

Oregon's Access & Habitat Board News

Winter 2005



The Oregon Legislature established the Access and Habitat Program in 1993 using a \$2 surcharge on hunting licenses. The A&H Board, composed of members of the public, identifies and recommends funding for projects that improve wildlife habitat and facilitate public hunting access on private lands.

Excellent 2004 deer season shows value of travel management area to Oregon hunters

Nine years after its creation the Jackson Access and Cooperative Travel Management Area is proving to be a benefit to both wildlife and hunters. The proof is in the results.

"Our black-tailed deer season was really good this year," said Central Point-based Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife habitat biologist Vince Oredson. "Our buck ratios are good this year and a lot of bucks were taken."

The Jackson Access and Cooperative Travel Management Area, also known as JACTMA, was formed in 1995 and is comprised of about 51,000 acres of public and private timberlands near the city of Shady Cove in Jackson County. It was created to better manage motor vehicle access and reduce the impacts of public use on private lands and wintering big game animals.

These goals typically are accomplished by forming a travel management area, where a group of landowners come together to develop a system of temporary and permanent road closures, law enforcement patrols and wildlife management programs, coordinated by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Landowners involved in JACTMA include Boise Cascade, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and a number of small private timberland owners.

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife oversees a number of travel management areas throughout the state.

There was controversy among area

residents at first over road closures and the fear that it would keep hunters and other outdoor recreationists from accessing the properties. Over time that perception has changed.

"I know people who used to be extremely against it, but now are beginning to think that it's a good idea," said Oredson.



The A&H Program has provided support for the Jackson Access and Cooperative Travel Management Area since 1996. Photograph by Jim Yuskavitch

These benefits have included less harassment of deer on their winter range by motor vehicle use, the opportunity for hunters to get away from motor vehicles for a higher-quality hunting experience and reduced levels of vandalism, littering, poaching and other violations by a few bad apples.

"It's been a good deal for Boise Cascade in terms of having Oregon State Police patrols on the ground," said company wildlife biologist Tim Burnett.

"They are doing an excellent job of catching people who are doing things they shouldn't be doing."

An additional benefit is the wildlife habitat enhancement work done on JACTMA lands. These have included meadow enhancements, fertilizing and seeding with big game forage, vegetation thinning and prescribed burning. As a result,

JACTMA properties are seeing increases in Roosevelt elk and wild turkey populations as well as improving black-tailed deer winter range.

One of the major financial supporters of JACTMA is the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Access and Habitat Program, which began its support of the travel management area beginning in 1996 with an \$18,000 grant followed by a \$52,000 grant in 1998.

Earlier this year the Access and Habitat Program awarded Boise Cascade a \$12,000 grant to encourage increased growth of forage for black-tailed deer by removing decadent ceanothus and small-diameter white oak from 48 acres of property within the travel management area.

"The benefits of that project will be improved deer habitat and more hunting opportunity," said Burnett.

From the hunters' point of view, that's the ultimate payoff of a travel management area.

For additional information on the Jackson Access and Cooperative Travel Management Area call ODFW wildlife biologist Vince Oredson at 541-826-8774.

What's New?



A&H auction and raffle hunts in full swing

Don't miss out on the opportunity to experience the hunt of a lifetime. Participate in either the 2005 A&H Auction or Raffle Hunt and you may find yourself hunting elk and/or deer over an extended hunt season from September 1 through November 30, 2005 across multiple wildlife management units. The successful bidder is also eligible to harvest an additional deer and/or elk with a 2005 controlled or general season tag.

Proceeds are dedicated to hunter access and wildlife habitat projects throughout Oregon.

To order raffle tickets send in the below form. For auction hunts call the contact numbers to the right. More information is available on pages 28 - 31 of the 2005 big game regulations booklet.

2005 A&H Auction Hunt Schedule

February 25

Governor's Statewide Combination Hunt
Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation -
International Elk Camp and Exposition
Portland, OR
Contact: Kristy Bosworth, 406-523-0242

March 5

Statewide Deer Hunt
Oregon Hunters Association - Grant County
Chapter
John Day, OR
Contact: Robert Wedel, 541-575-2673

March 19

Statewide Deer Hunt
Oregon Hunters Association - Capitol Chapter
Salem, OR
Contact: Gerold Floyd, 503-856-0136

March 26

Statewide Elk Hunt

Oregon Bow Hunters
Canyonville, OR
Contact: Ty Stubblefield, 541-672-6805

April 2

Statewide Elk Hunt
Safari Club International - High Desert
Chapter
Redmond, OR
Contact: Kathryn Zaborowski, 541-420-0758

April 23

Statewide Deer Hunt
Foundation for North American Wild Sheep -
Oregon Chapter
Redmond, OR
Contact: Dave Geelan, 971-563-0619

June 4

Statewide Deer Hunt
OHA - State Convention
Seaside, OR
Contact: Duane Dungannon, 541-772-7313

BIG GAME RAFFLE TICKET MAIL/FAX ORDER FORM				
Name _____	Phone(____) _____			
Address _____	Street _____	City _____	State _____	Zip _____
BIGHORN SHEEP		COMBINATION ELK & DEER		
1 ticket pkg. @ \$11/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____		1 ticket pkg. @ \$11/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____		
6 ticket pkg. @ \$51/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____		6 ticket pkg. @ \$31/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____		
13 ticket pkg. @ \$101/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____		15 ticket pkg. @ \$61/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____		
		40" ticket pkg. @ \$151/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____		
PRONGHORN ANTELOPE		TOTAL REMITTANCE \$ _____		
1 ticket pkg. @ \$11/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____		<input type="checkbox"/> MAIL ORDER/FAX TICKET ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED AT ADDRESS BELOW BY MAY 20, 2005 <input type="checkbox"/> COMPLETED TICKETS MUST BE POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN MAY 28, 2005 OR THEY MAY BE HAND DELIVERED TO THE ODFW SALEM HEADQUARTERS OFFICE BY 5:00 P.M. JUNE 2, 2005, OR HAND DELIVERED TO THE CONVENTION ON JUNE 4, 2005 BY 7:00 P.M. PAYMENT METHOD (DO NOT SEND CASH) <input type="checkbox"/> Check/Money Order to ODFW enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Discover Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____ Signature _____ (required for credit card purchases)		
6 ticket pkg. @ \$51/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____				
13 ticket pkg. @ \$101/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____				
ROCKY MOUNTAIN GOAT		ODFW - Raffles 3406 Cherry Ave. NE • Salem, OR 97303 503-947-6100 or FAX - 503-947-6117 or 6113		
1 ticket pkg. @ \$11/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____				
6 ticket pkg. @ \$51/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____				
13 ticket pkg. @ \$101/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____				
DEER		<small>CAN ONLY BE OBTAINED BY MAIL OR FAX THROUGH SALEM HEADQUARTERS</small>		
1 ticket pkg. @ \$4/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____				
6 ticket pkg. @ \$11/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____				
15 ticket pkg. @ \$21/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____				
40" ticket pkg. @ \$51/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____				
100" ticket pkg. @ \$101/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____				
ELK				
1 ticket pkg. @ \$6/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____				
6 ticket pkg. @ \$21/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____				
15 ticket pkg. @ \$41/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____				
40" ticket pkg. @ \$101/pkg. x _____ pkg. = _____				

Calendar of Events

March 18*

Oregon Fish and Wildlife
Commission Meeting, Coquille
503-947-6044

March 25

A&H Grant Application Deadline
503-947-6087

April 25 - 26

A&H Board Meeting,
Medford, 503-947-6087

June 24

A&H Grant Application Deadline
503-947-6087

* Listed Commission meetings are those where A&H Project applications will be reviewed for final approval.

To receive a free subscription to *Oregon's Access and Habitat Board News* just fill out this form and mail it to: Access and Habitat Program, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, 3406 Cherry Avenue, N.E., Salem, OR 97303

Name _____

Street/P.O. Box _____

City/State/ZIP Code _____



Program Update

F&W Commission approves 6 new A&H Program grants

Six new projects were awarded a total of \$82,093 in A&H Program grants at the December 2004 Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission meeting.

Weston Ranch Habitat Project

Joel and Carol Weston received a \$9,049 grant to install two cattle guards on a U.S. Forest Service road that bisects their property. The purpose of the project is to exclude cattle from trespassing onto their property to protect riparian areas and increase wildlife forage.

Dodes Creek Habitat Improvement Project

A \$34,734 grant will be used by Boise Cascade Corp. to thin, pile and burn a mixed conifer and oak woodland on property it owns in Jackson County. The project will improve winter habitat for black-tailed deer and elk. The property is open to public hunting.

Rogue Meadows Enhancement Project

Seven meadows in Jackson County will be fertilized in 2005 and 2006 using a \$7,310 grant. The project will increase forage on the meadows, which are used heavily by big game. Hunting is allowed on all the properties except for two, which are too small to be hunted safely.

Scanlan Ranch Enhancement Project

Rancher Gerald Scanlan was awarded a \$16,000 grant to improve upland wildlife forage by treating 400 acres of juniper. The property provides winter range for deer and pronghorn. The landowner allows hunting on a by-permission basis.

Bowen Valley Rangeland Protection Project

A \$15,000 grant to Foster Ranch, Inc. will help fund the control of noxious weeds on 8,000 acres over three years. The project will improve important deer and elk winter range. The owners are allowing hunting on the property for five years on a by-permission basis.

Murderers Creek Winter Range Shrub Planting Project

The Oregon Hunters Association received a \$12,000 grant to purchase 16,000 native shrubs that will be planted on the Phillip W. Schneider Wildlife Area to improve the quality, quantity and diversity of forage on deer and elk winter range. The shrub planting project is now in its sixth year.

A&H hunter/landowner survey results in

In 2004, the A&H Board contracted with the University of Oregon's Oregon Survey Research Laboratory to conduct two phone surveys to determine how the A&H Program is being received by hunters and landowners. The first survey contacted 500 randomly selected Oregon hunters to find how many knew about the A&H Program and hunted on A&H project lands. Surveyors contacted 90 landowners who had participated in an A&H project to determine their satisfaction with the program. The surveys were conducted during July, August and September 2004.

The following is a sampling of the survey results:

Hunter Use and Awareness Study

- ◆ 51% of hunters surveyed are aware of the A&H Program.
- ◆ 31% have hunted on A&H participating lands.
- ◆ 80% of hunters rated their hunting experience on A&H project lands as favorable.
- ◆ Of hunters who hunted on A&H participating lands, 80% hunted big game, 12% hunted for both big game and upland birds, and 5% hunted for upland birds only.

Landowner Survey

- ◆ 77 of 90 participating landowners said the A&H Program met their needs.
- ◆ 84 of 90 rated their experience with the A&H Program as favorable.
- ◆ 73 of 90 landowners said they would be willing to participate in another A&H project on their lands.

Patton & Okeson re-appointed to A&H Board

Tally Patton, of Siletz, and Reinard Okeson, of Hillsboro, were re-appointed to second four-year terms on the Access and Habitat Board. Patton serves as a landowner representative while Okeson represents hunter interests. The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission re-appointed the pair at its December 2004 meeting.

Access and Habitat Board
 Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
 3406 Cherry Avenue, N.E.
 Salem, OR 97303-4924



Get Involved

For information on applying for an Access and Habitat Program grant contact Nick Myatt, A&H Program Coordinator, 3406 Cherry Avenue N.E., Salem, OR 97303-4924 503-947-6082

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