OREGON STATE POLICE
FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION

MONTHLY FIELD REVIEW

OCTOBER 2019

CONTENT

Community Outreach 3
General Rifle Buck Deer Season 4-5
General Law & Rescues 6
Administration and Enforcement of Wildlife Laws 7-8
Marine Fisheries Team 9
Shellfish and Angling 10-11
F&W Aircraft Enforcement Flights 12
Case Disposition 13
Turn in Poachers 14
F&W Recruitment 15

On the cover:
Sergeant Cyr with some successful youth hunters at the 2019 Annual Paul Parker Memorial Youth Pheasant Hunt in Ontario.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Pumpkin Patch Event for Kids - Tillamook

Fish & Wildlife Troopers participated in the annual Pumpkin Patch event involving local grade school children from the Tillamook area. Over the course of the two day event, the children were able to interact with the Troopers and view a Wildlife Enforcement Decoy (WED) that was placed on display.

Trooper Connects Student with ODFW Biologist

A Fish & Wildlife Trooper facilitated communication between an ODFW Fish Biologist and a high school student who wanted to pursue a career in fisheries. The student was given the chance to help spawn Coho salmon at a Gorge area hatchery. The student was very excited and thankful for the opportunity.

Presentation Given at Owyhee River Dam

A Fish & Wildlife Sergeant provided a presentation to the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission and ODFW at the Owyhee River Dam during the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission tour. The presentation covered the general duties of a Fish & Wildlife Trooper and the trout fishery on the Owyhee River below the dam.

Fish & Wildlife Troopers enjoy seeing the next generation of hunters while out on patrol. This youth hunter posed for a photo in 2018, and couldn't pass up the chance to take a photo with his favorite Trooper again this year in the North Coast Travel Management Area.

GENERAL RIFLE BUCK DEER SEASON

Unlawful Take of Buck Deer - Melrose Unit

A Fish & Wildlife Trooper responded to the report of a subject shooting a buck deer with a bow and arrow in the Melrose Hunt Unit. During the investigation it was discovered the subject did not possess a 2019 hunting license or general season deer tag. A 4x2 black-tailed buck deer, bow and arrows were seized. The subject was criminally cited and released for **Unlawful Take of Buck Deer** and **No 2019 Resident Hunting License.**

Sunriver No Shooting Zone Violation

A Fish & Wildlife Trooper received a complaint of a subject shooting a four point mule deer in a no shooting, safety zone in Sunriver. The suspect then fled on foot after witnesses began video recording him. The suspect was located and admitted to shooting the deer with his rifle in the no shooting zone. The airport was directly behind the deer. The hunter was cited for **Failing to Validate Deer Tag** and **Discharging a Firearm in a No Shooting Zone.**

Spotlighter Caught - Lane County

A Fish & Wildlife Trooper was dispatched to the report of spotlighting and shooting on timber company property in Eugene. The F&W Trooper and a Patrol Trooper located a subject driving around on the property with a spotlight and AR style rifle lying on the front seat of his vehicle. The rifle was loaded with a nearly full 30 round magazine. The Troopers located a dead black-tailed doe deer within twenty yards of the subject's vehicle that was still warm and had been shot in the head. The subject was placed under arrest and lodged at the Lane County Jail for **Hunting Prohibited Hours, Hunting Prohibited Method: Semiautomatic Rifle with a Magazine Capacity Greater than Five Cartridges,** and **Unlawful Take of an Antlerless Black-Tailed Doe Deer.** The rifle and deer were seized, and the subject's vehicle was towed incident to arrest. The area was searched for other possible evidence and the investigation is continuing.

Juvenile Mistakenly Shoots Doe

A Springfield Fish & Wildlife Trooper received a call from dispatch regarding a subject that had self-reported shooting a black-tailed doe while hunting general buck deer season. The Trooper responded and located the subjects, a father and son, who had called in. During the investigation, the juvenile subject was honest and showed integrity when faced with the wrongdoing (mistaking the doe for a buck). The juvenile was educated and warned for **Unlawful Take of Antlerless Deer.** The juvenile had field dressed the doe and helped pack it out. The Trooper was able to donate the deer through the Mohawk Community Church and Helping Hands Pantry in Marcola.

Successful Buck Deer Hunters

GENERAL RIFLE BUCK DEER SEASON

Arrest Made in Poached Buck Case - Ashland

A Fish & Wildlife Trooper responded to a complaint of suspicious activity within the city limits of Ashland. A local resident reported observing a male loading a deer into a pickup while parked on a city street. The reporting party approached the male to inquire about the deer but the male then drove off. A license plate and make of pickup was obtained. The Trooper arrived on scene and contacted multiple neighboring residents including the original reporting party. The Trooper found a short blood trail leading from a bush, which was against a neighboring house that lead to a row of hedges along the city street. This evidence along with the reporting party's observations, showed that the suspected deer may have been shot while bedded down next to a house and loaded into the pickup while parked on the street. With the help of a Roseburg Fish & Wildlife Trooper, the suspect was located and interviewed. Faced with the evidence and resident observations, the suspect admitted to shooting a large buck black-tailed deer. The suspect admitted to shooting the buck deer as it laid in its bed under a large bush against a house. The male stated he shot from inside his vehicle while knowingly parked on a city street in Ashland. The suspect had dumped the buck deer and rifle after the incident, which the Roseburg Trooper and suspect recovered. The deer was found to be a trophy class 4x4 buck. Further investigation found where the bullet exited the buck deer and penetrated the house above the front door. The suspect was charged with **Hunting Prohibited: Within City Limits, Unlawful Take/Possession of Buck Deer, Unlawful Use of Weapon,** and **Criminal Trespass II.** He was warned for **Hunting on Public Roadway** and **Fail to Validate Tag.** A second male subject will also be charged with **Aiding in Wildlife Offense** and **Criminal Trespass II.** The buck deer and rifle were seized as evidence. The meat was salvaged and donated to a local charity.

Subject Caught Unlawfully Taking Buck Deer

A St. Helens Fish & Wildlife Trooper was patrolling private timberland open to the public and heard two gunshots. He went toward the sound and found a man walking out of the woods with blood on his hands. The subject initially said his tag was nearby at his house. He eventually admitted that he had already harvested a buck and was going to put his girlfriend's tag on this one. His rifle and the deer were seized and he was cited criminally for **Unlawful Take of a Buck Deer.**

Subject Arrested for Multiple Crimes

A McMinnville Fish & Wildlife Trooper took a report of a spike deer killed with a 10/22 by a known felon. The suspect's girlfriend was trying to claim she had shot it, but the male subject had admitted to one person he killed it. Neither subject possessed a valid hunting license or deer tag. Fish & Wildlife Troopers contacted the suspects while a Patrol Trooper contacted the witness. The suspects tried to say the female party had killed the deer, but Troopers eventually got both parties to admit the male suspect had possessed a 10/22 rifle and .30-.30 rifle and had used the 10/22 rifle to kill the deer. The landowner separately confirmed the same version of events with a Trooper. The male subject was lodged in jail for **Felon in Possession of a Firearm, No Resident Hunting License, No Big Game Tag,** and **Unlawful Take of Spike Deer.** The deer and both firearms were seized. The female subject was cited for **Aiding in a Wildlife Offense.**

GENERAL LAW & RESCUES

Injured Hawk Rescued

A Fish & Wildlife Lieutenant and two Fish & Wildlife Troopers responded to a report of an injured hawk. The Lieutenant netted the hawk and on scene Troopers attempted to get it into a cage. Two ODFW volunteers transported the bird to Wildlife Images, a wildlife rehabilitation center.

Buck Freed from Fencing - Columbia County

A Fish & Wildlife Trooper received a report regarding two bucks who were stuck together by their antlers with synthetic electric fencing cord in Columbia County near Rainier. When the Trooper arrived on scene, the two bucks were in a muddy ditch alongside a road. One of the bucks was deceased, while the other one was frantically trying to get free. The Trooper went down into the ditch, with assistance from a Rainier Police Officer, and was eventually able to cut the deer loose from the large quantity of fencing that was completely wrapped around their antlers. With a little help, the live buck was able to get out of the ditch and ran away. (Click here for video)

Report of Shot Fired Leads to Warrant Arrest

A Fish & Wildlife Trooper responded to a call about a shot heard in a rural field well after dark. The reporting party observed two vehicles that had driven into the field. Upon arrival the Trooper observed a van with one headlight leaving the area. The Trooper turned around, but the van went out of sight and quickly turned onto a gravel road. The Trooper caught up to the van and initiated a traffic stop. The driver was dressed in camouflage and there were flashlights and ammunition in plain view. The Trooper also observed a boot sticking out from a pile of blankets in the back of the van and the driver denied that anyone else was in the vehicle. The Trooper asked the driver to pull on the boot to prove it was not a person and when he did the boot remained static. The driver was ordered from the vehicle and admitted there was a passenger hiding under the blankets that had a warrant for her arrest. A patrol Trooper arrived on scene to assist and initially the female refused to exit the vehicle. Eventually the female gave up and was taken into custody without incident. The female was also dressed in camouflage clothing, but both subjects denied hunting. A search of the vehicle yielded more ammunition and gun accessories, but no firearm. The female was arrested and lodged on her warrant, and the driver was arrested and lodged for hindering prosecution.

ADMINISTRATION & ENFORCEMENT OF WILDLIFE LAWS

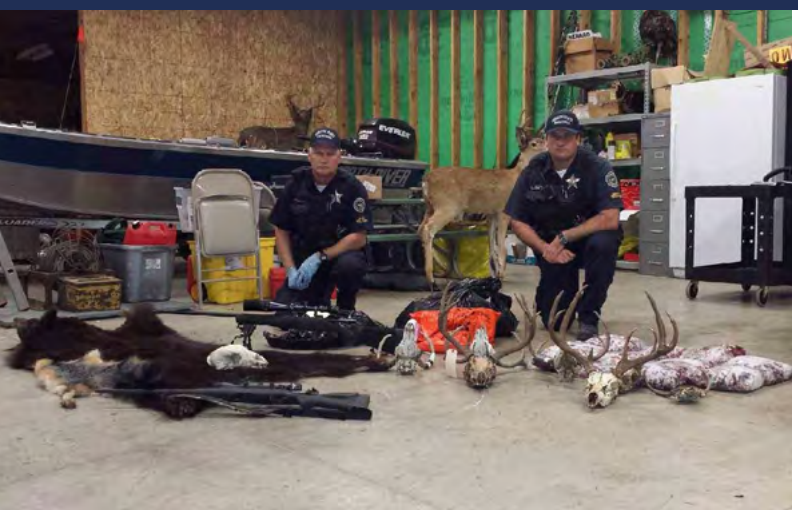
Fish & Wildlife Troopers checking waterfowl hunters at Summer Lake.

Summer Lake Wildlife Area Waterfowl Opener

Several Fish & Wildlife Troopers from southwest region, along with a United States Fish and Wildlife Service Agent, and K-9 Buck patrolled at the Summer Lake Wildlife Area Waterfowl Opener. Approximately 600 hunters arrived for the opener, and over 150 contacts were made. One subject was criminally cited for **Taking a Game Bird Closed Season-Swan.** The trumpeter swan was recovered and subject was trespassed for the rest of the day from the Wildlife Area.

Troopers also participated helping the check station as hunters were leaving the area. Several people were educated about transportation of wildlife from the field, and correct procedures for doing so. Although K-9 Buck was not deployed, his presence was a deterrent, and he was popular with the hunters.

ADMINISTRATION & ENFORCEMENT OF WILDLIFE LAWS



Trespass Complaint Leads to Multiple Violations

The Roseburg Fish and Wildlife team investigated two subjects in reference to a hunting while trespassing complaint. The subjects were contacted and interviewed. A female subject admitted to shooting a spike deer before season, then loaned her tag to a male subject who later shot a deer and placed her buck tag on it. The male subject admitted to killing several deer in the last three years placing other people's tag on them or not tagging them at all. He admitted to killing two bears without tagging them. The male subject additionally had 30 live rattlesnakes in glass aquariums, and did not possess a valid permit for the snakes. Troopers seized seven deer, two bears, a gray fox, 30 rattlesnakes, a king snake, two rifles, and several packages of deer meat. The subjects were issued multiple F&W citations. ODFW assisted on scene with the snakes.

East Lane Travel Management Area Patrol

A Fish & Wildlife Trooper patrolled the Lookout Point area East of Lowell inside the East Lane Travel Management Area (TMA). During the patrol two vehicles were contacted in violation of the TMA rules and were on a closed road. Both of the drivers were warned for the TMA violations since the area is new this year. During one of the contacts a subject was found to have killed a turkey earlier in the day in Alsea Unit near Philomath. The turkey was in the back of the vehicle. Investigation revealed the hunter had an electronic turkey tag and had validated it and received a confirmation number. The hunter failed to complete the process by attaching the required information in plain sight to the turkey carcass as required. The hunter was issued a citation for **Fail to Attach Required (ELS) Validation Information to Turkey Carcass.** The Trooper wrote the proper information on a piece of paper and provided it to the hunter so it could be attached in plain sight to the turkey carcass.

Subject Cited for Shooting at Decoy from Road

Newport Fish & Wildlife Troopers conducted a deer wildlife enforcement decoy (WED) operation. At exactly legal shooting time, multiple vehicles entered the site and one individual got out of his vehicle and fired at the decoy while standing in the roadway. The passenger in the vehicle had a sports pac and claimed he had an electronic rifle deer tag. It was determined he had only the vouchers and had not gotten the actual tag. The shooter was cited for **Hunting from/across Roadway.** The other subject was warned for **No Valid Western Rifle Deer Tag** and advised to return to cell service to purchase the actual tag before starting his hunt.

Unlawful Take of Antlerless Deer - Santiam Unit

On the second day of rifle buck deer season Albany Fish & Wildlife Troopers received a tip from an individual who heard gunshots near his deer camp in the Santiam Unit. When the reporting party went down the road to investigate, they saw a male and female loading a doe deer into their vehicle. The suspects were located and interviewed, and eventually admitted that the male subject shot the doe without a tag. The male subject was cited criminally for **Unlawful Take/ Possession of Antlerless Deer.** The female was warned for A**iding/Counseling In Wildlife Violation.** The deer meat and rifle was seized as evidence.

Lending/Borrowing Big Game Tag - White River

While performing a camp check in the White River Unit, a Fish & Wildlife Trooper suspected one or more of the deer in camp were unlawfully taken. After speaking with two subjects, the Trooper discovered that a male in the camp had shot his girlfriend's 2x2 buck deer for her. The male said he had shot the deer for the female as she recently had a baby and couldn't exit the pick-up fast enough. The rifle, deer, and validated tag were seized for evidence. Several criminal citations were issued including: **Lending/Borrowing Big Game Tag** and **Take/Possession of Buck deer.**

Two Grouse Seized, No Upland Bird Tag

During a camp contact, a John Day Fish & Wildlife Trooper noticed a grouse in the back of a pickup that was missing the tailgate. When asked who had the upland bird stamp the owner of the pickup stated he did, and he had two grouse. When looking on his phone for the upland stamp it was discovered he had not purchased the upland validation for 2019. The grouse were seized and the individual was issued a citation for two counts of **Take/Possession of Game Bird-Grouse.**

MARINE FISHERIES TEAM

WA/OR Joint Patrol Nets Drift Boat Violations

A Fish & Wildlife Trooper on the Marine Fisheries Team along with a Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Officer conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River during a commercial salmon tanglenet season. Another WDFW Officer watched from land as a vessel made three separate drifts and retrievals with his net without running his recovery box (which is required to help wild Coho recover before returning them to the river). The boat was contacted as it was retrieving its net, without the recovery box running. The vessel had also exceeded its allowable drift time. After watching as the captain retrieved the net, they saw that the captain had attached a large anchor to the end of the net and had dropped it on the bank of the river (which is prohibited). During the contact, two wild Coho salmon were found on the vessel. Washington will be forwarding charges to their DA for **Fishing Prohibited Method – Using a Set Net, Fail to Operate Recovery Box as Required, Exceed Drift Time,** and for **Taking Coho.** The two wild Coho were seized.

Subject Attempts to Disguise Wild Coho

Fish & Wildlife Troopers were flagged down by an angler in Winchester Bay. The angler advised the Troopers that an individual in a nearby truck may have a wild Coho in the bed of his truck. The troopers contacted the subject in the truck and a subsequent consent search revealed two coho salmon that had the adipose fins very recently cut off (still bleeding). The suspect advised that he had caught both fish just the way they were and did not change his story. The subject was cited for **Take/Possession of Non-Adipose Fin Clipped Coho Salmon.**

Angler Checks - Nehalem Bay State Park

A Fish & Wildlife Trooper was checking salmon anglers at the Nehalem Bay State Park boat ramp on the Nehalem River when a boat came into the ramp from the river. The anglers on the boat loaded the boat onto the trailer without stopping or getting out to tie down the boat, so the Trooper followed them to a residence in Manzanita. The Trooper contacted the anglers and found that they had six salmon fillets on the boat in a cooler, and 16 Dungeness crab halves. The three anglers said that they drove the boat to another marina to clean the fish and crab, then drove back to the ramp where they launched. Two of the anglers had not tagged their salmon, and they did not have any shellfish licenses. The anglers were cited for **Possession of Mutilated Salmon** and **Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Card.**

Trooper Assists with Foot Pursuit

A Fish & Wildlife Trooper assisted Warrenton Police Department and the Clatsop County Sheriff's Office with a foot pursuit that ended with the suspect wading out in the Skipanon River. The Trooper assisted by talking to the suspect until he eventually agreed to come out of the water and was taken into custody.

SHELLFISH & ANGLING

Subject Cited for Gillnet on Lower Umpqua River

The Coos Bay Fish & Wildlife team received a report of a subject tending a gillnet on the Lower Umpqua River between Reedsport and Winchester Bay. A coordinated effort was conducted to solve the case. The net was approximately 30' long with small mesh. One morning, a subject was found checking the gillnet. The subject denied placing the net, but admitted to checking it and taking a bait fish out of it. The subject was cited for **Angling Prohibited Method-Gillnet.** A number of bait fish species and Dungeness Crab were found deceased in the net.

Siuslaw River Angler Checks

A Fish & Wildlife Trooper was checking salmon anglers on the Siuslaw River when he located one angler using two rods. The angler saw the Trooper approaching and grabbed one rod while leaning forward in his chair. He then glanced at the Trooper again and sat back down, releasing the second rod. He told the Trooper he had a two rod endorsement and he thought he could fish with two rods. The Trooper checked his license and did not note a two rod endorsement. He also explained to the angler he wasn't allowed to angle in rivers with two rods unless special regulations allowed it. The angler admitted he had not looked at the regulations and was issued a citation for **Angling with More Than One Rod.** He was also given a copy of the angling regulations.

Wild Coho Seized - Eagle Creek

A Fish & Wildlife Trooper was patrolling Eagle Creek near Bonneville Dam when he made contact with an angler who was fishing for salmon in a closed area on Eagle Creek. The angler was with his three children and one of their friends. After a brief conversation it was discovered that the angler had kept a non-adipose fin clipped Coho salmon. It was also discovered that of the children had also been fishing the closed area. The angler received a citation for **Unlawful Take/Possession of a Non-Adipose Fin Clipped Coho Salmon** and warnings for other violations. The Coho was seized and donated to a local raptor recovery center.

Subjects Cited Near Isthmus Slough

A Fish & Wildlife Trooper patrolled Chinook anglers near Isthmus Slough in Coos County. This area is reserved for disabled or youth anglers. Two anglers were observed fishing for about 30 minutes. The anglers were contacted and investigation revealed one of them had retained a Chinook. The subject did not have his combined angling harvest card in his possession but chose to continue angling regardless. The second subject told the Trooper he was not fishing. He also did not have a valid tag in possession, was over 19 years old, and did not possess a disabled permit. The first subject was issued a citation for **Fail to Immediately Validate Combined Angling Harvest Card** and warned for **No Valid License or Tag in Possession.** The second angler was issued a citation for **Angling Closed Area** and was warned for **No Valid License in possession.**

Salmon Angling Complaints - Closed Area

A Gold Beach Fish & Wildlife Trooper had several complaints of boating anglers passing into the ocean from the bay, where it is closed to salmon fishing. The Trooper observed a boat in the ocean land a salmon while in a closed area. When contacted, the occupants of the boat stated that they were not aware they couldn't land a fish in the ocean when the salmon was hooked in the bay. The subject was cited for **Angling Closed Area.** The salmon was seized and donated.

SHELLFISH & ANGLING

Wild Chinook Salmon Retained - North Santiam

An ODFW employee conducting water samples on the North Santiam River advised Fish & Wildlife Troopers that a subject at the Buell Miller Boat Launch near Stayton had caught and retained a wild Chinook salmon. The ODFW employee confronted the subject and advised him that there was no retention for wild Salmon on the North Santiam River and that Salmon season was currently closed but the subject stated he was keeping the fish. A Trooper responded to the area and questioned the subject who confessed to keeping the salmon and opened the trunk of his car and surrendered the fish. The subject was cited for **Take/Possession of a Non Adipose Fin Clipped Chinook Salmon** and warned for **No Salmon/Steelhead Tag.** The fish was seized and transported to the Albany Patrol Office where a Trooper cleaned and filleted it and made the determination that it was not edible.

Yelloweye Rockfish Taken - Charleston

A Fish & Wildlife Trooper responded to Charleston at the request of an ODFW port sampler. The port sampler had seized two Yelloweye Rockfish from an angler when he returned to the docks. The angler was contacted a short time later and interviewed. He was subsequently cited for **Unlawful Taking Yelloweye Rockfish.**

Idaho Resident Caught with No Angling License

A Fish & Wildlife Trooper contacted a subject fly fishing on the upper Grand Ronde River. The subject, from Idaho, first stated he had a weekly license but was unable to provide one. Further checking found the subject was not being truthful. The subject was cited for **No Non-Resident Angling License.**

Angling Prohibited Hours - Coos Bay Area

A Fish & Wildlife Trooper stopped in the pre-dawn hours at a popular salmon fishing area east of Coos Bay. A subject was seen on the bank of the slough pushing a large Chinook salmon back down a grass slope into the water. The subject stated he had been angling for approximately 30 minutes prior to being contacted by the Trooper. He was issued a citation for **Angling Prohibited Hours (Salmon).**

Marine Zone Bag Limit Violation

A Fish & Wildlife Trooper contacted a shoreline angler on Netarts Bay that was in possession of eight kelp greenling and six eels. The eels and the kelp greenling fall under the five fish daily bag limit for Marine Zone retention. The angler was cited for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit** and three eels and two kelp greenling were kept by the angler. The remaining fish and eels were released back into the bay unharmed.

F&W AIRCRAFT ENFORCEMENT FLIGHTS

Night Flight - Tillamook County

A Fish & Wildlife Sergeant was working during a night time aircraft saturation in Tillamook County. The northwest region pilot reported that he saw lights on Gauldy Mountain Road and the Sergeant responded to the area. Upon his arrival at the location, the Sergeant observed a vehicle had left the roadway and struck a tree. Two men were attempting to use a second vehicle to pull the crashed vehicle back onto the roadway. The driver of the vehicle involved in the crash advised he had harvested a Black-tailed buck deer that evening and was on his way home when he lost control of his vehicle on a curve. He stated the buck was in the trunk of his vehicle and agreed to let the Sergeant look at it. The subject asked what hunting unit they were in and it was discovered that he was attempting to validate his deer tag at that time. Investigation revealed the buck was killed approximately four hours earlier and the male subject stated he forgot to validate his tag. The subject was cited for **Failure to Immediately Validate Big Game Tag.**

Road Closure Violations - JCTMA

A Fish & Wildlife Trooper and the southwest region pilot worked the Jackson Cooperative Travel Management Area (JCTMA) in the Prospect, OR area for opening elk season. During the flight, the pilot located two different vehicles being operated on closed roads. The pilot was able to lead the Trooper to the vehicles and the operators were cited for road closure violations.

Spotlighter Cited - Douglas County

The southwest region pilot observed two subjects spotlighting from a motor vehicle in the North Myrtle Drainage area of Douglas County. A Fish & Wildlife Trooper, assisted by the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, located and stopped the offending vehicle. The passenger admitted to using the spotlight but not for hunting. There were four loaded rifles and a loaded pistol inside the truck along with the large spotlight. The spotlight was seized as evidence and the passenger cited for **Casting an Artificial Light while Armed.** According to their statements, both men had been hunting deer and bear prior to dark.

Pilot Assists Oregon/California Joint Patrol

Fish & Wildlife Troopers worked with southwest region pilot and California Fish and Game along the southern border of the Keno, Klamath, and Interstate units. One vehicle was located that was illegally harvesting special forest products and both occupants were suspended. Additionally, numerous hunters were contacted as they headed home.

Multiple Charges for Spotlighters in Tioga Unit

The southwest region pilot observed a vehicle in the Tioga Unit with subjects casting lights out of both sides of the vehicle. Three Fish & Wildlife Troopers responded and located ammunition in the vehicle, but the subjects advised they didn't have any firearms. After searching nearby, a firearm was located hidden in the brush. Spotlights and nearly an ounce of methamphetamine were also located in the vehicle. The operator, who was on felony probation, was arrested for **Possession of Methamphetamine, Felon in Possession of a Firearm, Hunting with the Aid of Artificial Light,** and **Probation Violation.** Additional charges were referred to the Coos County District Attorney for consideration. The passenger was criminally cited and released for **Aiding in a Wildlife Offense.**

CASE DISPOSITION

Poachers Sentenced for Wildlife Crimes - Linn County

On September 22, 2019, Troopers out of the Albany Patrol Office were conducting a WED (Wildlife Enforcement Decoy) operation in Linn County. Two male subjects exited a vehicle and both simultaneously shot the decoy with their bows using the aid of artificial light. In addition to hunting during prohibited hours, one of the male subjects had shot two deer earlier in the day that were in the back of the vehicle they were driving. Neither deer had been tagged.

On October 24, 2019 two men were sentenced in a Linn County Court for the crimes. Jacob Richardson, pleaded guilty to **Take/Possession of Antlerless Deer, Fail to Immediately Validate Big Game Tag, Take/Possession of Spike Deer,** and **Hunting Prohibited Hours.** Richardson was sentenced to 25 days community service, over $5,100 in fines and restitution, and 5 years hunting suspension. Richardson was also placed on a 5-year bench probation.

Michael Melbye, pleaded guilty to two counts of **Aiding/ Counseling in a Wildlife Offense,** and **Hunting Prohibited Hours.** Melbye was sentenced to 20 days community service, over $2000 in fines and restitution, and 5 years hunting suspension. Melbye was also placed on a 5-year bench probation.

Man Pleads Guilty in Clatsop County Cougar Case

A subject pleaded guilty to charges stemming from a 2018 case in which he killed a cougar without a valid tag. The subject shot the cougar and then drove to a local gas station and bought a cougar tag. During the sale, the station attendant noticed that he had blood on his hands and shirt. Surveillance video showed the subject also purchasing a large amount of ice at the same time and placing it in the cooler the cougar was in when it was checked in with ODFW. Initially, the subject denied killing the cougar prior to purchasing the tag but eventually admitted to shooting it before the purchase.

The subject received the following judgment:

- 36 months bench probation
- 3 year hunting license suspension
- $2700 in fines and restitution
- Forfeit cougar hide

TURN IN POACHERS

PREFERENCE POINTS -OR- CASH REWARDS

PREFERENCE POINTS	CASH REWARDS
5 Points-Bighorn Sheep	$1,000 Bighorn Sheep
5 Points-Rocky Mountain Goat	$1,000 Rocky Mountain Goat
5 Points-Moose	$1,000 Moose
5 Points-Wolf	$500 Elk, Deer & Antelope
4 Points-Elk	$300 Bear, Cougar & Wolf
4 Points-Deer	$300 Habitat Destruction
4 Points-Antelope	$200 Illegally Obtaining License/Tags
4 Points-Bear	$200 Unlawful Lend/Borrow Big Game Tag(s)
4 Points-Cougar	$100 Game Fish & Shellfish
	$100 Upland Birds, Waterfowl & Fur Bearers

The TIP program offers preference point rewards or cash rewards for information leading to an arrest or issuance of a citation for the unlawful take/possession or waste of big game mammals.

WHAT SHOULD I REPORT?

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

Click here to access the TIP form

OREGON Fish & Wildlife

HONOR ★ LOYALTY ★ DEDICATION ★ INTEGRITY ★ COMPASSION

OREGON STATE POLICE 1931

OHA OREGON HUNTERS ASSOCIATION

1-800-452-7888 or *OSP(677)

TIP@state.or.us

Oregon State Police work hand-in-hand with the Oregon Hunters Association and the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to ensure the preservation of wildlife resources.

OREGON STATE POLICE

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 osp.trooper@state.or.us

FISH & 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."

Follow us on Twitter: @OSP_Fish

HONOR ★ LOYALTY ★ DEDICATION ★ INTEGRITY ★ COMPASSION