikers, protesters, mushroom pickers, loggers, and even un-law abiding people such as poachers.

Stick with what you have. Encourage the use of hunter orange. Encourage self reliance, and responsibility. We have emphasized that in hunter education since I began teaching it 20 some years ago.

I know you fear that if you don't make hunter orange mandatory, the state legislature might. Well, let them make the mistake. Don't shoot yourself in the foot. A bad regulation, is a bad regulation. It doesn't matter where it comes from, but there are a lot of hard feelings out here about the increased fees. Don't make it worse.

Don Wilson.

From: Jim/Kathleen Myron [mailto:myrons@canby.com]
Sent: Saturday, June 05, 2010 10:10 AM
To: ODFW.Comments@state.or.us
Subject: Hunter Orange Options

6.5.10

Oregon Fish & Wildlife Commission
Re: Hunter Orange Requirements

The prudent thing for the commission to do would be to require all hunters to wear hunter orange. It's disappointing to see that the Oregon Hunters Association seems to oppose this idea. At the very least, the commission should adopt the requirement for those age 17 and under.

Jim Myron
P. O. Box 675
Canby, OR 97013

-----Original Message-----

From: Jaynee and/or Rich [mailto:richandjaynee@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 10:38 PM
To: ODFW.comments@state.or.us
Subject: Hunter Orange

Option 1, or better yet, just stay out of it and let the hunters decide!

--

~~~~Jaynee~~~~

-----Original Message-----

From: Richard [mailto:rich51949@gmail.com]  
Sent: Thursday, June 03, 2010 10:18 PM  
To: ODFW.comments@state.or.us  
Subject: Orange colors

Just another rule you will never be able to enforce, it will not cut down on hunter accidents. It will just be another arbitrary rule that some educated idiot wants to see put on the books.

Leave it as Option number 1.

---

**From:** Chris and Becky Johnson [mailto:firefly1201@charter.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 03, 2010 8:55 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange Proposals

Our elk/deer hunting group has always used hunter orange while we hunt. Most use a hat and an upper garment of hunter orange (camo orange style). Our success rate for hunting has always been good and there is no success related issues that we can see with requiring hunter orange. Preference would be option #4 or #5 as the biggest issue we have encountered in 20 years of hunting in Oregon is running into other hunters at short range (less than 50 yards) without detecting them because they have no hunter orange.

Please do the right thing. Require hunter orange.

Thanks!

Chris Johnson  
Pendleton

---

**From:** tim smith [mailto:tim4429@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 03, 2010 8:51 PM

**To:** ODFW.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** NO MANDATORY ORANGE

**I strongly oppose mandatory flame or hunter orange clothing for hunters. I have hunted all my life and to insult the outdoors by flashing obnoxious flame orange everywhere is another step toward a Nanny State. Don't ruin our experience of blending into our surroundings while in the woods or rangelands.**

**Tim K Smith  
PO Box 1326  
Hines, Or. 97738**

---

**From:** Larry Hammond [mailto:lshammond@centurytel.net]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 03, 2010 8:35 PM  
**To:** ODFW.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

**June 3, 2010  
Honorable Commissioners:**

**The option below is the ONLY ONE that I find acceptable.**

- Option 1

The wearing of hunter orange will remain voluntary for all hunters in Oregon. Hunters would be encouraged to wear orange through an ODFW education and information campaign.

**Sincerely,  
Larry G Hammond  
Oregon Pioneer Hunter  
PO Box 1318  
Hines, OR 97738  
541-573-6722  
[lshammond@centurytel.net](mailto:lshammond@centurytel.net)**

---

**From:** Ray L. Allen [mailto:allen@bendbroadband.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 03, 2010 4:55 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** hunter orange

Hunters can decide whether or not to wear colors or not, it is not an issue our state government needs to nor should have the ability to mandate to citizens. Stay

---

**From:** Jan Yost [mailto:jyost@dsutrucks.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 03, 2010 3:32 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter orange mandate

I believe the proposed hunter orange mandate is an unnecessary regulation. Oregon hunters already have proved they are capable of making the right choices when hunting and have an incident rate three times lower than Washington which has an orange mandate. I am an Oregon native and have hunted here for 51 years. I usually do wear an orange camo hat and pack by choice. We don't need more regulations.  
Thank you,

Jan Yost  
President  
DSU Peterbilt & GMC, Inc.

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**From:** Pollard Dean A [mailto:Dean.A.Pollard@doc.state.or.us]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 03, 2010 11:44 AM  
**To:** COMMENTS ODFW  
**Subject:** Hunter orange

Good morning,

I wanted to take a minute and suggest that wearing hunter orange should remain up to the individual hunter. I have never worn hunter orange I have always worn red. I do believe that game can see hunter orange and there will have to be an exception made for the type of game being hunted. If I am not mistaken that would be turkey hunters and I believe that is the hunters that get shot accidentally most often nation wide. I am very opposed to laws/rules only effecting some groups not all involved parties.

I do always have the kids hunting wear orange just so I can find them when they get lost.  
Usually around camp.  
Thank you for your time.  
Pollard



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**From:** The Goulds [mailto:tgandbg@eoni.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 03, 2010 9:33 AM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Public Comments from the Web

## PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM THE WEB

Topic: Other  
Name: ted gould  
E-mail: [tgandbg@eoni.com](mailto:tgandbg@eoni.com)

Comment: that all hunters,would required to wear hunter orange.

---

**From:** CHAD WHITE [mailto:fishcrazy1@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 09, 2010 8:32 AM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** hunter orange required?

Hello,

I am concerned about this law going into affect. I am an avid bowhunter and have been for a number of years. I formerly rifle hunted and my experience wearing and not wearing orange is opposite of your "studies." I have been shot at several times, as have some of my friends, while wearing orange and have eluded other hunters while not wearing orange. It is my honest belief, that while wearing orange you become more of a target for those "quick draw hunters" that I see more and more of in the rifle woods every year. Hence the reason I gave up rifle hunting all together unless in a confined lottery draw situation where I can be more aware of my competition and know there is a limited number of men/women in the rifle woods. Even under those circumstances, I am still nervous to set foot out of my truck due to someone else's ignorance and misguided hunting ethics. Lets face it, not everyone who puts in for a lottery rifle tag is moral and ethical once they cycle that round into the chamber. Although I do not rifle hunt much anymore, I worry for those like me, who are in just as much danger if not more so wearing orange with the idiots out there wielding freshly bore sighted rifles right off the store shelves, never test fired or sighted in, that are "close enough to kill." I saw his type of mentality all the time while selling rifles at local sporting goods stores. Please consider my past experience when you make your decision to NOT make hunter orange mandatory. Thank you for your time!

Chad White

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Darren Bond [mailto:darren.q.bond@state.or.us]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 09, 2010 7:23 AM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Mandatory Hunter Orange

I would support a mandate for wearing orange in the field during big game rifle seasons due to the safety issues. This would not be appropriate for bow seasons, varmint hunting, turkey hunting or waterfowl hunting.

Sent from my PDA.

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**From:** Jack Watts [mailto:bluefin20@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 9:51 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** hunter orange

I am a bow hunter and do not want to wear orange when I hunt. I am an adult and would like to be treated like one. Let me decide what I want to wear, I pay for my tag so I can hunt. Please let me hunt without your nose in my back pocket. I do not shoot beyond 30 yards, I see what I am shooting at. The safety of hunting has gone up because of responsible hunters, also the death of hunters has gone down in part because of responsible hunters. If you want to lose revenue from hunters force us to wear orange. Jack Watts 541-967-7394, thanks for your time.

---

**From:** Doug & Diane Dalton [mailto:ddaltonelk@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 8:24 PM  
**To:** ODFW.Comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:**

Under NO circumstance do you have the right to tell me what I may or may not wear hunting..I WILL NEVER WEAR PORTLAND HUNTER ORANGE AND YOU CANT MAKE ME.... IF you want to wear it thats your choice,,I have been hunting in Oregon for 40 years without it with NO PROBLEMS...DONT TREAD ON ME..I WILL QUIT HUNTING IN OREGON AND GO OUT OF STATE IF YOU PASS THIS ASSININE RULE

Doug & Diane Dalton,

-----Original Message-----

From: Michael Webb [mailto:webbmi@ohsu.edu]  
Sent: Tuesday, June 08, 2010 8:12 PM  
To: ODFW.Comments@state.or.us  
Subject: hunter orangd

I have been a hunter all my life (71 years) and feel strongly about the required wearing of hunter orange. I will not support it and legislators who never go hunting should not be allowed to make rules that are stupid!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Michael C. Webb  
born and raised in Oregon!

---

**From:** GERALD WARNOCK [mailto:geraldw34@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 7:08 PM  
**To:** ODFW.Comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** orange

I strongly support option one Gerald Warnock MD Master Hunter

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**From:** danlovesfishn@comcast.net [mailto:danlovesfishn@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 5:42 PM  
**To:** ODFW.Comments@state.or.us  
**Cc:** Brian & Lori Bacon  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Dear ODFW,

I want to send my opinion on the orange requirement for law. I wore Orange or yellow when I was younger but haven't in nearly 20 years.

I do not feel it should be mandatory for an adult, I am old and wise enough to make my decision for myself. What happened to freedom of choice? If you are to enact any law it should be for young hunters only that are not adults. I have worn Camouflage for 20 years and have no intention to change now.

Dan Baker  
PO Box 72134  
Eugene, OR 97401  
541-221-6056

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**From:** alan mccrory [mailto:animlal@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 4:39 PM  
**To:** ODFW.Comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Opition 1

My name is Alan McCrory 1827 NE 6th pl, Hermiston, OR 97838. Life long resident hunting and fishing, except the few year I served my country.

It is ridiculous to even consider mandatory hunters orange. Why do we have hunters education? Youths 16 and younger have to hunt with adult already.

Lets make Oregon Pro Hunting and Fishing.

Just another note, I have friends about to quit it all because of the price hikes. Show us something for our fees please!

Thanks Alan

You can't idiot proof everything!

---

**From:** Sandy Raymond [mailto:raymonds@cavenet.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 4:24 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Cc:** patric upton; sfilloon@cavenet.com  
**Subject:** Personal choice

Dear Sirs,

First off, I agree that wearing "Hunter Orange" will reduce visual related incidents but the statistics as you presented them are incorrect. The results, as presented by numerous other "Orange States" conclusively shows that **stupid is color blind**. Please stop trying to protect me!

During my lifetime, well-meaning bureaucrats have initiated numerous laws intended to protect me from myself, from people and people from me. Their intentions are to be commended however their recommendations, with respect to personal liberty, should never have become laws. Seatbelts, helmets and now Hunter Orange, where does it stop, with red meat and egg yolk police?

The issue is not of safety, the issue is of infringement. Hunter Orange is indeed a safer choice but it should remain a "Choice". As an alternative to your blanket Hunter Orange proposal you might consider a juvenile requirement which would be consistent with boating and cycling.

In closing, your task, as a well intended bureaucracy should be limited to education and encouragement for safe hunting practices.

Respectfully,  
Sandy Raymond

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**From:** Chuck Bradley [mailto:ChuckB@prurep.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 3:56 PM  
**To:** ODFW.Comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Dear Sir or Madam,

Please adopt option #1 on this issue. You cannot regulate responsibility. An idiot is an idiot regardless of his/her or others wardrobe choices.

Thank you,

Chuck Bradley  
Soon to be a Pioneer Hunter in Oregon

---

**From:** William Landen [mailto:maraudermk2@charter.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 3:54 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter orange

I and my entire hunting party (6 people) are completely opposed to mandatory wear of hunter orange. Your data shows that less than one person per year is injured in a vision related incident. Wasting time and money on this is not responsible at this time. I'm sure more people are hurt with camp axes or chain saws or burnt on camp stoves or asphyxiate in their campers than this. Oregon has too few law enforcement personnel in the forests as it is and to have them wasting their time enforcing this is ludicrous. If you haven't noticed poaching is beyond out of control. If we are going to spend money on something hire more game wardens. On a financial note. I have spent over \$1000 on high tech hunting cloths and now you want me to replace them? What about the poor hunters that save for several years to buy a nice camo gortex jacket? Are you going to tell them sorry you cant wear that anymore wait a few more years until you can afford new orange clothing? Our country was founded on freedom. As sportsman we recognize that there is some danger in what we do and we except the risk. Also I have been to some of the states that require orange. North Dakota is one. The state is flat with almost no trees and people need to be wearing orange to tell a person from a deer? Ridiculous.

Here's a novel idea. One that Oregon rarely uses. Hold irresponsible people accountable for their actions and stop punishing the other 99.9% of us who are smart enough to know what we are shooting at before we pull the trigger or release an arrow.

Respectfully:

William C. Landen  
Oregon Hunter since 1976.

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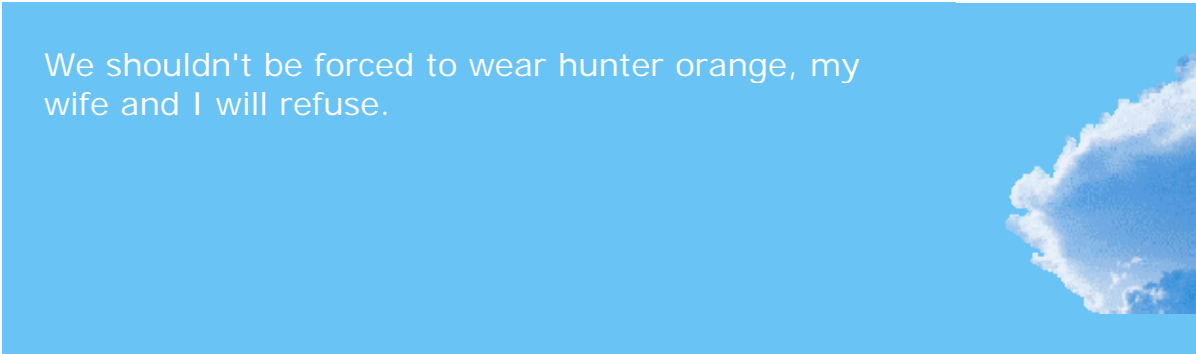
**From:** Diane James [mailto:dianej@fmtc.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 3:10 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Orange

If people don't know how to identify their target before they shoot, they shouldn't be hunting in the first place.

---

**From:** Lance James [mailto:lanceto@fmtc.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 3:06 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** HUNTER ORANGE

We shouldn't be forced to wear hunter orange, my wife and I will refuse.



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**From:** Bob Wilson [mailto:bwilson@roinc.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 1:33 PM  
**To:** ODFW.Comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

I will stop hunting if Oregon adopts mandatory wearing of hunter orange. I made my sons wear it one year until I noticed as everyone (other hunters) looked at us hiking along 90% of them where looking at us threw there rife scopes with no doubt loaded guns. I carry hunter orange with me if I need to let someone know I am there but refuse to wear it, I might as well wear a deer suit.

---

**From:** BDJ Outdoors [mailto:outdoor.trails@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 11:45 AM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us

Cc: oha@ccountry.net  
Subject: Hunter Orange options

Below are my comments regarding the potential of an ODFW rule change that would require the wearing of hunter orange in Oregon:

- > Your own data shows that compared to other activities, hunting is quite safe.
- > Imposing a requirement on the vast majority of safe hunters to wear orange in an attempt to accommodate the very small percent of reckless shooters is overkill.

Imposing an orange requirement on all hunters does not guarantee the reckless hunters will not remain so. The proposal to require hunter orange is a response far out-of-proportion to the problem, and does not guarantee preventing the rare cases of accidental shootings even if imposed.

Setting a requirement for **ALL** hunters in response to the poor judgment of a **FEW** hunters only makes sense if the scale of the problem is **LARGE** and the cost/benefit trade-off of imposing the requirement is **COMPELLING** - *neither of these conditions is true in this case.*

- > I accept whatever small additional risk (of being an accidental shooting victim) there is from wearing clothing of my choice (vs. the risk when wearing orange clothing). I have the choice of what to wear, **and could wear orange NOW if the concern of being a victim was high for me,** which it is not. I do not like the idea of the State of Oregon replacing its judgment for mine and forcing the wearing of hunter orange on me.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments,

Brian D. Johnson  
Oregon hunter for 37 years

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**From:** Steve Stalcup [mailto:stalcup@uci.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 12:16 PM  
**To:** ODFW.Comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Safety Orange

I do not want to see any mandatory requiring hunters to wear Orange or any other color, please lets not get this stupid in what is regulated.

Steve Stalcup

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**From:** Jon Erwin [mailto:jon@erwinconsult.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 11:09 AM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Against Hunter Orange

With one of the lowest accidental deaths in the nation, and you want to have a mandatory hunter orange regulation??? Are you nuts or doesn't ODF&W have anything to do but to think up new ideas to mess with hunters??????

You are proposing a requirement that doesn't need to happen. You have received testimony from a grieving father who lost his son in a hunting accident due to a relative not knowing his target. As hunters, we are taught safety and as I remember the rule, you are suppose to "know your target!" I have sympathy for the accident and hope the family can deal with the teenager's death.

HOWEVER, WHY SHOULD ALL OF THE OTHER RESPONSIBLE HUNTERS HAVE TO "PAY THE ORANGE PRICE" DUE TO ONE INDIVIDUALS NEGLIGENCE?? WHAT'S NEXT? KEVLAR??

Jon E. Erwin, P.E.  
Erwin Consulting Engineering, LLC  
33923 Bond Road  
Lebanon, OR 97355  
Phone: 541/259-2190  
jon@erwinconsult.com  
www.erwinconsult.com

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**From:** BRIAN GIMBY [mailto:elkhuntergimby@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 10:36 AM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** voice my option

Option 2 – Require hunter orange upper garment and hat for hunters 17 years of age and younger while hunting big game and upland birds (except turkey) with any firearm

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**From:** Joe Williams [mailto:joe@fpnw.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 10:00 AM  
**To:** ODFW.Comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange



You should consider a fourth option. Hunter orange for Upland Birds only, the rest is unnecessary. Upland Birds require fast shooting at a moving target and there is more danger for fellow hunters.

Joe Williams

[WWW.FPNW.COM](http://WWW.FPNW.COM)

Joseph R. Williams, CLU, ChFC  
President  
Financial Planners Northwest, Inc.  
15350 SW Sequoia Parkway, Suite 240  
Portland, OR 97224  
Phone: 503-595-0077                      Fax 503-595-0080

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**From:** Rob Maxey [mailto:Rob.Maxey@Planar.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 9:40 AM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Mandatory Hunter Orange

No to mandatory hunter Orange

Yes to Mandatory Hunter education, regardless of age

A responsible hunter sees an animal, identifies that it a legal animal and then identifies a lethal spot to aim for before shooting. Hunter Orange will not improve the safety record for a responsible hunter.

A slob shoots at sounds or movements. Hunter orange will not stop a slob from shooting at sounds or movements as they are not shooting at a specific target anyway. Mandatory hunter orange will let the slob feel comfortable shooting at any movement that is not orange colored. What about hikers, mushroom pickers, loggers, fishermen? **It is not the hunter who needs to wear orange, it is the target.** Unless you require ALL persons in a huntable area to wear orange, you are fooling yourself thinking orange will stop accidental shootings. In the shooting incident last fall that caused this review by ODFW, the shooter shot at a moving bush and could not see the victim, clothing color did not matter.

Please, I do not need to have the state dress me for my hunt. I do not feel this is the proper solution. Unless you require **all** persons in the field to wear orange it is not really a deterrent and will have the opposite affect as slob hunters will feel any movement not wearing orange must be a target. If hunter orange is so valuable, how come the State Police game officers in the field do not wear orange vests? All mandatory orange will do is identify hunters, it will not stop accidents.

Choose mandatory hunter education, phase it in like you did mandatory boater education and licensing.

Thank you

Robert Maxey  
1270 larkspur Ln NW  
Salem Oregon  
(503) 871-8959

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**From:** rladeroute@msn.com [mailto:rladeroute@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 8:44 AM  
**To:** ODFW.Comments@state.or.us  
**Cc:** Doug Wirges; Glenn Hart; Kelly Smith; Mel Csergei / Image Homes; Mel Weeks; Raider Heck  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Please keep the wearing of orange **voluntary.**

**Thanks**

**Robert LaDeRoute**

503-819-4161

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**From:** Rene [mailto:oldchopper@charter.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 7:30 AM  
**To:** ODFW.Comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

I believe hunter orange should be voluntary only. Thank you. Rene L. Bessieres

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Norman, Dean C PSNS CIV Shop 06/31/37/58, Shop 31T  
[mailto:dean.c.norman@navy.mil]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 08, 2010 6:03 AM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Against proposed hunter orange

I am from Washington. My voice may not be as important as a resident hunter, but I pay the expense to hunt Oregon for several reasons. I am a non-resident hunter which truly enjoys hunting Oregon for one reason, hunter orange is not required. I voted "no" in Washington, but our state government seems that they need to regulate what we do as individuals and take away our rights to freedom. I would choose not to wear orange if given the chance here in Washington. I for one do not like seeing the orange in the woods, it disrupts my hunting tactics, I would prefer not to see it at all, even if another hunter is there,

then my game plan doesn't change. Seeing another hunter in orange usually forces me to make a decision on going where I don't really care to. If that hunter was wearing camo, I would not notice as easily and my tactics would remain.

Safety, it is the person pulling the trigger, not the color. Education is the key to a master hunter, not orange. Each hunter should not have his finger on the trigger until he is assured of the LEGAL target he is looking at. There are no second guesses here, hunter ethics require a sound ethical kill.

I am against hunter orange, please consider not penalizing all of us ethical hunters for those that need punished for ignorance that shoot at anything without sound decision making.

Thanks,  
Dean Norman

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**From:** Sylvia [mailto:burdenstowing@oregoncoast.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 07, 2010 10:54 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Cc:** sschriber1@yahoo.com  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Concerning the proposal for mandatory hunter orange, I am very much AGAINST it. We as Oregonians need to keep our rights to choose if we so desire the use of any such wearing of hunter orange while in the field. We are experiencing way too many new laws and regulation changes as it is, and not to mention all the controversy for our young future hunters whether or not they will even be allowed to hunt in the future. Please help us in this matter and say NO TO HUNTER ORANGE!

Thank you for this opportunity to speak my thoughts!

Sincerely,

Scott Schriber  
[sschriber1@yahoo.com](mailto:sschriber1@yahoo.com)

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**From:** john jensen [mailto:akeenhunter@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 07, 2010 9:46 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** No Hunter Orange

Dear Honorable Sirs,

I do not support mandatory hunter orange. At all.

I see this as the garment industry lobbyists pushing their garments on me. Bicyclists are at a much greater risk of, and there is record of much more injury than hunters. Until bicyclists are required to wear hi visibility garments on public streets, I will not support this. I will not support it then either actually.

Hunter orange makes the natural world look ugly and invaded by people. Hunter orange is like graffiti on an old public library, or a church wall.

One of the main reasons I go hunting is to get a feeling of traditional freedom, and detachment from the artificial world I am forced to live in. I go hunting to get away from as much of the scientific, and mathematical invasion of my humanity as I can, at least while I am away from camp. For me hunting is not what some refer to as a "sport". No, it is no "sport" at all to kill animals. I know because I have done so since before I was 12. It is a deep participation in the second oldest craft of mankind. For the record the first oldest is gathering, contrary to what some sexists might try to make you believe. It is extreme involvement participating in the procurement of my sustenance as part of a circle of life I want to be a part of in no other way. It is like why I grow a garden. It allows me a chance to become part of the natural world as best that an invader can. If you make all hunters wear orange, you will take all that away and turn it into a commercial circus, not an opportunity to connect with that natural world. You would definitely make it harder to see the natural world than it already is in just a week or two with people walking around like glow balls.

If you want safer hunting experiences you should put your energies into more road closure creation and enforcement, and more restrictions on ATV. That would keep more of the careless and lazy away from those of us that hunt safely and respectfully. And don't give me that about handicapped. I get that and there could be a places for those folks to hunt when they are that in that condition. Just not everywhere.

I would rather take my chances to injury than take away the immense joy I get from hunting in the naturally colored world.

Thank you for listening to me, or at least giving me an email address to believe that you did.

Your thoughts?

Sincerely,

John Jensen

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**From:** rhondafelde@aol.com [mailto:rhondafelde@aol.com]

**Sent:** Monday, June 07, 2010 6:54 PM

**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us; letters@news.oregonian.com; letters@time.com;

Adh.News@dhonline.com; editor@time.com; news@dhonline.com

**Subject:** ODFW consider mandatory Hunter Orange

I am writing to inform you of my opinion on mandatory hunter orange in Oregon. NO WAY!! Stop telling us what to do! We have to bring in a skull for bears, bring in the whole cougar and now you are asking us to bring in deer. The south west corner of the state has a small bear population problem and ODFW should allow an open season spring bear hunt. Tags and license fees went up again and now I need a permit for my EXPLETIVE canoe! What this country needs is LESS government. Where does it end!? Most of the hunters I speak with feel the same way. Every year government takes more offroad access for ATVs and motorcycles. We pay more and more people get pushed together in smaller areas. A lake in eastern Oregon is overrun with carp because GOVERNMENT wont let us fish there. Government pays to try to control the carp while people with fishing licenses cant fish there. A few years ago, cougar hunting with dogs was outlawed and now GOVERNMENT pays someone to track and kill problem cougars. Where does the insanity stop!?

Michael Felde  
34482 Mountainview NE'  
Albany, Or 97322  
541 928 3021

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**From:** THOMPSON Mark [mailto:Mark.THOMPSON@odot.state.or.us]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 07, 2010 4:10 PM  
**To:** COMMENTS ODFW  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange Comment

I urge the Commission to go with option 1.....volunteer use of hunter orange. Please let individuals be responsible/accountable for their actions.

---

**From:** Rob Jeffers [mailto:raptorman29@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 07, 2010 2:46 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** hunter orange

**Hunters should have the choice to wear orange or not, the state and government should have no say.**

**Thank you, Robert Jeffers.**

---

**From:** Kaiger Braseth [mailto:kaiger@uci.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 07, 2010 12:34 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Mandatory Orange

I am not in favor of Mandatory Orange. This is not the governments job and resources should not be spent on items issues like this. Our government is in debt and resources going to issues like this is not helping.

Kaiger Braseth

-----Original Message-----

From: milton@bendbroadband.com [mailto:milton@bendbroadband.com]  
Sent: Friday, June 04, 2010 6:52 AM  
To: odfw.commission@state.or.us  
Subject: Opposition to Mandatory Hunter Orange

To the Department of Fish and Wildlife Commissioners:

I regret that I cannot attend the June4, 2010 meeting in person. It was my intention to be there in support of the Oregon Hunter Association position.

As a lifelong hunter, hunting Guide, and a strong supporter of ODFW and Hunter Education, I support the voluntary use of blaze orange. I am opposed to a mandatory hunter orange law. It is a one-size-fits-all approach to solve a problem that does not exist in our state. Oregon hunters, thanks to Hunter Education in various forms, are safer than hunters in many states that have a mandatory hunter orange law. Our safety record is very good and, statistically, hunting is already safer than just about any other form of recreational activity or lifestyle.

Having hunted in many states, I appreciate the freedom to wear what I want when I hunt in our state. Often that includes hunter orange, but there are times when hunter orange is not appropriate, nor advisable .Further , it makes the wearing person a target for someone with a rifle scope to" see what that orange is" and can cause an accident .

At a time when we are fighting to keep hunter participation and license sales at a level to support ODFW and wildlife management, we do not

want to discourage new hunters or occasional hunters by adding another regulation. Further, that your actions to over regulate will only lead to less legal hunters and less revenue for ODFW.

The tag draw sales are already down by 40,000 this year. Do you think think is really helping?

Please count me in opposition to a mandatory hunter orange law.

Respectfully,

John Milton

---

**From:** Andrew Niemi [mailto:andrew@lowercolumbiaengr.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 06, 2010 11:26 AM  
**To:** jenglund@englundmarine.com; daniel.edge@oregonstate.edu; marlarae@marlarae.com; skip@erisalaw.com; bobby.levy@my180.net; locate@uci.net; webber@blackchapman.com  
**Cc:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Mandatory Blaze Orange

Dear Commissioners,

First of all, I would like to express my appreciation for your service regarding management of our natural resources and the great sport of hunting.

I understand that you are considering arguments for and against the mandatory use of "blaze orange" while hunting in Oregon. I understand that there are emotionally charged arguments in favor of additional rules regarding the mandatory use of "blaze orange". I spend the majority of my free time hunting and around fellow sportsman. I think it would be a shame to add yet another regulation to keep track of while trying to enjoy and relax in the outdoors. It is debatable whether or not the use of blaze orange leads to a safer hunting environment but one thing is for sure; our sport is relatively safe when compared to other recreational activities and does therefore not need to be "fixed". Adding additional regulations takes the fun and relaxation out of what should be a very basic activity. I am very close with dozens of active hunters and can honestly say that everyone that I know is adamantly against any mandatory rules regarding what we wear while hunting. The reality is that many of us do choose to wear certain amounts of orange depending on the specific season and circumstances but that should be our decision. Giving OSP one more complicated rule to enforce is a step in the wrong direction if the goal is to promote the great sport of hunting. In my opinion, increased regulations and fees are the greatest threat to the future of hunting. This is very concerning to me as I feel as though hunting is not only one of our basic rights but a healthy and natural activity that folks can benefit from their entire life.

Thanks again for your hard work and careful consideration of this important issue.

Best regards,

ANDREW NIEMI

**LOWER COLUMBIA ENGINEERING, L.L.C.**

**Architectural & Engineering Services**

**36200 Pittsburg Road, Suite E**

**St. Helens, Oregon 97051**

*OFFICE* **503.366.0399**

*FAX* **503.366.0449**

*EMAIL* [andrew@lowercolumbiaengr.com](mailto:andrew@lowercolumbiaengr.com)

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**From:** Adam Skinner [mailto:steffin.2002@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 09, 2010 6:38 PM  
**To:** odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** hunter orange

hello I was emailing you to let you know that I am against mandating hunter orange to be worn as I think we should have a choice to wear or not wear it.

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**From:** James7748@aol.com [mailto:James7748@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 03, 2010 4:59 PM  
**To:** odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

I would like you to vote for option 2.

Steve James

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**From:** Gary Lewis [mailto:mglewis@coinet.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 03, 2010 9:25 PM



**To:** odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Opposition to Mandatory Hunter Orange

To the Department of Fish and Wildlife Commissioners:

I regret that I cannot attend the June 4, 2010 meeting in person. It was my intention to be there in support of the Oregon Hunter Association position.

As a lifelong hunter, hunting writer, author/editor of *Hunting Oregon* and a strong supporter of ODFW and Hunter Education, I support the voluntary use of blaze orange. I am opposed to a mandatory hunter orange law. It is a one-size-fits-all approach to solve a problem that does not exist in our state. Oregon hunters, thanks to Hunter Education in various forms, are safer than hunters in many states that have a mandatory hunter orange law. Our safety record is very good and, statistically, hunting is already safer than just about any other form of recreational activity or lifestyle.

Having hunted in many states, I appreciate the freedom to wear what I want when I hunt in our state. Often that includes hunter orange, but there are times when hunter orange is not appropriate, nor advisable.

At a time when we are fighting to keep hunter participation and license sales at a level to support ODFW and wildlife management, we do not want to discourage new hunters or occasional hunters by adding another regulation.

Please count me in opposition to a mandatory hunter orange law.

Respectfully,

Gary Lewis

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**From:** BILL A GRIFFIN [mailto:grifgrif@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 16, 2010 7:15 AM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Hello,

My sentiment about hunter orange is that it should not be mandatory. I have read statistics and there seems to not be a correlation of fewer gun/hunting accidents in states that mandate the use of it. Its' use should strictly be a personal choice.

I for example use it when hunting popular areas where there are more hunters, however when I backpack into remote areas and I know very few hunters are near I like to not wear it. Common sense and personal choice prevail in my decisions and I want to keep it my decision.

Sincerely,  
Bill Griffin

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**From:** Cary Riley [mailto:ctamriley@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 15, 2010 9:36 PM  
**To:** odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Blaze orange.

Regarding the potential of making the wearing of hunter orange mandatory during some hunting activities.

My belief it is our own choice on wearing of blaze orange, and we do not need to be regulated on how much orange we wear or not. There no stopping some from shooting at anything that moves, I think we could all agree on that. I do wear orange when I am out during big game rifle season, but that is my choice and it should stay my choice. Stay with our current regulation.

Thank you

Cary Riley

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**From:** Scott & Liz Ryon [mailto:snlryon@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 15, 2010 11:26 PM  
**To:** odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Re: Blaze Orange requirements

I have hunted since approximatly 1967 and never have I felt the need to be wearing hunter orange.

If someone were to mistake me for a duck, deer or elk I would think they have problems greater than poor vision. I prefer to wear a camoflage pattern, when hunting that breaks up my human outline. When it comes to quality clothing in hunter orange breakup, it is virtually non-existent. I have repeatedly been disappointed in what is out there. Instead I have opted for small swatches of hot pink tape here and there on hat bands, packframe, etc. I would prefer not to be handicapped by the state any further.

It seems to me that there is a peception by ODFW that this HAS to be fixed. There are other, more serious issues.

I think if your organization wants to continue getting financial support from hunters, the emphasis on encouraging new generations to participate should be tripled and the opportunity for hunter education courses seriously needs to improve. Perhaps relying on unpaid volunteers may have become a thing of the past. Most parents that want a youth to participate would not mind paying a reasonable registration fee, as long as classes are available.

K. Scott Ryon

**Scott & Liz Ryon**  
[snlryon@verizon.net](mailto:snlryon@verizon.net)

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**From:** suttimpact@comcast.net [mailto:suttimpact@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 15, 2010 8:14 PM  
**To:** odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** blaze orange

Sir

I thank you at the commission for all the hard work you do. But there comes a time that the commission should not be making a call as to what people should and should not wear . The Orange Blaze should be left up to the person hunting.

Thank you

Robert Suttles

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**From:** Jeff Groth [mailto:coachgroth@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 15, 2010 2:41 PM  
**To:** odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:**

Wildlife Commission.

Regarding the 3 proposals to be considered for the wearing of blaze orange, I would to offer my opinion that option #2 is the best option at this time.

I think it wholly appropriate for the commission to take this mandatory step to keep our youth hunters safe and it may very well open the door for future safety measures.

As a police officer and hunter, I can tell you that I am a strong proponent of safety, even if it means mandating it.

Thank you foe the opportunity to weigh in-Jeff

Jeff Groth  
[coachgroth@yahoo.com](mailto:coachgroth@yahoo.com)  
(503)680-9968

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**From:** Randy Spang [mailto:yukon10@verizon.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 15, 2010 1:17 PM  
**To:** odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Mandatory wearing of "hunter orange"

Dear Commissioners,

As a responsible adult, tax payer and Oregon hunter for many years, I am tired of the government and it's agencies trying to regulate every facet of my life! If I choose to wear orange that should remain my choice and not yours (your option #1). Stick to regulating hunts and the technical aspects of those hunts. Leave how I dress in the morning up to me and my fellow hunters.

Respectfully

Randy Spang

[yukon10@verizon.net](mailto:yukon10@verizon.net)

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**From:** bearpaw15@charter.net [mailto:bearpaw15@charter.net]

**Sent:** Thursday, June 17, 2010 7:57 PM

**To:** odfw.info@state.or.us

**Subject:** wearing oof flo. orn.

I think this should be law in Oregon I know Oregon has a very good safety record but I have hunted in other states that have this law and I feel safer wearing it. I do however do not agree with the law not baiting blk bear. They are a hard game to hunt and baiting does not make it easier. It does make it better to gauge the size of the bear and you dont have hunters killing bears that are way to small or to young. Also you dont kill so many sows this way. reason why (the sows carry the cubs with them and if you wait you will see the cubs) Its bad when you see a cub starve due to the fact the mother was killed. I just cant except that. Thank You Carl C Roten

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**From:** Don and Fara [mailto:faraquilts@charter.net]

**Sent:** Monday, June 21, 2010 1:16 AM

**To:** Christopher P Schubothe

**Subject:** Re: mandatory hunter orange

Thank you for your information. I heard that the ODFW narrowed it down to three alternatives. This makes it official.

You know I was concerned years ago when more and more hunters started entering the woods wearing camo. I thought that the numbers of accidental shootings would sky rocket. That didn't happen. In fact hunting has gotten safer. That fact convinced me that the color that people wear while hunting really isn't that big a deal. What people have to wear is a safe mind set, and I think Oregon has done a darn good job in creating that, and that has kept hunting one of the safest things people can do.

I favor option 1. I believe a hunter is responsible for their own safety and action. Not big brother. If the State legislature want's to create fashion facists make them do it. Please don't do it.

Option 2; may have made sense a decade ago, but it's us older hunters that are shooting other hunters not the youngsters. It would make more sense to make the age group that is shooting other hunters wear the hunter orange. That way the rest of us could possibly spot them, get out of sight, and avoid being shot. It's not that youngsters don't have accidents. They do. but the majority of thier accidents are just as they always have been. Mishandled firearms. When I took hunters education 40 years ago the person most likley to shoot you was yourself or your hunting buddy. That hasn't changed. However, it seems that most people that actually misidentify a target, or do not take the time to be sure of their backstop are older guys. This option targets the wrong group of hunters.

Option 3. Safety is a mind set. Not a color. A persons mind should prevent more accidents than regulations. I believe a mandatory orange regulation shifts responsibility away from the individual, and to the state, and as self responsibility is compromised so is hunter safety. Hunters may be more prone to take a quick shot thinking they could easilty see a orange clad hunter.

I really don't understand how a person can be mis-identified as a game animal. They aren't colored the same, they don't look the same, they don't move the same, they don't usually sound the same, but it somehow happens. I don't see any way a person can identify a kid and his grand pa clad in bright yellow rain coats as not just elk, or not just bull elk, but branched antlered bull elk. In that case I think that kids best chance of not being shot by the idiot was to not be seen. The 2009 fatality, also in the Tioga area, was taken by a shooter who obviously did not identify his target or what was beyond. Since the vegetation is so dense there is no way to determine if hunter orange would have prevented this accident. The shooter may have shot anyway. However, If the shooter had maintained a safe mind set he would never have pulled the trigger, and there would not have been a victim. No way that is debatable.

The shooting up at Lemola a few years back was made by a hunter who actually did see a elk head. However, he failed to see the body of the elk, other hunter and even the victims pickup truck. All were concealed by vegetation. If you can't see a truck, you aren't going to see a hunter orange clad hunter either. By the way, check it out. Youngsters weren't the shooter in any of these cases, it was a older hunter. Another common factor involved was they were all hunting in high hunter density areas. Especially Lemola.

If the state is concerned about hunter safety they should concentrate more on regulations that concentrate hunters. The fatalities listed above all occurred in high density hunter areas. I think hunter density adversely affects hunter safety more than anything else, and I don't think it's just a numbers game. The safe mind set is compromised by competition. Competition makes some people be more concerned about getting a bullet into an animal before someone else does, than taking a good solid, safe shot.

In conclusion:

Option 3 erodes the mind set that ultimately determines just how safe hunting will be. It does not address other elements that statistically are more important than color in determining hunter safety. Perhaps us old guys need a class to increase safety awareness, to help maintain a safe mind set.

Option 2 targets the wrong group of hunters. Plus I don't buy the arguement that if kids wear it older hunters will. All people resent being told what they have to wear, so as soon as kids turn the magic age, poof. There goes the orange.

Option 1. Continue to encourage the use of high visibilty clothing. However every hunter is responsible for their self. This approach has proven itself highly effective. Hunting is a safe activity and as I understand it Oregon's safety record has been in the top five, like forever, including states that have mandatory orange regulations. That doesn't mean things can't be done to make hunting even safer, but mandatory hunter orange is obviously not the cure all tool some think it is, and may in fact be counter productive.

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**From:** timothy l allen [mailto:allen1234121@msn.com]

**Sent:** Friday, June 18, 2010 7:57 PM

**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us

**Subject:** No Hunter Orange mandate

If you want to mandate something mandate hunter safety education course for all ages. I have taken it twice in my life and anyone who shoots at a moving bush is either totally ignorant or a criminal. I wear hunter orange when I deem necessary. The one thing I have brought out of the hunter safety course is: WHEN THE BULLET LEAVES THE BARREL THERE IS NO TAKING IT BACK!!!

P.S

Blacktail deer see color.

Thank you

Tim Allen  
Houndsman

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**From:** LilHuntinggirl@aol.com [mailto:LilHuntinggirl@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 26, 2010 9:55 PM  
**To:** odfw.info@state.or.us  
**Subject:** HUNTER ORANGE

I am 16 years of age and I think that the hunter orange rules are all to much. I took hunters education, and one of the main things that I was taught was that you have to identify what you are shooting. If it is a vision problem once, with someone wearing camouflage, you have to wonder if the shooter has shoot game that their tag was not for, or if they have just been shooting hoping to put meat in the freezer. You also have to think was the person shooting across a field were the bullet could travel a while and come down on someone, or did they shoot at the game while it was on the run and not now their backstop was someone across from them in the trees. Everything came change in just a few seconds you will never stop the accidents from happening all you will do is shrink the numbers by just a little. It might sound like nothing coming from a young hunter like me, but I have a right to voice my opinion as much as any adult hunter. I haven't had any problem identifying hunters in camouflage or in hunter orange. In fact I normally see them before they see me, and change my plans to get away from them to help me stay safe and to help them stay safe. I think that hunters are just to jumpy. Jumping the gun to squeeze the trigger. Either way camouflage or hunter orange it is the shooters fault and always will be and ya you will stop some but it wont stop.

*Melissa Henderson*

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**From:** Patricia Richmond [mailto:patricia.richmond7@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 29, 2010 11:17 AM  
**To:** odfw.info@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

I am writing to ask that we not mandate the wearing of a certain color for hunters in Oregon. Wearing orange is a great idea, as most hunters well know. But to make it required by law is only to add to the many intrusions into our private lives by the government. Oregon does already have a very good record for hunters safety. These kind of abuses of the law have become so common. When is enough enough?

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**From:** Stu Crosby [mailto:swc@multitech.ws]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2010 8:59 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission  
**Subject:** Blaze orange hearing

I find it very difficult indeed to comprehend how the Commission could schedule this item at a time when the very people it affects most of all will be in the field or on their way into the field THE DAY BEFORE THE OPENING OF DEER SEASON !! I trust this is an error rather than a brazen attempt to avoid testimony. Clearly this issue could be scheduled at another time.....

Sincerely,

Stuart W. Crosby  
President, Capitol Chapter OHA

**Stuart W. Crosby**  
**Multi/Tech Eng Svcs Inc.**  
**1155 13th Street SE**  
**Salem, Oregon 97302**  
**503-363-9227**  
**swc@multitech.ws**  
**503-910-7410**

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**From:** LAWRENCE LARSON [mailto:landjlars@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 25, 2010 5:37 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission  
**Subject:** hunter orange

I understand that hunter orange will be an agenda item for the Oct. 1 meeting. Since this is the day prior to the opening of deer season, it appears that hunters are either being excluded intentionally or if not, at least they are being ignored. After all, it is our dollars that finance ODF&W.

L.A.Larson  
Salem



-----Original Message-----

From: Robert Tally [<mailto:rtally57@gmail.com>]  
Sent: Wednesday, July 14, 2010 5:30 PM  
To: [odfw.commission@state.or.us](mailto:odfw.commission@state.or.us)  
Subject: Hunter orange

If it is not truly broken please do not take the time, energy and our tax money to fix it. In my opinion your efforts would be better spent on an actual problem, the one of increasing the states Deer and Elk population to its past glory.

NO to hunter orange

From: [bray@nheri.org](mailto:bray@nheri.org)  
July 27, 2010

Commissioner Bob Webber and All Commissioners  
Oregon Fish and Wildlife Department  
3406 Cherry Avenue N.E.  
Salem OR 97303

Re: Wearing blaze orange

Dear Commissioner and Commission Members,

Thank you for seriously considering input on a possible new regulation requiring the wearing of blaze orange in the field.

Regardless of whether I personally wear orange in the field (or require my minor children to do so), I strongly urge you to not change the current status.

That is, I urge you to leave wearing orange as voluntary. I now give you several reasons:

1. America is built on solid principles of liberty and allowing citizens to take care of themselves. And this is an essential trait of hunting. Whether a hunter chooses to wear orange, if he or she thinks it will make him or her safer, is the hunter's business, choice.
2. In the United States, the long tradition of history and society is that we citizens are free to live and act as we so choose unless we are clearly harming others. We do not need to first prove we are not harming others in order for there to be a law that allows us to choose to live as we want.
3. A hunter choosing to not wear orange does not harm another person. (And I really do not want the ODFW to try to dive into the psychology of how a hunter might "feel" if he or she shoots a person not wearing orange – this is far outside the proper role of the government and ODFW.)

4. We do not want Oregon to increasingly become a mommy and daddy to citizens with government officials deciding how to keep one person safe from himself or herself. The government's view of how an individual should keep himself or herself safe is not my or most other citizens' primary concern. The ODFW should concern itself with caring for the fish and wildlife for all in Oregon to share and enjoy, not get into deciding for me about how I should take care of myself.
5. Hunting is already one of the very safest of outdoor activities. ODFW does not need to get into trying make it better in this regard by deciding for hunters how to protect themselves.
6. Even if the conceptual reasons I have given above are not important to the ODFW, please answer the following two questions:
  - a. What compelling empirical evidence is there, if any, that forcing hunters to wear orange would statistically reduce shooting injuries in Oregon by at least a half of a standard deviation from the current incidence of such injuries?
  - b. And what compelling empirical evidence is there that Oregon hunters want the state to protect them from themselves (assuming that wearing orange effectively does this)?

Would you please respond to my comments and queries, especially my questions #a and #b at the end above?

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Brian D. Ray, Ph.D.  
PO Box 13939  
Salem OR 97309  
503-364-1490  
[bray@nheri.org](mailto:bray@nheri.org)

From: [guyant@q.com](mailto:guyant@q.com)

It is a "sad state of affairs" when the ODFW government has to force all Hunters of Oregon to wear Blaze Orange. Hunting is one of the safest sports in the state, yet a serious hunting accident has caused some single interest organization to demand that all hunters must wear blaze orange during hunting season. I hunt because I want and love to

hunt. Therefore, I vote for Option #1..... No change to the current status..... (voluntary use of hunter orange or not).

PLEASE Stop this control issue of the this government.....

Guy Antinarelli  
Medford, OR 97501

From: creel61@netzero.net

I believe it is unconstitutional to force anyone to wear anything, other than what they chose's for themselves.

From codyayrton@bendbroadband.com

I oppose this hunter orange mandate.

It is one more requirement that will criminalize competent and otherwise law-abiding adults for something that really should be their own decision.

The mandate unfairly targets hunters. Why not mandate that everyone wear hunter's orange when out in legal hunting areas? Are non-hunters exempt from getting struck by bullets? Since there are species that may be hunted year round, anytime anyone leaves no-shooting areas they should be wearing hunter's orange.

In the case of people who possess game tags that are valid for hunting all year long (like cougar), and their daily activities find them in areas where they may see a cougar and legally harvest it, this mandate would require them to wear hunter's orange all year long. Technically, they are hunting all year.

People who possess firearms for personal protection who just so happen to be out in a legal hunting area with a firearm, without the intend of hunting, could be considered in violation of the hunter's orange mandate by law enforcement. Defining who is and who isn't hunting will be difficult.

Driving a car is much more dangerous. The state should concentrate its efforts on mandating the wearing of helmets and padding while driving before placing new restrictions on hunters. They will save a lot more lives. And according to the report on your website [http://www.dfw.state.or.us/resources/hunting/safety/docs/Draft\\_Hunter\\_Orange\\_Commission\\_Report.pdf](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/resources/hunting/safety/docs/Draft_Hunter_Orange_Commission_Report.pdf)

fishing is WAY more dangerous that hunting. I'm sure your efforts would be better spent to concentrate on reducing the rate of injury among fisherman.

The Nazis made Jewish people wear stars.

The state should just continue to encourage safe practices, not mandate hunters' apparel.

From: Nicholas.Guist@pgn.com

To whom it may concern:

I recently attended you June 4 meeting about hunter orange. I was a little upset at the gentleman or (uncle) who shot is nephew. First off I feel horrible for this such accident and is a terrible thing. But when I was 12 years old every resident has to take hunter education class in order to hunt anything in Oregon. One of the first rules was identify what you are shooting at. Second was identify what's beyond the target that your shooting at. Now if he would of payed attention to those simple rules that everyone has to obby by this terrible accident wouldn't of happened. Its terrible that he trying to blame Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the State of Oregon for not making all hunter wear orange. This is not our mistake, or your's for this terrible accident happening. Dont force us to wear hunter orange because this accident happened. Let us make the right choices which we have been doing for many years.

Thanks for you time.

From: [wmcmanigal@gmail.com](mailto:wmcmanigal@gmail.com)

DATE: July 19, 2010

TO: ODFW Commission

SUBJECT: Required wearing of blaze orange for hunters

FROM: Wayne C. McManigal, Oregon licensed hunter

LICENSE #: 10-00166627-5

ODFW ID#: 2383133

I recently read the Oregon Hunter Magazine (July/Aug issue) under the title Commission Narrows Debate on Blaze Orange about the above subject and its three options. Perhaps the Commission hasnt considered the position of predator hunters which is what I am. I dont hunt deer, elk, big horn sheep or even bear (although I consider bears a predator). However predators such as coyotes or cougars (cougar tag #10-00166628-6) (with the exception of wolves) I will hunt. Coyotes are already smart enough both with their noses and their eyes. Should Option 3, Require hunter orange upper garment OR hat for all hunters while hunting big game [that would include bears although I dont hunt them] and upland birds (except turkey) with a centerfire firearm or shotgun be put into law, it would be much more difficult to take out either of those animals. I dont hunt during the regular hunting seasons and, as such, the amount of hunters are much lower during the off seasons.

The magazine states that Directors and members of the Oregon Hunters Association testified in favor of Option 1 (No change to current status (voluntary use of hunter orange). They noted that hunting is already statistically one of the safest outdoor activities and that ones personal choice of hunting apparel should be just that. Leaders of other sportsmens groups echoed those sentiments. I am in agreement with OHA on this subject.

Also, on page 24 of the 2010 Oregon Big Game Regulations it mentions Feral Swine and how important it is to ODFW, the US Department of Agriculture and Oregon Department of Agriculture to eliminate invasive non-native species of feral swine before they become established. Interestingly enough, the Discovery Channel recently had a documentary Pig

Bomb showing how dangerous these feral swine are at the present time. I realize pigs dont have the best eye sight, but why make it easier for them to see a hunter?  
I urge the Commission to adopt Option One and leave the decision of what to wear when hunting up to the hunters.

From: rtally57@gmail.com

This is an issue that is not broken, and in my opinion is only political in nature. Please do not take the time, energy and our tax money to fix it. Your efforts would be better spent on an actual problem, like the one of increasing the states Deer and Elk population to its past glory.

There must have been a reason 3 previous bills addressing this topic died very quickly.

NO to hunter orange  
Option 1

Robert Tally  
Pendleton, Ore  
541-278-0230

From: moncrief30@embarqmail.com

I am in favor of option 2. But definitely against option 3.

Doug Moncrief

From: mike.columbiasteel@gmail.com

I am opposed to any mandatory hunter orange in Oregon for big game hunting. I think this is a personal choice and one that each hunter should take a close look at. Hunter Orange is not likely to have helped in most firearm related accidents as the shooter is so focused on the game, they will not see anything else unless they are properly educated. I can not find where the use of hunter orange has reduced hunting accidents. I also do have concerns that it can make a hunter stand out as a target for anti hunters and their harassment.

Please continue to allow the educated hunters of Oregon make the choice of hunter orange for themselves.

Regards,

Michael Moehnke

From: bigdaddydennismac@hotmail.com

Wow,I think hunter orange should not be mandatory because,not only does it compromise your hunt it ruins the hunting experience, thrill of being invisible from not only game,it takes away from the heart of hunting,the things passed on from father to son for generations!! I believe It is important to most hunters that you don't want to let people see your favorite hunting places.I believe in ethics,education,respect,and safety.Education is the key to this dilemma!,what ever happened to being sure of your target and one shot one kill.Hunters safety for everyone would be a great solution.Many of us took it when we were young.Ethics are learned from family,experience,friend 's,and out of respect for THE GREAT OUTDOOR'S.I know it's not all my forest and respect other people.I am a archery hunter and I have been very close to alot of game.I have had other hunters walk by 10 yards behind me and not even seen me.The point is that people need to know what their doing out there.

sincerely,Dennis

From: [s.hymel@comcast.net](mailto:s.hymel@comcast.net)

Dear ODFW Commission,

Having hunted in Oregon for over 30 years I am dismayed to see that ODFW is considering not requiring hunter orange for all hunters. I am a member of the Oregon Hunter Association and am going to cancel my membership due to their lack of support for Option 3.

Please implement Option 3 and require all hunter to wear hunter orange. Don't leave this critical decision to hunters.

While I agree each hunter should have a personal choice in this matter I am not so concerned about the hunter who choses not to wear orange and gets shot but I am very concerned about the hunter who accidently shoots another hunter who is not wearing orange. In this litigious society the individual who shoots someone will probably get sued and in all likelihood will be deemed to be at fault. I don't see this rule protecting the person who gets shot but the unfortunate person who does the shooting.

I have made a consience decision to no longer hunt with certain friends because of their reluctance to wear hunter orange. I have seen too many close calls that could have been avoided with the use of hunter orange. The general population only hears about the actual shootings but I know there are numerous close calls that go unreported. I have had to change my hunting patterns due to other hunter in the field who aren't wearing orange. Option 3 allows me to maintain my right to hunt in what I consider a safe environment.

Please don't leave this critical decision up to individual hunters. Too many poor decision have already been made. Protect us from ourselves.

Sincerely, Stan Hymel

From: terrihubbs@centurytel.net

For your statistics we are a hunting family of four. Two under age 17, 50/50 male/female, adults are age 50 or real close, we all hunt and we all hunt big & small game. We have lived and hunted in several states and we are involved with hunters & outdoor education (currently teaching here in Oregon).

Our thoughts (and we all do talk about this in our family) on hunter orange are either:

-Go with option 1 until you have more time to consider the facts or  
-Vote yes for option 3.

-Option 2 is a (pardon the expression) chickens\*! way of not addressing the issue and trying to please too many (old) people. The message you are sending is that wearing hunter orange is childish! That is a huge mistake.

The issue is. . . SAFETY!

There are no facts to substantiate that orange protects those under 17 any better than those over 17. If those under 17 are more likely to have an accident (again the facts nationally won't support that but if that is your assumption) then all hunters should be wearing orange to protect themselves from under 17 year old hunters.

If you truly feel that there are individual rights effected by mandating orange then leave the law where it is and leave the option to us in the field. Otherwise, mandate that ALL WILL WEAR ORANGE because you truly believe that SAFETY is the issue.

We really feel the mentor youth hunts are a long over due step in the right direction. Thank you! It is those of us the have the vested interest that will do the best job of teaching our passion for hunting to the next generation. We support any regulation changes that increase opportunities to be in the field (not just with a rifle). More time in the woods is more time with the family. Shortening rifle seasons to increase seasons or opportunities with a bow or muzzleloader are good choices for the hunters and the animals. We don't want you to get the impression we are not behind you because we are. We support you, we just hope you will support us!

Vote for freedom of choice, Option 1  
or  
Vote for the safe welfare of all, Option 3  
but  
Vote NO for option 2

From: [fmilly@comcast.net](mailto:fmilly@comcast.net)

My vote is for Option 2.

We instruct our youths to be Hunter Orange safe and they need to be reminded of that just like all safety rules. If the old folks want to get removed for our gene pool, that's their option.

Thanks for asking,  
Larry Millington  
Happy Valley  
OHEIA # 12978

From: mark@albanyminuteman.com

To Whom It May Concern:

I am an avid hunter, both rifle and bow, here in my native state of Oregon. I am writing in regards to the current discussion surrounding whether or not a person should wear hunter orange. I am emphatically against requiring hunters to wear orange. I do not believe there is credible proof that wearing orange makes one safe in the woods. Nor do I want another freedom of choice eroded away. Safety lies in education. Oregon hunters as a group needs to reach new and old hunters alike and emphasize importance of sound firearms handling and woodsman skills. Requiring hunter orange does nothing more than put a band-aid on the problem, which is hunter ethics. One should know your game, your backstop, and make a clean kill. In high school a friends dad was out hunting with some of his friends. One of those friends was 13 year old boy who was wearing hunter orange. Another hunter mistook him for a deer and killed him. He was tried and convicted of manslaughter. We do not need more regulation, we simply need hunters with higher standards of ethical behavior that take responsibility for their actions.

Mark Nicholson - Owner  
Minuteman Press of Albany  
1600 9th Ave SE  
Albany, OR 97322

Phone: (541) 928-5900  
Fax: (541) 928-5901

From: [wbshaw@embarqmail.com](mailto:wbshaw@embarqmail.com)

I believe that we should have the choice to wear Hunter Orange especially for the Large game animals in Western Oregon: Hunter Orange I believe is visible to the Elk, Deer and other Large Animals and would make it much harder to locate the animals if the hunter is spotted by them: We older hunters have a lot invested in our Camo gear and the way the price of the tags and licenses are going up it is starting to cost a lot to hunt today. Thanks for giving us the opportunity to comment on this issue. Sincerely, Mark Kasson; Lincoln City

From: [tgandbg@eoni.com](mailto:tgandbg@eoni.com)

PLEASE pick,Option 3,for all hunters wear hunter orange.

From: [pmlake@hotmail.com](mailto:pmlake@hotmail.com)

sirs, concerning hunter orange. I would vote for options 1 & 2 thanks



From: b.stinnett@yahoo.com

I am opposed to the mandating of what to wear while hunting. It should be up to each person as to what to wear. As for safety, I don't believe it will make any difference. I personally know of one person who was wearing a HUNTER ORANGE JUMPSUIT and was shot and killed. It was deemed an accident. Orange sure didn't help him. I have also heard of others. Why not make it mandatory that EVERY PERSON has to pass a hunter safety class before getting a license? The way it is now anyone can go buy a license and go hunting whether they even know how to shoot the gun!!! The old saying still stands GUNS DON'T KILL PEOPLE PEOPLE KILL PEOPLE!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Most hunting "accidents" are NOT accidents at all, but just plain stupidity!!!

From: [jvmeyer@co.douglas.or.us](mailto:jvmeyer@co.douglas.or.us)

ODFW Commission,

I am sending this E-mail to express my opposition to this proposed new rule that requires hunters to wear orange. I have hunted in Oregon for about 50 years and have never had an incident of being shot at and I have never shot at a target that I could not identify. This is a fundamental teaching of hunter education courses. You can not write rules to prevent people from not following the basic principle of "identifying your target". Incidentally, I have seen more people point a rifle at people wearing orange than people they can not see while hunting.

I have read the materials that are on your web site that are intended to justify this proposed action. The statistics that are referenced in this material have more holes in them than Swiss cheese. The only thing that this material identifies is that if you hunt, you have a relatively low risk of having an accident.

I would suggest that the ODFW focus its limited resources on creating more hunting and fishing opportunities than frustrating outdoorsmen with more rules. The more rules that are created the more frustrated we become. It is my belief, that this is a big reason people are no longer participating in hunting and fishing.

I routinely hunt with 5 other people that have similar views on this subject.

Gerald Meyer  
Hunter ID #435902

From: [shittalker@comcast.net](mailto:shittalker@comcast.net)

I have been a hunter in Oregon for about 9 years. I am 36 years old and am a big believer in hunter safety. But I don't wear hunter orange. I took a hunter safety course about a year ago and was the oldest person in the class. I didn't take the class because I felt that I was an unsafe hunter. I took the class because I believe you can never learn too much about safety or be too

old to learn. The bottom line is you should NEVER pull the trigger if you are not sure of your target PERIOD. I do not believe in nanny states that can make "better" decisions for me about my life than I can for my self. And I don't want to make those decisions for someone else. To me it's ironic that this state has assisted suicide yet you can't drive your car as a adult without wearing a seat belt, and we are now considering not be able to hunt without wearing orange. What happen to America the land of maximum freedom and maximum responsibility? If this was truly a safety issue everyone in the woods at anytime of the year should be required to wear orange, hikers, campers, mushrooms pickers, etc. If your really concerned about improving safety, mandate hunter education, which I would support. Why does everyone get so fired up "no pun intended" about accidents that involve a gun? Thousand can die due to car accidents, doctor mistakes, drug abuse, drunk drivers, etc, but don't get a proportionate reaction from people as compared to the relatively small number of gun related accidents per number of owners/users. Please don't dictate to me what you think is best for me. I am adult and can make those decisions for myself. Wearing hunter orange "if you agree with the interpretation of the data, which I don't" at its best helps protect the person wearing orange. Isn't the PROBLEM people pulling the trigger when they shouldn't. You solve the "PROBLEM" by educating the people pulling the trigger which would protect everyone "and every non target animal" not just those wearing orange. If the basis for hunter orange is you avoid accidental shootings, how many non target animals are being accidentally shot and left to lay in the woods. Please don't pass a another feel good mandate that takes away my personal freedoms and doesn't address the root of the problem.

Bill

From: [mcostello@co.klamath.or.us](mailto:mcostello@co.klamath.or.us)

Please do not require hunters to wear orange.

I have been a hunter in Oregon since 1976, and have recently attended the Hunter Safety Course with my son (2006?) and the topic was well covered. It is a good option to wear orange, and I often do (rabbit, doe, cow and bird hunting - I always do). However, Oregon's statistics show a high level of safety and I believe that the "be sure of your target" credo will be weakened if hunters are under the impression "if it does not have orange on, it could be what I am hunting for." That is, and should be, the golden rule of hunting (if you are unsure of your target, do not shoot).

In my duties as a deputy district attorney (Klamath County) I have seen one hunting related shooting and it was prosecuted as a homicide (defendant pled to a criminal negligent homicide). That was a tragedy, no doubt. That case was a "sound-shot" in a growth of 20 year old reproduction near Beaver Marsh. I very much doubt that clothing color was or could have been a factor due to the details of the investigation - I personally viewed the scene (as a note, deceased was wearing less effective red clothing, but due to conditions a visual connection between the defendant and victim seemed near impossible). Regardless, being absolutely sure of your target and KNOWING that people are not wearing orange is an important part of NOT pulling the trigger.

Further, in hunts where gender or point count is required prior to a shot, how could color of a hunter have any safety value? Personally, I cannot imagine hunting pronghorn while wearing orange, a person may as well put on a dune buggy flag for the stalk through the sage.

I am sure if we required all pedestrians to wear orange we would reduce fatalities. If all bicyclists to were required to wear orange there would be a reduction of accidents. How about hikers in hunting season? They too are at "risk." Idiots are out there, and accidents will

happen. With Oregon's present statistical "risk" for hunting related shootings, the proposed regulation is overly burdensome on both the participants and law enforcement.

I am of the opinion that ODFW regulations do not need the addition of a dress code.

Lastly, Oregon hunters have not been recently impressed with ODFW for various reasons. This will not aid in the Agency's public relations arena. The regulations now exceed 100 pages, many hunters have simply given up trying to comply with the requirements of field and stream. This will not aid in participation.

Mark Costello, Klamath Falls  
ODFW Identification Number 404754  
(541) 883-5147

From: [borton6@comcast.net](mailto:borton6@comcast.net)

OWDF, Please leave us hunters alone, our sport is one of the safest on record. Please drop this proposal to wear Hunter Orange and let it be a choice. You are regulating us hunters out of existence. Thank you, Robert Borton

From: [jpos@epiqsystems.com](mailto:jpos@epiqsystems.com)

It's not very often I'm compelled to write in about anything, but recent discussions regarding a potential requirement to wear hunter's orange have prompted me to do so. While I feel it might possibly save a life, I also feel it's an option which is best left to the individuals to decide. It's understandable the passion and emotion recently displayed by Mr. Gretzon in his argument for the requirement after the loss of his son last year, probably made more difficult by the fact it was at the hands of another family member. But the fact remains you have to be an idiot to shoot anyone out in the field and no amount of hunter orange is going to fix stupid.

Think of the steps and process involved in hunting which any normal or responsible hunter should be following:

1. Any scouting, observing, glassing, etc should always be done with binoculars not a rifle scope. You shouldn't look at anything through your rifle scope you aren't ready to shoot at. If you have bad eyes you need glasses, binoculars or a spotting scope.
2. Identify what you are looking at. Is it alive and moving, or it is the wind? There's nothing worse than trying to explain to your hunting buddies back at camp why you shot the boulder, tree or burned out stump.
3. Is it an animal? You are out there hunting during a specific season so you should be able to identify if it's a bird, bear, cougar, coyote, elk, deer, moose, person or sasquatch before you ever point your rifle at or take your safety off.
4. Even though its deer or elk season, very few people have an "either/or" tag, so you have to be able to identify the sex of the animal. Is it a doe, cow, buck, bull, etc? The antlers or lack thereof should be a pretty good clue as to the sex of the animal. Many of us on public or private land often hunt in areas with increased cattle numbers, just one more reason you have to identify what you are looking at.

5. Once you've identified the object is in fact an animal, the correct species for the tag you have, and even the right sex, as a hunter you still need to identify your shot selection. The body or rib cage of an elk looks considerably different from that of a person, as well as the neck or any other exposed part. Shot selection is important for a safe, clean, humane kill on any animal. If you can't identify the shoulder, neck or head specifically, then what are you shooting at? You're throwing lead around if you don't know what animal and what part of the body you are shooting at and that makes you dangerous to anyone or anything in the immediate vicinity.
6. Camo is made to look like trees, plants or blend in with the surroundings. Last I checked they didn't make elk or deer camo with an animal's butt patch on the back and antlers sticking out the top of the hat that you needed to crawl around on all fours with. Know your target and what is behind it.

I wear an orange or red hat when hunting, but I feel it should be the hunter's decision on what they want to wear. I often will spend a week or so during both elk and deer season out in the field. While doing so I've encountered all types of weather from snow, to sleet, to rain, to wind to 80\* days in the field. Because of this I've accumulated 10-15 years worth of hunting jackets, shirts, and other gear most of which is not very cheap.

In the typical hunting week I'll wear 3 or 4 different jackets depending on the changing weather, if they need to dry out, or what they smell like after a couple of days of hiking up and down hills. To expect hunters to purchase new gear is a financial burden not everyone can afford in today's economic climate. Hunters have helped pick up the slack in state and ODFW budget with increased license and tag fees. Adding the need for additional gear required by the state will push some more of the funding base away. The cost of a new hat is one thing, but jackets and other gear which can easily exceed over \$100 per item is a bit much.

I'm pretty sure everyone is in agreement that we don't want any deaths, but no amount of hunter's orange is going to deter someone from making a stupid and irresponsible decision if they get "buck fever". So until they can devise a test to keep the idiots out of the woods, let the responsible hunters decide for themselves what to wear.

Sincerely,

Jeff Post  
Project Manager  
503-350-5849

From: beaver65@verizon.net

Sir,

Does this proposed requirement come from a sudden increase in shooting accidents in Oregon? As far as I can determine, hunting is far safer than organized sports. Perhaps all vehicles should be painted hunter orange, that would seem to be a better effort for your time as vehicle accident death in one year is far greater than all the hunting accident deaths as far as records have been kept. Yes, any accidental death is a tragedy,

but life is not without risks. I sometimes hunt with a hat and shirt of hunter orange, and sometimes with camouflage. I make the choice. So should everyone have the choice. Wish the ODFW would find a way to get nonhunters pay their fair share of the benefits they enjoy from hunting fees and Pittman-Roberts fees. ODFW budget is strained and yet spends a large amount of money on non hunting activities.

Yours truly,  
Dale Bures  
PO Box 1347  
Port Orford, OR 97465  
541-332-7815

From: [steveparrent@yahoo.com](mailto:steveparrent@yahoo.com)

Although I have used hunter orange in the woods for some 54 years now, I will object to ANY requirement by ANY STATE or FEDERAL agency to require it.

This is ridiculous and a non issue.

Government agencies should be keeping their "feel good" ideas out of the public's business.

From: [haroldthehunter@peoplepc.com](mailto:haroldthehunter@peoplepc.com)

Should be a personal choice.  
the government is not there to mandate every thing we do, rather they should be setting polices that enhance hunting chances and game populations. Oregon is one of the safest states to hunt and getting safer each year. we have good hunter education programs. we do not need a big orange target on our front, back, head, or any other part of our body.

sincerly Harold L. Bertrand  
Coquille Or.

From: [fishhawk7@hotmail.com](mailto:fishhawk7@hotmail.com)

I have hunted in Oregon since 1951 and have seen no need to require the wearing of hunter orange.

Please DO NOT require the use of hunter orange.

Kevin Johnson

From: [chuckpear@co.clackamas.or.us](mailto:chuckpear@co.clackamas.or.us)

I am strongly opposed to the proposal to require "hunter orange" in Oregon. My opinion is that this is another proposed regulation without strong data to support it.

Chuck Pearson

From: [tfstew1@embarqmail.com](mailto:tfstew1@embarqmail.com)

I like Option 1, wearing hunter orange should remain voluntary for all hunters in Oregon. I will be 65 in Oct. of this year and have hunted in Oregon since I was 17 years old. I believe we have a good record in Oregon for hunting accidents, and it is a careless person causing an accidental shooting regardless whether the person was wearing camo or orange and wouldn't matter. I enjoy wearing my clothing choice and feel it is a big intrusion on us to force us to wear orange.

Sincerely;

Timothy F. Stewart

P.O. Bx. 292

Arlington, Or. 97812

From: [blundquist@cotruck.net](mailto:blundquist@cotruck.net)

Please don't put more regulations that affect those of us that are responsible and know what we are shooting at. There are additional costs involved that will make it harder for many to be able to afford to go hunting especially in these economic times. License, tag application and tag fees have gone up adding to the burden.

It is unbelievable to me that ANYONE can mistake another human being for any Big Game species. The rest of us shouldn't have to pay for someone else's ignorance.

Please feel free to respond via email. Your meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October in Bend, OR seems an odd time to hold public meetings on this subject due to the fact that most of the hunters this proposal would effect will be on their way to the field to hunt.

Thanks for your time,

***Bob Lundquist***

*Central Oregon Truck Company, Inc.*

*Sales & planning*

*P: 541-416-2180 X 115*

*F: 541-416-0889*

*C: 541-419-0900*

*blundquist@cotruck.net*

From: [kmccabe@beobank.com](mailto:kmccabe@beobank.com)

It is my understanding that **only** rifle hunters will be mandated to wear orange. Why aren't you making it mandatory for Archery hunters to wear orange. Just another advantage Archery hunters have over the rifle hunter. They get a longer season and don't have to apply for tags. One thing I don't see in the figures on shooting in Oregon, is a break down by age are these shooting.

One other question. In other states, the amount of orange a hunter is listed in square inches. How is the mandate go address this for Oregon. How much orange must a hunter wear?

To summarize, I don't believe a hunter should be mandated to wear hunter orange, it should be left to the hunter making his or her own choice. If hunters apply their hunter safety, shooting would not happen.

Thank you  
Kevin McCabe

From: [pnwjeeper@gmail.com](mailto:pnwjeeper@gmail.com)

Please consider:

If I choose to wear orange clothing while hunting (or supporting the OSU Beavers) I do so as my choice. If I want my children to wear blaze orange while hunting, I require them to do so until they reach the age of majority. What I do not want or need is yet another government mandated law or rule requiring me to do what should be my choice. It is possible that you feel compelled to pass rules and laws as part of your charge with the commission, it may make you feel that you are doing something, that you are earning your wages or somehow justifying your position. Were you not to make changes or not pass rules you might fear that the public or your superiors would think that you are not doing your job. I challenge you to re-think your role and to give consideration to doing nothing from time to time. It is also a choice, and in my opinion a choice that is too often overlooked. However, I know that the urge to do something is very strong, it is human nature, you think that you may be saving someones life. Maybe you should pass a law to outlaw all tree ladders over 5 feet high so that no one could fall far from a tree stand or no hunting after the age of sixty because of a higher risk of possible heart attacks, or ... well there is no end to what rules could be passed to protect us from ourselves. Anyhow, thanks for taking the time to read this before hitting the delete button.

Respectfully;

Thom Green  
2192 Maine St.

North Bend, OR 97459

From: [apis@wtechlink.us](mailto:apis@wtechlink.us)

ODFW,

I am adamantly opposed to a mandatory hunter orange requirement. I never ceases to amaze me how often government feels obligated to mandate common sense. If an individual is concerned for their own safety they are welcome to wear hunter orange. I do so selectively depending on the season I hunt. During big game seasons I always wear an orange vest.

During chukar hunts I never wear orange. The contention that upland bird hunting success will not be adversely effected by wearing orange is misinformed. Hunt chukars long enough, make your own comparisons, as I have and you will be convinced that orange does indeed reduce success.

PLEASE ODFW, resist the temptation to save everyone. BIG BROTHER is not needed here. Leave the law as it currently is written.

From: [joelnickerson@butlerman.com](mailto:joelnickerson@butlerman.com)

To Whom It My Concern:  
Re: Oregon And Hunters Orange

As a hunter in the state of Oregon since the 1990's as a young man. I have enjoyed the freedom to choose what I would wear in the woods.

As a father and husband it is a choice I take more to heart.

I am not opposed to wearing hunters(blaze) Orange, I believe that it can make hunting safer in some cases.

I do oppose the usage of Blaze Orange being mandatory. Just as there are time that it can increase the safety of the hunter there are time that it is a detriment to the hunters safety.

To be blunt there are hunters in the woods I don't want to know the location of my wife or child.

Blaze Orange is and should remain a personal and situational choice.

75% of the time we use Blaze orange. Theother 25% of the time were we choose not to we feel safer.

Don't fall into the misconception that Blaze Orange will make a safer hunter out of people. The issue is not the person being hurt it is the person pulling the trigger.

Joel B. Nickerson



From: [hhamerlynck@yahoo.com](mailto:hhamerlynck@yahoo.com)

I favor the voluntary wear option!

From: [montanarex@gmail.com](mailto:montanarex@gmail.com)

I, nor do any of my hunting partners want Oregon to adopt a rule for hunter orange wearing to be mandatory. It will solve nothing for safety. Those who choose to shoot at movement in the brush will continue to do so.

R L Turley  
1105 W C St.  
Rainier, OR  
97048

From: karmik@opusnet.com

WE DO NOT NEED MORE PROTECTION BY THE STATE. THE CHOICE TO WEAR ORANGE SHOULD BE LEFT TO THE INDIVIDUAL, NOT SOMEONE IN THE GOVERNMENT TRYING TO SAVE US FROM OURSELVES. WE ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR SELVES.  
MIKE MARBLE  
67929 CARL RD  
DEER ISLAND OR. 97054

From: [james.dean@ang.af.mil](mailto:james.dean@ang.af.mil)

I am not in favor of making hunter orange mandatory for the state of Oregon. Please consider removing this proposal. We don't need more regulations that will essentially drive more hunters away from our dying sport.

James F. Dean  
4464 Memorie Ln.  
Klamath Falls, OR. 97603  
Hunter ID # 8123

From: [tom@prempac.com](mailto:tom@prempac.com)

Dear Sirs,

With only 21 fatalities in a 20 year span of time and 10's of thousands of hunters, I hardly see the need for another law. I also have a hard time seeing how another hunter is going to mistake a person for an animal, let alone while looking for antlers and/or the proper kill spot on their game. I believe that our states time and money could be much better spent on hunter education or a multitude of other things. Please vote no on this law. I suggest that this is dropped and we find better things to focus our energy on.

Sincerely,  
Tom Coryell  
Lifetime Oregon Hunter

From: [ansel@nwqwealth.com](mailto:ansel@nwqwealth.com)

Dear Sirs:

Hunter orange will not solve the problem of irresponsible hunters. It will not prevent a relative from shooting another relative. Hunter orange will not educate one single young hunter how to hunt safely and ethically. Hunter orange will not provide funds for habitat restoration and mule deer research. In short, hunter orange will do nothing except salve the conscience of a family stricken with grief or a commission searching for a solution to a problem that does not exist.

Please vote no on mandatory hunter orange.

An Oregon hunter for nearly 60 years.

Respectfully,  
Ansel J. Krutsinger  
PO Box 547  
John Day, OR 97845

From: [mike@zigsstreetrods.com](mailto:mike@zigsstreetrods.com)

Keep it as it is. We do not need more government or anybody telling us what is right or wrong. That choice is ours. Thank you.

From: [Curt@titanfg.com](mailto:Curt@titanfg.com)

My name is Curt Currey and I am a native Oregonian and I am 40 years old. I have hunted big game in Oregon since the age of twelve. I am a huge advocate of implementing the mandatory wearing of hunter orange while hunting in Oregon. I truly believe it will make the woods and deserts of Oregon a much safer environment to hunt in. I believe that the wearing of Hunter Orange (something I already do while big game hunting and bird hunting) will also help hunters make more socially accepted decisions regarding how close hunters choose to hunt around other hunters just by making fellow hunters more visible while in the field. If the wearing of Hunter Orange has a chance to save just one life or injury it is worth it! If it makes hunters feel more

comfortable being in the field it is worth it. If it provides a safer environment for our families to join us in the field increasing the time spent with family then it is worth it.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this comment. I would be interested to see why anyone would oppose the opportunity to make the field a safer place to hunt.

Sincerely,

*Curt Currey*

**Titan Funding Group, Inc.**

1551 Pearl Street

Eugene, OR 97401

Phone: (541) 341-1400

Fax: (541) 341-1609

From: [Larry@jacksonsautobody.com](mailto:Larry@jacksonsautobody.com)

To whom it may concern,

I would be in support for Oregon to require Hunter Orange to be worn. Myself and my hunting group have worn Orange since 1990. I like to be able to see everyone the best I can. I hate waking in the wood and someone appears out of nowhere wearing Camo, Brown or other color that match the color of Deer or Elk. Not to smart one would think. We see it all the time.

The numbers that are show for Oregon's hunting related accidents should say it all. Why is there even a question what to do?

As for New York. Why anyone would want to be seven time more likely to be shot.

Kind of says it all to me.

I also would not mind seeing Binoculars being mandated to. I have look through my binoculars more then a dozen time to find someone pointing there gun at me. Not a good feeling.

It just make since.

Thanks for your time

Larry Jackson

From: [amothfam@proaxis.com](mailto:amothfam@proaxis.com)

I have previously expressed my dislike of any mandatory hunter orange regulations and want to reiterate my firm belief that a focused public education program and integration of this subject into the hunter education program will do more for the future of hunting in Oregon than the continued trend of over-regulating the sport. Here's why:

- Statistically, hunting in Oregon is very safe compared to most other outdoor sporting activities.
- Statistically again, ODFW data show that mandatory use of orange clothing would prevent less than one hunter death per year.
- The number of hunters in Oregon has been declining for decades and the addition of mandatory orange regulations will accelerate this decline. Hunters are leaving the sport because of the endless procession of controls being instituted under the guise of game management.
- We in Oregon have historically demonstrated the ability to independently make our own decisions and we don't need a mandatory hunter orange program because "most other state have one".

I request that the Commission select option 1 – DO NOTHING –and then move on to more pressing issues related to the restoration of deer and elk populations and the control of predators.

Respectfully,

Alan Amoth

Corvallis

From: [rtkoon@earthlink.net](mailto:rtkoon@earthlink.net)

Most of the states that have adopted mandatory orange are densely populated. In Oregon most hunting accidents are not because of the ability to differentiate between an animal or human, but just plain stupidity.

We do not need hunter orange in Oregon.

Thank you.

From: [ronberger1@verizon.net](mailto:ronberger1@verizon.net)

I DO NOT LIKE THE IDEA OF HAVING TO WEAR HUNTER ORANGE. I AM IN FAVOR OF OPTION #1, WITH NO CHANGES AT ALL. I DO NOT UNDERSTAND WHY THIS WOULD EVEN BE UP FOR OPTIONS WHEN OREGON IS # 2 SAFEST STATE BEHIND NEVADA, ALSO NOT MANDATING HUNTER ORANGE. THIS WOULD BE ANOTHER LAW TAKING AWAY A RIGHT THAT OUR STATE HAS SHOWN IS NOT NECESSARY. THANK YOU RON BERGER HUNT ID # 114962

From: [chuckorsheripool@q.com](mailto:chuckorsheripool@q.com)

After reading the three options that The Commission is considering for [Hunter Orange](#), I would like to comment on my choice.

I choose to have Option 3 put into place. I won't go into the facts and figures about the safety of [Hunter Orange](#), everyone that has been involved already knows all of that. Being a disabled hunter and a former Hunter Education Instructor (my choice to quit) , I want to make sure that I am safe while hunting and that others are also safe while hunting. I remember when the mandatory use of seat belts came up and there were several people (myself included) that did not want to be told we had to use seat belts. After it went into effect I was stunned at how well it worked. Yes there are still instances where having a seat belt on may not save your life, but I now realize that I would rather not be thrown out of my car or through the windshield if I was in an accident. Especially after members of my family were involved in a head on collision (the other driver was at fault) and having seat belts on saved their lives.

I sincerely hope that you will take into consideration that sometimes we as human beings don't always know what is best for us and need to have someone tell us what to do for our own safety. Please don't let one group (OHA) dictate what is safe for big game and upland bird hunters. I am a member of OHA and I firmly disagree with their stand on this issue.

While I realize that some of the old die hard stubborn hunters will not comply regardless of what the law is, my hope is by changing the law we can make wearing [Hunter Orange](#) when hunting as automatic as putting on your seat belt is now when you get into a car.

Sincerely,

Sheri Pool

233 Rogue River Hwy. # 242

Grants Pass, Oregon 97527

(541) 474-7677

[chuckorsheripool@q.com](mailto:chuckorsheripool@q.com)

## PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM THE WEB

Topic:

Name: Steve Berger

E-mail: [STEVEBERGER1@VERIZON.NET](mailto:STEVEBERGER1@VERIZON.NET)

Comment:I don't like the idea of having to wear hunter orange. I am in favor of option 1,no change at all. Oregon is # 2 state behind Nevada,neither having mandated hunter orange Thank you Steve Berger hunter id#140950

From: scott.carter2@ang.af.mil

I fully understand the reasons behind wearing hunter orange while hunting. That being said I now choose not to wear it. In 2003 I was elk hunting wearing a hunter orange hat and vest. I had a group of hunters

shoot in my direction because they saw me moving down a cut line approximately 600 meters away. My best explanation is that they saw movement at a distance because I was wearing visible clothing. Since then I wear full camouflage and take a knee and stay put when I see people until they are gone. I would like to see the wearing of hunter orange remain the hunters choice.

From: [artbreaker@netzero.net](mailto:artbreaker@netzero.net)

Hello,

Someone recently mentioned that mandatory blaze orange clothing may in the future be required for hunters in Oregon. I do not know if this is actually being considered, but sincerely hope that it is NOT.

I don't believe that a regulation like that would do anything except, reduce the sales of hunting licences.

I don't feel that the state should force a person to wear blaze, or any color to hunt on their own time on public lands. And if I am wrong about that, then shouldn't the state also set a similar dress code for every other person who uses those same lands? Why would one group be singled out? All people in the outdoors during hunting seasons are at the same risk.

If people want to wear blaze now, they can. If that makes them feel safe, nothing is stopping them. But I personally would not feel safe wearing blaze orange and so, would no longer hunt.

Please help me, and others like me to continue to have the freedom to hunt.

Sincerely,

Robert Patrick

From: [azcfishunt@yahoo.com](mailto:azcfishunt@yahoo.com)

i think your crazy to think you can demand what we wear to hunt, you think you can run our lives

we are free to determine how and what to wear to hunt. I have been hunting every year since i was

seven yrs old, born and raised in eastern Ore. so be ready to haul my ass to jail you where they wear orange suits.

From: [rcoy927@yahoo.com](mailto:rcoy927@yahoo.com)

I would recommend option #1 on the hunter orange issue. I think hunters should make their own choice on what garments to wear in the woods or field.

I would also make it mandatory for workers or those who have be in the field for work or other such activities during any hunting seasons wear the bright orange for their own safety.

From: [Knotthead541@aol.com](mailto:Knotthead541@aol.com)

I feel that the odfw could do so much more than require a hunting color ( I use the green). Having hunted and fished in oregon for over 35 years and having never seen a odfw person in the field, I do know that I am 1 or 2 years from being priced, permitted, lisenced, tagged, taxed or what ever the new name is out, while my taxes are keeping up your payroll, employee numbers, new vehicles, retirement, benifits and all the other percs for this department going while I go from building homes in the private sector to working in a hotel in the private sector (which is where the odfw tax \$ comes from) MY 401 is cut in half by the way we do business in Oregon. If this is really your worst problem GOOD LUCK!

From: [cooksunker@bctonline.com](mailto:cooksunker@bctonline.com)

DON" T MAKE ANY CHANGES!!!!

From: [seigneur2@comcast.net](mailto:seigneur2@comcast.net)

In regard to the issue of wearing Hunter Orange while hunting generally and while Turkey Hunting...My thoughts are as follows:

1. Please make it mandatory that hunters of all ages ware HUNTER ORANGE over their clothing when hunting...
2. Its required during hunting in many States in the US...Some States even have a required surface amount of the color measured in "square inches".
3. As far as Turkey hunting goes...I hunted turkeys when I lived in NY State...AND....After a through survey of many shooting accidents over the years during Turkey hunting season, the State found the principal reason/cause of Turkey hunting accidents [deaths and injury] was found too be hunters shooting at an un-seen hunter's "calling sounds",....In other words, the "Turkey calling" the hunters do made the "offending hunter" [the shooter] think there was a "Turkey in the foliage" when it was an un-seen, camouflaged Turkey hunter in the brush...! It was simply a hunter "shooting at sounds" with NO clear sight of a hunter....WOW !
4. Requiring the "amount" of coverage should/must be "reasonable"...AND that's the real debate...Not "IF"....a hunter must ware hunter orange !
5. I am a Loooooong time Upland Bird and Dear hunter [Michigan, Ney York, and Oregon]....since I was 12 years old...I am now 75 and I ALWAYS ware HUNTER ORANGE every time I go out in the "field"....!...and I am still hunting !

PS: I "reluctantly" go along with the elimination of wearing the color orange when Turkey hunting...HOWEVER....From what I have read, Turkeys like some other game animals may not be able to differentiate colors...I would think more research needs to be done to determine this..?

David Seigneur  
16196 SE River Forest Place  
Milwaukie, Oregon 97267  
503-653-6053  
[seigneur2@comcast.net](mailto:seigneur2@comcast.net)

From: [kenldixon@comcast.net](mailto:kenldixon@comcast.net)

Dear Commission Member:

I read with interest about the Commission's consideration of hunter orange requirements in the weekly email newsletter I receive from ODFW. I followed up by reading the report the Commission received already on the subject. Thank you for this opportunity to make my comments heard on the subject. In short, I am not in favor of requiring hunter orange at this time. I believe despite what the report concludes there is insufficient information to conclude that additional regulations will make a significant difference, therefore I am in favor of option 1, leaving use of hunter orange as voluntary. Below are some of the reasons for my opinion, based on what I read in the report:

- According to the report, hunting is already very safe in terms of overall rates of injury, and Oregon is one of the safest of the states in the report already - and that without a requirement for hunter orange. In fact the report notes 4 of the top 5 safest states in incidents, and 3 of the top 5 safest states in fatalities do NOT require hunter orange. The remaining states are a mixture of those that require and those that don't require hunter orange. This alone is sufficient evidence to conclude that hunter orange should not be required because it does NOT have the direct correlation that the report elsewhere states many "believe" it has.
- According to the report, approximately 1/2 of the incidents could not even be affected by hunter orange in the first place, because they were completely unrelated. Therefore adding additional regulation will not touch a significant portion of incidents. Further, approximately 1/5 of the incident victims were wearing hunter orange already, indicating it is at best only one of a number of factors in vision-related incidents (I did not see a definition of how an incident comes to be known as vision-related). Additionally the number of recent vision-related fatalities was relatively so small (0-2) that stating "none" were wearing hunter orange should not be given the weight it implies - the lack of hunter orange is not a death sentence. Additional regulation, according to the facts contained in the report, therefore, is attempting to cure a small and decreasing proportion of the safety problem in hunting in Oregon, and as noted above, is not even shown to be that effective.
- Review of the existing literature in the report for improvements related to wearing hunter orange are not comparable to Oregon. Hunting in New York, Maine, and North Carolina are significantly different than Oregon. There is less land available to hunt, land is mostly private, and hunting styles are different for (primarily) white tail and also Moose. Additionally only the percentage, not the number, of incidents in the WAFWA states were noted. If the average decrease of 22% were applied to Oregon's actual incident rate it would drop from 1.56 to 1.22, a negligible decrease at best.
- According to the report, the use of hunter orange would not be expected to reduce hunter success, based on the discussion of animal vision presented. What is not presented, though, is that hunter orange is a solid field of color and experience teaches that wildlife can, and do, immediately detect the solid, patternless hunter orange amidst the pattern and variety of nature.
- The report ultimately concludes, "Hunting in Oregon is safe, even when compared to other states that require hunter orange. However, hunting in Oregon could be safer." This kind of reasoning is the weakest point of the entire report and has no place in a document purporting to be factually based! Such reasoning is mostly used to drive an agenda, which must be the case here because, as shown above, the data in the report do not support the conclusion that hunter orange should be required. It is a slippery slope because the logical end of such weak reasoning is that even if hunter orange was required, hunting could STILL be made safer - so there needs to be ever more regulation until ultimately the only way to keep hunting safe is to ban it altogether - for *the safety of the hunter, of course*. Sound ridiculous? It is, but that is exactly what the report concludes. If we as a state followed this kind of spurious reasoning we'd all quit driving, "because driving in Oregon is safe, but could be safer if we never drove at all".



I urge you to leave well enough alone and stick with option 1 - things have been getting continually safer in regards to hunting in Oregon as the report clearly shows, and hunter orange has not been shown to be a real difference-maker here. And just as a quick note on option 2, this is worse than option 3. Option 2 is the "do what I say, not what I do option." What a poor example to set for our youth - they have had enough of that trash already!

Thank you again for the opportunity to voice my opinion. I appreciate your service to the State of Oregon and to those of us who live and hunt here!

Ken Dixon  
Tigard, Oregon  
503.624.5609

From: [tvtny@comcast.net](mailto:tvtny@comcast.net)

Sirs;

I assume that the idea of wearing orange is to make the wearer more visible to other hunters. This could, in theory, reduce accidental injuries.

It seems to me that emphasizing the wearing of orange by the hunter does nothing for the visibility of the possible victim.

The person firing the rifle is not going to get hit. It is the victim who needs to be made more visible.

That requires that everyone else in the area needs to wear orange. Since this would be impractical, having hunters, as a group, wear orange might at least make them less likely to become victims.

Does common sense not rule?

Isn't this considered at all?

Incidentally, I stopped hunting when I came within a hair's breadth of shooting a woodcutter who was wearing a brown leather jacket.

Tony Veldhuizen  
2607 NW Overton St.  
Portland OR 97210

From: [oldcurtie@msn.com](mailto:oldcurtie@msn.com)

if this is going to be anything like the muzzleloader questionnaire why even bother asking us what we think.

I VOTE NO!!!

Curtis Simmons  
50 year OREGON resident and lifetime hunter and fisherman.

From: [Dukeofloyd@aol.com](mailto:Dukeofloyd@aol.com)

To hear that the state is considering the mandatory use of orange to me is a show of stupidity. The reason is that twenty some years ago I was deer hunting and heard and felt the snap of a bullet go through my hair, while I was wearing a hunter orange cap and vest in a wide open area with waist high trees. After hitting the dirt for several minutes I stood up and began walking and had to hit the dirt several more times as more bullets came my way. I seen the shooter sitting in their truck looking through binoculars in my direction and then he brought his rifle up to shoot at the squirrel in a tree in front of me, he finally seen me and sped away. I went to camp and burned my hunter orange and have not worn it since. How about mandatory vision checks and common sense testing instead of the crap or wearing target orange.

From: [davidlorence@msn.com](mailto:davidlorence@msn.com)

If I have to start wearing Orange gear or clothing I'll quit hunting. It is getting to expensive already with out buying new gear. Tags are already getting high and land is getting hard to find to hunt on. Put more restriction on us and you are making this a rich man sport. You pass this shame on you.

David Lorence

hunting Oregon from 1968 to now

From: [larry@semarine.com](mailto:larry@semarine.com)

The incidence of hunting injuries in Oregon is very low although any is too many. However, the decision of whether or not to wear orange should be left to the individual hunter. No regulation will replace judgment or sportsmanship. The statistics can be interpreted just about any way you choose and as a result are meaningless. The sample is far to small to be significant. As a scientist and lawyer I am always suspicious of the use

of statistical analysis to promote political or emotional aims. When someone is injured or killed it is tragic, especially when pursuing an activity as dear to us all as hunting. I would be interested to know the ages of the subjects in the analysis, It seems from the press reports(not a particularly reliable analysis I admit) that a disproportionate number are young hunters.

It appears that about 65% of the fatalities are "vision related" although there is no explanation as to how that term is defined and again it is an awfully small (thankfully) sample. A missing statistic is how often the person responsible for the shooting is charged with a crime, usually based upon negligent or reckless behavior. The famous tort law professor Prosser defined the difference between negligence, gross negligence and recklessness as the difference between a fool, a damn fool and a goddamn fool. We all get adrenaline rushes when the trophy of a lifetime or just some freezer venison is in our sights. How we behave at that point is determined by education, experience and judgment. Perhaps an alternative is more emphasis in hunter education on ethics, hunting versus killing, target identification, especially among the young but also including those of us carrying pioneer licences as well Thank you for considering my comments.

Dr. Laurence Janke

From: [bogger38@live.com](mailto:bogger38@live.com)

The hunters orange should be a personal choice for the hunters of oregon over 18 years of age. No one is stopping a person from wearing it, and no one should tell me if I have too. I am 26 years old and hunt (or apply) for six states, all the other state's I hunt in exsept Idaho make us wear orange and i hate it. I know wht can happen and its not the color that i dont like its that fact that it is a solid shape that is unnatural in that woods. If you are going to make us wear hunters orange then at least let us use the stuff that has the black lines in it, so it will break up the out lines. Or better yet make the people learn to stop shooting at movement or sound and start looking what the hell it is before they shoot i dont know how you can do that,but i still think it should be the person' choice after they turn 18!

I have watched people look at other people through there rifle scopes even when they are wearing hunters orange.

From: [jjjohn163@msn.com](mailto:jjjohn163@msn.com)

Please leave the decision whether or not to wear orange or any other bright color while hunting up to the individual hunter just as it is now.

Thank You

Gerald Johnson  
Oregon Hunter ID # 428470

From: [kevin.nelson89@yahoo.com](mailto:kevin.nelson89@yahoo.com)

I think that the rule should stay the way it is, leave it up to the individual hunter. I should be encouraged for everyone to wear some orange while hunting but not mandatory.

Kevin Nelson

From: [DMcGowan@realtytrust.com](mailto:DMcGowan@realtytrust.com)

Forget the mandate idea. The decision to wear safety clothing should be left to the individual. I have worn red/orange vests, coats, and hats while hunting for 50+ years. It has been my personal choice. To require such action would be just one more cumbersome, intrusive law.

Dave McGowan  
Broker  
Realty Trust Group

1220 NW Lovejoy #130  
Portland, Oregon 97209  
503-416-4174 Direct  
503-348-9311 Cell  
503-294-1105 Fax

From: [svscriv@msn.com](mailto:svscriv@msn.com)

• **Option 1 – No change to current status (voluntary wear of hunter orange).**

- Option 2 – Require hunter orange upper garment and hat for hunters 17 years of age and younger while hunting big game and upland birds (except turkey) with any firearm.
- Option 3 – Require hunter orange upper garment or hat for all hunters while hunting big game and upland birds (except turkey) with a centerfire firearm or shotgun.

**Option 1 - No change** is the **only** option. Your enforcement people have plenty of other things to do besides worrying about what I am wearing while hunting. Also, If you don't include the bow hunters in the mix then forcing these requirements only on rifle hunters is way out of bounds.

Steve Scrivner  
Grants Pass, Or.

From: [Jeffrey.Klum@qwest.com](mailto:Jeffrey.Klum@qwest.com)

It should be a voluntary option. I have been wearing an orange hat and red/black checkd shirt,since I have been hunting,I am 49yrs old.Never a problem.Why does the commission see fit to tell ANYONE how to dress for hunting season,please understand we are mature adults using firearms and good judgement.Those who can not should be restricted/arrested/or other wise.at the minimum if those who feel the need to dress hunters,MAKE IT 1 PIECE OF ORANGE CLOTHING.I DONT WANT THE IDIOTS TO SEE ME AS AN EASY TARGET " IN ORANGE". PLEASE FORWARD THIS TO ODF&W DRESS CODE CLOTHING DEPT. THANK YOU FOR MAKING ME WASTE MY VALUABLE TIME TO COMMENT ON SOMEONES OPINION WHO HAS TO MUCH FREE TIME, TO IRRATATE THOSE WHO PAY YOUR SALARY! PLEASE FIND THESE PEOPLE DIFFERENT LINE OF WORK!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! SERIOUSLY IRRATATED JEFF KLUM.

From: [eclat1986@verizon.net](mailto:eclat1986@verizon.net)

All you need to do is look at the safety record of Oregon compared to states with hunter orange requirements. Leave us alone.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM THE WEB

Topic: Other

Name: Mary Anne Minyard

E-mail: mary\_anne\_1975@yahoo.com

Comment: Anyone who would take a shot at anything that moves, with out first identifying what they were shooting at, is already violating the law. By implementing another rule that requires the hunters to wear orange clothing will not change the hunters behavior who do not follow rules. If you look at statistics you will see that too many hunters have been shot while wearing orange. Please allow us the freedom to wear what we want.

From: [jankhupp@gmail.com](mailto:jankhupp@gmail.com)

Vote yes for orange. I like to hunt,not getting shot at.

Jan hupp

503-873-3838

Silverton

From: [antigsplus@msn.com](mailto:antigsplus@msn.com)

Sirs,

I understand that ODFW is considering hunters to wear some kind of orange vest. First, Oregon's rate if incidents compared with neighboring states that require HOR is far below the norm. Oregon's preference point system almost guarantees returning hunters in that it requires a hunter to keep applying to get enough points to draw a tag. So, the larger percentage of hunters in the field should be experienced returning hunters and would be safer in the open then newbies. I have hunted Oregon for 60+ years and have never had a problem, except for the one time I tried an orange vest. Whether the shot was meant to be closer is unknown, but someone launched a round too close for comfort. Target or not, I haven't worn it since. I realize that animals don't see colors, but they do see shades of dark and light (they don't run into trees), and certainly brightness. That's why we wash our hunting clothes in color/UV killer "soap". The whole idea is for the animals not to see us as good as they should. Now if everyone that wore a HOR vest use color/UV killer we'd be in pretty good shape. So in the meantime, I reccommend and really believe that wearing HOR should be an individuals personal choice.

L.E. Stopper

Oregon City, OR

From: [mrandmrscoy@yahoo.com](mailto:mrandmrscoy@yahoo.com)

I believe the orange law thought has good intentions, but I oppose mandatory orange. Here's why. a man goes hunting with out his " mandatory orange' for one reason or another, and is out walking through the brush. Another hears the brush move and sees no "mandatory orange" then pulls his trigger. BAD NEWS

For kids under 17, orange is a great idea. However the proposal is garment AND hat. It gets hot in Oregon, not every one wants to wear a hat. This should be an option for the kids of either or , not both. I say NO to the proposed mandatory Orange ;as the proposal stands.

thanks, Joe Coy

**From:** Mark Forster [mailto:mforster@viclink.com]

**Sent:** Monday, August 02, 2010 3:10 PM

**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us

**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Dear commission members:

The wearing of hunter orange should be a personal choice.

I have been hunting for over 45 years and have Never even for a moment thought another hunter was a game animal.

If someone has a problem telling the difference between a person and a game animal they should not be in the field.

We do not require other outdoor users to wear hunter orange.

Sometimes I wear some orange, sometimes blue, sometimes red and black plaid and sometimes camo, it is my choice.

Please do not dilute the accountability of the individual to properly identify their target.

Regards,

Mark Forster  
Silverton, OR

**From:** Jared Pinkerton [mailto:jaredp@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Thursday, August 12, 2010 6:49 PM

**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us

**Subject:** Hunter Orange.

Hello,

Should it be illegal to hunt if you are not wearing Blaze Orange? The answer is simple.  
**NO!**

Now a question for the ODFW. Why would the ODFW choose orange as the color?

Orange seems to me to be a bad choice since in the Oregon woods depending on the seasons has foliage that is very similar in color. Wouldn't it make more sense to choose a color more distinct and less likely to be found in nature?

Like say maybe fluorescent **GREEN** or hot **PINK**.....Just an idea!

The right of free choice is something that all Americans enjoy, and when appointed officials start talking and/or thinking in these ways is when those rights are at risk.

Its all starts with someone making a statement like "Hunters would be safer if they had to wear one piece of hunters orange, less accidents would happen" and before we know it we are wearing full jumpsuits, but yet haven't corrected or prevented the chance of accidents happening in Oregon's woods. That is why they are called accidents they will happen either way, no matter the amount of regulatory controls we put in place. A better way to approach this matter, would be to better educate our next generation hunters about proper safety (just as we do with our current hunters safety courses). The hardest part of a plan like this would be the existing hunting population that might not have taken a proper hunters safety class and/or a hunter with "NO" hunting experience. The key is better educating the population, give them the tools to succeed and don't set them up for failure.

Like the Chinese proverb "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime."

The ODFW could better use its time and resources that hunters help provide to find a more comprehensive means of addressing the true problem. For the ODFW to just jump to a conclusion for this issue and say that its going to help correct the chance of an accident by making all hunters wear one or two pieces of hunters orange, in mine and many others opinions is just plane ignorant.

Please take some time and rethink the whole idea. Myself and many others don't feel that this is a very good way to fix the big problem (hunter safety). More like a last minute band aid on a long term problem, all the while trampling our freedom of choice that all our ancestor's fought so hard protect.

Thank you for your time,  
Jared Pinkerton  
Proud Oregon Hunter  
[jaredp@gmail.com](mailto:jaredp@gmail.com)

H: 541-282-7852  
C: 541-690-8340

**From:** Brenda Lane [mailto:brendallane@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 12, 2010 9:36 PM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us;  
odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Sirs,

I am extremely disappointed that you have chosen to hold the hearing on mandatory blaze orange on the day before the opening day of hunting season for the majority of Oregon hunters. That being said, I am 100% opposed to any rule mandating the wearing of blaze orange while hunting in the field. I feel that it is a personal choice that each hunter should make individually. I do sometimes wear blaze orange sweat shirts, and hats, or both. I decide based on my own criteria whether or not to wear blaze orange. If I am in an isolated area, I often prefer not to wear orange. Regardless, the choice should be mine. From the data that I have seen, Oregon is a state with a low incident rate of hunter's being mistaken for game (which should never happen, no matter what a hunter is wearing) as compared to some other states that have a blaze orange rule.

I completed my hunter education course in the late 1970's, and sat through another course when my twin sons were educated as hunters about 10 years ago. In both classes the instructor stressed the importance of identifying your target, being aware of what is beyond your target, and taking an ethical shot. My sons and I have always followed these simple rules before firing, and have never come close to misidentifying another hunter for game. Blaze orange or not, a hunter that is willing to shoot into brush because he hears some noise and "thought" it was a deer or elk, will still make stupid decisions, no matter what I am wearing. Your efforts towards improved safety in the field would be more effective by improving education, possibly requiring all hunters that hunt in Oregon, to have completed a hunter education course in Oregon, or their home state.

I will not be able to attend the meeting on the day before the season opens. My sons drew their deer tags in Eastern Oregon and I will be in camp with them, my wife, my dad, and my brothers enjoying some quality family time, and hunting safely.

Thank You,  
Doug Lane  
30185 Lassen

Lane

Junction City,

OR 97448



**From:** NW Apparel [mailto:nwapparel@ados.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 11, 2010 3:42 PM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us;  
odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Unfortunately, we are unable to attend the upcoming meeting on The Blaze Orange requirements. We as hunters feel that we should be able to dress the way that we want while hunting. Accidents are caused because people shoot in to situations where they cannot see what is there. Even if we are wearing orange, it will still not stop the stupid people from shooting where they should not be shooting.

There are seatbelt and helmet laws out there, and they do not always save lives. We feel strongly that we should have our own choice as to whether we want to wear Orange or not.

Thank you

Mark and Julie Sandstrom  
Northwest Apparel

**From:** R.R. Vetkos [mailto:rvetkos@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 11, 2010 6:37 PM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us;  
odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Oregon hunters should have the right to choose what they want to wear while hunting, hiking, or any other outdoor sport they choose to join in. The state should not be taking the right to choose away from the people in this state.

Sincerely  
Richard Vetkos

**From:** Mark Forster [mailto:mforster@viclink.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 02, 2010 3:10 PM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us;  
odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Dear commission members:

The wearing of hunter orange should be a personal choice.

I have been hunting for over 45 years and have Never even for a moment thought another hunter was a game animal.  
If someone has a problem telling the difference between a person and a game animal they should not be in the field.  
We do not require other outdoor users to wear hunter orange.  
Sometimes I wear some orange, sometimes blue, sometimes red and black plaid and sometimes camo, it is my choice.  
Please do not dilute the accountability of the individual to properly identify their target.

Regards,

Mark Forster  
Silverton, OR

**From:** Bramblett Family [mailto:toobusy@charter.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 15, 2010 9:45 AM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Just a quick note to let you know that I am against wearing mandatory hunter orange. There are times I like to wear it and times I like to wear other colors. I have some great bright red shirts and jackets that I understand will be illegal for me to wear. My vote is no! RB

**From:** Joe Dula [mailto:dulanj@canby.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 15, 2010 10:56 AM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** AGAINST Hunter Orange

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Dear ODFW. I am against mandatory hunter orange. I am a resident hunter of Oregon since 1972. I am a OHA member, NRA member, local gun club member. It is my opinion that the state does not need to change the current law of wearing blaze orange voluntarily. I can make my own decisions and do not need you to tell me what I can and cannot do. Right now we are FREE to wear blaze orange if we choose! Nobody is stopping us. I am against any more regulations on our FREEDOM OF CHOICE! Adults with children under the age of 18 can be responsible for themselves and make their own decisions.  
Your job as the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Dept is exactly that, FISH AND THE WILDLIFE. Not to dictate to me how I will or will not choose to run My life.  
Joe Dula, Canby Oregon, 503-266-2771

**From:** Rstanleys2@aol.com [mailto:Rstanleys2@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 15, 2010 1:46 PM

**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us;  
odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

I have been hunting for 50 yrs. in oregon and believe that we should be able to wear what we want to wear in the field. I know that a man out of Prineville was shot on an open scab flat while wearing an orange vest. I think that some people may be color blind as I have a friend that is color blind and reds and oranges are grey to him. I am sure that very few have this problem but orange or red would make no difference. People just need to Know what they are shooting at before they shoot. I think that making orange a law would be hard to enforce, put on your orange walk out in the woods take it off put it back on when back at truck. Let us hunters make up our own minds as what to wear. *thanks Roger Stanley.*

**From:** David Ross [mailto:davidr@ross-ins.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 14, 2010 10:18 AM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; roy.elicker@state.or.us;  
odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Blaze Orange- Absolutely not!

ODFW,

I am writing to oppose any regulation mandating "blaze orange" be worn in the field for any type of hunting. Most of my hunting enjoyment comes from the feeling of being stealth and blending in with the environment. All my fellow hunters feel the same and as a big game hunter you need to be very aware of your surroundings in order to stock your quarry. It is very easy for me to catch the movement of other hunters in camouflage in the field and avoid areas they are working. All hunters, in very common sense terms, need to first identify the species they are hunting and then in most cases indentify the sex before pulling the trigger. We all know that we are not to shoot blind at noise in the bushes and I know many of the accidents occur this way. No amount of blaze orange could help you in this situation.

I am much more passionate against this requirement for any spot and stock hunting simply due to the element of my personal choice to be invisible from everything in the forest. I do wear orange while hunting upland birds as you walk all day side by side with a hunting companion and you must be aware at all times where they are as you make very quick choices to swing and shoot. The presence of that orange in your peripheral view is a great help. Also with upland bird hunting you are not necessarily trying to sneak your way along- pushing your birds by making noise is part of the hunt and you are very visible already in most of the areas. I still believe strongly that it should be a personal choice and should not be regulated. I would have loved to have given a verbal testimony but unfortunately the meeting time was scheduled conveniently the day before the 2010 Deer Rifle Season and nearly all hunters in the state have left for their hunt trip to get their camping spots.

I trust that those at the meeting will see fit that in life there are many personal choices people make regarding their recreational activities that have more hazard than sitting at home watching the tube. We all accept these hazards and don't need to be mandated to use walking sticks so we don't trip, carry blankets in case we have to sleep out, carry flares to signal for help,

carry first aid kits for cuts, carry matches to build fires, carry a second gun in case of a bear or cougar attack and the first gun jams OR WEAR BLAZE ORANGE so no one mistakes us as a BUCK DEER!

Best Regards,

## David Ross

**From:** Craig Merhoff [mailto:biggcm@clearwire.net]

**Sent:** Friday, August 13, 2010 2:55 PM

**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us

**Subject:** Hunter Orange from G. Craig Merhoff, M.D., F.A.C.S.

Gentlemen:

I've communicated with each of you before when this issue first came to my attention. My view on requiring mandatory Blaze Orange while hunting has not changed. I'm opposed to ODFW mandating any attire to be worn by hunters, especially Blaze Orange. The safety record for Oregon hunters using firearms in the field is excellent and I don't think that any tiny incremental improvement that might arise from mandated Blaze Orange is worth the loss of our freedom to choose what we wear in the field. In the field is important here as wearing Blaze Orange isn't going to change the behavior, nor decrease the risk for stupid people who shoot themselves while removing firearms from their vehicles, etc, a significant group as far as firearm related mishaps go.

Your constituents are the hunters of Oregon and 75% of OHA members oppose any mandate that we wear Blaze Orange. This should be a personal choice. When hunting big game I sometimes choose to wear a Blaze Orange coat with black "camo" spots on it while other times I wear drab clothing that blends into the landscape. My personal decision is based on whether I'm hunting an area with a lot of other hunters or whether I'm in a remote area where I'm most likely the only one hunting, but it's my decision. I do wear a hat with an orange band, which again is my choice. When hunting upland birds, I wear an orange shooting vest which is again, my choice. There are far too many restrictions on personal freedom in our society and you are considering implementing another one. Please don't. Let the hunters of Oregon think for themselves with regard to what is appropriate field attire for each of them.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

G. Craig Merhoff, M.D., F.A.C.S.

[CMMerhoff1965@outdrs.net](mailto:CMMerhoff1965@outdrs.net)

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** George Wood <woodgeorge57@yahoo.com>

**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us

**Sent:** Fri, August 13, 2010 7:50:15 PM

**Subject:** Blaze Orange

Very clever of you assholes to schedule the final meeting on a subject of this magnitude that effects so many people on a day that you know full well none of the people being effected will be able to attend to voice thier opinions. You know damn well that most hunters will be enroutte to thier much sought after tag units that some have waited many years for. I say have the meeting in February when there are no seasons in effect and more people can and will attend. Oh wait, I forgot you don't want HUNTERS there, probably for fear of a riot. You can push people only so far before they will rebel, and you can bet your ass we will rebel against anybody telling us what we will wear at anytime, anywhere. As far as I'm concerned you can go fuck yourselves, quit fucking us.

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**From:** Cliff Elliott [mailto:cliff\_s\_elliott@yahoo.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 03, 2010 5:29 PM

**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us

**Subject:** Hunter should be optional during M/L season

I am a lifetime Oregon resident who hunts the muzzleloader hunt exclusively. I never even consider taking a shot at a target unless I clearly can identify said target as the species that is legal for me to shoot. If all hunters were only half as careful, and had an ounce of simple horse sense the need for hunter orange would be unnecessary. Whatever happened to responsibility? That I can ensure a clean kill the first shot, and that I am not endangering anyone or anything by taking the shot is uppermost in my mind. This has in no way hampered my hunting skills. Over the last 35 yrs. I have successfully put venison in my freezer most years. I stopped hunting the regular season in 1977 after discovering some moron watching me through his scope, and the fact that there was someone behind every tree and bush. I am a woodsman at heart, and a true traditional black powder hunter. I highly resent the addition of modern muzzleloaders during the originally "PRIMITIVE" hunt. The black powder hunters that I have encountered over the years are for the most part very careful hunters, mostly due to the fact that muzzleloaders limit the range at which one effectively kill game and one shot makes you a better hunter.

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**From:** RKBDVM@aol.com [mailto:RKBDVM@aol.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 10, 2010 10:54 AM

**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us

**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Dear Commission Members:

I've hunted both in Oregon and in other states that do require hunter orange for over 50 years. I usually wear orange. Sometimes I do not. I appreciate the freedom to have the choice to dress as I please before I venture into the woods.

There are times where I will hunt in remote areas on horseback for days without encountering another hunter. When hunting in the southeast corner of the state for antelope, I prefer to wear a Ghillie suit to hunt my favorite spot, but on the other hand, I would **never** venture into the Coast range without orange.

I usually wear orange when bird hunting but not when I hunt alone on my own property.

The wearing of safety orange affects only my safety. I appreciate your efforts to promote orange and to educate hunters but we also must demand some personal responsibility. It should not be some government agency's mission to mandate the level of protection that I should be able to chose for myself!

Besides, it is discriminatory. Why should hunters be told what they have to wear in the woods while hikers and backpackers, who share those same grounds, are not required to wear "hunter orange"? Should not the ranchers also be required to wear "rancher orange" during hunting season?

Please continue to strongly encourage the use of hunter orange and stress the individual's role in personal responsibility in all aspects of hunter safety.

Sincerely,

Bob Bullard

Robert Bullard DVM  
Cornelius Veterinary Clinic PC  
1280 N. Adair St.  
Cornelius, OR 97113  
ph(503)357-2525 fax:(503)357-5230

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**From:** Justin Proffer [mailto:jproffer2010@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 06, 2010 5:36 PM  
**To:** ODFW.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange Regulations

To ODFW

My name is Justin Proffer I am a resident in Redmond, OR. I just read an article in Oregon Hunter magazine regarding the possible change of regulations that ODFW Commission will decide on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Oregon hunters have an excellent safety record. I believe at a time when budgets are being strained these additional regulations are unnecessary and that our state funds could

be better used. Therefore I have to urge our ODFW Commission to choose Option 1- No change to current regulations.

Very Respectfully,  
Justin Proffer

-----Original Message-----

From: Corey Brown [<mailto:ostategrad@gmail.com>]  
Sent: Thursday, August 12, 2010 8:33 PM  
To: [odfw.comments@state.or.us](mailto:odfw.comments@state.or.us)  
Subject: Hunter Orange Proposal

To whom it may concern,

First off, I would like to state that a hunter should always be sure of a target before firing. To me, this means one should never even get close to having a "vision related hunting incident." Any hunter who accidentally shoots another hunter should be prosecuted and never allowed to hunt again. If a hunter shoots at a noise or movement, to me that indicates negligent behavior that shows that person is not responsible enough to be trusted with a weapon.

It is not the responsibility of all hunters to drop to the lowest common denominator. I should not be required to behave differently and purchase additional equipment due to a few irresponsible hunters. To me, requiring all hunters to wear hunter orange is like telling all people they must wear helmets while walking on a sidewalk in case someone doesn't see them and runs into them with a motor vehicle.

One reason I go hunting in the remote regions of the state is to get away from it all; the city, my job, but most of all, the people. I rarely see another person where I hunt. I like the solitude, the ability to vanish and not be seen by another person. When other hunters see me, they inevitably change their route and plan for their hunt. This often ruins my hunt for that day, so I do my best to never be seen. It would be kind of hard to do that wearing hunter orange.

Furthermore, I only own one piece of blaze orange, a down vest. If a hunter orange requirement exists, how am I to meet this requirement? Do I wear the vest in hot weather? I don't think I would do that. How about in the rain? Nope. This means at a minimum, I need to go purchase some light weight blaze orange, and some blaze orange raingear as well. After I just spent \$200 on quiet camouflage raingear, this would be a waste. I can't afford to buy more gear just because some government official thinks he knows more than me about the clothes I should be wearing.

On top of all those reasons, the statistics just don't add up.

"Fourteen (16%) of the 86 victims of all (fatal and non-fatal) vision-related hunting incidents were reported to be wearing hunter orange at the time of the incident. This is close to the proportion of hunters OSP estimated to be wearing hunter orange in the field."-ODFW. Hunter Orange Report to the Commission. p6. 4 June 2010.

The data collected here show that hunters wearing orange are just as likely to be shot as those not wearing orange. This same report showed that other states found a correlation between regulations requiring orange and lower vision related incidents. But correlation does not equal causation. Maybe the lower number of incidents was related to awareness programs or better publicity causing hunters to pay more attention to their targets. We can't know based on the provided studies.

In summary, the data pointing to the increased safety of hunters wearing orange is questionable, and with the associated cost of compliance, the ODFW should stick to managing fish and wildlife, not my wardrobe.

Sincerely,  
Corey A. Brown  
ostategrad@gmail.com

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**From:** Jeff Finlay [mailto:jeffer58@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 13, 2010 12:45 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter orange

Obviously you would exclude archery hunters???

The last thing any of us need is more mandated protection from ourselves; let a person make his or her own choices.

Seat belt laws, helmet laws, mandatory health insurance (unless you're illegally here to begin with and then everything is provided), can't even put a kayak or canoe in the water w/o special fees, a tag for this, a stamp for that, pay to park, a license to breath? What's next? We (who can observe and read between the lines) have already conceded to lifejackets for all who would walk the docks. LEAVE US ALONE -BIG BROTHER!

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**From:** Dan Lepschat [mailto:lepschatdan@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 09, 2010 2:26 PM  
**To:** ODFW.Comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunters Orange

I encourage the ODFW commission not make hunters orange use mandatory for adults. If you want to make it that way for children - thats a different story.....whatever. There are too many 'big brother' rules and laws already. As adults, we are old enough and aware of the consequences of the decision to use or not use hunters orange. If someone wants to wear it - then they do. I say leave it up to the individual and stop over-governing. Its really none of the States' business if someone wants to use hunters orange



or not - we understand the risks of hunting with and without it. Dont put any more of these overprotective rules in place. We are one of a few states that done require it and things work just fine without it.

Dan Lepschat

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**From:** Scott Shipman [mailto:scooter5000@q.com]

**Sent:** Thursday, August 12, 2010 9:38 PM

**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us

**Subject:** I support Hunter Blaze Orange

To ODFW Commission,

Wanted to let you know that I fullheartedly support requiring all hunters to wear Blaze Oregon Vests/Jackets.

Scott Shipman

130 NE Primrose Ct

Prineville, OR 97754

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**From:** Ladrow's [mailto:ladtrips@canby.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 17, 2010 9:41 AM

**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us

**Subject:** Hunter orange

Hello, my name is Greg Ladrow and I am a life long Oregonian. Please take my views and add them to the testimony for the upcoming commission meeting on mandatory Orange for hunting in Oregon.

I have 3 children and myself that hunt in Oregon and I **DO NOT** support mandatory orange for hunters in Oregon. Please stay with Option #1 no change to current status (voluntary wear of hunter orange). Leave the decision up to the individual not the state to regulate what we wear in the woods. Thank you for you time

From: Mary Alexander [alexander3958@msn.com]

I have been a hunter and woodsman since I was 14 I am now 62 I feel blaze orange should be a choice not a requirement .....DON

From: Seth Pietsch [sethp@ross-ins.com]

ODFW,

I have been an avid hunter since I was old enough to legally hunt big game in OR. For each big game species, different hunting strategies are required. Depending on what species you are hunting your camouflage plays a major impact on your kill success ratios.

I grew up in southern OR and I had many close friends who raised hounds for bear & cougar hunting when this was still legal. When the law passed that eliminated the use of hound hunting & baiting most of my close friends that raised hounds moved to a state where hunting with

hounds was still legal. Since that time the bear and cougar population has drastically increased, not just in southern OR, but the entire state. Now when an area has a bear or cougar problem we pay for "certain" hunters to come in and take care of the problem bear/cougar. Ironically these "certain" hunters use dogs or bait to take out these problem animals & as a tax payer I pay for their fees.

As you are aware a bear & a cougar **does not** see in black & white like a deer or elk does. If this law passes where it's required for us to wear blaze orange this will have major implications on our deer & elk populations as the bear & cougar kill success ratios will be greatly diminished (again). Yes, I know this won't effect the people that come up with these not so great ideas, but for everybody that enjoys hunting deer, elk and other big game it will. We also can't forget the country folks that have land that back up against BLM or just out of the city limits as their pets, children and even themselves will be put in harms way due to the bear & cougar running out of food in the mountains and being forced to come into the neighborhoods.

I hope the option of wearing blaze orange still remains an option come October. Unfortunately, I most likely will be missing the meeting come October as I am hunting Western OR deer. Hopefully someone that has legislative power & common sense stands up for our hunting rights which keep becoming more limited as each season passes. I thank you for your time & I hope you do the right thing for OR hunters.

Regards,

**Seth T. Pietsch, CRIS, MLIS**

Account Executive

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E: [sethp@ross-ins.com](mailto:sethp@ross-ins.com)

Website: <http://www.ross-ins.com/>

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**From:** Rstanleys2@aol.com [mailto:Rstanleys2@aol.com]

**Sent:** Sunday, August 15, 2010 1:46 PM

**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.ellicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us

**Subject:** Hunter Orange

I have been hunting for 50 yrs. in oregon and believe that we should be able to wear what we want to wear in the field. I know that a man out of Prineville was shot on an open scab flat while wearing an orange vest. I think that some people may be color blind as I have a friend that is color blind and reds and oranges are grey to him. I am sure that very few have this problem but orange or red would make no difference. People just need to Know what they are shooting at before they shoot. I think that making orange a law would be hard to enforce, put on your orange walk out in the woods take it off put it back on when back at truck. Let us hunters make up our own minds as what to wear. *thanks Roger Stanley.*

**From:** Dennis Luchterhand [mailto:dnislucky@centurylink.net]  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 14, 2010 8:13 AM  
**To:** ODFW.COMMISSION@STATE.OR.US  
**Subject:** hunter orange

HUNTER CHOICE FOR WHAT IS SAFE CLOTHING,SHOULD BE YOUR CHOICE OCT 1ST. AS A 52 YR BORN OREGONIAN,AND HUNTER ALL MY LIFE, THERE ARE SITUATIONS THAT SAFETY WOULD DICTATE NOT WEARING ORANGE..ALL HUNTERS KNOW THEY COULD GET SHOT ANYTIME THEY ARE IN THE FIELD,SO WHY MUST WE MANDATE A PARTICULAR COLOR OR PART OF CLOTHING, I HAVE WORN YOUR HUNTER ORANGE IN PAST YEARS, AND OBSERVED OTHERS IN CAMO WALKING PAST MY POSITION AND THEY HAVE NO CLUE I WAS THERE....I SHOULD OF STOOD OUT LIKE A GIANT PUMPKIN ON STERIODS..SO ...KEEP OUR CHOICE FOR WHAT IS SAFE FOR OUR SITUATION TO BE DECIDED BY US DAILY.

DENNIS LUCHTERHAND O.H.A MEMBER  
2862 LAKE SHORE DR  
CENTRAL POINT, OR

**From:** Gary Herb [mailto:gherb55@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 15, 2010 11:23 AM  
**To:** ODFW Commission  
**Subject:** Hunter orange

To all concerned,  
We are writing to express our strong opposition to the manatory hunter orange. With a majority of hunters objecting to this requirment, we feel it should be left up to individual hunters to make that decision. Plaese consider the opinions of Oregon hunters,

Thanks, Gary and Susan Herb

From: eyeck@msn.com

Mr. Anglin, I believe the rules concerning what a hunter wears should be left the the hunter. I support no change to the proposed HUNTER ORANGE. Ernie Yeck

From: jsattig@q.com

This is just to notify you that we disagree with your attempt to make wearing blaze orange mandatory for many reason, with the following being just examples:

- What we wear should be personal choice and if this is all about safety and not control, then why wouldn't you be trying to mandate the same thing for other outdoor activities such as hiking, camping, mushroom picking and many others.
- The timing is especially poor as hunting success is declining while fees continue to increase (including the recent 20 percent increase) and more added regulations
- Why mandate blaze orange when there are times and places that it is not very effective due to background colors and when there are a number of other highly visible colors that are used for road crews and others who are concerned with their visibility and safety.
- This seems to be another regulation aimed at control and removing personal choice under guise of safety and protection.

Sincerely,  
Stan & Joyce Attig

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**From:** Jon Silbernagel [mailto:Jon@cpcon.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 18, 2010 12:31 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

To Whom it may concern,

Please do not mandate the wearing of hunter orange in Oregon. I believe it is a personal choice. I do personally wear hunter orange in most cases. Mandating whether I do wear it or not, or how much to wear is wrong. It my responsibility to know my target and what is behind it. It is also my responsibility to teach my children the same thing.

Thank you,

*Jon Silbernagel*

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**From:** Domschot,Jim - TFBW-DOB1 [mailto:jadomschot@bpa.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 18, 2010 11:02 AM  
**To:** 'odfw.comments@state.or.us'  
**Subject:** Comment: HUnter Orange

I have 40 years experience hunting deer and elk in Oregon. I am generally successful and I wear hunter orange. I've witnessed too many close calls: **All rifle hunters need to be visible.**

**This should be the rule:**

- Option 3 – Require hunter orange upper garment or hat for all hunters while hunting big game and upland birds (except turkey) with a centerfire firearm or shotgun.

Thanks,

*Jim Domschot*  
541 968 6159

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**From:** Tony Burt [mailto:tonyburt@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 18, 2010 9:06 AM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Mandatory Blaze Orange

Dear Commissioners:

At your meeting in September, you will consider adopting one of three options regarding the use of Blaze Orange for hunting. You will hear significant public comment on this issue, and undoubtedly the majority of hunters who voice their opinions (not necessarily the majority of hunters) will ask you to adopt option 1 and take no action.

Before you take action, you will have seen many statistics, but I ask you to consider a few other issues:

- It was not motorcyclists who lobbied for a helmet law – it was the rest of the public and the medical profession;
- It was not drivers who lobbied for seat belt laws – it was the medical and emergency services;
- It was not even hunters who lobbied, in 1961, for Oregon's very successful hunter education laws – it was the public who were tired of hunting seasons with over 75 shooting casualties per year.

I suggest that safety regulations are very seldom proposed or supported by the recreation or the industry that they will regulate. They are usually proposed and adopted by far-sighted members of the public who see the human toll that is resulting from the unregulated activity. Nevertheless, the activity soon accepts the regulation as normal.

The second issue I want you to consider is that for every hunting fatality, there are numerous hunting injuries resulting in catastrophic injuries. These injuries are comparable with those many of our soldiers have suffered in recent conflicts and often result from one person aiming and discharging a high-powered rifle at another person (who looked like a game animal!). They can be devastating injuries that affect both the victim and the shooter for their lifetime.

Anyone who has hunted can tell you the incredible damage that a hunting firearm does to its target.

Finally, I would like you to think about the time, the efforts and the resources that we, as a nation, put into trying to save even one life when tragedy strikes. Think about the efforts put in to save one injured mountaineer, one lost coal miner or one person in the

rubble of a collapsed building. Is it too much to ask the hunting community to change their dress habits to save one catastrophic injury or one life each year?

Sincerely

Tony Burt (Hunter Education Instructor since 1987)  
Milwaukie

-----Original Message-----

From: Tom Rutledge [<mailto:Rutledge@sou.edu>]  
Sent: Monday, August 16, 2010 1:29 PM  
To: [odfw.comments@state.or.us](mailto:odfw.comments@state.or.us)  
Subject: hunter orange - comments

I would like to see option 1 chosen.

Oregon's hunter injury rate is so low there is no reason to expect improvement by mandating hunter orange. Oregon has very very few "mistaken for game" incidents. We have muzzlecontrol issues, dummies pulling loaded guns towards themselves, clumsy people dropping guns, and so on, but not legitimate "mistaken for game" situations.

By mandating use of hunter orange, we condition hunters to think everyone out there in the woods will be orange and everything else is a more legitimate target. That puts the dog walker, hiker, flower picker, etc who is sharing our woods during hunting season at greater risk.

To my way of thinking, any regulation that can't improve hunter safety yet puts the rest of the public at greater risk is a real bad regulation. Things are working, we're as safe as any state in the country, so don't mess with what isn't broken.

Tom

Tom Rutledge  
Ashland, Oregon

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**From:** [jandcgar@comcast.net](mailto:jandcgar@comcast.net) [<mailto:jandcgar@comcast.net>]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 16, 2010 1:06 PM  
**To:** [ODFW.Comments@state.or.us](mailto:ODFW.Comments@state.or.us)  
**Subject:** Blaze Orange

I see no need for blaze orange requirement. As an option it is a personal choice as I see it. Do we make every in the woods during hunting season Orange-up! Every hunting season, from spring bear to first of the year. Woodcutters mushroomers hikers birders all in orange. Better target I.D. Know what you are shooting! There is no excuse not to first identify your animal before you shoot.  
Chris Gardner

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**From:** Tony Boyer [mailto:Boyer@canby.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 19, 2010 10:46 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** .Hunter Orange Commission Report

I agree with option #1. I may go as far as option # 2. As far as # 3 this is pushing the rights of hunters in Oregon. Hunting is the safest sport in Oregon "FACT". You can add 1000 new changes/ laws but it is not the area to spend your time. Spend the money / efforts in areas needed more. Reenstate hunting bear and cougars with dogs. Start wolf hunting. Increase poaching fines. Jail times. Road closers to 5 miles radius zones. If you are a hunter the walk is part of the experience. The exercise is needed for everyone. Push the youth hunting to the max. ODFW is doing a great job. Thank you for your efforts in this subject but I vote no on #3.

Thank you  
Tony Boyer  
46 years old with three youth hunters.

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**From:** Leisher John F [mailto:John.F.Leisher@doc.state.or.us]  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 21, 2010 7:03 AM  
**To:** COMMENTS ODFW  
**Subject:** This is just another infringement into our hunting heritage. No on Orange. Bring hunter safety courses back to schools.

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**From:** Kevin Thompson [mailto:kevin\_necia@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 26, 2010 9:58 PM  
**To:** roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us; ronald.e.anglin@state.or.us  
**Cc:** chris.a.willard@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Dear ODFW Directors & Commissioners -

As I put the final touches on the planning/dreaming stage in preparation for the fabulous Mt. Emily Archery Bull opportunity I have in front of me, the **Hunter Orange** issue has really grabbed my attention. I choose to spend my precious days with my Recurve-bow at my side, working and scheming to get my 20 yard max opportunity at a big bull. I am fortunate to have had wonderful "experiences" in the field, I usually find myself close to these wonderful animals, but rarely have a shot opportunity I feel comfortable with.

As much dreaming I have done pre-hunt, and with the knowledge of the country I am about to descend into for the bulk of the season, I whole-heartily know this will be one of my most significant challenges to get the opportunity to harvest a nice bull - **I am extremely happy this season that I get to make the choice not to wear Hunter Orange.** I will need every skill available to myself, and rely on camo for both concealment and more importantly, confidence.

I support the following from both a personal and organizational viewpoint.

1. opposed to mandatory hunter orange in archery seasons.
2. Agreed that wearing hunter orange in firearms seasons is a smart thing to do, however, still feel it should be left to individual choice.

Thanks for you time, looking forward to the October Commission meeting.

My Best,  
Kevin Thompson  
VP Traditional Archers of Oregon

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**From:** Catkeilu@aol.com [mailto:Catkeilu@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 24, 2010 8:45 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Public Comments from the Web

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM THE WEB

Topic: Other  
Name: Cathy Lund  
E-mail: catkeilu@aol.com

Comment:

Regarding: Hunter Orange Options being considered.

I would like option 1 to be selected and leave it up to individuals whether to wear orange or not. There are times that I may choose to wear orange and be seen, but it should be up to each individual adult hunter to decide and not be made mandatory.

-----Original Message-----

From: Jeremy Wilson [mailto:[jeremy@ampacseed.com](mailto:jeremy@ampacseed.com)]  
Sent: Wednesday, August 25, 2010 11:23 AM  
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us  
Subject: Public Comments from the Web: HUNTER ORANGE ISSUE

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM THE WEB

Topic: Other  
Name: Jeremy Wilson  
E-mail: silvieselkhunter@yahoo.com

Comment:

This is in regards to the ISSUE OF HUNTER ORANGE

I am strongly opposed to mandating Hunter Orange for ANY HUNTERS  
in



the STATE OF OREGON!!!! The next point I will make is it is absolutely LUDICROUS to even discuss requiring ARCHERY HUNTERS to wear it during Bow seasons!!!! How many Archery fatalities has this state had since Sport Hunting Seasons have begun??? I rest my point, because I believe it is only 1!!! I understand that accidents do happen and I know about the accident of the boy this previous fall, but if the uncle would of positively identified his target, we wouldn't be having this discussion now. REQUIRING HUNTER ORANGE I AM STRONGLY OPPOSED TO on any level! Educate all hunters not just the youth on gun safety, and don't by any means think that requiring hunter Orange will fix all possibilities of an accident out in the woods. Oregon has one of the best safety records in the west and I sincerely hope that the emotions from one accident doesn't get passed on the rest of us in the form of another RULE OR REGULATION!!! LEAVE THINGS THE WAY THEY ARE AND IF YOU CHOOSE NOT TO...PLEASE LOOK AT WHAT OTHER STATES IN THE WEST THAT REQUIRE IT AND DON'T TRY TO BE A PIONEER ON A JOURNEY OF SAFETY IN THE NAME OF REGULATION BECAUSE YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE, THE RECORD AND STATISTICS SPEAK

FOR THEMSELVES!!!!

Sincerely,

Jeremy Wilson  
Oregon Bowhunter and Sportsman  
Lebanon, Oregon

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**From:** Garth Shaw [mailto:garthshaw@oregonwireless.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 25, 2010 5:52 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Mandatory Hunter Orange

Sirs:

Although I support the use of hunter orange in most hunting situations, I am opposed to a mandatory rule. First of all, I am a traditional archery hunter. Believe me, I need all the help I can get to be close to big game animals. Wearing hunter orange would just be an additional handicap archers (and especially traditional archers) don't need. If you do change the rules, please make an exception for archery only seasons. No need to fix a problem that does not exist. Whenever new rules are established, it seems they always infringe on peoples rights because it is so difficult to make a fair rule for all. Consequently, it seems rule makers often take the easy way out and make all inclusive rules that cause problems. Again, I always wear hunter orange when upland bird hunting, and would do so if I was to rifle hunt, because it just makes sense. But, I believe a rule change is not needed at this time.

Thank you,  
Garth Shaw  
67352 Hunter Rd.  
Summerville, Or 97876-8130  
541-534-6750  
[garthshaw@oregonwireless.net](mailto:garthshaw@oregonwireless.net)

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**From:** Pat and John Strunk [mailto:spiritlongbow@oregoncoast.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 25, 2010 8:27 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter orange issues

Having hunted in Oregon for the past 55 years, I currently hunt with both rifle and traditional archery tackle. I have never seen the need for hunter orange. In some cases, being seen makes you more of a target than if you were not visible. Example: I have seen hunters without binoculars lift their rifles and peer through their scopes...and, of course, their fingers are on the triggers.

I enjoy hunting elk with a bow; and as you are aware, it requires you to get extremely close. Hunter orange would be a detriment to that. I know that people say animals are color blind, but colors that contrast with surroundings tend to reflect more light. Therefore, blaze orange is more visible.

Unfortunately, hunting accidents occur most of the time due to careless behavior; the color of the clothing worn by the opposing hunter would not have prevented it. More hunter education would be my suggestion. Even that isn't going to prevent all accidents. People are just anxious to fill their tags and therefore take foolish chances. Even in seasons where hunters have to determine whether an elk was a legal spike or cow (depending on the season they were hunting), they still make mistakes.

No to hunter orange. Let it be the option of the hunter.

John Strunk  
Tillamook, Oregon

-----Original Message-----

From: Les Helgeson [mailto:[greenhills@oregoncoast.com](mailto:greenhills@oregoncoast.com)]  
Sent: Wednesday, August 25, 2010 9:45 PM  
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us  
Subject: Mandatory Orange

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to voice my strong support for Option 3 which would require all hunters to wear an orange garment while hunting with a centerfire firearm or shotgun. This requirement is long overdue and would bring the state of Oregon into the mainstream of sound hunting regulations.

Regards,

Les Helgeson  
Beaver, OR 97108

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**From:** Dave Krieger [mailto:dave@eoni.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 27, 2010 7:01 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter orange

Lets leave things the way they are, we don't need more rules to protect us from ourselves. It should be the option of every hunter to chose what they need or don't need. Most of us can still use common sense, use the rules taught to us in hunter safety and make sure of our target.  
Thanks Dave

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**From:** Lyn McGuire [mailto:LMcGuire@bcsllc.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 27, 2010 11:52 AM  
**To:** 'odfw.comments@state.or.us'  
**Subject:** Mandatory Hunter Orange

Dear Commissioners:

My husband and I are Traditional bow hunters using long bows made by my husband. We feel that requiring archery hunters to wear hunter orange would be a detriment to the hunting experience as well as to the successful outcome of a stalk. Please choose Option 1, no change to the current status (voluntary wear of hunter orange).

Also, there does not appear to be any archery related hunting incidents listed in the research provided on the ODFW website Hunter Orange page.

We were very sorry to learn of the death of the teenage elk hunter, and our prayers are for all those involved. We do feel that the balance of hunters in Oregon should not be regulated because of one careless act.

Thank you for your time.

Lyn McGuire

**Lyn McGuire**  
Boldt, Carlisle & Smith, LLC  
Phone: (541)928-6500  
Fax: (541)928-6501

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**From:** Daniel Varoujean [mailto:marzet@dishmail.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 30, 2010 8:12 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange Regulations Testimony

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am unable to attend the ODFW Commission hearing to provide testimony **against** regulations mandating the wearing of hunter orange, and would appreciate this email letter being recorded as part of the public testimony on this matter. Over the last 50 years I have hunted deer, elk and bear both as an archer and as a rifleman, and I have hunted waterfowl and upland game birds over this time span as well. I am also a professional biologist and was an adjunct university professor specializing in research on various vertebrates ranging from fish to mammals. I found the research papers listed on the ODFW website interesting, but somewhat trivial. Most everyone I know realizes that most mammals have, to varying degrees, limited color vision and enhanced UV detection abilities. We know full well that deer don't see hunter orange as "orange". But unless one wears hunter orange vests, shirts.... in a camo pattern, deer easily identify a relatively large, evenly shaded object as nothing else seen in the woods, especially when the hunter is moving. Moreover, the examples provided of camo clothing glowing blue at the UV wavelengths, will also occur on hunter-orange garments, if one does not take care on how the garment is washed. Most of us who wear regular camo clothing take great pains not to buy garments with UV enhanced colors, and use special soaps and rinses to minimize the presence of UV reflecting soap residues. I will, depending on the density of cover, occasionally put on a camo patterned orange hat, which does not present an easily identifiable object to a deer.... But, by mandating that we wear hunter orange garments, most of us will lose the use of hundreds of dollars in clothing, and have to go out and buy hundreds of dollars of hunter orange camo garments. In other words, this is not a matter of just buying some cheap hunter-orange colored mesh vest to slip over our other hunting clothes.

As regards upland game birds, I can guarantee I will never wear bright orange clothing when on station hunting doves and pigeons. To do so will, based on years of experience, greatly increase birds taking evasive actions to avoid me. And in all my years of hunting quail and pheasants, I have never directly seen, or heard reported in the news anyone ever being accidentally shot to death or even badly wounded by another hunter when hunting these birds.

Which brings me to the study done in North Carolina, where the results are statistically equivocal, because there may have been a reduction in the actual number of fatalities when comparing the two 4-year periods of study, but there was no statistically significant reduction in fatalities/number of licenses sold. In other words, the number of deaths attributable to visibility "issues" will depend on how many hunters are in the field, not what they are wearing, and, more importantly, you will never attain zero fatalities. Frankly, based on the statistics for Oregon where people spend millions of hours/year hunting, who gives a damn that on average one hunter/year is killed in Oregon because of so called visibility issues. So, instead you want to dictate what ten's of thousands of us must wear when hunting. Well then, if you are going ahead with this nonsense, I demand that you mandate that everyone going into the countryside, be they picnickers, hikers, campers, fishers, mushroom pickers or fire wood cutters wear hunter orange at all times of the year. Any edict short of this points to the fallacy of the entire argument, and reduces your position to one of targeting hunters because you can - which is pure bullshit that I, and thousands like me, will not tolerate. What is lost on you folks on the Commission and government bureaucrats is that it is none of your damn business what I am wearing when hunting, and what my children are wearing is my decision not yours! Put another way, hunting is not a privilege granted to me by the state. The only reason I pay for a license is for the Department to have the funds necessary to manage the fish and game populations in a way that maximizes my opportunity to harvest an animal - it is not for you to harass me with endless, silly regulations to insure my safety.

Daniel H. Varoujean II  
Marzet, Marine and Estuarine Research Co.  
2269 Broadway St.

North Bend, OR 97459

Phone & FAX: (541) 756-6955

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**From:** FIREDAD1@aol.com [mailto:FIREDAD1@aol.com]

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 31, 2010 5:27 PM

**To:** odfw.info@state.or.us

**Subject:** Hunter orange requirements

I have been a hunter in Oregon since 1958. I was schooled in the art by my father and uncles(who have lived in southern or since 1900), I got my first training with the jr. nra. After moving to or. my uncles took over every topic of gun handling, safety, survival, and target id. Hunter red was the color back then and we wore it.I agree that orange is a much better option. I wear it and so do most of the people I know. We all have changed of our own accord, and what I am seeing is that more are changing to orange.I am sure that given some more time everyone will do the same. Like everything else you will have those that will not change no matter what . I believe That a hat or vest of straight or camo orange would be enough. I wear camo orange and people have told me that I stand out like a sore thumb. I think that while walking around you should be wearing it, but not moving one should be able to remove it.As far as predator that may be a problem, but wear it moving take it off when not.Birds could be handled the same way when in stands or stationary take of the colors. I think the kids should not have to wear any more than an adult, the color is bright enough. From what I have witnessed every time you add more regs , raise prices, shorten seasons, or make things mandatory more people through in the towel making it easier for those who would like to end our sport. With all the changes being stuffed down own throats now is not the time for more. Let us change color on our own.

Thank You All

Stephen Pettit

**From:** Ross Kruse [mailto:Ross.Kruse@infocus.com]

**Sent:** Monday, August 30, 2010 8:43 AM

**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us;  
odfw.commission@state.or.us

**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Dear Sirs;

I am against a mandate for hunter orange. This is a personal choice.

My argument is –

A stupid person is a stupid person and all the regulations in the world don't change that.

It does not make me any more or less responsible as an individual.

I can choose or not choose based on my hunting situation base on what I prefer.

The law should be that other hunters should not shoot other hunters regardless of what they are wearing. If you can meet that minimum criteria then you should not be hunting.

Thanks

Ross Kruse

7415 Jordan ST SE

Salem OR 97317

**From:** Cory Hibbert [mailto:coryhibbert@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 30, 2010 8:35 AM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us;  
odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Greetings,

I do not support the mandated the use of Blaze Orange for any person over the age of 18.

I do see the need for the use of Safety colors, in youth hunts.

But normal hunting, for adults, I am against it.

Cory Hibbert

**From:** Burlison, Orville [mailto:Orville.Burlison@garmin.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 30, 2010 7:45 AM  
**To:** 'Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us'; 'Curt.melcher@state.or.us'; 'Roy.elicker@state.or.us';  
'odfw.commission@state.or.us'  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

I believe that during rifle season that hunter orange should be mandatory. You have way too many people dressing up their kids in camo and I believe It's an accident waiting to happen.

No hunter orange for bow hunting or turkey hunting but should be worn for upland bird hunting.

Thank you,

Orville Burlison

**From:** Paresa, Christopher G [mailto:chris.paresa@hp.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 30, 2010 12:42 AM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us;  
odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** No mandatory hunter orange in Oregon

Good morning-

I am writing to strongly urge ODFW **not** to impose the mandatory wearing of hunter orange in Oregon. While I personally wear and urge others to wear hunter orange in most hunting situations, I also believe hunters should have a choice in the matter.

I have hunted in Oregon all of my life and have also hunted in states that require hunter orange. Here as there, the vast majority of hunters do not favor this regulation. If enacted in Oregon it will become yet another in a vast sea of hunting regulations.

Oregon already has a great record of hunter safety. The mandatory use of hunter orange is not likely to have much if any affect on safety.

Please do not enact a regulation requiring the wearing of hunter orange.

Thank you,

Chris Paresa  
Jefferson, Oregon

**From:** Roger Sherman [mailto:xx32547@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 27, 2010 9:54 PM  
**To:** odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Hi folks,

I'm a long-time hunter – started when I was in 8<sup>th</sup> grade (1960) and have hunted off and on ever since. Here's my vote on hunter orange:

Hunter orange should be voluntary for bow hunters – we have to get really close and identify our targets so we can make a 20-yard shot.

Hunter orange should be mandatory for rifle hunters. My dad made me wear it in 1960, and when hunting with a gun I always wore it. It would be nice if it could be voluntary, but there are always the few idiots who ruin it for the majority and don't verify their targets.

Best regards,

Roger Sherman

**From:** Ron Atkinson [mailto:ronatkinsonconstruction@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 29, 2010 3:31 PM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us;  
odfw.commission@state.or.us; VisitScotland.com  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

I just wanted to comment on the up coming decision on the wearing of hunter orange here in our state of Oregon. First could you have picked a worse day for the comments from hunters having it when most hunters are out setting up camp for opening day of deer season. Second I believe that taking the choice of what we wear is just flat out wrong and taking one more of our freedom rights away! Third as far as the youth wearing the hunter orange they are with a adult while hunting and should be under supervision and safe and also have a free choice of what to wear. I believe the law should be left as is and the ODFW should spend more time on game management and less time on things to annoy the hunters that have paid for the wildlife we have in this sate! Ron Atkinson, Roseburg.

**From:** Steve Christopherson [mailto:stevechris@colcenter.org]  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 29, 2010 11:39 AM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Dear Sirs...

I am totally against the mandatory use of Blaze Orange for any hunters...

It should be each hunter's choice if they want to wear orange or camo or any other color...

We do not need any restrictions on our freedom to choose...

Next you will want us to wear a blinking red light on our head...

NO NO NO NO ON BLAZE ORANGE...

Thank you...

Steve Christophersen

**From:** Bill Rose [mailto:rvhaulerose@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 27, 2010 6:14 PM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

I'm against mandatory hunter orange. Thank you WILLIAM V ROSE



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**From:** Frank McElroy [mailto:FMcElroy@flagstoneassistedliving.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 01, 2010 7:22 AM  
**To:** 'odfw.comments@state.or.us'  
**Subject:** Hunter orange

I have long been an opponent of wearing hunter orange myself, but since having been shot at 4 times; have since changed my mind.

If you are considering this mandatory change, I applaud you. I do feel that a hat would not do enough though. Instead of a hat, I personally would rather see you decide to require an outer vest of so many square inches of orange. I have worn these in the past elk hunting in special units with numbers on them and it does not interfere with me or the elk. Most of your upland shooting vests now have orange made into them for this same reason. Being safe and coming home again is important for all involved. I believe that the vest, shirt, jacket instead of a hat will do more to keep our hunters safe when someone else out there is not being a safe hunter.

Frank McElroy  
The Dalles, Or

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**From:** Breedlove Robert V [mailto:Robert.V.Breedlove@doc.state.or.us]  
**Sent:** Monday, August 23, 2010 12:34 PM  
**To:** COMMENTS ODFW  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Option 1 – No change to current status (voluntary wear of hunter orange). I have been hunting in Oregon for near 38 years and I feel the wearing of Hunter Orange is like trying to keep up with California. We don't need it, we Oregon's simply need more education. I have come across hunters in the woods that have been shot at wearing Orange because the person doing the shooting simply heard a noise and shot in that direction, (brush hunters). Oregon gets a lot of transplants from other states and all they need to be is over 18 years of age and walk into some place and get your hunting license. Have you checked into these other states you have mentioned i.e. New York, to see if they have mandatory hunter safety? I feel that any one that moves into our state should at any age, take a Oregon hunter safety class before being issued a hunting license. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully Robert Breedlove

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**From:** Pete & Peg Marcoulier [mailto:peteandpeg@peak.org]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 01, 2010 10:16 AM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunters Orange

I do not support mandatory hunter orange. I feel it should be each hunters choice of what to wear.

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**From:** John Good [mailto:jbgood332000@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 05, 2010 2:36 PM  
**To:** odfw.info@state.or.us  
**Subject:** blaze orange

ODFW,

I see no point in requiring blaze orange for hunting. Colorblind people it looks just like the background.

During fall season there is plenty of orange colors in the woods. Hunter training from a very young age is most critical.

I grew up taught every gun was always loaded. Know your target and what is behind it. Go to states that have orange required and see the number of people shot wearing orange.

Sincerely yours,

John Good

-----Original Message-----

From: Chris & Becky Johnson [mailto:[firefly2790@yahoo.com](mailto:firefly2790@yahoo.com)]  
Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2010 1:33 PM  
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us  
Subject: Hunter Orange Options

My two sons and I are currently attending hunter safety. We have thought and talked a lot about hunter and firearm safety. There is only one good option that makes any sense. We, as adult hunters, need to set a good example for the younger generation. There are plenty of poor examples set by so called "hunters" that our kids are exposed to. Safety is an area that there can be no compromises. My sons and I strongly support Option #3 requiring hunter orange for all hunters of big game and upland game (minus turkeys). As far as I'm concerned, hunters that do not use blaze orange, are not viewing safety as their number one priority.

Please do the right thing!

Thanks!

C. Johnson  
Pendleton, OR

-----Original Message-----

From: baxter-burns@centurytel.net [mailto:[baxter-burns@centurytel.net](mailto:baxter-burns@centurytel.net)]  
Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2010 9:57 AM  
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us  
Subject: Hunter Orange

Dear Sirs;

I have hunted in Oregon for over 40 years and I am NOT in favor of any requirement that hunters must wear any amount of "Hunter Orange". The ODF&W should NOT regulate what a person wears while hunting. The ODF&W's limited resources could be better served in wildlife management rather than proposing this type of regulations.

Parents should have the right to dress their children as they desire. If a parent wants his/her minor son or daughter to wear "Hunter Orange" while hunting they will see that the child does so.

Again....I am NOT in favor of any requirement that hunters MUST wear "Hunter Orange."

Thank You,

Rick Kelley  
Burns, Or. 97720  
541-573-6896

-----Original Message-----

From: Kayla Garvin [<mailto:kaykayjg@aol.com>]  
Sent: Monday, September 06, 2010 9:29 PM  
To: [odfw.comments@state.or.us](mailto:odfw.comments@state.or.us)  
Subject:

option 1 for hunter orange

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**From:** kleinklein84@comcast.net [<mailto:kleinklein84@comcast.net>]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 06, 2010 6:30 PM  
**To:** odfw comments  
**Subject:** HUNTERS ORANGE

To whom it may concern  
please pass the option 3 section . I do wear hunters orange while I hunt the other hunter can see me quick and better  
I was hunting elk about three years ago and I was still on the ground when I saw something move in the woods , so I got ready to shoot, It was another hunter dress in all black. If it wasn't for my father teaching me the right way to hunt it could have been bad situation . So please make option 3 so the hunters wear 400 square in front and back. Archery doesn't need to wear orange. I am a rifle hunter.

thank-you  
John Klein  
[kleinklein84@comcast.net](mailto:kleinklein84@comcast.net)

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**From:** edgriffith@wvi.com [mailto:edgriffith@wvi.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 04, 2010 11:41 AM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange options

As an Oregon native and having hunted big game for over 50 years, I am OPPOSED to the mandatory use of wearing hunter orange. I wear hunter orange when I feel the need such as brushy conditions or when numerous other hunters are in the area. Many hunts I draw have very few tags and I may not see another hunter for days if at all. Please consider the option that does not require mandatory use of hunter orange.

Sincerely

Earl C Griffith

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**From:** Jake Lawyer [mailto:jakel@eaglefreightliner.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 03, 2010 4:45 PM  
**To:** ODFW.Comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter orange rule proposals

In my opinion it should be our (the hunter's) choice whether we wear orange or not while hunting. The careless ones out there shooting each other, shouldn't ruin it for the rest of us. Punish them - not us. Thanks. Jake Lawyer Union, OR.

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**From:** Lance Hopman [mailto:Lance.Hopman@sammedical.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 03, 2010 12:48 PM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** hunter orange

Hello,  
I support Option 1, no change to current status. I support individual freedom.

Regards,  
Lance

Lance Hopman  
10526 SW Windsor Pl  
Tigard, OR 97223

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**From:** Erick & Sharla Bishop [mailto:eshrb@charter.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 08, 2010 6:25 AM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** hunter orange

As an avid hunter and outdoorsman, Fireman and father of an up and coming hunter/outdoorsman, I believe in safety, but it **is** an individuals right to choose what they want to wear while in the field. The government encroaches on its citizens rights at nearly every corner. Fish and Wildlife is no different.  
Please consider this in the meeting on Sept 30th

Thank you

Erick Bishop  
5505 Upland Dr  
Klamath Falls, OR  
97603

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**From:** Ian Berg [mailto:iankberg@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 09, 2010 10:25 AM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** hunter orange comment

The choice to wear hunter orange should be left to the individual. By requiring hunter orange ODFW would be supporting the "nanny state" mentality where individual responsibility is lost, along with an individuals rights. Where does this new law / rule making end? Should you next require that I need to hire a guide in order to go hunting in the wilderness, for "my own safety?" This is a slippery slope and ODFW should not start down this path. Leave individual responsibility and choices to the individual. Please vote for option 1, no change to current law.

Sincerely, Ian Berg  
Bend, OR  
(541)848-7687

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**From:** Clint & Traci Bush [mailto:tcktb@charter.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 08, 2010 9:28 AM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange Comments

Dear ODFW:

I started hunting when I was three years old and have never missed a deer season in my forty years. As a hunter I feel that while regulations are good because they protect wildlife and increase harvest opportunities, I do not like the idea of having the government telling me what to wear. As it is, one almost has to be a lawyer and study the regulations heavily to ensure compliance. After reviewing the "Hunter Incidents and Fatalities per Incidents" chart, one can easily notice that Oregon ranks second only to Nevada for the least amount of incidents. I am eager to point out that neither state requires hunter orange. To me this proves one thing. Education, not regulation is the key for reducing hunter on hunter incidents. When a person gets charged and prosecuted for a shooting incident and it is reported in the media all hunters take notice. Nobody wants to be the one going to jail. I feel that the hunter orange proposal is just another way for Oregon to take away its citizens choices about how they want to live there life. The current voluntary rules are sufficient. Use a full page in the regulations and make your recommendations, show your charts and then let the people decide. What a novel concept that is becoming.

Sincerely,  
Clint Bush

---

**From:** JG Henricksen [mailto:jghenricksen@centurytel.net]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 08, 2010 4:42 PM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

hunters should have the right to choose. Hunter education would be helpful in this matter.

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**From:** Jason Barker [mailto:jason@freshstartdetail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 07, 2010 10:44 AM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

I believe we Americans should retain the freedom to wear any color of clothing we desire when hunting. Do not take away yet another hunting right by eliminating our personal choice. Thank you for listening.

Sincerely,

Jason E. Barker, President

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**From:** Cheryl & Tim Beyer [mailto:cbeyer@canby.com]

**Sent:** Friday, August 27, 2010 11:16 PM

**To:** odfw.commission@state.or.us

**Subject:** Hunter Orange

I want to let you know that I am a hunter and I am against mandatory hunter orange in Oregon. What you wear while hunting should be a matter of personal choice. The added expense to outfit hunting families during these hard times may drive others to give up hunting. Licenses and tags for a family of 4 can already cost over \$500 a year. I also believe the laws already require hunters to positively identify their targets due to restrictions on species, sex, antler points, etc... Please do not mandate hunter orange in Oregon and let hunters choose for themselves how to dress in the field. I would rather see mandated hunter safety cards for all Oregon hunters rather than mandated hunter orange clothing.

Tim Beyer  
Woodburn, Oregon

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**From:** BILL [mailto:bkb759@charter.net]

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 07, 2010 6:12 PM

**To:** odfw.commission@state.or.us

**Subject:** mandated orange

I OPPOSE HUNTER ORANGE LAW YOU PEOPLE ARE PUTTING MORE REGULATIONS ON US HIGHER TAG PRICES AND WE GET LESS GAME TO HUNT SHORTER SEASONS TIRED OF THE BULL CRAP OF MORE GOVERMENT IV BEEN HUNTING IN OREGON FOR ALMOST 30 YRS . THERES NOT AS GOOD OF HUNTING AS THERE USE TO BE AND IT COST A LOT MORE IM ABOUT READY TO QUIT HUNTING ANY WAY IV DONE STOPPED BUYING SOME TAGS I USE TO BUY EVERY YEAR WANT TO SELL MORE TAGS LOWER THE PRICE BACK DOWN LOOKS LIKE A BUNCH OF DEMORATS RUN THE PLACE

BILL BAUMGARTNER

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**From:** Wilson Angus [mailto:wilsonangus@hrecn.net]

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 07, 2010 11:36 PM

**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us

**Subject:** Hunter Orange

I am strongly opposed to any regulations requiring hunters to wear a certain type of clothing to legally hunt in the state of Oregon. We as a state and a country have gone overboard in making rules and or laws. In our state alone in recent history we have made it illegal to talk on a cell phone while driving, or drive down the road without wearing your seatbelt, both laws certainly have merit and yet people still get in wrecks and people still die. What we as a society have seem to forgotten is that with each new law that is incorporated into our lives we lose a little bit of what as an american should be our most important quality freedom. This loss of freedom should always be the first consideration when a new law is preposed and do the benefits truly outweigh what is lost. I just finished hunter safety with my fourth and last child , in this class as in the other 3 they listed ten sports golf and hunting and 8 others and then asked the students which was the safest by number of accidents and deaths per 100,000 people participating amazingly it was hunting , So

you have to ask yourself are we making Oregon safe or are we just giving law enforcement another reason to write hunters a ticket here in Oregon.

SINCERELY James H Wilson

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**From:** Dwayne A. Prose [mailto:Dwayne.Prose@cityofmedford.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, September 03, 2010 6:48 PM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us;  
odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

I have hunted other states that mandate orange and don't like it. I feel very fortunate to hunt in Oregon where I don't draw attention from other hunters while near roads and trails and do not want this to change. Please leave it alone and don't make this mandatory.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Wade and Jody Seaborn [mailto:seaborn@gorge.net]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 05, 2010 11:22 AM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us;  
Roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

I'd like to comment on the proposed legislation requiring hunter orange garments in the field. Some of the recent studies I've read suggest that while ungulates are color blind, blaze orange does indeed show up in higher contrast to the background in their eyes. Oregon has the third highest number of elk of the western states, yet it has one of the lowest hunter success rates. We hunters don't need an additional challenge to overcome, considering an already low 13% success rate.

Most people I hunt with wear day packs, which would obscure the back of a vest anyway. We have invested a significant amount of money in hunting specific packs. There are not many choices for these in blaze orange. We wear raincoats, day packs, binoculars and a rifle sling. Most of us will add an orange vest and/or hat if we feel it is appropriate. Why should we be required to wear a soggy vest everywhere we hunt? Not every hunting area is crowded. Some hunts are on private property or in limited draw areas. I won't make a repeat visit to an area/season that I have found to be so crowded I'm concerned about being shot. I do however carry a lightweight orange vest and flagging that I will use for visibility if I am lucky enough to pack an animal out.

I also wonder why a 17 year old hunter is considered less visible than an older hunter. This must be the case, because the proposed legislation would require the younger hunter to wear more orange than the older hunter. What about the non-hunters who are in the field



during hunting season (particularly early deer season, when the weather can still be quite nice)? Are hikers and bikers inherently more visible than hunters? Many of us who grew up hunting upland game birds while wearing brown canvas (the only thing available at the time) later switched to orange bodied coats and/or orange hats. I found the hat to be much more beneficial than the coat/vest. The hat was less likely to be hidden by thick brush and the head moves around more than the upper body.

I firmly believe that it is the individual's right and responsibility to determine his/her appropriate attire for the conditions, whether the conditions dictate wearing high visibility colors or carrying rain gear and warm clothes. This goes for hunters and non-hunters alike.

Wade Seaborn  
PO Box 314  
Mosier, OR 97040

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**From:** C8s@aol.com [mailto:C8s@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 12, 2010 10:21 AM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Just say no to Orange!

Please do not make honest and safe hunters pay for the ignorant. PLEASE vote against mandatory orange. I have heard so many stories about hunters shooting at sounds, so what good will orange do there? Please vote against mandatory orange. As a responsible hunter, I wear orange to my hunting spot, then remove it. As a responsible hunter, my target and beyond is identified, I make sure that I see "visible antlers having not less than one fork" when deer hunting. I also will not shoot an animal if I do not have a good "kill shot" available.

Mandating orange will only cause grief and failure to those who work so hard for it. This reminds me of when pseudoephedrine was controlled due to methamphetamine manufacturing. The meth heads still make meth, but I have to go through red tape to settle my sniffily nose. The good pay for the mistakes of the others, with no real benefit.

Non hunters won't be required to wear orange, such as hikers and mushroom hunters. They are at as much risk as hunters, but won't be controlled by this rule.

The dangerous hunters need education. Mandate hunter education and safety training! I would gladly volunteer to go to that. ATV laws in Oregon are slowly introducing FREE mandatory safety courses. Do the same for hunting. I would even pay for the safety courses, knowing that EVERYONE would have to do the same. Education is the only way to go.

Thank you,  
Arin Totten  
541-892-4928

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**From:** Seth Nickell [mailto:sethnickell@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 12, 2010 9:33 PM  
**To:** ronald.e.anglin@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Sir,

Please do not make hunter orange mandatory. I would like the right to choose what I wear hunting.

Seth Nickell

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**From:** Larry [mailto:lla806@bendbroadband.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 12, 2010 2:21 PM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

I personally wear Orange coloring. My choice, period. I object to being told what color to wear because somebody else is too STUPID to identify their target.

sincerely Larry Avery

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**From:** John Crafton [mailto:jlcrafton@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 12, 2010 10:27 AM  
**To:** Ron Anglin; curt.melcher@state.or.us; roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.info@state.or.us  
**Subject:**

Why would you enact a law that affects nearly a half a million hunters because a few irresponsible hunters over many years could not follow the basics of gun handling and identifying their target before shooting. This lack of a few not following the basic rule will continue with or without hunter orange!

"Safety is held within each individual, not within a law!"

I hunt with my self earned dollars, I am responsible for my safety and I am also responsible for the clothes I choose to wear when hunting.

I do not need government agency intervention into my clothing options for hunting.

Absolutely NO mandatory hunter orange.

I hunt by choice at my own expense and I will clothes myself at my own choice and expense!

John Crafton  
PO Box 1407

Redmond, OR 97756  
3855 NW Gerke Road  
Prineville, OR 97754  
Cell (541) 233-3740

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**From:** cleodog007@msn.com [mailto:cleodog007@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 12, 2010 8:22 AM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us;  
odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

My name is Harry Bainbridge, I have been hunting and fishing for nearly 50 years. In my opinion wearing hunter orange should be a personal choice for each person. I have not seen any advantage to wearing orange in the woods during hunting seasons. If this were the case, then all people in the forests(hikers, fishermen, mushroom pickers, campers, etc.) would need to wear a specific color while doing their activities in and around any area that may have hunting and shooting activities. Common sense and continued hunter training will do more for hunters safety than any mandated specific color. What a person decides to wear for themselves and their families should be their choice, not more rules and regulations for a declining hunter population.

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**From:** GAIL PHIL HARDISON [mailto:GHARDISON0280@MSN.COM]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 11, 2010 5:49 PM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Blaze Orange

Dear Ron:

It is becoming more apparent by the day that the politics driving this "Blaze Orange mania" is discriminatory against gun hunters. The supposed stealthy archers get the best seasons to hunt, can drive ATV's all over the controlled access (Green dot roads only for rifle hunters) areas and appear to be exempt from the "Orange" mandates. This is very divisive.

My red plaid coat has served me well for years. If that unfortunate young man had been wearing my coat he probably would still be here today.

Obviously I am against a mandate to what I have to wear. But If you insist on this course it best include ALL hunting disciplines.

Sincerely,  
Phil Hardison  
190 Cherokee Ave.  
Roseburg, OR 97471

-----Original Message-----

From: David P Walker [<mailto:dpwalker@embarqmail.com>]  
Sent: Saturday, September 11, 2010 4:10 PM  
To: Ronald Anglin; Curt.Melcher@state.or.us; Roy.Elicker@state.or.us;  
odfw.info@state.or.us  
Subject: hunter orange

To whom it may concern,

My name is David Walker, I reside at 8045 Bewley Creek Rd. in Tillamook, Or. 97141.

I would like to express my opposition to mandatory hunter orange. I feel that we should not make it mandatory, but leave it an issue of personal choice. Hunters should be able to choose what we wear while hunting. Just like you can choose what to wear when you are enjoying your favorite outdoor activities.

The first rule taught to young hunters is to identify your target, that is by far going to save more lives than hunter orange. It does not matter what your wearing if the shooter does not identify his target before pulling the trigger.

I would urge you not to mandate the use of hunter orange.

Thank you  
David Walker

9-11-10

Ron Anglin, Director of Wildlife Div., ODFW

RE: Mandatory Use of Blaze Orange

I am **opposed** to Mandatory Use of Blaze Orange. This is a personal choice. I don't think it should be illegal to hunt if you are not wearing Blaze Orange.

Thank you for listening to my concerns on this subject.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Krieger

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**From:** Harold Laird [<mailto:bearlaird@gmail.com>]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 11, 2010 11:25 AM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.ellicker@state.or.us;  
odfw.info@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Blaze Orange

**Dear Mr Anglin, Mr Melcher, and Mr Elicker**

How is it that people seem to think that they can legislate common sense? Every time we turn around another group is trying to tell us they know what is best for everyone else. They seem to want to say they are the only ones who use common sense or better judgement about life. Blaze Orange should be a choice not something you dictate to the hunters of this state. Now if you want to suggest that people use it that's one thing but don't tell people they have no choice but to use it, this country was founded on freedom of choice and recently it seems those freedoms keep falling by the way side.

The ODFW has had to raise the price of license and tags many felt that that was not needed at least not that high, and now you want us to swallow mandated choice of outer wear, not right and not fare to the hunters, no one else using the forests and back country has this mandate on them nor should they. When will we be forced to choose if we are going to drive or use a blaze orange car in the name of saving lives, more die on the roads of this state than have ever died in hunting accidents?

I grew up hunting, I've worn red and orange, I have even worn yellow and orange just so I would be seen but it made no difference because I was shot at three different times (never hit) and I think if you really wanted to do an accurate study you will find that the same story is true for many others, the colors made no difference, buck fever accounts for more accidents than anything else if the truth were to be told.

I was taught to be seen and my children and grand children have been taught the same way we don't need ODFW nor anyone else to tell us that. Just like you can't protect those who drive without common sense you can't dictate common sense to those who hunt you will just eliminate those who hunt now and will stop because of this, just as many have quit buying license and tags due to the rise in fee's, your own figures bare this out. Many hunters want to see better hunting seasons, more game, and better ways to get to where they can hunt (open roads and right of ways to state lands) leave the cloths alone.

Harold L Laird

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**From:** john parker [mailto:j\_vparker@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 12, 2010 10:48 AM  
**To:** odfw.info@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter orange

I strongly oppose the proposed law requiring hunter to wear hunter orange.

If a hunter can't I.D. a target the hunter should NOT be hunting! If another hunter is shot, then I think, it is at least negligent homicide

I believe EVERY hunter, at ALL ages, should be required to take and PASS a hunter/safety course, and this would enhance the safety for all outdoor enthusiasts.

Should all outdoor enthusiasts such as hikers, loggers, surveyors, hang-gliders, fishermen, etc. be required to wear hunter orange?

A few years ago, on the Coast Range, in southern Oregon, a Grandfather and grandson, as I recall, wearing hunter orange, were shot during bull elk season, resulting in a fatality. The garb was not the problem, the shooter was! (the shooter got off very lightly)

Let's use some common sense, education is a better approach.

**From:** Dominic Aiello [mailto:rider4lifezx7r@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Friday, September 10, 2010 2:38 PM

**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us

**Subject:** Blaze Orange

Dear ODFW,

First off I would like to say I am disappointed with the date selection for this hearing. It's quite obvious the major of invested participants would be afield at this time. This does not bode well for consumer confidence so to speak.

Please vote NO CHANGE for hunter orange. Keep it 100% voluntary. It was a tragic story at the first hearing about the teenage who was shot by his uncle, but the parents had the choice to wear orange that day and they did not. **It's their fault, not the system!**

NO CHANGE - 100% Voluntary Hunter Orange!

Hunters have enough to fight against as it is, we should not have to be fighting the organization that WE pay for our right to hunt.

Best Regards,  
Dominic Aiello

**From:** AJ Zanitsch [mailto:ajz1911@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Friday, September 10, 2010 8:48 PM

**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us;  
odfw.commission@state.or.us

**Subject:** upset about the color orange

To find myself even writing this letter upsets and frightens me. Why should people in a higher "authority" be aloud to tell myself or any other American citizen that they no longer have the right to where what they want in the woods. Wearing hunter Orange will

not stop people from shooting others most mistakes are made due to the ignorance of people that do not have to be responsible for what they shoot at if we get rid of **hair** tags then people will have to Identify what they are about to fire upon. It seems like every time I hear of a hunting accident it is somebody that shoots through the bushes or shoots a deer strapped upside down to a guys back. It is the stupidity of some people we should not be punished for others ignorance.

**From:** Allen Flanagan [mailto:arflanagan@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 12, 2010 1:32 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission  
**Cc:** daniel.edge@oregonstate.edu; roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfwcomments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter and OHA member in support of Blaze Orange

Dear ODFW Commission, Chairman Rae, and Director Elicker,

I am a longtime Oregon Hunter and OHA member.

This month you are scheduled to consider adopting a Blaze Orange rule for Oregon Rifle Big Game Hunters.

I urge you to adopt the proposed new rule.

Adopting Blaze orange will result in a safer hunting environment, fewer serious accidents and fatalities, and have little or no impact on hunting success. I have worn Hunter Orange in Oregon and out of state hunts for over a decade and have noticed zero detrimental effects. I find that the visibility of Blaze orange makes it easier for me to identify other hunters resulting in a safer hunt and less Hunter crowding/conflict. Blaze Orange isnt just about personal freedom, when people choose not wear Blaze orange they can affect the hunt and safety of others as well as their own.

I also want you to know that not all hunters or OHA members oppose the proposed Blaze Orange rule. There are many of us who do support it including the 5 other members of my Big Game Hunting party.

R,  
Allen Flanagan  
Hillsboro, Or  
Oregon Master Hunter  
Member OHA, DU, ANWS, NRA

Allen Flanagan

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**From:** Lyn McGuire [mailto:LMcGuire@bcslc.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 13, 2010 10:37 AM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Mandatory Hunter Orange

Dear Commissioners:

My husband and I are traditional bow hunters using long bows made by my husband. We feel that requiring archery hunters to wear hunter orange would be a detriment to the hunting experience as well as to the successful outcome of a stalk. Please choose Option 1, no change to the current status (voluntary wear of hunter orange).

Also, there does not appear to be any archery related hunting incidents listed in the research provided on the ODFW website Hunter Orange page.

We were very sorry to learn of the death of the teenage elk hunter, and our prayers are for all those involved. We do feel that the balance of hunters in Oregon should not be regulated because of one careless act.

Thank you for your time.

Lyn McGuire

**Lyn McGuire**  
Boldt, Carlisle & Smith, LLC  
Phone: (541)928-6500  
Fax: (541)928-6501

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**From:** bluestone@harborside.com [mailto:bluestone@harborside.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 14, 2010 8:29 AM  
**To:** chris.a.willard@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Mandatory Hunter Orange

To Chris Willard, I have been an archery hunter for 30 yrs. and a member of Traditional Archers of Oregon for approx. 20 yrs. I oppose "mandatory hunter orange" for archery hunters, and believe it to be a detriment to the way I hunt. Accidents are very rare and come from horrific shot decisions' improper identification of game, or in some cases just terrible shooting.

Thanks for your consideration, Larry Davis



**From:** Elk Ridge Ranch [mailto:elk\_ridge\_ranch@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 14, 2010 11:12 AM  
**To:** odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Cc:** Elk Ridge Ranch  
**Subject:** blaze orange requirement

Hello, this email is to oppose ( in opposition to ) the requirement to wear blaze orange during ANY hunting season in the State of Oregon. Thank you, Berton B. Baird

**From:** JT Woods [mailto:woody188@comcast.net]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 14, 2010 9:04 AM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Voluntary Hunter Orange

Dear Roy, Ronald, Curt, & Commission,  
I urge you to support draft option #1 of the hunter orange proposal, the wearing of hunter orange while hunting as **voluntary**, not required. I feel the stretched resources of wildlife law enforcement are better focused on game violators and poachers than the enforcement common sense laws. I see this as another effort of government trying to legislate common sense. I do not feel more rules will entice people to think and act safely. I do support the continuation of some wildlife efforts and funds used to support hunter safety education.

J.T. Woods  
Banks, OR  
503.806.5066

**From:** Kayrt3@aol.com [mailto:Kayrt3@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 14, 2010 8:37 AM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Being an avid hunter in Oregon since the mid 1950's my experience in our forests tells me while dealing with humans and fire arms there will always be accidents. What we wear will not stop accidents. To Bad ! Because of our beautiful fall colors which includes a variety of red and oranges, requiring hunters to wear the blaze orange will not stop accidents.

My hunting partner and I felt compelled to join the Or Hunter Ed. Program as instructors so we could train the new ( young and old) hunter to be safe and sure of their target. The reality to our accident problem is training not color of our clothing.

I'd like to see the state of Oregon ( ODFW ) put their efforts into training to all OR. hunters in the form of reminders before each hunting season to be sure of their targets and that there will be other hunters out in the field with them.

As a hunter that suffers with the affliction of buck fever I must remind myself each day I take my rifle into the field. There is no cure for buck fever and blaze orange clothing will not stop accidents. Thank You for your concern. Kay Varuska

**From:** ROD MORGAN [mailto:morganre@q.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 13, 2010 1:42 PM  
**To:** Ron Anglin ODFW; curt.melcher@state.or.us; roy.elicker@state.or.us;  
odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

I just read about this proposed mandatory blaze orange. I quit fishing years ago because of the price of a fishing license. The eight or ten times I would go fishing a year did not justify the cost. This year when I saw the price of a hunting license I was really questioning whether or not I wanted to spend the money or not. I have been purchasing a hunting license for as many years as was required by law for the fifty three years I have lived in this state. My hunting partner talked me into it for one more year. With the money I spend for a hunt, gas wear & tear on my vehicle etc. it doesn't pencil out. I do enjoy the outdoors and hopefully will fill my tag but if I am told what to wear by the LAW the fun will be taken out of the hunt! This will be the last year you will see my money!!!

Rod Morgan  
679 Willis crk, rd.  
Winston Oregon  
541-679-3560

-----Original Message-----

From: Unger, John A Mr NGOR [mailto:[john.a.unger@us.army.mil](mailto:john.a.unger@us.army.mil)]  
Sent: Friday, August 27, 2010 12:36 PM  
To: Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us;  
Roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us  
Subject: Hunter Orange

I am a 48 year Oregon resident, veteran and hunter. I am writing you to express my opinion concerning implementation of mandatory blaze orange clothing for hunting in Oregon. I am a strong advocate for safety in the field and I think it is a good idea to wear at least one article of clothing that contains blaze orange. My personal preference while hunting big game is a hat with camouflage patterns containing blaze orange. I also believe that all young hunters, under the age of 18, should wear blaze orange.

Until recently, I thought the wearing of blaze orange in Oregon was the law, but found out that was only my Dad's law. Having said that, my personal preferences do not equate to mandating the wearing of blaze orange while hunting. Hunter Education courses, parents and mentors should continue to educate all hunters on the pros and cons of wearing blaze orange.

Ultimately, it should be the adult hunters choice whether or not to wear blaze orange. Can common sense be legislated? Thank you.

Respectfully,

John Unger

**From:** Rick Slover [mailto:RSlover@ci.klamath-falls.or.us]  
**Sent:** Friday, August 27, 2010 12:03 PM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us;  
odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Just a short note on my take on wearing hunter orange. We have enough rules and regs. that suppress us, what we need is for O.D.F.W. to manage our wildlife. We already have enough Political voices in the mix, what we need is more sound science from our Biologists.

*Rick D. Slover*

Maintenance/street Light  
Division Manager  
City of Klamath Falls  
(541) 883-5257  
Fax (541)883-9155  
rslover@ci.klamath-falls.or.us

**From:** Kevin Thompson [mailto:kevin\_necia@msn.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 26, 2010 9:58 PM  
**To:** roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us; ronald.e.anglin@state.or.us  
**Cc:** chris.a.willard@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Dear ODFW Directors & Commissioners -

As I put the final touches on the planning/dreaming stage in preparation for the fabulous Mt. Emily Archery Bull opportunity I have in front of me, the **Hunter Orange** issue has really grabbed my attention. I choose to spend my precious days with my Recurve-bow at my side, working and scheming to get my 20 yard max opportunity at a big bull. I am fortunate to have had wonderful "experiences" in the field, I usually find myself close to these wonderful animals, but rarely have a shot opportunity I feel comfortable with.

As much dreaming I have done pre-hunt, and with the knowledge of the country I am about to descend into for the bulk of the season, I whole-heartily know this will be one of my most significant challenges to get the opportunity to harvest a nice bull - **I am extremely happy this season that I get to make the choice not to wear Hunter Orange.** I will need every skill available to myself, and rely on camo for both concealment and more importantly, confidence.

I support the following from both a personal and organizational viewpoint.

1. opposed to mandatory hunter orange in archery seasons.
2. Agreed that wearing hunter orange in firearms seasons is a smart thing to do, however, still feel it should be left to individual choice.

Thanks for you time, looking forward to the October Commission meeting.

My Best,  
Kevin Thompson  
VP Traditional Archers of Oregon

**From:** Jan Montgomery [mailto:jan.mont@frontier.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 26, 2010 6:40 PM  
**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us;  
odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

I understand the issue of choice. But if one can make good choices without mandate, why do I see all this camaflouge out in the woods? I DO wear bright and reflective wear when riding my bicycle or walking. I want to be seen. I DO wear red and bright orange or reflective green when hunting. I want to be seen by other hunters. It scares me that so many want to blend in. I know we are supposed to know exactly what we are aiming at before the safety is released, but I also know there are those who don't do that. I don't know that it was mandatory, but many years ago when I started hunting, red or orange hats were the norm. I don't care that it be law, but I do care that hunters be more sensible about it.  
Jan Montgomery

**From:** Norm Johnson [mailto:norm@blacktailbows.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 26, 2010 8:23 AM  
**To:** odfw.commission@state.or.us  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

To: ODF&W Commission Members,

I am a 47 year lifetime resident of this state and have been a hunter in this state since the age of 12. I support Option #1 – No change to current status (voluntary wear of hunter orange). I am a strong believer in personal choice, and not having any state or federal agency mandate laws or regulations that micro-manage my life or anyone else's. If the evidence that wearing hunter orange made all hunters safer and would save lives I could support the mandate. However the documented evidence clearly shows that it does not! I find the pursuit of this piece of legislation more about a "Feel Good" mandate than having any real substance. Passing this mandate will not stop the rare and tragic hunting accidents that occur around this state each year. The fact is this mandate will have no impact. Unfortunately accidents will happen no matter how many laws you try to put on the books to prevent them. Please put some common sense in your decision!

Sincerely  
Norm Johnson  
Reedsport, Oregon

**From:** robert draper [mailto:concreter52@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 24, 2010 11:56 PM  
**To:** ODFW Commission  
**Subject:** hunter orange

I have hunted in Oregon for over 40 years. I have purchased a Sport Pac every year since they became available. I am a Life Member of the National Rifle Association, the Oregon Hunters Association, Traditional Archers of Oregon, and North American Hunting Club. I am an annual member of the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Traditional Bowhunters of Washington, and Oregon Bowhunters Association. I have done volunteer work for the ODFW.

I have supported wildlife, hunting and fishing, and the ODFW as have my fellow members in all the organizations I have mentioned. I ask you now to listen to us and make a careful decision on the issue of mandatory hunter orange in Oregon. Please consider Oregon's present safety record, the effect of wearing orange on different types of hunting, and separate politics as much as possible from the equation when you make your decisions.

I believe the wearing of orange should be personal choice. I can see how it could make a difference in a case where another hunter was in line with a game animal. I believe if you weed out the cases where slob hunters shoot at movement the accidental shootings are extremely rare. I also believe a decision on this matter must in no way be all inclusive if you decide some form of hunter orange is absolutely necessary. Any hunting requiring getting close to the intended game automatically makes the need for hunter orange unnecessary as well as making harvesting a bird or animal much more difficult. I have hunted game with rifle, compound and traditional bows, and shotgun. I have hunted with people who wore red or orange and many who believed in full camo even for rifle hunting. I think it a personal choice and not one that should be mandated. Put the effort in promoting safety and ethical hunting as has been done, not in restricting safe hunters free choice. I know you will receive many opinions and I wanted to make sure I was counted when people who agree with me contact you.

Robert Draper  
18737 S. Fernwood Rd.  
Molalla, Oregon 97038

-----Original Message-----

From: dpinkerton@charter.net [mailto:[dpinkerton@charter.net](mailto:dpinkerton@charter.net)]  
Sent: Monday, August 23, 2010 11:37 AM  
To: Curt.melcher@state.or.us  
Subject: Hunter Orange

Dear Mr. Melcher,

I want to voice my objection to mandating a 'Hunter Orange' requirement. We have a very safe and accident free environment in this state thanks to a high quality hunter safety program. A mandate of this type will accomplish nothing in regards to safe hunting because training is the most effective tool in accomplishing this goal. The training programs offered by hunting organizations such as NRA and OHA are what keep hunting safe rather than some bright colored clothing on

an untrained individual. If hunters are required to wear orange then hikers, bird watchers and other users of the forest should have to meet the same requirements if the entire plan is about safety.

Holding this meeting on the eve of opening day for the statewide deer season has the appearance of hoping no one will show up to object.

As an OHA member, NRA life member, North American Hunting Club life member and former Marine trained in safe firearm usage I feel qualified in my objections.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

--

Dewane Pinkerton  
Broker/Owner  
Dewane E. Pinkerton Real Estate  
919 Nadia Way  
Medford, Or 97504  
541-941-6488  
[dpinkerton@charter.net](mailto:dpinkerton@charter.net)

**From:** Micky Brittain [mailto:mickybrittain@yahoo.com]

**Sent:** Sunday, August 22, 2010 3:28 PM

**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us

**Subject:** mandatory hunter orange

Regarding mandatory hunter orange; Since Oregon and Nevada are the two safest states in the west to hunt I don't see where requiring hunter orange is going to gain us anything. What you wear should be a personal choice. If it's not broken, don't fix it. Instead, continue to concentrate on quality hunter safety education.

**From:** rhonda yjort [mailto:jnrhjort@gmail.com]

**Sent:** Saturday, August 21, 2010 2:44 PM

**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us; odfw.commission@state.or.us

**Subject:** Hunter Orange

Jon & Rhonda Hjort from Roseburg OR, have hunted and fished OR for combined 100 years and have never considered the need for mandatory orange in Oregon. We feel that it is a personal choice to wear the appropriate hunting clothing of our choice.

**From:** Murl Ferguson [mailto:murlkay@earthlink.net]

**Sent:** Thursday, August 19, 2010 6:38 PM

**To:** ronald.e.anglin@state.or.us; curt.melcher@state.or.us; roy.elicker@state.or.us;

odfw.commission@state.or.us

**Subject:** hunter orange

I am very opposed to mandatory Hunter Orange or any other color. We hunters and fisherman are mandated to death!!!!!! Our children and grandchildren are refusing to enjoy the wildlife and outdoors because the cost has become prohibitive and all the rules and regulations so complex that even the fish and wildlife can't keep up with current regulations. Each new regulation comes with added cost and no matter how hard you study the PRINTED regulations they are so complex currently that if an officer chooses to issue a citation he can find some reason or current mandate on which to do so! The greed of American business would also enter into the equation. A \$5.00 orange hat and \$5.00 orange vest will cost \$20 to \$40 if it becomes mandated and a person must pay whatever the cost is or be fined \$500 to \$1000 for non compliance!!!! I have 13 grandchildren which I would like to continue introducing to the outdoors. The cost of all the extra application fees, and the many required individual tags are making it impossible to encourage them to get involved. When I am told what I have to wear to hunt or fish I will no longer buy all the licenses, applications, punch cards, deer tags, elk tags, upland game bird, waterfowl (both state and federal), spring bear, fall bear, spring turkey, fall turkey, cougar, antelope, salmon/steelhead/halibut, clam/crab and all other incidental tags required! On top of these costs most ranchers want paid (large amounts) to hunt on their land, the oil companies overcharge for gas, state parks charge \$25 per night or more to park a camper. NO MORE MANDATES!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Murl Ferguson

[murlkay@earthlink.net](mailto:murlkay@earthlink.net)

EarthLink Revolves Around You.

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**From:** JEFFREY RITTER [mailto:JKJCRITTER@MSN.COM]

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2010 10:30 AM

**To:** Ronald.E.Anglin; Curt.melcher@state.or.us; Roy.elicker@state.or.us;  
odfw.commission@state.or.us

**Subject:** Blaze Orange

I had a couple of concerns related to this issue.

What does 360 view mean. Can I wear a pack that isn't blaze orange? I have a \$200 pack and don't feel like replacing it.

In one sentence the options say hunters with firearms. In another sentence it states hunters of big game. Does this apply to bowhunters?

If not, there are rifle seasons during bow hunting.

Does this apply to the Tribes? How does law enforcement know a tribe member from not?

Please encourage orange but not mandatory.

Member OHA

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**From:** Michael Marble [mailto:karmik@opusnet.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 06, 2010 6:36 AM  
**To:** odfw.info@state.or.us  
**Subject:** BLAZE ORANGE

I DO NOT LIKE THE IDEA OF MAKING IT A LAW TO REQUIRE ME TO WEAR ORANGE WHEN HUNTING. THAT IS A PERSONNEL CHOICE THAT SHOULD BE MADE BY THE HUNTER AND NOT SOMEBODY IN AN OFFICE BEHIND A DESK.  
MICHAEL J MARBLE  
67929 CARL RD  
DEER ISLAND OR 97054

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**From:** Jesse Lepez [mailto:jesse@jesselepez.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 04, 2010 11:04 AM  
**To:** odfw.info@state.or.us  
**Cc:** David Lepez  
**Subject:** Hunter Orange

*I was just reading the article on hunter orange on the ODFW site, In my opinion if you make this mandatory you are just taking another right from us. Looking at your #'s of fatalities in states that require hunter orange is not that bad in 20 yrs there been 21 fatalities that's about one a year. If you take the # of hunters and do the math that is very low percentage.*

*Instead of making all of us where hunter orange why do you make young/new hunters attend a classroom training on how to make sure of their target before pulling the trigger as you said most fatalities have been mistaken as game. Every time I go hunting I see some hunters that don't know how to hunt or even shoot a gun that's the people we need to be afraid of. If you make hunters ware hunter orange hunting will not be enjoyable I don't like to see people when I am hunting, as long as people make sure of their target we are all safe, but there are some stupid hunters out there, I do not want you to tell me what to ware because of them, train them or don't give them the privilege of hunting, but don't take MY rights away keep it optional like it is now, if I am willing to take that risk please let me.*

*Training hunters would be a better option in my opinion because there is stupid hunters out there that shoot at anything that moves it does not matter what color you are warring those are the dangerous ones. Lets take common sense and apply it instead of putting more rules to go by we have enough rules already.*



REMEMBER THAT **THE COLOR** OF YOUR CLOTHES DON'T KEEP YOU FROM GETTING SHOT, ITS THE STUPID HUNTER PULLING THE TRIGGER AND HUNTER **ORANGE** IS NOT GOING TO STOP A BULLET.

*Remember we are all grown ups and we are all aware of the consequences when we go out there, PLEASE less RULES. Thank you.*

**JESSE LEPEZ**

Principal Broker, SFR

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**From:** Bob Crews [mailto:[bob@westernlumber.com](mailto:bob@westernlumber.com)]

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 14, 2010 8:51 AM

**To:** ODFW.Comments@state.or.us

**Subject:** Re: Hunter Orange issue comments

Option #1 or #3. More rules are bad so do not make two sets of rules to do the same thing. If we are going to adopt this safety rule make it either a full hat or an upper garment that can be blaze orange with a black camo pattern similar to other states with these requirements. The orange camo still works very good and is broken up enough for concealment from the color blind game.....This way we can still wear our current cloths and just put a vest over the top.

**Bob Crews**

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Skype: [westernlumberbob](#)

Web-site: [www.westernlumber.com](http://www.westernlumber.com)

Think "Green": Is printing this e-mail really necessary?

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**From:** Bill Cotton [mailto:kp309bill@gmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 14, 2010 10:05 AM  
**To:** odfw.comments@state.or.us  
**Subject:** RE : Hunter Orange

Gentlemen -

May I remind you again . Wearing Hunter Orange should be left up to the individual hunter . Some states that require hunters to wear orange , have more hunters accidentally shot !

Regards -

Bill Cotton  
O.H.A.  
Columbia County Chapter

-----Original Message-----

From: Steve [mailto:[61whitelegs@gmail.com](mailto:61whitelegs@gmail.com)]  
Sent: Tuesday, September 14, 2010 8:31 PM  
To: odfw.comments@state.or.us  
Subject: hunter orange

I would like to see the ODFW commission leave the issue of wearing of hunter orange a choice of the hunter. We seem to over regulate things that do not need fixing.

-----Original Message-----

From: Cox, Travis D [mailto:travis.cox@hp.com]  
Sent: Sunday, August 29, 2010 6:26 PM  
To: Ronald.E.Anglin@state.or.us  
Subject: Mandatory blaze orange

Hello, I wanted to take the time to express my feelings on the possible mandatory wearing of blaze orange that is scheduled for Oct 1st - can't think of why anyone on the ODFW team would schedule this important subject on the eve of opening day of the controlled rifle deer season????? To make this short and sweet - I oppose this new ruling - this should be my choice not anyone else's. Although I agree anyone under the age of 17 should wear blaze orange - it just makes sense.

I oppose the mandatory wearing of blaze orange.

Thank you.