

Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife

The Field Review

"We Are the Guardians of Oregon's Fish and Wildlife."



August 2016



Antelope. Photo Credit: Wikipedia

Poaching



Seized Bear. Photo Credit: OSP File

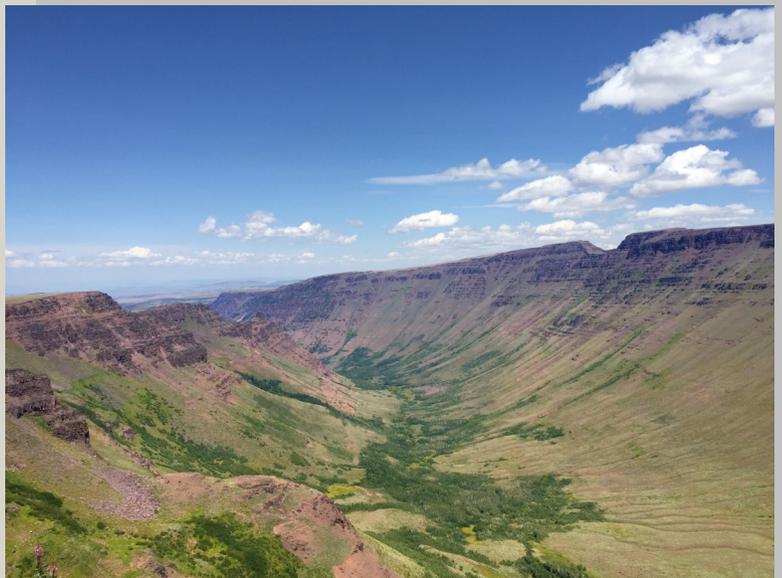


Unlawful Take of Bear in Ochoco Unit.

F&W Troopers from the Bend and Prineville offices were working unlawful bear bait sites in the Ochoco Unit when they heard a single rifle shot. Troopers responded and hiked in, discovering a fresh bear dead inside the bait site. No suspects or vehicle was located and the suspects trail camera and bait buckets were gone. The Troopers hid and waited to see if the suspects would return. Just after darkness fell, a vehicle approached through the meadow. At the kill site, where the bear still lay in the bait, five adults got out of the vehicle and the shooter suspect could be heard describing his shot. Troopers contacted the suspects who cooperated. The Suspects took the Troopers to five additional bear bait sites. Two rifles, one bow, five game cameras, three cell phones, one tag and one bear were seized. Criminal charges pending include: **Aiding in a Wildlife Offense (3 counts), 1 count Unlawful Take Bear, Unlawful Hunting/Baiting Bear (3 counts).**

Antelope Shot and Left in Steens Mountain Unit

A F&W Trooper from the Burns office was dispatched to a call regarding a doe Antelope that was shot and left in the Steens Mountain unit. The antelope was laying in plain view, off a remote access road by the Kiger Gorge overlook, and appeared to have been shot by someone with a high powered rifle. The reporting party and his son reported hearing several gun shots that morning in the area, while scouting for deer, but they were not sure who fired the shots. The poached doe Antelope was unable to be salvaged because of time delay and the warm temperatures.

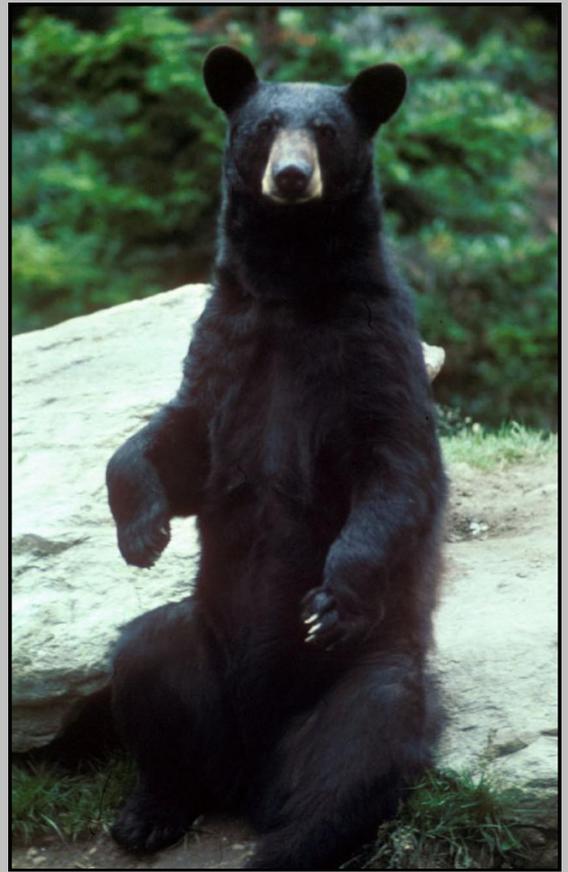


Kiger Gorge Overlook. Photo Credit: BLM

Poaching

Spring Bear Tag Used for Unlawful Take

A F&W Trooper from the Tillamook office responded to the report of an unlawful harvest. The Trooper contacted a suspect who had a skinned black bear & hide in his truck. The suspect had killed the bear and had taken it to the Tillamook ODFW office for inspection. ODFW pointed out that his Spring Bear tag (Apr 1 – May 31) was not valid for the bear taken on August 25th. The suspect stated that he thought the tag carried over if not filled in the spring similar to certain controlled bow hunts he had participated in. The suspect was cited for **Unlawful Take of Black Bear** and the bear was seized.



Adult Black Bear. Photo Credit: OSP File

Unlawful Taking of Deer while Trespassing

A F&W Senior Trooper from the La Pine office received a complaint of subjects that had shot a buck deer with a rifle while trespassing. The subjects fled from the area, and the Senior Trooper worked through the night to locate the suspects. The vehicle and deer were located and the suspects agreed to turn themselves in. The suspects shot the three point buck with a .17 caliber rifle and then shoved an arrow through the wound, then placed a borrowed tag on the deer. Citations were issued for **Unlawfully Taking Deer: Prohibited Method, Borrowing a Big Game Tag and Aiding/Counseling in a Wildlife Crime.**

Snagging on the Rogue River

A F&W Sergeant from Central Point received a complaint that someone was snagging up at the Old Bridge Hole below Cole Rivers Hatchery on the Rogue River. The Sergeant drove to the location and observed an individual angling in a manner that would appear he was attempting to snag. After a few minutes went by, the suspect snagged a salmon. The salmon was netted by a second individual, clubbed over the head and then immediately taken away in a backpack. It was shortly after this time that a F&W Senior Trooper from Central Point arrived at the vehicle where the suspect was taking the salmon. The backpack was tossed in the bushes and the individual lied about having any salmon. The suspects were confronted with the fact that they had been watched and they then admitted to snagging the salmon and led the troopers to the backpack with the salmon in it. One individual was cited for **Take/Possess Salmon Closed Season** and the other individual was cited for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation.**

Administration and Enforcement of Wildlife Laws

Tag Bought After Shooting and Killing Cougar

F&W Troopers from the Salem and Albany offices received a report of a subject who shot and killed a cougar near his residence in Benton County. The subject was going to bury the cougar, but after reading his tag, learned that it needed to be checked in. The subject requested a Trooper respond to check the cougar because he was going to be out of town the next day. Investigation revealed that the subject had shot the cougar earlier in the morning and purchased a tag after the fact. The Troopers seized the cougar and cited the subject for **Unlawful Take/Possession-Cougar**.



Cougar. Photo Credit: OSP File

Fawn Found in Roadway: Twice

A F&W Senior Trooper from the McMinnville office, responded to a residence in Yamhill on a report of a fawn that had been in captivity. Investigation revealed the reporting party located a small fawn in the middle of a gravel road; when a young girl came out to the road and advised the reporting party it was her fawn, and her dad had found it a few weeks prior alongside a road. The reporting party seized the deer and took it home to her barn until OSP was notified. The deer was released to ODFW who took it to a rehabilitation center. The father, who admitted to finding the deer in June, was subsequently cited for **No Wildlife Holding Permit**.



Fawn. Photo Credit: OSP File

Road Struck Elk

A F&W Senior Trooper from the Salem office was called out in the early morning hours to a report of a road struck elk on Winter Creek Road near the city of Jefferson. The elk was dispatched due to its injuries and the meat was salvaged and donated.



Road Struck Elk. Photo Credit: OSP File



TIP PROGRAM

1-800-452-7888 • Report Wildlife and Habitat Law Violators • TIP@state.or.us

What Should I Report?

POACHING (otherwise known as the illegal take of game or fish), trespassing, littering, theft, destroying of property and road closure violations. When making a report, provide as much of the following information as possible:

- Nature of violation or activity observed or advised about
- Location of activity (Road number, Milepost, GPS, Range, etc.)
- Date and time of violation/activity
- Description of any vehicle involved
- Name and/or description of violator

Why should I Report Violators?

Poaching affects all Oregonians:

- Poachers **STEAL** your opportunity to hunt and fish legally
- Poaching negatively impacts the ability to enjoy the outdoors

More about Turn In Poachers (TIP):

The TIP reward is paid for information leading to the arrest/conviction of person(s) for the illegal possession, killing, taking, and/or waste of deer, elk, antelope, bear, cougar, big horn sheep, mountain goat, moose, and/or game birds.

TIP rewards can also be given for the illegal taking, netting, snagging, and/or dynamiting of salmon, steelhead, sturgeon, and/or large numbers of any fish listed in Oregon statute as a game fish.

In addition, a reward may be issued for information that results in an arrest/conviction of a person who has illegally obtained Oregon hunting/angling license or tags. People who “work” the system and falsely apply for resident licenses and/or tags are not legally hunting and/or angling and are considered poachers.

Rewards:

- \$100 Game Fish
- \$100 Upland Birds
- \$250 Deer, Bear, Antelope and Cougar
- \$500 Elk, Big Horn Sheep, Moose and Mountain Goat



Administration and Enforcement of Angling Laws



OSP Patrol. Photo Credit: OSP File

Capsized Boat

A F&W Senior Trooper out of the Astoria office, responded to a report of an overturned boat in the ocean surf near the Peter Iredale. The boat operator and a passenger left Chinook, Washington earlier in the morning to fish in the ocean. Once they achieved their limit of Salmon, they headed back home but became disoriented and found themselves off the coast of Cannon Beach. After beaching and dropping off the passenger, the operator proceeded north along the ocean reaching Peter Iredale, deciding to beach the boat due to lack of fuel. Upon doing so, the boat capsized. The operator was wearing a life jacket and swam to shore. During the interview, the passenger and operator inadvertently admitted to numerous offenses involving their salmon fishing activities. They were warned for **Unlawful Take of Undersized Chinook Salmon** and **Failure to Validate Angling Harvest Tag**.



Peter Iredale. Photo Credit: www.astoriaoregon.com



Capsized Boat. Photo Credit: OSP File

Patrol of the Buoy 10 Fishery

A F&W Senior Trooper from the Astoria office conducted a boat patrol during the Buoy 10 fishery near Astoria. Numerous salmon anglers were given warnings for angling offenses and fourteen citations were issued: Three for **Angling Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks**, Ten for **Angling Closed Area: Young's Bay Control Zone** and one for **Illegal Possession of Non-Adipose Fin-Clipped Coho Salmon**. The Coho salmon was seized and donated to the food bank.



Siletz River. Photo Credit: ODFW

Siletz River Angler Check: Steelhead Not Validated

F&W Troopers from the Newport office were working the upper Siletz River, checking anglers when they contacted two subjects who were in possession of three steelhead. Subsequent investigation revealed one subject had an additional steelhead in his vehicle he had caught earlier in the day in his vehicle. Both subjects failed to validate their steelhead tags and were issued citations for **Failure to Validate Angling Harvest Card**.



OSP Boat Patrol. Photo Credit: OSP File

Lower Columbia River Patrol

F&W Troopers from the Astoria office conducted a boat patrol on the lower Columbia River. 22 anglers were contacted resulting in four citations for **Angling Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks** and one citation for **Angling Prohibited Area: Youngs Bay Control Zone**.



OSP Boat Patrol. Photo Credit: OSP File

Snagging of Steelhead using Bare Treble Hook with Weight

A F&W Sergeant from the Portland office responded to a report of an a suspect snagging fish on the Clackamas River near Estacada. The Sergeant located the suspect and saw him snag a steelhead near the tail and retain the fish. The Sergeant could see he was using a bare treble hook with a weight below the fish and watched him load two steelhead into a backpack as he prepared to leave the area. The suspect was contacted in the parking lot at McIver State Park as he was about to leave and said he had not caught any fish. When confronted about the snagging, the suspect showed three steelhead he had in his backpack, as well as an un-validated harvest card. The snagged steelhead as well as the suspect's harvest card was seized. The suspect was criminally cited with **Angling Prohibited Method: Snagging and Fail To Validate Harvest Card**.



Milo McIver State Park. Photo Credit: www.oregonstateparks.org



Administration and Enforcement of Shellfish Laws



Clam Digger. Photo Credit: www.ci.wheeler.or.us

Clamming During Closed Season

A F&W Senior Trooper from the Astoria office patrolled Clatsop Beach from Seaside to the Columbia River south jetty and detected a female harvesting razor clams. A total of 20 clams were seized and returned to the sand with citations issued for **Taking Razor Clams Closed Season**. Razor clam harvest north of Tillamook Head closes annually on July 15th through September 30th.

Possession of Female Dungeness Crab

A F&W Trooper from the Newport office contacted two subjects who had been crabbing at the Newport Pier. The subjects were carrying a bucket of crab back to their vehicle. Upon contact, the Trooper observed a female Dungeness crab in their bucket. One subject admitted to catching the illegal Dungeness crab and was found to be in possession of two female and two undersized male Dungeness crab. He was issued a citation for **Unlawful Possession of Female Dungeness Crab**.



Dungeness Crab. Photo Credit: Pinterest



Measuring of Crab. Photo Credit: ODFW

Undersize Dungeness Crab

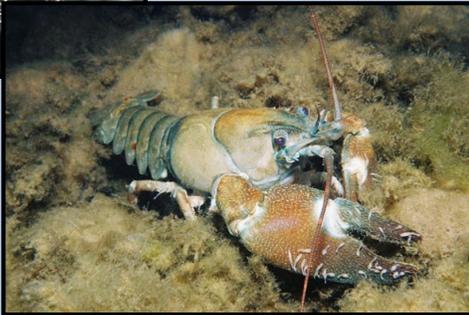
A F&W Recruit from the Coos Bay office, a F&W Senior Trooper from the LaPine office and an ODFW Biologist, conducted a boat patrol in Coos Bay. Numerous crabbers, clambers, and anglers were contacted. One subject was cited for **Taking Undersize Dungeness Crab**, and the crab were returned to the bay.

Administration and Enforcement of Commercial Fishing Laws

Commercial Fishing Boat. Photo Credit: Flickr



Gillnet Fishing. Photo Credit: NWPR.org



Crayfish. Photo Credit: ODFW

Commercial Fish Dealer Check

A Senior Trooper from the Astoria office conducted a dealer check after receiving multiple complaints relating to the commercial crayfish fishery on the Columbia River. The address on the dealer license was a residence in rural Clatsop County. The dealer's records were eventually located at the residence of a commercial crayfish fisherman, whose wife was in charge of completing fish tickets. During the inspection, invoices were found indicating 17 landings of crayfish and two landings of Columbia River gillnet salmon that had occurred over the summer. None of these mentioned landings had been reported on fish tickets. The dealer was cited for **Failure to Complete Fish Receiving Tickets** and warned for **Failure to use ODA Approved Scale, No Fish Buyer's License** and **Failure to Maintain Records at Dealer Address**.

Failure to Maintain Fish Dealer Records

Two F&W Senior Troopers from the Florence office were driving on Hwy 101 near Sutton Lake boat ramp when they noted a passenger truck and trailer parked in the parking lot and on the trailer were commercial style fishing totes. The Troopers pulled in and asked the male that was outside the truck what was in the totes. The male stated it was Chinook salmon. The Troopers checked the load and determined the Chinook were caught commercially. They then asked about the transportation documents, and the male admitted he did not have any. He was cited for **Fail to Maintain Proper Fish Dealer Records**.

Fish Dealer Cited for Lack of Records

A F&W Senior Trooper from the Florence office re-contacted a retail fish dealer regarding an investigation in late July where fish records were not available at a Eugene market. The Senior Trooper verified the fish were legally obtained and the owner was able to prove the fish were legally purchased prior to being sold at the market. The owner was issued a citation for **Retail Fish Dealer without Records**.



Administration and Enforcement of Environmental Laws

Man – Made Dam

A F&W Trooper from the Astoria office noticed a man-made dam on the Wilson River which had blocked the river and the ability for fish to pass. The Trooper contacted the residence and provided them copies of the Department of State Lands & Removal guide with highlighted portions. The resident agreed to remove the dam and had done so by the next day. The resident was issued a warning for Unlawful Fill / Removal.



Man—Made Dam. Photo Credit: OSP File

Dredging Complaint

A F&W Sergeant and F&W Senior Trooper from the Central Point office received a dredging complaint below Gold Hill. The dredgers, when contacted, were unaware of the moratorium and were cooperative throughout the contact. The dredgers were warned for Water Pollution II.

Mining/Water Complaint along Ash Creek

A F&W Sergeant from the Springfield office and a F&W Senior Trooper from the Roseburg office responded with the Douglas County water master to a mining/water complaint along Ash Creek (South Umpqua Tributary). They located a man on a mining claim, who admitted his partner may have dammed up the creek the previous weekend to use his power dredge. The man was advised of the active moratorium on suction dredge mining in that area and advised to let his partner know the same.



Illegal dumping near Siuslaw River

A F&W Senior Trooper from the Florence office received a complaint regarding the illegal dumping of roofing material near the Siuslaw River. Subsequent investigation revealed a property owner had their roofing company dump their old roof in piles on their property along the bank of the Siuslaw River. The property owner intended on pushing the material down the river bank towards the water, using it as fill material for a future boat ramp. The Senior Trooper advised the property owner the roofing material was unsuitable for this use and that he would need permits to do any work involving a boat ramp along the river. The property owner understood the concern and ensured that the roofing material would be cleaned up.

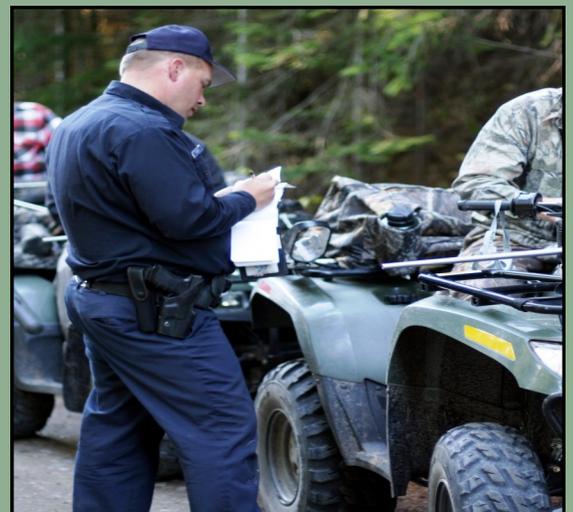


Ant Hill Fire. Photo Credit: OSP File

Ant Hill Fire

A F&W Trooper from the Astoria office stopped to investigate a vehicle parked along Highway 6 at a gate into private property when he noticed a small fire burning approximately 50 yards up the road. Using a fire extinguisher, the Trooper put out the fire, which had been started in a large ant hill. A subject camping nearby was located and admitted to starting the fire. The subject was cited for **Unlawful Use of Fire—1st Offense**.

Administration and Enforcement of ATV Laws



OSP Trooper on ATV Patrol. Photo Credit: OSP File

Operating ATV with Loaded Weapon

A F&W Trooper from the John Day office contacted an ATV operator on Sharps ridge who was hunting bears. He told the trooper that he left his license and tag in camp. The Trooper followed the hunter back to his camp and verified that he had a license and tag. During the contact, the Trooper learned that the hunter had a round chambered while he was operating the ATV. The man was issued a citation for **Operating ATV While Carrying a Loaded Firearm** and was warned for failing to carry his license and tag while in the field.

Administration and Enforcement of General Law



Camper Contacted While Posting Cougar Awareness Signs

Driving Complaint

A F&W Senior Trooper from the Salem office received a driving complaint on a vehicle that was reported to have hit a guardrail on Interstate 5 near Albany. The vehicle was located and stopped. The operator consented to field sobriety tests and performed poorly on them, resulting in an arrest and then transported to jail. The subject was subsequently cited and released for **DUII** and **Reckless Driving**.

A F&W Senior Trooper was posting cougar awareness signs for local ODFW staff on the Rigdon bike path along Salmon Creek East of Oakridge, where a cougar had been observed in the area earlier in the week. While posting the signs, the Senior Trooper contacted a tent camper at the trail access. The camper was found to have an outstanding

Probation Violation Warrant for his arrest. The subject was taken into custody without incident and was lodged in the Lane County Jail.



Cougar Awareness Sign. Photo Credit: OSP File

Criminal Mischief on Private Timberland

A F&W Senior Trooper from the Florence office was patrolling timberland in the area of Siuslaw River Road when he observed a vehicle occupied by two subjects parked near a locked gate belonging to a private timber company. The Senior Trooper contacted the subjects who told him they had been out looking for mushrooms. After a brief conversation the subjects drove away from the location. As the subjects drove off, the Trooper observed a broken piece of chain wrapped around their vehicle's trailer hitch. Upon further inspection of the gate, a piece of chain connected to the gate's lock that matched the chain on the subjects' vehicle hitch was observed. The subjects were re-contacted and admitted to attempting to break the lock in order to go through the gate and collect mushrooms. Both subjects were cited and released for **Criminal Mischief**.

Enforcement of Oregon State Marine Board Regulations



USCG/OSP Patrol. Photo Credit: OSP File

Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Troopers enforce state boating laws. The Division is equipped with a variety of boats that allow enforcing of laws relating to boat licenses and registrations; safety equipment; operational rules; and charter vessels, guides and outfitters on waters throughout the state.

Non Possession of Life Jackets

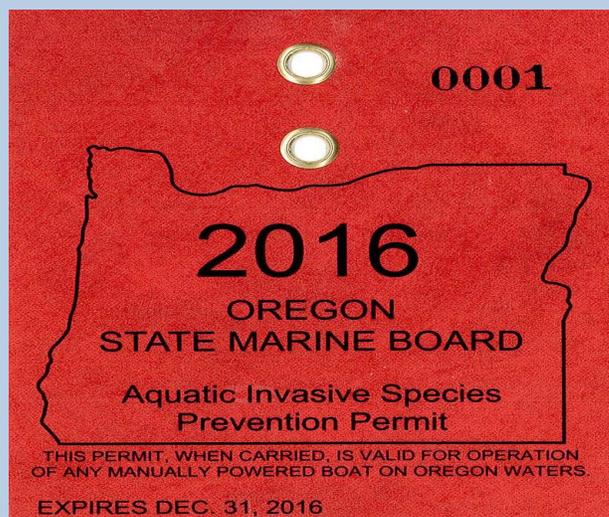
Two F&W Troopers from the Pendleton office conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River downstream of McNary Dam. They contacted 17 anglers and issued one warning for Not Being in Possession of Angling License because the male left it in his truck. They contacted two people that were boating and issued two warnings for not being in possession of life jackets. Both individuals thought having a type IV life jacket was sufficient.

Operation "Make Way"

A F&W Senior Trooper from the Astoria office assisted the U.S. Coast Guard, Clatsop County Sheriff's Office and the Oregon State Marine Board with "Operation Make Way" on the lower Columbia River. Several guide boats were contacted to ensure proper safety equipment was on board, in addition to other boats being educated on the State and Federal requirements of staying clear of ships with limited maneuverability.

No AIS Permit

F&W Senior Troopers from the Oakridge and Springfield offices conducted a five hour boat patrol at Odell Lake. During the patrol there was a kokanee derby at the lake. 63 anglers were checked and four boating safety contacts were conducted. One angler was cited for **No Angling License in Possession**. Two citations were issued to out of state boats for **No Motorized Aquatic Invasive Species Permit**.



AIS Permit. Photo Credit: OSMB

Interagency Cooperation



Rescue Operation of Boaters

A F&W Senior Trooper from the Astoria office responded to the report of a 24 foot Bayliner with four people on board that had run aground in shallow water and could not restart the engine. A United States Coast Guard helicopter landed on the Columbia River beach near the south jetty with a rescue swimmer who assisted the four occupants from the boat. All were very cold but otherwise not injured. The Senior Trooper transported one of the subjects while two Ft. Stevens State Park Rangers transported the other three to their vehicle. Later that afternoon, the boat was towed from the scene via a rescue service.



Bull Elk Tangled in Netting

A F&W Sergeant from the Astoria office responded to Gearhart for a call of a bull elk that had its antlers tangled in a batting cage net at a local baseball field. An ODFW employee responded and the bull was tranquilized and its antlers were sawed off to remove it from the net.



Elk Tangled. Photo Credit: OSP File

Aerial Night Flight Spots Disoriented Subject

A night flight looking for spot lighters was conducted by the Springfield Area Command F&W Team. At around midnight, an Oregon State Police F&W Pilot spotted a vehicle on private timber property that was closed due to fire danger. The vehicle ended up shutting off its lights and blacking out. F&W Troopers responded to the area, made the initial contact and discovered an elderly man in a Buick sedan who had driven partially off the road into a ditch and became high centered on a culvert. The elderly man said that he had been at one of the reservoirs earlier in the evening and decided to take a "shortcut" home. He became disoriented in the remote area then got his vehicle stuck. A tow truck was summoned, and the elderly man and vehicle were safely removed from the area. By spotting the vehicle from the air, the F&W Pilot prevented a potentially serious incident and search and rescue effort. With the area closed, it was unlikely anyone would have found the subject in a timely manner.





Oregon Hunters Association Youth Antelope Hunt

A F&W Sergeant from the Klamath Falls office gave a public talk to youth Antelope hunters at an OHA sponsored event. The Youth Gerber Hunt was the following day. The Sergeant patrolled the area and issued two warnings for minor violations.

United States Coast Guard Open House

Two F&W Senior Troopers from the Gold Beach office participated in a United States Coast Guard open house in the Port of Brookings. The Open House gave the general public a chance to ask questions about Fish and Wildlife related issues as well as interact with State Troopers and other agencies. Approximately 600 people attended the open house.



F&W Troopers Take Part in Garibaldi Days

A F&W Trooper and F&W Recruit from the Tillamook office were present during Garibaldi Days in Garibaldi. During the event the Troopers had a pickup and Rigid Hull Inflatable boat (RHI) in the local parade and later had the RHI on display for the public while they handed out information.



OSP at Garibaldi Days Parade. Photo Credit: OSP File



Smokey The Bear / OSP F&W Trooper. Photo Credit: OSP File



Public

Relations



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.



Interested in becoming an Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Trooper?

Exciting, Rewarding, and Challenging

A career that makes a difference!

For information and to download an application, please visit our website at:

www.osptrooper.com

Questions? Please call 503-378-4931 or e-mail OSP Training Division:

Senior Trooper Tiffany Lynn at tlynn@state.or.us

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