OREGON STATE POLICE
FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION



MONTHLY FIELD REVIEW

APRIL 2022

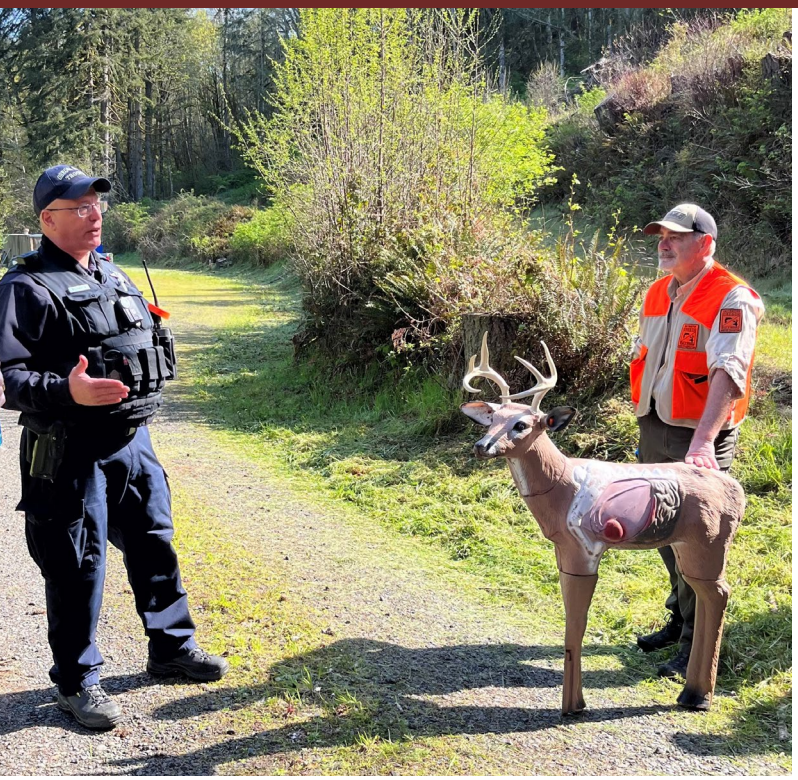
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On the cover:
A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper on an ATV patrol

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Sergeants Assist at Hunter Education Field Day

Newport Area Sergeants assisted with a hunter education field day in Toledo. The Sergeants gave instruction on fish and wildlife laws, shoot/don't shoot scenarios and blood trailing and game field dressing and transport. Eighteen students successfully completed the field day and received their certificate.

Outdoor School Presentation - Ontario

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper participated in an Outdoor School for Alameda Elementary School in Ontario. Approximately 60 6th graders participated in the event which was sponsored by Oregon State University. The students rotated through several outdoor related stations. The Trooper worked with the Malheur County Chapter of Pheasants Forever where students learned about how to call turkeys and elk, and the importance of knowing and following wildlife laws.

John Day Hunter Education Field Day

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted with a hunters education field day in John Day. The Trooper assisted other instructors set up hunting scenarios encompassing safety, hunter ethics, and some common violations. The students did well and several questions were answered for the parents as well. Class attendees and instructors were very appreciative of OSP assisting with the class and answering fish and wildlife regulation questions.

Hunter Education Presentation - Burns

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted a hunter education presentation in the Burns area. The Trooper discussed the most common violations, hunting ethics, and OSP's role and enforcement actions during the hunting seasons. There were 11 kids and one adult in attendance for the presentation. The presentation was well received by the class and instructors.

Klamath Falls Troopers Assist in Safety Class

Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Troopers assisted ODFW with a youth hunter safety class. The Troopers gave a presentation to the kids involving big game rules, regulations, firearm safety, and local youth hunting opportunities.

Trooper Assists on the Range - Knappa

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted on the range with an all-day ODFW Clatsop County hunter education field day at the BKS Gun Club in Knappa. There were 12 students who participated in the class. All students passed the course and will be mailed their permanent hunter safety cards.

SW Region Troopers Attend CWD Training

A SW Region Lieutenant and the South Central Fish and Wildlife Team took part in a Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) familiarization and sample collection training. The team was educated by local ODFW Biologists on what CWD was and provided kits to collect samples. ODFW provided several specimens to collect samples in the event the Troopers can assist ODFW in the field.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH





Chainsaw Program Equips F&W Troopers

Oregon's law enforcement, along with fire, medical, and transportation departments are the first to respond to natural disasters; that range from forest fires, snowstorms, windstorms, and flooding. The 2019 winter storms and flooding and the 2020 wildfire season highlighted the critical role law enforcement plays in the State of Oregon's response to a natural disaster. Members of the Oregon State Police Fish & Wildlife Division were heavily utilized during these natural disaster events because of their knowledge of the road systems, rivers, four-wheel-drive vehicles, and their specialty vehicles like jet boats, ATVs, and UTVs.

The Oregon State Police recognized this and invested in equipping and training its members of the Fish and Wildlife Division in the use of chainsaws. In less than a year, from concept to full deployment, the Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division put together a comprehensive chainsaw program that includes training, safety equipment, and a chainsaw. The Fish and Wildlife Division deployed 97 chainsaws to its field personnel in early 2022.

Since their short time in the field, OSP Troopers have assisted the Oregon Department of Transportation in opening State Highways during wind and snowstorm events and the clearing of rural and forest roads that are often lifelines for smaller communities.

In April, Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Troopers used a chainsaw to cut a 32" round pine tree off the 3752 Mainline. The 3752 Mainline runs from Bly to Dog Lake and is the main route of travel for residents.



GENERAL LAW & RESCUES



ATV Patrols on Oregon Dunes

Coos Bay Troopers conducted several ATV patrols on the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area and in the Siuslaw and Tioga Hunt Units. Several warnings were issued for **No ATV Flag, No ATV Sticker,** and **No ATV Safety Education Card.** Two unrelated subjects who had their driving licenses suspended were contacted while not operating their off-road vehicles, including a subject who buried his truck in the shrimp beds along Coos Bay. Both subjects were counseled that they could be charged with **Driving While Suspended** if observed operating their off-road vehicles. The stuck truck was later recovered by associates of the operator.



Subject Arrested for DUII - Camp Sherman

A Bend Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a driving complaint from the Camp Sherman Store. A male subject was refused the sale of alcohol due to his intoxication and left in a U-Haul truck. The subject was located north of Camp Sherman on the 1420 Road passed out in the driver seat. He was arrested for **Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUII)** and provided a breath sample of .10%.

Troopers Rescue Subjects Stuck in Snow Overnight

Pendleton Fish and Wildlife Troopers received information that a vehicle had been stuck in the snow overnight in the Ukiah area with the occupants requesting help of any kind. Troopers responded to the area and located the vehicle and occupants who had spent the night in their vehicle. All were in good condition and happy to see help. After digging and pulling for some time, the vehicle was removed and the grateful occupants were able to return home.

Subject Cited for Trespassing

Albany Fish and Wildlife Troopers received a complaint of a male subject trespassing on private property looking for antlers. Troopers located the subject at his residence. Subsequent to an interview, the subject admitted to trespassing and was cited for **Criminal Trespass II.**

Three Boaters Rescued on John Day River

Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boater assist/rescue on the John Day River near Twickenham. Troopers contacted an older male, female, and juvenile that had become stranded down river from Twickenham due to very high winds (30-40 mph). The male boater had fallen into the river earlier and had become hypothermic. The boaters also mentioned that their cook stove had failed. The first attempt to help the boaters was a trip to Service Creek and then Fossil in attempt to contact the private shuttle provider. It was then decided to have a Trooper stay and assist the boaters with getting their Cataraft boat back up river and to the Twickenham launch while the other Trooper gave a courtesy ride to the male boater down river to the Clarno boat launch to pick up their vehicle and raft trailer and also allow him to warm up. Troopers drove approximately 175 miles in total to get the boaters and their gear safely to their vehicle and off of the river.

Violations Discovered on Night Flight

Roseburg Fish and Wildlife Troopers participated in a night patrol with the OSP SW Region Pilot in Douglas County. Several contacts were made resulting in one citation for **Driving While Suspended** and two warnings for **Speed Racing.**

ADMINISTRATION & ENFORCEMENT OF WILDLIFE LAWS

Subject Neglects to Collect Trap - Wagontire

A Burns Fish and Wildlife Trooper was contacted by ODFW regarding a trap they located with a dead and decayed coyote caught by its front foot still in the trap. The Trooper responded to the scene in the Wagontire Unit and retrieved the trap. The Trooper located the trapper's brand number on it, then contacted the subject at his residence and asked why the trap was not checked. The male subject advised that he must have forgot about the trap or lost it in the snow when he pulled his traps in January. The subject was issued a violation citation for **Fail to Inspect Trap Within 48 Hours.**

Truck Located in Closed Wildlife Area

A La Grande Fish and Wildlife Trooper patrolled the Elkhorn Wildlife Area on the last day of the winter closure, and observed a truck nearby. Three subjects were later contacted at the vehicle who were shed hunting in the closed wildlife area. They had walked past multiple signs with the closure dates listed, but claimed they thought it was open. One six point elk shed antler was seized as evidence. All three subjects were cited for **Unlawful Entry into a Wildlife Area.**

Cougar Tagging Violation

La Pine Fish and Wildlife Troopers investigated a subject who had validated his cougar tag within seconds of purchasing the tag. Investigation resulted in the subject being cited/released for **Unlawful Take/Possession of Cougar.** The animal was seized.

Subjects Exceed Daily Bag Limit of Turkeys

An Albany Fish and Wildlife Trooper informed a Trooper in The Dalles that he had run a report in ODFW and a subject from Hood River had harvested two turkeys on the same day. The subject was interviewed and admitted he killed two turkeys on the date in question. He said he did not know until he further looked into the regulations that the daily bag limit was one. He said he got the idea when his juvenile brother killed a turkey that morning and also, by accident, killed a second turkey with the same shot. His brother was able to purchase and tag the second turkey. When they looked up the regulations he stopped reading when he saw that you were allowed to harvest three turkeys during the spring season. He then purchased another tag for himself and killed a turkey that was still in the area. He said he did not fully read the regulations until that evening and noticed that the daily bag limit was one. He was cited for **Exceeding The Daily Bag Limit** and warned for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation.** His juvenile brother was warned for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit.**



North Bank Habitat Horse Patrol

Roseburg Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a horse patrol on the 6000 acre Bureau of Land Managment (BLM) North Bank Habitat area for turkey hunters. Troopers contacted 23 subjects and some minor eTagging issues were corrected with warnings.

MARINE FISHERIES TEAM

Commercial Crab Violations

The Marine Fisheries Team (MFT) finished an ongoing investigation into a suspected commercial crab fisherman who owned two boats, each of which had their own crab permit. The fisherman was illegally using just one boat to run all of the gear. Only boats assigned to the permit are allowed to fish their specific gear. During an ocean patrol, gear belonging to both boats was located and recorded. Two days later, the team went to the area on board the Guardian and pulled the gear that had been previously found. During that time, it was determined the gear had been illegally re-tagged with new summer tags by the boat that wasn't assigned to the permit. There was also fresh bait in the pots indicating the gear had been pulled as recently as that day. The team eventually located the boat in question at sea and observed it illegally pulling a string of gear that wasn't theirs. Some of the gear was seized as evidence. The captain was eventually contacted back in port. Pot tags not belonging to the vessel were located onboard and seized. The captain of the vessel admitted to pulling gear not only that day but also prior to that in March. Citations were issued as follows: **Unlawful Possession of Commercially Caught Crab x2, Tampering with Buoy Tags, No Buoy Tags: Summer Season, Failure to Submit Logbooks, Failure to Land within 14 Days.**

Undersized Crab Located - Brookings

A Gold Beach Fish and Wildlife Trooper patrolled commercial Dungeness crab in Brookings. A boat was contacted at the dock after returning from the ocean. A consent inspection of their crab revealed 10% of the load was undersized. The crab were seized and released. Two subjects were issued citations for **Take/Possession of Undersized Dungeness Crab.**

Subjects Cited for Angling with Barbed Hooks

Newport and Florence Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol in the ocean utilizing the Newport rigid-hull inflatable boat. During the patrol they contacted salmon anglers and ground fish anglers. The Troopers issued two subjects citations for **Angling Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks.** The Troopers also checked the Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve and no violations were observed.

Citations Given for Razor Clam Violations

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted plain clothes foot patrols observing recreational and commercial razor clam harvesters on Seaside Beach during low tides. Numerous warnings were given, and four citations were issued for **Exceed the Daily Limit of Razor Clams.** Approximately 40 razor clams were seized.

Lack of Descending Device Leads to License Cites

A Gold Beach Fish and Wildlife Trooper worked marine fish out of Gold Beach. A boat was contacted and it was discovered they did not have a rockfish descending device onboard. During the conversation with the subjects, one mentioned they were from California and they did not have that rule there. A consent inspection of their licenses revealed two anglers were in possession of resident angling licenses. Eventually, the subjects admitted that they falsely used their friends Oregon address to obtain cheaper licenses. Both subjects were issued citations for **Possession of Falsely Applied for Angling License.**

Commercial Razor Clam Violations

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted a commercial razor clam harvester that made three landings of razor clams without having a commercial shellfish harvester permit. The harvester also failed to dye his clams before leaving the beach as required for bait, and failed to fill out his logbook before leaving the beach. The subject was cited for **No Commercial Shellfish Harvester Permit,** and warned for the other offenses.

Trawler Crew Dumps Dover Flatfish

A Gold Beach Fish and Wildlife Trooper was at the Port of Brookings when he noticed a commercial trawl vessel dumping a basket of Dover flatfish overboard. The crew was contacted and it was discovered they were cleaning the fish hold after unloading. They told the trooper they had tossed about 30 fish overboard that were found in the leftover ice. The subjects were warned for **Fail to Sell Catch to a Wholesale Dealer.** They were instructed to weigh the leftover fish in the future.

Criminal Trespass - North Coast TMA

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to a complaint from a commercial timber company that is a North Coast Travel Management Area (TMA) cooperator. The landowner had reports of a specific vehicle that was driving forest roads that are closed to the public, and was off-roading in an area of commercial forestland. The landowner put up a cellular trail cam, and alerted the Trooper when he saw the vehicle drive in. The landowner contacted the subjects as they were coming out of a muddy off-road area, and the Trooper responded and subsequently cited the driver for **Criminal Trespass II.**

SHELLFISH & ANGLING



Pontoon Boat Patrol - Wood River

Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a float patrol on the Wood River by using pontoon boats. The river had just opened to fishing and is a high priority redband trout spawning area for the local ODFW fish biologist. Multiple anglers were contacted and one warning was given.



Angling Violations - Necanicum River

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper saw a pickup parked on Highway 101 near the Necanicum River bridge in an area he had contacted a subject with a suspended angling license fishing for steelhead about two weeks prior. Upon checking the area, the subject was observed angling in what was now a closed stream. Upon contact the subject had cleared his suspension, but had not purchased an angling license. He claimed he did not know the stream was closed, but admitted he should have looked up the regulations before coming out that day. He was cited for **No Angling License** and **Angling Closed Stream.**

Subject Fishing Unlawfully Posts Photo Online

A La Pine Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a complaint of a subject posting a photograph of himself on a fishing website, holding a trout near the Crosswater Golf Course in Sunriver. The Trooper recognized the subject from a previous enforcement contact in 2021. The subject was contacted and stated he thought the river opened on April 18th. The subject was subsequently cited for **Angling Closed Stream.**

Razor Clam Violations - Clatsop Beach

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper worked recreational razor clam diggers at Clatsop Beach in Seaside during a low tide. The Trooper witnessed a subject pass a full sack of clams to his wife. The subject's wife then walked up to a nearby parking lot and returned to the beach with the empty container. The subject was observed as he continued to dig more clams. Contact was made with the subject and 18 clams were found in his possession. He also admitted to digging a previous limit for his wife. He was issued a citation for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Razor Clams.** Two warnings were issued for **Failure to Use Individual Clam Container.**

Douglas County Angler Patrols

A Roseburg Fish and Wildlife Trooper checked three anglers at Douglas County lakes. After observing one man angling from across the lake, the Trooper observed that male had snuck behind his truck, broke off his gear and hid the pole as he approached. Once confronted with the observations, the man said "you got me" and admitted to what he had done because he didn't have an angling license. He and another subject were cited for **No 2022 Angling License.**

SHELLFISH & ANGLING



Subjects Illegally Retain Sturgeon - Gilbert River

St. Helens Fish and Wildlife Troopers were conducting a surveillance operation on the Gilbert River, attempting to identify sturgeon poachers. A subject was observed reeling in a sturgeon and his friend netted it and brought it up onto the bank. The subjects then tied something onto the sturgeon and hid it out of sight. After watching the subjects each catch one more sturgeon and release them, a Trooper made contact with them. The subjects stated they had each only caught one sturgeon and released them. After being confronted with the fact they were seen tying up another fish, they admitted to having one tied up in the water. The subjects then showed the Trooper where the sturgeon was located. The 39-inch sturgeon was still alive and able to be returned to the water. The subject who caught the sturgeon was criminally cited for **Take/Possession of White Sturgeon** and the other subject was criminally cited for **Aiding in a Wildlife Offense.**

Subjects Angling Above Deadline

North Valley Team Fish and Wildlife Troopers responded to an ODFW employee's call regarding a boat that was fishing above the deadline at Beacon Rock on the Columbia River. Upon arrival, Troopers observed three subjects on board fishing well above the deadline. When contacted and asked to reel in their lines, Troopers learned all three anglers were using barbed hooks. Upon conducting a boat safety inspection, Troopers also learned the boater did not have the required Type IV Throwable Flotation Device. Each subject was issued a citation for **Angling Prohibited Method (Barbed Hooks)** and warned for **Fishing Above the Deadline.** The boat owner was also cited for **No Type IV Throwable Flotation Device.**

Boat Patrol - Brownlee Reservoir

Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol on Brownlee Reservoir. Numerous anglers were contacted during the patrol and multiple Boat Evaluation Report inspections were conducted and safety stickers issued. One warning was issued for **Failure to Carry License on Person while Angling.** Towards the end of the boat patrol the Troopers observed a male subject and his juvenile son actively angling on the bank of Brownlee Reservoir at Farewell Bend State Park. The subjects were contacted and a check of the ELS system revealed that neither subject had Resident Angling Licenses. The adult subject was issued a citation for **No Resident Angling License,** and warned for **Aiding/Counseling in a Wildlife Offense.** The juvenile was warned for **No Resident Angling License.**

Crab Buoys Located Inside Marine Reserve

Astoria Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol of the Cape Falcon Marine Reserve. The Troopers located the buoys of multiple commercial crab pots from two separate commercial vessels inside the marine reserve. The buoys were anywhere from 10 to 40 yards inside the reserve, and were in violation of new rules prohibiting all commercial gear, including surface buoys, from being inside the marine reserve. Both of the captains were cited for **Commercial Fishing Closed Area: Cape Falcon Marine Reserve.**

Boat Patrol - Columbia and Willamette Rivers

Fish and Wildlife Troopers from the North Valley Team conducted a weekend saturation boat patrol on the Willamette and Columbia Rivers. The main focus was to check angler compliance for the Spring Chinook run and check boater safety requirements as well. Members of the Clackamas County and Multnomah County Sheriff's Offices also participated in the effort. Throughout the weekend, 65 anglers were contacted, and 49 boater safety inspections were done. There were several violation citations and warnings issued as well.

Citations issued:

- **Angling with Barbed Hooks (Columbia)**
- **No Type IV Throwable**
- **No Boaters Education Card**
- **Expired/Fail to Apply for Boat Registration**

Warnings issued:

- **Angling Closed Area**
- **Improper Display of Boat Registration Numbers**

CASE DISPOSITIONS



Suspect Pleads Guilty in Jackson County Case

In January 2021, Jackson County Sheriff's Office initiated a pursuit with a tan sedan. The fleeing vehicle wrecked and the occupants fled on foot. A Jackson County Sheriff's Deputy discovered a dead buck deer in the trunk of the vehicle and requested OSP. A Central Point Fish and Wildlife Trooper arrived and took possession of the deer as well as some plain view items. Troopers processed the seized evidence which included two bows, one quiver, seven arrows (one was broken with blood on it), night vision goggles, spotlight, game camera, backpack, sheds, and a cell phone. The suspect evaded capture the night of the pursuit, but was identified by the Jackson County Sheriff's Office. The suspect had 12 warrants and was wanted on multiple other charges including **Aggravated Theft I, Theft I, and Burglary II** during the Almeda and Obenchain Fires, previous eludes, reckless driving, and other drug charges. A recovered cell phone and subsequent search warrant yielded picture and text evidence of wildlife crimes. As part of a plea deal in conjunction with other charges, the suspect pleaded guilty to two of the three charges. The defendant's sentence included:

- Two and a half years in prison
- Two years of post-prison supervision
- Restitution to ODFW
- Five year hunting license suspension

Two Sentenced in Yamhill County Case

In October 2022, a McMinnville Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a call from a Yamhill area farmer that was watching a buck on his family's property when an adult subject pulled up in a truck, shot the deer from a public road over a posted fence, and then trespassed in an attempt to retrieve the buck. The landowner ran down and confronted the subject and took pictures. The subject was picked up in a truck by his father and did not recover the dead buck. The reporting party assisted the Trooper in salvaging the deer for donation. Social media quickly identified the suspects. On January 25, 2022 the shooter pleaded guilty to **Hunting on Another's Cultivated or Enclosed Land** and one count of **Reckless Endangering.** His sentence included:

- Three year hunting license suspension
- 18 months bench probation with condition suspect can't be around hunting
- $1,500 in total fines
- Forfeiture of a .300 WinMag rifle
- Completion of a firearms safety course within six months
- 80 hours community service within six months

The father who was cited for **Aiding in a Wildlife Offense received:**

- Three year hunting license suspension
- 18 months bench probation with condition suspect can't be around hunting
- A $500 fine

Subject Pleads Guilty in Wild Coho Case

In November 2021, a McMinnville Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a complaint that a person had netted a wild Coho out of a small tributary of the South Yamhill River that runs through the suspect's property. The reporting party had been sent a picture of the suspect with the fish in the net and later took videos, with the suspect's knowledge, of her trying to net more fish. In addition to the unlawful method, the area is also well above the deadline for salmon angling. The subject was cited for **Take/Possession of Non-Adipose Fin Clipped Coho Salmon.** Additional charges were referred to the District Attorney. On March 3, 2022 the subject pleaded guilty in Yamhill County Circuit Court. The defendant's sentence included:

- Three year angling license suspension
- $1,350 in total fines with $750 restitution to ODFW and $100 to the TIP fund
- 18 months bench probation with condition individual cannot be around angling or possess angling equipment
- Forfeiture of seized equipment.

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

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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 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."

HONOR ★ LOYALTY ★ DEDICATION ★ INTEGRITY ★ COMPASSION ★

OREGON STATE POLICE
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