

Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division

The Field Review



Our oath of office pledges enforcement protection.
We Are the Guardians of Oregon's Fish and Wildlife.

December 2011

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Turn In Poachers 24/7 at 1-800-452-7888 or TIP@state.or.us — Form on Division Website

In December, Division troopers issued citations to many wildlife law violators after successfully completing investigations initiated from tips turned in by concerned citizens. Below are highlights of some of the cases made; however, in two of the cases, troopers were not able to charge the confirmed poacher for the unlawful taking of the wildlife, as it was well past the deadline under the statute of limitations, per ORS 131.105 and 131.125 to 131.155 (click or visit <http://www.leg.state.or.us/ors/131.html>). With certain exceptions, the statute of limitations is three years for Class C felonies, two years for misdemeanors, and six months if the offense is a violation. OSP encourages anyone with information on wildlife and habitat crimes to report the suspected violation as soon as ably possible.

Sr. Tpr. McNeil (Baker City) contacted a Clackamas County subject who killed a trophy 6 x 6 bull elk during the 2009 Elkhorn Mountain #2 cow season. After a lengthy investigation that started with an anonymous tip, McNeil cited the suspect for **Unlawful Possession of Bull Elk** and seized the full shoulder mounted 6 x 6 bull as evidence. Because too much time had elapsed since the commission of the crime, McNeil could not file the Unlawful Take charge nor the Aiding charges on the subjects who assisted.



Tpr. Van Meter (Newport) responded to a complaint regarding three subjects who were reportedly snagging salmon and had retained three wild coho on Drift Creek in the Lincoln City area. While en route, she received a report from the reporting party that the suspects crashed their car on USFS 17 Road and were standing by their vehicle. Van Meter contacted the three subjects at the crash scene and called a tow truck. A consent search conducted on the vehicle located the three illegal wild coho. Van Meter cited one subject for **Unlawful Possession of Nonadipose Fin-Clipped Coho Salmon**.

In the Harper area of Malheur County, Sgt. Cyr and Sr. Tpr. McNeil (Baker City) responded to a complaint about a subject who shot a buck in a corn field. They located the suspects and conducted an investigation. The suspects claimed they thought deer season continued in December; however, the subjects did not have any licenses or tags. The troopers located a 4 x 4 mule deer rack behind a pump house on the ranch and deer meat quartered up and shoved into a refrigerator and freezer. The troopers cited one suspect for **Taking Buck Deer Closed Season** and another for **Aiding in a Wildlife Offense**.

After multiple reports over a couple of weeks regarding a suspect exceeding the bag limit of trout at Bikini Pond, Sr. Tpr. Gunderson and Sr. Tpr. Vanderwerf (The Dalles) caught up with the suspect. The suspect was observed stashing extra trout in his vehicle, and the troopers later asked to display his entire catch. The suspect displayed some trout but not the stashed ones and denied possessing any more. A consent search located the additional trout. The troopers cited the suspect criminally for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Trout** and **Failure to Allow Inspection of Wildlife Taken** and seized the overage.

A Murderers Creek Unit cow elk tag holder reported a subject shot and killed a 1 x 2 buck mule deer. The reporting party provided a general location of the suspect's camp and said he told the suspect he was going to report the incident and advised the suspect to do the same. About an hour later, the suspect reported the incident. Tpr. Ritter (John Day) and Sr. Tpr. Timko (Patrol) contacted the suspect at his camp. The suspect said he shot the buck deer thinking it was a cow elk. He said he has hunted both elk and deer for many years and knew what elk and deer looked like. The troopers cited the suspect criminally for **Taking Buck Deer Closed Season** and salvaged the deer. The Murderers Creek Unit is part of the Mule Deer Initiative.

Tpr. Ritter and Tpr. McClay (John Day) investigated a report that a John Day subject killed two large bucks closed season in 2008 in the Northside Unit and hung the mounted heads in his residence. The investigation revealed the suspect, a 2008 archery deer tag holder, killed a large 4 x 4 buck with a rifle on the last day of the 2008 archery deer season and tagged it with his archery tag and killed two 4 x 4 bucks after the close of the 2008 rifle deer season and used a friend's tag to cover the crimes. The suspect hung one mounted illegal buck in his residence, and a consent search located another attached set in his shop. The suspect advised he left the third set at the residence of the friend who loaned the tag and has since past away (the estate disposed of his belongings). Although the unlawful take charges were beyond the statute of limitations, the troopers were able to cite the suspect criminally for **Illegal Possession of Wildlife Parts—Deer Antlers** and seized both sets of antlers.

Dispositions / General Law / Environment

Dispositions Received

Sr. Tpr. Coggins (Enterprise) conducted an investigation in Spring 2011 regarding subjects who drove Class II ATVs through a wetland and created a mud pit. Coggins cited one subject for **Committing Unlawful Damage with a Class II ATV**. Contact with landowner revealed the cost for repair of the area was going to be about \$500. The subject pled guilty, and the judge ordered the defendant to pay the above civil restitution to the landowner and fined the subject \$299.

Wasco County Circuit Court convicted a subject Sr. Tpr. Pearson (The Dalles) cited for **Unlawful Transport of Food Fish**, a Class C felony, and dismissed the charge of Unlawful Use of Subsistence-Caught Fish. The court sentenced the subject to \$500 fine (suspended), \$2,000 restitution to ODFW for 16 salmon, two years angling license suspension, 18 months supervised probation, forfeit seized evidence, pay court-appointed attorney fees, and no contact with Sherars Falls.

Runaways Found

While patrolling the Columbia River Gorge, Sgt. Allori and Tpr. Reel (Portland) received information about two runaway juveniles (a 15-year-old male and a 14-year-old female) who borrowed a vehicle and left Idaho that morning. The information relayed to them indicated they may be at Bonneville Dam. Allori and Reel searched the Bonneville Dam area, but they were unable to locate the runaway's vehicle. While driving west toward Portland, the troopers noticed a vehicle matching the description parked in the Multnomah Falls parking lot. The troopers contacted the vehicle and found the runaways. Their parents later picked both of them up in Portland.

Trooper patrolling on snow-covered forest road.

Photo credit: File



Environmental Investigations Conducted

Sr. Tpr. Reid (McMinnville) assisted SIU with a case involving a Yamhill-Carlton subject who burned material from a demolished house, violating DEQ regulations. Reid cited the subject for **Unlawful Burning I**, a felony.

Tpr. Herman (Astoria) contacted a subject in a vehicle with a truck bed full of cut firewood on a ODF forest road. The subject did not have a woodcutting permit from ODF. Herman cited the subject for **Unlawful Cut and Transport of Special Forest Products**. He seized the wood and left it in the forest.

Tpr. Imholt (Springfield) observed a subject driving a vehicle through a ditch and throwing mud all over the place. Upon contact, Imholt learned the driver was misdemeanor suspended and had two warrants. One warrant was a felony warrant for a parole violation. Imholt lodged the subject and issued citations for **Committing Unlawful Damage, DWS, and Driving Uninsured**.

Tpr. Shimer (St. Helens) concluded a two-week long investigation of an illegal dump site in Columbia County. The site was at the shore of Gunner's Lake and included the front end of a car, gas cans, used motor oil, antifreeze, car parts, clothing, household garbage and several TV sets. Through witness' statements and evidence found at the scene, Shimer was able to locate a suspect. The suspect admitted the garbage was his, and he made the dump. Shimer cited the subject for **Littering within 100 Yards of a Waterway**.

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) spotted a subject hauling a large load of firewood on Hill Road partially covered with a tarp but without any visible permit attached. The driver failed to drive within his lane and did not have any taillights on his trailer. Boyd stopped the subject and determined the two males unlawfully took the wood off BLM property without a permit. He seized the wood and some large rocks, and the suspects delivered it to a BLM facility. Boyd cited both subjects for **Unlawful Cut and Transport of Special Forest Products**.

Tpr. Tague (Central Point) was traveling behind a vehicle he thought was related to another case. As he caught up to the vehicle, he observed the passenger throw a beer can out of the window. When the can hit the ground, Tague could see alcohol spill out of it. When he stopped the vehicle, he determined this was not the suspect vehicle he thought it was. None the less, the female passenger admitted to tossing the open beer out of the vehicle. Tague also found she had an outstanding arrest warrant for Fail to Appear. He arrested the subject on the warrant and also cited her for **Offensive Littering**. Tague also cited the driver for **Open Container**. The driver stated the beer was left over from the night before.

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

AIS	Aquatic Invasive Species	EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	Rct.	Recruit
ATV	All-Terrain Vehicle	FTA/FTP	Failure to Appear/Pay	Sgt.	Sgt.
BAC	Blood Alcohol Content	IDFG	Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game	SIU	Special Investigations Unit
BER	Boat Examination Report	LEO	Law Enforcement Officer	Sr.	Sr.
BLM	Bureau of Land Management	Lt.	Lieutenant	SO	Sheriff's Office
BUII/DUII	Boating/Driving Under Influence Intoxicants/Drugs	NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	TMA	Travel Management Area
Capt.	Captain	ODF	Department of Forestry	Tpr.	Trooper
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game	ODFW	Department of Fish and Wildlife	UPCS	Unlawful Possession of Controlled Substance
DA/DDA	District Attorney/Deputy DA	ODOT	Department of Transportation	USCG	U.S. Coast Guard
DEQ	Department of Environmental Quality	OHA	Oregon Hunters Association	USFS	U.S. Forest Service
DSL	Department of State Lands	OSMB	Oregon State Marine Board	USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
DWS	Driving while Suspended	PFD	Personal Flotation Device	WDFW	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
				WED	Wildlife Enforcement Decoy

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Trespass / Wildlife / Hunting

Bighorn Sheep Poached, Beheaded, and Left to Waste



Bighorn sheep observed in Eastern Oregon. Photo credit: File

Sr. Tpr. Davis (La Grande) responded to a report of a headless elk carcass on Conner Creek Road near Snake River Road in the Lookout Mountain Unit in Baker County. Upon arrival and contact with the reporting party, Davis discovered the headless carcass of a bighorn sheep ram. Witnesses observed a large 190-195 class ram previously in this area. Davis did not locate a bullet or any other evidence, and he found marks where an unknown subject(s) drug the ram off the hillside. Davis collected a DNA sample from



Bighorn sheep poached and left to waste. Photo credit: File

the carcass, and the investigation is continuing. Davis and Sgt. Hawkins (La Grande) drafted a media release for a \$500 TIP reward, and contacted IDFG to watch for any sheep horns brought in for pinning. Shortly after the release, The Humane Society of the United States donated an additional \$2,500 to the reward and OHA local chapters and the Oregon Foundation for North American Wild Sheep donated additional monies, totaling **\$6,100** for the reward. Anyone with information leading to the arrest and conviction of whoever is responsible for killing the bighorn sheep around December 22, 2011, is asked to call Sr. Tpr. Kris Davis at 541-805-4757 or the TIP hotline 24/7 at 1-800-452-7888 or e-mail TIP@state.or.us.

Big Game Investigations Conducted

Sr. Tpr. Frerichs (Roseburg) was patrolling the Tiller area for poachers and hiked into a closed area and spotted a male hiking out with a rifle, backpack, and compound bow. He discovered the Port Orford subject illegally killed a large four-point buck with a rifle and was carrying the freshly cut meat and antlers in the backpack. Frerichs cited the subject for **Unlawful Take of Black-Tailed Deer Closed Season and Fail to Validate Big Game Tag** and seized the rifle, meat, and antlers.

Tpr. Nugent (Central Point) investigated three black-tailed does shot with a rifle and left to waste. He located and interviewed one of two subjects from a vehicle seen in the area. The subject admitted to shooting the deer and said he was scared away when other hunters on ATVs came upon them. The next morning, the two subjects returned, and the same hunters were there again. This time, the hunters noted the vehicle license number. Nugent cited the subject for **Unlawful Take of Game Mammal and Waste of Wildlife** and seized a .22 caliber rifle.

Tpr. Herman (Astoria) contacted a vehicle in the Saddle Mountain Unit with bags of fresh de-boned elk meat in the truck bed. One subject in the vehicle had a legal validated cow tag for the unit, but he did not have any evidence of sex or species. The subject took Herman to a clear-cut where the elk was dressed out. Herman found a gut pile and the head of a cow elk. He issued the subject a citation for **Unlawful Possession of Elk Meat while in Transit from the Field without Evidence of Sex** and a warning for Failure to Attach Tag to the Animal.

A subject shot a spike at first light on the last day of the three-point or better second Saddle Mountain elk season and reported it at 4:30 p.m. that afternoon. After looking for many hours that night, Tpr. O'Connor (Astoria) was unable to locate the elk. Tpr. Warwick (Astoria) returned to the scene two days later and found the now-spoiled elk mere feet off the road in plain sight. During an interview at the subject's house with the aid of Tpr. Shimer (St. Helens), the subject admitted to covering the carcass with brush after discovering it was a spike. He then said he returned late that night and removed the brush from the carcass, making it visible. Warwick cited the subject criminally for **Unlawful Taking of Spike Elk Closed Area and Waste of a Game Mammal**.

Trespassers Cited

Tpr. Glaser (Salem) and Tpr. Burkholder (Albany) contacted three suspects loading up ATVs at a Weyerhaeuser gate. The subjects said they had been riding their ATVs behind the gate. A records check revealed one of the ATVs was stolen. The troopers cited all three subjects for **Criminal Trespass II** and lodged one subject for **Theft**.

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) followed up on an abandoned vehicle off McGowen Creek Road blocking a Weyerhaeuser gate he and Lane County SO Deputy Combs found the night before. About 100 yards inside the gate, Boyd and Tpr. Youngblood (Patrol) found a camp with a tent occupied by a female. The camp area had garbage surrounding it and a human waste nearby. They could not find the other responsible person. The troopers cited the female for **Criminal Trespass II** and **Depositing Offensive Substance on Property of Another**.

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) found a vehicle and trailer parked near a Weyerhaeuser gate clearly posted "No Motorized Vehicles" with ATV tracks going around it. Boyd tracked the ATV for about five miles then located it with two subjects on board. The subjects were archery hunting. One subject had two outstanding arrest **warrants** out of Lane County, possessed marijuana, and operated his ATV while suspended. Boyd cited both subjects for **Hunting while Criminal Trespassing** and lodged the wanted subject on the warrants and additionally cited him for **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana** and **DWS** and warned him for Causing Unlawful Damage with an ATV.

Ret. Sr. Tpr. Shigemasa, Ret. Sr. Tpr. Poggi, and Sgt. Schwartz (Astoria) responded to a trespass complaint near Vernonia where the complainant observed a vehicle driving on private property after hearing gun shots. Shigemasa and Poggi contacted the complainant and located the suspect vehicle exiting the private property with a cow elk and three occupants. Schwartz then arrived on scene. During questioning, the single tag holder confessed to his "friends" shooting at and killing the elk. The tag holder did not shoot at the elk. The troopers issued the three subjects citations for **Unlawful Taking of Cow Elk—No Valid Antlerless Elk Tag, Loaning a Big Game Tag, and Hunting without a Valid Antlerless Elk Tag** and seized the elk and one rifle.

Wildlife / Hunting

Wildlife Parts Found in Search

Sr. Tpr. Canfield (Newport) completed an investigation of a subject who unlawfully possessed raptor parts. He assisted Lincoln County Interagency Narcotics Team (LINT) with a search warrant in November and discovered wings and feet from a barn owl. In December, Canfield contacted the suspect who stated he found the owl dead and asked a taxidermist to stuff it. The taxidermist told the suspect the law prohibits him to work on an owl, so the suspect cut off the wings and feet and retained them. Canfield cited the suspect criminally for **Unlawful Possession of Raptor Parts—Owl**.

Unlawful Bird Hunting Detected

Sr. Tpr. Duncan (Baker City) contacted and cited a nonresident subject who he determined unlawfully killed three chukars in the Lookout Mountain Unit without an upland game bird validation for **Unlawfully Taking Chukar—No Nonresident Upland Game Bird Validation**.

While Sr. Tpr. Routson (Patrol) was driving eastbound on I-84 near MP 92, he observed two subjects jump-shooting ducks in the area between the north and southbound lanes. He notified two on-duty Division troopers who responded to assist. When Routson returned to the scene after turning around, the subjects had left. The troopers staged, but they did not locate the vehicle. Routson later located the suspect vehicle and contacted the subjects hunting at a pond. He determined all three subjects had hunted between the interstate lanes. He cited one subject for **No Waterfowl Validation**, warned all three for Reckless Endangering, and seized two ducks as evidence.

Sr. Tpr. Halsey (Albany) received a report of a male shooting a rooster pheasant from a motor vehicle outside of Lebanon. The investigation revealed five male subjects were returning from a duck hunt when they observed the rooster pheasant, and one subject shot the pheasant from a rear seat in the vehicle. Halsey also determined one of the subjects in the vehicle who had been duck hunting was currently on a five-year hunting suspension. Halsey cited one subject for **Hunting Game Bird with the Aid of a Motor Vehicle** and arrested and transported the suspended subject to the Linn County Jail where Halsey cited him for **Hunting while Suspended**.

WED Operation Yielded Success

Sr. Tpr. Cushman, Sr. Tpr. Collom, and Tpr. Tague (Central Point) conducted a few WED decoy sets over the last weekend of archery deer season, targeting violators using a rifle. On Saturday, they worked two operations, setting the decoy over 80 yards from the road. Only 11 vehicles drove by; however, two of the seven subjects who observed the WED and stopped committed violations, an 81% compliance rate. The troopers warned one subject for the violation of shooting his bow from the road. The subject attempted the 80-yard shot with his bow and missed. The other subject shot the decoy with a .22 magnum rifle. Before Cushman made the stop, the subject hunter transitioned to a bow in an attempt to look legitimate. The troopers cited the subject for **Taking a Deer with a Rifle during Archery Season** and seized the rifle. The troopers checked the other archery hunters who attempted to stalk the WED for compliance.



(Above) Illegal bobcat found concealed in grass. Photo credit: File

Unlawful Take of Game Cats

Tpr. Shimer (St. Helens) and Tpr. Warwick (Astoria) received information from a taxidermist that a subject brought in a cougar without check it in at ODFW. Further investigation revealed the subject shot the cougar on the same day he bought the cougar tag. Upon questioning, the subject admitted to shooting the cougar while deer hunting then purchasing the cougar tag later that afternoon. The troopers cited the subject for **Unlawful Take of Cougar—No 2011 Cougar Tag** and seized the cougar hide as evidence.

Sr. Tpr. Halsey (Albany) and Tpr. House (Patrol) investigated a bobcat shooting. A male subject was out looking for a Christmas tree and came upon a Western Oregon bobcat “acting aggressive.” The subject shot at the bobcat nine times with his .45 pistol and then shot an additional two times with his wife’s 380 to kill the bobcat. When the subject picked up the bobcat, he found the bobcat was in a foothold trap secured by a “drag.” The troopers cited the subject for **Unlawful Take of Bobcat—No Furtakers License and Bobcat Card** and returned the trap and bobcat to the licensed trapper.

Sr. Tpr. Caldwell (Burns) located a trapper’s vehicle parked; and, a short time later, observed him as he was returning to his vehicle from a distant trap set across a valley. When asked, the trapper said he had not trapped any bobcats that day or this season and forgot his bobcat record card at home. Caldwell and the subject went together and checked the next trap set for bobcats. The trapper returned home and said he would not check any more traps until he retrieved his bobcat card. His suspicious behavior caused Caldwell to return and check the first trap set across the valley. At the set, he found a freshly killed bobcat in a catch pole concealed in the tall grass and weeds. The set also contained an unbranded trap. Caldwell contacted the subject two and half hours later as he returned to the set with a licensed trapper. The original subject finally advised his bobcat card had not yet arrived in the mail. Caldwell cited the subject criminally for **Trapping Prohibited Method—Unbranded Trap, Unlawful Take of Bobcat—No Bobcat Record Card, and Refusing Inspection of Wildlife—Bobcat** and seized the bobcat, trap, and catch pole as evidence.

Sport Angling / OSMB / Commercial Fish / Shellfish

Boat and Angling Patrols Yielded Citations

Sr. Tpr. Frerichs (Roseburg) was conducting Marine Board enforcement on the Main Umpqua River near Scottsburg and contacted a drift boat with three persons on board and found the operator only had two PFDs on board. Frerichs cited the operator for **Insufficient Number of PFDs**.

Tpr. Herman (Astoria) contacted a subject steelhead angling from a piece of private property on the North Fork Nehalem River. The property is adjacent to a fishing hole accessible to the public on the opposite side of the river; and despite well-posted signs, has constant trespassing issues. The subject said he saw the signs but decided it looked like a nice place to fish for steelhead. Herman cited him for **Angling on Private Land without Permission**.

Sr. Tpr. Knapp (Enterprise) and Sgt. Hawkins (La Grande) conducted a Snake River jet boat patrol from the Oregon border to Hells Canyon Dam. They checked numerous recreationalists and issued three citations for **Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Tag—Steelhead** and one for **Angling for Steelhead Prohibited Method—Barbed Hook** and three warnings for No Angling License in Possession, one for Continuing to Angle for Steelhead after Retaining Daily Bag Limit, and one for No Boat Registration.

Sr. Tpr. Frerichs (Roseburg) contacted two subjects in a jet boat observed angling with four lines on the Umpqua River in the Elkton area at the riverbank after dark with Sgt. Withers (Roseburg). The troopers found the subjects had a wild steelhead in possession in an area closed to retention of wild steelhead. In addition, they discovered additional angling and boating violations. Frerichs issued the boat operator citations for **Unlawful Take of Unmarked Steelhead, Unlawful Aiding in a Wildlife Violation, and Insufficient Number of PFDs** and warnings for No Navigation Lights, No Type IV Flotation Device, and Angling Prohibited Method. Frerichs warned the other subject for Angling Prohibited Method as well and seized the wild steelhead retained.

Sgt. Cyr (Baker City) had a busy day working steelhead anglers below Hells Canyon Dam on the Snake River. He contacted one subject with three steelhead and had not validated any of them on his harvest card. Cyr cited the subject for **Fail To Validate Combined Angling Tag (Steelhead) and Continuing to Angle for Steelhead after Retaining Daily Bag Limit**. Shortly after, he checked two more steelhead anglers and cited both of them for **No Combined Angling Tag**. Cyr then contacted two Idaho residents on the Oregon side after they crossed the river to try their luck on the Oregon shore. Cyr cited the first subject for **No Nonresident Angling License and Angling Prohibited Method—Two Lines** and the second subject for **No Nonresident Angling License and Angling Prohibited Method—Barbed Hook**. After leaving the area and finding radio coverage, Cyr discovered the second Idaho subject had **five outstanding warrants** in Grant County from a traffic crash in 2004. Cyr waited a short time until the subject drove past him, and he stopped and arrested him on the warrants.

Marine Resources Protected

Sr. Tpr. Urbigkeit (Newport) contacted a commercial fisherman who made several landings over his limit in both 2010 and 2011. Consequently, she cited the subject for **Exceeding the Trip Limit on Nearshore Rockfish**.

Sr. Tpr. Stinnett (Gold Beach)

contacted a commercial fisherman and issued two criminal citations for **Failing to Submit 2010/2011 Commercial Crab Log Books to ODFW**.

Sr. Tpr. Kehr (Newport) checked crabbers on Siletz Bay and contacted a subject who was pulling pinchers off of Dungeness crab. Kehr cited the subject for **Unlawful Possession of Mutilated Dungeness Crab**.

Sr. Tpr. Urbigkeit (Newport) contacted a fisherman who had not filled out log books, advising he heard the compliance rate was low, and he did not feel ODFW was gaining appropriate information from the log books submitted. After receiving a citation for **Failure to Submit Crab Log Books for 2010/11 Season**, the fisherman advised he will complete and submit his logbooks from now on.

Tpr. O'Connor (Astoria) contacted a catch shares vessel captain during an offload who advised he had nearly 10,000 pounds of unmeasured lingcod. The plant already processed a majority of the lingcod; however, about 10% of the remaining 1,700 pounds of unprocessed lingcod was undersized. O'Connor cited the captain for **Unlawful Possession of Undersized Commercially Taken Lingcod**.

Tpr. Van Meter (Newport) contacted two sport crabbers in a boat on Yaquina Bay. A consent search found 40 red rock crab claws in their cooler. The subjects initially told her the claws fell off when they were taking them out of the traps. Van Meter inspected the claws and found the claws had all been pulled off. She could not find any indication they had simply "fallen off." Van Meter cited the boat owner for **Unlawful Possession of Mutilated Red Rock Crab**.

During one week, Tpr. O'Connor and Tpr. Warwick (Astoria) checked 104 crabbers at Hammond. They gave out multiple warnings and conducted 28 consent searches, resulting in O'Connor finding three boats with crab hidden on board. O'Connor and Warwick each issued criminal and violation citations for crabbing violations, including **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Dungeness Crab, Unlawful Take of Female Dungeness Crab, Unlawful Taking of Dungeness Crab—No 2011 Shellfish License, and Unlawful Take of Undersized Dungeness Crab**. Warwick seized 31 crab.

Tpr. Herman (Astoria) observed a boat with four people on board come into the Hammond boat ramp. The operator and boat fit the description of a suspect troopers were seeking for exceeding the limit of crab and selling recreationally caught crab. Herman inspected their crab and found six undersized. A consent search located 12 undersized and three female crab hidden under a sleeping bag in the cabin. Herman cited the owner criminally for **Unlawful Taking Undersized Dungeness Crab and Unlawful Taking Female Dungeness Crab** and another subject for **Unlawful Taking Undersized Dungeness Crab** and seized 18 crab.



China rockfish, one of Oregon's nearshore species. Photo credit: Wikipedia

Interagency Cooperation / Public Relations

WDFW Assisted Trooper with Issuing 20 Cites to WA Resident

Sr. Tpr. Gardner (Pendleton) went to Pasco, Washington, with WDFW Officer Horn to serve citations to a suspect. Gardner has been working on the case with Sr. Tpr. Coggins (Enterprise). Gardner and Horn contacted the suspect at his Pasco residence and served **20 citations for False Application for Oregon Resident Fishing and Hunting Licenses.**

Agencies Cooperate to Address Habitat Issues

Tpr. Van Meter (Newport) met with two representatives from the Wetlands Conservancy District and one from OWEB (Salem monitoring section) regarding land ownership and usage of lands bordering the McCaffery and Pool Slough areas of Yaquina Bay. The two agencies partnered with OSP to do a boat tour of both sloughs to identify property boundaries and address habitat concerns for wetlands plant, animal, and fish species. This is an ongoing partnership with the Wetlands Conservancy to assist with trespass and land use issues as well as conservation strategies for the area.

Trooper Served 10 Charges for Arizona

Sr. Tpr. Duncan (Baker City) and Sr. Tpr. Davis (La Grande) delivered citations to a subject in La Grande for Arizona Game and Fish Department for violations committed in Arizona. The charges were developed from a case Davis and others worked in the La Grande area when they found the subject had broken Arizona wildlife laws as well. The Arizona charges were **Taking Elk without a Valid Hunting License, Taking Elk without a Valid Tag, Possess/Transport Unlawfully Taken Elk, Apply for/Obtain Resident Lifetime Hunt License by Misrepresentation, Apply for/Obtain 2008 Resident Hunt License by Misrepresentation, Apply for/Obtain 2008 Resident Elk Tag by Misrepresentation, Obtain 2009 Resident Lion Tag by Misrepresentation, Apply for/Obtain 2009 Resident Hunt License by Misrepresentation, Apply for 2009 Resident Elk Tag by Misrepresentation, and Apply For 2010 Resident Elk Tag by Misrepresentation.**

Troopers Worked with Agencies to Enforce Wildlife Laws

Tpr. Warwick (Astoria) conducted a duck patrol of the Lewis and Clark National Wildlife Refuge with a USFWS officer as part of a weekend waterfowl saturation of the refuges of the Northwest Zone. Officers made numerous contacts and issued three warnings for Reckless Endangering to three who hunters who nearly peppered the law enforcement boat with steel shot as they fired at ducks stirred up by the moving boat.

During a duck and goose saturation patrol with USFWS, Sr. Tpr. Reid (McMinnville) located a subject who exceeded the daily bag limit of pintail ducks. He also found the subject's shotgun did not have a shotgun plug. Reid cited the subject for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Pintail Duck and Hunting with Shotgun Holding More than Three Shells.** During the same patrol, Reid contacted a subject who had not validated his goose permit and cited him for **Fail to Immediately Validate Goose Permit.**

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) and Lane County SO Deputy Combs responded to a complaint of bow hunters hunting prohibited hours with the aid of a light near Springfield. Officers obtained permission to enter and hide on the adjacent property. Legal hunting hours ended at 5:04 p.m. After legal hours, two bow hunters wearing headlamps hunted around a field with the aid of a yard light. The subjects grunted at the deer and moved several times but were unable to get a shot. They walked out of sight about 6:00 p.m. near a shop, and a third subject (the landowner) appeared in the driveway with a spotlight. Boyd rattled two deer horns together, catching the attention of the landowner who immediately notified the two hunters and gave them the spotlight. The two now-unarmed hunters shined the spotlight on the adjacent property toward the officers' concealed location. The hunters lost interest and disappeared behind the shop. At about 6:45 p.m., the officers drove onto the suspect property to find one subject shot a deer with his bow, and the hunters were tracking the trail on private property. The deer could not be found. Boyd cited both hunters for **Hunting Prohibited Hours and Hunting while Criminal Trespassing** and seized their bows and cited the landowner for **Aiding in a Wildlife Offense—Hunting Prohibited Hours.**

Troopers Attended Meetings

Sgt. Katzenstein (The Dalles) gave a public talk to about 15 people at a local rod and gun club where the primary questions were about ATVs and wolves.

Tpr. Van Meter (Newport) attended a meeting with ODFW and Port of Newport to discuss mitigation efforts associated with the NOAA project. Part of the mitigation agreement requires the Port to provide additional recreational opportunities for the crab and clam areas lost to construction. Four areas on Yaquina Bay will be dedicated to increase access to recreational crabbing and clamming by creating more access points to clam flats and crabbing areas as well as kiosks with shellfish harvest information and history of the Yaquina Bay area.

Sr. Tpr. Bennett and Sr. Tpr. Marchand (Grants Pass), Sgt. Withers (Roseburg), and Lt. Gifford (SW Region) met with representatives from DEQ, ODFW, and Grants Pass Water District and City's Administrator's Office. The discussion was in regards to the testing that Grants Pass is doing on the city water supply and how the city is treating the water. Some concerned citizens have been complaining that Hexavalent Chromium and other heavy metals are contaminating the water supply after the removal of the Savage Rapids and Gold Ray Dams on the Rogue River. Ongoing tests are showing the level of various contaminants in the Grants Pass water are well within acceptable levels, many are naturally occurring, and the treated water recently tested better than three out of five popular-branded bottled waters. Rumors have been circulating that contamination is impacting fish and humans. Government officials have found nothing to substantiate the rumors.

Sgt. Pond (Bend), Sr. Tpr. Lindberg (Madras), and Lt. Scorby (East Region) attended a Lower Deschutes River Manager's group meeting. The two major discussion topics were recommendations from the Lower Deschutes River Working Group on conducting an environmental assessment on Segment 3 to determine impacts caused by river use and eliminating the need for a scenic waterway permit downstream of Moody Rapids near the mouth of the Deschutes River in Segment 4. A motion was made to permanently exempt boaters from obtaining a scenic waterway pass from the bottom of Moody Rapids to the I-84 Bridge, which was unanimously passed. Another motion was made to determine the cost, time frame, and focus of an environmental assessment in Segment 3, which was also passed. Pond and Lindberg provided an overview of enforcement activities and challenges on the Lower Deschutes River for the 2011 season. In the last meeting, Lindberg was selected to be the Working Group Chairperson again in 2012.

Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division

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