

# The Field Review



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

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## Report Trapping Violations and Leave Reported Traps as Found

One of the many duties of the Fish and Wildlife trooper is detect trapping violations and take enforcement action when appropriate. Trappers and their gear are often difficult to find and often go unnoticed to the untrained eye. They can be very efficient at trapping targeted species and are held accountable under a strict set of trapping rules, including monitoring their traps and not using certain types of bait.

Trappers are required to check their traps or snares at least every 48 hours when taking *furbearing* or *unprotected* mammals. Any person setting a trap for *predatory* animals is required to check restraining traps at least every 76 hours and killing traps and snares at least once every 30 days. The law prohibits any person to trap furbearers, predatory animals, and/or unprotected mammals using the flesh of any game bird, game fish, or game mammal for trap bait and/or to use sight bait, exposed flesh bait including whole animal carcasses, within 15 feet of any foothold trap set for carnivores. Visit [http://www.dfw.state.or.us/resources/hunting/small\\_game/](http://www.dfw.state.or.us/resources/hunting/small_game/) for the furbearers/trapping regulations.



Leghold trap. Photo credit: Robert Lawton/Creative Commons

The Division encourages the public to report trapping violations and to leave reported traps in the field as they were found. Evidence can accidentally be destroyed and, in some cases, the traps are lawful. The law prohibits any person to remove the traps and/or snares of any licensed trapper who is trapping on public lands and/or on private land with the landowner's permission. Call 1-800-452-7888 to report wildlife law violators. The following are some of the trapping cases made in January:

Tpr. McClay (Burns) contacted a trapper in the Foster Flat area in Harney County. The trapper was using exposed flesh bait in close proximity to his traps. McClay cited the trapper for the **Unlawful Use of Sight Bait within 15 Feet of a Trap Set for Carnivores**.



Game bird used as bait in trap. Photo credit: File

Sr. Tpr. Duncan (Baker City) and Sr. Tpr. Wilson (Ontario) located five leghold trap sets and one conibear trap set in the canyon area below Unity Reservoir in Baker County. The troopers determined all of the sets were illegal in various ways, including using a game bird as bait. They issued the suspect misdemeanor citations for **No Nonresident Furtaker's License, Trapping Prohibited Method—Using Game Bird as Bait, and Waste of Wildlife—Game Bird**.

Tpr. Clement (Albany) received information regarding some traps set on USFS property in Benton County. He located several traps that did not have complete brands and pulled the traps. He later returned to the area with Tpr. Burkholder (Albany). The troopers contacted two trappers and observed part of a nutria hanging directly over one of the traps. They also determined the traps Clement previously pulled belonged to one of the subjects. The subject admitted he thought his sight bait might be too close. Clement issued the subject a violation citation for **Sight Baiting for Carnivores within 15 Feet** and warnings for not possessing a written record of transfer for and not properly branding his traps.

Sr. Tpr. Cushman (Central Point) received information of illegal trapping in the Fielder Creek area out of Rogue River. Cushman hiked around in the drainage and located some foothold traps set with sight bait utilizing parts of deer and one with a blue jay. Bobcat trapping season was open at the time. Several days later, Cushman contacted the trapper going in to check his traps. The trapper said the deer was from a road kill, and he found the blue jay in one of his traps. Cushman explained the reason sight bait cannot be used is to protect birds from being caught in the traps, specifically raptors. He cited the trapper for **Unlawful Use of Sight Bait within 15 Feet of Foothold Trap**. Later in the month, Cushman patrolled the area again. He marked the road and one of the traps early one morning to determine the time frame the traps were checked. Based on the markings he made and checking of the marks, he determined the traps had not been checked within the required 48 hours. He also found a dead stiff skunk suspended from a limb in one of the traps. He left a note at one of the traps for the trapper to contact him. The trapper called 51 hours after Cushman marked the road; but the time was closer to three days since the traps were checked, based on indicators seen prior to marking the road. Cushman cited the trapper again for **Unlawful Use of Sight Bait within 15 Feet of Foothold Trap** and warned him for Not Checking Furbearer Traps Every 48 Hours.

# Dispositions

## Suspects Found Guilty and Sentenced

A subject cited for **False Application for Resident Hunting License/Tags** pled guilty. The Baker County Circuit Court sentenced the subject to 180 days in jail (suspended), \$768 in fines and fees, \$270 restitution to ODFW, and three years hunting license suspension.

Sr. Tpr. Duncan (Baker City) received a disposition on subject who unlawfully took a deer in the Oxbow-area with his bow. Although the charge was reduced to a violation, the court sentenced the subject to \$344 in fines and fees, \$75 restitution to OSP for cutting and wrapping, \$800 restitution to ODFW, and three years hunting license suspension.

Sr. Tpr. Wilson (Ontario) received a disposition on an Idaho resident who shot a deer during a closed season in Oregon. Wilson worked this case with IDFG, and the suspect was charged with wildlife offenses in Idaho as well. The Malheur County Circuit Court sentenced the subject to \$902 in fines and fees, three years hunting license suspension, one year bench probation, and participate in seven days on the work crew.

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) contacted a suspect at his Springfield residence regarding an anonymous complaint. During the interview, the suspect admitted to killing four deer during the prior two months. Boyd found a fifth unskinned deer hanging in the garage. The Lane County Circuit Court found the suspect guilty of **Unlawful Taking of Buck Deer** and sentenced the suspect to 18 months probation subject to:

- Violate no laws;
- Report to the court in writing every citation or arrest of any new crime or major traffic offense within five days;
- Notify the court any changes in name or residence with five days;
- Pay \$800 restitution and \$202 in fees in full;
- Find and maintain, if physically able, gainful full-time employment, approved schooling, or a full-time combination of both;
- Serve 10 days in jail;
- Forfeit all weapons used in the crime;
- Not engage in hunting activities including scouting, packing, skinning, or any other assistance of another engaged in hunting activities; and
- Three years hunting license suspension.

Sr. Tpr. Love (Bend) received a disposition on a subject who was convicted of **Taking Bobcat Closed Season**. The court found the subject guilty and sentenced the subject to three years bench probation, 100 hours of community service, \$202 in fines and fees, and \$104 restitution to ODFW.



Bobcat sitting in a tree. Photo credit: USFWS

Sgt. Meyer and Sr. Tpr. Cushman (Central Point) were trying to contact some anglers on a drift boat on the Rogue River back in June 2010. The subjects took off downstream when the troopers hailed them over. Cushman and Meyer contacted the three men on the boat downstream after they had gone out of sight for a short distance, likely to dump untagged salmon overboard. The troopers cited the boat operator for **Attempt to Elude by Boat and Angling Prohibited Method—Leader over Six Feet** and another subject for **Angling Prohibited Method—Leader over Six Feet**. The court reduced the misdemeanor Attempt to Elude charge to a violation. This subject pled guilty, and the court sentenced him to a \$158 fine. The court found both men guilty on the angling violation charges and sentenced one to a \$65 fine and the other to a \$90 fine.

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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 Influence	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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# ATV / General Law / Environment

## Angler Stole Fishing Rod

Tpr. Galusha (Tillamook) finished an investigation of a subject who angled with a stolen fishing rod at the disabled dock on the North Fork Nehalem River. The rod's owner was angling near the subject. When contacted, the subject admitted to fishing near the owner on the day the rod was reported as stolen but claimed he purchased the rod from a friend in a store parking lot. Galusha could not locate his friend. Galusha cited the subject for **Theft in the Second Degree**.

## Division Troopers Stopped Reckless Drivers

After working the winter range, Sr. Tpr. Niehus (Klamath Falls) was on his way back into town when he observed a vehicle run a red light. He stopped the vehicle only to find the 16-year-old driver had three unrestrained children crawling all around the vehicle. Niehus cited the operator for **Fail to Obey a Traffic Control Device, Endangering Child Passengers x 3, and Provisional Passenger x 2**.

While doing some follow-up work on a littering case, Sr. Tpr. Niehus (Klamath Falls) observed a moped drive by without any lights. As Niehus completed his follow-up, the moped drove by again, and he attempted to make a traffic stop. The female operator then attempted to elude at speeds upward of 25 miles per hour. The "chase" went into a local subdivision. As the woman tried to get off her bike, Niehus arrested her for **Attempt to Elude and Reckless Driving**.

Tpr. Andrews (Salem) stopped a subject driving recklessly on I-5. A consent search of the vehicle revealed a digital scale, packaging material, a glass pipe with marijuana residue, and several bags with marijuana leaves. Andrews arrested the subject for **Reckless Driving, Reckless Endangering, and Unlawful Possession/Distribution/Manufacture of a Controlled Substance—Marijuana** and lodged him in the Marion County Jail. At the jail, Andrews advised the deputy a thorough search was necessary. The deputy conducted a strip search, locating nine "20 sacks" of packaged marijuana, 25 grams of heroin, and five morphine pills in the subject's underwear. Andrews added **Unlawful Possession/Distribution/Manufacture of a Controlled Substance—Heroin and UPCS—Schedule II** to the charges.

## Troopers Stopped SUV Operating on Beach

Sr. Tpr. Urbigkeit and Tpr. Van Meter (Newport) were working tandem and observed an SUV operating on the beach near Lost Creek and drive about a half-mile north on the beach, turn around, spin out, and return. They stopped the vehicle. The driver stated he drove from Corvallis and was just visiting. He claimed to have not seen the sign and was not originally from the U.S. and did not know the rules. The driver was a male with dual citizenship in both the U.S. and another country. He did not have a valid operator's license but did possess a U.S. birth certificate, U.S. passport, and a passport from the other country. The driver purchased the vehicle and had in his possession a title, but he had not transferred the title nor insured the vehicle. The driver claimed he was waiting on a social security number to be assigned to him before he could get the vehicle in his name, get insurance, and obtain a driver license. He provided documentation from the Social Security Administration regarding a pending application. The troopers cited the driver for **No Valid Operator License, Driving Uninsured, and Unlawful Operation of a Motor Vehicle on the Beach**.

## Subjects Caught Trespassing

Tpr. Galusha (Tillamook) contacted a subject who accessed a fishing hole on the North Fork Nehalem River through private property. The subject crossed a fence and boundary that was well within the uplands and marked "No Trespassing." Per the landowner's request, Galusha cited the subject for **Criminal Trespass in the Second Degree**.

Tpr. Galusha (Tillamook) responded to a complaint near the Nehalem River. He determined two Garibaldi subjects were hunting elk near the Nehalem River and entered Shiffman Road that has private property on both sides with several homes on it and frequented by vehicle and pedestrian traffic. One subject fired a large caliber rifle directly down the road at a herd of elk in the roadway. After firing at the elk, both subjects then entered onto private property to track the elk. Galusha cited the subject who shot at the elk for **Reckless Endangering** and referred the **Trespass** case to the Tillamook County DA.



Trooper checking ATV rider. Photo credit: File

## ATV Operators Cited

Sr. Tpr. Kipper (The Dalles) and ODFW White River Wildlife Area Manager contacted a subject for operating his side-by-side ATV on a road closure. Kipper cited him for **Illegal Motorized Travel**.

Tpr. McClay (Burns) conducted a traffic stop on two ATV operators who were unlawfully operating on a paved road in Harney County. McClay cited one subject for **Driving while Suspended—Misdemeanor** and warned both for Unlawful Operation.

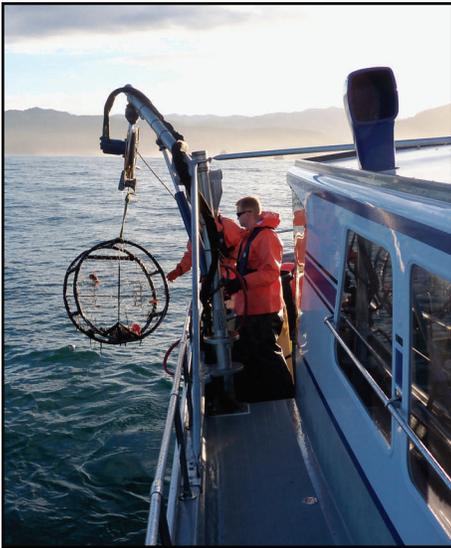
Sr. Tpr. Niehus and Sr. Tpr. Randall (Klamath Falls) responded to a report of illegal off road activity and reckless shooting in the Balsam Rock Pit area. They made over a dozen contacts and issued one citation issued to an ATV rider for **Operating an ATV on a Highway**.

## Angler Had Loaded .380 in Pocket

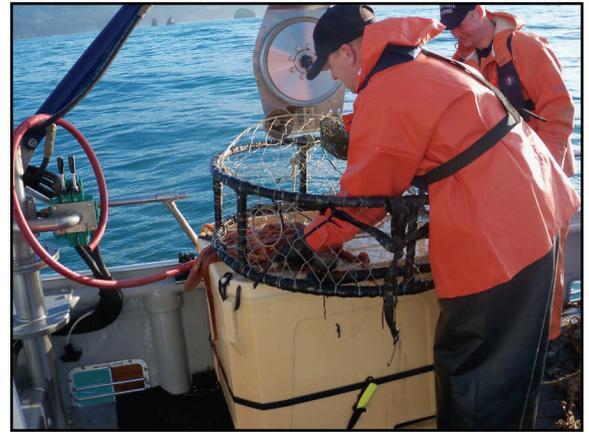
Tpr. Fromme and Tpr. Schoenborn (Portland) arrived at Salish Pond to check anglers. Fromme contacted one angler who could not produce a valid 2011 angling license. The subject would not stand from his chair; repeatedly made furtive moments towards his pant's pocket; and, at one point, tried to cover the area with his jacket. When questioned, the subject stated he had a loaded .380 pistol in his pocket he was carrying without a concealed carry permit. The troopers detained and searched the subject and found a loaded .380 Walther PPK in the subject's pocket. They took the subject into custody and lodged him in the Multnomah County Jail for **Unlawful Possession of a Firearm** and additionally cited him for **No 2011 Angling License**.

# Commercial Fish / Shellfish

## Port Orford Captain Cited for Crab Fishing during Southern Coast Closure



In December, ODFW implemented a crab fishing closure from Cape Blanco south to the Rogue River to allow crab meat condition within the area to improve to acceptable levels. The closure was to remain in effect until January 15. On January 4, Division troopers patrolled the coastal waters in the closed area using the *Guardian*. While patrolling in the closed area, troopers discovered and seized 34 crab pots. The ongoing investigation determined the crab pots belonged to a certain fishing vessel, captained by a Port Orford subject. The troopers cited the subject for **Taking Dungeness Crab Closed Area, Crab Pots Present within a Closed Area, Failure to Display ODFW Buoy Tag, and Failure to Display Pot Ownership Tag.**



Crab pots checked (left) and other creatures found (above). Photo credits: File

## Shellfish Patrols Yielded Unlawful Taking

Tpr. Peterson (Tillamook) contacted three crabbers on Tillamook Bay. Only one subject had a shellfish license, and he possessed 36 crab. Peterson seized 24 of the crab and cited the subject for **Exceeding the Bag Limit Crab.**

Sr. Tpr. Guerra (Tillamook) contacted four crabbers on Tillamook Bay. When he checked the crab, 10 of the 15 crab were undersized. Guerra cited one subject for **Unlawful Possession Undersized Crab** and returned the undersized crab to the bay.

Sgt. Hoodenpyl (Tillamook) worked late night clambers on Tillamook Bay during a low tide series. During the patrol, he saw two subjects with buckets clamming on the clam beds. As soon as the clambers returned to their vehicle, he contacted them and found they had exceeded the daily bag limit by **56** bay clams. Hoodenpyl also found two oysters in their possession. Hoodenpyl cited one subject for **Exceeding the Bag Limit Bay of Clams** and warned both for **Unlawful Possession of Oysters.**



Trooper counting clams. Photo credit: File

Tpr. Brandon and Sr. Tpr. Harris (Coos Bay) patrolled Coos Bay in the sled. They observed a crabber dump a bucket of small crab in the bay as they approached. They watched the crabber try to shake the bucket underwater and scoop the crabs out and then pretend like he could not pull the bucket back in as he had his arms underwater to his elbows. Upon checking, the troopers found the subject had an undersized crab in another bucket. They cited him for **Taking Undersized Dungeness Crab.**

## Commercial Investigations Conducted

Tpr. O'Connor (Astoria) contacted a commercial crab boat at a processor. He asked to see the logbook, and the captain stated he does not carry his logbook on the vessel and waits until he gets home to complete it. O'Connor cited the captain for **Failure to Complete Commercial Crab Logbook Prior to Landing.**

Sr. Tpr. Klepp (Astoria) contacted two deckhands leaving a commercial crab vessel. One subject was carrying a load of "laundry." Klepp found the man was concealing commercially harvested Dungeness crab that he failed to weigh and document. Klepp cited him for **Taking Commercially Harvested Dungeness Crab for Personal Use.**

Tpr. O'Connor and Ret. Warwick (Astoria) contacted a commercial trawl boat in Astoria. Troopers knew one crew member had several outstanding **warrants**. The troopers observed the crew members leaving the boat after it docked at the processing plant. They contacted the crew member and took him into custody.

Tpr. O'Connor (Astoria) contacted a commercial crab boat at a processor. One crew member stated he did not have his license with him and his girlfriend was bringing the license down to him as they spoke. A short time later, the girlfriend arrived, and the fisherman presented O'Connor with his license. O'Connor learned the license had just been issued and the girlfriend forged the crew member's signature. O'Connor cited the fisherman for **No 2011 Individual Commercial Fishing License** and will forward additional charges of **Forgery in the Second Degree** and **Criminal Possession of a Forged Instrument in the Second Degree** to the DA's office.

# Marine Board



Sgt. Meyer and Sr. Tpr. Thompson (Central Point) worked a boat patrol on Lost Creek Lake. They contacted about 20 boaters and anglers and performed seven boating safety exams. The troopers issued several warnings for boating-related violations. Thompson and Sr. Tpr. Allison (Central Point) performed a boat patrol on Lost Creek Lake on another day. They conducted 11 boating safety exams, checked 27 anglers, and cited two for **No Angling License**.



Meyer and Thompson on a boat patrol (left) and conducting a boat exam (above). Photo credits: File

Sr. Tpr. Connell (Hermiston), Tpr. Mayer (Heppner), and Tpr. Amos (Patrol) conducted a boat patrol below McNary Dam. During the patrol they checked 20 anglers, performed four boat examinations, and issued two citations for **No Angling License**.

Sgt. Lea (Coos Bay) contacted two subjects crabbing out of a canoe in Winchester Bay. The crabbers did not have enough floats for their four crab pots, so they used one of their two lifejackets as a float. Lea issued a citation for **No PFD**.

Tpr. Brandon and Sr. Tpr. Harris (Coos Bay) patrolled the Lower Umpqua in the sled. They warned two waterfowl hunters for Hunting Geese Prohibited Area and one angler for No 2011 Sturgeon Tag. During the patrol, they contacted a boat that lost power near the crab pier. The troopers towed the boat safely into Winchester Bay.

Sr. Tpr. McNerney and Tpr. Frazier (Hood River) conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River between Cascade Locks and Hood River. They checked 52 sturgeon anglers and performed 24 boat examinations. They issued three citations for **Fail to Validate Sturgeon Tag**, one for **No Angling License**, and one for **Angling Prohibited Method—Barbed Hook** and five warnings.

Sr. Tpr. Bennett, Sr. Tpr. Marchand (Grants Pass), and Sgt. Withers (Roseburg) conducted a boat patrol on the Rogue River and contacted a boat near Finley Bend. They warned the subjects for numerous boating violations and cited one for **Inadequate Number of PFDs**. Later in the day, Bennett and Marchand contacted the same boat at Robertson Bridge from the shore and found the subjects possessed a nonadipose fin-clipped steelhead. They cited one subject and seized the fish.

Sr. Tpr. Martin Maher (Springfield) and Sr. Tpr. Marshall Maher (Oakridge) worked various waterways on one day. At City Pond, they cited one angler for **No Angling License**. At the Cottage Grove Reservoir area, they cited two anglers observed using bait in the Coast Fork of the Willamette River above the reservoir for **Angling with Bait where Prohibited**. Also at the reservoir, they contacted a boat observed with an expired registration and a juvenile not wearing a PFD. A safety check revealed no wearable PFDs. The troopers issued the operator a citation for **No PFDs** and warnings for Expired Registration and No Boater Education Card in Possession. In the same area, they cited one subject for **No Angling License**. After Cottage Grove Reservoir, they worked Dorena Reservoir and the Row River. They contacted two subjects observed unlawfully bait angling, and one unlawfully retained a trout. This area is catch-and-release only at this time of year. This subject also possessed marijuana. The troopers issued the first subject citations for **Unlawful Taking of Trout when Prohibited** and **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana** and a warning for Angling with Bait when Prohibited and cited the other for **Angling with Bait when Prohibited**.

## Boat Patrols Conducted to Monitor Compliance

### Interagency Patrols Productive

Tpr. Frazier (Hood River), Sr. Tpr. Kipper, Sgt. Katzenstein (The Dalles), and Hood River County SO Deputy Anderson conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River from Cascade locks to Hood River. They contacted 24 boats and 79 anglers and issued one citation for **Fail to Validate Harvest Tag**, two citations for **Expired Boat Registration**, and several warnings.

Tpr. Frazier (Hood River), Sr. Tpr. Kipper (The Dalles), and WDFW Officer Bolton conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River out of Maryhill State Park in Washington. During the patrol, they contacted 13 anglers, completed six boat exams, and gave out three warnings for minor boat violations. Bolton cited two bank anglers, one for **No Angling License** and one for **Angling with Two Rods**.

Sr. Tpr. Vanderwerf, Sr. Tpr. Kipper (The Dalles), and WDFW Officer Bolton conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River between Celilo Park and the John Day Dam. They contacted 41 anglers, completed 15 boat exams, and gave out seven warnings for minor boat violations. They also noted angling violations. Bolton issued three citations to two bank anglers. One subject was angling for sturgeon with two rods, and one rod had six barbed hooks and the other had four barbed hooks and one barbless hook. Another subject did not have an angling license.

# Sport Angling



Snake River winding through Hells Canyon. Photo credit: X-Weinzar, Creative Commons

## Various Angling Patrols Worked around the State

Sr. Tpr. McNeil (Baker City) conducted an angling patrol on the Snake River below Hells Canyon Dam to monitor compliance and checked several anglers. He contacted one subject who was using barbed hooks in a prohibited area. McNeil cited this subject for **Angling Prohibited Method—Barbed Hooks**.

Tpr. Herman (Astoria) received a call from an ODFW employee that a suspended subject was steelhead angling on the Klaskanine River. The employee contacted this subject the day before angling in the same area. Herman arrived at the river just as the subject was leaving and interviewed him. The subject admitted to steelhead angling that day, as well as the day before. Herman cited the subject **criminally for Angling while Suspended**.

Tpr. Herman (Astoria) contacted a steelhead angler on Gnat Creek. When asked for his license and tag, the angler became nervous and took a license and tag out of his wallet that both belonged to a female. The angler said the female was his wife, but he could not tell Herman what her date of birth was. A records check revealed the angler did not have any current licenses or tags. Herman cited the angler for **No Valid 2011 Combined Angling Harvest Card and Unlawful Possession (Borrowing) of Another's Combined Angling Harvest Card**.

Tpr. Clement and Tpr. Burkholder (Albany) contacted an angler in Clemens Park parking lot in Benton County on the Alsea River. The suspect told Clement he caught a steelhead about 45 minutes prior to their contact. Clement asked to see the suspect's angling tag. The suspect told Clement he had not tagged it yet, because he did not have a pen. Clement asked the suspect if he asked any other anglers on the river if he could borrow their pen, and the suspect said he did not. Clement validated the suspect's tag and cited him for **Failure to Immediately Validate Salmon/Steelhead Tag—Violation**.

Sr. Tpr. Thompson (Central Point) was checking anglers on the Rogue River where the former Gold Ray Dam was taken out. He observed two men, but they apparently saw him first. When Thompson checked them, one man had a 2011 angling license and the other did not. Thompson did not see the man without the license actually angling. The two men left the area. When Thompson checked the area where he saw the man without a license, he found a fishing rod hidden in the brush. He took the fishing rod to the OSP office and stored it as found property.

Sr. Tpr. Frerichs and Tpr. Stone (Roseburg) worked the Middle Fork Coquille River near Bridge. The officers observed a subject angling with two lines for steelhead along the bank. The subject observed the officers looking at him and picked up his gear and left the location. The troopers contacted the subject who admitted to angling with the two lines and unlawfully taking a wild unmarked steelhead. The fish was contained in the bed of his vehicle. Frerichs seized the steelhead and cited the subject for **Unlawful Take of Unmarked Steelhead**, and Stone additionally cited him for **Angling Prohibited Method**.

Rct. Warwick (Astoria) contacted an angler at the Big Creek Fish Hatchery who was fighting a fish. He watched the man fight the fish until it broke off the line and then made contact. Through questioning, the man admitted that he had already caught and kept two steelhead that were on the bank. The man said he had just caught the second of his two steelhead and could not resist casting again. Warwick issued the angler a citation for **Continuing to Angle after Reaching the Bag Limit** and a warning for Failure to Immediately Validate Harvest Card.

Tpr. Clement (Albany) responded to E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area refuge after receiving complaints of people fishing the day before the pond season opened. Clement contacted two subjects at their vehicle in the parking lot. While Clement approached the subjects, one of them said, "I already know what your going to say!" The subject admitted to knowing the pond was not open until the next day and told Clement that he retained one rainbow trout. Clement cited the subject for **Angling Closed Area—Violation**. Clement seized the trout and donated it to a local mission.

On the upper Rogue River, Sr. Tpr. Collom (Central Point) walked a trail toward the hatchery and observed a subject walking toward him carrying a steelhead and a fishing rod. The angler was cordial when he asked about the fish. When asked for his license and tag, the angler produced a 2010 license and tag. He explained he just caught the fish and had not had time to record it on the tag. Collom noticed the angler had three entries on his tag (for 2010). Not wanting to deceive Collom, the angler piped up and admitted he had not purchased his license or tag this year yet. Collom explained it was not going to be hard to figure that out but nice try. The angler and his buddy were quite tickled with this and wanted to take a picture of the suspect, the fish, and Collom; but Collom politely declined and informed him it would probably be on the internet in about 30 seconds. Collom allow them to take a picture of just the fish, then cited the angler for **No Angling Harvest Tag**.

Sr. Tpr. Randall (Klamath Falls) checked three anglers on the Klamath River below the Keno Dam and found all three were using bait in an area restricted to artificial flies and lures only. Randall cited two of the subjects and warned the third for **Angling Prohibited Method—Bait**. Randall additionally warned one subject for No Nonresident Angling License. On the following day, Randall again checked the Klamath River and found two of the three subjects angling again. During this contact, Randall discovered they were again in violation by using molded plastics. A check of their licenses revealed the subject who was warned for No Nonresident Angling License now had a resident angling license. After a brief interview, Randall cited the subject for **False Application for a Resident Oregon Angling License** and warned them both for the molded plastics. He also fully educated them on the artificial fly-and-lure rules.

# Wildlife / Hunting

## Salem Resident Held Deer in Backyard

Tpr. Freitag (Salem) responded to a call regarding a subject who was holding a blacktail deer in a fenced backyard of a residence in Salem. The deer appeared to be healthy and had plenty of hay and water. Freitag released the deer and warned the resident for Unlawful Possession Game Mammal.

## Sick Duck Found in OSP Office Parking Lot

Sr. Tpr. Klepp (Astoria) witnessed a male bufflehead duck walk into the Astoria OSP office parking lot that appeared weak and dehydrated. Klepp and Tpr. Spurlock (Patrol) used a dip net to capture the bird, then they placed the duck in burlap and transported it to the Wildlife Center of the North Coast rehabilitation center. The center's staff gave the duck fluids, food, and care. The duck spent two days in a water tank with another of its kind (with the same symptoms) before making a recovery. For more information on this center, please visit <http://www.coastwildlife.org/home.html>.



Male bufflehead. Photo credit: MDF, Creative Commons

## Suspect Obstructed the Taking of Wildlife

Tpr. Baimbridge (Roseburg) received a complaint from goose hunters on the Umpqua River. The complainants reported that when they would set up along the river to hunt, a female standing on her deck near their location would blow an air horn, causing the geese to leave the area. In addition, every time they would sound their goose call, the female would blow the air horn. Roseburg Division troopers have received several similar type complaints over the previous week involving the same female. One morning, a group hunting at that location filmed the female blowing the air horn each time they sounded their goose call. Baimbridge contacted the suspect and cited her for **Obstructing the Taking of Wildlife**, per [ORS 496.994](http://www.leg.state.or.us/orsnc/faces/orc.htm?_afz=496.994).

## Numerous Subjects Cited for Illegal Bird Hunting

Tpr. Vogel (St. Helens) received a tip from ODFW that a duck hunter exceeded his limit of mallard hens. Vogel met with the subject at the Sauvie Island Bridge check station and confirmed the subject was in possession of four mallard hens. Vogel seized two of the hens and cited the subject for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Mallard Hens**.

Tpr. Clement (Albany) was notified by ODFW about a subject who took a goose during closed season on E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area refuge. This area is also closed to any type of goose hunting. The suspect told Clement he did not realize the season was closed and the refuge was closed to goose hunting; and when he found out it was, he attempted to retrieve his daily access permit from the ODFW box by cutting the lock off. Clement cited the suspect for **Taking Goose Closed Season, Taking Goose Closed Area, and criminally for Criminal Mischief III**.

While checking a road closure gate, Sr. Tpr. Niehus (Klamath Falls) heard shots probably associated with goose hunting. Niehus found a vantage point to watch the goose hunters finish picking up and leave their hunting location in a boat. Just as they were leaving, the operator fired two rounds skyward. Niehus was unable to see any birds in the air. A few minutes later, the operator let go of the boat motor's throttle and, while the boat was in motion, shot again skyward. Niehus again was unable to see any birds in the air, but he did see a goose running for its life in a nearby field. When the two subjects and the boat arrived at their pickup, Niehus contacted them and inquired about what appeared to be Rallying and Powerboating. The suspect, who had once been on a ride-along with Niehus, initially denied shooting the second time while the boat was moving. Instead, he stated he only picked up the shotgun and pointed it up in the air. When Niehus explained he was watching with binoculars and saw gun smoke expel from the barrel and heard the shot a few seconds later, the suspect stated there was no way Niehus could have seen him from where he was parked. Niehus cited the suspect for **Hunting Prohibited Method—Powerboating** and warned him for several address, boating, and vehicle code violations.

Tpr. O'Connor and Rct. Warwick (Astoria) observed a vehicle parked in a particular area that indicated the subject was hunting waterfowl. O'Connor later contacted the suspect at his residence. The suspect admitted he had been hunting and shot four ducks. O'Connor cited the suspect for **Taking Waterfowl Closed Season** and seized the ducks.

Tpr. Spencer (Ontario) was checking duck hunters in the Annex area near the Snake River when he observed a group of hunters using motorized decoys. Spencer contacted the group and cited three of the subjects for **Hunting Waterfowl Prohibited Method—Motorized Decoy**. The subjects were from Washington, Idaho, and Illinois.

Sr. Tpr. Richardson and Tpr. Schoenborn (Portland) received a report from an ODFW volunteer on Sauvie Island Wildlife Area about two subjects unlawfully hunting. When contacted, the troopers determined both were hunting on a non-hunt day. They issued the first subject citations for **Hunting Prohibited Area** and **Unlawful Possession of Ducks x 5** and warnings for No State Waterfowl Validations, Possession of Lead Shot, and Over the Limit of Mallard Hens and the second subject citations for **Hunting Prohibited Area** and **No Federal Waterfowl Stamp** and a warning for No State Waterfowl Validations.

Sr. Tpr. Klepp (Astoria) received a phone call from a man cutting firewood east of Astoria who witnessed a man carrying a rifle and a dead pheasant while walking toward a car parked alongside the road. Klepp arrived about an hour later, and the suspect and his girlfriend were still near the scene. A consent search revealed a dead pheasant in the trunk of the car. Apparently, the two were target practicing when they saw the bird, and the suspect told his girlfriend to shoot it. Klepp cited the suspect for **Aiding in a Wildlife Offense—Taking Pheasant Closed Season** and the girlfriend for **Illegal Possession/Taking Pheasant Closed Season** and **No Oregon Driver License**. The suspect just had his hunting privileges reinstated after a two-year suspension resulting from a citation Klepp issued to him for killing a cow elk inside the city limits of Warrenton during the 2008 archery season.

# Wildlife / Hunting

## Troopers Investigated Big Game Cases



Troopers responded to a report of an injured cow elk. Photo credit: File

Sr. Tpr. Coggins, Sr. Tpr. Knapp, Tpr. Miller (Enterprise), Sr. Tpr. Love (Bend), and Sgt. Hawkins (La Grande) finished an unlawful taking of deer case started after Love received information regarding three subjects hunting outside their hunt unit in the Bend area. After a lengthy investigation, the troopers identified and located three suspects. Two suspects lived out of the area. Coggins and Miller interviewed the suspect who lived in Enterprise, and Knapp and Hawkins interviewed the suspect who lived in La Grande. The investigation revealed these two suspects shot their deer outside of the hunt unit their tags were valid for. Love interviewed the third suspect and determined he also shot his deer outside of the hunt unit. The troopers seized the meat and antlers of the three deer and cited all three suspects for **Taking Deer without a Valid Tag**.

Tpr. Herman (Astoria) patrolled the Camp McGregor controlled antlerless elk hunt area and the closed areas around it. While patrolling a logging road out of the hunt area, Herman saw a truck parked along the road with rifle cases in the bed. This area is known for having large amounts of elk, and Herman noted fresh elk sign directly in front of the truck. He observed one subject in the woods 100 yards downhill from the truck. As he started walking towards the subject's location, the subject came out of the woods and met Herman at the truck. The subject said he and two friends were target shooting in the area and saw a herd of elk, so they wanted to look at them. A consent search of the truck revealed an empty shell casing in the chambers of two rifles, a spotlight, and camping supplies. After Herman asked the subject to take him down to where his two friends were at, the subject eventually admitted to shooting a bull elk an hour earlier, and his friends were in the woods quartering it. The other two subjects came out as well and admitted to the same thing. The subjects took Herman to the elk's location, where he found a freshly killed spike elk hide, head, remains, and garbage bags with quarters, ribs, and parts. Herman additionally discovered the subjects did not have hunting licenses or any type of tag. Herman seized the elk and one of the rifles and cited one subject criminally for **Unlawful Taking Bull Elk—Closed Season** and the other two subjects criminally for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation—Unlawful Taking Bull Elk—Closed Season**.

Tpr. Kehr (Newport) followed up on an exceeding case involving a Master Hunter. Kehr located an extra dead cow elk in the Salmon River Estuary that an ODFW Master Hunter killed. Kehr contacted the suspect and issued a citation for **Exceeding the Limit of Cow Elk**.

Sr. Tpr. Vanderwerf (The Dalles) received information a landowner evicted a subject from a residence and located a deer hanging in a shed. Sr. Tpr. Gunderson and Sr. Tpr. Pearson (The Dalles) assisted with the investigation. Vanderwerf interviewed and arrested the former resident for **Unlawful Possession of Deer and Waste of Wildlife**.

Sr. Tpr. Urbigkeit and Tpr. Van Meter (Newport) received a report of an injured cow elk with a possible broken neck but still alive. When the troopers arrived at the reported location, they found the elk already dead. The troopers determined the elk was not illegally shot, rather they believed the elk may have possibly broke her neck jumping a large fence. As the elk had not been dead for very long, the troopers were able to salvage and donate the meat.

Tpr. Jennings (Patrol) arrested a DUI driver in the early morning hours on Hwy 34 and discovered the driver had blood on his hands, a loaded rifle in the front seat, and a buck deer head in the cargo area of his SUV. Sr. Tpr. Canfield (Newport) was called out to take over the wildlife investigation. Troopers had the vehicle towed to the Newport office. A telephonic search warrant executed on the vehicle recovered several weapons, a fresh deer head, a spotlight, and other evidence. As a result of the evidence and an interview, the suspect was lodged in the Lincoln County Jail on **Theft I, Unlawful Possession of Blacktail Deer Closed Season, Hunting Prohibited Hours, and Waste of Wildlife**.

During December, Coos Bay troopers received numerous reports of a spike elk killed and left to waste in the Powers Unit. Tpr. Keeler and Sr. Tpr. Harris (Coos Bay) located the spoiled spike elk carcass and contacted a possible suspect who gave the names of two out-of-the-area subjects who shot the elk. Keeler and Sgt. Lea (Coos Bay) contacted the new suspects who admitted to shooting the spike. The suspects failed to field dress the elk and, after two days of attempting to retrieve it, the animal spoiled. The suspect who shot the spike then shot a 2 x 2 elk. The troopers seized the 2 x 2 elk head and about 80 pounds of processed elk meat and cited the suspect for **Unlawful Take of Elk—Exceeding Limit and Waste of Game Mammal—Elk**.

Tpr. Andrews (Salem) received information that a subject poached multiple deer and the carcasses were located in the yard. Andrews saw the carcasses in the yard, but the subject was not home, as the landlord was evicting him. Andrews and Sgt. Shugart (Salem) attempted to locate the subject at several residences and finally made phone contact with the subject who agreed to meet them at the original residence. Upon their arrival, the troopers learned the subject and a neighbor bagged up the carcasses and threw them into the North Santiam River. The subject admitted to poaching five deer in the last two years. The troopers identified his neighbor as another suspect in the poaching. They contacted the neighbor who admitted to poaching two deer in 2010. The troopers cited the subject for **Unlawful Taking Spike Deer x 2, Unlawful Taking Doe Deer, Unlawful Taking Deer with Aid of Artificial Light, Littering in/near a Waterway, Unlawful Possession 2 x 3 Deer Antlers, Failure to Immediately Validate Deer Tag x 2** and the neighbor for **Littering in/near a Waterway, Unlawful Taking Doe Deer, Unlawful Taking Spike Deer, and Unlawful Taking Deer with Aid of Artificial Light** and seized both subjects' rifles, deer meat, antlers, and a spotlight. The DA added criminal **Tampering with Physical Evidence** charges to each subject.

# Interagency Investigations

## Cooperation Essential

Sgt. Meyer, Sr. Tpr. Thompson, and Sr. Tpr. Cushman (Central Point) responded to a complaint of a pool of oil running through a culvert into a wetland near White City. Upon arrival, the troopers did not believe the substance was oil. It appeared to be a dark-colored substance that possibly drained or leaked out of a truck at a county truck scale adjacent to some ODFW property. Thompson called a DEQ who responded. The spill was small, and the county cleaned it up.

Tpr. Galusha (Tillamook) and Tpr. Snodgrass (Patrol) responded with Tillamook County SO to locate and rescue three subjects who capsized their drift boat on the Wilson River. Upon arrival, the troopers found three subjects who tried to negotiate a narrow passage with their drift boat which caused the boat to overturn, throwing all three subjects into the water and under a log jam. Two of the subjects went completely under the log jam and one of the subjects was under water for over 30 seconds. Emergency personnel treated all three subjects on scene.

Sgt. Lea (Coos Bay) attempted to stop a vehicle for the driver was talking on his cell phone. A short vehicle pursuit ensued with the suspect turning onto a dead end road, ditching the car, and running on foot. Containment was established by Coos Bay troopers, North Bend PD, and Coos Bay PD. Upon arrival of a K9 for tracking, the suspect announced his presence and surrendered. The suspect had warrants for Attempt to Elude—Vehicle and Attempt to Elude—Foot. The troopers lodged him in the Coos County Jail on the warrants and new charges of **Attempt to Elude—Vehicle** and **Attempt to Elude—Foot**.

While on patrol, Rct. Warwick (Astoria) contacted a man who said he had run into a “tweaker” on a remote dead end road. He said the man had acted very abnormal and made him nervous. Warwick eventually found the reported man who was acting very agitated. A records check revealed the man had a suspended driver license. When asked, the man admitted to being alone and driving to his current location on a highway. In addition, a consent search found a container with prescription pills and methamphetamine. Warwick arrested the man for **Possession of a Controlled Substance—Methamphetamine** and cited him for **Driving while Suspended**. The Clatsop County SO transported the suspect to and lodged him in jail.

## Troopers and Other Agencies Investigated Wildlife Cases

Sr. Tpr. Richardson, Tpr. Fromme (Portland), and an ODFW biologist from Corvallis responded to a citizen’s report of an injured beaver on the east bank of the Willamette River within the city limits of Portland. The trio captured the animal and successfully delivered it to the Audubon Society in Portland for treatment and rehabilitation.

Sr. Tpr. Wilson and Tpr. Spencer (Ontario) worked jointly with USFWS, Malheur County SO, and IDFG to patrol the Snake River for waterfowl hunters. They contacted 29 waterfowl hunters and checked eight boats. The patrol resulted in Wilson issuing one citation for **No Federal Migratory Bird Stamp**. The officers also issued two warnings, one for No Idaho Migratory Bird Validation and one for No Federal Migratory Bird Stamp.

Sr. Tpr. Maher (Oakridge) was contacted by a local Oakridge-area resident who reported he had two goats killed by what he suspected to be a cougar. Maher investigated the report and determined a cougar killed the goats. He notified ODFW Biologists Chris Yee and Brian Wolfer. The residence where the cougar made the kills is behind Oakridge High School. ODFW decided to utilize their live trap to attempt to catch the cougar. The trapping effort was successful, and the cougar was captured the second night the trap was out when it returned to feed on one of the goats it had killed. The cougar was euthanized.

Sr. Tpr. Carter (Pendleton), along with Tpr. Sharp and Tpr. McCrae (Patrol), contacted two suspects who possessed an illegally taken bull elk. Carter had previously received information the suspects illegally took a bull elk on the Umatilla Indian Reservation and were transporting it into Weston. The troopers contacted the suspects during a traffic stop, and Carter subsequently interviewed them. One of the suspects took the troopers to his residence and produced a large 5 x 6 bull elk head. Carter and Tpr. Dietz (Pendleton) followed up on the case with Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation Officer Curry. The officers identified the location of the incident and the landowners’ names. The troopers charged the suspects with **Waste of Wildlife—Bull Elk, Criminal Trespass II, Taking Bull Elk Closed Season, and Theft I**.



Elk eyeing the photographer. Photo credit: Nature's Pics/C. Commons

After watching anglers in a boat on the Willamette River unlawfully angling for sturgeon using a prohibited method and fail to immediately release a sturgeon, Tpr. Fromme (Portland) contacted the Clackamas County SO Marine Unit (CCSO) to meet him for a boat contact. While waiting for CCSO, Fromme contacted two anglers on the bank fishing for sturgeon. Upon contact, one angler could not produce a valid angling license or harvest card. A records check found him to also have a valid **Felony Warrant** for his arrest out of Multnomah County for Felon in Possession of a Firearm. The subject was taken into custody with the assistance of CCSO Deputy Olsen. Fromme transported the subject to the Clackamas County Jail in his patrol truck without incident and lodged him on the warrant and additionally cited him for **No Angling License**. After clearing the jail, Fromme met up with Olsen and made contact with the violator in the boat. Further investigation found one angler to be using multiple poles used for sturgeon angling, not catfish as first claimed. Fromme issued the angler a citation for **Angling Sturgeon Prohibited Method—Two Rods** and a warning for Failing to Immediately Release the Sturgeon witnessed by Fromme earlier in the morning.

# Interagency / Public Relations

## Assisted with Surveys

Sr. Tpr. Collom (Central Point) worked with ODFW conducting steelhead surveys on several local streams, then later worked with ODFW Assistant Biologist Vince Oredson conducting waterfowl surveys around the Grants Pass area.

## Supported Youth Events

Sr. Tpr. Collom (Central Point) gave a presentation to a Hunter Education class at ODFW and helped out on the field day.

Sr. Tpr. Niehus (Klamath Falls) manned a booth with ODFW during the first annual PLAY Outdoors event at the Klamath County Fairgrounds. "PLAY Outdoors" stands for Promoting Lifetime Activities for Youth Outdoors. The event aimed to help parents introduce their children to local outdoor activities, and organizers required parents to participate. Numerous outdoor clubs and agencies set up demonstrations and exhibits for families to explore. Organizers reported over **800** children and another **800** adults attended the event. Niehus interacted with the public and discussed local natural resource issues. Sgt. Hand (Klamath Falls) was also present at and assisted with the event. For more information on Klamath Outdoor Science School's efforts to educate the public on outdoor activities in the Klamath Basin, please visit their website at <https://sites.google.com/site/klamathoutdoors/home>.

## Trooper Received Letter of Recognition from Guides Organization

Sgt. Martin and Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) attended the annual McKenzie River Guides Association pre-season meeting in Leaburg. The troopers discussed several natural resource issues and enforcement efforts with the group. At the meeting, the McKenzie River Guides Association presented Boyd with a letter of recognition for his outstanding service and activities during 2010 in the McKenzie River drainage.



Association recognized trooper. Photo credit: File

## Participated in Interagency and Sport Group Meetings

Sr. Tpr. Randall (Klamath Falls) attended an all-day meeting of the Bull Trout Technical Working group in Klamath Falls.

Sgt. Allori and Sr. Tpr. Hanson (Portland) gave a presentation to about 20 attendees at the Portland Metro Chapter of the Coastal Conservation Association at the Kennedy School in Portland.

Lt. Gifford (SW Region) gave a two-hour presentation on Tactical Communications and Safety to approximately 25 Oregon Department of Forestry employees at a safety training day in Coos Bay.

Newport and Florence Fish and Wildlife troopers participated in a central coast cooperative enforcement planning (CEP) meeting with ODFW in South Beach. During the meeting, members covered sport fish and game.

The Klamath Falls / Gilchrist / Lakeview Team participated in an area CEP meeting. Group members exchanged excellent ideas and information. Sr. Tpr. Bean (Gilchrist) presented information on the Winter Range Action Plan. An early deer case by Sr. Tpr. Niehus (Klamath Falls), multiple patrols, deep snow, and other factors resulted in a very successful action plan this year with only two deer known to have been taken unlawfully. At the end of the meeting, Sr. Tpr. Randall (Klamath Falls) met with ODFW Klamath/Malheur Watershed District Manager Bob Hooton to discuss natural resource issues on the Chewaucan River.

## Lower Deschutes River Managing Agencies Hold Meeting in Madras

Lt. Scorby (Baker City), Sgt. Pond (Bend), and Sr. Tpr. Lindberg (Madras) attended the Lower Deschutes River Managing Agencies group meeting in Madras. Members discussed numerous topics regarding river management issues, including a vote by managers to implement limited entry in 2011 in Segments 3 and 4. Lindberg also discussed some proposed administrative rules to reduce social conflicts. For more information on Lower Deschutes River Management Area, permits, regulations, and fees, please visit their website at <http://www.boaterpass.com/>.



Boaters on the Lower Deschutes. Photo credit: BLM

## Per BLM, over 200,000 people float the Lower Deschutes River each year.

Boater Passes are required all year for use on the Lower Deschutes River from Pelton Reregulation Dam to the confluence with the Columbia River. Boater Passes are available from <http://www.boaterpass.com/> or various vendors. Access may be restricted to a limited number of boaters on certain sections of the river during peak use periods including group size limitations.

- Lower Deschutes River Managing Agencies



Trooper on an enforcement float. Photo credit: File

# Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division

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



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