

The Field Review

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



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Poaching Occurs with More than Just Big Game



Suspect exceeded the limit of geese. Photo credit: File

When discussing or reading the word “poaching,” some people may picture large bulls, bucks, bear, or big horn sheep taken illegally; however, poaching involves hunting and/or angling for, killing, and/or taking any wildlife illegally—no matter how small the creature is. Troopers routinely investigate incidents that involve suspects taking and/or attempting to take game birds, protected species, cougar, shellfish, furbearers, and fish illegally. When caught, violators may lose more than the wildlife taken. The following are various poaching cases troopers investigated in February:

Sr. Tpr. Niehus (Klamath Falls) watched through a spotting scope as a subject hunted geese near the Klamath Wildlife Area. After a short period of time, the subject appeared to have reached his daily bag limit of white-fronted geese. Niehus called Sgt. Hand (Klamath Falls) to assist. He proceeded to watch the subject continue to shoot geese as Hand worked his way closer to the subject. Hand snuck to within 100 yards of the subject when he encountered a ditch that prevented further progress. He maintained surveillance on the subject while Niehus made contact. Once contacted, Niehus discovered the subject shot a total of 13 white-fronted geese, nine over the daily bag limit. Niehus cited the subject for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Geese** and seized his shotgun and nine geese.

Sr. Tpr. Guerra (Tillamook) was working clambers on Netarts Bay when he contacted a subject clamming there. Upon inspection of the subject's clams, Guerra found the subject was 21 clams over his daily bag limit. He seized the clams and returned them to the bay and cited the subject for **Exceeding the Daily Bag limit of Bay Clams**.

Sr. Tpr. Duncan (Baker City) contacted some subjects near Austin Junction within the Sumpter Unit who recently treed and killed a cougar using dogs. Duncan cited one subject for **Taking Cougar Prohibited Method—Use of Dogs** and **Hunting without a Valid License** and another subject for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation—Taking Cougar Prohibited Method—Use of Dogs**. Tpr. Ritter (John Day) and Sr. Tpr. McNeil (Baker City) assisted Duncan with the investigation.

Tpr. Freitag (Salem) responded to a trespass complaint on Windsor Island. Upon arrival, he located two subjects goose hunting. The subjects had also driven an ATV across the island past No Trespassing signs. While watching the subjects, Freitag observed one of them shoot at a flock of seagulls that flew overhead. Freitag cited both subjects for **Hunting on the Enclosed Lands of Another** and one subject for **Hunting Protected Species—Seagull** and seized both subjects' shotguns.

Sr. Tpr. Collom (Central Point) watched four anglers fishing the mouth of the hatchery outflow, a closed area. Several steelhead were spawning just up from the mouth in the closed area, creating temptation for some. Two subjects were targeting the spawning steelhead in a snagging-type method using lures, and the other two legally fished in the open area. Collom did not note any fish caught in the 1 1/2 hours he watched them. When contacted, the subjects stated that four other anglers were snagging steelhead earlier, so they shooed them off. When Collom advised them he observed them snagging, the subjects admitted to fishing in the closed area and trying to snag. Collom cited both anglers for **Angling Prohibited Area—Outflow** and warned them for Attempting to Snag.

Bend and Gilchrist Division troopers executed a search warrant in Silver Lake as the result of Sr. Tpr. Hayes' (Bend) investigation into the illegal take of bobcats using prohibited methods. Troopers photographed a suspect tending to an illegal bobcat trap set and later identified the suspect. Troopers interviewed the main suspect who admitted to killing the cats in April 2010. While conducting the search, another subject arrived at the scene and Sr. Tpr. Bean (Gilchrist) interviewed this subject. The troopers located evidence involving illegal trapping and taking of bobcats during a closed season from that subject as well. The troopers cited the main suspect for **Taking Bobcat Prohibited Method, Borrowing a Bobcat Record Card, and Aiding in a Game Violation** and the other subject for **Taking Bobcat Closed Season x 3** and seized 10 pelts and numerous instruments and weapons.



Bobcat pelts and evidence seized. Photo credit: File

Dispositions

Suspects Found Guilty and Sentenced

Tpr. Hutchison and Tpr. Ritter (John Day) worked a trespass case. One of the suspects pled guilty to **Hunting on the Enclosed Land of Another**. The court sentenced the suspect to the following:

Hunting License Suspension: Three Years
 ODFW Restitution: **\$7,500** (killed 4 x 4 buck deer)
 Fines/Fees: \$500
 Bench Probation: Two Years
 Community Service: 40 Hours

A subject cited by Tpr. Ritter for three counts of **Borrowing an Elk Tag** and three additional counts of **Exceeding Elk Bag Limit** pled guilty in Grant County to the Borrowing, and the court dismissed the Exceeding charges. The court sentenced the subject to the following:

Hunting License Suspension: **Nine Years** (three years for each count)
 Fines/Fees: \$1,500 plus pay cut/wrap fees for three seized elk
 Community Service: 120 Hours
 Supervised Probation: Two Years

Two subjects cited by Tpr. Ritter (John Day) pled guilty to two counts of **Hunting on the Enclosed Land of Another**. The court sentenced the subjects to the following:

Subject #1

Hunting License Suspension: Three Years
 ODFW Restitution: \$1,500
 Fines/Fees: \$500 plus pay cut/wrap fees for three seized elk
 Bench Probation: Two Years
 Community Service: 80 Hours

Subject #2

Hunting License Suspension: Three Years
 Fines/Fees: \$1,000
 Bench Probation: Two Years
 Community Service: 80 Hours

A Washington man cited by Sr. Tpr. Coggins (Enterprise) was indicted for **Identity Theft x 2** and **False Application for Resident Hunting License and Tags x 2** after using a deceased relative's identity to purchase resident licenses/tags. He pled guilty in Clackamas County to False Application. The court sentenced him to one year bench probation, three years hunting license suspension, and \$2,268 in fines and fees.

A second Washington man cited **False Application for Resident Hunting Licenses and Tags x 2** in both Baker and Clackamas Counties for also using a family member's address to purchase hunting licenses/tags pled guilty. Baker County sentenced him to three years hunting license suspension, 18 months bench probation, and \$1,038 in fines and fees; and Clackamas County sentenced him to three years hunting license suspension, one year bench probation, and \$400 in fines and fees.

On the last day of Cascade elk season, Sr. Tpr. Marshall Maher (Oakridge), Sr. Tpr. Martin Maher, and Sgt. Martin (Springfield) cited two subjects after they trespassed and killed three bull elk. Suspect #1 pled guilty to **Exceeding the Bag Limit Bull Elk** and **Criminal Trespass**, and suspect #2 pled guilty to **Borrowing Big Game Tag**. The court sentenced suspect #1 to pay \$1,500 restitution to ODFW, two years probation, three years hunting license suspension, 60 hours community service, and forfeit his rifle and suspect #2 to four days in jail, two years probation, three years hunting license suspension, and forfeit his rifle.



Poaching affects future generations. Photo credit: Onwuma/Flickr/CC

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

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

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Interagency / Public Relations

SO Presented Troopers with Awards

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) and Tpr. Wetzel (Florence) received appreciation awards from the Lane County SO at the annual LCSO awards banquet in Eugene. Boyd's was for his involvement with the Every 15 Minutes program put on by LCSO last October, and Wetzel's was for his assistance with a homicide investigation in Lowell.

Troopers Assisted with Umpqua Derby

The Umpqua Fishery Enhancement Derby ran again this year on February 3-5 in Roseburg, and Roseburg Division troopers assisted at the events. On February 3, the Umpqua Fishery Enhancement Derby Kids Fishing Day occurred with approximately 60 fifth graders fishing for trout in Cooper Creek Reservoir near Sutherlin. ODFW released 500 one- to three-pound trout into the reservoir the morning of the event for the kids to enjoy. Division troopers assisted along with numerous local guides who took the kids out onto the water in boats. On February 4-5, about 30 teams consisting of two guides and four anglers competed over two days on the North, South, and Main Umpqua Rivers. Anglers caught and released about 230 steelhead during the event along with raising about \$70,000 for fish enhancement.

Sporting Enthusiast Events Attended

Throughout the year, troopers attend events, meetings, and conventions put on for and/or by sporting enthusiasts. In doing so, they not only "advertise" the work the Division performs; but in many events, they display the Trailer of Shame, an exhibit of seized taxidermy mounts of poached wildlife paid for by poachers' court-ordered restitution to the Catch-a-Poacher Fund, and answer numerous questions and concerns from the public. In some Sportsman Shows, troopers may make hundreds of contacts.

Sr. Tpr. Niehus (Klamath Falls) attended the monthly OHA meeting.

Sr. Tpr. Pearson and Sr. Tpr. Gunderson (The Dalles) worked at the Sportsman Show in Portland. Between the two, they made hundreds of contacts.

Sgt. Hoodenpyl (Tillamook) and Lt. Heider (GHQ) attended the Oregon Bowhunters annual convention at Chinook Winds Casino. They conducted an question-and-answer presentation with approximately 30 hunters in attendance.

Sr. Tpr. Cushman (Central Point) attended the monthly OHA meeting and spoke with just over 60 attendees that were present, giving them the monthly update on what sort of fish and wildlife crime and misbehavior is occurring in their parts.

The Southern Oregon Sportsman Show occurred over the weekend. Central Point's Sgt. Meyer, Sr. Tpr. Cushman, Sr. Tpr. Allison, and Sr. Tpr. Collom; Grants Pass' Sr. Tpr. Bennett and Sr. Tpr. Marchand; and Klamath Falls' Sr. Tpr. Niehus all worked various shifts at the OSP booth and displayed the famous Trailer of Shame that also featured a group of trophy blacktail deer mounts and a cougar from a local case. Sports enthusiasts had many praises for the work of Division troopers.

Washington Assisted OSP with Contact

Sr. Tpr. Gunderson (The Dalles) followed up on a trespass investigation. As the suspect lived in Vancouver, Washington, WDFW officers went with Gunderson when he contacted the suspect. After conducting an interview, Gunderson cited the suspect for **Criminal Trespass II**.

Lieutenant Participated in Fundraising Event

Lt. Gifford (SWR) participated in the Polar Plunge for Special Olympics on February 4 in Medford. This is the second year for the event, and participants and donations both more than doubled. Over 300 people plunged this year, and the event raised over \$40,000. The air temperature was around 55 degrees, and the water was at a refreshing 45 degrees. With the assistance of several donors from OSP, Gifford reached his personal fundraising goal of \$500 with a total of \$501. Thanks to all who provided their support.



Troopers attended one of the many Sportsman Shows. Photo credit: File

Troopers Instructed Youth

Sr. Tpr. Gunderson (The Dalles) instructed a Hunter Education class at a college. Over 40 students and parents attended. Sr. Tpr. Collom (Central Point) attended a Hunter Education class at the Medford Gun Club and gave about a one-hour presentation. Sr. Tpr. Bennett and Sr. Tpr. Marchand (Grants Pass) gave a presentation to 25 students at a Hunter Education class. They also conducted a presentation to seven students in the Master Hunter program. The classes were well received.

Sr. Tpr. Frerichs and Tpr. Baimbridge (Roseburg) presented classroom instruction and the Division's Trailer of Shame to students at Roseburg High School. Frerichs and Baimbridge spoke to approximately 50 students in four Natural Resource and Forestry classes along with an additional 35 students in two Wildlife Biology classes. The students were instructed about the duties and responsibilities of Fish and Wildlife Division troopers, current issues surrounding the illegal take of wildlife, wildlife diseases, and the cumulative effects on healthy wildlife populations in Oregon.

Environment / ATV / General Law

Environmental-Related Investigations Conducted

When Sr. Tpr. Reid (McMinnville) contacted a camp along the Nestucca River, he found the camp was cutting down live maple trees for wood without an ODF permit. Reid cited one subject for **Unlawful Cutting/Transport Special Forest Products**.

Tpr. Freitag, Tpr. Andrews, and Sgt. Shugart (Salem) responded to assist with removing a vehicle, which had been stolen out of Forest Grove and dumped in the Willamette River at San Salvador Park. The troopers used a Division boat to assist a local tow company in removing the car from the river.

Sr. Tpr. Kehr (Newport) received a complaint from an ODFW employee of subject dumping a television on a USFS road. From the license plate of the truck, Kehr tracked down the subject responsible. When contacted, the subject admitted to the act because she was "in a hurry" and had to get rid of the television. Kehr cited her for **Offensive Littering**. She picked up and properly disposed of the television.

Sr. Tpr. Canfield (Newport) worked a garbage case from a dump site up the Siletz River he located on his day off. The garbage included plastic, shoes, boxes, lamps, boots, and several boxes of various glass jars and bottles. Canfield determined the subject responsible. He cited the subject for **Offensive Littering**.

Sr. Tpr. Thompson and Sr. Tpr. Allison (Central Point) responded to a mining complaint off the Little Applegate River. They contacted two subjects who had been operating a powered sluice box and pulling water out of the Little Applegate River without a permit. The troopers warned the subjects who agreed to stop mining until they obtained the proper permits.

Tpr. O'Connor (Astoria) observed a subject in a vehicle near a marina toss some garbage from his vehicle. O'Connor contacted the subject who denied throwing anything from his vehicle. O'Connor retrieved the item, a piece of tin foil that had been used to snort a substance. During a vehicle search, O'Connor and Sr. Tpr. Pierce (Patrol) located items of drug paraphernalia as well as an 8-inch dagger concealed under the driver's seat. The subject was cited for **Carrying a Concealed Weapon and Offensive Littering**.



Garbage dump discovered. Photo credit: File

Wanted Subjects Often Encountered on Patrols

Sr. Tpr. Vanderwerf (The Dalles) was checking anglers at Taylor Lake and contacted one subject prior to him going on a walk. The subject made some comments he had been in trouble in Idaho and Washington prior to checking his record. A records check revealed he had a felony warrant out of Post Falls, Idaho, for **Rape**. Sr. Tpr. Kipper (The Dalles) and Tpr. Zistel (Patrol) arrived to assist. The troopers took the subject into custody without incident.

Firearms Unlawfully Possessed, 2 Issued Felony Charges

Sr. Tpr. Bean (Gilchrist) has been conducting follow-up after a search warrant served the week prior. One of the suspects told Bean he sold a firearm to a subject in Christmas Valley. Bean knew the subject and also was aware the subject was a convicted felon. Bean contacted the subject, recovered the gun, and cited him for **Felon in Possession of a Firearm**, a Class C felony.

Tpr. Herman (Astoria) contacted two subjects in a vehicle on a logging road in the Clatsop State Forest. Both subjects appeared to be intoxicated. He observed open containers of beer in the vehicle. Subsequent investigation led to the driver having a loaded concealed handgun on a belt holster, and he did not have a concealed handgun permit. Herman cited the driver for **Unlawful Possession of a Firearm** and seized the handgun.

Central Point troopers assisted Sr. Tpr. Allison (Central Point) with serving a search warrant regarding a felon in possession of firearms. Troopers located evidence that firearms had been there recently along with ammunition and a black powder pistol. They learned the suspect took two rifles and a shotgun to another residence the day before the search. The troopers seized the firearms and lodged the suspect for **Felon in Possession of Firearms**.

Division Troopers Assisted with Crash

Sr. Tpr. Niehus (Klamath Falls) investigated a hit-and-run that occurred at a local ODOT rock pit. The vehicle operator drove over a right-of-way marker, then a telephone communications box, before crashing into a large boulder. The subject then abandoned his vehicle at the site of the crash. Hours later, Niehus located the driver who told him he apparently fell asleep at the wheel. Niehus cited the operator for **Failing to Perform the Duties of a Driver and Criminal Mischief II**.

Alcohol Contributed to Vehicle Crash

Sr. Tpr. Vanderwerf (The Dalles) assisted the Patrol Division with numerous slide-offs and crashes west of Hood River due to the icy conditions. While dealing with three cars that had slid off at mp 55.5 eastbound, a four-car pile up happened right behind the slide-offs. The Interstate was shut down as he rendered medical aid to two drivers of different vehicles involved. Both drivers were transported to Providence Medical Center. One of the drivers had a medical BAC of .16%, and she was transported by Life Flight to Emanuel Hospital shortly after arriving at Providence for a head injury (she had impacted the rock wall). The other driver had neck and head injuries as well but was not transported by Life Flight. Tpr. Deforest (Patrol) completed the DUII investigation for Vanderwerf at Emanuel Hospital. The driver was cited for **DUII and Reckless Endangering x 7**.

General Law / Traffic

Benefits of Fish and Wildlife Officers Being a Fully Trained State Trooper

Tpr. Ward (Patrol) responded to a complaint of a hazard involving aluminum on I-5 in Salem. Ward contacted the operator who was pulling the trailer loaded with aluminum; and this person reported a man driving a green Ford pickup hit some of the debris, stopped, and angrily confronted him because a tire was flattened. After the man made threats, he left driving on one rim and three tires. The operator then noted one of his trailer's tires was deflated and appeared intentionally damaged. Dispatch notified troopers to look out for the green Ford. About 30 minutes later, Tpr. Freitag (Salem) responded to the Santiam Rest Area to investigate a call of a man dousing a vehicle with gasoline. As he arrived, he observed a man standing by a green Ford yelling at a crowd. Freitag detained the man. Further investigation at the rest area indicated the suspect exited I-5 driving on one rim and three tires and lost control, colliding with two parked vehicles with eight occupants total. No one was injured. The passenger of the suspect's vehicle reported the suspect gets angry when he comes down off meth. The suspect said he had run over some aluminum on the freeway, causing him to lose a tire down to the rim, adding he damaged the operator's tire and to taking meth earlier. The suspect had a warrant out of Benton County for Failing to Appear on Reckless Driving, Recklessly Endangering, and Disorderly Conduct charges. Freitag arrested and lodged the suspect in the Marion County Jail on **DUI—Drugs, Reckless Driving, Recklessly Endangering x 9, Disorderly Conduct II, Criminal Mischief II, Criminal Mischief III, and Harassment**.



Criminal investigation conducted at rest area. Photo credit: File

Sr. Tpr. Hanson and Sgt. Allori (Portland) checked anglers at Salish Pond located behind an elementary school in Fairview. They contacted a subject for littering near the pond. Upon further investigation, the troopers found bindles of meth, packaging material, and a roll of cash in his possession. They took the subject into custody for **UPCS—Meth, Distribution of a Controlled Substance—Meth, Distribution of Meth within 1000 Feet of a School, and Littering within 100 Yards of a Waterway** and lodged him in the Multnomah County Jail.

While conducting an investigation into a poached deer at Ft. Stevens State Park, Tpr. Herman (Astoria) contacted three subjects in a vehicle leaving the park. Herman noticed open containers of beer in the vehicle, and the driver and front passenger both appeared to be impaired. The driver was also driving while suspended (DWS), and the front passenger was on felony probation with a No Alcohol clause. Troopers arrested the driver for **DUI**, cited the driver for **Open Container and DWS—Violation**, and impounded his vehicle. They also cited the front passenger for **Open Container and Failure to Surrender Suspended Driver License**.

Tpr. Ritter (John Day) was preparing to stop a vehicle for weaving across the center line, when the driver suddenly pulled over and stopped. Upon contact, the driver said he had chest pains and requested an ambulance. Although suspicious, Ritter requested an ambulance, and the driver was transported to the hospital. Suspecting the passenger recently used meth, Ritter obtained consent to search and found a meth kit and paraphernalia. The passenger stated the baggies found contained meth and the driver had used meth that morning, but she denied recently using meth. Ritter took her into custody for **UPCS—Meth**. The driver initially gave Ritter false information, but a check using his real information revealed he was suspended and had two warrants, several officer cautions, and an extensive criminal history, including multiple violent crimes. Ritter contacted the driver at the hospital, where he was given a clean bill of health for his "chest pains." Further investigation revealed the driver and passenger used meth the day before. The driver said they got "dirty meth," because it caused him to hallucinate and see cartoon characters on the hospital wall. The driver said he had also smoked marijuana that morning. Ritter lodged him on charges of **UPCS—Meth, DUI—Controlled Substances, Giving False Information to a Police Officer**, and a **Warrant** and cited him for **Driving while Suspended** and towed his vehicle.

Sr. Tpr. Richardson (Portland) stopped a motorist on Hwy 224 in Milwaukie for traffic violations. The driver displayed signs of controlled substance use, and paraphernalia was visible in the vehicle. Tpr. Schoenborn (Portland) and Tpr. Monarch (Patrol) responded to assist. A consent search of the vehicle revealed a small amount of heroin, heroin paraphernalia, and undocumented prescription drugs. The troopers lodged the driver in the Clackamas County Jail for **UPCS—Heroin, UPCS—Schedule II (Vicodin), and Failure to Carry and Present a License**.

While patrolling the Columbia River near Bonneville Dam, Tpr. Fromme (Portland) noted an angler attempting to leave after he began checking some sturgeon anglers. Upon contact, Fromme noted the subject was visibly intoxicated and impaired, nearly falling into the river. Fromme inquired about the intoxication and bulges in his pockets. The angler said, as he dropped items into the river, he was okay, not impaired, and had bait in his pockets. Fromme asked to see the bait. The bait container the angler handed to Fromme mistakenly contained marijuana, not bait. A consent search found more paraphernalia and prescription medication, some prescribed to him, some not. Fromme cited the angler for **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana** and seized nearly two dozen Schedule IV prescription pills for identification at the OSP Crime Lab.

Sr. Tpr. Caldwell (Burns) and Sgt. Williams (Patrol) were riding in the same vehicle when they stopped a male from Eureka, California, for Speeding. The driver did not possess any identification, and the troopers identified him by name and date of birth. They found he was suspended in California and had a nonextraditable warrant from Idaho. During the contact, Caldwell observed a marijuana joint in plain view, and the driver produced another marijuana cigarette. A probable cause search of the vehicle yielded more marijuana paraphernalia and over 1/8 ounce of cocaine concealed in the center console. The troopers seized \$339 after they determined the driver sold two ounces of marijuana in Ontario earlier that day. They lodged the driver in the Harney County Jail for **Money Laundering, Unlawful Possession of Cocaine, and Delivery of Marijuana** and additionally cited him for **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana, No Operator License, and Driving Uninsured**.

Commercial Fish / Shellfish / Marine Board

Commercial Crab Violations Discovered on *Guardian* Patrol

Along with other requirements, the law prohibits commercial fishermen to “possess on a vessel, use, control, or operate any crab pot which does not have a release mechanism.” Acceptable mechanisms and other requirements are detailed in [Division 3](#), [Division 4](#), [Division 5](#), and [Division 6](#) ODFW’s Oregon Administrative Rules.

Sgt. Thompson, Sr. Tpr. Urbigkeit (Newport), Lt. Wilson (NW Region), Tpr. Schwartz, and Tpr. Herman (Astoria) conducted a marine patrol on the *Guardian* north of the Yaquina Bay area. The troopers checked crab pots from 24 vessels, resulting in a 75% compliance rate. They seized six pots for biological release securement violations and one for No Buoy Tag.



Illegal biological release mechanism (above) and trooper photographing violation (right). Photo credits: File



Sr. Tpr. Urbigkeit (Newport) followed up with the skippers of various vessels that were in violation from a January 20 *Guardian* patrol from Newport when troopers checked gear from 23 vessels in the Newport area and nearly 40 commercial crab pots. She cited two commercial fishermen from different vessels for **Unlawful Biological Release Mechanisms on Commercial Crab Gear** for the 2010-2011 season.

Commercial Investigations Worked

Sr. Tpr. Klepp (Astoria) worked the commercial docks and checked several commercial Dungeness crab deliveries for compliance. When he checked one vessel, Klepp found they delivered 1.2% of undersized crab. As the delivery was small, Klepp verbally warned the skipper and deckhands for the violation.

Sr. Tpr. Bowen (Coos Bay) investigated a number of commercial fish overages in the Charleston area and discovered one vessel operator was 13.8% (almost 900 pounds) over the 6,300 pound two-month trip limit of Petrale sole. Bowen issued the vessel operator a citation for **Exceeding the Two-Month Trip Limit of Petrale Sole**.

Sr. Tpr. Van Prooyen (Gold Beach) contacted a commercial crab fisherman at the Port of Brookings/Harbor when he had just started offloading their crab. When he finished the offload, Van Prooyen checked his logbook and discovered the fisherman did not make any entries for the landing he had just made or for another landing he made eight days prior. The suspect stated he was going to get it caught up that night. Van Prooyen cited him for **Failure to Maintain Logbook**.

Tpr. O’Connor (Astoria) contacted a groundfish trawl boat at a Warrenton processor. During the offload, O’Connor noticed the mesh size on the net seemed undersized. O’Connor measured the net and found it did not meet the minimum size requirements for large footrope trawl gear. The captain stated he had only been the captain of the vessel for about a month and assumed the net was legal. O’Connor cited the captain for **Fishing Prohibited Method—Undersized Mesh on Large Footrope Trawl Gear** and seized the net as well as the entire load of fish taken during the five-day trip, approximately **51,000 pounds**.

Boat Patrols Conducted

Sr. Tpr. Hanson (Portland) was checking boaters on the Willamette River at Cathedral Park boat ramp and completed courtesy boat exams. When Hanson completed an exam on a boat and checked the operator’s record, he found the operator had a warrant out of Marion County for his arrest for a Probation Violation for Recklessly Endangering a Highway Worker. Hanson lodged the boat operator in the Multnomah County Jail.

Sr. Tpr. Thompson and Sr. Tpr. Allison (Central Point) completed a boat patrol on Lost Creek Lake. They checked 10 boats and 30 anglers. They issued one citation for **No Two-Rod License**. They also observed a boat speeding in the no-wake zone. When they contacted the boat operator and checked the boat, the troopers discovered numerous boating violations. They issued the operator a citation for **Insufficient PFDs** and several warnings for the other violations.

Tpr. Schwartz and Tpr. Vogel (St. Helens) conducted boat patrols on the Multnomah Channel on a Friday and Saturday. They contacted almost 60 anglers, resulting in citations for **No Angling License, No Nonresident Angling License, Failure to Immediately Validate—Sturgeon, Unlawful Possession of Undersize Sturgeon x 2, and Unlawful Possession of Oversized Sturgeon**. The troopers performed several boat inspections and issued multiple warnings for various boating and angling violations. During the patrol, Schwartz contacted a vessel near the Gilbert River. They found three individuals on board angling for sturgeon. Subsequent to the contact, Schwartz placed one of the anglers into custody on an outstanding felony warrant for UPCS—Meth. Schwartz transported the wanted subject by vessel to St. Helens before transporting the subject by vehicle to the Columbia County Jail.

Sport Angling

Boat and Sport Angling Patrols Worked around the State to Monitor Compliance

Tpr. Schwartz (St. Helens) and Rct. Warwick (Astoria) conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River, from St. Helens to Rainier. They contacted multiple anglers, resulting in citations for **No Nonresident Angling License, Angling for Salmon Prohibited Method—Two Rods x 2, and Possession of Falsely Applied for Resident Angling License and Tag**. The troopers issued several more warnings for various violations.

On Tillamook Bay, Sr. Tpr. Guerra (Tillamook) contacted a subject who was angling for groundfish. Upon inspection of the angler's catch, Guerra found he was in possession of a cabezon. After measuring the fish, Guerra found the fish was too short to possess or retain. Guerra cited the subject for **Unlawful Possession of Undersized Cabezon**.

Sr. Tpr. Maher (Springfield) received an angling complaint occurring on the McKenzie River below Leaburg Dam. Maher responded to the area and checked a group of anglers, issuing one citation for **Angling with Bait when Prohibited**. On another angling patrol, Maher checked the Row River below Dorena Dam and contacted an angler illegally using bait in the stream. Maher warned the angler for Angling with Bait when Prohibited, but he cited him for **No Angling License**.

Sr. Tpr. Bennett (Grants Pass) was patrolling the Rogue River above Rainie Falls when he contacted a subject carrying out a wild steelhead. Bennett asked to check the subject's harvest card and discovered the subject tagged the wild steelhead as a hatchery fish and also wrote the wrong date. The subject stated where he normally angles he cannot keep wild fish and did not know the code for wild fish was a 6W. The subject had seven entries on his tag already and all fish validated were indicated with a 6. Consequently, Bennett cited the subject for **Failure to Properly Validate Harvest Card**.

Tpr. Clement (Albany) was checking anglers at the E.E. Wilson Pond and observed a subject quickly reel his line in. Clement contacted the subject and observed a second rod near the subject with the line in the water. The subject presented a fishing license, but he did not have a two-rod license. Clement cited the subject for **Angle with More than One Line—No Two-Rod License**.

Tpr. Stone (Roseburg) located a solo angler in a remote area of the Cow Creek Drainage. While watching the angler, Stone observed what looked like a trout being slipped into the man's left front coat pocket. Upon contact as the angler was leaving the river, Stone asked him what he put into his left front pocket. The man lowered his head and replied, "A trout." The angler removed a freshly gutted and beheaded steelhead smolt from his pocket. Stone cited the man for **Unlawful Take of Trout Closed Season** and seized the fish.

Tpr. Andrews (Salem) patrolled Walter Wirth Park on two occasions. During the first patrol, he contacted two subjects fishing at the park after he received information that the subjects caught several trout, put the fish in their vehicle, and continued to angle for trout. Andrews asked the subjects about the fish, and they denied catching more than the one fish on their stringer and refused inspection of any additional fish. After further questioning, the subjects eventually admitted they caught more fish earlier. Andrews cited both subjects for **Failure to Allow Inspection of Catch**.

He patrolled the park on another occasion after he received multiple complaints of subjects exceeding the limit of trout. While conducting checks, some anglers contacted Andrews and told him a certain subject caught and retained too many trout. He contacted the suspect angler who was continuing to fish. This subject denied catching too many trout, saying he only caught three. After an investigation, Andrews discovered the subject had in fact retained six trout, one over his legal limit. The subject was cited for **Fail to Allow Inspection of Catch and Exceeding Limit of Trout**.



Winter steelhead beauty. Photo credit: A. Kamphuis/Flickr/CC

While patrolling the Rogue River, Sr. Tpr. Cushman (Central Point) contacted a subject angling with two rods. When the subject realized a trooper was only 75 yards away, he unsuccessfully tried to conceal his unlawful angling activities. Cushman contacted him about his angling technique. Cushman cited the subject for **Angling with Two Lines and No Two-Rod Angling License**. Sr. Tpr. Allison (Central Point) cited this same subject a few weeks prior for **No Angling License**.

In February, Sr. Tpr. Gardner (Pendleton) contacted a steelhead angler at the Irrigon Fish Hatchery. The subject produced a 2011 Oregon resident angling license and harvest tag purchased on January 7. He stated he moved to Kennewick, Washington, one year ago. The subject also produced a 2010 Oregon resident angling license and harvest card purchased on November 13. Gardner seized the 2010 and 2011 documents and cited the subject for **Possession of Falsely Applied for 2011 Angling License and Harvest Tag—Misdemeanor**.

On the upper South Umpqua River, Sr. Tpr. Frerichs (Roseburg) observed two steelhead bank anglers. One subject was using three lines while additionally smoking marijuana, and the other was assisting the first subject in the angling with the three lines, while tending to his own line along the riverbank. Consequently, Frerichs issued the first subject citations for **Angling Prohibited Method** and **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana** and warnings for Possession of another's Licenses and Tags and Fail to Closely Attend Line while Angling and issued the second subject a citation for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation**. Additionally, Frerichs seized the three fishing rods.

Wildlife / Hunting



Canada goose. Photo credit: Mongo/Wikimedia

Subjects Lacked Legal Documents

Sr. Tpr. Pearson (The Dalles) contacted a subject and determined he moved to Washington four years ago but continued to buy Oregon resident license and tags. Pearson cited him for **False Application for 2010 Resident License and Possession of Falsely Applied for 2011 License and Tag** and seized all documents.

The Klamath Team was busy in February with goose season. Though not many birds were in the Klamath Basin at the time, troopers noted numerous hunters attempting to bag their birds. They also observed numerous minor violations and issued warnings for Late Shooting and Hunting Prohibited Area. Sr. Tpr. Niehus cited one subject for **False Application for a Resident Hunting License** when an investigation revealed the subject had not lived in Oregon the required amount of time prior to buying his hunting license.

While checking goose hunters on Sauvie Island, ODFW reported a subject in violation. Tpr. Fromme (Portland) contacted the subject and found the subject failed to properly validate his goose by marking it on last year's Northwest Oregon Goose Permit. Fromme cited the subject for **Failing to Possess a Current Northwest Goose Permit**. Upon issuance of this citation, Fromme contacted an additional subject who failed to possess a federal waterfowl stamp. Fromme cited this subject for **No Federal Waterfowl Stamp**. Upon clearing this contact, Fromme contacted a group angling in the Multnomah Channel and cited three for **No Angling License**.

Permits Invalidated, Citations Issued, and Evidence Seized

Tpr. Imholt (Springfield) contacted a goose hunter who began recording his goose kill on his harvest card as Imholt approached. Imholt asked why he did not do this when he shot it. The subject replied that he did not have a pen. Imholt cited the subject for **Fail to Immediately Validate Goose Harvest Card** and invalidated his goose permit and warned another subject who forgot his hunting license at home. Imholt met up with Tpr. Burkholder (Albany) just after contacting the subjects and learned Burkholder cited the same subjects the week before for hunting geese without any licenses or goose permits.

Tpr. Imholt (Springfield) followed up on a report of a subject who shot a goose and did not check it in at the check station as required. He located the subject who stated he did not know he had to check in his geese, even though he shot his geese one mile from the check station. Imholt cited the subject for **Failure to Check In Geese at the Check Station** and invalidated his goose permit.

Tpr. Andrews (Salem) received information a subject shot a dusky goose and did not turn it in to the check station. Andrews contacted the subject at his residence. The subject admitted he shot a dusky goose and did not turn it in. Andrews cited the subject for **Failure to Check Harvested Goose into Goose Check Station**. Andrews seized the goose, the subject's shotgun, and the subject's goose harvest card and invalidated the subject's goose permit. Andrews checked in the goose into the check station.

Trappers Cited for Bait Violations

Sr. Tpr. Madsen (La Grande) received a complaint in January after an individual had two of their dogs caught in snares. Fortunately, the dogs survived; and Madsen responded to the scene to investigate. He located a rib cage from an elk with fresh exposed flesh. The rib cage had been placed within six feet of the snares. Madsen contacted and cited the trapper for **Trapping Prohibited Method—Using Flesh of Game Mammal for Bait**.

Tpr. Stone (Roseburg) contacted a juvenile subject who was involved in illegal trapping activities. When contacted, the young man was honest and cooperative; several additional trap sights were disclosed. As a result of the investigation, Stone cited the juvenile for **Using Game Mammal Parts as Sight Bait** and warned him for several other violations. During the investigation, Stone also warned a local butcher for Offensive Littering, as the butcher was dumping carcasses for the young man to use as bait in the course of trapping the predators.

Sr. Tpr. Reid (McMinnville) responded to a complaint that a subject shot and killed a goose with a rifle. Upon arrival, he located a shot goose that had gone to waste in a field. Reid contacted the subject who admitted he was trying to haze the birds from his field when he shot and killed one. Reid cited him for **Taking Goose Prohibited Method and Waste of Wildlife**.

Tpr. Imholt (Springfield) checked goose hunters and received a call from the check station of a subject who shot two dusky geese. Upon contacting the subject, Imholt determined the subject was hunting with his son who was participating in the Mentored Youth Program. The subject stated they each shot a goose and believed the geese were Taverner's geese, but they learned they were actually dusky geese. Imholt cited the subject for **Exceeding the Bag Limit on Dusky Canada Geese** and invalidated his permit.

Wildlife Rescued

Tpr. Burkholder (Albany) received a complaint of a wounded juvenile red-tailed hawk along Hwy 34. He responded to the location. Burkholder was able to catch the hawk with a net, and he took it to Chintimini Rehabilitation Center for treatment.

Sr. Tpr. Van Prooyen and Sr. Tpr. Stinnett (Gold Beach) received a call of a deer caught in a bundle of wire in the Brookings city limits. As ODFW was not available, the troopers responded to check on the deer. On arrival at the ODF compound in Brookings, the troopers located a small buck with what appeared to be a tomato plant guard wrapped around its body. They determined when the deer was young, he became caught in the wire, and his body grew into it throughout the year. The wire was cutting into his back and wrapped around one leg, making walking difficult. The buck was eating, so the troopers locked him in the compound for the night to await ODFW's assistance. The next day, the deer was tranquilized and the wire was successfully removed.

Wildlife / Hunting

Bears Taken, Possessed Illegally

Sr. Tpr. Prodzinski (Madras), Sr. Tpr. Hayes, and Tpr. Ring (Bend) finished an investigation into the illegal take of a black bear with bait. In September 2010, Ring received a report about a subject who took a large black bear that was suspicious. Prodzinski and Hayes located the suspect's kill site and determined the suspect used bait to attract the bear. The troopers cited the suspect for **Taking Black Bear Prohibited Method—Use of Bait** and recovered the bear from a taxidermy studio and meat processor.

Sr. Tpr. Bennett (Grants Pass) followed up on information regarding a landowner who moved back into the area and found his previous renter left a large bear in the freezer. Bennett contacted the renter who admitted to shooting the bear about three or four years ago, adding the bear was a garbage bear and known to be aggressive toward people. On the day of the incident, the bear was walking up his staircase to his front door as he went to exit his home. His dog ran out of the house and chased the bear off the stairs, but the bear turned and faced the dog near the bottom. He threw rocks at the bear, but it would not leave. The bear began to lunge at the dog, so he shot it with his .243. He did not have a bear tag and knew he should have contacted someone. He said he wanted to do something with the meat when he got some money but left it in the freezer when he moved, forgetting it was in there. Bennett cited him for **Unlawful Possession of Black Bear**.

Criminalistics Identified Who Illegally Took Elk

Sr. Tpr. Martin Maher (Springfield) traveled to Woodburn to finish up an elk case that began the first week of January. The suspect in this case was found to have unintentionally shot an additional cow elk on the opening day of the Wendling antlerless elk hunt (January 1). Maher located a bullet in the elk carcass, and Forensics matched the bullet to the suspect's rifle. The suspect was extremely cooperative and surrendered his rifle for the ballistics tests. Maher cited the suspect for **Exceeding the Bag Limit of Elk** and returned his rifle to him.

Tpr. King (Tillamook) responded to the Upper Nestucca River regarding two elk illegally taken. A citizen reported he found a cow and calf elk recently shot and left to waste and seeing a suspect vehicle in the area. As King arrived in the area, he contacted and identified all the occupants in the suspect vehicle. A consent search was denied by the suspects who were then released. After looking at the crime scene and talking to the witness, King found he did stop the right suspect vehicle. He re-contacted the suspects, and both denied any involvement in shooting the elk. King then located where the suspect vehicle had driven up a skid road and found two rifles dumped, and one of the rifles matched the brass found at the kill site. He also located near the rifles footprints that matched both suspects' and tire tracks. King contacted the suspects again, and they both admitted to their involvement in the illegal killing of the elk. King lodged one subject in the Tillamook County Jail on charges of **Unlawful Taking Cow Elk x 2** and **Hunting on Enclosed Land of Another** and released the other subject to the Tillamook County Juvenile Department on charges of **Unlawful Taking Cow Elk x 2, Hunting on Enclosed Land of Another, and Probation Violation**.

"Found" Antlers Taken to Taxidermist for Mounting

Sr. Tpr. Frerichs (Roseburg) investigated a complaint of a trophy set of 4-point blacktail buck antlers at a taxidermy shop. Frerichs learned that the two suspects involved in bringing the antlers in were recently caught by a Douglas County SO deputy for illegally shooting two 3-point blacktail bucks in the Toketee area. He seized the untagged and undocumented antlers with skull plate from the taxidermy shop. Frerichs and Sr. Tpr. Merritt (Roseburg) contacted one of the suspects involved in the case. Frerichs learned that the suspect validated his bow deer tag after he and a friend reportedly "found" the trophy buck dead in the Medford area and cut the antlers off the deer. The suspect thought the taxidermy shop would need a tag, so he validated his unused bow deer tag for the horns. Frerichs issued the suspect a citation for **Unlawful Possession of Wildlife Parts** and warned him for the tag violation. Frerichs later contacted the other suspect involved and issued a citation for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation**.



Blacktail buck. Photo credit: Kirklandj/Flickr/CC

Seven Subjects Cited in Two Deer Poaching Cases

Sr. Tpr. Marshall Maher (Oakridge) and Sr. Tpr. Martin Maher (Springfield) received information from the Lane County SO regarding a trespass incident on Weyerhaeuser property west of Cheshire. The investigation revealed one adult and four juveniles trespassed onto the private timberland and killed two deer. Consequently, the troopers cited two subjects for **Unlawful Taking of Deer Closed Season** and the other three involved subjects for **Aiding in a Game Offense—Taking Deer Closed Season**. LCSO issued citations for **Criminal Trespass II**.

The South Central Team, led by Sr. Tpr. Bean (Gilchrist), served a search warrant at a Gilchrist residence. Bean had assisted a Lake County SO deputy with a complaint in Christmas Valley. While at the location, Bean located evidence of poaching activity. During Bean's subsequent investigation, he recovered a total of three suspected deer hearts from a local woman. He then developed a suspect and applied for the search warrant. The search resulted in Bean locating two large sets of deer antlers. During Bean's further questioning, the main suspect admitted to killing three deer. As a result of the investigation, Bean charged the suspect with three counts of **Taking Deer Closed Season** and two counts of **Unlawful Possession of Deer Parts**. Once completed with the search warrant, Bean interviewed another subject at his home in Chemult regarding his level of involvement with the large deer antlers found during the search. This subject denied giving deer antlers to the main suspect, but he but admitted to having some guns in his residence. This subject was a convicted felon and may not possess firearms. Bean seized two firearms and cited the subject for two counts of **Felon in Possession of a Firearm**, a Class C felony.

Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division

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