

SUMMARY OF DISTRICTS OPEN HOUSE
MARCH 5, 2016

109 in attendance, District 3 did not report attendance numbers. (186 in 2015, District 3 & 4 did not report attendance numbers)

59 Comment Sheets submitted, District 3 & 5 did not report numbers (81 in 2015, District 3,4 & 5 didn't report numbers)

Media/Council members present: None

Deer (56 comments)

- 1 Deer bag limit is far too large. Reduce significantly.
- 2 Opposed to 2-day gun season in December.
- 4 people requested DOW to reinstitute 2-day muzzleloader October
- 1 Make deer drives illegal
- 1 Remove pistol calibers for deer hunting
- 1 Work with cities/towns to allow more urban archery hunting opportunities (Findlay specifically mentioned)
- 1 Deer population too high, risk losing them to CWD and insurance companies
- 1 Likes call-in checking system
- 1 Would like to see a temporary tag as part of the deer permit
- 1 Send a metal tag after checking in antlerless deer
- 1 Putnam County deer population too low, reduce to a 1 or 2 deer county, go back to buck only for 1 or 2 years
- 1 Return to a metal tagging system for deer and turkey
 - 1 Start tagging bucks again
- 4 Support all deer season proposals
- 4 Support 2 day gun
- 2 Supports the later muzzleloader season and 2 day bonus gun season
- 1 Would like to see 2 weeks between the youth and adult deer gun seasons
- 2 Second deer gun season should be on the weekend
 - 4 Have on weekend before or after Christmas
- 1 Would like a statewide early muzzleloader season
- 1 Keep the deer population up to keep youth interest up
- 2 Do away with either-sex tag use to reduce the number of antlerless deer killed in multi-deer zones, or change the bag limit to a specific limit for each sex (e.g. in a 2 deer zone you could kill 1 buck and 2 antlerless, but not 3 antlerless deer)
- 1 Deer population too low
- 1 Have an early season when warm for senior citizens
- 2 Raise Perry County bag limit to 3
- 1 Would like to see the use of antlerless tags again
- 1 Deer season should come in a week earlier and end a week sooner
- 3 Support lower deer numbers in the state
- 1 Simplify the regulations
- 1 Muzzleloader season should come in earlier and be extended
- 1 Muzzleloader should be between Christmas and New Year
- 1 Move muzzleloader season to the first week of January
- 1 Bag limits should be lower on wildlife areas because of the pressure they get
- 1 Baiting on private lands is not fair to hunters that can't bait on wildlife areas
- 1 Deer tags should be simplified to one price, one tag, good all season on all sexes

- 1 Landowners need more education on how to tag in game properly
- 1 Raise deer bag limit in Warren County

Youth Hunting Season (9 comments)

- 1 Move youth deer weekend to October
- 1 No youth seasons or youth license
- 1 Keep youth seasons as they are
- 1 Allow youths to use sling shots to hunt.
- 1 Would like to see a minimum age of 10 years old for youth gun season
- 1 Seniors should be allowed to hunt during youth seasons
- 1 Free youth weekend like Kentucky
- 1 Youth deer gun season should be moved to early November
- 1 Supply more youth hunting opportunities

Waterfowl (18 comments)

- 1 Like extended late season
- 1 Shorten early season and add it to the middle of waterfowl season
- 2 Don't eliminate evening waterfowl hunting opportunities on public lands such as Funk Bottoms
- 2 Consider 2 hens in the bag
- 3 Keep with the proposed north/south zones for several years to come
- 1 Four Canada geese per day bag limit
- 1 One set per family, not one set per family member
- 4 Leave zones as they are
- 2 Supplied management strategies (attached with this summary)
- 1 Landowners need cheaper options to control resident geese outside the hunting season

Turkey (10 comments)

- 1 Reduce the length of turkey season. Should end early May.
- 1 Allow more turkey hunting opportunities
- 1 Allow at least 1 week between youth spring season and spring turkey hunting season
- 1 \$24 turkey permit is too expensive
- 1 Bring youth season the weekend before regular season
- 1 Require blaze orange hat when moving on public lands
- 1 Allow use of unused spring tags in fall season
- 1 Move spring season to an earlier date in south
- 2 Population is too low

Trapping/Furbearer (24 comments)

- 3 OSTA supports trapping regulations proposals. Letter signed by Keith Daniels.
- 1 No closed season on foxes
- 2 Don't allow year round trapping for coyote
- 2 Ban types of traps with a high potential of injury
- 1 Extend season by two weeks
- 2 Tycoon should be one person or designated areas per person (Beaver)
- 1 Beaver foot hold traps can be on land
- 3 Trapping season for bobcats (one comment included hunting as well)
 - 3 Allow a limited statewide bobcat season
- 1 Bounty on coyote

- 3 Allow a limited statewide river otter season
- 1 Release the number on accidental catches of bobcats and otters
- 1 Wildlife Officer should supply hunters with coyote and boar information so they can have better information on where to hunt them

Upland Game (15 comments)

- 1 Create more pheasant habitat.
- 1 Incentivize farmers to create and maintain fence rows.
- 1 Allow crow hunting all week long
- 1 Reduce squirrel bag limit to 4
- 1 Increase rabbit populations
- 1 Release pheasants on smaller wildlife areas
- 1 We should release male and female pheasants in the spring to promote a wild population
- 1 DOW should have an early pheasant season so the deer are not pushed off of the public hunting areas prior to the deer gun season
- 1 Extend season or open one month earlier (late October) (raccoon)
- 1 Lengthen season to at least February (raccoon)
- 2 Extend squirrel season to end of February
- 1 Dove fields should be added at Tranquility Wildlife Area
- 2 Wildlife areas should manage for more small game habitat

Fish (11 comments)

- 1 Supports stopping export of turtles and reduction of carapace size
- 1 Favor blue catfish at Seneca Lake
- 1 Statewide 30-fish bag for crappie with 9-inch minimum length limit
- 1 Statewide 25-fish bag for bluegill with 7-inch minimum length limit
- 1 Creel limit on crappie on Cowan Lake
- 1 Size limit on crappie and saugeye at Cowan Lake
- 2 More management on the ponds at Darke Wildlife Area
- 1 Bring back fall trout stockings
- 2 Agree softshell and snapping turtle trapping proposals

Licenses (10 comments)

- 1 Strongly recommend non-resident license fee increase possibly a match with the non-resident state
 - 3 Increase out of state license fees and deer permits
 - 2 Rais non-resident license fees so hunters can't afford to lease land
- 1 Free licenses for persons over 66 years of age
- 2 License for outfitters
- 1 Deer fees too high

Other (33 comments)

- 3 Allow certain neck down cartridges for deer hunting such as 30-30, .32 SPC, .35 Remington, 44-40, 38-40
- 1 Confiscate equipment from poachers and give it to landowners.
- 1 Stop removing lowhead dams on the Olentangy
- 1 Regulate hunting guides and outfitters
- 1 State parks should be open to hunting on Sunday (Alum Creek & Delaware)

- 1 Keep shooting ranges in District 1 open all year.
- 1 Allow laser sights on archery equipment (aid to people that wear glasses)
- 1 Work with public landowners in the Cooperative Hunting and Fishing program to ensure that all persons have an equal opportunity (comments specific to the Hancock County landfill property)
- 1 Appreciate Putnam County Wildlife Officer Jason Porinchok attending club meetings (no club name given) and providing updates
- 1 The Ohio Airgun Hunting Association supports air powered hunting devices being legalized for use on deer and turkey
- 1 Woodcock hunters want the field trial area at Grand River maintained differently than the current mowing that is occurring on this site (due to dog paws getting torn up)
- 1 Division of Wildlife should pay landowners \$5.00 per person that they allow to hunt on their land
- 2 Add cartridges to the allowable straight-walled rifle list (A list was provided)
- 1 Add .351 and .401 straight wall cartridges
- 1 Add .405 Win straight wall cartridge
- 2 License for outfitters
- 1 Happy with all current laws
- 1 Would like to see improved public hunting and fishing maps
- 1 More wildlife habitat and control of invasive plants on wildlife areas
- 1 No HP change on Cowan Lake
- 1 Why have the hunting signs been replaced with hiking trail signs at Cowan Lake? Are they going to discontinue hunting on the park?
- 4 Purchase more hunting land with PR dollars
- 1 Use PR dollars for walk-in agreements with landowners
- 1 Allow hunters to carry two rifles so they don't lose deer while reloading
- 1 Allow use of the 40 S&W cartridge
- 1 Rifle rule should be the same language as the pistol rules

Petitions from Clubs: all hard copies submitted to Jamie Covrett.

- League of Ohio Sportsmen, 2016 Resolutions:
 - Support Division of Forestry's forest management plan.
 - Staunch defense of 2nd Amendment of US Constitution.
 - Prevent harmful algal blooms in Ohio.
 - Maintain current status of the Wild Scenic & Recreational Rivers Advisory Councils within ODNR.
 - Copy of full resolutions emailed to Jamie Covrett.
- OSTA: Letter signed by Keith Daniels stating supports the regulation on snapping and soft-shell turtles.
- OSTA: Supports the 2016-17 trapping regulations
 - Copy of both OSTA letters emailed to Jamie Covrett.