

Gun Owners of America

Second Amendment Hunters



Gun Owners of America (GOA) is the original "no compromise" Second Amendment rights organization in the United States. Since 1976, GOA has stood against efforts to take away the rights of law-abiding gun owners, and has worked diligently to advance Second Amendment freedoms including hunting across America.



Our motto is: "The Second Amendment isn't about Hunting, but Hunters should be about the Second Amendment."

Who We Are

Second Amendment Hunters is the hunter outreach program for Gun Owners of America. Our program reaches out to and supports all hunters in preserving their Second Amendment rights and is a national force in protecting the American hunting tradition.

Our **vision**, as a national force in the hunting debate, is to protect the American hunting traditions and engage America's hunters in the fight to protect traditional Second Amendment Rights and hunting opportunities.

Our **mission** is to:

- Educate and mobilize hunters to be active Second Amendment supporters.
- Recruit hunters to become politically active at the local, state, and national levels.
- Combat Second Amendment apathy within the hunting community.
- Demonstrate the safe and ethical use of firearms in hunting.
- Protect the American hunting tradition and ensure hunting opportunities for all hunters.

What We Do

- **Use legislative actions to provide more hunting opportunities for hunters.**
- **Protect the hunting tradition from local, state, or federal attacks.**
- **Demonstrate safe and ethical use of firearms through local and nationwide events.**
- **Inform and mobilize hunters nationwide to be active in protecting their Second Amendment rights.**
- **Provide current hunting information to hunters through resources and social media.**

What We Have Done

✦ **Opposed attempts by the federal government to restrict hunters' rights.**

- Biden's attack on six decades old hunter education and shooting programs in America's schools.
- The Biden Administration's plans to ban lead ammunition on federal lands.
- Efforts by the Biden Administration to restrict the transportation of legally harvested wildlife across state lines.
- A recent House Bill (H.R.8) that would infringe on hunters' ability to transfer firearms like we have done since our Nation's founding.



✦ **Supported legislative actions that will provide more hunting opportunities for hunters.**

- removing grizzly bears from the endangered species list in Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho where they have met and exceeded all federal recovery goals.

✦ **Protected the hunting tradition from local, state, or federal attacks.**

- tracked and prepared arguments to oppose a ban on mountain lion hunting in Colorado.

✦ **Provided current hunting information to hunters through resources and social media.**

- compiled a national database of suppressor usage laws and shared a visual map on the information.
- compiled a national database on Sunday Hunting laws.
- shared current hunting events throughout the country on our website.

✦ **Promoted safe and ethical use of firearms through local and nationwide events.**

- shared hunter education, hunter firearm safety, and poaching hotlines in our website resources.
- modeled firearm safety and ethical usage in sponsored hunts.
- demonstrated understanding of safety and ethics of firearms use when posting on social media.

✦ **Informed and encouraged hunters nationwide to be active in protecting their Second Amendment rights.**

- shared Second Amendment threats and news that affect hunters with members, local communities, and social media followers.
- spoke at local, state, and national events about the connection between Second Amendment Rights and hunting.
- conducted media interviews to inform communities and hunters about current threats to Second Amendment Rights and hunter opportunity.

🔗 Read more about these actions and resources at: <https://www.gunowners.org/hunting>

Contact Us

Email: secondamendmenthunters@gunowners.org

www.facebook.com/2AHunters
www.instagram.com/secondamendmenthunters/
<https://x.com/2AHunters>

What We Have Done: Detailed Information

🕒 Defeated an attack on hunting and hunting education by President Biden.

Background: The Biden Administration's war on hunters took an unexpected turn with an Executive Order defunding 58-year-old Hunter Safety and Shooting Programs available in many of America's schools. Biden was able to do this because of a sinister interpretation of language in the so-called Bipartisan Safer Communities Act (BSCA) which Democrats and RINO Republicans passed in 2022. GOA was among the first and loudest groups calling for Congressional Action. The backlash against Biden's order was so strong that even the same Democrats and RINOs that passed the BSCA were forced to support legislation to restore Hunter Safety and Shooting programs for millions of American children.

Impact on Hunters: This legislation would have destroyed the hunting tradition and diminished participation by the next generation of hunters, recreational shooters, and even archers.

Actions Taken by GOA/Second Amendment Hunters:

- After reviewing the situation, GOA formally opposed this action in media outlets and on social media.
- A national alert with a call to action was sent to members. Members and supporters were asked to contact their members of Congress and oppose this attack on school programs designed to teach children hunter education, firearms safety, and archery!
- A website post was published on both the main GOA website and on the Second Amendment Hunters section.
- Mark Jones, National Director, Hunter Outreach held national media interviews about the order to inform the public about what they could do to fight this proposed action.
- In addition, social media posts were launched on the Second Amendment Hunters channels to inform and encourage the public to oppose the ban.
- In August 2023, Mark Jones, National Director, Hunter Outreach issued an Op-Ed about this issue. The op-ed was published in The Washington Times. The op-ed was also posted on the SAH Media page.
- H.R.5110, Protecting Hunting Heritage and Education Act, was proposed by members of the U.S. House of Representatives and passed in October 2023.
- The legislation reinstated opportunities for America's children to participate in educational activities such as archery, hunting, and shooting sports.
- **Second Amendment Hunters** thanks its members and many others who stood against this unconstitutional attempt to ban hunting education in schools.

🎯 Opposed attempt by the Federal government to ban lead ammunition on Federal Lands.

Background: The USFWS proposed to ban the use of lead ammunition and fishing tackle on certain federal lands by 2026. This ban on federal lands may well be a precursor to more widespread bans across the country. GOA spearheaded efforts to fight Biden's executive action banning lead ammunition on federal lands by pointing out the flawed science used to justify the ban and by organizing our members and supporters.

Impact on Hunters: While the impacts of lead on humans and wildlife should continue to be studied, there is little scientific evidence to suggest a widespread lead ban is necessary or justified. This lack of strong scientific evidence to support a lead ban, and the disastrous consequences of such action, shows the federal government has no scientific justification to ban lead ammunition at this time.

Actions Taken by GOA/Second Amendment Hunters

- After research, a formal scientific response to the ban was written by **Second Amendment Hunters** and posted on the Federal Register.
- A national alert with a call to action was sent to members and supporters in August 2022 and 2023. They were asked to contact the U.S. Department of the Interior and oppose the ban.
- A website post was published on both the main GOA website and on the Second Amendment Hunters section.
- Mark Jones, National Director, Hunter Outreach held national media interviews about the ban to inform the public about what they could do to fight this proposed action.
- A second national alert with a call to action was sent to members and supporters in October 2022. They were asked to support Senator Daines (R-Montana) in opposing the ban as well.
- Social media posts were launched on the Second Amendment Hunters channels to inform and encourage the public to oppose the ban.
- In July 2023, Mark Jones, National Director, Hunter Outreach issued an Op-Ed about this issue. The op-ed was published in The Washington Times. The op-ed was also posted on the SAH Media page.
- In August of 2023, GOA once again submitted formal scientific comments to the Federal Register refuting the science behind the proposed ban.
- We sent another national alert with a call to action asking our members and supporters to contact the U.S. Department of the Interior through the comments on the Federal Register and oppose the ban.
- GOA supporters submitted 95% of the comments received by the federal government during the required Federal Register comment period, and Congress has been forced to act. At our urging, the House defunded the ban in 2023, but progress stalled in the Senate.
- As of early 2024, Second Amendment Hunters is working with Federal Affairs and State and Regional Directors to attempt to defund the lead ammunition ban as part of the ongoing budget battles in Washington.
- The battle will continue as this is at least the third attempt by Democrats in the last 10 years to ban commonly used sporting ammunition in America.
- In September 2024, Second Amendment Hunters filed yet another official comment with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in opposition to their proposed rule to ban the use of lead ammunition on certain public lands.
- **Second Amendment Hunters** continues to monitor this issue and stands ready to take further action if needed.

⊙ **Opposed a petition to restrict transportation of legally harvested wildlife across state lines.**

Background: In September 2021, the Center for Biological Diversity (CBD) and the Natural Resources Defense Council sent a petition to the U.S. Department of the Interior's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USDOI/USFWS), as well as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). This petition asked them to heavily restrict the importation of legally harvested wildlife into the United States as well as prohibit or heavily restrict the transportation of legally harvested wildlife across state lines.

Impact on Hunters: This petition threatened to change hunting as we know it in America and also represented a backdoor attack on gun owners. This petition, if it were to go into effect, would cripple many hunting opportunities and damage the American economy. Further, it would damage the authority of the 50 state Fish and Wildlife Agencies that have a great track record of managing the nation's wildlife for generations. All hunters and Second Amendment supporters stood to be severely impacted if this petition were implemented, and the American tradition of hunting would have never been the same.

Actions Taken by GOA/Second Amendment Hunters

- After research, two formal letters were written by Second Amendment Hunters and sent to both USDOI/USFWS and the CDC detailing the detrimental consequences of this petition for hunters and the United States economy.
- A formal press release about this petition and our response was published on the GOA website, to hunting media outlets, and on GOA/SAH social media.
- On September 24, 2021 (National Hunting and Fishing Day), a national alert was sent to members and supporters about this issue.
- Bearing Arms published an article about the issue to inform the hunting community. This article was then also published on the SAH media page.
- As of now, Mark Jones, National Director, Hunter Outreach continues to speak in various media outlets about the proposal and what it would mean for hunters.
- **Second Amendment Hunters** continues to monitor this issue and stands ready to take further action if needed.
- The official letters sent can be read here: @ <https://www.gunowners.org/hunting/legislative-action/>

⊙ **Opposed H.R. 8 infringements against America's hunters.**

Background: In 2021, this Act was proposed to utilize the background checks process to track firearms purchases and restrict private transfers like those done in our Country since its Founding.

Impact on Hunters: This would impact hunters, by potentially subjecting them to prosecution, in at least two potential ways. 1. You loan a firearm to a friend for hunting, and the friend happens to have the wrong hunting license. 2. You hand your firearm to a hunting partner who is a veteran, and unknown to you, he or she has been stripped of their firearms rights by a Veterans Administration bureaucrat (a common problem in America at this time).

Actions Taken by GOA/Second Amendment Hunters:

- After research, an official response on this issue was written and shared on the SAH Legislative Action page.
- Mark Jones, National Director, Hunter Outreach continues to speak in various media outlets about the proposal and what it would mean for hunters.
- While this legislation did not pass, **Second Amendment Hunters** continues to monitor this issue and stands ready to take further action if needed.

📍 Supported Grizzly Bear Delisting for Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho

Background: In 2022, the Governors of Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho asked the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to remove the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem (GYE) population of grizzly bears from the Endangered Species List (ESL). Current grizzly population estimates in the GYE demonstrate that over 1,000 grizzlies roam the three-state area, and this estimate far exceeds all federal and state scientific requirements for a recovered and viable population.

Impact on Hunters: "Delisting" will result in management authority being turned over to the states following American legal traditions established by the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation. This "Model" grants legal authority to the states for the management of most wildlife species including upland game birds, deer, elk, moose, mountain lions, bighorn sheep, turkeys, resident birds, small mammals, reptiles, and all other species except migratory birds and those on the ESL. In 2021, in Wyoming alone, 29 grizzlies were lethally removed by government officials. Under state management, hunters will likely be used to manage these populations using tightly controlled and carefully regulated hunting. This delisting will allow hunters to exercise legal rights to hunt grizzly bears instead of the Federal government using taxpayer money to remove grizzlies by government-funded officials.

Actions Taken by GOA/Second Amendment Hunters:

- After research, an official response on this issue was written and shared on the GOA and SAH websites.
- An alert was sent in February of 2022 to members in the three affected states asking them to contact their Senators and Representatives and support this delisting.
- In October of 2022, Mark Jones interviewed with a local news source about the issue. This article can be read on the SAH Media page.
- In March 2023, Congresswoman Harriet Hageman (R-Wyoming) introduced the Grizzly Bear State Management Act in the U.S. House to force delisting, and SAH sent another alert to the members and supporters reminding them of the details about the issue and letting them know of her support.
- In April 2023, Mark Jones, National Director, Hunter Outreach issued an Op-Ed about this issue. The op-ed was published in The Washington Times. The op-ed was also posted on the SAH Media page.
- In May 2023, another alert was sent to Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho members with more detailed information about the delisting and a link to the op-ed.
- Mark Jones, National Director, Hunter Outreach continues to speak in various media outlets about the proposed legislation and what it would mean for hunters.
- In August 2024, federal wildlife officials postponed a decision on the protected status of grizzly bears until January 2025. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service had been expected to decide by the end of July 2024 whether to remove grizzlies from the Endangered Species List, but the announcement was delayed due to ongoing litigation with Idaho.
- **Second Amendment Hunters** continues to monitor this issue and stands ready to take further action if needed.



GOA Membership

GOA welcomes your support. Together, we will work to preserve and defend our Right to Keep and Bear Arms and the American hunting traditions. You can sign up by scanning the QR code below with your phone's camera or going to <https://donate.gunowners.org/2AHunters>.



Second Amendment Hunters Media

Gun Owners of America's national hunting outreach program has several ways you can support us.

Second Amendment Hunters

Website:



www.gunowners.org/hunting

Social Media:



www.facebook.com/2AHunters



www.instagram.com/secondamendmenthunters



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