



Access and Habitat Board Meeting Minutes

October 19, 2021
Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Dr SE
Salem, Oregon 97302

1 *This*
2 *Access and Habitat Board meeting minutes is considered as a draft until*
3 *approved by the Board.*
4

5 Notice of these meetings had been published through Oregon Transparency Website and
6 ODFW Website. <http://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/AH/minutes/index.asp>,
7 <http://www.oregon.gov/transparency/Pages/PublicMeetingNotices.aspx>
8

9 Those attending part or all of the meeting included:

Craig Ely, Board Chair	Tom Segal, ODFW
John Breese, Board Member	Travis Schultz, ODFW
Amy Patrick, Board Member	Bernadette Graham-Hudson, ODFW
Morgan Olson, Board Member	Brian Cook, OHA
Nic Callero, Board Member	Sage Dorsey, Landowner
Willie Bronson, Board Member	Kevin Blakely, ODFW
Andrew Walch, ODFW	Brian Wolfer, ODFW
David Nuzum, ODFW	Jon Paustian, ODFW
David Stropple, ODFW	Dylan Edwards, ODFW

10
11 **MEETING**

12 On Tuesday, October 19, 2021, at 8:02 a.m. Chairman Craig Ely called the Access and
13 Habitat Board meeting to order.

14
15 **Meeting Minutes Review**

16 John suggested an edit of page 3 line 46; Correct the spelling of “Ochoco”.
17

18 **Motion:** Morgan Olson moved to approve the minutes as amended. John Breese seconded
19 the motion. The Motion carried unanimously 4-0.
20

21 **Board Member Reports**

22
23 John Breese, Landowner Representative

24 Droughts are still of concern in his neck of the woods. This fall, three deer were successfully
25 harvested on their property. The elk population is still low in the area, but they seem to be
26 moving in now and he looks forward to a good season.
27

28 Amy Patrick, Hunter Representative

29 Amy continues working on a project to oppose ballot initiative IP-13. Her work with OHA has
30 been heavily focused on working with Landowners, and she is interested in discussing
31 increasing the A&H program’s exposure statewide.
32

33 Craig Ely, Chairman

34 Craig noted that he has been contacted by members of the public regarding Hancock’s
35 camping policies on properties that are enrolled in the A&H program. He recently enjoyed a

1 tour of the Minam River Wildlife Area (MRWA) with fellow ODFW retirees, and noted he
2 signed a letter of support for the proposed acquisition of adjacent lands.

3
4 Morgan Olson, Hunter Representative

5 Morgan's conservation work has included several letters of support for the MRWA
6 Acquisition, and fund raising for local schools. His local OHA chapter has a pheasant hunt
7 this weekend that he looks forward to. His hunting has included a trip to Alberta for a moose
8 hunt, and to Idaho for elk and Chuckar.

9
10 Nic Callero, Hunter Representative

11 Nic has been working with the Nevada Department of Wildlife to create the Habitat
12 Conservation Framework Executive Order, which has now been signed by Governor
13 Sisolak. The order seeks to restore lost habitat and prioritizes migration corridors. The last
14 few months he has been salmon fishing in Astoria, primarily Chinook and Coho. He has a
15 black tail tag in the coast range coming up to look forward to.

16
17 Willie Bronson, Landowner Representative

18 While near the Bootleg Fire, Willie and his fellow hunters ran into multiple instances of being
19 told that they were in closed areas and were asked to leave, when in fact they were verified
20 to be open. He saw that several members of the public were turned around at the entrance
21 or told to leave the area by a third-party security patrol. There appeared to be quite a bit of
22 confusion on their end as to road closures that impacted public access, unfortunately.

23
24
25 **A&H Coordinator Report**

26 Travis Schultz, A&H State Coordinator

27 All projects that went before the Commission in September were approved. The
28 Commission noted that they appreciated having several habitat projects. Travis submitted a
29 report to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) on how we utilized our Open
30 Fields funding.

31
32 Currently, ODFW offices are scheduled to re-open in January, baring any additional
33 changes caused by the pandemic.

34
35 Travis has created an end of the biennium summary for the board, outlining the program's
36 revenue. Due to the delay between transcation and posting, he noted that the numbers are
37 quite close, and the total comes to approx. \$3.3 million in revenue for the 19-21 biennium.
38 Additionally, total program costs were reduced approximately \$100,000, mostly due to the
39 lack of ability to travel, and vacancy in the A&H Support position.

40
41 **Auction Event Sign Up**

42 Board Members

43 The Board reviewed the 2022 auction dates and determined which events they would go to.

44
45 **2022 A&H Board Meeting Dates and Locations**

46 Board Members

47 The board reviewed previous years' meeting dates and locations, and concluded on the
48 following schedule for 2022:

49 January 18th, in Salem

1 April 19-20th, in La Grande
2 July 18-19th in Salem
3 October 17-18 in Prineville

4
5 **A&H Budget Report**

6 Travis Schultz, A&H State Coordinator

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

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

10

11 Discussion followed on the current budget, allocations, forecasts, enforcement, and
12 individual projects.

13

14 **Access Permit Raffle**

15 Brian Wolfer, Game Program Manager

16 Bryan Cook, Oregon Hunters Association

17 This year's permit raffle was sponsored by Oregon Hunters Association's State and
18 Redmond Chapters, as well as Rocky Mountail Elk Foundation's Pendleton Chapter.

19 Prizes included (1st place) Leupold BX-1 McKenzie Binocular, (2nd place) Garmin eTrex 22x
20 GPS, (3rd) Kenetrek Boots, and (4th) an Eberlestock Pack.

21

22 The following permits were drawn

- 23 1. Matt O'Connor of Central Point
- 24 2. Jarry Jessen of Hermiston
- 25 3. Colby Lankford of La Grande
- 26 4. Brody Piper of Salem
- 27 5. (1st alternate) Tom Moore of Saratoga, California
- 28 6. (2nd alternate) David Nickerson of Sherwood
- 29 7. (3rd alternate) Brad Johnson of Prineville
- 30 8. (4th alternate) Kevin Bidwell of Redmond

31

32

33 **Regional Council Appointment**

34 David Stropple, NW Regional Coordinator

35 The board reviewed two hunter representative applications for one remaining seat on the
36 NW Regional Council, Roy Elicker and Gordon Brown. Discussion followed on council
37 needs and recommendations.

38

39 **Motion:** Willie Bronson moved to appoint Rpy Elicker as the Hunter Representative for the
40 NW Regional Council. Nic Callero seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously 5-0.

41

42 **Public Comment:** None

43

44 **Discussion on O'Loughlin Trade Shows/Wild Ride Brewing Funding Opportunity**

45 Amy Patrick, Hunter Representative

46 Wild Ride Brewery of Bend and O'Loughlin Trade shows are considering creating three new
47 brews for events and potentially in stores and having a portion of the proceeds go to the
48 A&H program. No agreements have been made and today only concept is intended to be
49 considered to see if this something the Board would like to pursue.

1
2 The Board discussed A&H and ODFW policy for supporting such products, timing, legal
3 obligations, and branding. Board members suggested putting funds only towards habitat
4 projects.

5
6 The Board determined that they are interested in pursuing this alternative funding source
7 and would like a more formal proposal by the January Board meeting for their consideration.
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 Grandview Fire Reseeding

14 Andrew Walch, Deschutes Council Regional Coordinator
15

16 Applicant: Sage Dorsey
17 Number of acres of habitat: 125
18 Wildlife Management Unit(s): Metolius
19 Cost per acre per year: \$120.00
20 A&H funds request: \$15,000
21 Proposed Start Date: October 2021 Proposed End Date: November 2021
22

23 This emergency fire reseeding project proposal seeks to reseed 125 acres that burned in
24 the Grandview fire. The seed mix is designed to provide forage, stabilize the soil and out
25 compete cheatgrass and medusahead and is ODFW District Wildlife Biologist approved.
26 The landowner covers the cost of aerial application. The project lies within crucial winter
27 range for Metolius mule deer and receives heavy elk usage year-round.
28

29 The landowner has a history working with the Department and the A&H Small Grants
30 Program, primarily on habitat work and has no intentions of grazing on this land. Both the
31 plane and seed have been secured and are on standby for board's decision. The seed type
32 and cost are more expensive than used on other projects, but the Regional Coordinator and
33 Landowner agree it is the most appropriate for the property.
34

35 The board discussed the seed mix type, cost, the property, and timing of application.
36

37 **Motion:** Amy Patrick moved to approve the project as proposed. Willie Bronson seconded
38 the motion. Motion carried 5-0.
39

40 **Regional Coordinators Report**

41 Andrew Walch, Deschutes Regional Coordinator

42 The Green Diamond property in Klamath has new signs that have been very beneficial to
43 directing the public this hunting season. Fires did affect his district but archery hunting still
44 went well. Lakeview District Biologist, John Muir, is considering putting together an
45 emergency fire seeding project before the Board due to the Cougar Peek and Bootleg fires.
46
47

48 Jon Paustian, Northeast Regional Coordinator

1 John has mostly been working on the MRWA Acquisition. Several A&H properties closed
2 due to fire in his region, but most was able to open for archery season. The pay to camp on
3 Hancock properties continues to be a frequent topic of discussion with the public. His office
4 has been referring all public inquires on Hancock policy to Hancock directly.
5

6 Dylan Edwards, Southwest Regional Coordinator

7 Dylan's region has been working with OHA on a forage seeding project, building new permit
8 boxes, as well as placing new signs within the TMA. Jackson County TMA Road restrictions
9 have started and will continue until April. C2 Ranch late archery hunt drawing will be today
10 with 380 total applicants. He is actively looking for two hunter representatives for the council.
11

12 David Stropfel, Northwest Regional Coordinator

13 The Open Fields Properties in his region are getting a lot of inquiries this year. He has been
14 working with the Corvallis Wildlife District to get more traffic counters. Additionally, he is
15 working with the Lincoln County Forest Patrol project and anticipates having the renewal
16 before the board in January for a 3–5-year extension. EE Wilson Pheasant season is going
17 well.
18

19 David Nuzum, Northwest Regional Coordinator

20 David has worked to update the North Coast Map. Landownership changes are expected
21 within the TMA, but he is hopeful that similar access will remain open. Traffic counters have
22 been placed and data is actively being collected.
23

24 **ADJOURNMENT:**

25 Chairman Craig Ely adjourned the meeting at 10:41 am.