

Summer 2026

BACKCOUNTRY HUNTERS & ANGLERS

The Oklahoma Chapter Newsletter



Dialing In - Are You Prepared?

BY BROCK STUBER

I never regret preparation. As the old saying goes "Preparation is the key to success." I firmly believe that and in my personal experience, outcomes are usually dictated by my preparedness. It's hard to win the day when you aren't prepared to win in the first place. The military has adopted this mentality and implements it in their training. A simple task such as making your bed first thing in the morning starts your day off with a win. It's an easy, achievable task to start the day in a positive manner. Preparation for your hunts, or life, are no different. Do the little things now, so you don't need to worry, or think about it later. By failing to prepare, you are essentially preparing to fail.

With the summer months now in full swing, utilizing this time to prepare for the season ahead is my absolute priority. This upcoming fall I have a big rifle hunt planned so my main focus is my rifle. A hunter's rifle is only as good as the hunter so time spent behind the gun is a must. I like to start with confirming my zero. I prefer a 100 yard zero but a 200 yard zero could also be considered. If your rifle isn't already sighted in then bore sighting and achieving a zero should come first. With my zero confirmed to my liking, it's time to increase my distances and start collecting data on my shots. I'll push my targets out to 200, then 250, then 300 and so on until I reach about 400 yards; my personal comfortable distance. Each group, consists of three shots, then I chart the data in a small notebook. This process is collecting D.O.P.E (Data On Previous Engagements).

Upcoming Events

Full Draw Film Tour
Grand Casino - Shawnee OK
August 1 @ 5:30 PM

BHA Online Auction
August 7th

**National Public Lands
Day**
September 27th

Instagram
@BHAOKlahoma

Facebook Group
Oklahoma Chapter of
Backcountry Hunters & Anglers

Oklahoma Chapter Page
www.backcountryhunters.org/oklahoma

Oklahoma Chapter AFI
@oklahoma_bha_afi



In addition to shot data, I am also charting environmental factors such as elevation, temperature, humidity and wind. This information helps me determine what adjustments are needed on my optics based on current factors at the time of a future shot. If I know that my particular bullet moves “X” amount in a 15 mph cross-wind then I should be able to easily adjust my scope the next time I encounter a similar situation. These are all factors of D.O.P.E.

After gathering my D.O.P.E, I love simulating various scenarios one could expect in the field. Growing up playing sports, my dad always emphasized to practice like you play. The same can be said for your weapon. It’s important to shoot from various positions, distances, and target sizes. Only shooting from a bench rest or prone position could cost you when the moment of truth comes and you’re forced to shoot braced off your knee or some other position that is less than ideal. The point is, practice how you could end up “playing”. Shoot off your pack, shoot kneeling, shoot free hand, get your heart race up then take a shot; simulate every situation possible. By doing so, you’ll not only gain experience and muscle memory but you’re creating preparedness if the situation comes up again when it truly counts. An easy way to build muscle memory without burning through a lot of ammunition and money is simply dry fire drills. Put yourself in those oddball positions and just dry fire your rifle. It’s a simple, yet effective way to get comfortable behind the gun.

With less than 100 days to the big game hunting season openers, the time is now to start prepping mentally and physically. I can assure you that you won’t regret a little time spent on honing your shooting skills. The time is now, don’t wait. Prepare so you can find success and fill that tag you’ve always dreamed of. A freezer won’t fill itself. Get out there and get after it. If you’re buddy asked you how ready you are for the hunting season, how would you be able to answer?

Don’t have anywhere to shoot your rifle? ODWC offers several shooting ranges across the state. Find them [HERE!](#)





FULL DRAW

FILM FESTIVAL

ON **X** HUNT

FEATURING

RIVER BOTTOM

PURSUITS

GRAND CASINO
AUGUST 1, 2026
ONE NIGHT ONLY

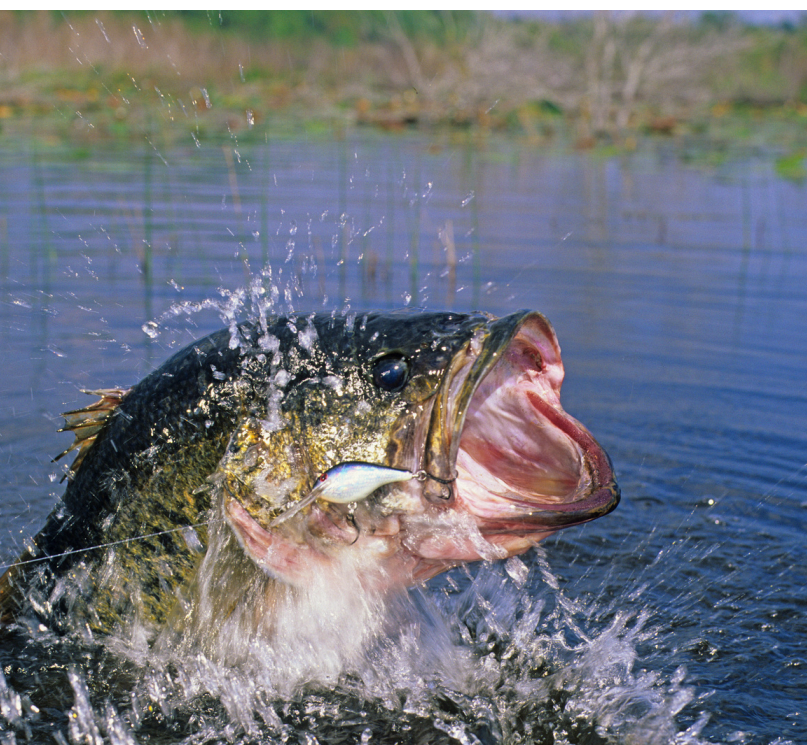
The Full Draw Film Tour is a traveling bowhunting film event that brings the best independent outdoor films to the big screen. Featuring real stories from real hunters, the tour is designed to unite bowhunting and outdoor enthusiasts for a night of adventure, excitement, and camaraderie. Attendees can expect a lineup of short films covering everything from elk and deer hunting to first-time filmmakers sharing their stories, along with gear giveaways from top sponsors. Whether you're a seasoned bowhunter or just passionate about the outdoors, it's a one-of-a-kind live experience you won't want to miss it.

Stop by the Oklahoma BHA Chapter booth to pick up your latest Public Land Owner merchandise!

Grand Casino Shawnee
777 Grand Casino Blvd
Shawnee, OK 74804

Purchase your tickets [HERE!](#)

DO YOUR PART FOR PUBLIC LANDS, WATERS & WILDLIFE



Backcountry Hunters & Anglers seeks to ensure North America's outdoor heritage of hunting and fishing in a natural setting, through education and work on behalf of wild public lands, waters, and wildlife.

JOIN

When you become an Individual Member of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers, you're not just joining an organization—you're joining a community dedicated to preserving North America's outdoor heritage.

JOIN



VOLUNTEER

Whether you can dedicate 2 hours a year or 2 hours a week to BHA, we need your skills.

Add your name to our volunteer list by sending your contact information including address, phone and email to **oklahoma@backcountryhunters.org**

Apply for a board position with the Oklahoma BHA chapter. Keep an eye on chapter communications for vacant positions and upcoming elections.

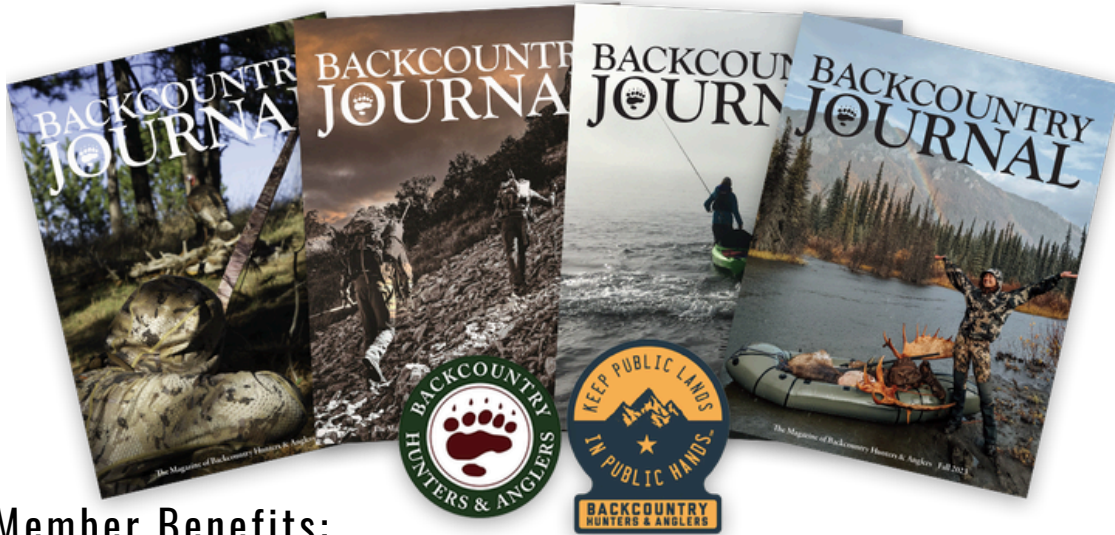
SPONSOR

Gift-in-kind and monetary donations from in-state business partners are critical to our efforts. All donations over \$500 are eligible for our Chapter Corporate Sponsor Program with benefits like having your business name listed in the Backcountry Journal, features on chapter social media channels and more.

CONNECT

JOIN TODAY

When you become an Individual Member of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers, you're not just joining an organization—you're joining a community dedicated to preserving North America's outdoor heritage. For just \$35 annually, you'll receive exclusive benefits and make a real difference.



Exclusive Member Benefits:

- **Backcountry Journal Subscription:** Our magazine is packed with inspiring stories on conservation, hunting, fishing, and fair chase ethics.
- **BHA Decals:** Show your BHA pride with our distinctive decals.
- **Event Invitations:** Get access to local chapter events where you can connect with fellow outdoor enthusiasts and experience the boots-on-the-ground impact of BHA's work.
- **Monthly eNewsletter:** Stay updated with the Backcountry Beat, featuring the latest news on BHA's efforts to fight for your outdoor passions.
- **Feel Good:** Experience the satisfaction of actively contributing to the protection of the backcountry and the traditions you cherish.
- **Special Discounts:** Enjoy exclusive savings from our corporate partners like First Lite, Vortex, Weston, onX, Waltons, XOP, Grayl, Work Sharp, and more!

Additional Membership Options

- Family Membership
- Military Membership
- Student Membership
- Three Year Membership
- Lifetime Membership

[Click To Join Today.](#)

VOLUNTEER WITH BHA

OPPORTUNITIES INCLUDE



Habitat Projects

Join other volunteers in partnering with state biologists on projects to help clean up or improve the habitat of public lands or waters.



Events

Join other volunteers & board members in hosting BHA events like habitat projects, social gatherings, fund raisers, hunt & fish camps, and more.



Chapter Sponsor

Become a chapter sponsor and support the Oklahoma chapter financially. As a non-profit your support is critical. Talk to a board member about the benefits of becoming a chapter sponsor.



Leadership

The state chapter offers various leadership opportunities, from event coordinators to board of directors, officers, and more.



SIGN UP TODAY

[Click Here](#)

