

# OREGON STATE POLICE FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION



MONTHLY FIELD REVIEW

**JUNE 2021** 



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On the cover: The 2020 F&W Division Team of the Year (see page 3)

### **F&W DIVISION 2020 TEAM OF THE YEAR**



OSP Fish and Wildlife Division is happy to announce the East-Central Team as the recipient of the 2020 Fish and Wildlife Division Team of the Year.

The East-Central Team was nominated for their outstanding work in 2020, which included everything from joint agency operations to investigations of trophy class mule deer being poached. The East-Central Team is comprised of members from Burns, John Day and Fossil and is led by Sergeant Erich Timko. The East-Central team members stationed in Burns are Senior Trooper Geoff Smith and Trooper Dean Trent; the team members stationed in John Day are Senior Trooper Khris Brandon and Trooper Pat McCosker; and the East-Central Team member stationed in Fossil is Senior Trooper Brian Jewett.

The nomination of the East-Central Team noted their professionalism, teamwork, mentorship, dedication to protecting Oregon's citizens and natural resources, going above and beyond the call of duty and thinking outside the box to address issues. The team was described as willing to

vary their schedules to address priorities, and because of their dedication to duty, are viewed by their communities as "their trooper." The team has done an outstanding job of partnering with other agencies to conduct joint operations, and has shown that teamwork involves working both internally and externally to be successful. Additionally, every Trooper on the East-Central Team identified at least one particular enforcement issue this past year, and then authored and implemented an enforcement plan to address the identified problem. These plans focused on different issues, ranging from historical poaching of deer to regulations on the John Day River.

Join us in congratulating the East-Central Team for all of their hard work and dedication this past year. They are an outstanding representative of this award, the Division and the Oregon State Police.

The team was presented the award at the ODFW Phillip Schneider Wildlife Area near Dayville, Oregon.

### **F&W DIVISION 2020 PROSECUTOR OF THE YEAR**



OSP Fish and Wildlife Division presented the 2020 Prosecutor of the Year award to Senior Deputy District Attorney Allison Eichmann with the Douglas County District Attorney's office. DDA Eichmann was unanimously selected to receive the award and it was well deserved.

The Prosecutor of the Year award recognizes an individual prosecutor's commitment to the conservation of Oregon's wildlife and goes to someone who has excelled in the prosecution of fish and wildlife cases. The award, which includes a framed artwork of a wildlife scene, is made possible by the Oregon Sportsman's Coalition.

The Douglas County Government Board of Commissioner was honored to host a special presentation during their weekly business meeting held at the Douglas County Courthouse. Fish and Wildlife Troopers joined the meeting and presented Senior DDA Allison Eichmann with the award.

"This year, we received multiple nominations for Prosecutor of the Year from various OSP offices around the state. Our OSP review panel unanimously selected this year's prosecutor of the year award winner, Douglas County's Senior Deputy District Attorney, Allison Eichmann," stated OSP Lieutenant Vonn Schleicher, the Southwest Region Lieutenant of the Fish and Wildlife Division, during his presentation speech.

Also attending the ceremony was Rick Wesenberg, the Douglas County District Attorney.

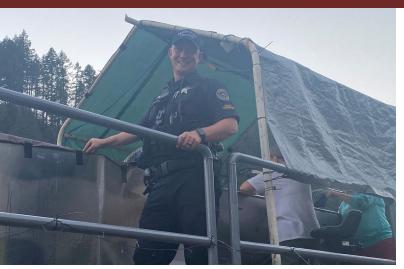
"To have one of our own be selected as a recipient of such a statewide honor is tremendous. It is a testament to all the hard work that our staff here in Douglas County does every day. Allison does an exceptional job for the county, and we are proud of all the work she has done and continues to do in the Douglas County District Attorney's Office," stated Commissioner Tim Freeman.

Eichmann was nominated by Roseburg OSP – Fish and Wildlife, Senior Trooper Baimbridge, and Senior Trooper Stone in recognition for not just last year, but for the outstanding and ongoing work she has done in assisting them with the prosecution of wildlife cases in Douglas County. "We like to call Allison our DA because she cares about Fish and Wildlife laws, she has taken the time to understand how to prosecute our unique cases very well, she makes herself available for team meetings and presentations, and has taken a personal interest in valuing our local wildlife community," commented Senior Trooper Baimbridge.



Congratulations to Senior DDA Eichmann for her outstanding work!

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**



A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted biologists from the Springfield ODFW office sort Spring Chinook on the McKenzie River at Leaburg Dam.

### Lake County Kids Fishing Derby

A Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Sergeant took part in the annual Lake County Fishing Derby for 4th graders. Due to COVID restrictions last year, both 4th and 5th grade classes from several schools took to a private reservoir to learn about fishing. In total over 100 kids caught fish.

#### **Trooper Attends Free Fishing Weekend**

A Salem Fish and Wildlife Trooper participated in a youth fishing derby hosted by the Polk County Sheriff's Office. The event was held at the Aaron Mercer reservoir during a free fishing weekend. Approximately 19 youths and their parents were in attendance. The Trooper and Deputies assisted the youths with tying hooks, bait, and casting.



### Fish with a Cop Event - Bully Creek Reservoir

An Ontario Fish and Wildlife Trooper, Malheur County Sheriff's Office Deputies, Ontario Police Department, and Malheur County Parole and Probation Officers participated in the Fish with a Cop Event at Bully Creek Reservoir. Approximately 30 kids participated in the event which consisted of fishing from the shore, and from volunteer fishing boats on the reservoir. Multiple kids caught rainbow trout and warm water fish throughout the day.

### **Trooper Salvages Roadstruck Elk for Donation**

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Trooper received information about a road struck cow elk. A Lane County Deputy on scene advised that the elk was dead and contacted OSP to salvage the elk. The Trooper responded and determined that the elk was salvageable. The elk was loaded into the Trooper's patrol truck and a Fish and Wildlife Lieutenant assisted the Trooper in processing the elk, which was donated to a family in need through the Helping Hands Pantry.



### Troopers Assist on GDRC Cleanup Day

Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Troopers, Oregon Hunters Association (OHA), Mule Deer Foundation, and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) conducted a litter cleanup day on Green Diamond Resources Company (GDRC) lands in the southern Keno Unit. A 20-yard dumpster and 30-yard dumpster were filled. Enough additional garbage to fill an additional 30-yard dumpster was gathered and will be loaded when an empty dumpster gets delivered. GDRC was very grateful for the cleanup.

### **GENERAL LAW & RESCUES**



#### Hawk Rescued from Roadside

A citizen reported an injured red-tailed hawk sitting next to Highway 30 near Columbia City. A Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded and was able to capture and box up the hawk. On his way to the Audubon Society the hawk decided to escape from the box for a better view. The hawk was safely transported to the Audubon Society for evaluation and treatment.

### Firefighters Assist Troopers on Hawk Rescue

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to the report of an injured hawk at a residence in Klamath Falls. It was determined to be a juvenile red-tailed hawk that fell from a nearby nest. No personnel from the local raptor rescue were available, so Klamath County Fire Department responded with a ladder to help facilitate returning the bird to the tree. No injuries to the bird or the Trooper occurred.

#### Terrebonne Residents Report Dead Raptors

A Prineville Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to a complaint of two dead raptors in Terrebonne. It was discovered a red-tailed hawk and a juvenile golden eagle had been electrocuted by the same power pole. Residents in the neighborhood explained a golden eagle nest was nearby and many raptors in the area utilize that specific power pole for hunting. The Trooper coordinated with biologists with ODFW and Pacific Power was contacted to respond and make adjustments to the power poles in the area to make them "raptor friendly."

### Driver on Cell Phone Cited for Reckless Driving

A Madras Fish and Wildlife Trooper observed a nearly head on crash due to a vehicle making an unsafe pass. The Trooper could also see the driver of the vehicle had a cell phone held to his face. As the Trooper attempted to catch up to the suspect vehicle, the vehicle nearly caused two more head on crashes while making dangerous passes. Once the vehicle was stopped, the Trooper learned the vehicle had been reported for similar driving behavior. It was determined the driver was not impaired; however he did blame his driving on the cell phone use and the heat. The operator was cited and released for **Reckless Driving.** 

### Unlawful Tilapia Farm in Molalla Garage

Portland Fish and Wildlife Troopers received information there was a residence on the Molalla River that might be pulling water from the river for an unlawful tilapia farm in their garage. Troopers responded to the residence and did not find any evidence of water being pulled from the river. The resident did have 22 live tilapia in a tub in the garage that he was using as part of his aquaponics food production system. The resident unlawfully imported the live tilapia from Washington without a permit. Because the tilapia were being held so close to the Molalla River biologists were concerned about the ecological impact it might have on the river system if the tilapia were to get away. The resident was issued a warning for **No Import Permit** and the tilapia were seized and destroyed.

### **Bull Pulled from Rogue River**

A Central Point Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to a report of a bull (male cow) stuck in the Rogue River within the Denman Wildlife Area. The Trooper located the bull and was able to discern a brand and contact the owner of the bull, a nearby landowner, who confirmed his bull had been missing for several days. The Trooper coordinated with the owner, a local tow company, and the Jackson County Sheriff's Office Marine Deputies to return on the following day for a rescue attempt. The following day three Troopers, a Jackson County Sheriff's Office Marine Deputy, a tow truck driver, and the owner worked together to secure a line to the bull and guide him across the Rogue River to an embankment where the owner could bring down a cattle trailer. The bull survived the process and was returned to his pasture.

### **GENERAL LAW & RESCUES**



### Juvenile Bald Eagle Rescued - Clatskanie

A St. Helens Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a report from a railroad worker in the Clatskanie area who located an injured juvenile bald eagle along the tracks. The eagle appeared to have an injured wing and was transported to the Audubon Society in Portland for examination.

### Littering Near McKenzie River

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Trooper was patrolling the McKenzie River near Leaburg when he noted a suspicious vehicle in a pullout near the river. He pulled in to attempt to determine if they were angling. As he neared the vehicle he noted items being thrown from the attached trailer. When the female associated with the vehicle noticed the Trooper's marked vehicle she ran to hers and attempted to the leave the area but was stopped. It was determined she was throwing clothes and trash from her trailer off the side of the parking area. The Trooper encouraged her to pick up all of the items and then cited her for **Littering.** 

### Juvenile ATV Violations - Ingle Creek

A John Day Fish and Wildlife Sergeant was patrolling Ingle Creek and stopped two Class II ATVs (dirt bikes) for several violations. The two teenage operators were contacted and warned for **Operating without ATV Safety Card, No ATV Decal,** and **Unlawful Operation of ATVs.** They were very respectful and were counseled on the requirements for lawful operation of Class II ATVs. They were then returned to their residences.

### **Troopers Assist Boaters - Rogue River**

A Roseburg Fish and Wildlife Trooper attended Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) Drift Boat School in Medford as an instructor. During the training, two separate incidents occurred where civilians were rescued from the Rogue River after being thrown from their vessel. One subject was thrown from his kayak and then lost the life jacket he was wearing when it hung up in some overhanging limbs. His life jacket, paddle, and kayak were recovered then returned to the man at the boat ramp. The second incident occurred when a subject was thrown from her raft. The subject was cold, wet, and scared after swimming through a class two rapid. That subject was provided assistance getting back into her raft, while her friend and four children waited anxiously on board.

#### Fort Stevens Graffiti Suspects Located

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted an investigation involving the spray painting of historic war sites at Fort Stevens State Park. The suspects were identified with the help of a park host, some physical evidence, invaluable help from Walmart Loss Prevention Officers, local Police Officers, and social media. One adult female and two juvenile males were charged with **Criminal Mischief II** at the State level with the report being forwarded to the OSPD Archeologist for possible charges at the federal level.



### **MARINE FISHERIES TEAM**



### All Depth Halibut Fishery Ocean Patrol

Marine Fisheries Team (MFT) Troopers from Newport and Florence conducted an ocean patrol out of Newport for the all depth Halibut fishery. Citations were issued for **Failure to Immediately Validate Harvest Card** and **Angling Prohibited Method.** Warnings were issued for Possession of Groundfish After Retention of Halibut.

### **Commercial Crabbing Violations**

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted a commercial fisherman regarding issues surrounding part of his gear being left out in the ocean off of Newport after the close of the regular season. The subject had initially contacted OSP the day before the closure regarding equipment issues that were interfering with retrieval of the pots. The gear was eventually located by another vessel and OSP and retrieved. It was later determined the subject had driven his vessel to Illwaco, WA to haul out for repairs but commercially fished for salmon off of Garibaldi. The subject was contacted regarding all of the issues and admitted to catching only one Chinook salmon and decided to just take it home and eat it. The fish was never landed to a wholesale dealer as required by law. Additionally, when asked to see the logbooks for the crab season, the subject admitted to not completing any logs for the entire season. The subject was cited for Failure to Complete Dungeness Crab Logbooks (Lincoln County) and Failure to Sell Commercial Catch to Wholesale Dealer (Tillamook County) and warned for No Buov Tags: Late Season.

#### **Boat Patrol - Columbia River**

Astoria Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River in Clatsop and Columbia Counties. Multiple salmon and steelhead anglers were contacted. Warnings and citations were issued for Angling Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks for Salmon, No Harvest Card, No Angling License, Taking Non Adipose Fin-Clipped Chinook Salmon, Possession of Mutilated Game Fish, Continue to Angle after Retaining Daily Limit, and Taking Non Adipose Fin-Clipped Steelhead. One subject was contacted that said he had caught and retained a Sockeye Salmon. Upon inspection it was found that he had a wild steelhead that he had filleted and put in a zip lock bag in his cooler. The subject was cited and the steelhead fillets were seized.

### **Commercial Pink Shrimp Too Small**

An MFT Sergeant received a call regarding a commercial pink shrimp offload that was suspected of being smaller than legal count per pound. The Sergeant responded and took samples from the load. The samples were counted and it was determined the average count per pound for the load was 175. The skipper was contacted and issued a criminal citation for **Violation of Count per Pound for Commercial Pink Shrimp.** 

#### No Commercial Shellfish Harvester Permit

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted a commercial bay clam harvester that had made seven landings of clams from Tillamook Bay without a 2021 Commercial Shellfish Harvester Permit. ODFW had not issued him a 2021 permit because he had not turned in all of his logs from the 2020 season. The subject was cited for **No Commercial Shellfish Harvester Permit**, and warned for **Fail to Submit Logbooks**.

#### **Bait Shrimp Harvester Violations**

MFT and Newport Fish and Wildlife Troopers contacted multiple bait shrimp harvesters regarding continuous logbook issues including late and missing logbooks as well as inaccurate entries. Additionally an extensive audit was conducted on the bait dealer who employed the harvesters due to inconsistencies with logbook data and fish receiving tickets. It was determined that harvesters were not recording the correct weight on their logbooks which resulted in extreme differences between logs and landings. Two landings were also found to have resulted in minor incorrect weights being recorded on the fish receiving tickets. All of the harvesters were issued citations for Fail to Maintain Logbooks.

### **SHELLFISH & ANGLING**



A Fish and Wildlife Trooper patrolling on the John Day River

### Angling Patrol - Frog and Clear Lakes

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper from The Dalles checked anglers at Frog Lake and Clear Lake. One group of four subjects abandoned their rods and attempted to hide up in the trees as the Trooper approached. The Trooper located them and determined that the group consisted of two adults and two juveniles from Washington. None of them had angling licenses. The two adults were cited for **No Non-Resident Angling License.** 

### Multiple Violations - Willamette River

McMinnville Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol on the Willamette River. During the boat patrol the Troopers contacted many boaters and anglers. The Troopers issued citations or warnings for the following:

- No Valid Paper Angling License in Possession x3
- No Angling License x2
- Personal Flotation Device (PFD) Not Accessible x2
- Expired Certificate of Number x2
- No/Improperly Displayed Identifying Number on Vessel
- Fail to Register Boat

### Lower Willamette River Sturgeon Season

Saturday June 12th marked the opening day of the 2-day sturgeon retention season on the lower Willamette River near Portland, Troopers from the North Valley Team, St. Helens Office, Albany Office, and Springfield Office worked on boats and on-shore, including K-9 Buck and his handler. Troopers contacted approximately 300 anglers, with eight violation citations issued for violations such as: Unlawful Take of Sturgeon, Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Card, Angling Closed Area, No Combined Angling Harvest Card, No Columbia River Basin Endorsement and No Angling License. Troopers contacted one angler that had a sturgeon tied to the side of his boat. Upon investigation it turned out the subject did not have a license, tag or endorsement. The subject was issued a violation citation for **Unlawful Take of Sturgeon**. The 44" sturgeon was seized and donated to charity.

Saturday June 19th marked the last day of the 2-day sturgeon retention season on the lower Willamette River near Portland. Troopers from the North Valley Team, St. Helens Office, Albany Office, and Springfield Office worked boat patrols and shore patrols, including K-9 Buck and his handler once again. Troopers contacted approximately 150 anglers and issued multiple citations and warnings for violations including: Unlawful Take of Sturgeon, Unlawful Take of Non-Adipose Fin Clipped Chinook Salmon, Angling Prohibited Method: Two Rods, No Columbia River Basin Endorsement, Angling Closed Season, No Combined Angling Tag and more. Troopers seized three sturgeon; two of which were undersized and one was caught in a closed area. Troopers were able to revive the sturgeon caught in the closed area and release it back into the river while the other seized fish were donated to charity.

#### Taking Razor Clams Closed Area - Seaside

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted a man and woman digging razor clams on the Clatsop Beach in Seaside. The woman had 14 clams in her possession. Both subjects stated they were not aware the beach was closed for harvesting razor clams. The area had been closed due to high levels of domoic acid. One citation was issued for **Taking Razor Clams Closed Area** to the female subject and a warning was issued to the male subject for the same. The clams were seized and placed back into the sand.

### **SHELLFISH & ANGLING**



#### Coolers Full of Illegal Dungeness Crab - Waldport

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted three male subjects at the Waldport crab dock. They were in possession of two and a half coolers of crab. The final count revealed they possessed 92 Dungeness crab, consisting of 77 females, 13 undersized males, and two legal crab. All three subjects were cited criminally for Take/Possession of Female Dungeness Crab and Take/Possession of Undersized Dungeness Crab.

### Over Limit Trout - Frog Lake

A Portland Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a call from an angler at Frog Lake wishing to report suspicious activity by three subjects. The reporting party explained the subjects had exceeded their daily limit, dumped dead fish in the lake, and were continuing to fish. The Trooper located the suspect vehicle while enroute to the location and conducted a traffic stop. A consent search revealed 25 trout in total. The subjects said they knew they had too many, but "did not want the little ones to go to waste." A violation citation for **Exceeding Daily Limit of Fish** was issued to all three subjects and ten of the fish were seized as evidence and donated.

### Stand-up Paddleboarder Struggles without PFDs

Fish and Wildlife Troopers patrolled Timothy Lake during the high heat wave. During the patrol, Troopers assisted an adult who had fallen off his stand-up paddleboard (SUP) and was struggling to stay afloat as he was not wearing a personal flotation device (PFD) and wasn't tethered to the board. The Troopers threw a PFD to the individual who was able to gather it and pull himself to safety. The Troopers also collected the SUP and accompanied the individual to the shore where education was provided. Troopers had checked dozens of SUP boarders that day that did not have any flotation devices. Citations were also issued for: **No Angling License**, Not being able to access electronic license, **Angling with Two Rods**, and for a PFD violation.

### **Angling Violations in Youth Only Area**

A Tillamook Fish and Wildlife Sergeant observed anglers on Three Rivers in the designated youth only area below the Cedar Creek Hatchery on two consecutive evenings. On the first evening he observed an adult male subject and a female subject angling in the youth only area. Before he could make contact the male subject hooked a spring Chinook in the back. When he saw the Sergeant, he handed his rod to his 11-year-old daughter. She could not land the fish, so the line was cut to free it. The male subject stated he did not know the area was youth only and his daughter did not have a 2021 Combined Angling Harvest Card. The adult male was cited for Angling Closed Area/Stream and warned for No Combined Angling Harvest Card (for his daughter). On the second evening at Three Rivers, the Sergeant observed two adult male subjects actively angling in the youth only area. They had two small children with them who were not participating in the angling at all. One of the adult subjects did not have an angling license. Both subjects were cited for Angling Closed Area/Stream, and one of them was cited for No Resident Angling License.

#### Winchester Bay Crab Violations

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper checked crabbers in Winchester Bay. One group of three subjects was found to be in possession of six Dungeness crab, four of which were undersized. The subjects did not want to take responsibility for the undersized crab and stated that someone else on the dock measured the crab for them. They were advised it was their responsibility to make sure the crab in their possession was legal, and one subject was cited for Take/Possession Undersized Dungeness Crab. A short while later, a boat was contacted as it was trailering at a boat ramp, after it was observed operating in the harbor for several minutes. The boat owner advised they had six crab in the fish hold but did not address the six additional crab which were still in a crab pot on the deck of the boat. When asked about the crab in the crab pot, the boat owner immediately stated that they were going to release those crab but didn't get an opportunity because the bay was so rough. When advised they were observed in the calm, safe harbor, the boat owner admitted that would have been a good time to release the crab. Three undersized male Dungeness crab, and three female Dungeness crab were found in the crab pot, and one undersized crab was found in the fish hold. The boat owner was cited for Take/Possession Female Dungeness Crab and warned for the undersized crab; the other subject on board was warned for the same. All illegal crab were released to the bay.

### SHELLFISH & ANGLING



### Subjects Caught with 201 Extra Clams

A Tillamook Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted several clam diggers on Netarts Bay during a busy weekend with particularly low morning tides. Multiple citations were written for No Resident Shellfish License, No Non-Resident Shellfish License, and Exceeding Daily Bag Limit of Bay Clams. The largest overage of clams was encountered when a group of five Washington residents was contacted. One of the adult subjects in the group had a non-resident shellfish license and one juvenile subject in the group was under the age of 12 and could legally possess a limit of clams. The other three subjects were unlicensed. The clams the five subjects had harvested were mostly held in two containers, and they had 241 total clams in their possession. They were allowed to keep two limits of clams (40 total), and 201 clams were released back into the bay. The unlicensed adults in the group were cited for No Non-Resident Shellfish License. All of the adult subjects were cited for Exceeding Daily Bag Limit of Bay Clams.



### **Guide Caught Not Recording Sturgeon**

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper checked the John Day Boat Ramp east of Astoria during a sturgeon retention day on the lower Columbia River: encountering a licensed guide boat at the dock. Conversation with one of the clients on board resulted in being told there were no legal sized sturgeon caught that day. Upon further questioning, the client admitted there were seven legal sized keepers in the box. It was also learned that the guide, minutes earlier, advised the ODFW fish checker he caught no legal keepers. The guide admitted to not being truthful with ODFW because he "didn't want the quota to be reached and the season to close early." A week prior, the same guide advised another ODFW sampler he caught nothing under similar circumstances. When questioned about that, the guide admitted he was untruthful then as well. He was subsequently cited for Failure to Allow Catch for Inspection.



### Night Patrol - Leaburg Dam

Springfield Fish and Wildlife Troopers were conducting a night patrol at Leaburg Dam to protect the vulnerable Chinook salmon kegged up at the fish ladder. During the patrol 11 subjects were contacted, three legal fish were checked, one warning was issued for **No Youth Angling License**, and one subject was issued criminal citations for **Angling Prohibited Hours and Angling within 200 feet of a Fish Ladder.** One fishing pole was seized as evidence.

#### Guide Fails to Properly Validate Harvest Card

Gold Beach Fish and Wildlife Troopers patrolled for Coho anglers at the Port of Brookings. A guide boat captain was observed, via binoculars, validating his angling tag after stopping 100 feet short of the dock. Upon contacting the subject, he lied to the Troopers numerous times and claimed to have validated his tag when the two Coho were caught. He eventually admitted to not tagging the fish until he saw the Troopers. He told the Troopers that he was scared of losing his guide license. He was issued a citation for Fail to Immediately Validate Combined Angling Harvest Card.

### CASE DISPOSITIONS



### Subject Pleads Guilty in Yamhill County Case

In September 2020, McMinnville Fish and Wildlife Troopers seized an elk taken on private timberlands which was closed to all public access due to fire season restrictions. After lying to Troopers, it was proven the subjects had known the property was closed. They also used an unlawfully possessed key to drive their truck in and retrieve the elk. The case was made through partnership with company foresters who were able to identify the location of the attached picture posted to social media. In June 2021, the three subjects each pleaded guilty and were sentenced to:

- A three year hunting license suspension (loss of 46 total preference points)
- 18 months bench probation with no hunting activity
- \$1,100 in fines each
- 24 hours community service each
- · Forfeiture of the elk.

In return for their guilty plea the hunters were not ordered to pay restitution for the elk, and received their bows back.

#### Subject Pleads Guilty in Tillamook County Guide/Outfitter Case

In May 2020, a subject was on the Nestucca River boat ramp with clients ready to launch when a Fish and Wildlife Trooper approached him. The subject initially stated he was fishing with friends. However, after interviewing passengers in the boat, it became clear that the trip was conducted as a matter of business. The subject eventually admitted to booking guided fishing trips online through his website, promoting himself as a licensed and registered guide. He said he had not gotten around to completing the licensing renewal process. He and his passengers did have valid fishing licenses and tags. Following the investigation, the subject was criminally cited for **Unlawful Compensation for Non-Licensed Guide/Outfitter.** 

On June 23, 2021, the defendant pleaded guilty to a criminal charge of **Fail to Register as an Outfitter/Guide.** He was ordered to:

- Pay a \$2,500 fine
- Submit a letter of apology to be published in the "Marine Board Newsletter"

## TURN IN POACHERS

### PREFERENCE POINTS -OR- CASH REWARDS

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

\$1,000 Bighorn Sheep

\$1,000 Rocky Mountain Goat

\$1,000 Moose

\$500 Elk, Deer & Antelope

\$300 Bear, Cougar & Wolf

\$300 Habitat Destruction

\$200 Illegally Obtaining License/Tags

\$200 Unlawful Lend/Borrow Big Game Tag(s)

\$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







1-800-452-7888 or \*0SP(677)

TIP@OSP.oregon.gov

### 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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