



# Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Department of State Police  
General Headquarters  
Fish and Wildlife Division  
255 Capitol Street NE, 4th Floor  
Salem, OR 97310  
(503) 378-3720  
FAX: (503) 363-5475  
V/TTY: (503) 585-1452

## Lincoln County District Attorney Honored as "2013 Wildlife Prosecutor of the Year"

August 19, 2014

Captain Jeff Samuels  
Fish & Wildlife Division  
(503) 934-0221

[www.twitter.com/ORStatePolice](http://www.twitter.com/ORStatePolice)



(Left to right: Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Watershed Manager Chip Dale, Lincoln County District Attorney Michelle Branam, and Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division Director Captain Jeff Samuels)

The Lincoln County District Attorney was selected recently to receive the seventh presentation of an award to a prosecutor in Oregon for their support, hard work, dedication, and efforts in enforcing fish and wildlife laws and commitment to the preservation of Oregon's natural resources.

On August 14, 2014, **Lincoln County District Attorney Michelle Branam** was presented with the "**2013 Wildlife Prosecutor of the Year Award**" in front of her peers at the Oregon District Attorneys Association summer conference held last week in Bend. The award sponsored by the Oregon Sportsmen's Coalition, was presented by Captain Jeff Samuels, Oregon State Police (OSP) Fish and Wildlife Division Director, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife Watershed Manager Chip Dale, and Ty Stubblefield, Field Administrator for the Oregon Hunters Association.

Michelle Branam has served for almost ten years as a Deputy and Chief Deputy for the Lincoln County District Attorney's Office before being appointed District Attorney by Governor John Kitzhaber earlier this year.

Through her hard work and partnership with area law enforcement, she has garnered a great deal of respect for her commitment to consistently prosecuting fish and wildlife crimes. The South Coast Team of the OSP Fish and Wildlife Division has a great working relationship with DA Branam who shows support for the protection of natural resources. On her own time, Branam even attended Marine Board training to better understand recreational boating enforcement and completed both drift boat and jet boat operation training.

As Lincoln County Chief Deputy, Branam was responsible for prosecuting the bulk of serious criminal cases in the county. She was also instrumental in prosecuting several environmental cases where actions resulted in local habitat restoration projects, including a high profile water pollution case involving a local sand and gravel company which received a misdemeanor conviction of Water Pollution in the Second Degree and a \$10,000 fine.

"It was a pleasure to present DA Michelle Branam with the wildlife prosecutor of the year award for her dedication and commitment to the criminal justice system and wildlife prosecution. I appreciate her willingness to work closely with local fish and wildlife troopers and to prosecute those responsible for wildlife offenses and environmental degradation," said Captain Jeff Samuels.

Recent wildlife cases successfully prosecuted by DA Branam include:

Hunting on the Enclosed or Cultivated Land of Another/Unlawful Possession of Big Game

Disposition:

- \* 10 days in jail
- \* Three year hunting license suspension and two years' probation
- \* \$1,400 fines
- \* \$400 restitution to taxidermist
- \* \$15,000 restitution to ODFW for 7x7 bull elk
- \* Forfeit elk mount, meat and archery equipment

Unlawful Take of Osprey

Disposition:

- \* Three years hunting license suspension
- \* \$5,000 restitution to ODFW for Osprey

#### Waste of Cow Elk

##### Disposition:

- \* Remington 7mm forfeited to state
- \* Three year hunting license suspension
- \* \$810 in fines
- \* \$500 restitution to Oregon Hunter's Association for TIP reward
- \* \$1,500 restitution to ODFW for elk

#### Unlawful Take of Black Bear

##### Disposition:

- \* Three years' probation
- \* Forfeit bear and Remington 270 rifle
- \* \$1,633 in fines
- \* \$1,000 restitution to ODFW for the bear

### [www.oregon.gov/OSP](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP) ###