

The Field Review



Our oath of office pledges enforcement protection.
We are the guardians of Oregon's fish and wildlife.

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The Public Counts on Every Trooper

Because revenues are down, Oregon's legislators are searching for ways to balance the state's budget for the remainder of this and for the next biennium. One way legislators gather information to make budget reduction decisions is to ask state agencies to conduct budget-cutting scenarios. These scenarios require to demonstrate what will occur if the reductions actually took place, giving legislators an idea of what will happen if budget cuts are made in certain areas, what work would not be completed, and how this would affect Oregon's communities. During one scenario, the Division was asked to cut \$950,000 from the Division's General Fund portion of the budget for the remainder of this biennium, taking all of the remaining money left in the General Fund budget thus eliminating 6 sergeants and 28 troopers. This cut would have caused negative consequences on local communities and statewide, impacting the Division's ability to enforce and ensure voluntary compliance of fish and wildlife laws. Without voluntary compliance, management objectives set by ODFW to ensure fair and equitable sharing of Oregon's natural resources would not have been met. These objectives are often for an entire species—based on a single threatened or endangered subspecies—and some of the sensitive species can take generations to recover. During routine checks, Division troopers ensure sensitive or threatened species are not taken or over-harvested, allowing continued opportunity for future generations and sustaining Oregon's communities.



Photo credits: File

The coast would have lost 7 troopers, impacting revenue-generating resources (shellfish, marine fisheries, and a \$350 million commercial fish industry). The I-5 corridor (Oregon's largest population base and where the majority of issues surrounding threatened salmon, waterfowl, and environmental concerns exist) would have been reduced by 10 troopers. Central (state's fastest population growth) and eastern Oregon would have been decreased by 6 troopers. Compliance rates in this area are already lower than state averages, and many areas rely on their local Division trooper to provide general law enforcement for their communities. This reduction would have also affected the Division's ability to address Columbia River fisheries issues and an already-declining mule deer population. In addition, the Division's Aircraft Program would have been eliminated, abolishing aircraft support statewide and the pilot-ground trooper collaboration to apprehend violators who use spotlights at night to take big game ([click for video](#)). ODFW would have had to hire pilots/aircraft to achieve wildlife management objectives, costing \$640,000. While these cuts were being considered, the state's legislators held several sessions to hear public testimony, designed to give the public a chance to voice to their legislators what they consider important and what should receive continued funding. Several constituents of the Oregon State Police and of the Fish and Wildlife Division testified in support of the Department and the Division. In part, because of the respected and passionate testimonies heard, the decision was made to not cut \$950,000 from the Fish and Wildlife Division.

While legislators consider ways to balance the 2009-2011 biennium, the Division could see similar consequences. Legislators will be determining what is important to Oregonians, and final decisions may not be made until June. Department and Division supporters and outdoor enthusiasts who wish to express their concerns regarding losing troopers can learn how to participate in the process by visiting www.leg.state.or.us/citizenguide. Per Tony Hobbs, President of Oregon South Coast Fisherman, the Division's patrol on local rivers "has been excellent, due primarily to the addition of another trooper in Gold Beach. We have received help in removing illegal campers . . . and we note a substantial reduction in complaints from fisherman about illegal activities. Trooper Cliff Barden has established a cooperative relationship with local fisherman and his presence, in addition to that of Troopers Stinnett and Van Prooyen, has been well received and appreciated . . . compliance monitoring is essential to help reinforce appropriate behavior. We hope that the Legislature and Governor understand the commitment necessary to adequately staff the OSP Fish and Wildlife Division in the face of budget challenges. The loss of even a single position is significant to the protection of our wildlife resources. In our view, 'Every Trooper Matters.'" The Division reminds the public that Division troopers are fully trained troopers who can respond to any emergency and enforce all state laws. They often patrol in remote areas where other law enforcement is not available. Every Division trooper makes a positive difference in the lives of Oregonians, for Oregon. From the air, on the ground, on the water, in the mountains, or in the desert; in boats, by bike, on foot, in trucks, or on horseback; with other agencies; while serving the community, educating the public, and providing assistance; and in extreme heat or cold; Division troopers protect Oregon's fish, birds, shellfish, big game, habitat, people, businesses, and wildlife from harm, illegal hunting and fishing, and reckless and blatant disregard.

Wildlife / Hunting

Four-Year Interstate Action Plan Completed, Sergeant Commended for Leadership and Dedication

Lt. David Gifford (Southwest Region) and the Division would like to thank Sgt. Randy Hand (Klamath Falls) for his effort and dedication he demonstrated the last five years in the development and implementation of the Interstate Action Plan. The plan, to measure tag compliance during deer season in the Interstate Unit, was exemplary of the goals and objectives of the Cooperative Enforcement Planning (CEP) process. In 2004, Sgt. Hand developed information he confirmed by his own observations while on patrol—a significant number of deer hunters in the Interstate Unit did not have the appropriate tag. Historically, the Interstate Unit has been a popular hunting unit. After the controlled hunt tag program was implemented, the tags became more difficult to obtain. At the same time, surrounding units offered high tag numbers, making them easier to draw. Many hunters utilized this to obtain tags for the surrounding units and then hunted and camped in the Interstate Unit. After gathering initial data during 2004, he developed a formal plan to further investigate the situation over the next four years.

During the 2005 to 2008 mule deer seasons, Sgt. Hand coordinated a concentrated effort to utilize WEDs to measure tag compliance in the Interstate Unit. During this time, he dedicated himself wholeheartedly to making this program a success. Prior to the season each year, Sgt. Hand identified sites that met all of the requirements of safe and effective WED operations. He also worked with other supervisors to schedule the officers necessary to assist. During the season, he worked selflessly to coordinate operations, ensuring everyone had all of the equipment and information they needed. Annually, he provided a barbecued tri-tip dinner, rivaling any five-star restaurant. His wife and daughters provided a significant amount of support by preparing cookies, salads, and other snacks to assist in making these meals so memorable. Sgt. Hand clearly led by example in the hours and effort he put forth each year in working the decoy operations and was directly involved in many of the cases made. At the end of each season, he thoroughly documented the results of the operations, cleaned and stored the WED equipment, and evaluated and adjusted tactics as necessary in his preparation for the next year's operation. Throughout the duration of the plan, he also did an excellent job of communicating with staff at ODFW and other resource partners and hunter groups.



Photo credit: File.

The 2008 hunting season marked the end of the formal four-year plan. At the conclusion, Sgt. Hand prepared a critique that provided valuable insight into the yearly compliance rate, the positive results generated by a concentrated enforcement effort, and a probable correlation with a notable increase in the buck-to-doe ratio, as documented by ODFW, in the northern portion of the Interstate Unit, where the majority of the plan's efforts were expended. The results have been shared at ODFW in-service training and at a various sportsmen's group meetings. Recently, the Mule Deer Foundation regional director, as part of his testimony to the Ways and Means Committee in support of the Division, shared information from the critique. To recognize Sgt. Hand for his dedication and professionalism, he was presented with a James Jones print. To read the critique, [click here](#).

Two Juveniles Harassed Deer

Sr. Tpr. Griffin (La Grande) responded to a report of two 14-year-olds who shot at a tame deer in the Elgin area. While their parents were away, they obtained a bow and shot arrows at the deer. One arrow briefly stuck in its hind quarter, causing a superficial wound. They did not intend to kill the deer, they just thought it would be fun to shoot arrows at it. Griffin met with the parents and the juveniles and cited each juvenile for **Harassing Wildlife**.

Raccoons Used to Train Dogs

Sgt. Hoodenpyl (Tillamook) received information that a subject was trapping raccoons within the city limits of Willamina and using the raccoons to train his hounds. Hoodenpyl located the subject at a local business where the subject had a live raccoon in captivity on top of his dog box located in his pickup. The subject was cited for **Having Raccoon in Captivity without a Permit**.

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

ATV	All-Terrain Vehicle	Lt.	Lieutenant	SIU	Special Investigations Unit
BAC	Blood Alcohol Content	NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service	Sr.	Senior
BER	Boat Examination Report			SO	Sheriff's Office
BUII/DUII	Boating/Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants	NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	TIP	Turn in Poachers
Capt.	Captain	ODF	Oregon Department of Forestry	Tpr.	Trooper
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game	ODFW	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife	UPCS	Unlawful Possession of Controlled Substance
CWD	Chronic Wasting Disease	ODOT	Oregon Department of Transportation	USCG	United States Coast Guard
DA	District Attorney	OHA	Oregon Hunters Association	USFS	United States Forest Service
DEQ	Department Environmental Quality	OSMB	Oregon State Marine Board	USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	Ret.	Recruit	WDFW	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
		Sgt.	Sergeant	WED	Wildlife Enforcement Decoy

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Wildlife / Hunting

DNA Analysis Results Led to Indictments in First OSP Wildlife Waste Investigation Case

As a result of the comprehensive investigation led by Sr. Tpr. Knapp (Enterprise), the persistent efforts of numerous wildlife sporting groups, valuable information from livid hunters, and positive DNA test results; two suspects, one from Gresham and one from Boring, were indicted in Wallowa County on wildlife and criminal charges—the first waste case confirmed by forensic testing. During the 2007 elk season, Knapp and Division troopers investigated a waste complaint in the Billy Meadows area of the Chesnimnus Unit in Wallowa County, wherein one elk was found left to waste and the remains of a second illegally killed elk were discovered. At the scene, troopers investigating the case collected numerous spent 9mm shell casings and a DNA sample from the wasted elk as evidence. After several hunters came forward and provided assistance and statements, two suspects were identified and search warrants were served; leading to the seizure of two 9mm pistols and a knife, rope, and hatchet with blood on them.



Photo credit: Diane Krauss, Wikipedia/GNU

The OSP Forensics laboratory determined all the spent shell casings came from the seized pistols. The elk DNA sample was sent to the Idaho Wildlife Lab for comparison to blood found on the other items. The lab confirmed an exact match from that sample to the blood located on the seized evidence.

The Wallowa County DA presented the case before the Grand Jury and obtained indictments for **Theft in the First Degree** (felony), **Criminal Mischief in the First Degree** (felony), **Waste of Wildlife** (misdemeanor), **Taking Elk without a Valid Tag** (misdemeanor), and **Operating a Vehicle in a Cooperative Road Closure** (misdemeanor). Felony charges can result in a maximum penalty of \$125,000 in fines and five years in prison, and misdemeanor charges can result in a maximum penalty of \$ 6,250 in fines and one year in prison. For the Wallowa County Chieftain story *Game Warden CSI*, please visit <http://www.wallowa.com/main.asp?SectionID=9&SubSectionID=61&ArticleID=18060>.

Assistance Identified Illegal Take of Cats

Ret. Fromme (Portland) responded to a USFS ranger's traffic stop near Rhododendron on Mt. Hood. The stop yielded what appeared to be a poached bobcat. Further investigation led to the discovery of one other suspect who had a valid furtaker's license, but was not in possession of the female bobcat. Interviews with both subjects resulted in the admission of the illegal possession and take of the bobcat by the unlicensed subject and the aiding of the wildlife violation of the licensed trapper. Fromme issued one citation for **Illegal Possession of a Bobcat** and one for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation**.

Sr. Tpr. Prodzinski (Madras) received information on a subject who possibly killed a cougar illegally and would be bringing it into ODFW to be checked in. Prodzinski determined the subject killed the cougar and then purchased a tag. He cited the subject for **Taking Cougar without a Valid Tag**. Sr. Tpr. Caldwell (Burns) also received a report of a subject who killed a cougar the same day he purchased his tag. Caldwell checked the reported kill site and contacted the subject. He discovered this subject also killed a cougar prior to purchasing the tag. Caldwell cited the subject for **Taking Cougar without a Valid Tag**.

Sr. Tpr. Madison (Prineville) responded to a TIP call in the Hampton Butte area. A photographer from Oregon City drove to a ranch near Hampton to photograph a bobcat living and observed frequently near a hay storage area. While looking for the bobcat, the photographer observed a subject lying down in the prone position with a rifle. After the shot, the subject stood up excitedly and approached the photographer, advising he just killed a bobcat. The photographer was not excited over the news and asked the subject if he had a bobcat record card. The subject then turned and walked away with a disappointed look on his face. Madison contacted the subject and cited him for **Unlawful Take of Bobcat**.

OSP Looking for Public's Help

The Division is asking for the public's help to identify the person responsible for dumping a box containing deer heads in a in the parking lot of the Newport Wal-Mart store on February 18 at about 11:45 a.m. Anyone with information is asked to call Sr. Tpr. Canfield (Newport) at 541-265-5354 ext. 304.



Photo credit: File

Unlawful Sales of Wildlife Discovered on Internet

Sr. Tpr. Bean (Gilchrist) learned of a Christmas Valley resident attempting to sell an elk rack on Craigslist. The antlers were attached to the skull plate and the asking price was in the hundreds of dollars. Bean called the suspect and confirmed several details then set up a meeting. At the meeting, Bean cited the suspect and seized the antlers.

Sgt. Meyer (Central Point) was checking Craigslist for unlawful sales of wildlife and found an ad wherein a Medford man was asking anyone who had a successful elk hunt to sell him some elk meat. Meyer called the man and spoke to him without identifying himself as a trooper. The man said he was interested in purchasing some elk steaks, although he said nobody has yet called him and offered any for sale. Meyer then identified himself and advised the man of the rules regarding the sale of wildlife. The man said he would pull his ad. Meyer found another ad where a man was wishing to purchase some antlers for his new home. Meyer e-mailed the man and gave him the specifics on sale and purchase of deer and elk antlers in Oregon.

Wildlife / Hunting

ODFW Check Found Violation

Sr. Tpr. Coggins (Enterprise) followed up on a case from the second elk season where ODFW biologist Pat Mathews checked a hunter in the field. Mathews overheard a radio conversation between a husband and wife about a state vehicle waiting next to their vehicle. The husband asked the wife if it was a State Police pickup and the wife said she did not know. After about one-half hour, the husband came out of the woods carrying a rifle. Mathews contacted the husband who said he was just looking for elk for his wife to shoot as she was the tag holder. Coggins cited the male subject for **Hunting Elk without a Valid Tag**.

Antelope Dumped at Public Campsite

Tpr. Weaver (Lakeview) concluded an investigation that originated during the last antelope season. An antelope gut pile, hide, and head was left along the Chewaucan River at a public campsite. The investigation revealed a subject shot and killed an antelope for his grandmother, because she complained that the rifle kicked too much. After the subject shot the antelope, he cleaned it out along the river. Another member of the party also shot a coyote and left the head along with other trash at the same location. The grandson was cited for **Dumping Trash within 100 Yards of a Waterway and Taking Antelope with No Valid Tag**. The second subject was cited for **Dumping Trash within 100 Yards of a Waterway**.



Photo credit: National Park Service

Every Trooper Counts—Several Wildlife, Deer, and Elk Determined to be Illegally Taken

Sr. Tpr. Harris (Coos Bay) investigated a report of a cow elk gut pile in the Elliott State Forest where no hunts were currently taking place. A check of local meat processors revealed a hunter checked in a cow elk on a tag good for a nearby hunt area. The closest boundary for the nearby hunt area, Old Blue, was approximately three miles from the kill site. Harris interviewed the hunter who confessed to shooting the elk outside of the hunt area. Harris cited the suspect for **Taking Cow Elk Prohibited Area** and seized the elk.

Tpr. Bowen (Coos Bay) investigated a call where a subject killed a bull and a cow elk on a local ranch. The subject was reported to have one antlerless elk damage tag for the property. The investigation revealed the subject unlawfully took the bull closed season and subsequently wasted the animal. Bowen issued criminal citations for both offenses.

Sr. Tpr. Schwartz (Banks) and Sr. Tpr. Shugart (McMinnville) completed a five-month investigation into the unlawful taking of numerous deer and raccoons by a group of individuals during the Summer and Fall 2008. One adult and seven juveniles received a total of 14 citations for **Unlawful Taking Deer—Prohibited Hours, Hunting On The Enclosed Lands of Another, Aiding In a Big Game Violation, Unlawful taking Spike Deer—Forked Horn or Better, Waste of a Game Mammal x 3, Aiding In A Big Game Violation—Waste x 2, Unlawful Taking Spike Deer—No Tag, Unlawful Taking Buck Deer—Aid of Artificial Light, Unlawful Taking Raccoon—Closed Season, Loaning Tag, and Aiding in a Wildlife Crime—Take Raccoon Closed Season**.

Tpr. Howell (Tillamook) responded to a complaint on Vermilya Road off of Miami-Foley Road. An individual had a cow elk tag, but he shot a spike elk inadvertently. He called OSP dispatch to turn himself in. Upon arrival, Howell field dressed the elk and spent two hours removing the elk which had died on the opposite side of a draw. The antlers of the spike measured 15 and 14 inches, respectively. Howell cited the hunter for **Taking Spike Elk Closed Season**.

Sr. Tpr. Doug Shugart (McMinnville) investigated the illegal killing of a bull elk. Shugart found that two subjects were hunting antlerless elk on Stimson property near Hagg Lake. During the hunt, one of the subjects shot at what he believed was a cow elk and struck a 2 x 1 bull elk. The subject then notified OSP of his mistake. During the interview, Shugart felt the shooter did a very poor job of identifying his target, so he cited the subject for **Taking Bull Elk Closed Season**.

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) received an anonymous report of three cow elk taken by one hunter in the Sutherlin/Cottage Grove area. Boyd was familiar with one of the two suspects. Boyd contacted this suspect and learned four additional people were involved. The investigation led Boyd to Sutherlin, Oakland, Cottage Grove, and Eugene, and he developed three additional suspects. After interviewing all seven suspects, Boyd determined one hunter harvested all three elk then called two hunters with tags and four friends to assist in the recovery, removal, and transport of the unlawfully taken elk. Boyd cited four suspects for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation**, two for **Unlawful Possession of Illegally Taken Cow Elk** and **Loaning Big Game Tag**, and the shooter for **Exceeding the Bag Limit on Cow Elk** and **Borrowing Big Game Tag x 2**. Along with seizing the rifle as evidence, Boyd seized two of the three elk and donated them to the Eugene Mission.

Sr. Tpr. Merritt and Sr. Tpr. Frerichs (Roseburg) followed up on information about a possible illegal elk kill occurring in January. A father reportedly shot an elk while with his 13-year-old son on a youth-only hunt. The son was interviewed, admitting he shot at an elk but was unsure if he hit it. The father then took the rifle and shot at another cow elk that went down. They went to the downed elk and found the one the son had shot at—also down. The father cut up the extra elk and hid it in a tool box, then he quartered up the other elk and brought it in. Officers contacted the father who first denied shooting any elk, let alone an extra one. When confronted with the information, the father admitted to the offense. Officers learned the son also did not have a hunting license. The officers seized 23 packages of elk meat, cited the father for **Aiding in a Game Violation**, and warned his son for No Hunting License.

Wildlife / Hunting

Hunters, Farmer, and Angler Illegally Take Waterfowl

Sr. Tpr. Bennett (Grants Pass) contacted subjects who reportedly were shooting geese. One subject admitted to shooting the goose they possessed, adding it looked like it would be good to eat. The subject did not have a hunting license. Bennett cited the subject for **Taking Goose Closed Season** and seized the goose and shotgun.

Sr. Tpr. Schwartz (Banks) followed up on a case where a grass seed farmer had been experiencing damage to his crops from geese. The farm hand followed the farmer's instructions to shoot some geese and leave them lying in the field, in an effort to scare the others off and keep them from returning. Schwartz cited the farm hand for **Taking Geese Closed Season** and **Waste of a Game Bird** and the farmer for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation—Taking Geese Closed Season**.

Tpr. Thomas (Tillamook) responded to a complaint at the Tillamook ODFW goose check station. Upon arrival, he contacted one hunter with three dark geese (the daily bag limit is two). The hunter shot an Aleutian, a dusky, and a speckle belly, claiming the speckle belly was a snow goose. Thomas learned the hunter shot snow geese in the past, and the hunter even showed Thomas what the speckle belly would look like if it was a snow goose. The hunter was cited for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Dark Geese**, and the third goose was seized and released to ODFW for educational purposes.

Sr. Tpr. Maher (Oakridge) worked the valley area west of Eugene for Northwest Permit goose hunters. A complaint was received regarding a group of hunters who shot and killed a duck. Maher contacted the hunters, and a consent search revealed a drake widgeon duck that was shot then put under a decoy bag. Four goose hunters were in this group, and one of the hunters did not have his hunting license or goose permit with him. Maher cited the hunter who shot the duck for **Taking Duck Closed Season—Drake Widgeon**. The hunter who did not have his license or permit was cited for **No Northwest Goose Permit in Possession** and warned for No Hunting License in Possession. Later in the day, Maher checked 10 other goose hunters and noted no violations.

Tpr. Stone (Roseburg) was observing two subjects angling from a boat on the river when several Canadian geese came flying overhead down river. One of the men grabbed a shotgun and fired three shots at the passing geese. None appeared to have been hit. The men returned to fishing. About 20 minutes later, another group of geese came flying overhead. This time, the other man grabbed the shotgun and fired two shots, hitting and killing a goose. The two men then returned to fishing, making no attempt to retrieve the goose and let it float down river. Stone contacted Sr. Tpr. Merritt (Roseburg) and had him respond to the location with the Division's sled. They went up river and contacted the two subjects in the boat. Both at first denied shooting any geese. Eventually, one man admitted to killing the goose and letting it go to waste, and the other admitted to shooting at the geese but had not killed any. Neither had hunting licenses or duck stamps, and they were using #8 lead shot. One subject was cited for **Hunting Geese Closed Season**. The other was cited for **Unlawful Take of Goose Closed Season** and **Waste of Game Bird**. The new 12-gauge shotgun, which the men stated they were just "testing" out, was seized as evidence.



Snow and Ross geese on the Klamath Wildlife Area. Photo credit: File, Sgt. Hand

Subjects Caught Hunting/Shooting from a Roadway

Tpr. Davis (Coos Bay) observed the passenger of a pickup standing on the roadway shooting into Tahkenitch Lake. When Davis caught up to the vehicle, the operator was shooting out the driver's side window. Davis stopped the subject who stated they were shooting at a nutria. Neither subject had a hunting license. Davis cited both subjects for **Hunting from a Roadway** and the passenger for **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana**. He warned both for No Hunting License.

Tpr. Thomas (Tillamook) concluded an investigation regarding an elk complaint along the Nehalem River. The cow hunt at the time was for Master Hunters only. Thomas learned the hunter and tag holder, a Master Hunter, stood on the side of a county road and fired a round from his 7mm caliber rifle directly down the road. The cow he shot at was standing about five feet off of the road on private property that the hunter did not have permission to hunt on. Thomas cited the hunter for **Criminal Trespass II**, with charges for **Shooting from a Public Roadway** and **Reckless Endangering** being recommended to the DA.

Elk Dies after Hooking Foot in Snare

Sr. Tpr. Thompson and Sgt. Meyer (Central Point) responded to a complaint of a cow elk found dead on private property in the Talent area. A rancher found the elk with its foot hooked in a snare next to a fence on property he runs cows on. The rancher called ODFW, and the information was forwarded to OSP. Thompson and Meyer hiked to the elk, now dead for several days, and the snare was gone. In checking the fences, they found another snare set under the bottom strand of the wire fence. The neighbor runs sheep and the snares were set to catch coyotes as they cross under the fence and kill the sheep. Thompson located the trapper who set the snares the next day. He determined the elk was inadvertently caught in the snare as it crossed the fence. The trapper said his snares have a crimp in them are supposed to break when 100 pounds of pressure are applied to them; but for some reason, the elk either did not pull very hard, or the crimp did not work. He was warned for Illegal Taking of Elk.

Sport Angling

Poaching Involves Fish, Too—Report Violators

Sr. Tpr. Randall (Klamath Falls) received a call of a person catching his limit of trout on the Klamath with the suspect still angling. Randall located the suspect as he was driving out of the area and made a traffic stop. He learned the suspect has been cited in the past for the same activity. After interviewing the suspect and the passenger, Randall cited the suspect for **Attempting to Exceed the Daily Bag Limit**.



Photo credit: Microsoft Office

Angler Cited Twice in One Week for Same Offense

Sr. Tpr. Merritt (Roseburg) contacted a subject he observed angling on the Umpqua River. He was determined not to have an angling license and was cited. Two days later, Tpr. Baimbridge (Roseburg) was checking anglers at a local reservoir. He had been observing a group of anglers for a period of time prior to making contact. While he was checking the others in the group, one of the subjects reeled in his line, broke down his pole, and started to walk off. Baimbridge contacted the subject who at first denied angling. When Baimbridge told him he had been watching the group, the subject admitted to angling and produced the citation he had received from Merritt two days earlier. He still did not have a license and was cited again.

Wanted Man Discovered after Illegally Fishing at Hatchery

Sr. Tpr. Hayes and Sr. Tpr. Love (Bend) were parked at the ODFW Fall River fish hatchery and had left the area on ATVs to follow-up on an investigation. While they were gone, a subject parked next to their marked vehicle and walked to Fall River to fish. An ODFW employee contacted him after he was observed using illegal gear. The ODFW employee also asked the subject to produce an angling license, but he refused to comply. The subject then left the river and began fishing in a hatchery pond, catching a broodstock rainbow trout. He then left the area, but not before an ODFW employee documented his license number. Hayes contacted the subject at his residence in La Pine and discovered the subject had a warrant. While attempting to take him into custody, the subject put up his fists, then Hayes deployed OC spray. The subject attempted to run from Hayes, but Hayes caught the subject and took him into custody without further incident. The subject then claimed to be having a heart attack and was taken by ambulance to a hospital in Bend. The subject was cited and released on a warrant for **Fail to Appear—DUII, Resisting Arrest, No Angling License, and Angling Prohibited Area—ODFW Hatchery Pond**. The rainbow trout was seized.

Photo credit: File



Routine Checks Needed to Find Even Minor Offenses

Rct. Keeler (Coos Bay) was checking steelhead anglers at the mouth of the Sixes River when he contacted a male subject who did not have an angling license. The subject stated he had been fishing for seven years without a license, and he was not going to start now. He was subsequently issued a citation for **No Angling License**.

Tpr. Howell and Tpr. Thomas (Tillamook) contacted two anglers on the Nestucca River while they were taking their raft out of the upper stretches. Both anglers had been fly fishing for steelhead, but they were unable to produce combined angling tags. Realizing his mistake, one of the anglers told the troopers he was not steelhead fishing, but that he was fishing for trout. After being informed trout season was closed, both subjects were cited for **No 2009 Combined Angling Tag**.

Remember to Immediately Validate

Tpr. Frazier (Hood River) and Sr. Tpr. Kipper (The Dalles) contacted an adult angler and a juvenile angler. They each had caught and retained a sturgeon. One of the sturgeon had been filleted, and the troopers later found the carcass on the bank and determined it was of legal size. Neither fish were tagged, and the juvenile did not have a license or tag. The adult was cited for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation and Fail to Validate Sturgeon Tag**. Numerous warnings were also issued.

Tpr. Thomas (Tillamook) observed the operator of a pickup not wearing his seatbelt and pulling a drift boat on Hwy 101 near Hebo. While attempting to turn on the vehicle, Thomas contacted Tpr. Howell (Tillamook) via radio to stop the pickup. Howell observed the pickup parked at a convenience store, with the driver already inside. As Thomas entered the store, the passenger told Howell the driver retained a steelhead earlier in the day. Standing at the counter, waiting to pay for some groceries, was the driver who admitted he did not have a pen and caught the fish over one hour prior. Thomas cited the subject for **Fail to Validate Steelhead on Combined Angling Tag**.

Sport Angling

Every Trooper Makes a Difference— Anglers Caught While Committing Illegal Acts

Tpr. Schoenborn (Portland) observed a subject snag and retain a 45-inch sturgeon from "The Wall" along the Willamette River in Oregon City. The subject was cited for **Take Prohibited Method—Snagged Sturgeon** and the fish was donated to a local charity.

Rect. Keeler (Coos Bay) was watching anglers on the south jetty of Coos Bay when he observed a male subject walking towards his vehicle carrying a fishing pole and backpack. The subject stated he had been fishing and did not have a license. A "sea trout" was located inside the subject's backpack. Keeler cited the subject for **Unlawful Take Sea Trout** (No Angling License) and seized the fish.

Sr. Tpr. Frerichs (Roseburg) witnessed a subject in a drift boat wrap something in a towel and go back to angling. After a period of time, the subject rowed over towards the boat ramp. Upon seeing the OSP truck parked at the ramp, the subject decided to row back out in the river. Frerichs had the subject row to shore and made contact. The subject admitted to having caught and kept an unclipped steelhead and also to knowing this was illegal. Frerichs cited the subject and seized the fish.

Sr. Tpr. Kehr (Newport) contacted two anglers he observed fishing in the ocean off the rocks in Depoe Bay. As he approached, one subject put his pole down. He claimed he had not been fishing, adding he was from Washington and did not have an Oregon license. Kehr asked who caught the lingcod that was lying on the rocks. The unlicensed subject stated the other angler had. The 20-inch lingcod (undersized) was still alive, so Kehr released it back into the water. After speaking with the legal angler, Kehr determined the unlicensed subject caught the lingcod 15-20 minutes before his arrival, citing him for **No 2009 Nonresident Angling License** and **Unlawful Possession of Undersized Lingcod**.

Sr. Tpr. Frerichs and Sr. Tpr. Merritt (Roseburg) were contacted by a fishing guide who was out with some clients on the North Umpqua River near Glide. The guide pulled his boat over next to another drift boat on the shore and observed a subject on the bank illegally filleting a steelhead. Frerichs and Merritt responded to the area and observed the three suspects back out in the drift boat, angling in the same area of the complaint. Upon contact, Frerichs observed blood on the suspect's pants, but the suspect denied filleting any fish. The suspect finally admitted to filleting a steelhead his friend caught earlier and stated he did not think it was illegal. Frerichs accompanied the subject who caught the fish to his residence and discovered two fillets with the adipose fin cut out. The fillets were seized, and a scale sample will be examined to determine if the fish was an unmarked-wild steelhead. The subject who caught the fish also had not recorded it on his tag and was in possession of another steelhead he had retained after the first was cut up and taken to his residence. Frerichs cited the suspect who caught the fish for the crime of **Unlawful Possession/Take of Steelhead**. Merritt cited the subject who was observed filleting the fish for **Unlawful Mutilation of Game Fish—Steelhead**. This subject currently has a suspended hunting license for numerous hunting violations.



Male kelp greenling ("sea trout"). Females are lighter with orange spots and yellow fins.
Photo credit: NOAA

Numerous Hooks Discovered on Same Line

Sr. Tpr. Kipper (The Dalles) observed two men angling in Taylor Lake near The Dalles. One subject was using a bottle as a reel; the other was just using a spool of fishing line. When he contacted them, they denied they were fishing. When Kipper escorted them back to the area they were fishing, he located the bottle with fishing line still attached and a baited hook in the water. He also found the spool of fishing line. As he pulled the line in, it stretched to the opposite bank on a long line with about twenty baited hooks. Kipper cited both subjects for **No Angling License** and **Angling Prohibited Method—More than Three Hooks**.

Angler Cited and Lodged for Multiple Violations

Sr. Tpr. Maher (Springfield) spotted a person sleeping on the rocks near the bank of the Row River above Dorena Reservoir. Upon closer examination, Maher saw two spinning rods with lines in the stream concealed under a rock overhang. As Maher approached (from the opposite side of the stream), the angler woke up and started reeling in one of the rods. Maher then made his way around to the angler. Maher discovered the suspect did not have an angling license or any identification. He cited the angler for **Angling Prohibited Method—Two Lines** and **Angling with Bait When Prohibited**. The angler was warned for No Angling License. Maher then made his way back to his Division pickup and ran a records check on the suspect, revealing a misdemeanor warrant for Failure to Appear—DUII. Maher hiked back to the angler's location and arrested him for the warrant. Maher transported the angler to the Lane County Jail.

Commercial Fish / Marine



Photo credit: File

Gill Net Found Hidden in the Brush

The Division is asking for the public's help to determine the circumstances under which a gill net was left along the Yachats River in south Lincoln County. According to Sgt. Thompson (Newport), on February 18, individuals were conducting a stream survey for ODFW on the Yachats River near the intersection of Yachats River Road and Beamer Creek Road, when they discovered a gill net hidden in the brush along the river bank that appeared to have been left in the area during the Fall 2008 salmon season. Supporting runs of native Chinook, coho, and steelhead, the Yachats River has special regulations in place to protect these native fish runs while providing angling opportunities for sport fishing. Anyone with information to assist with this investigation is asked to contact Sr. Tpr. Canfield at (541) 265-5354 ext. 304.

Multiple Subjects Cited for Commercial Offenses

Sr. Tpr. Stinnett (Gold Beach) concluded an investigation that involved a subject guiding on the Chetco River without a current guide's license. Stinnett traveled to Ruch, where he was assisted by Sr. Tpr. Allison (Central Point) in locating the suspect's residence. Stinnett issued a criminal citation to the subject for **Guiding without a License**.

Sr. Tpr. Hanson (Portland) performed a dealer check at a local retail store that sells bait. They were found to be selling many different bait items from a dealer who had not renewed his 2009 bait dealer's license until late February. Hanson contacted the bait dealer who stated that it was an oversight, for he had completely forgotten about renewing his license this year. Consequently, the dealer was cited for **No Wholesale Bait Dealers License**.

Sr. Tpr. Stinnett (Gold Beach) contacted an employee at a commercial fish plant in Brookings after an investigation by Sgt. Cyr (Coos Bay) at another one of their plants revealed the employee failed to sort groundfish prior to weighing them. The employee also had a valid Curry County Circuit Court warrant for DUII and DWS—Misdemeanor. Stinnett issued the subject a citation for the commercial fishing offenses and arrested her on the outstanding warrant.

Illegal Nets Discovered in the Sanctuary

Tpr. Frazier (Hood River) investigated a complaint from a treaty commercial fisherman of illegal nets in the sanctuary of the John Day Dam. Frazier conducted a boat patrol in the area with Sr. Tpr. Gunderson and Sr. Tpr. Kipper (The Dalles) and located two illegal gill nets in the sanctuary. They contacted four tribal members who were fishing the nets. The fishermen pulled the nets and released all the fish alive and unharmed back into the river. The head fisherman was cited for **Commercial Fishing Closed Area—John Day Sanctuary**. Later that day, while on boat patrol just east of The Dalles Dam, Frazier and Sr. Tpr. Pearson (The Dalles) contacted four tribal commercial fishermen on the Columbia River. All four subjects were issued warnings for No Tribal Identification. They conducted a safety inspection of the boat and found only two adult floatation devices onboard, no Type IV, and no fire extinguisher. The head fisherman was cited for the **Insufficient Number of Personal Floatation Devices** onboard and warned for the other offenses.

“Every Trooper Matters”

While checking clambers near Humbug Mountain, Tpr. Barden (Gold Beach) contacted a clammer with 27 butter clams. The clammer admitted knowing the bag limit was 20, but he had company at home and wanted to get enough clams to steam for them. The clammer was cited for **Exceeding Daily Bag Limit of Clams** and the extra clams were released in the ocean.

Tpr. Howell (Tillamook) contacted a group leaving Piers End with crab pots and a bucket. The subjects stated they did not have any crab, and their bucket only contained bait. A consent search of the bucket revealed the subjects to be in possession of four undersized Dungeness crab and a female Dungeness crab. Further investigation revealed one of the crab pots was concealing a fifth undersized crab. Howell issued a citation for **Unlawful Possession of Undersize Dungeness Crab** and a warning for Unlawful Possession of Female Dungeness Crab.

Sr. Tpr. Urbigkeit (Newport) traveled to North Bend (Shutter Creek Correctional Institution) to interview a suspect who was the skipper of a fishing vessel found to have unlawful crab pots in the Pacific Ocean. In October 2008, the Division partnered with WDFW to seize 67 commercial crab pots. After interviewing the skipper about his activities on the fishing vessel during the commercial crab season, Urbigkeit cited the suspect for **Unlawful Commercial Crabbing—No Landing within 14 days, Unlawful Commercial Crabbing—No Release Mechanism, Unlawful Commercial Crabbing—No Buoy Tags, and Unlawful Commercial Crabbing—No Pot Tags**.

Sr. Tpr. Klepp (Astoria) received information from the Astoria ODFW office regarding several commercial razor clam violations. After reviewing the information, Klepp contacted two wholesale dealers in Clatsop County and verbally warned both of them for **Purchasing Razor Clams from an Unlicensed Harvester**. The harvester was contacted later the next day and cited for **No Commercial Shellfish Harvest Permit**. The incident involved the subject first selling his clams at the beginning of the year and obtaining only one of the two required licenses. He later purchased the second license 10 days after selling the clams. Klepp also discovered the harvester sold one delivery of human consumption/food grade razor clams 48 hours after harvest. He was warned for Failure to Sell Razor Clams within 24 hours.

Environment / Habitat

Subjects Get Stuck When Attempting to Cross River

Tpr. Frazier (Hood River) investigated two subjects who attempted to drive their vehicles through the East Fork Hood River. This area is designated as essential salmonid habitat. Both subjects became stuck in the swift current, in about three to five feet of water. ODFW biologist Rod French arrived on scene to assess the damage to the stream bank and riparian vegetation, and he detected a strong odor of petroleum emanating from the river. Frazier cited both subjects for **Placing an Offensive Substance in a Waterway**. The case was forwarded to the Hood River County DA.

Photo credit: File



Numerous Cited for Littering on Land and in Water

Tpr. Mayer (Heppner) and Tpr. Madsen (Patrol, Pendleton) located an individual who Madsen, while off duty the previous evening, witnessed throwing bags of garbage over the Hwy 11 bridge into the Umatilla River. The subject was taken into custody, transported to the Pendleton office for an interview, and then lodged in the Umatilla County Jail for **Placing an Offensive Substance in a Waterway**.

Sr. Tpr. Kehr (Newport) received a complaint from the phone company about garbage on a power line access road off Hwy 18. The site consisted of a trailer, a kid's slide, buckets, a pet kennel, car seats, and other garbage. The investigation led Kehr to a suspect who used to live in the area but had moved to Dallas. The suspect was contacted and cited for **Offensive Littering**. The suspect cleaned up the dump site.

Sr. Tpr. Stinnett (Gold Beach) contacted a subject who had left his vehicle and a large amount of trash on the Ice Box gravel bar on the Chetco River. Stinnett left a business card on the vehicle telling him to remove it on February 11 then tagged it for removal on the 14th. The vehicle was finally towed on the 17th. The owner said he lost his key and could not get anyone to tow it. Stinnett issued a criminal citation for **Littering within 100 Yards of a Waterway**.

While observing steelhead anglers on the south bank of the Chetco River, Tpr. Barden (Gold Beach) noticed an extra pole with line in the water. After watching the anglers for a while, he drove down to them. While checking the first angler, Barden observed another angler walk over to the extra pole and cut the line, allowing the baited line to drift down the river. After denying cutting the line, the angler eventually admitted he was trying to cover for his buddy who was fishing another hole down river. Barden cited him for **Littering in/near Waters**.

Sr. Tpr. Pearson (The Dalles) located a substantial amount of garbage dumped near Taylor Lake in The Dalles. He located items that led to a suspect who recently moved to Hood River. He finally located the suspect by checking with schools. The suspect claimed she donated the items to a charity while moving. Pearson contacted the charity and showed them the suspect's photo. The charity remembered accepting some items for donation, but had refused dirty and damaged ones, which happened to match those found at the dump site. The father of the woman's children responded to the dump site and identified the items as belonging to the suspect. Pearson cited the woman for **Depositing Litter within 100 Yards of a Waterway**.

Several Forest Products Thefts Investigated

Tpr. Davis (Coos Bay) contacted two commercial mushroom pickers on Weyerhaeuser property. Neither subject had a valid permit. Davis found one subject had a felony warrant out of Nevada. He transported the subject to the Reedsport City Jail. Davis cited both subjects with **Theft of Minor Forest Products—Mushrooms**.

Sr. Tpr. Schwartz (Banks), Sr. Tpr. Shugart (McMinnville), and Tpr. Schwartz (Astoria) just completed running a WED operation when they observed a pickup approach their location and stop. The pickup turned around and started to leave the area. Schwartz started to follow the pickup, and the subject pulled over. The pickup was loaded with firewood. The driver explained he obtained the wood from Longview Fibre land, and he did not think he needed a permit. The driver was cited for **Theft II of Minor Forest Products**. The wood was photographed on offloaded.

Tpr. Schwartz (Astoria) was informed of timber theft on Longview Timber property, near Rainier. An employee observed the suspect exit the property with freshly cut timber rounds. Schwartz received information that the suspect was parked in Longview, Washington, with split firewood and a sign stating the wood was for sale for \$160. Schwartz later observed the suspect entering Oregon with the firewood and stopped him for a traffic violation. The suspect admitted to cutting and transporting almost four cords of wood, two of which he sold. Schwartz cited the suspect for **Theft of Forest Products and Unlawful Cut and Transport of Forest Products** and seized the remainder of the wood with the assistance of Longview Timber security.

Students Cleaned Up Entire Lake as Consequence

Sr. Tpr. Salisbury (Florence) received a report who saw three kids throw a couch off the bridge at Woahink Lake. The witness described the truck and Salisbury was able to find it at the high school. Salisbury contacted the principal who told him that certain students have couch at the high school and just replaced it with a new one. He said he told these students they could only have one couch and they had to get rid of the old one (he recommended the county dump or donation). The principal arranged a meeting with the truck owner who told Salisbury the names of the other students involved. A meeting with the students, their parents, and the principal inspired the students to retrieve the couch and clean the entire area of the lake. The boys brought the couch and other litter later that day to the Florence office to show Salisbury the results, then they took it to the dump. No citations were issued.

Environment / Habitat / General Law

Troopers Stopped Truck Entering Oregon Encrusted with Mussels

A truck came through the Ashland Port of Entry northbound on I-5 towing a large boat encrusted with dried out mussels. The operator stated the boat was previously in San Diego and had been out of the water for about two years. He was en route to Washington with the boat. Personnel at the Port of Entry contacted ODFW and OSMB. ODFW notified OSP, and an attempt-to-locate was put out on the truck which had left the scales. Tpr. Lee (Patrol, Grants Pass) located the truck and found a violation to stop it for. Pictures and samples of the mussels on the boat hull were obtained. Further review determined there were no zebra or quagga mussels on the vessel. These mussels are invasive and will cause serious economic and environmental damage to Oregon's freshwater bodies, irrigation, and water delivery systems. For information on this epidemic, please visit ODFW's website at http://www.dfw.state.or.us/conservationstrategy/invasive_species/quagga_zebra_mussel.asp. What if there would not have been a trooper available and the mussels were invasive?

If you suspect a boat is infected with quagga or zebra mussels, call 1-866-INVADER or OSP



Photo credits: File



Other Various February Investigations Demonstrate Importance of Every Trooper

Tpr. Barden (Gold Beach) observed three mushroom pickers crossing the upper Chetco River in a small plastic canoe. After watching the canoe almost capsize during the river crossing, Barden contacted the mushroom pickers. Only one of the pickers had a valid USFS mushroom permit and no life jackets were on board the canoe. Barden cited the canoe owner for **No Personal Flotation Device** and warned the others for the offenses.

Sr. Tpr. Pearson (The Dalles) arrested a subject for **DUII** on Hwy 197 near Dufur. Since the subject had **three** prior convictions in the past ten years, this DUII was a felony. The subject was also arrested for a probation violation warrant and **Driving While Revoked—Misdemeanor**. The subject refused SFST's and the breath test, so he was additionally cited for **Refusing a Breath Test**. Since the passenger was confined to a wheelchair, a charity provided assistance to find him a place to stay until someone could pick him up. Sgt. Katzenstein (The Dalles) and Sgt. Shortt (Patrol, The Dalles) assisted.

Retired Sr. Tpr. Floyd (Central Point) was working the JACTMA contract patrolling in the Shady Cove area when he saw a suspect hauling a load of firewood in his pickup without any permits displayed. He stopped the suspect and identified the driver and passenger. While performing a records check, the passenger got out of the truck and fled on foot into the woods. Floyd learned he was wanted on warrants from Shady Cove for Failure to Appear (FTA) on a traffic citation and FTA on a parole violation for robbery. Other Fish and Wildlife troopers were en route to assist. Floyd ended his contact with the driver and then drove down to a lower road where he believed the wanted man might come out. He parked the OSP truck and walked down the road about 150 yards and saw the wanted man. Floyd took the man into custody without incident. The man was lodged at the Jackson County Jail.

Sr. Tpr. Maher (Oakridge) stopped at the Dilley Landing on the Coast Fork of the Willamette River and noticed a vehicle parked with an empty drift boat trailer. Maher walked around the outside of the vehicle and noticed a bag of marijuana in plain view on the driver's seat. He waited for the vehicle owner to return to the boat ramp. At dark, the boat came to the ramp. Maher contacted the boat occupants. He cited the vehicle owner for **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana**.

Sr. Tpr. Bean (Gilchrist) stopped a vehicle on Hwy 58 for a traffic infraction. The subjects stated they were returning from a bobcat hunting trip in the Silver Lake area. They admitted to having the dogs out and hunting. They possessed a western Oregon bobcat card which is not valid in Silver Lake area. The subject was cited for **No Valid Bobcat Card**. The operator of the vehicle was on probation and was prohibited from being in possession of a firearm. He was found to be in possession of a shotgun. At the request of his probation officer, he was taken into custody and lodged in the Klamath County Jail.

The Dalles' Sgt. Katzenstein, Sr. Tpr. Gunderson, Arlington's Tpr. Ring, Tpr. Routson (Patrol), Sr. Tpr. Vanderwerf (Patrol), Gilliam County SO deputies, and Morrow County SO undersheriff responded to an area south of Arlington on a suicidal subject. The subject called Gilliam County SO to advise he was suicidal and wanted to get into a shootout with the police. Katzenstein assumed command of the situation. He attempted to locate the subject and found him sleeping in his vehicle out of sight parked off the roadway near his residence. Vanderwerf determined the suspect did have a firearm when the subject rolled over in the seat. Officers believed the subject had been drinking. After the subject woke up, they were able to talk him out of the vehicle, and he was taken into custody without incident on a mental hold. The subject did possess one handgun and one rifle in the vehicle.

Interagency Cooperation

Cooperative Patrol Discovered Unretrieved Pots



Sr. Tpr. Klepp and Tpr. Schwartz (Astoria) worked with four WDFW officers to assist with an offshore detail and allow KGW Channel 8 News' Grant McOmie a chance to film footage for an upcoming news segment regarding offshore law enforcement of the Dungeness crab fishery. Klepp went with three WDFW officers aboard Washington's *Corliss*, and Schwartz went with one WDFW officer aboard Washington's 26' Almar rigid hull inflatable. The two vessels worked together to locate and retrieve commercial crab pots in the area south of the



Photo credits (left and above): File

Columbia River bar. The story focused on some of the new commercial Dungeness crab regulations off the Oregon shore. Soon after leaving Cape Disappointment, officers discovered a string of 19 commercial pots just south of the Columbia River bar's south jetty that appeared to have not been retrieved for well over the required 14-day period. The investigation revealed the pots had not been retrieved since their initial deployment prior to the season (December 2008). Officers seized the pots and released many live crab back to the ocean. The vessel's owner was contacted two days later and cited for **Failure to Land Commercial Dungeness Crab within 14 days after Deploying Gear in the Pacific Ocean**. For the story and video that aired March 10, please visit http://www.kgw.com/outdoors/stories/kgw_031009_outdoors_dungeness_crab_poachers.214f3fff.html.

Other Interagency Patrols and Assistance

Sgt. Tucker (La Grande) assisted Union County SO with serving a search warrant at the location of an attempted murder in Cove. Several sets of deer antlers were found in the suspect's house and only two were tagged. A check of the freezer revealed several packages of deer and elk meat without any tags to go with them. One package of elk meat was marked "road kill." Union County reviewed the case and charged the suspect with numerous criminal and wildlife charges, including **Attempted Murder, Assault II, Felon in Possession of a Firearm, Unlawful Possession of Elk**, and **Unlawful Possession of Deer**.

Tpr. Ring (Arlington), Tpr. Mayer (Heppner), and Tpr. Carothers (Fossil/Condon) conducted a boat patrol with Officer Bolton and Officer Horn (WDFW) from Arlington to the John Day Dam. They spent six hours on the water and checked six anglers, performed one BER, and issued a citation for **Angling Prohibited Method—More Than One Line** (by WDFW). On another day, Ring, Mayer, and Tpr. Dietz (Pendleton) conducted a patrol below McNary Dam with Horn. Officers spent three hours on patrol and checked 19 anglers, performed one BER, and issued two warnings for No Angling License on Person.

Sr. Tpr. Pearson (The Dalles) and Tpr. Frazier (Hood River) conducted a boat patrol with two WDFW officers on The Dalles Pool of the Columbia River. They completed nine BERs, issued several boat warnings, and checked 32 anglers. Officers also found an empty beer can floating in the water and retrieved it. When officers contacted two anglers in a boat upriver, they determined the can came from their boat. The litterer was cited by OSP for **Depositing Litter in a Waterway** and by WDFW for **No Angling License**. A check revealed neither man had a valid operator's license. Later, officers observed the men loading their boat on the Washington side. The men were re-contacted and the driver was cited by Washington for **No Operator's License**. Two others were cited on the patrol for **No Angling License** and **Angling Prohibited Method for Sturgeon—Barbed Hook**.

Sgt. Meyer, Sr. Tpr. Thompson, and Sr. Tpr. Collom (Central Point) assisted the EPA with a search warrant at a Butte Falls area home in order to secure mercury reported to be improperly stored and handled and to clean up any possible spills or exposure hazards. A quantity of mercury was recovered in a jar and the cleanup was minimal.

Sr. Tpr. Randall (Klamath Falls) concluded an investigation from the 2007 deer season. A doe deer was shot and left to waste. At that time, the main suspect lived in Nevada. USFWS agents were unable to locate the suspect and learned he had moved back to Oregon. Randall and Sr. Tpr. Maher (Oakridge) located the subject in Oakridge and cited him for **Taking Deer Closed Season** and **Waste of Doe Deer**.

Sr. Tpr. Carter, Tpr. Dietz (Pendleton), and Tpr. Mayer (Heppner) worked with WDFW officers conducting taxidermy inspections in both Oregon and Washington during the first week of February. Officers contacted four taxidermists in Oregon, with seven others in the area not available. No citations were issued; however, a couple of minor warnings were issued for improper documentation. Washington officers obtained additional information to follow up on.

Sr. Tpr. Randall (Klamath Falls) assisted CDFG in completing a poaching investigation. Earlier, Klamath Falls troopers assisted CDFG with serving a search warrant on a Bonanza area residence. Officers seized several rifles, along with other evidence. The rifles were sent for lab work and bullets were compared against a bullet found in a poached deer, resulting in a positive match. Randall and Warden Freitas (CDFG) met with the suspect. When confronted with the evidence, the suspect finally admitted to an "accident." The suspect is set to appear in California on all charges related to the poaching incident. During the original search, officers located raptor talons and feathers. Randall cited the suspect for the **Unlawful Possession of Raptor Parts**.

Interagency Cooperation / Public Relations

Cougar Discovered in Tree in Downtown Ashland

Sr. Tpr. Cushman, Sr. Tpr. Allison, Sr. Tpr. Collom, and Sgt. Meyer (Central Point) responded to assist Ashland PD with a cougar reported to be in a tree in downtown Ashland. Troopers arrived to find Ashland PD on scene and a cougar up in a tree near Ashland Street and Clay Street. This is a busy part of town, with city streets and a mobile home park next to the treed cougar and other houses and businesses nearby. A crowd of onlookers and news agencies were forming. Ashland PD, OSP, and ODFW consulted and determined the cougar had to be shot in order to safely remove it from the area. The officers cordoned off the area, and evacuated a few nearby homes. The cougar was shot from the tree, and it fell into a patch of blackberry bushes. Officers quickly dispatched the cougar, then took the feline to ODFW for examination. ODFW determined the cougar to be a young male weighing 76.5 pounds.

Photo credit: File



Troopers Gave Presentations to Various Groups



Photo credit: File

Sr. Tpr. Allison and Sr. Tpr. Thompson (Central Point) gave a presentation to the Central Point Police Explorer Post showing them the finer points of Fish and Wildlife enforcement. This included using the Wildlife Enforcement Decoy (WED) deer. About 10 Explorers attended the meeting.

Sgt. Meyer and Sr. Tpr. Thompson (Central Point) did a class presentation at Southern Oregon University regarding OSP and the Division. Approximately 12 students attended.

Tpr. Schwartz (Astoria) and Sr. Tpr. Shugart (McMinnville) attended the Columbia County OHA chapter banquet in St. Helens. The many attendees complimented OSP on the Trailer of Shame and asked questions regarding various wildlife laws.

Sr. Tpr. Halsey (Albany) attended the Wapiti Bowman's conference Saturday night in Albany with approximately 80-100 attendees. Halsey invited ODFW biologist Nancy Taylor. There were many questions asked and answered of both OSP and ODFW.

Tpr. Van Meter and Sr. Tpr. Canfield (Newport) attended the Salty Dogs convention at South Beach Marina in Newport. The Salty Dogs are an iFish forum of saltwater fishers. They have been meeting in Newport for the last few years, and every year, the convention grows. They answered many questions about sport and commercial regulations.

Salem and Albany troopers had training on "Hound Hunting." A hound hunter met the team at the Fall Creek Hatchery and talked about the sport and then took his dogs out, so the team could observe the dogs hunting. The class was very informative, and all appreciated the time the hunter spent with the team.

Rct. Burkholder (Albany) talked to an OSU steelhead class regarding Fish and Wildlife enforcement. The talk was well received.

Lt. Gifford (Central Point) did a class presentation at Rogue Community College regarding OSP and the Division. Approximately 20 students attended.

Sgt. Thompson and Sr. Tpr. Kehr (Newport) set the Trailer of Shame up at the Oregon Bow Hunters Convention at Chinook Winds Casino in Lincoln City. It was well received and numerous contacts were made with the public. The following day, Sgt. Pond (Bend) gave the group a presentation regarding the Division's DNA work and showcased some investigations in central Oregon regarding bow hunters.

5,000 Contacted at Shows, Many Voiced Support of Division's Mission

In February, troopers from around the state worked four local sportsmen's shows, contacting about 5,000 people and answering many questions. Troopers proudly displayed the Division's Trailer of Shame, attracting many people to stop and talk with troops about poaching and the importance of the Division's mission to protect and enforce fish and wildlife laws. Roseburg troopers worked the Douglas County Sportsmen's and Outdoor Recreation Show held at the Douglas County Fairgrounds Complex and contacted about 500 people. Springfield, Florence, and Oakridge troopers worked the Eugene Boat and Sportsmen's Show held at the Lane County Fairgrounds Convention Center in Eugene and contacted about 1,200 people. Central Point and Grants Pass troopers worked the Jackson County Sportsmen's and Outdoor Recreation Show at the Jackson County Expo Center in Central Point. They received some tips on local poachers and contacted about 800 people. Division members attended the Pacific Northwest Sportsman's Show held at the Expo Center in Portland, handing out numerous applications and contacting about 2,500 people.



Photo credit: File

Dispositions

On February 6, a commercial fisherman pled guilty in Tillamook County Circuit Court to two counts of **Unlawful Use Commercial Crab Pots** stemming from a case during the 2006-2007 crab season involving his unlawful use of commercial Dungeness crab pots without required buoy tags. The suspect was sentenced to 30 days in jail and **\$41,200** in restitution. This sentence was negotiated between the Tillamook County DA, the defendant, and his attorney.

Sr. Tpr. Allison (Central Point) cited two suspects in November 2008 for shooting and mortally wounding a deer with the aid of artificial light, thanks to a TIP and assistance from the reporting party. The first suspect was convicted of **Taking Deer Closed Season** and was sentenced to 12 months probation, \$800 restitution, \$84 in fines, two-year license suspension, and forfeiture of the firearm. The charge of Hunting with an Artificial Light was dismissed. The second suspect was convicted of **Aiding in a Game Violation** and sentenced to 11 months probation, \$150 in fines, and a two-year license suspension. The Turn-In-Poachers (TIP) program paid a \$250 reward to the man who reported the incident.

In August 2008, after he read about a family's story in a hunting magazine, Sr. Tpr. Ring (Arlington) contacted Sr. Tpr. Hayes (Bend) and Sr. Tpr. Bean (Gilchrist) to assist with checking the validity of the story. Ring learned the brother had a tag, but not for the unit he hunted in. Hayes and Bean discovered the brother shot the buck in the unit he did not have a tag for. The brother was cited for **Unlawfully Taking Deer Without a Valid Tag**, and, for her role, the sister was cited for **Aiding in a Game Violation**. Troopers also found the father loaned his tag to his son (valid for the unit where the buck was shot) and cited him for **Loaning a Deer Tag**. The father contacted the magazine to publish the story. The father and son pled guilty. The father was sentenced to a \$1,133 fine and a two-year license suspension. The son was sentenced to a \$1,133 fine, two-year license suspension, \$800 restitution to ODFW, and forfeiture of the rifle used.



Seized pots from 2006-2007 crab case. Photo credit: File

Sr. Tpr. Hayes (Bend) received a court disposition on a subject he cited for **Trapping Prohibited Method**. The subject was sentenced to: two years bench probation, two-year hunting/trapping license suspension, \$250 fine, and forfeiture of the traps.

A poacher cited by Sgt. Cyr (Coos Bay) and Tpr. Barden (Gold Beach) in October 2008 pled guilty to **Hunting with an Artificial Light and Hunting from a Motor Vehicle** and received the following sentence: 24 months probation, \$817 fine, \$200 restitution to the WED fund, 100 hours of community service, and two-year license suspension.

On February 12, a subject cited for **Waste of Wildlife—Big Horn Sheep**, as a result of an investigation by Tpr. Carothers (Fossil/Condon), Sr. Tpr. Gunderson, Sr. Tpr. McNerney, and Sgt. Katzenstein (The Dalles/Hood River), entered a plea of No Contest and was sentenced to the following in the Gilliam County Circuit Court: \$6,800 restitution (\$5,300 suspended), twelve months probation, two-year license suspension, and forfeiture head/horns of sheep.

Other Guilty Dispositions Received in February

- Angling Prohibited Hours, \$823 fines
- No Salmon Tag, two-year license suspension, \$823 fines
- Unlawful Possession of Deer Head, two-year license suspension
- Unlawful Retention of Cutthroat Trout, two-year license suspension
- Unlawful Take of Deer, Hunting on Enclosed Lands of Another, two-year license suspension, \$800 restitution
- Angling Prohibited Method, UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana, \$1,233 fines
- Operate a Motor Vehicle in Violation of Cooperative TMA, two suspects fined \$823 each
- No Resident Angling License, Possession of Falsely Applied for Angling License, \$852 fines
- Hunt Deer without Valid Unused 2008 Bow Tag, Unlawfully Shoot Bow at Deer from Public Roadway/Right of Way, two-year license suspension, \$800 restitution
- No Wildlife Holding Permit—Raccoons, \$703 fines
- No Shellfish License, two suspects fined \$603 each
- Possession of Undersized/Female Dungeness Crab, \$823 fines
- Fail to Validate 2008 Harvest Card, \$426 fines
- Hunting on Enclosed Lands of Another, \$800 fine, two-year license suspension
- No Non-Resident Angling License, two-year license suspension, \$823 fines
- Hunting Game Birds with Shotgun Holding More than Three Shells, \$823 fines, two-year license suspension
- No Resident Angling License, three suspects fined \$823 each, two others fined \$603 each, another fined \$703, another fined \$426
- Possession/False Application of Hunting License, False Application Deer Tag, False Application Elk Tag. First guilty, 18 months probation, \$2,133 fine. Dismissed other two.

Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division

Assuring compliance with the laws which protect and enhance the long-term health and equitable utilization of Oregon's fish, wildlife, and habitat resources.



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