



OREGON STATE POLICE FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION



MONTHLY FIELD REVIEW

NOVEMBER 2023



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*On the cover:
A Fish and Wildlife Trooper on patrol in
the Sauvie Island Wildlife Area*

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



OSP Staff Visit Linfield University

Oregon State Police (OSP) Fish and Wildlife Division members, along with the OSP Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Trainer brought the “Trailer of Shame” to a Linfield football game to conduct recruiting and outreach. Numerous people stopped by the trailer to interact with OSP staff, have questions answered, and to discuss career opportunities. The event was a success, with one high school recruit who attended the game having already reached out as a result of his interactions with OSP staff.

Trooper Attends Sunriver Community Meeting

A La Pine Fish and Wildlife Trooper attended a community meeting, at the request of county commissioners, regarding the recent elk hunting complaints from Sunriver homeowners who had witnessed unethical hunting of a large herd of elk during the rifle season on US Forest Service (USFS) lands. Residents were able to talk about what they had seen and requested the area be closed to hunting with centerfire rifles for public safety. Residents agreed to meet in the future to discuss options for the area.

Troopers and K-9 Scout Give Demo

Bend and John Day Fish and Wildlife Troopers, accompanied by K-9 Scout, gave a presentation regarding poaching prevention and the role of the Oregon State Police to a class at Central Oregon Community College. The title of the course was Hunting in Modern Society. A case study was presented, and K-9 Scout demonstrated his advanced skills at locating evidence of criminal poaching.

John Day River Agency Partner Meeting

Fossil and Prineville Fish and Wildlife Troopers attended a John Day River agency partner meeting at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) headquarters in Prineville. OSP, BLM, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD), Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB), Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL), and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) were in attendance. Information regarding site development and recreational use priorities/ideas were shared for 2024.

Sergeant Presents to Oregon Coast Anglers Group

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Sergeant gave a year in review presentation to the Oregon Coast Anglers group in Winchester Bay. Approximately 20 members were in attendance.

Career in the Outdoors Event

A John Day Fish and Wildlife Sergeant was contacted by a local church group that was sponsoring a “Career in the Outdoors” night. The Sergeant conducted a presentation on the OSP Fish and Wildlife Division, employment opportunities with OSP, shared some memorable Trooper stories, and answered a variety of questions. The student participants and their parents were very appreciative, and several added they were interested in becoming Fish and Wildlife Troopers!

Troopers Give School Presentation

Portland area Fish and Wildlife Troopers presented at the Heron Creek Behavioral School in Lake Oswego. There were approximately 15 students in attendance. Troopers gave a PowerPoint presentation covering topics such as what a Fish and Wildlife Trooper does, how to become a Trooper, and other career opportunities within OSP such as dispatchers, and outside partners like Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT), ODFW and private security. Troopers brought a wildlife enforcement decoy (WED) and other hands-on tools for the high school students to experience.

GENERAL LAW & RESCUES



Red-Tailed Hawk Rescued - Klamath Falls

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper recovered an injured red-tailed hawk that appeared to have been hit by a vehicle in the city of Klamath Falls. The Trooper was able to get the hawk safely to the Badger Run Wildlife Rehabilitation Center.

Agencies Team Up to Remove Hazard Tree

A Grants Pass Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted the BLM, USFS, and Josephine County Sheriff's Department with the removal of a life threatening hazard tree in "Mule Creek Canyon" on the Wild and Scenic section of the Lower Rogue River. The tree was lodged across the entire river just above the class five "Coffee Pot" rapid. Boats could not have passed without extreme life danger. The river was shut down during the operation. Equipment was packed in on the trail system. Technical rope systems were used for mechanical advantage to pull the Douglas Fir tree free. It took approximately four hours to dislodge the tree and secure it to the canyon walls.

Trooper on Night Patrol Finds Stranded Family

A Salem Fish and Wildlife Trooper was doing a late-night patrol on Valsetz Road in Falls City, which is a cooperative travel management area. He stopped a vehicle that was coming in after hours. The driver explained he was coming to help his brother who had broken down. The Trooper went to search for the disabled vehicle and found the family of four, which included two young children, huddled around a fire on the road. The father explained they had walked five miles in the dark after their vehicle broke down and were exhausted. The Trooper extinguished the fire and gave the family a courtesy ride back to their home in Falls City.

OSP Pilot Spots Disabled Vehicle

Members of the South-Central Team conducted a winter range flight operation in cooperation with a La Pine Fish and Wildlife Trooper. Contacts were few and far between. One suspicious vehicle was observed by the OSP Pilot turning its lights on and off and stopping in the middle of the road. The vehicle was located and was experiencing a mechanical issue and was disabled. The Trooper located a loose battery cable on the vehicle, which was repaired and jumped. The couple was also lost, and the Trooper provided them with directions to get them to their destination.

Possible WED Shooter Arrested for DUII

Albany Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a wildlife enforcement decoy (WED) operation in Linn County on private property. A subject drove near the WED, backed up and parked at a nearby residence. A short time later the subject started sneaking along the road and looking at the WED through his scope multiple times. The subject was stopped and interviewed. The subject showed signs of impairment and consented to standard field sobriety tests (SFSTs). The subject was arrested for **Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUII)** and transported to Stayton Police Department. He provided a breath sample and had a 0.13% blood alcohol content (BAC). He was cited and released for **Hunting from a Roadway** and **DUII**, his rifle was seized.

OSP Pilot Locates Stolen Fuel Trailer

A Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted an enforcement flight with the SW Region Fish and Wildlife Pilot. Numerous elk hunting contacts were made. The Pilot located a suspicious bright blue object in the trees south of the Mt. Lakes Wilderness Area. The Trooper on the ground located the object. It was a new 1000 gallon, tandem axle fuel trailer. The trailer was clearly stolen and hidden at the location. There was no plate and no VIN on the vehicle. Local dispatch centers were checked and no similar vehicles were reported stolen. There was a sticker on the trailer indicating it was recently sold at auction. The Trooper reached out to a local logger with connections to the auction house. An owner was identified and contacted. The trailer had been reported stolen a couple days prior, but had not been entered into LEDS as the owner was still getting the info to the county sheriff's office. The owner responded to recover the vehicle which was wedged between multiple trees, well off the road. The Trooper removed a tree and a large quantity of brush with a chainsaw so that the owner could recover the trailer.

GENERAL LAW & RESCUES



Illegal Gray Foxes Removed from Home

A La Pine Fish and Wildlife Trooper and Bend Sergeant assisted ODFW with contacting a Sisters area residence and removing five gray foxes which had been in captivity since 2015. The owner and caretaker for the foxes had acquired them out of state and complied with the request to release the foxes to ODFW. The caretaker was warned for the unlawful possession of the foxes.

Calf Elk Rescued from Barbed Wire Fence

A Bend Fish and Wildlife Sergeant received information regarding a calf elk stuck in a barbed wire fence. With assistance from a landowner the elk was cut free from the fence and placed in a recovery position. Approximately 20 minutes later the calf was able to gain its feet and run away.

Subject Cited for Theft of Trail Camera

Roseburg Fish and Wildlife Troopers contacted a person of interest in the theft of a cellular trail camera from Lone Rock Resources which had been monitoring one of their closed gates. The person of interest admitted to stealing the camera and voluntarily retrieved it, along with the SIM card and micro-SD card from inside his residence. The items were returned to Lone Rock Resources and the subject was cited in lieu of custody for **Theft II**.

Subject Arrested for DUII, Cited for Take of Deer

Mid-Valley Fish and Wildlife Troopers responded to an anonymous report of an unlawful buck deer inside a garage in rural Marion County. When Troopers arrived at the residence, a buck deer was observed in an open garage bay. As Troopers were on scene the homeowner arrived in a pickup and was visibly intoxicated. One of the Troopers conducted standard field sobriety tests (SFSTs) and the subject was arrested for **DUII**. The subject's blood alcohol content (BAC) was found to be 0.19% and he was lodged in jail. The other Trooper seized the buck deer and criminally cited the subject for **Take/Possession of Buck Deer**.

Subject Found with Stolen Truck and Rifle

Newport Fish and Wildlife Troopers were on patrol when an older model pickup ran a stop sign leaving a known hunting area. The Troopers initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle, which returned stolen. The operator claimed to have a bill of sale at his nearby residence. Because there was a rifle in the truck, the Troopers asked to secure the rifle, so it wasn't stolen while they transported the subject to his residence. The rifle also returned stolen. The subject was lodged in the Lincoln County Jail on charges of **Unlawful Possession of a Firearm** and **Possession of a Stolen Vehicle**.



Mule Deer Caught Between Fences

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted the Klamath County Sheriffs Office with a rescue of a doe mule deer that was stuck between two fences. The fence was dismantled, and the deer was able to walk away.

COAST ELK SEASONS



Cow Elk Poached/Wasted - Columbia County

St. Helens Fish and Wildlife Troopers received a report from an elk hunter who found a dead cow elk off of Columbia River Mainline in Columbia County. The reporting party stated while he was waiting for legal shooting hours, a man and woman he was familiar with drove around him and down the road. A little while later he heard two gunshots coming from where the couple had driven down to and saw a herd of elk running from the area, then later in the day found a dead cow elk on the hillside. The suspects were interviewed and both of them admitted to shooting at a bull elk right where the cow was discovered. The man did not have a first season elk tag and knew he should not have been hunting. Both subjects were criminally cited for **Take/Possession of Antlerless Elk, Waste of a Game Mammal** and the man was additionally cited for **Hunting Closed Season**. Two rifles were seized as well as their Weyerhaeuser pass and key at the request of Weyerhaeuser. The cow elk was not able to be salvaged.

Elk Taken Closed Season - Saddle Mountain

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to a complaint of a 5-point bull elk being shot in the Saddle Mountain Unit a week before the season opened. When the Trooper arrived, the witness explained what he had observed and gave directions to the location of the kill. The Trooper found the elk and made contact with the suspect who said he thought the season opened that day. The Trooper cited the suspect for **Taking Bull Elk: Closed Season** and seized the elk. Another Trooper arrived to help with the seizure and salvage. The elk was salvaged with the assistance of Lewis and Clark Timberlands LLC (who pay for the transport, cut, and wrap) and donated to charity.

Suspect Buys Tag After Killing Elk

A Tillamook Fish and Wildlife Trooper seized a 6x6 bull elk from a suspect who purchased a first season elk tag after killing the elk. The suspect told the Trooper he purchased the tag before walking up his property and shooting the elk; however, investigation proved that to be false. The Trooper asked the suspect why the elk was dead before he bought his tag and the suspect stated, "You got me." The suspect was cited for **Unlawful Possession of Bull Elk**.

Subject Takes Elk in Wrong Area

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to a call from the ODFW Jewell Wildlife manager who encountered a subject on Weyerhaeuser timber lands with a 5x5 bull elk down on the Elsie/Fish Hawk Crossover during opening weekend of elk season. The subject had a general coast bull elk first season tag and was completely unfamiliar with the Saddle Mountain Unit area boundaries. The elk was seized and later salvaged and a citation was issued for **Take/Possession Bull Elk Without Valid Elk Tag**.

Spike Taken in 3-Point or Better Area

A Tillamook Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted a subject regarding the killing of a spike bull elk. The subject was in the Saddle Mountain Unit where only 3-point or bigger bull elk are allowed to be harvested. The subject was unaware of what hunting unit they were in. The Trooper assisted the subject with retrieving the elk and educated them on the regulations. The subject was cited for **Take/Possession Bull Elk**. The Trooper took possession of the elk and donated the meat to the jail. The subject and others in the party were also warned for hunting in the wrong unit.

EAST REGION ELK SEASONS



Subject Kills Two Elk, Uses Wife's Tag

Baker City and Ontario Fish and Wildlife Troopers investigated a tip regarding a subject who shot and killed two bull elk in the Lookout Mountain Unit. The subject and his wife were interviewed at a residence in Ontario and the subsequent investigation revealed that the male subject shot and killed two bull elk. Several hours later his wife was given a ride to the location, and she electronically tagged the first bull that was shot and the male subject electronically tagged the second bull elk. Both subjects confessed and cooperated with the investigation. Two sets of bull elk antlers, two heads and a rifle were seized as evidence. The meat was later seized as evidence due to it being at a meat processing facility. The male subject was cited for **Exceeding Bag Limit Bull Elk** and the female subject was cited for **Lend/Borrow or Sell Big Game Tag**.

Branch Bull Taken in Spike Only Hunt

A John Day Fish and Wildlife Sergeant was dispatched to the report of a branch bull being killed and recovered in a spike only hunt unit. A group of hunters had observed the dead bull elk and obtained photos of the associated vehicle. The offending subject was located driving on Hwy 395 the following day by Troopers and a traffic stop was made. The subject was visibly nervous and quickly admitted to “messing up” and shooting the bull. He claimed that his intention was to contact someone about it. Further investigation revealed the subject did not salvage any neck meat from the bull. The subject was issued a criminal citation for **Unlawful Take Bull Elk: Branch Bull** and the offense of **Waste of Wildlife** will be forwarded to the District Attorney's office. The meat and head were seized and taken to the meat processor for eventual donation to a local food bank. The reporting party will be recommended for a TIP reward.

Hunter Self-Reports Accidental Take of Cow Elk

A John Day Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Trooper responded to a camp in the Northside Unit for a hunter that self-reported accidentally killing a cow elk. Upon arrival, the older hunter stated he had been hiking up a ridge and was out of breath when a herd of elk started trotting towards him. There was one large bull, several smaller bulls, and some cows in the herd. The hunter said he focused on the larger bull to separate then fired one time. He thought he had missed but upon hiking the area, found a dead cow elk about 100 yards away. The hunter and his group dressed and salvaged the cow elk and brought it back to camp. The hunter was warned for **Unlawful Take Antlerless Elk** and the elk was taken to Meadowbrook Meats for donation to the food bank.

Hunter Self-Reports Mistaking Elk

Fish and Wildlife Troopers from Fossil and The Dalles received a report of a female hunter self-reporting she had shot a branch bull during the second season spike only hunt in the Heppner Unit. Upon arrival, the 5x5 bull was field dressed and carted out to the road. The hunter said she was using a scoped rifle and the bull was approximately 100 yards away when she shot it. After investigating, it was determined that the hunter shouldn't have shot and needed to make sure it was a legal spike. The hunter was issued a violation citation for **Unlawful Take/ Possession of a Branch Bull** and the bull was seized. The bull was transported to Meadowbrook Meats to be processed before being donated to the Ukiah schools for consumption.

EAST REGION ELK SEASONS



Hunter Educated After Self-Reporting Mistake

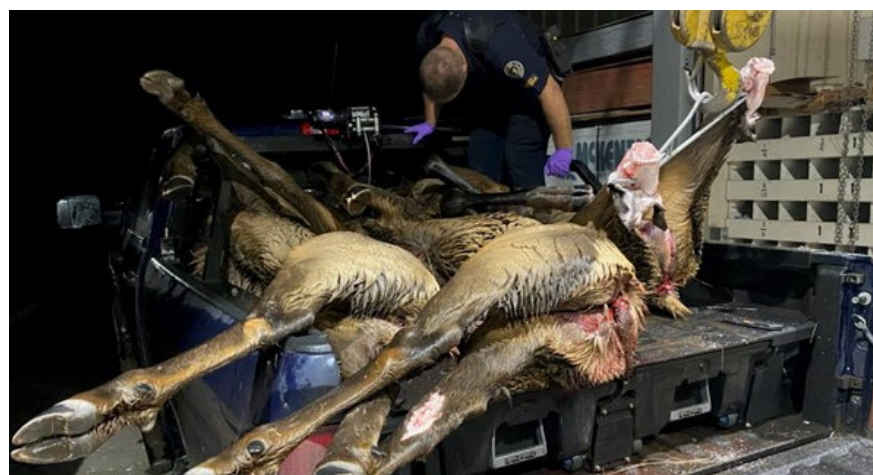
A John Day Fish and Wildlife Sergeant, accompanied by a Patrol Recruit who was conducting his Fish and Wildlife Division time, received a self-report from a hunter who had mistakenly shot a branch bull in the Desolation Unit, which was only open for harvest of spike bulls. The Troopers responded to the Sharp's Ridge area and spent a couple hours locating the hunter and finding the best location to retrieve the elk. Further investigation revealed the hunter and his party had come upon a herd of elk and this bull came within approximately 150 feet. The hunter was using a scoped rifle and said he thought the bull was a spike and shot. He then walked up and saw the bull was a small 4x4. He said he believed he must have mistakenly thought the tree branches the bull was in caused him to think it was a spike. The hunter's family and friends assisted in retrieving the bull and the Troopers skinned the elk and transported it to a processor for donation to the Grant County Food Bank. The Sergeant thanked the hunter for doing the right thing by self-reporting his mistake so the elk could be salvaged, and the meat donated. He also discussed the importance of taking the time to identify that an animal is legal before taking a shot and if you are not 100 percent sure, you pass on the shot until you are. The hunter understood and was issued a violation citation for **Unlawful Take Spike Elk**.

Subject Kills Elk a Day Before Season Opens

A La Grande Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a report that a subject had possibly killed a bull elk in the Catherine Creek Unit the day prior to first season. Witnesses had been watching a large bull elk the day before the season started. They saw the suspect enter the area and later heard rifle shots. They saw the suspect leave the area and obtained a description and a license plate. The witness was back in the area at first light on opening day and found a fresh gut pile from a bull elk. They saw drag marks where the bull had been drug to a road and loaded in a vehicle, then called OSP and reported the details. The suspect was later located, and admitted to killing a 6x7 bull, but stated it was killed earlier opening morning. The bull elk was hanging at a relative's house in Elgin. The Trooper saw evidence on the carcass that revealed the elk was not killed that morning, and the suspect's timeline did not add up. After further investigation the suspect admitted to killing the large bull elk at 10:00am the day before the season opened. He was cited and released for **Take/Possession of Bull Elk Closed Season**. The elk and the subject's rifle were seized as evidence.

Subject Kills Three Elk on Private Property

An Enterprise Fish and Wildlife Trooper and a Patrol Trooper were called to a complaint of a subject shooting three spike bull elk on private property. When Troopers responded to the area, they found three dead spikes that had been left. The reporting party was the landowner and had witnessed the subject shoot all three bulls on his property. He had done business with the subject and knew who it was. Troopers were provided the subject's name and contacted him the next day. The subject was charged with three counts of **Unlawful Take Spike Elk**, three counts of **Waste of a Game Mammal, No Big Game Tag**, and **Trespass**.



WILDLIFE & ENVIRONMENT



Unlawful Take of Trophy Buck

While patrolling in the Mt. Hood National Forest behind Rock Creek Reservoir, a Fish and Wildlife Sergeant from The Dalles observed a man shoot from his vehicle off the forest service road. Further investigation revealed that the man had just unlawfully shot a trophy buck. The man was criminally cited for **Taking Buck Deer Closed Season** and for the violation of **Hunting Prohibited Area: From Public Road**. The rifle used and the deer were seized as evidence.

Subject Cited for Multiple Hunting Crimes

Albany Fish and Wildlife Troopers responded to the Brownsville area and worked a case in which two male subjects trespassed and hunted on private land. The investigation revealed one of the male subjects killed a three-point buck while trespassing and his wife tagged it the next morning. Multiple criminal citations were issued to the three subjects involved including **Take Buck Deer**, **Hunting in Violation of Criminal Trespass**, and **Lend/Borrow Big Game Tag**. Two rifles were initially seized, but later it was learned the subject who killed the three-point buck had not given the Troopers the rifle he had actually used to shoot the buck. Troopers contacted this subject again, who then provided the correct rifle and was cited for **Tampering With Physical Evidence**. The buck deer was seized and the meat was donated to a local soup kitchen.

Three Suspects Cited in Unlawful Take of Elk

Portland and St. Helens Fish and Wildlife Troopers responded to a call for service regarding a man who shot a bull and then fled the area. The reporting parties were able to provide Troopers an OnX pin of the location on Clear Creek near Timber Road and a description of the suspect and involved vehicle. The Troopers' investigation revealed three of 10 subjects out of the same group took part in taking the bull on Weyerhaeuser property. The shooter initially fled into the woods, but eventually came out to speak with Troopers. The shooter was cited for **Illegal Take of Bull Elk**, **Trespass II**, and **Fail to Immediately Validate Tag**. The other two suspects were cited for **Aiding in a Wildlife Offense** and one was also cited for **Trespass II**. The bull elk was seized and later taken to the Meating Place to be processed for evidence and donated to charity.

Unlawful Take of Buck Deer - Santiam Unit

OSP received information on a possible unlawful take in the Santiam Unit. A Salem Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to the gate where the suspect vehicle was located. He contacted the two suspects who stated they hadn't killed anything but were trying to get a doe tag filled. Further investigation revealed blood on one suspect's hand, and the suspect's tag was a 615 Willamette tag. The Trooper asked the suspect what unit he was in and he stated he thought it was the Willamette. The suspect received a criminal citation for **Take/Possession of Buck Deer**, and the other suspect received a criminal citation for **Aiding/Counseling in a Wildlife Offense**. The suspects showed the Trooper where they had hidden a deer in the brush, and the buck was seized along with suspect's rifle.



WILDLIFE & ENVIRONMENT



10-Year-Old Reports Poacher

A 10-year-old, home sick from school, witnessed the poaching of a buck deer from the front yard of a residence. The poacher trespassed onto clearly marked private property and shot in the direction of an occupied residence to take the buck deer. The youth witnessed the incident and appropriately made a report. The 10-year-old was the only witness to the incident. The poacher was located and criminally cited for **Hunting on Cultivated or Enclosed Land, Illegal Take/Possession of Buck Deer, and Recklessly Endangering Another Person**. The youth was nominated for a \$1,000 Turn-in-Poachers (TIP) reward through the Oregon Hunter's Association since the tip led to a citation.

Subject Caught Trespassing on ATV

A La Grande Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a call from a landowner stating he had just observed two people on an ATV trespassing on his property. He had received a couple of cellular trail camera photos that showed the two subjects driving on his property. He called back a short time later to advise he had located them, and a Trooper and Sergeant responded. The suspects were identified and questioned about the trespass. The man stated he was taking his daughter hunting, who had the elk tag, and he drove the ATV past all the signs. He admitted to seeing the no trespassing signs and to having and using his OnX hunt map app on his phone, but continued into the private land. The landowner wanted to press charges and the man was cited and released for **Trespass**.

Subject Mistakes Doe for a Spike

A North Plains Fish and Wildlife Trooper received information regarding a subject who self-reported shooting a doe unintentionally. He responded to the subject's residence to seize the doe. The subject admitted he saw what he thought was a spike buck with two does and shot at the largest of the three animals. The hunter also admitted he did not look at the animal's head to verify if it was a buck or not before shooting. The subject was issued a violation citation for **Unlawful Possession of Antlerless Deer**. The meat was seized and donated to charity.

Suspect Caught After Shooting at Decoy

Central Point and Grants Pass Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a WED operation. Five vehicles in total observed the decoy in a three-hour period. A set of vehicles stopped in the roadway and positioned their vehicles side by side. A shot from a 30-06 rifle was heard and both vehicles left the scene. A Trooper was able to stop one of the two vehicles and it was determined the shooter was in the other vehicle. Troopers attempted to locate the suspect vehicle but were unsuccessful. A spent 30-06 rifle cartridge was located in the roadway of the incident. A few days later, one of the Troopers received a phone call from the shooting suspect and a full confession was given. The suspect observed the decoy and could not resist the temptation to shoot it. The suspect was charged with **Hunting Prohibited Method** and **Hunting with Aid of Lighting** and his rifle was seized.

Subject Self-Reports Not Buying Proper Tag

A Prineville Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a request for contact from a hunter who had questions regarding licensing and tagging. The Trooper called the individual to answer his questions and the conversation shifted to self-reporting that he shot a buck in the Applegate Unit and his tag wouldn't come up. The hunter was contacted at his residence, and it was learned that he had only purchased a combined angling/hunting license. The hunter was asked if he ever checked for his tag prior to hunting so he would be in possession of it as required and he admitted he had not. The buck's antlered head and meat was seized for evidence and the hunter was cited for **Unlawful Possession/Take of Big Game Mammal**.

MARINE FISHERIES TEAM



MFT Sergeant Wins Chili Cook-Off

The Marine Fisheries Team (MFT) Sergeant participated in the first annual South Beach ODFW Chili Cook-Off to represent OSP Marine Fisheries Team. Out of eight chilis, OSP MFT won top honors and received the coveted Golden Soup Spoon.

Undersized Commercial Shrimp - Newport

Newport Fish and Wildlife Troopers responded to a commercial fish processor who reported an offload of a large amount of small pink shrimp. Commercial shrimp size is determined by a shrimp per pound count. The legal count per pound is 160. Troopers arrived and verified there were visibly small shrimp in the load and the samples taken by the processor were well over the legal threshold. Troopers took samples of shrimp from throughout the load and analyzed each of those for shrimp counts to get an average estimate of size. The average came out to be 179 count per pound. The fisher also did not take and analyze his own samples throughout the trip and claimed he just “eyeballed” it. The captain of the vessel was cited for **Exceeding Count Per Pound: Pink Shrimp**.

Undersized Crab - Charleston

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted a subject in Charleston as he was returning to his vehicle with a five gallon bucket and crab gauge on top. When asked if he had any luck crabbing, he stated he had caught a few. When the subject was asked if the Trooper could look at the crab he stated that he was just going to sort them. The subject sorted out four “legal” crab and put 13 crab on the ground that were visibly short. Some of which the subject didn’t even measure because they were so short. The Trooper then measured the “legal” crab and found them to all be undersized as well. The subject knew he could only keep 12 male Dungeness crab and they had to be 5 ¾” or larger. He stated that everyone sorts their crab at their vehicles. The subject was cited for **Possession of Undersized Crab**, and warned for **Exceeding Limit of Crab** and **Fail to Release Crab Immediately**. The 17 undersized crab were returned to the bay.

Subject Cited for Taking Elk while Trespassing

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper was informed of a bull elk which was shot and killed on a portion of timber company property that was leased to one person. The Trooper was informed the subjects who accessed this property and killed the elk did not have permission to hunt this area. The Trooper met another Trooper at the location. After an interview of the subjects, it was evident the subjects had walked past a clearly marked gate and trespassed on the property. The lease holder led Troopers to the location the elk was shot. Troopers hiked the ridge and recovered the meat from the elk carcass. One of the subjects was cited for **Hunting in Violation of Criminal Trespass** and **Take Possession of a Bull Elk**. The bull elk and the subject’s rifle were seized. The second subject was cited for **Criminal Trespass II** as he was not hunting. The bull elk was donated to local food shares in Lincoln County.

Unlicensed Subject Cited for Angling Closed Area

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted a patrol of the middle section of the Nehalem River. This section of the river currently has a large amount of spawning salmon, and is closed to all salmon angling. A subject was contacted salmon angling near the mouth of the Salmonberry River, and the subject also did not have an angling license or harvest card. The subject was cited for **Salmon Angling Closed Area** and **No Harvest Card**. Multiple other warnings were given during the patrol.

SHELLFISH & ANGLING

Subjects Cited for Multiple Violations

A La Pine Fish and Wildlife Trooper was patrolling the Crane Prairie Reservoir area which is closed to angling and observed three subjects retaining trout in an unregistered motorboat. The subjects were contacted and found to not have angling licenses, personal flotation devices, nor boat registration. The subjects were cited for **No Angling License, No Personal Flotation Devices, Taking Non Adipose Fin-Clipped Trout, and Angling Closed Season.**

Subject Retains Extra Native Chinook

A Tillamook Fish and Wildlife Trooper checked the last boat pulling out of Memaloose boat ramp at dusk in rural Tillamook County. The two male subjects opened the fish box really fast for the Trooper who noticed three native Chinook in the fish box. The two male subjects had one native Chinook tagged on each of their harvest cards. The Trooper asked who had caught the extra native. One of the subjects admitted that he had caught it. The Trooper explained that Tillamook bay has a one native Chinook per day, two per season bag limit. One subject was cited for **Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Card and Exceeding the Daily Native Chinook Bag Limit.** One Chinook was seized and donated to the Tillamook County justice facility.

Multiple Violations Found on SW Region Patrol

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted the SW Region with coverage from Port Orford to Brookings over a two day period. He contacted Chinook salmon anglers on the Elk, Sixes, Chetco, and Rogue Rivers. Two subjects on the upper Chetco River angling above Nook Bar were educated regarding that area's no retention of Chinook salmon. They had not caught any fish and could legally fish for steelhead, but both thought it was also open for Chinook and admitted they would have kept a Chinook had they hooked one. In the same area, a wood cutter transporting a pick-up load of firewood was warned for **No USFS Special Forest Products Permit in Possession** after he failed to have his permit in his vehicle. He later provided a picture of the permit with his cell phone. Also, a drift boat fishing guide was warned for **No Transportation Receipt** after he was found to have a Chinook salmon in his possession without a validated tag. The guide had dropped his client (who caught the fish) on a gravel bar and was awaiting his return with the boat trailer. He was advised if he was going to possess the salmon in the field he should also possess the clients tag or have a transportation receipt.

Father Educated on Angling License Requirements

While checking anglers on the Trask River, a Tillamook Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted a father and his two sons salmon fishing. The father presented two combined angling tags (one for him and the older son). The Trooper asked about the younger son's tag. The father said he did not buy one for his son, because he thought kids under 12 did not need to have one. The Trooper educated the father and issued him a warning for **Aiding in a Wildlife Offense.**

Subject with Lifetime Suspension Found Angling

A St. Helens Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted a man angling in the Clatskanie River in the town of Clatskanie who had a lifetime angling suspension from ODFW. The subject also had an active warrant for his arrest out of Clatsop County for a previous wildlife offense. The subject was subsequently arrested and transported to the Columbia County Jail where he was lodged on the warrant. The subject was also issued a criminal citation for **Angling While Suspended.** A fishing rod was seized and placed into evidence.

Subject Angling After Retaining Limit

While checking anglers at recently stocked Pine Hollow Reservoir, a Fish and Wildlife Sergeant from The Dalles located a man that had caught his limit of five trout but was still angling with two rods. The man was cited for the violation of **Continuing to Angle After Retaining Daily Bag Limit of Trout.**

Subjects Dig Clams for Entire Family

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper observed a family of four digging razor clams at night in Seaside. After observation, it became apparent the two men were harvesting all the clams while the woman and small child walked around nearby with clam sacks but no digging tools. Contact was made when the family began to walk away from the beach, and they were found to be in possession of 61 clams. When confronted with the fact the Trooper witnessed the men dig all the clams they admitted to doing so. In addition, one of the men failed to have his own container and was passing his clams to the others. One citation was issued for **Digging Clams for Another** and another was issued for **Failure to Use Individual Container for Clams.** They were both warned for **Exceeding the Bag Limit of Clams.**

SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS



McKenzie Unit 6-Point Bull Elk

Springfield Fish and Wildlife Troopers (and K-9 Buck) assisted a happy hunter with a 6-point bull he had just harvested in the McKenzie Unit. The Troopers grabbed their pack boards and assisted the hunter's grandson with packing out the elk.



Youth Hunter Harvests Buck Deer

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Trooper patrolled the McKenzie Unit during the youth and muzzleloader seasons. While patrolling, the Trooper assisted a lucky youth hunter after he harvested a great buck.



Successful Bighorn Sheep Harvest

While patrolling the Cottonwood State Park along the John Day River, a Fish and Wildlife Sergeant from The Dalles checked steelhead anglers, pheasant hunters, and a successful bighorn sheep hunter (pictured above). All were in compliance.

All hunters featured on this page were in compliance



Oregon's fish and wildlife populations depend on us.



Turn in poachers.

Oregon Hunters Association (OHA) Cash Rewards

- \$2,000 Bighorn Sheep, Mountain Goat & Moose
- \$1,000 Elk, Deer & Antelope
- \$600 Bear, Cougar & Wolf
- \$300 Habitat Destruction
- \$200 Illegally obtaining Oregon hunting or angling license or tags
- \$200 Unlawful Lending/Borrowing Big Game Tag(s)
- \$200 Game Fish & Shellfish
- \$200 Game Birds or Furbearers
- \$200 Spotlighting
- \$200 Snagging/Attempt to Snag

ODFW Preference Points Rewards

- 5 Points Bighorn Sheep
- 5 Points Rocky Mountain Goat
- 5 Points Moose
- 5 Points Wolf
- 4 Points Elk
- 4 Points Deer
- 4 Points Pronghorn Antelope
- 4 Points Bear
- 4 Points Cougar

Oregon Wildlife Coalition (OWC) Cash Rewards

Birds

- \$500 Hawk, Falcon, Eagle, Owl, Osprey
- All other protected avian species: see category below for listed species

Mammals

- \$500 Cougar, Bobcat, Beaver (public lands only), Black bears, Bighorn Sheep, Marten, Fisher, Sierra Nevada Red Fox
- \$1,000 Species listed as "threatened" or "endangered" under state or federal Endangered Species Act (excludes fish) (e.g. wolf, wolverine, kit fox, red tree vole, Canada lynx, sea otter, Columbian white-tailed deer, California brown pelican, western snowy plover, California least tern, northern spotted owl, marbled murrelet, short-tailed albatross, streaked horned lark, yellow billed cuckoo, leatherback sea turtle, olive ridley sea turtle, Oregon spotted frog, green sea turtle, loggerhead sea turtle)

Oregon Outfitters & Guides Association Cash Rewards

- \$200 Acting as an Outfitter Guide for the Illegal Killing of Wildlife, Illegally Obtaining Oregon Hunting or Angling Licenses or Tags, or Illegally Offering to Act as an Outfitter Guide as defined in ORS 704.010 and 704.020.



Any tip helps and can be anonymous!
Dial *OSP (*677) on mobile devices
or call 1-800-452-7888 to report poaching.
 Visit ProtectOregonsWildlife.com to learn more.



Oregon State Police Fish & Wildlife Division



We are the Guardians of Oregon's Fish and Wildlife

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



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

For information, please visit our website at:

www.osptrooper.com

Questions? Please call 503-378-4474
or email osptrooper@osp.oregon.gov

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