

Oregon State Police

Fish and Wildlife Division



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

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Fish and Wildlife SIU Investigation Leads to Convictions of Four Suspects \$150,000 Fine Paid into Commercial Fish Fund



DDA Ujifusa on a gillnet boat with Sr. Tpr. Hanson.
Photo credit: File.

A big thanks to Multnomah County Deputy District Attorneys (DDA) John Bradley, Kevin Demer, and Glen (JR) Ujifusa, and Department of Justice (DOJ) attorney Michael Slauson. The DDAs worked many hours understanding the commercial fishing laws and the impact fishing violations have to Oregon's resources. DDA Demer was on scene when the search warrants were executed, and DDA Ujifusa accompanied our Fish and Wildlife Troopers on a gillnet enforcement patrol to understand enforcement concerns along with understanding the challenges the gillnet fisherman face while fishing. DDAs conducted additional interviews and researched additional evidence. The DDAs and DOJ's work resulted in a very fair negotiation to the defendants and to the protection of Oregon's resources. The case involved the Fish and Wildlife Division Special Investigations Unit (SIU), Sr. Tpr. Hanson (Portland), and many other Division troopers, investigating a commercial fish case between October 25, 2005, and January 5, 2007.

After lengthy negotiations, on January 14, 2009, the first suspect, from Bellevue, Washington, and three other suspects, all from Cascade Locks, pled guilty through a plea agreement to one count each of **Falsifying Business Records**. The State of Oregon agreed to dismiss any pending charges against their corporation.

As part of the plea agreement, the suspects **paid \$150,000** to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) Commercial Fish fund, along with the adherence to a compliance plan for two years. If any of the suspects violate the compliance requirements, the state will request a sentencing hearing on the individual suspect(s) for **Falsifying Business Records**.

The four suspects commercially gillnet salmon and sturgeon on the Columbia River and are partners of the wholesale fish dealer corporation. The four suspects fish the Columbia River and sell/deliver the fish to their own business. The suspects own multiple vessels with gillnet permits. The case revealed that the suspects were fishing vessels and recording their catch on vessels that did not fish, allowing individual vessels to exceed their fish limits. As required by rule, wholesale fish dealers are to document on fish tickets the exact numbers/pounds of fish caught on the vessel, and these fish tickets are considered a business record. The tickets are to be signed by both the fisherman and the wholesale fish dealer stating the information is correct. Division troopers observed and documented over 50 alleged commercial fish violations centered on falsifying fish tickets.



A gillnet vessel on the Columbia River. Photo credit: File.

The Columbia River gillnet fishery is a "limited entry" fishery, wherein Oregon State law only allows up to 200 permits for the Columbia River. No new permits can be issued, but they can be transferred if a vessel is sold or replaced. The industry is highly regulated by the Columbia River Compact which consists of ODFW, State of Washington, federal agencies, the treaty Indian tribes, and, in some cases, the State of Idaho, to manage the anadromous fish runs and fisheries of the Columbia River. The Compact sets seasons and allows the catch, quota, or limits. When the quota is met, the season is closed. Accurate reporting of fish caught is crucial to the management of the fish.



Anadromous fish migrate upward to spawn. Photo credit: J. Charaoui

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Dispositions

January Guilty Dispositions

- ▶ Exceeding Bag Limit of Deer, \$300 fine, \$800 restitution
- ▶ Waste of Game Mammal—Deer, 12-month probation
- ▶ Aiding in Wildlife Crime—Waste of Deer, 12-month probation
- ▶ Loaning Big Game Tag, 12-month probation
- ▶ Aiding/Counseling in a Game Violation, \$241 fine, two-year hunting license suspension
- ▶ Angling Prohibited Method, \$299 fine, two-year angling license suspension, seized rod and reel
- ▶ Unlawful Possession of Blacktail Deer, \$800 restitution, two-year hunting license suspension
- ▶ Unlawful Take of Blacktail Deer (WED) No Tag, forfeit weapon, \$500 fine, \$100 restitution, two-year hunting license suspension
- ▶ Unlawfully Possession of Applied for Resident Hunting License/Elk Tag, \$299 fine, two-year hunting license suspension
- ▶ Angling Prohibited Method—Snagging, \$299 fine, two-year angling license suspension, seized rod and reel
- ▶ Aiding in Game Violation—Waste of Game Mammal, \$638 fine, two years probation, two-year hunting license suspension
- ▶ Hunting on Enclosed Lands of Another and Waste of Game Mammal—Spike Deer, \$638 fine, \$800 restitution, four years probation, three-year hunting license suspension
- ▶ Two subjects guilty of Casting Artificial Light from Motor Vehicle while Armed with a Firearm, 24-month hunting license suspension (each), \$427 fine (each)



Photo credit: Don Virgovic, USFS

Subjects Sentenced for Wildlife Crimes

Sr. Tpr. Allison (Central Point) investigated a case in August where a man placed some poison out to ward off problem bears near his home. A neighbor's dog ate some of the poison and died. The suspect was cited for **Making Toxic Substance Available To Wildlife** and warned for **Unlawful Baiting Bear**. He agreed to a plea bargain. The suspect pled guilty and was fined \$200 and ordered to pay the victims (dog's owners) \$750. He promptly paid his fine and restitution.

In December, Sr. Tpr. Kehr and Sr. Tpr. Hathaway (Newport) received information that a cow elk was killed off the 804 spur in the Murphy Hill area on November 26, 2008. As a result of the investigation, Kehr and Hathaway cited three suspects: the first for **Unlawful Take of Cow Elk Closed Season and Waste of Game Mammal—Cow Elk**; the second for **Aiding in a Game Offense—Unlawful Take of Cow Elk and Aiding in a Wildlife Crime—Waste of Game Mammal**; and the third for **Aiding in a Wildlife Crime—Waste of Game Mammal**. Two rifles were seized. In January, two of the subjects pled guilty in Lincoln County Circuit Court. Judge Branford sentenced each to a \$2,000 fine, three years probation, five days in jail, and a two-year hunting license suspension.

OSP is seeking the public's help in several cases. Please [visit our website](#) to view the latest news.

Remember tips can be anonymous. Report wildlife law violators 1-800-452-7888.

Abbreviations and Acronyms

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

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Wildlife / Hunting

Illegal Taxidermy Operation Discovered

Sr. Tpr. Salisbury and Sr. Tpr. Lea (Florence) discovered a possible illegal taxidermy operation while following up a big game investigation started by Tpr. Boyd (Springfield). Enough probable cause existed to obtain a search warrant for the premises. Salisbury, Sr. Tpr. Maher, Rct. Sheets, and Sgt. Hulett (Springfield) served the warrant in the Nelson Mountain Road area. They discovered the subject had been tanning hides over the years for area residents and kept no records of his work. Several bear skulls, hides, and parts from protected nongame wildlife were seized. The suspect was cited for **Unlawful Possession of Game Mammals and Furbearers without Written Record of Transfer** and **Unlawful Possession of Protected Nongame Wildlife**.

Father Failed to Accompany Youth on Elk Hunt

Sr. Tpr. Maher (Springfield) investigated a report of a juvenile who had shot a spike bull elk during an antlerless-only elk season in the Little River area South East of Cottage Grove. Upon arrival at the scene (near Harness Mountain), it was learned that a 12-year-old and his 15-year-old brother who both had Sutherlin Youth Controlled Elk Hunt tags were hunting in the area with their father when a group of elk were seen in a unit a long distance away. The juvenile hunters hiked away from their father in order to get closer to the elk. When the juvenile hunters were about 500 yards away from their father and about 100 yards away from the elk, the 12-year-old hunter fired one round and hit an elk. Neither juvenile said they actually identified the elk as a bull or cow before it was shot, because the head was not visible to them. Eventually, they located the dead elk and saw that it was a spike. The father then called in a reported the incident. Maher cited the father for **Fail to Accompany Youth Hunter—Sutherlin Youth Controlled Elk Hunt**. He seized the elk and donated it to the Eugene Mission.

Hunters Exceeded the Bag Limit

Tpr. O'Connor and Tpr. Schwartz (Astoria) responded the Jewell area and made contact with a hunter who called dispatch to report that he had shot two elk and wanted to turn himself in. The suspect was cited (violation) for **Exceeding the Bag Limit of Elk** and **No Hunting License** and also warned for Hunting Prohibited Area, after they determined the hunter was outside of the boundaries of his unit.

Sr. Tpr. Kehr and Sr. Tpr. Torland (Newport) contacted several master hunters participating in the Salmon River Estuary cow hunt. Investigation revealed that two master hunters and three assistants entered a private posted area and killed one elk and possibly wounded another. A third master hunter in a nearby area of the estuary fired four shots into a herd of elk and killed one cow and mortally wounded another. A friend of this master hunter dispatched the mortally wounded cow. The master hunter from the first group who had wounded and lost the cow earlier arrived and tagged the extra elk that had been dispatched—a cow he had not shot. Two master hunters were cited for **Criminal Trespass with a Firearm**, and two of the assistants were cited for **Criminal Trespass 2** and one was warned. The third master hunter was cited for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit on Cow Elk**. Two cow elk, three shotguns, and one tag were seized as evidence.

Anonymous Tips Helped Identify Wildlife Violators

Tpr. Buck (Portland) and Sr. Tpr. Andrus (Patrol, Portland) responded to an anonymous report of an illegally taken elk by a resident of Sandy. They contacted the resident who eventually admitted to illegally shooting an elk. They found the elk cut up and submerged in water in the suspect's bathroom. The suspect was cited for **Unlawful Possession of Game Mammal—Cascade Elk** and all of the elk meat was seized.

Sr. Tpr. Bennett (Grants Pass) followed up on an anonymous tip of a poached deer. He went to the suspect's residence and observed fresh drag marks and blood on the patio. A subject at the residence said the suspect was not home but allowed Bennett to search the backyard. Bennett found a freshly killed spike deer hanging, missing a few parts. He was allowed to search the freezer and found some deer meat. He seized the deer and meat. The suspect later contacted Bennett and admitted to shooting the deer. He was cited for **Illegal Take of Deer**.

Sr. Tpr. Collom (Central Point) had an article run in the local paper requesting information on a large three-point buck poached in the Gold Hill area. Collom received a tip from a person who said he heard that a man who works in Gold Hill killed more than one deer, one of them being a three-point buck. Collom contacted this man who said he had two sets of antlers—one killed by a friend and one by him. His deer tag was not validated properly. He was cited for **Fail to Properly Validate a Deer Tag**. Neither of these bucks were the poached three-point.

Sr. Tpr. Johnson (John Day) received an anonymous tip which led to the contact of two suspects at their cabin near Dixie Summit. Both men were in the process of cutting up a five-point bull elk. Johnson determined one of the suspects killed the elk without a tag during closed season. The suspect said he shot the elk just before Thanksgiving and it was frozen, so he could not cut it up. It had just thawed enough to process when he was contacted by Johnson. Sgt. Larson (John Day) assisted in the investigation. Johnson cited the suspect for **Taking Bull Elk Closed Season** and warned the father. The elk was salvaged.



Photo credit: USA.gov/NBII

Wildlife / Hunting

Neighbor Shot at Protected Bird

Sr. Tpr. Culp (Salem) and Sr. Tpr. Turnbo (Salem) responded to the Dallas area, at the request of Polk County SO who was investigating a complaint of a subject shooting a firearm too close to his neighbors' residence. Further investigation revealed that the subject was shooting at a Steller's Jay, a protected bird. The subject was cited for **Taking Protected Bird**.

Observant Sergeant Identified Duck Poacher

Sgt. Hoodenpyl (Tillamook) noticed a subject walking from a barn to a residence along Kilchis River Road. Hoodenpyl saw that this subject was dressed in camouflage waders and was carrying three ducks. Upon contact, the subject told him that he shot the ducks earlier in the morning and did not have a hunting license or any required state or federal validations. The subject was cited for **Unlawful Possession of Ducks** and the ducks were seized.



Photo credit: Alan Wilson/Creative Commons [ShareAlike](#)

Waterfowl Hunters Caught Trespassing, Birds Seized

Tpr. Buck and Tpr. Schoenborn (Portland) observed two waterfowl hunters near Eagle Creek. The landowner did not grant the subjects permission to hunt. Upon contact, troopers found the hunters killed 13 ducks and one goose. They cited the first subject for **No Hunting License, No Possession of a Northwest Goose Hunting Permit and Using a Shotgun Capable of Holding More Than Three Shells** and the second, who had his 14-year-old son with him, for **Hunting/Possessing Lead Shot and No Possession of a Northwest Goose Hunting Permit**. They issued warnings for other hunting/trespassing violations and seized six ducks and one goose, donating them to charity.

Father Counseled in Game Violations

Sr. Tpr. Maher (Springfield) stopped by Dilley Landing on the Coast Fork Willamette River regarding past complaints of after-hours duck hunting. At about 4:57 p.m. (legal time ended at 4:44 p.m., per regulations on that day), Maher heard one gunshot in a farm field across the river. Maher traveled to the area and gained permission to enter the private property from the landowner. Maher located three hunters standing near a field of cut corn. The hunters shot one more time at 5:10 p.m. Upon contact, Maher determined that two adults and one nine-year-old were hunting ducks. The juvenile (acting as a mentored youth) fired both rounds that the trooper heard. The last round was fired at ducks on a nearby pond by the juvenile hunter at the direction of his father who did not have a hunting license. While talking to the group, a third shotgun was found lying in the field near where they were standing which was loaded with lead shot. At the end of the contact, the father of the juvenile was issued citations for **Counseling in a Game Violation—Hunting Waterfowl Prohibited Hours and Counseling in a Game Violation—Hunting Waterfowl with Toxic Shot**.

One Hunter Exceeded, Waste Discovered

Sr. Tpr. Klepp (Astoria) used the 12-foot skiff to patrol the lower Columbia River from Tongue Point to Tennaillahee Island during the last weekend of duck season. Klepp contacted approximately 20 hunters in nine boats. He wrote two BERS and cited one subject for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Ducks—Lesser Scaup**. The daily limit is two. Klepp seized the illegal scaup. He also received a complaint of waste and possibly exceeding in the Blind Slough area. The complainant stated several birds were not retrieved and left to float down the river. Klepp arrived but was too late to contact the suspects. Two dead unretrieved birds were discovered in the water.

Motorized Decoys are Prohibited

Sgt. Meyer (Central Point) received a report of someone duck hunting on a pond in the Sam's Valley area. He responded and watched two men near a pond apparently duck hunting. They were dressed in camouflage, in a blind, and they had duck decoys on the pond. Duck season was open and Meyer watched the men shoot at ducks. They also had a motorized duck decoy on a stake next to the water. At some point, the men became aware that Meyer was watching them and they took down the motorized decoy. Meyer walked out to the pond, and the hunters abandoned the motorized decoy on their walk out to their vehicles. Meyer retrieved it and cited the two hunters for **Hunting Prohibited Method—Motorized Duck Decoy**. The decoy was seized.

Goose Hunters Need to Validate

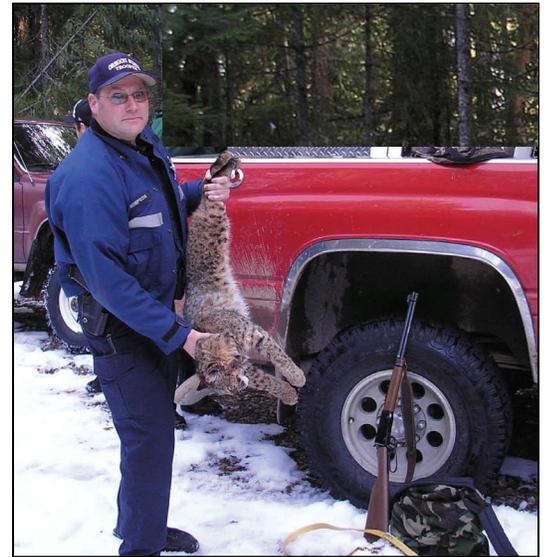
Rct. Galusha and Tpr. Thomas (Tillamook) observed two goose hunters in a local dairy farm field. Upon contact with the individuals, the troopers discovered that one of the hunters had hidden a dusky goose in the brush and had the intention of not checking the bird in at the required goose check station. The hunter admitted that once he identified the bird as a dusky, he did not want to have his card punched, which would end his season of goose hunting. The dusky, along with two other geese, were not validated on either of the hunters' Northwest Goose permits. The subject who hid the dusky was cited for **Fail to Validate Goose Harvest Card**, while the second subject received a warning for the same offense. Consequently, ODFW seized both hunters' goose permits, ending their seasons of goose hunting.

Wildlife / Hunting

Hunters Warned for Fail to Validate

Sr. Tpr. Thompson and Sr. Tpr. Allison (Central Point) were working above Lost Creek Lake, when they heard some hounds on the mountainside barking as if they had something “treed.” The troopers began hiking up the mountain toward the location from where the sound was coming from, when they met a couple of men (“houncers”) coming out with a bobcat that they had treed and killed with their hounds. The bobcat was not yet tagged, because they left their bobcat harvest card in their vehicle. They were warned for Fail To Validate Bobcat Harvest Card.

Photo credit: File



Multiple Violations Found in Taxidermy Records

Sr. Tpr. Schwartz (Banks) and Rct. Vogel (St. Helens) conducted a taxidermy check on a Portland-based taxidermist. The troopers were looking for an illegally taken bobcat that had been turned into the taxidermist with no license or tag. Upon inspection, they found the taxidermist had accepted the illegally taken bobcat and did not ask for the required information. The troopers further checked the taxidermist's records and found approximately 60 violations. The taxidermist was subsequently cited for **Fail to Maintain Required Taxidermy Records**.

Trappers Cited and Warned for Multiple Violations

Tpr. Weaver (Lakeview) and Sgt. Hand (Klamath Falls) patrolled the high desert checking traps. One location was found to have several traps that did not have a trap brand and had exposed flesh bait. Weaver photographed the sets and then seized the traps. A receipt was left at the location. Weaver initiated an investigation and learned the likely suspect was a convicted felon with a violent past. On the next day, Weaver returned to the area with BLM Ranger Pat Apley. They sat in surveillance on the trap sets. Finally, a vehicle arrived, and two people hiked to the location of the traps. Weaver and Apley were waiting at the suspect's vehicle upon their return. One of the subjects was arrested and taken into custody for **Felon in Possession of a Firearm**. The other subject was cited and released for **Trapping Prohibited Method—Unbranded Traps** and **Trapping Prohibited Method—Using Site Bait within 15 Feet of a Trap**. More warnings were issued.

Trappers Required to Check Traps within 48 Hours

Sr. Tpr. Maher (Oakridge) worked a trapping complaint in the Oakridge area. An Oakridge-area resident was walking his dog, when it became caught in a leghold trap. The man was able to free his dog from the trap without injury, but the dog bit the owner, causing a cut to his hand. The owner left the trap where it was and left the area, later calling and reporting the incident. The citizen and Maher revisited the set location and found the trap was still in the same condition as he had left it. The trap did not appear to have been checked by the trapper. Maher checked around the area and found other sets the trapper had made, and he decided to remain in the area in an attempt to find the trapper. The trapper was contacted in the afternoon on the roadway near the location. The trapper told Maher the set was intended for a bobcat. After calculating the hours from the last time he had checked the set, Maher determined that it had not been checked within the required 48 hours. Maher cited the trapper for **Fail to Check Trap Set for Furbearing Mammal—Bobcat Every 48 Hours as Required**.

Fathers Aided Their Children in Wildlife Offenses

Tpr. Weaver (Lakeview) completed an investigation from deer season, determining a father told his 17-year-old son to get out of the truck, go up a hill, and across a fence after deer. The son crossed onto private property and shot a deer which then ran onto another piece of private property. One landowner requested prosecution. The juvenile was warned and the father was cited for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation**.

Rct. Galusha and Tpr. Thomas (Tillamook) followed up on information about a father and his 14-year-old son elk hunting in the Trask River drainage. They learned a father drove his son who had the elk tag over nine miles outside the boundaries. The son harvested a cow elk. They warned the son for **Taking Cow Elk Closed Area** and cited the father for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation**. They seized elk meat as evidence.

Trapper Criminally Cited for Illegal Method

Tpr. Van Meter (Newport) was notified by a local houndsman of an illegal trapping set he encountered in the woods. Van Meter responded to the area and found the illegal set which had two #4 leghold traps set directly below a hanging beaver carcass in plain view. She also found another trap set with a single #4 leghold trap holding a coyote. This trap did not have the proper jaw spacing. All three traps displayed the same brand number. When Van Meter returned the next day, she found another illegal set, with a beaver carcass hanging in plain view directly over two #4 leghold traps, and two additional sets—a conibear, with an improper brand number, and a leghold set with no violations. The traps with brand numbers had the same numbers as the illegal sets found the day before. She identified and contacted a possible suspect who admitted to placing the illegal sets, along with having additional illegal site bait sets that he had since removed. Van Meter cited the trapper criminally for **Trapping Illegal Method—Sight Bait within 15 feet** and warned for the jaw spacing and incorrect brand number violations.

Sport Angling

Anglers Violated Multiple Offenses

Sr. Tpr. Niehus (Klamath Falls) made contact with a vehicle as it was leaving a popular fishing area along the Klamath River. The driver displayed signs of intoxication and agreed to SFSTs. The driver failed the tests and was arrested for **DUII, DWS—Misdemeanor**, and **Littering within 100 yards of a Waterway**. During the course of the stop, Sr. Tpr. Randall (Klamath Falls) responded to assist. The troopers learned that all four occupants had been angling without angling licenses. They also learned that two of the subjects had exceeded the daily bag limit of trout (bag limit on the Klamath River is one trout). The driver was given an additional citation for **Exceeding the Bag Limit of Trout**. A passenger was cited for **No Angling License**. An 11-year-old was further counseled on the angling laws, as he also exceeded the bag limit.

Anglers Illegally Possessed Sturgeon on Closed Day

While on boat patrol in the Multnomah Channel, Sr. Tpr. Moore and Rct. Fromme (Portland) contacted a boat of sturgeon anglers. The anglers stated they had two sturgeon on board. Further investigation showed the anglers did not know the regulations stating sturgeon retention days now fall Thursday—Saturday and no longer on Sundays. They issued one citation for **Illegal Possession of a Sturgeon—Closed Day** and three warnings for Improper Validation and Angling Closed Day. The two sturgeon were seized and donated to charity. [Photo]

Sr. Tpr. Moore and Rct. Fromme (Portland) conducted additional boat patrols on the Willamette River from the Oregon City Falls to the mouth over two days. They contacted 14 boats and about 50 anglers, resulting in three citations and six warnings. They seized two illegally retained sturgeon (closed day) and donated them to charity. Anglers on 11 of the 14 boats contacted were not aware of the new sturgeon measuring regulations (fork length) and/or the retention days (Thursday—Saturday) associated with the fishery on the Willamette River.

All Citizens are “Equal” under the Law

Sr. Tpr. Collom (Central Point) contacted two men at the Rogue Elk boat ramp as they were preparing to load a drift boat onto a trailer. One of the men was a person Collom knows personally. This subject and the other man just shuttled vehicles from Cole Rivers Hatchery down to Rogue Elk park boat ramp. The subject pulled in front of Collom at the boat ramp and started filling out his steelhead tag. Collom asked him what was going on and he said he forgot, “with all the new changes in the tags” what the hatchery steelhead code was. Collom told him that it was the same code as it has been for years and there have not been any changes in regards to the steelhead code. Collom also explained to him that he has checked he and the other man several times fishing that same stretch of water and, since they angle for steelhead often, he should know better. The subject retained about a 25" hatchery steelhead. The other man has been cited before for illegal guiding and other offenses in years past. Collom cited the subject for **Fail To Validate Steelhead Tag**.

Complainant and Patrol Aided in Catching Poacher

Sgt. Hoodenpyl and Rct. Galusha (Tillamook) received a complaint that an angler had caught and retained a Chinook salmon on the Wilson River while the Chinook season was closed. The suspects were last seen with the fish traveling in the direction of Tillamook. Sr. Tpr. Hendrickson (Patrol, Tillamook) located the subject vehicle and subsequently stopped it for a traffic violation. Upon arrival at Hendrickson's location, Hoodenpyl was given a Chinook salmon that Hendrickson located during a consent search. The male subject stated he hooked the salmon and then allowed his girlfriend to land the fish. He also said that his girlfriend did not have a license or harvest card and he did not know what species of fish it was. Hoodenpyl cited the first subject for **Unlawful Possession Chinook Salmon—Closed Season** and the fish was seized.



Photo credit: File

Angler Mutilated Wild Fish

Sr. Tpr. Frerichs and Sr. Tpr. Merritt (Roseburg) worked down on the lower Umpqua observing bank anglers. Several complaints have been received regarding subjects fishing off private property exceeding limits and keeping wild steelhead. They observed a subject on the opposite side of the river hook and land a steelhead then take the fish up to the fishing shack, fillet it, and put the fillets in his vehicle. He then returned and began angling again. They watched him place the carcass in a bucket, go down to the shore, and act like he was washing the bucket out, while shoving the carcass off into the water. When the subject left about an hour later, he was contacted by Tpr. Davis and Sr. Tpr. Harris (Coos Bay). The subject first denied having caught any fish, but later he admitted to having a wild steelhead. The fillets were retrieved from the vehicle. The subject said this was the “first time” he had ever done anything like this. He was cited for **Mutilation** and warned for Fail to Validate, Keeping Wild Fish, and Placing Carcass in Waterway.

Sport Angling

Trooper Gave Chase

Sr. Tpr. Bennett (Grants Pass) observed two subjects angling about 100 yards apart on a stream. As he approached the lower subject, that subject yelled up to the other subject who dropped his pole and took off up the bank. Bennett gave chase and caught that subject up the hillside. When Bennett looked back to where the lower subject was, he noticed the other subject had taken off up into the brush. The other subject was not sure of his friend's name. Bennett yelled up into the woods he was going to tow the subject's pickup if he did not come out. He did. Both subjects did not have angling licenses and were cited for the offense.

Anglers Pled Ignorance

Sr. Tpr. Kehr (Newport) was working the Siletz River Gorge above the falls deadline. He contacted an angler driving home who told him there was a subject fishing around the corner, about 1/4 mile above the deadline. He located and contacted the subject who was actively fly fishing. The subject did not have a steelhead tag. He was cited for **Angling Closed Area** and warned for No Steelhead tag.

Tpr. Barden (Gold Beach) and Rct. Keeler (Coos Bay) located two steelhead anglers on the upper Elk River above the deadline. While observing the anglers, Barden and Keeler noticed the anglers kept looking over their shoulders while nervously angling. Both anglers denied knowing they were above the deadline and were cited for **Angling Closed Area**. Barden observed an angler on the Elk River, several miles above the deadline, on another occasion. The angler stopped fishing immediately when contacted and denied knowing the area was closed. Barden cited the angler for **Angling Closed Area**.

Troopers Regularly Enforce Marine Board Laws

Sr. Tpr. Gunderson and Sr. Tpr. Kipper (The Dalles) conducted a boat patrol on The Dalles pool in the Columbia River checking sturgeon anglers and Marine Board compliance. They completed nine BERs and issued one citation for **Borrowing a Harvest Tag**, after a subject validated his sturgeon on his spouse's card. That subject was warned for other angling and Marine Board violations. They also issued one citation for **No Personal Floatation Device** during the patrol, and that subject was also warned for numerous other Marine Board violations.

Tpr. Schwartz (Astoria) and Sr. Tpr. May (St. Helens) conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River and Multnomah Channel. They contacted more than 50 anglers, resulting in citations for **Angling Prohibited Method—Barbed Hooks, UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana, No Nonresident Angling License, and Unlawful Possession of Special Forest Products (Snake Grass)**. They issued several other warnings for boating and angling violations and completed 12 boat inspections. On another boat patrol, Schwartz and May contacted more than 60 anglers, resulting in citations for **No Angling Harvest Card** and various warnings for licensing, tagging, and boating violations. They also conducted 19 boat inspections as well.



Photo credit: Microsoft Office

Illegal Methods Resulted in Citations Issued

Sr. Tpr. Maher (Oakridge) worked trout anglers at Hills Creek Reservoir. He checked five anglers around the reservoir. While watching four anglers at Packard Cove, Maher observed one of the anglers chumming. The angler had a can of corn and would dump the corn in his hand and throw it out in the water over his line. Maher contacted the angler and issued him a citation for **Angling Prohibited Method—Chumming**.

Sr. Tpr. Niehus (Klamath Falls) patrolled to Gerber Reservoir after learning that the locals had been ice-fishing. Niehus contacted one subject, as the subject was returning to his vehicle with a chainsaw. The subject told Niehus that he was ice fishing; however, he did not have his angling license with him. Upon checking further, Niehus learned that the subject had two holes cut in the ice and two rods out. Niehus cited the subject for **Angling Prohibited Method—Two Lines**.

While observing three anglers at a private land fishing hole which has been the subject of several complaints for retention of non-adipose fin-clipped steelhead, Tpr. Stone (Roseburg) observed one male adult tending two rods for over an hour. Upon leaving, when the man drove by and saw the OSP truck, he quickly turned around and sped back to warn his buddies who were still angling, then he drove back by just as Stone reached his truck. Stone stopped the man, who admitted to angling with two poles, and cited him for the offense.

After receiving a tip from a boat angler of multi-poling at a campsite on the Umpqua River near Tyee, Tpr. Stone (Roseburg) located the camp the following day and conducted surveillance for several hours. One man tended four rods while one youth played nearby. The man was very intoxicated, and, eventually, two other adults arrived at the site. Sr. Tpr. Merritt (Roseburg) responded to assist. Just prior to contacting the four subjects, the female angler landed and retained a non-adipose fin-clipped steelhead. She was cited for that offense and warned for Failure to Validate Angling Harvest Tag and the fish was seized. The intoxicated male was cited for **Angling Prohibited Method—Three Poles** and warned for throwing a beer can into the river. The others were warned for Failure to Closely Attend Their Lines.

Commercial Fish / Marine

Illegal Clams Seized

Sr. Tpr. Harris and Tpr. Davis (Coos Bay) worked a low tide in the Charleston area. Davis cited a clam digger for **Unlawful Taking Bay Clams** and seized 29 clams. Harris cited another subject for **Exceeding the Bag Limit on Bay Clams** and seized 12 clams. The wife of the subject was warned for Aiding in a Wildlife Offense.

Four Unlicensed Deckhands Cited

Sr. Tpr. Harris (Coos Bay) monitored an offload of slime eels from a commercial fishing vessel. Two crew members were cited for **No Individual Commercial Fishing License**. On another occasion, Harris cited two deckhands on a commercial crabbing boat for **No Individual Commercial Fishing License**. The skipper was warned for not having his licenses in possession.

Two Fisherman Kept Crab for Personal Use

Sr. Tpr. Klepp (Astoria) inspected several crab offloads into a Warrenton-based processing plant. Fisherman from two vessels were contacted in the parking lot and a consent search revealed they unlawfully possessed commercially taken crab. In both cases, the crab had not been weighed and/or properly documented on an ODFW fish receiving ticket. Klepp cited both fishermen for **Illegal Possession of Dungeness Crab—Taking Commercial Crab for Personal Use** and one other fisherman for **No Personal Commercial Fishing License**.

Driver Failed to Obtain Permit to Transport Live Fish

Sr. Tpr. Routson (Patrol) stopped a van on I-84 near mp 85 for not displaying its front plate. The van was pulling a flatbed trailer with fish totes on it that contained approximately 1,000 pounds of live tilapia. The driver did not have any permits for the fish. An investigation showed the driver was transporting the live tilapia from fish farms in Idaho to the Portland—Salem area and selling them to fish markets. The investigation also revealed the subject did not have a 2009 permit to transport live fish, nor did he have a 2009 wholesale fish dealer's license. Sr. Tpr. Kipper (The Dalles) and Tpr. Frazier (Hood River) located and interviewed the subject and cited him for **Transporting Live Fish without a Permit**.

Captain Tried to Flee Enforcement

Sgt. Hoodenpyl, Tpr. Thomas, and Rct. Galusha (Tillamook) observed two fishing vessels waiting to offload Dungeness crab at a local fish dealer. The same captain and crew operated both vessels. The troopers inspected the offload from the first vessel and found it contained over 6% undersized crab. As the captain became aware of this, he boarded his second vessel and rapidly left the port in what appeared to be an effort to avoid inspection of about 14,000 pounds of crab onboard. While leaving, the captain struck another vessel, continuing out to the Tillamook Bay Bar. The skipper of the struck vessel hailed on the radio for the captain to proceed to the USCG station to report the incident. The captain returned to port where he was arrested for **Unlawful Possession Undersized Commercially Caught Dungeness Crab** and lodged in the Tillamook County Jail. Thomas and Galusha assisted USCG with the boating accident.



Photo credit: Microsoft Office

Dealer Cited for Improper Records

During a routine retail fish dealer check, Sr. Tpr. Hanson (Portland) found the owner of a fish dealer/market had all of the business' fish records at home and not on the premises available for inspection. Hanson cited the owner for having **Inadequate Retail Fish Dealer Records**—the second time this owner has been out of compliance.

Vessels Received Warnings, Deckhands Arrested

Tpr. Schwartz and Tpr. O'Connor (Astoria) inspected crab boats at a local fish processing plant. During a contact, the troopers discovered both deckhands aboard the vessel had outstanding misdemeanor warrants issued for their arrest. They arrested both deckhands and transported them to the Clatsop County Jail. The troopers issued warnings to the vessels for logbook requirements and undersized crab.

Fishermen Kept Undersized Crab

Sr. Tpr. Harris (Coos Bay) contacted a sport crabber in Charleston who had 12 red rock crab and two undersized Dungeness crab and did not have a shellfish license. Harris cited the subject for **Unlawful Taking Dungeness Crab**. The crab were released back into the bay. At the Empire boat docks, Rct. Keeler (Coos Bay) also contacted a sport crabber and located 10 undersized Dungeness crab in a cooler on board the vessel. Keeler cited the subject for **Unlawful Take of Undersized Dungeness Crab**. These illegal crab were also returned to the water.

Vessel Fished without Buoy Tags

Sr. Tpr. Urbigkeit (Newport) received a call from a commercial crabber who reported several crab pots were being fished off the Gleneden/Siletz Bay area without buoy tags. With the assistance of USCG Depoe Bay station, 35 crab pots were collected and brought to shore. Upon investigation, the same buoys were discovered on a commercial vessel moored at Port Dock 5. Urbigkeit interviewed the owner and one of the deckhands and determined that when the crew moved 42 pots from deep water to shallow water, they took off a shot of line (20 fathoms of line). After re-attaching the buoys onto the end of the attached line, the crew had put buoys without the buoy tag on the gear. On the vessel, 42 tagged buoys were observed in plain view and no other pots were on the vessel. Urbigkeit cited the owner of the vessel for **Fail to Complete Commercial Crab Log Book** and will be issuing citations to the crew for **Crabbing with Unlawful Gear**.

Environment / Habitat



Photo credit: NOAA

Troopers Assist Annually with Habitat Program

In an annual event to raise money for local stream restoration projects and improvements, Sgt. Perske and Tpr. Stone (Roseburg), along with ODFW and 25-50 guides, assisted with the collection of wild steelhead to be retained for broodstock for hatch boxes of fin-clipped fish for the South Umpqua River system. Guides formed into two-guide teams, including anglers sponsored by local corporations, and fished the river in drift boats, placing fish caught into small live boxes on board. OSP's role is to assist with collecting the caught fish. Using the OSP sled, troopers normally would boat up and down the river to collect the caught fish and place them into a larger live box. The fish would then be delivered to ODFW who stations their fish holding truck at several points along the South Umpqua River system.

“Oregon has many steelhead hatchery programs around the state. The primary objective of most of them is providing fish for recreational fisheries; however, there some are conservation hatcheries that supplement wild populations using local broodstock to provide eggs. Steelhead hatchery programs in Oregon are designed to maximize the contribution of hatchery fish to the fishery while minimizing the potential negative impacts of the program to wild fish . . . Over the past 10 years, many of Oregon's winter steelhead hatchery programs have converted from conventional hatchery stocks to endemic, or locally adapted, steelhead broodstocks derived from wild steelhead. The result has been hatchery steelhead returning at the same time as wild steelhead—generally January through April. This means hatchery fish are returning at times when rivers are generally much more fishable, and in some cases, they are holding the rivers longer before returning to trapping facilities. This allows anglers a better opportunity to catch a larger proportion of returning hatchery steelhead” (ODFW).

Miners Reminded about Salmonid Habit Rules

Sgt. Meyer (Central Point) received a complaint from ODFW of possible water pollution from miners prospecting on Sam's Creek. Meyer responded and found four prospectors working a claim that belongs to a club. Two miners were merely using a metal detector on dry ground. The other two were working small nonmotorized sluice boxes below the ordinary high water mark. Meyer advised the subjects of the essential salmonid habitat stream rules and additionally warned them for working in the stream outside of the in-stream work period (June 15 through September 15). Meyer contacted ODFW to have the area reposted with the in-stream work period and fill and removal rules.

Subjects Fell Live Trees

Sr. Tpr. Frerichs (Roseburg) stopped a vehicle for a minor traffic violation as it was coming off state land. The subjects had two new chainsaws in the back of their car but denied being out cutting wood. A few moments later, a pickup full of freshly cut wood came down the same road. Frerichs attempted to wave the pickup over, but the driver found something interesting out the other side of the vehicle to look at as he drove past. Frerichs questioned the subjects in the car further, and they admitted to cutting the wood to sell. He followed the subjects to a residence where they had three to four cords of wood cut and stacked. Frerichs then located where the subjects had been cutting the wood, including falling live trees, up on state land. The subjects tried to cover the stumps with snow but fresh wood chips all over the top of the snow helped identify the locations. The subjects did have an expired wood permit from last year for a different location and said they contacted DSL by phone and received permission to cut on this new location. Frerichs contacted DSL who said that was not true. Frerichs cited the subjects for **Unlawful Cut/Transport Forest Products**. The information on the location was provided to DSL to follow up on to try and determine how many trees were cut down by the subjects for possible further charges and/or restitution.

Builder Required to Remove Fill Rocks

Sr. Tpr. Thompson (Central Point) received a complaint of a possible fill/removal violation in the Galls Creek area. He responded to the complaint, along with DSL, and they found that a small bridge had been built over the creek. The bridge had been built by a professional and the only issue was that some rocks used to fill in above the bridge abutment fell into the creek and will have to be removed by the builder.

Offensive Littering Discovered in Northside

Last November, while searching for a lost hunter in the Northside Unit, based on evidence found at a vacated campsite, Tpr. Ritter (John Day) started an investigation into an offensive littering case. The campsite had a substantial amount of trash strewn about, including egg crate mattresses, sheets, blankets, a pillow, beer bottles, food cans, plastic containers, and paper trash. Through information obtained from envelopes and receipts left in the litter, Ritter determined the suspect responsible for the crime. He cited the suspect for **Offensive Littering**.

Illegal ATV Riding in Winter Deer Range Closure

Retired Sr. Tpr. Floyd (Central Point) was working the JACTMA road closure, when he was tracking a couple of ATVs in the snow in the Long Branch area. This is an area of frequent road closure violations in the past. Sr. Tpr. Cushman (Central Point) assisted. Floyd was on fresh tracks following two ATVs on foot. Cushman heard the ATVs motoring along slowly, until they came upon Floyd's parked OSP truck. Cushman then heard the ATVs then take off very quickly, heading away from the truck. Cushman was able to head them off and stop them. Floyd arrived at their location and cited both ATV riders for **Illegal Motorized Travel**. The suspects were coyote hunting. The JACTMA road closure is a winter deer range closure to protect the deer and the habitat and encompasses public and private lands.

General Law

Fish and Wildlife Troopers Provide Public Safety and Enforce Criminal and Traffic Laws

Sr. Tpr. Harris (Coos Bay) contacted a duck hunter for an expired boat registration. The impaired subject was subsequently arrested for **BUII**. The subject's BAC was .01%. Tpr. Smith (Patrol, Coos Bay) responded to assist and conducted a DRE Evaluation.

Sr. Tpr. Bennett (Grants Pass) was monitoring subjects at several boat ramps on the Rogue River due to a large number of reported break-ins to vehicles that were parked at the ramps while people were angling in boats. Bennett contacted a male and female acting suspicious at one of the ramps. A routine check revealed an outstanding warrant for the female. She was also found in possession of meth and marijuana. She was taken into custody then turned over to Patrol for transport to jail.

Sr. Tpr. Allison and Sr. Tpr. Thompson (Central Point) assisted Patrol on a pursuit on Hwy 99 after a domestic dispute. Allison used a Slim-Jim to open the locked driver's door so that Thompson could remove an infant from the suspect vehicle.

Photo credit: File



Sr. Tpr. Maher (Springfield) received a complaint of gunshots at about in the Parsons/McGowan Creek area near Marcola. While checking the area, Maher found a pickup stuck on a steep embankment and the driver, visibly intoxicated, walking in the vicinity. The driver voluntarily performed SFST's and failed. He was transported to Springfield PD where he became disruptive and threatening, but he voluntarily submitted to a breath test, BAC 0.18%. He was transported to the Lane County Jail. While in booking, he kicked the telephone off the wall. He was charged with **DUII** and **Criminal Mischief II**.

Tpr. Ritter (John Day), while patrolling for spotlighters and trappers on South Fork Road, received a report from a citizen who told him about a large boulder blocking the road several miles to the south. Shortly thereafter, he met another vehicle traveling southbound. He stopped to advise the driver of the blockage, but the driver drove past him without stopping. Ritter stopped the vehicle, and upon contact with the driver, he noticed several indicators of impairment. The driver told him he was taking his wife to show her a large four-point buck he had been seeing up the South Fork. The driver consented to SFST's and failed them. He was arrested and transported to the Grant County Jail where he voluntarily provided a breath sample, BAC 0.13%, approximately 1½ hours after initial contact. He was cited for **DUII**. His wife who was not impaired drove the vehicle from the scene of the arrest.

Sgt. Hand (Klamath Falls) was on patrol and, while on an important call, observed a vehicle leaving a local hunt club. The occupants did not "fit in" with the typical members for this club. Unfortunately, time was not available to stop and conduct a field interview. The next day, the club manager called to report some hunting equipment had been stolen. The manager believed he had seen the suspect vehicle and gave a description that matched the same vehicle Hand had seen while on patrol. Hand patrolled the three local high schools looking for vehicles that matched, and one vehicle piqued his attention. Hand looked in the bed of the truck for possible evidence and found a merganser that had gone to waste. He contacted the school resource officer. The driver of the vehicle was interviewed about the wasted merganser. The driver admitted to hunting with two buddies in the area of the hunt club and, on the same day, the blind was stolen. After a few more questions, the driver admitted his buddies stole a hunting blind. The driver agreed to recover the blind and very quickly did so. The manager requested no prosecution for an agreement to never return.



Common mergansers. Photo credit: USFWS.

Sr. Tpr. Maher (Oakridge) worked Hills Creek Reservoir for anglers and ATV riders and checked nine anglers. He cited one angler near Hills Creek Dam for **No Angling License**. He contacted a group of ATV riders near the upper end of the reservoir. One of the adult riders on a quad had a five-year-old and a nine-year-old on the machine with her. The adult had a helmet on, but neither of the children did. Helmets are required for all riders under 18 years old. Maher cited the operator for **Endangering Class I ATV Passenger—Under 18 Not Wearing Helmet**.

Sr. Tpr. Lea (Florence) was patrolling Lake Creek for steelhead anglers. He turned onto Stagecoach Road from Hwy 36 and saw a physical altercation ongoing between a man and woman on the bridge. He activated his lights, and the suspect looked back, giving the woman a chance to escape. The man quickly caught up to the woman and grabbed her again. The man did not stop the assault until ordered several times. The married couple had been arguing for two days, and the woman decided leave. The man was attempting to drag her back home. Lea arrested the suspect for **Harassment** and **Menacing**.

Tpr. Mayer (Heppner), while patrolling in the Kimberly area in an unmarked OSP vehicle, noticed a set of tire tracks leaving the driveway of a residence on Hwy 402. There were several inches of new snow on the ground and no other vehicle traffic. The tracks by the vehicle were all over the roadway and appeared to be those of a vehicle operated by a driver who was under the influence. Mayer contacted Tpr. Ritter (John Day) who was also in the area, asking him come to his location. The vehicle was located traveling on the roadway and stopped by Ritter. An investigation revealed that the driver was under the influence. He was arrested for **DUII** and **Refusing a Breath Test** and transported and lodged in John Day by Ritter. Mayer, Ritter, and Tpr. Timko (John Day) were patrolling the area for reported night hunters.

Interagency Cooperation

Interagency Resource Protection in the High Desert

On January 16-18, Tpr. Weaver (Lakeview) and Lt. Gifford (SW Region) conducted an enforcement patrol at Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge to look for spotlighters and check traps in the area. On Friday evening, they teamed up with USFS Special Agent Chris Johnson. Weaver and Gifford contacted three vehicle occupants who possessed many weapons and three spotlights. The officers did not observe them actively spotlighting for jackrabbits, but during questioning, the subjects admitted to the offense. Weaver also checked the driver for impairment, after the subject admitted to consuming a few beers. The subjects, like many others, were not aware spotlighting for jackrabbits on public land is unlawful. After a thorough check of the subjects and vehicle, the officers allowed the subjects to leave after being better informed.

On Saturday, the officers contacted some campers who planned to ride their ATVs. The officers warned the subjects for lacking off-road registrations and reminded them to clean up their camp before leaving. Weaver and Gifford then headed east looking for traps and trappers. Near the small town of Adel, a herd of bighorn sheep were grazing alongside the highway. As the day progressed, officers observed herds of deer and antelope, along with a variety of eagles and other raptors. East of Adel, on a dusty side road, officers observed vehicle tracks that left the road heading towards a small mountain. After investigative tracking, the officers located a legally set and branded box trap for bobcat. Further up the road, they located and checked a second trap. Later that day, officers checked a couple of people hunting coyotes. One subject in a very remote area of the desert was surprised at the officers' presence. The officers were equally surprised that the subject had a current 2009 hunting license. A little further towards the middle of nowhere, they contacted a young man who came to the desert with the intent of climbing and snowboarding off of Beatys Butte. Unfortunately, the area did not have enough snow for him to realize his dream. Upon return to Hart Mountain that evening, Johnson advised he observed subjects from a camp near the base of the mountain operating ATVs in a closed area on BLM land. Weaver called BLM Officer Pat Apley who agreed to meet them the next morning.



Photo credits: File

On Sunday, officers awoke to a crisp 12°F. When Officer Apley arrived, the team converged on the camp. As officers neared the camp, they observed one subject operating his ATV in a closed area. At the camp, they contacted several subjects with off-road vehicles and ATVs and noted several firearms. Both the subject observed that morning and the one observed by Johnson the day before admitted they had been operating their ATVs all over the nearby dry lake bed. The subjects stated they were not aware the area was closed, despite signs and fencing around the perimeter. Officer Apley cited the two subjects for **ATV Operation in a Prohibited Area** and warned the subjects for other violations. Weaver has been working in the area for a couple of years and stated he could not be nearly as effective without the coordination and support received from the federal officers who also work in the area. If you are looking for an opportunity to enjoy a wide diversity of natural and archaeological resources in an area where you can often spend a day without seeing another person, there is no place like the high desert of Eastern Oregon.

Interagency Patrols, Investigations, and Assistance

Tpr. Davis and Rct. Keeler (Coos Bay) worked with USFWS agents to check duck hunters in the Winter Lakes area of Coos County. They issued citations for **Hunting Prohibited Method—Unplugged Shotgun, No 2009 Hunting License, and No Federal Waterfowl Stamp**.

Sr. Tpr. Klepp (Astoria) used the jet boat as a platform for John Koloszar, an assistant with USFWS/ODFW, to survey bald eagles on the lower Columbia River, covering the area from Tongue Point to Cathlamet, Washington, on the north side of the river, and back to Tongue Point, on the south side. During the survey, 62 eagles were counted.

Tpr. Weaver (Lakeview) worked with CDFG to apprehend two subjects that lived in California but had been falsely applying for tags in Oregon. The subjects were interviewed at their residence in California and subsequently admitted to living there for two years. Both subjects were cited for **Falsely Applying for Oregon Resident Hunting Licenses** and warned on several other charges. California is also filing criminal complaints against the two on related charges.

Tpr. Mayer (Heppner), Tpr. Dietz (Pendleton), and Sgt. Brown (Pendleton) participated in a joint emphasis patrol with WDFW and the USFWS on the Columbia River for waterfowl enforcement. WDFW Officer Bolton and Officer Vance worked with Mayer and Brown by boat on the Columbia River below McNary Dam, while Dietz worked the shore above McNary. Combined, they checked 35 hunters. They issued three citations for **No Federal Waterfowl Stamp**, one for **Felon in Possession of Firearm**, one for **No 2009 Resident Hunting License**, and one for **No Personal Floatation Device**. They also provided three warnings for Hunting Prohibited Method and one for No License in Possession and wrote up two BERs, conducted 11 visual boat checks, and gave four OSMB warnings.

Interagency Cooperation / Public Relations

Other Interagency Patrols and Assistance

Sr. Tpr. Moore and Rct. Fromme (Portland), with assistance of Clackamas County SO, helped free log jams from multiple landowners' docks on the Willamette River. Due to the rising flood waters, the logs and debris threatened removal of and damage to the docks.



Photo credit: File

Injured Hawk Should Make Full Recovery

Sr. Tpr. Prodzinski (Madras) assisted an ODFW biologist by recovering an injured hawk and delivering it to a raptor rehabilitator. The hawk had an injury to its wing. They wrapped the wing in place, in order for it to heal successfully. The hawk should make a full recovery.



Photo credit: File

In early January, the Tillamook County Emergency Operations team was activated due to the flooding conditions and river level predictions in the Tillamook County. Sgt. Hoodenpyl, Sr. Tpr. Guerra, and Tpr. Howell (Tillamook) assisted with patrol coverage.

Troopers Provided Fishing Opportunity for Kids

Sgt. Perske, Tpr. Stone, and Tpr. Baimbridge (Roseburg) assisted with the 17th annual Steelhead Derby. Perske is on the Derby committee and in charge of Kids' Day which provides 55 local fifth-grade students the opportunity to spend a morning fishing with 25 licensed guides on a local reservoir. ODFW planted 500 eight- to ten-inch trout and 50 four- to six-pound trout for the kids to catch. Officers assisted with fitting the students with life jackets they were allowed to keep, a water/boat safety talk, and different duties during the event, in addition to performing inspections on the participating guides.

Rct. Galusha, Tpr. Thomas, and Tpr. Howell (Tillamook) assisted the USCG Tillamook Bay station with two vessels that had crossed the Tillamook Bay bar which was closed to all vessels due to rough ocean conditions. USCG requested the troopers escort one of the vessels back to the marina to be boarded. USCG cited the vessels' operators.

Tpr. O'Connor (Astoria) conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River with seven members of the USCG cutter Steadfast boarding team. The patrol was focused on USCG safety inspections, as well as checking compliance with commercial crab rules. Several fishing vessels were contacted and O'Connor arrested one crew member on an outstanding misdemeanor warrant.

Meetings, Events, and Presentations

Sr. Tpr. Duncan (Baker City) assisted USFS in instructing a class on winter survival in the Halfway area to local Boy Scouts. Building shelters, fires, and orienteering were all part of the course.

Sr. Tpr. Hanson (Portland), along with NMFS Special Agent Mitch Fong and two WDFW officers, spoke to USCG members during their annual enforcement training. They covered fishery enforcement issues on the Columbia River, including marine mammal protection, the new sturgeon regulations, and the upcoming spring Chinook season. About 28 USCG team members attended the training session.

The South Valley Fish and Wildlife team manned the Trailer of Shame at the Eugene Boat and Sportsman Show. The attendees were very interested in the display. The troopers addressed hundreds of inquiries and handed out several trooper applications during the event.

Sr. Tpr. Van Prooyen (Gold Beach) obtained information of a suspended angler who was adrift in a vessel that had run out of gas off the Rogue River Bar. During his investigation, he assisted USCG personnel who launched from Station Chetco River on a search and rescue mission for the disabled craft. Due to Van Prooyen's elevated vantage point, he guided the USCG rescue vessel to the disabled vessel which was drifting over seven miles from shore. Upon return to the Gold Beach port boat ramp, no angling violations were detected.

Sr. Tpr. Allison (Central Point) delivered a TIP check to an anonymous complainant on one of the bear poaching cases Allison worked this past fall. In that case, one of the three defendants pled guilty and two others are scheduled for trial in February.

Meat Donated to School

Wheeler County officials appreciate OSP returning meat seized in Wheeler County back to the county. In January, Tpr. Carothers (Fossil) donated game meat to the Mitchell School District from adjudicated cases.



Photo credit: File

Sgt. Tucker (La Grande) and Lt. Scorby (East Region) attended the Eastern Oregon Regional Management Team Meeting in La Grande. They were briefed by ODFW on the Mid-Columbia Steelhead Conservation and Recovery Plan and finalized the group charter.

Lt. Scorby (East Region) gave a presentation on marine event permits and Terry Shrader (ODFW) gave one on Oregon bass tournament permits at the Idaho BASS Federation national banquet in Boise, Idaho. The Idaho bass clubs wanted clarification on the permits.

Tpr. Carothers (Fossil), Sgt. Katzenstein (The Dalles), and Lt. Scorby (East Region) attended the John Day Core Team meeting in Prineville. The purpose of the group is to develop a permit system and waterway rules for the John Day River. OSP provided an overview of enforcement issues and challenges on the river, as well as suggestions on administrative rule language. Group representatives include BLM, OPRD, OSMB, DSL, local governments, and the Warm Springs tribe.



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Oregon is beauty, adventure, wonder—from ferns to fir tops, grasses to sagebrush, sandy beaches to snowy slopes, Saddle Mountain to Eagle Cap, Steens to Siskiyou, the Rogue to the John Day, the Snake to the Santiam, Tenmile to Phillips, the Willamette to the Malheur, E.E. Wilson to Elkhorn, and Hells Canyon to the open Pacific—Oregon has unlimited adventures for fish and wildlife enthusiasts. More scenic byways and places to explore can be found online at <http://www.traveloregon.com/Explore-Oregon.aspx>.



The Fish and Wildlife Division has protected Oregon and its fish and wildlife since 1931.



From the air, ground, rivers, lakes, mountains, streams, ocean, or desert;



In boats, by bike, in trucks, on horseback, or via water; with ODFW and/or other agencies;



While teaching, serving the community, educating the public, and providing assistance; and in extreme heat or cold; troopers



Protect Oregon's fish, birds, shellfish, big game, habitat, people, and wildlife



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