



1 Kevin Blakely, ODFW, noted that the Department has shared concerns for Oregon's wildlife  
2 and their habitats. He will arrange for a thorough presentation to be given to the board in  
3 October to outline the different programs, committees and boards in place to help address  
4 these issues, and the steps ODFW is currently taking.

5  
6 Willie Bronson, Landowner Representative

7 Willie enjoyed his spring bear hunt, but also noted he has hunted that land for years and is  
8 seeing the deer and elk populations decline. Willie requested that grant applicants,  
9 especially renewals, disclose the amount of funds they have received from not only the A&H  
10 program, but from other State/Federal sources, such as the NRCS. He feels this should be  
11 taken into consideration when reviewing a project for funding to ensure that the amount of  
12 funds spent on a single property are appropriate.

13  
14 John Breese, Landowner Representative

15 John recently had a poacher illegally access his property and cause damage, though he  
16 was pleased to report that law enforcement was able to apprehend the individual, and he is  
17 now serving time in jail. Additionally, he has been working on his 800 acres of juniper, and  
18 enjoyed the successful spring turkey hunts.

19  
20 Amy Patrick, Hunter Representative

21 Amy has been expanding her work with OHA, and is happily referring the hunters she meets  
22 to A&H properties for quality hunts.

23  
24 Craig Ely, Chairman

25 No significant updates, with the exception of welcoming the A&H State Board's newest  
26 Hunter Representative, Morgan Olson.

27  
28 Morgan Olson, Hunter Representative

29 Morgan joins the A&H State board after serving on the Northeast Council as a hunter  
30 representative and Chair. In addition to his work with A&H, he serves as the Oregon  
31 Conservation/Habitat director for Backcountry Hunters & Anglers, and the Union/Wallowa  
32 County Chapter president for OHA. He is a landowner, and an avid hunter and angler.

33  
34 **A&H Coordinator Report**

35 Travis Schultz, A&H State Coordinator

36 Travis informed the board that the commission has approved Morgan and Candy  
37 unanimously for their appointed State Board positions. Additionally, all A&H projects that  
38 went before the board were passed as well.

39 Open Fields funding has officially been approved and will provide funding until April, 2023.  
40 With the increase in award from the previous grant cycle, there is an additional roughly  
41 \$800,000 available for projects.

42 Discussion continued about what the funds can be used for, what amount of savings A&H  
43 aims to have, and where the funds can be allocated based off the grant parameters.

44  
45 **2020 Auction & Raffle**

46 Travis Schultz, A&H State Coordinator

47 Special recognition is deserved this year to our tag sponsors, who, inspite of the Covid-19  
48 pandemic has helped us have the most successful year to date. Both raffle and auction tag

1 sales generated an increase in funds from previous years. We are seeing a trend of new  
2 people participating in the raffle, with a 197% increase in unique users. Overall, impressive  
3 increases across the board, especially considering the pandemic. Discussion continued  
4 about process and procedure of tag auctioning.  
5

## 6 **A&H Program & Budget Reports**

7 Travis Schultz, A&H State Coordinator

8 Travis presented the A&H budget to the Board. The budget files are located in the Board  
9 packet materials and can be viewed at the following link:

10 <https://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/AH/minutes/index.asp>

11  
12 Discussion followed on the current budget, allocations, forecasts, enforcement and  
13 individual projects. Additionally, agency forecasts do not predict that the statewide budget  
14 cuts will effect the A&H program due to the funding sources not relying on general funds.  
15

16 Travis Schultz and Kevin Blakely updated the board on law enforcement for lands enrolled  
17 in the program. Due to the general and lottery fund decrease affecting OSP, they have  
18 cancelled much of their recruitment. Current, sworn officers will be used on A&H projects.  
19 There will be a reduction in hours received due to the cost difference of OSP sworn vs OSP  
20 retirees. This is a one year plan with the intent to adjust from there based off landowner  
21 participant satisfaction.  
22

23 **Public Comment:** None  
24

## 25 **2021 Auction Tag Sponsor Allocation**

26 The board reviewed all applications received and allocated them as follows:

27 Statewide Deer:

- 28 Mule Deer Foundation, National
- 29 Oregon Hunters Association, Bend Chapter
- 30 Oregon Hunters Association, Tualatin Chapter
- 31 Mule Deer Foundation, Linn Benton Chapter

32 Statewide Elk:

- 33 Safari Club International, Lewis & Clark Chapter
- 34 National Wild Turkey Federation, Central Oregon Chapter
- 35 Mule Deer Doudation, Northern Oregon Chapter
- 36 Oregon Hunters Association, Oregon Chapter

37 Statewide Deer & Elk Combo:

- 38 Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation  
39

40 **Motion:** Morgan Olson moved to allocate the tags above to coresponding sponsors. John  
41 Breese seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.  
42

## 43 **Access Permit Raffle**

44 The raffle has been post poned until Commission, as not all permits were received.  
45

## 46 **Regional Council Appointment**

47 Tom Segal, Malheur Regional Coordinator

1 Applicants are as follows: Nick Miller – Chairman, Jon Reponen – Landowner  
2 Representative, Kyle Wieland – Hunter Representative.

3  
4 The board reviewed all applicants and discussed the needs of the regional council.

5  
6 **Motion:** John Breese moved to approve all applicants for the A&H Malheur Regional  
7 Council. Amy Patrick seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

### 8 9 **Project Applications Review**

10 These project proposals are located in the Board packet materials and can be viewed at the  
11 following link: <https://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/AH/minutes/index.asp>

#### 12 13 Heppner Regulated Hunt Area (HRA)

14 Steve Cherry, ODFW District Biologist

15 This renewal project is for “Welcome to Hunt” access on 390,624 acres of private land for  
16 \$2.40/acre for five years. The HRA has been in effect for 53 years, and enrolled in the A&H  
17 program since 1995. It is the most heavily used public hunting area in unit, with a recent  
18 increase in elk hunting and upland game bird as well. All properties enlisted are working with  
19 NRCS, ODFW and SWCD for habitat improvements.

20  
21 Discussion followed on the pricing of the project and its importance to the district.

22  
23 **Motion:** John Breese moved to approve the HRA project as proposed. Morgan Olson  
24 seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

#### 25 26 Desolation Creek LLC Access Area

27 John Paustian, NW Council Regional Coordinator

28 Darren Springer, EcoTrust Management

29  
30 This project proposes to continue to pay Desolation Creek LLC. \$2.40/acre for year-round  
31 “Welcome to Hunt” access on 13,440 acres of private land in the Desolation Wildlife  
32 Management Unit for a period of five years to hunt big game and upland game birds.  
33 Voluntary permit compliance is very high, believed to be in part that there is a manager on  
34 site at all times helping educate members of the public. This important winter range and  
35 spring habitat is 100% surrounded by public lands. The only proposed change in this project  
36 is from extending it from three years to five.

37  
38 **Motion:** Wilie Bronson moved to approve the Desolation Creek LLC Access Area as  
39 proposed. Morgan Olson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

#### 40 41 Desolation Creek LLC Shaded Fuel Break

42 John Paustian, NW Council Regional Coordinator

43 Darren Springer, Desolation Creek LLC

44  
45 This Open Fields application is requesting funding for the continued implementation of a  
46 shaded fuel break (SFB) around the southern half of the Desolation Creek LLC Access  
47 Area. If approved, a portion of these funds will also be used to continue forest health/fuels  
48 reduction thinning efforts on the property as well. The proposed treatment has been

1 analyzed and deemed critical as it will help to protect against fire entering/leaving the  
2 property from/onto adjacent USFS lands. Funding for this effort has been provided the  
3 Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation and other habitat restoration groups  
4 including the NRCS through the Conservation Stewardship Program, OWEB, Rocky  
5 Mountain Elk Foundation, and Patagonia.

6  
7 **Motion:** John Breese moved to approve the Desolation Creek LLC Shaded Fuel Break  
8 project as proposed. Morgan Olson seconded the motion. Motion carried 4-1.

9  
10 Board member Bronson stated his objections for the project are that this land has many  
11 contributors, the A&H program has already contributed funds, and that he considers this  
12 work to fall more under landowner maintenance.

13  
14 Coyote Peak Access Area  
15 John Paustian, NW Council Regional Coordinator

16  
17 This project proposes to pay Trindle Family Trust \$1.80/acre for “Welcome to Hunt” access  
18 on 3,969 acres of private land in the Lookout Mountain Wildlife Management Unit for a  
19 period of 5 years to hunt upland game birds, big game and predators. This project will also  
20 improve/enhance access to adjacent Access and Habitat program lands (Virtue Flat Access  
21 Area & Lone Pine Mountain Access Area) and 10,848 acres of Bureau of Land Management  
22 (BLM) lands.

23  
24 Due to the overlap of this proposed Coyote Peak Access Area and the additionally proposed  
25 Lone Pine Mountain Access Area before the board today, both projects were considered  
26 separately and jointly.

27  
28 Lone Pine Access Area  
29 John Paustian, NW Council Regional Coordinator

30  
31 This project proposes to pay Larry & Rochelle Morris \$1.80/acre for “Welcome to Hunt”  
32 access on 2,615 acres of private land in the Lookout Mountain Wildlife Management Unit for  
33 a period of 5 years to hunt upland game birds, big game and predators. This project will also  
34 improve/enhance access to adjacent Access and Habitat program lands (Virtue Flat Access  
35 Area & Coyote Peak Access Area) and 10,848 acres of Bureau of Land Management (BLM)  
36 lands.

37  
38 Both proposed projects are foot traffic only due to the wet lands conditions in the spring, but  
39 combined would provide improved access to 10,000 acres of BLM land. Lookout Mountain  
40 unit is 62% private lands, with public access clustered in the center. Not only will these  
41 projects allow for more access in the northern part of the unit, but will also help mitigate the  
42 loss of the Foresea Rach project in terms of elk population management.

43  
44 **Motion:** Willie Bronson moved to approve both the Coyote Peak and Lone Pine Access  
45 Areas as proposed. Dave Stiefvater seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

46  
47 Fort Rock Access Area  
48 Andrew Walch, Deschutes/Klamath Regional Coordinator

1 The renewal project proposes to provide “Welcome to Hunt” access to the entire Fort Rock  
2 (EFM) ownership (25,680 acres) and cover expenses to inventory road network planning in  
3 advance of closing approximately half of existing road miles. The property is important  
4 transition habitat between big game winter range to the east and summer habitat to the  
5 west.  
6

7 All roads on the property are closed to motorized vehicles from December 1 – March 31  
8 annually to protect wintering deer, other wildlife, and habitat. Outside of the winter closure  
9 months, hunters will be able to drive the main access roads but will have to walk closed  
10 roads in the future. Funding will help EFM to cover management expenses of owning this  
11 property, which is not otherwise generating any significant revenues. While the public  
12 currently has access to the property as there are no gates, the land has no eased public  
13 access.  
14

15 **Motion:** John Breese moved to approve the Fort Rock Access Area as proposed. Dave  
16 Stiefvater seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.  
17

18 **ADJOURNMENT:**

19 Chairman Craig Ely adjourned the meeting at 12:06 p.m.

DRAFT