

# Official OBH Position Statements

## Legislative and Regulatory Matters

At the Convention on February 28, 2010, Oregon Bow Hunters (OBH) adopted the following statements to establish a “platform” to officially guide efforts related to regulations and legislation pertaining to bow hunting and game management:

1. The start of the late archery deer season in the Alsea, McKenzie, Santiam, Stott Mountain and Willamette units, and a portion of the Indigo unit, should be moved forward by one (1) week to the second Saturday prior to Thanksgiving.
2. The Dixon unit and the rest of the Indigo unit should be added to the above units open during the late archery season.
3. The start of the general bear season should be moved forward by two (2) months, from August 1st to June 1st.
4. The number of tags available in any controlled-entry archery hunt established in eastern Oregon should be at least double the number of rifle tags available for the comparable rifle hunt. Additional archery tags should be available in any controlled-entry archery hunt when the rifle harvest in the hunt area exceeds the archery harvest by more than 5:1.
5. In any controlled-entry archery hunts, the limitation on archery hunting should apply only to the species for which hunting is being controlled and hunting for all other game species should be subject only to the general season requirements.
6. Drawing a controlled-entry archery tag should not prevent a bow hunter from hunting during any general archery season.
7. Antlerless (or either sex) archery hunting should be permitted in any unit in which there is any antlerless (or either sex) rifle or muzzleloader hunting allowed.
8. The mandatory hunt reporting system should be fully implemented as rapidly as possible, including establishment of sufficient penalties or incentives to achieve and maintain a reporting level of at least 85 percent.
9. The current restrictions against use of illuminated nocks and mechanical broadheads for bow hunting should be eliminated.
10. Crossbows (aka “stringed rifles”) should never be permitted for hunting during Oregon’s archery seasons.

11. During rifle elk seasons, hunting of bears and cougars should be permitted state-wide by any legal means other than use of rifles of .24 caliber or larger.
12. Use of dogs by sportsmen and sportswomen should be re-established in Oregon as a “management tool” for controlling populations of bears and cougars, and for reducing their predation impacts on other big game animals.
13. At least ten percent (10%) of any increases in sporting licenses and tags should go to the Oregon State Police (OSP) for game law enforcement. Such new revenues should not be used to allow diversion of existing OSP game enforcement funding to other uses, but should be for the purpose of enhancing current game law enforcement.
14. Revenues from sporting licenses and tags should not be used to fund non-game management activities. Those activities are for the benefit of all Oregonians, not just outdoor sportsmen and sportswomen, and should be funded through a general, state-wide source of funding, not through sporting license and tag fees.
15. Successful completion of a certified Bowhunter Education course should be mandatory for all individuals under 18 years of age and all individuals, regardless of age, who have not hunted with bow and arrow in the last five (5) years before they are allowed to purchase archery tags.
16. The current law establishing the Guides and Outfitters Tag Program should be changed so that the tags in that program may be purchased by Oregon residents as well as by nonresidents. The change should also prevent a guide or outfitter from simply reselling (“scalping”) tags to individuals other than clients of the guide’s or outfitter’s services.