



Access and Habitat Board Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2022
Country Inn & Suites Prineville
1773 NE 3rd ST. Prineville, OR. 97754

Access and Habitat Board meeting minutes is considered as a draft until approved by the Board.

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

Those attending part or all of the meeting included:

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Candy Yow, Vice Chair | Brian Wolfer, ODFW |
| Willie Bronson, Board Member | Amanda Wright, ODFW |
| John Breese, Board Member | Jon Paustian, ODFW |
| Morgan Olson, Board Member | Jamie Bowles, ODFW |
| Nic Callero, Board Member | Mike Smith, ODFW |
| Jeff McNerney, Board Member | David Stoppel, ODFW (remote) |
| Dylan Edwards, ODFW | Tom Segal, ODFW (remote) |
| Travis Schultz, ODFW | |

Meeting

On Tuesday, October 18, 2022, at 8:00 a.m. Chair Candy Yow called the Access and Habitat Board meeting to order.

Meeting Minutes Review

The minutes from the July 19, 2022 meeting were reviewed. Willie Bronson moved to approve the minutes as written. Morgan Olson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, 6-0.

Board Member Reports

Willie Bronson, Landowner Representative

The biggest issue currently is the wildfires affecting access for hunters. U.S. Forest Service access is closed in some areas due to fires. In lakeview where the Bootleg Fire burned 2 years ago many roads are closed as hazard trees are removed from the road corridors. The Cedar Creek Fire in Oakridge over the last 2 months pretty much shot the High Cascade hunt for bucks. We are in a dry drought period and must consider fighting fires more aggressively, fires are not being fought at night now which reduces the firefighter’s ability to control the fire. Willie had an Interstate deer hunt tag, didn’t tag one but had a good trip. Son and daughter in law scouted the Steens Mountain area, the populations are down dramatically. They encountered a herd of 75 elk with at least 25 calves. The high calf numbers could be due to reduced predation.

Morgan Olson, Hunter Representative

Late rains produced lots of great forage this past spring which now dry has resulted in many fires. In agreement with Willie that the forestry approach is not working for fire management. Northeast Oregon has great bird numbers, chucker, quail. Baker had the highest numbers since the 1960’s. Should be a great upland season. Pheasants look to be a good size. Did a few trail projects since the last board meeting.

1
2 Candy Yow, Hunter Representative

3 Busy since last board meeting. We had two hunting camps, one of our largest Ladies Camps here in
4 Fort Rock and our first ever Youth Camp which just exploded. We are super excited about that, the
5 kids were able to come and take the same classes that we teach the ladies. Then on Sunday, after it
6 was over, we had a Hunter Ed instructor come in and conduct the field day which they all passed for
7 their Hunter Ed card. The sponsors for the camp are eating that up. Most exciting news is that I drew
8 the South Wallowa tag and brought home an old Billy Goat which turned out to be the oldest checked
9 in and will be in a magazine. Headed to Utah tomorrow for a weeklong family deer hunt. I went to
10 Washington, DC to represent what we call the DC Project as the Oregon lead. It's growing with more
11 than one lady per state going to Washington DC to meet with senators and congressmen regarding the
12 2nd Amendment. This group has grown to be probably the most positive and influential group to
13 stamp our 2nd Amendment rights. We are very professional, and we have a very diverse team.
14

15 John Breese, Landowner Representative

16 Field trip was great, dinner was fun. Great to get to know each other on a personal level. Really
17 appreciates the local ODFW staff, very helpful with many things happening in the upper country.
18 Several hunters have had successful deer hunting on their property getting nice looking bucks.
19 Hoping that the habitat work we're doing is making the property more appealing to the wildlife.
20

21 Nic Callero, Hunter Representative

22 Busy last few months. His organization is helping with US GIS mapping. Released a report which is
23 more focused on policy recommendation, how to use that data and inform land management decisions
24 mostly with BLM and Forest Service and improved some recommendations for partnerships. The
25 report is called How to Conserve Wildlife Migration in American West. Spent time in the Keating
26 unit for deer and tagged out in a few days. Gearing up for elk season next week.
27

28 Jeff McNerney, Landowner Representative

29 Landowner rep. born and raised in Hood River, went to OSU graduated 1986. Farm 428 acres
30 blueberries, cherries and apples. OSP volunteer in the Dalles office and in Salem assisting new game
31 wardens with training and help with hunter safety classes. On board of directors for Diamond Fruit
32 Growers in Hood River which is the largest pear packer in the PNW. Avid hunter for the last 40-years
33 most western states, Alaska, and Canada. Life member of RMEF and served on the mid-Columbia
34 board for 5-years and started a Hood River chapter.
35

36 **A&H Budget Report**

37 Travis Schultz, A&H State Coordinator

38 Presented several updates to existing A&H projects, first, the Whitman project requested
39 modifications required a different funding source due to the time constraints. Second, Dr. Rice pulled
40 his property out of the access program. The biennium report to the legislature will be out for
41 distribution by the end of January. The report will need updated bios from Board and a chairs update.
42

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

45 [https://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/AH/minutes/2022/October/October%20Budget%20for%20the%20](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/AH/minutes/2022/October/October%20Budget%20for%20the%20Web.pdf)
46 [Web.pdf](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/AH/minutes/2022/October/October%20Budget%20for%20the%20Web.pdf)
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49

1 **2022 Nonresident Raffle Update**

2 Travis Schultz, A&H State Coordinator

3 In 2022 nonresidents accounted for about 19% of raffle sales, including Nonresident Uniform
4 Services at .37% and nonresident youth at .44%. Residents make up 92% of raffle sales including
5 Pioneer License holders that make up 5%. Nonresidents spend 60% on deer, 29.58% on elk and
6 11.32% on the combo. Residents spend 44.65% on elk, 40.05% on deer and 15.31% on combo. The
7 board would like to know how to expand our sales for the raffle. Raffles will be revisited at the
8 January 2023 meeting.
9

10
11 **2023 Meeting Locations and Dates**

12 Travis Schultz, A&H Board Members

13 Dates are January 24 in Salem, April 24-25 in Bandon, July 17-18 in Salem and October 16-17, 2023,
14 in Burns. Field tours of New River in April, North Coast TMA in July, and Bentz habitat in October.
15

16 John Breese moved to approve the meeting dates with field tours in the April, July, and October
17 meetings. Nic Callero seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously 6-0.
18
19

20 **2023 Auction Sign-up**

21 A&H Board Members

22 See excel spreadsheet. Need to go through auction protocols at the January 24, 2023 meeting and re-
23 visit the auction sign-up.
24
25

26 **Southwest Regional Council Appointments**

27 Dylan Edwards

28 Four applicants Raymond Dirling III of Grants Pass, Dennis “Red” Schlichting of Medford, Zach
29 Davis of Roseburg, and Rob Schab of Coos Bay. There are two hunter representative’s openings
30 available and the Chair. SW council recommends Zach Davis and Red Schlichting as hunter
31 representatives and Rob Schab as Chair. Willie Bronson moved to approve the SW council’s
32 recommendations. Jeff McNerney seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously 6-0
33

34 The Regional Council applications are located in the Board packet materials and can be viewed at the
35 following link:

36 <https://www.dfw.state.or.us//lands/AH/minutes/2022/October/Council%20Appointmens%20SW%20Region%20for%20the%20Web.pdf>
37
38
39

40 **No public comment**

41
42
43 **Permit Drawing**

44 Nic Callero and Travis Schultz
45

| | Winner | Alternate |
|--------------------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Rifle Scope OHA Donated | Lendall Negus | Robert Purke |
| Leupold Binoculars OHA Donated | Arak Luce | Andrew Moore |
| Glasses by Leupold | Mariah Amson | T. Ramsey |

1 **Project Review**

2
3 2022-13 Green Diamond Resource Company Access, Jamie Bowles and Mike Moore

4 Project will ensure continued hunter access to 597,741 acres of industrial timberland in south-central
5 Oregon for three years for a cost of \$137,480 per year for three years. This project only covers the
6 access payment to the landowner, the enforcement portion is covered by the OSP Enforcement
7 Project that will be before the Board at the January meeting for the upcoming biennium.

8
9 Morgan Olson moved to approve as proposed. Willie Bronson seconded the motion. The motion
10 carried unanimously 6-0

11
12 The project proposal is located in the Board packet materials and can be viewed at the following link:
13 [https://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/AH/minutes/2022/October/2022-](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/AH/minutes/2022/October/2022-13%20Green%20Diamond%20Resources%20Company%20Access%20.pdf)
14 [13%20Green%20Diamond%20Resources%20Company%20Access%20.pdf](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/AH/minutes/2022/October/2022-13%20Green%20Diamond%20Resources%20Company%20Access%20.pdf)

15
16
17 2022-14 C2 Ranch Habitat Improvement, Dylan Edwards

18 This project will improve wildlife habitat and provide a limited access public hunting opportunity.
19 Habitat improvement will consist of removing invasive Himalayan blackberry from several pastures,
20 mowing decadent buckbrush to promote new growth, seeding pastures for wildlife forage, and
21 fertilizing pastures (see proposed project areas, Attachment 1). Hunting will consist of 4 unguided
22 late archery deer hunts (each for 4 days), 3 unguided youth deer rifle hunts (3 days each) and 5
23 unguided youth spring turkey hunts (3 days each), for two seasons (2023-24 and 2024-25).

24
25 Willie Bronson moved to approve as proposed. Morgan Olson seconded the motion. The motion
26 carried unanimously 6-0

27
28 The project proposal is located in the Board packet materials and can be viewed at the following link:
29 [https://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/AH/minutes/2022/October/2022-](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/AH/minutes/2022/October/2022-14%20C2%20Ranch%20Habitat%20Improvement%20.pdf)
30 [14%20C2%20Ranch%20Habitat%20Improvement%20.pdf](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/AH/minutes/2022/October/2022-14%20C2%20Ranch%20Habitat%20Improvement%20.pdf)

31
32
33 2022-15 New River Aleutian Goose, Dylan Edwards

34 This project continues to allow by-permission waterfowl hunting on 3,540 acres owned by five
35 landowners, plus access to 500 acres of BLM, near Bandon for 2 hunting seasons: 23-24 and 24-25.
36 The project address damage to agricultural fields caused by Aleutian geese. As the Aleutian goose
37 population has grown, more birds have started using New River in the fall, and now the best hunting
38 success is in October and November. Ducks are also open to hunt on the properties and ducks can be
39 very abundant at times. Waterfowl is an under-represented huntable species in the SW Region per the
40 A&H project evaluation guidelines. The access provides the best opportunity for hunters in Oregon
41 to harvest an Aleutian goose.

42
43 Morgan Olsen moved to approve as proposed. Willie Bronson seconded the motion. The motion
44 carried unanimously 6-0

45
46 The project proposal is located in the Board packet materials and can be viewed at the following link:
47 [https://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/AH/minutes/2022/October/2022-](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/AH/minutes/2022/October/2022-15%20New%20River%20Aleutian%20Goose.pdf)
48 [15%20New%20River%20Aleutian%20Goose.pdf](https://www.dfw.state.or.us/lands/AH/minutes/2022/October/2022-15%20New%20River%20Aleutian%20Goose.pdf)

1
2 **Northwest Regional Coordinator Report**

3 David Stoppel

4 Getting ready for fall season with sign posting. Utilized funding from Open Fields, that would
5 normally be spent by Marianne for a temp technician to help with signs, gates, and kiosks. Trying to
6 get signatures on the MOUs for WPL, North Coast TMA and the Alsea Stott Mt. TMA. Many have
7 signed, some companies have declined and roughly twelve companies have not responded.
8

9 **Malheur Regional Council Appointment**

10 Tom Segal, Malheur Regional Coordinator

11 Just finished contract application of herbicide on 2,000 acres on the Bentz Invasive Annual Grass
12 habitat project. Sprayed for medusa-head and juniper. We were able to use that funding as match to
13 treat a much larger area surrounding the Bentz project. Tom will share some monitoring photographs
14 with the Board at the next meeting.
15

16 **Southwest Regional Coordinator Report**

17 Dylan Edwards

18 The C2 Ranch had 345 youth applicants for the youth deer hunt, a very sought after hunt. Five youth
19 will be selected for the hunt. They will be testing the hunt by reservation system for access this year.
20 Each year the Southwest Region provides seed give away to landowners, this year, on 9/30/2022 the
21 region gave out 1,500 pounds in 2 hours. Next meeting he will have Coos and Jackson to present to
22 the board. Continuing to work on Jackson TMA landowners to allow access in the future, very few
23 big owners in the area now. Many private landowners are not real excited to let the public on so far.
24

25 **Northeast Regional Coordinator Report**

26 Jon Paustian

27 Fires and fire restrictions were the hot topics starting off this hunting season. Snake River is all
28 closed to access. Fire restrictions closed Manulife Access Areas for longer than normal. Manulife has
29 had many closures before but not a full two weeks like this year. Camping has been added in the
30 access area. Due to the closure the Manulife hotline got about 400-500 calls on the weekend.
31 Governor Kate Brown toured the Minam purchase a few weeks ago. The Phase II purchase and sale is
32 set to occur by the end of 2023. Glass Hill, Dr. Rice pulled out the access program. He is angry
33 about the Boardman to Hemingway powerline going through the middle of his property.
34 Jon plans to have some discussion on seeding for the Double Creek fire. Unsure if it will be a weed
35 control or seeding project.
36

37 **Deschutes-Klamath Regional Coordinator Report**

38 Jamie Bowles

39 Initial conversations indicate that Aspen Valley might not continue with the access program after the
40 end of this project. Planning to reach out to the central Oregon community to inform them about
41 A&H and what we offer. Adam Baylor plans to talk with the A&H Coordinator about what I&E can
42 do to help spread the word on A&H. Currently 4 vacant seats on Deschutes/Klamath A&H Regional
43 Council. Will start outreach to fill those positions soon.
44

45 Adjourned 12:26 p.m.
46