



ANNUAL REPORT

The Voice of Anglers and Hunters



2015

OFAH INFLUENCE

WHAT WE DO: The OFAH maintains a strong presence in all political and government circles to promote the interests of the fishing, hunting and trapping community, as well as positively influencing decisions made at all levels of governments.

HOW WE DO IT: Through our membership, board of directors, advisory committees and staff, the OFAH identifies and actively pursues opportunities to effect change that matters to the fishing, hunting and trapping community. Whether you are interested in invasive species, sporting dogs, habitat, fish stocking, access or hundreds of other important issues, the OFAH provides a strong and effective voice for Ontario's anglers, hunters and trappers.

ON PARLIAMENT HILL AND ACROSS CANADA

BILL C-42: Common Sense Firearms Licensing Act

Canadian firearms owners were relieved to see the long gun registry scrapped in 2012. The OFAH continues to push for practical firearms laws in Canada and in 2015 we helped bring in changes to legislation for law-abiding firearms owners through Bill C-42, the Common Sense Firearms Licensing Act. This is one of many examples of how the OFAH is helping to make fishing, hunting and trapping relevant and important to decision makers at the highest level of government, as well as within the general public.

The OFAH continues to be at the forefront of any discussion that affects anglers, hunters and trappers in Canada. As the co-chair of the Hunting and Angling Advisory Panel, the OFAH provides advice and recommendations to the Government of Canada in all matters related to fishing, hunting and trapping. On everything from firearms legislation to the Fisheries Act, the OFAH is providing a strong voice for Ontario's anglers, hunters and trappers on Parliament Hill.

During the 2015 federal election, the OFAH approached each of the major parties with questions that are important to anglers and hunters. With a new federal government in power, the OFAH will be working hard to make sure campaign promises are kept. For many years the OFAH fought to eliminate the ill-fated and wasteful long gun registry. We will work with the new government to ensure that they keep their promise not to bring back the registry, and to guard against the introduction of other unnecessary firearms laws. The Federation will also continue to work with MPs, MPPs and municipal councillors to advance issues related to fishing, hunting and trapping.



ACTION IN 2015:

- **CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE • MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS • AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES**
- **GPS TRACKING COLLARS FOR DOGS • FIREARMS ADVOCACY**
- **LAND CLAIMS • HARVESTING CLAIMS • FISHERIES ACT**

AT QUEEN'S PARK AND THROUGHOUT ONTARIO



IT'S BACK: After a 17-year battle the Spring Bear Hunt is expanding

The announcement of a massive expansion to the spring bear hunt pilot project was rewarding news to the OFAH and its members. Over the last 17 years **NO ONE** has done more to bring back the spring bear hunt than the OFAH. The OFAH fought hard to prevent the cancellation of the spring bear hunt, taking it all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada.

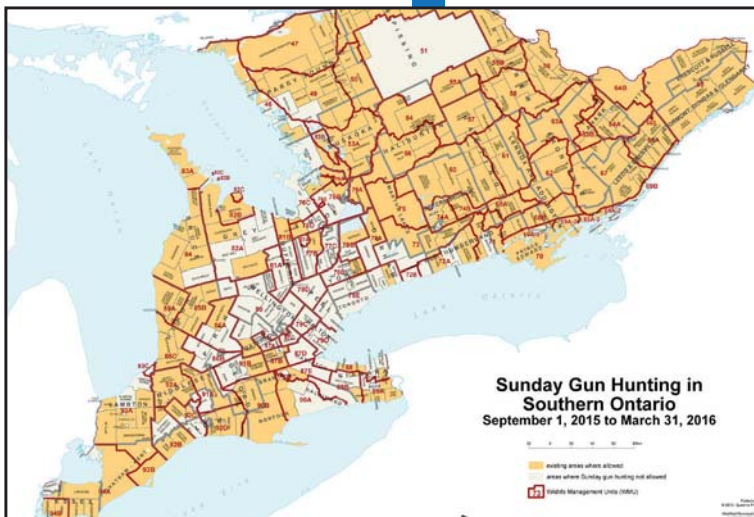
At the end of a three-year court battle, the OFAH **was the only group left defending the rights of black bear hunters**. We never stopped believing that the spring bear hunt was the right thing for Ontario, and it is great to see that our hard work has paid off.

However, the fight isn't over yet -- we still have work to do to see the permanent return of spring bear hunting to Ontario. For full details, visit www.ofah.org/springbearhunt.

ACTION IN 2015:

- COYOTE AND WOLF HUNTING • LAKE SIMCOE CISCO • MOOSE MANAGEMENT
- CROWN LAND ACCESS • ALGONQUIN LAND CLAIM • CORMORANT CONTROL

IN YOUR COMMUNITY



ACTION IN 2015:

- DISCHARGE OF FIREARMS BYLAWS • ATV BYLAWS
- MUNICIPAL BOW HUNTS • URBAN FISHING

SUNDAY GUN HUNTING: Municipalities increase hunting opportunities

The OFAH is bringing hunting opportunities to a municipality near you. More than a decade ago, many hunters couldn't have dreamed of having the opportunity to get up on a Sunday morning and head out hunting. Thanks to the hard work of the OFAH and local hunters, more than 172 municipalities have approved Sunday gun hunting. 2015 marked the 10-year anniversary of Sunday gun hunting in southern Ontario and in 2016, the OFAH will be working with our members to bring additional municipalities on board.

We made submissions and presented deputations to council, while working with our members to arm them with the information they need to make a difference in their communities.