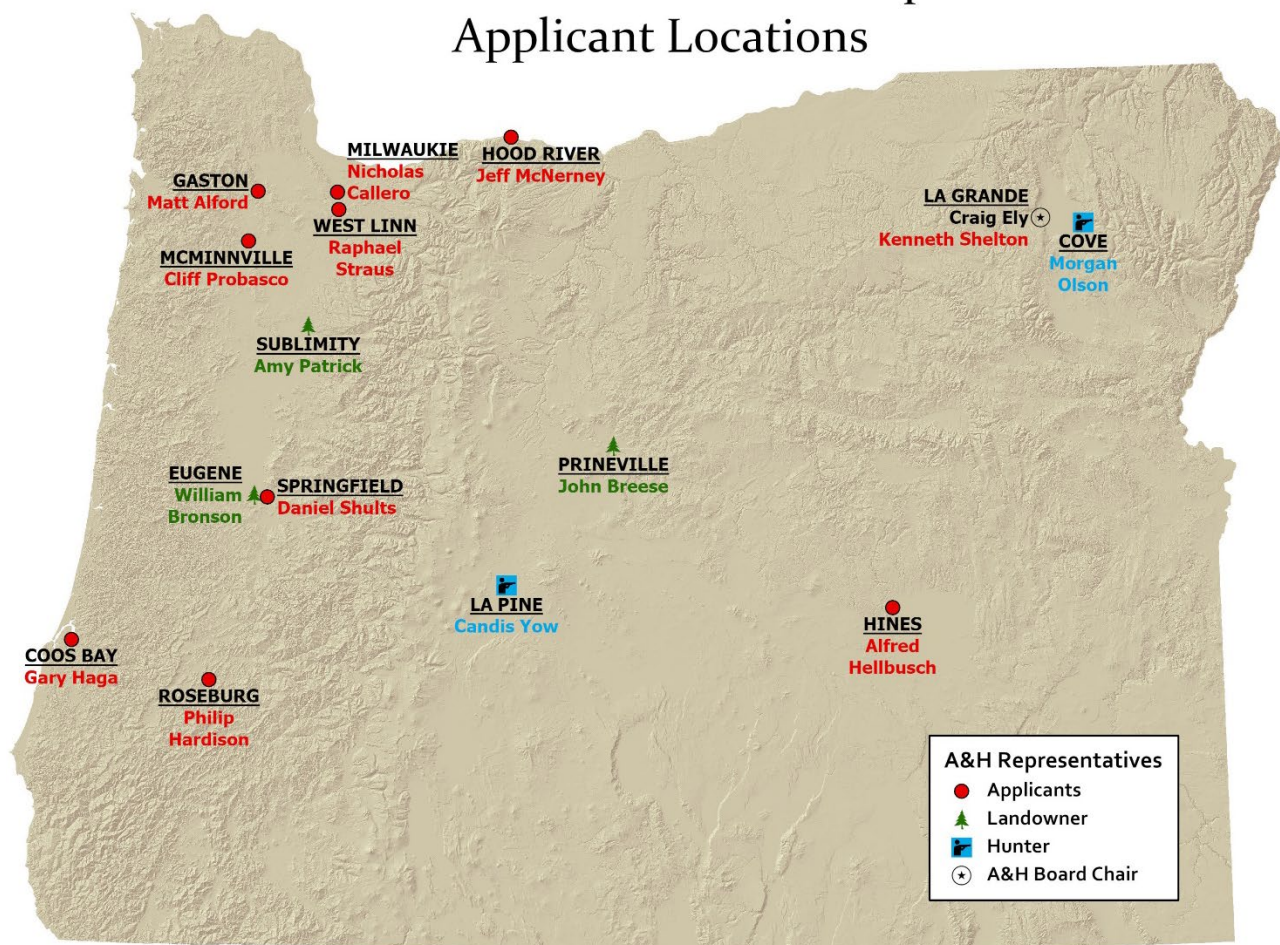


## Summary of Applicants for a Hunter Representative Position on the Access and Habitat State Board

To recruit applicants for a Hunter Representative position on the Access and Habitat (A&H) State Board (Board) the opening was posted on the A&H section of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) website, a news release was provided to the media and directly emailed to Oregon sports groups to canvass Oregon for potential candidates. The Department accepted applications for the vacancy from December 10 through January 31, 2021. Ten applications were received for the position by the deadline. The map below illustrates the location of each of the Hunter Representative candidates in red.

### A&H Board Member and Hunter Representative Applicant Locations



The candidates are Oregon residents and listed below in alphabetical order of first name:

**Alfred Hellbusch**

Location: Hines

Occupation: Retired

Alfred Hellbusch was raised and lived most of his life in Harney County. He is a lifelong hunter and angler, hunting and fishing throughout Oregon and several other western and midwest states. He is a past president of the Harney County Oregon Hunters Association (OHA) and a member of Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF). Alfred was a part of the High Desert Partnership and served one term on Harney County's Natural Resource Committee. He is a past A&H Regional Council member and Chair for the Malheur A&H region.

**Cliff Probasco**

Location: McMinnville

Occupation: Retired Firefighter

Cliff Probasco has been an avid hunter, angler, and outdoorsman for approximately 64 years, mainly throughout Oregon. Cliff is also a small lot landowner in western and central Oregon. He is the former Fire Marshall for McMinnville. In that capacity Cliff worked with individuals; city, county, and state organizations; city, county, and state law enforcement; and focus groups. He started his career as a volunteer and after retiring, he volunteered with Habitat for Humanity, working up to be a site supervisor.

**Daniel Shults**

Location: Springfield

Occupation: Retired Forester

Daniel Shults is retired from the Oregon Department of Forestry after 34 years of service, working in eastern and western Oregon. He served on several forest protection boards and forged relationships with industrial and non-industrial forest landowners both large and small. He is a passionate outdoorsman and hunter concerned about hunter access in the state. Daniel is an Oregon hunter education instructor. He is a member of OHA, RMEF, Springfield Elks Lodge, and the Society of American Foresters (SAF). With SAF Daniel has testified before legislative committees on matters of wildland fires.

**Gary Haga**

Location: Coos Bay

Occupation: Logger and Rancher

Gary Haga owns and operates D&H Logging with his siblings. He also owns a small ranch with cattle and horses and grows hay. He is a lifelong hunter, primarily for deer and elk and occasionally bear and cougar. He is active in the Associated Oregon Loggers and Coos County Forest Advisory Committee, and recently received the award for Southwest Oregon Logger of the year from Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF). Gary is the Co-chair of the South Coast RMEF and is active in habitat restoration projects.

**Jeff McNerney**

Location: Hood River

Occupation: Tree Fruit/Blueberry Grower and Crop Advisor

Jeff McNerney is an avid hunter, hunting in several western states, Alaska and Canada. His farm operates 375 acres of fruit trees and he is a part time crop advisor for Chamberlin Agriculture. Jeff earned a degree in crop science and horticulture. He is a lifetime member of RMEF and started the local chapter, he is also a member of OHA, Alaska Professional Hunters Association, and Boone and Crocket Club. He is a former Landowner Representative on the A&H Deschutes/Klamath Council. Jeff volunteers with OSP out of The Dalles. He spearheaded ODFW's public outreach for elk collaring efforts in The Dalles area.

**Kenneth Shelton**

Location: La Grande

Occupation: Retired Pharmacist

Kenneth Shelton is a lifelong hunter who completed the Master Hunter program. A member of OHA for over 20 years and served as Treasurer for the Union and Wallowa County chapters. He is also a longtime member of OHA's Banquet Committee Board. Kenneth has also served on the La Grande School Board and Buffalo Peak Golf Course Advisory committee.

**Matt Alford**

Location: Gaston

Occupation: Management Consultant

A native Oregonian and avid outdoorsman that hunts and fishes from the Oregon Coast to the Snake River. Matt is a graduate of OSU with a degree in finance and a MBA from Babson College. He has worked on farms, metal shops, high tech, and manufacturing. Matt currently serves as a Hunter Representative on the A&H Northwest Council. Matt is a member of RMEF and former Chair of the

Tualatin Valley Chapter; DU and former treasurer of the Sunset Chapter; OHA, Backcountry Hunter & Anglers, and the American Prairie Reserve. He has managed hunters on his own land and that of friends.

**Nicholas Callero**

Location: Milwaukie

Occupation: Pew Charitable Trusts

Nicholas Callero has for the past six years worked for the Pew Charitable Trusts, US Public Lands Program. He helped cultivate a new program for Pew Charitable Trusts focused on conservation of big game migratory corridor habitat across the western states. The plan relies on working in partnership with various state agencies and multi-stakeholder collaboratives working to find common ground. Nicholas is a member of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers and current board member. He is also a member of Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, RMEF, Association of NW Steelheaders, Northwest Guides and Anglers Association, and the Idaho Conservation League.

**Philip Hardison**

Location: Roseburg

Occupation: Retired

Philip Hardison is a long time Oregon resident, lifelong hunter and past president and board member for the Roseburg Rod and Gun Club. He is also a member of RMEF, OHA, and a founding member of Curry Anadromous Fishermen.

**Raphael Straus**

Location: West Linn

Occupation: Software Sales

Raphael Straus is an avid hunter pursuing big game, waterfowl and upland game birds throughout Oregon and also in California, Alaska, Wisconsin and British Columbia. He is a member of RMEF, Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, and Trout Unlimited. Additionally, Raphael was a member and contract employee of Wilderness Unlimited, working with landowners to provide hunting access to members. He was also a fishing and rafting guide on the McKenzie River. Raphael has experience working with city and county commissions, councils and boards.