



# OREGON STATE POLICE FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION



**MONTHLY FIELD REVIEW**

**SEPTEMBER 2022**





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*On the cover:  
A Fish and Wildlife Trooper participating  
in training exercises with US Coast Guard  
North Bend Air Station.*



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH



## Hunters Education Field Day - Hood River

Members of The Dalles OSP Fish and Wildlife team assisted with a field day for hunters education at the Hood River Gun Club. Troopers spent the day talking about fish and wildlife laws, working the live fire range and interacting with the 21 students. Troopers were given positive feedback by the parents. At the end of the day, all students passed the final exam and were ready for new adventures in the fields and woods.

## Youth Pheasant Clinic - Prairie City

A John Day Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted ODFW with a youth pheasant hunt and shotgun clinic near Prairie City. The Trooper provided a hunters education safety brief for the attending youth hunters and then later assisted at the trap shoot for the young hunters where they were able to shoot as much as they wanted with provided shells, clays and shotguns if needed. There were approximately 15 youth who participated in the hunt.

## Trooper Assists USFS and Volunteers

A Madras Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted the US Forest Service (USFS) and community volunteers with placing signs, removing invasive weeds, and re-routing a horse-riding trail around a popular target shooting area at Skull Hollow Campground.

## Youth Pheasant Clinic - Wamic

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper from The Dalles attended a youth pheasant clinic near Wamic. Lots of youth hunters and dogs hit the nearby fields looking for birds. At the end of the morning there were several happy and successful hunters with good sized rooster pheasants.



## Trooper Recognized for Fire Response

On September 9, 2022, Lakeview Senior Trooper Ryan Niehus was recognized for his efforts related to the 242 Fire by the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department at a special event at Collier Logging Museum. On September 7th, 2020, Senior Trooper Niehus was one of the first officers to the Collier Memorial State Park and assisted in evacuating the campground just prior to the fast moving 242 Fire arriving.





# GENERAL LAW & RESCUES



## Injured Pelican Relocated

An Ontario Fish and Wildlife Trooper was dispatched to an injured pelican on Bully Creek Reservoir Road. After assessing the injuries, which didn't appear to be too severe, a phone call was made to Blue Mountain Wildlife Rescue in Pendleton. It was determined the best course of action was to capture the pelican and drop it off in Bully Creek Reservoir where there were currently hundreds of migrating pelicans. The bird was captured and dropped near the water where it could join the other birds and recover from its injuries.

## Man Arrested on Multiple Charges

Salem Fish and Wildlife Troopers responded to an active domestic assault along the on-ramp to Interstate 5 and Highway 22 in Salem. Multiple witnesses had observed a male transient violently assaulting a female. Troopers located the subjects and when approached, the male fled on foot, stealing a nearby bicycle in order to flee from the Trooper. A Trooper followed as the male crashed the bicycle and attempted to scale a nearby fence, but was stopped and ultimately taken into custody without further incident. The male had an outstanding felony warrant out of Polk County for strangulation and had a no contact order with the female. The female also had an outstanding warrant and was cited and released on scene. The male was transported to the hospital for injuries he sustained from crashing the bicycle and was later lodged into the Marion County Jail. He was lodged on the following charges stemming from the Troopers' investigation: **Strangulation, Assault IV, Harassment, Menacing, Attempt to Elude, Theft III, Identity Theft, Parole Violation** and the felony warrant.

## Troopers Rescue Beached Boaters

Fish and Wildlife Troopers from The Dalles responded to a report of a boat that was beached near Mayer State Park. The Troopers walked in and examined the situation. Only a couple feet of the back of the boat was still in the water. The subject stated they had fished the night before and decided to sleep in the boat to get an early start the next morning. He didn't realize the Columbia River water level would fluctuate so much. The Troopers launched one of the patrol boats to attempt to pull them off the shore. Their efforts were successful, and they were able to pull the boat off the shore back into the water.



## Blacktail Doe Rescued from Fencing Wire

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper and an ODFW Biologist responded to several calls from residents in the area outside of Roseburg regarding a blacktail doe that had a section of fencing wire entangled around her neck and forelegs which was hindering her ability to freely move and feed. After darting the deer with tranquilizer, the wire was removed and the deer is expected to make a full recovery.



# GENERAL LAW & RESCUES



## Lost Anglers Rescued by Trooper and Harney County SAR

A Burns Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted the Harney County Sheriff's Office (HCSO), and Harney County Search and Rescue (SAR) with locating two lost anglers in their mid-seventies in the Steens Mountains. The HCSO advised that the two anglers were on foot along the Blitzen River attempting to walk and fish their way to the Page Springs campground after being dropped off along the S. Steens Road. The two men never arrived that night and had lost contact with their family and friends at the campground. The HCSO advised that the two men had no survival gear, and only had their fishing poles. The Trooper responded to the area and met with the lead SAR worker who showed him where the anglers were let out on foot. After looking at the map it appeared the anglers had approximately eleven to thirteen miles to walk to get to the Page Springs campground. The Trooper drove down the "Burnt Car Road," which comes to a dead end in a very remote section of the Steens and Blitzen River canyon. The end of the "Burnt Car Road" was about the halfway point. At the end of the "Burnt Car Road," The Trooper went out on foot in the steep canyon and looked for the two men. The vegetation along the Blitzen River was very dense, limiting visibility in the canyon. The Trooper yelled out several times from different rock cliffs and got a response from one of the men that had an emergency whistle. The Trooper was able to help navigate the anglers out of the steep canyon to safety. The two men were hungry, thirsty, and exhausted, but in good health with no injuries to report. The two men reported that they almost froze to death the night before and were worried about spending another cold night along the river with no survival gear or fire making material. The men were later taken to their camp at Page Springs by the Trooper and reunited with their families.

## DUI Driver Arrested - La Pine

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper was traveling on Highway 97 in La Pine and was nearly struck by a reckless driver who began traveling on the wrong side of the roadway and ran a stop sign. The driver was stopped and found to be extremely intoxicated. The driver was arrested for **Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUI)** and **Reckless Driving**, and provided a breath sample of .40% BAC. The passenger had an arrest warrant for **DUI**, resisted arrest and was lodged at the Deschutes County Jail.

## Boater Located Safe - Coos County

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted the Coos County Sheriff's Office in a boat patrol looking for a reported capsized sailboat in the bay. It was located and the operator was contacted. The sailboat had run aground and the operator was waiting until high tide to motor off the sand bar.

## Troopers Assist with Fire Evacuations

The South Valley Fish and Wildlife Team assisted the Springfield Area Command and Lane County Sheriff's Office with the Cedar Creek Fire. The towns of Oakridge and Westfir were evacuated and Highway 58 was closed. Fish and Wildlife Troopers assisted with evacuations, patrols of the area, and road blocks.

## Injured Barred Owl Rescued - Waldport

An injured Barred owl was reported in a backyard in Waldport. A Fish and Wildlife Sergeant responded to find the owl with what appeared to be an injured eye. The owl was captured and removed. A Trooper transported the owl the following day to Chintimini Wildlife Center in Corvallis for evaluation.



# ADMINISTRATION & ENFORCEMENT OF WILDLIFE LAWS



## High Cascade Deer Season Horse Patrol

Roseburg Fish and Wildlife Troopers performed an overnight horse patrol for the opening of High Cascade Buck Deer season in the Rogue Umpqua Divide. They patrolled 29 miles of trails and contacted five hunters inside the wilderness area and six hunters outside of the wilderness area. Multiple warnings and citations were issued. They issued two warnings for **No Electronic Tag in Possession** (hunters were unable to log into their ODFW app when out of service), two criminal citations for **Shooting from a Vehicle** and one citation for **Unlawful Possession of a Grouse**. The subject's rifle and two grouse were seized for evidence.



## Poacher Shoots Deer with Rifle in Archery Season

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a complaint from a subject who was watching a group of deer on a hill above La Grande when he heard a rifle shot. One of the deer fell and rolled down the hill. The Trooper arrived in the area and saw one subject on the hillside looking for the deer; and a Fish and Wildlife Sergeant arrived and a second subject was observed. The two subjects found the buck deer and began to process it while the Troopers observed. A rifle was clearly visible on the ground next to the deer, along with two bows. After processing the deer, the two subjects took photos and then removed an arrow from one of their bows and stuck it into the gut pile and rolled it in blood before returning it to the quiver. They drug the deer down the hill and were contacted. The shooter ultimately admitted to shooting the buck with his rifle in archery season. He was cited and released for **Take/Possession of Buck Deer**. The three point buck, a rifle and the bloody arrow were seized as evidence. The second subject was cited for **Aiding/Counseling in a Wildlife Violation**.

## Subject Educated and Cited - Silvies Unit

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper stopped a vehicle in the Silvies Unit that had a male subject in a truck bed sitting on a toolbox holding a rifle. The Trooper advised the subject that he could not be in the bed of truck if there were open spots with seat belts available in the cab. The Trooper also spoke with the subject about hunting ethics in regards to him sitting in the truck bed with his rifle during deer season. After returning from his patrol vehicle during the stop, the subject asked the Trooper if he could speak first and said he was setting an awful example to his boys by sitting in the bed of the truck with his rifle, and he was going to use this as a teaching moment for them to do the right thing. The subject was issued a citation for **No Seat Belt: Passenger**.

## Bear Tag Purchased After Harvest

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Trooper received information indicating a subject had made an online purchase of a bear tag and harvested a black bear within one minute of the purchase. The Trooper contacted and interviewed the subject, subsequently seizing the bear head, paws, and hide. The bear meat was processed and recovered from the meat processor. The meat, head, hide, and paws were secured into evidence at the Springfield Patrol Office. The subject was issued a citation in lieu of custody for **Unlawful Take/Possession of a Black Bear: No Bear Tag**.



# ADMINISTRATION & ENFORCEMENT OF WILDLIFE LAWS



## Illegally Harvested Fir Cones - Stott Mtn

Fish and Wildlife Troopers investigated a report of subjects possibly illegally harvesting fir cones in the Stott Mountain Wildlife Management Unit. According to the initial information provided, a large one ton GMC pickup was contacted and the vehicle was completely loaded with burlap bags full of fir cones. Two days later, Troopers searched the area and contacted the same vehicle along with several associated workers on Bureau of Land Management (BLM) property. The subjects were loading and transporting burlap bags of fir cones from the BLM property across various timber company properties heading toward Highway 18. During the subsequent investigation, it was determined the subjects had been harvesting fir cones in the area for approximately two weeks without a harvest permit from BLM or any of the local timber companies. They had also fraudulently obtained a key to gain access to the area and had damaged BLM property and trees during the harvesting activity. The owner of the harvesting company was cited criminally for **Unlawful Cutting and Transport of Special Forest Products** and 145 bags of fir cones were seized having an approximate value of \$15,000. After consultation with the District Attorney's Office, the cones were released to the Bureau of Land Management to be planted for seedlings for reforestation projects associated with logging activity and fire damage. Additional charges are pending for **Criminal Mischief** related to damaging BLM property and trees and additional counts of the **Cutting and Transport** charge, due to the multiple harvest days.

## Man Shoots Doves Perched on Power Lines

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper from The Dalles was dispatched to a call regarding a man shooting at doves perched on power lines while sitting in a vehicle on a county road near Arlington. The reporting party took photos of the incident and watched the man shoot at least one time. After receiving the pictures the Trooper was able to track down the driver and eventually get the name of the passenger that had shot at the doves. The passenger originally said he had just been testing out an old firearm and not shooting at doves but after being confronted with the evidence he changed his story and admitted to shooting at the dove. The Trooper met the subject at a residence in Condon and issued him a criminal citation for **Hunting Prohibited Area: Public Roadway**. The subject was also counseled on shooting at power lines which could break, fall and start wildland fires.

## Subject Gets Truck Stuck, Wastes Roadstruck Deer

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Sergeant received information that a US Forest Service Law Enforcement Officer (USFS LEO) was investigating suspicious circumstances involving a group of subjects who cut a lock on a Forest Service gate and then became stuck when their pickup nearly drove off a cliff. The USFS LEO was contacted by phone and the Sergeant learned there was fresh blood in the back of the pickup but the main subject was claiming it was from a roadstruck deer from days prior. When the Sergeant arrived the subject admitted the deer was struck the night prior and he had intended to retain it to salvage it, however, he decided to throw the deer over the cliff and let it spoil. This act was done even though friends had arrived within four hours of the animal's death and could have salvaged the deer. The subject admitted the majority of the deer would have been salvageable but at this point, approximately 13 hours later, it had spoiled. The subject was issued a citation for **Waste Game Mammal**.





# ADMINISTRATION & ENFORCEMENT OF WILDLIFE LAWS



## Tag Purchased After Elk Harvest

Springfield Fish and Wildlife Troopers interviewed a subject after learning he had purchased an archery elk tag likely after killing an elk. The subject was dishonest at times during the interview but ultimately admitted he had killed a bull elk and then realized he never had a tag so purchased it after the harvest. The bull elk was seized and a criminal citation was issued in lieu of custody for **Unlawful Take of Bull Elk**.

## Drone Used to Scout for Elk - Sumpter Unit

A Baker City Fish and Wildlife Trooper located a hunting camp on top of a ridge in the Sumpter unit and spoke with a subject from the camp. After visiting with the subject for a few minutes, the Trooper noticed a strange buzzing noise in the vicinity. The Trooper then observed a drone flying nearby. The subject initially denied knowledge of the drone. The Trooper followed the sound of the drone and found it was hovering in one location approximately six feet off the ground. The Trooper then heard a beeping noise and observed that the remote control for the drone had been placed on the ground. The Trooper recontacted the subject and asked him about the drone again. The subject admitted the drone was his and he was using it and a hunting map program to determine if the elk herd they had located with binoculars was on private or BLM property. The subject was cited for **Use of Drone to Aid in Hunting: Prohibited Method**.

## Poacher Shoots WED After Legal Hours

Fish and Wildlife Troopers ran a buck deer Wildlife Enforcement Decoy (WED) in rural Yamhill County after legal hours on the opening day of archery season. Approximately 45 minutes after legal light, a pickup occupied by two pulled into the set; illuminating the WED with the headlights. The driver fired one round with a 9mm handgun out of the window of the pickup, striking the WED in the shoulder. The subjects immediately fled the scene and were stopped by the Troopers. An interview of the subjects revealed the passenger had told the driver to shoot the deer and handed him his handgun. The passenger had both deer and elk archery tags and the driver had an archery elk tag. The subjects were cited and released for multiple wildlife crimes and the handgun was seized as evidence.

## Social Media Aids Investigation

In spring of 2022, a Fish and Wildlife Trooper discovered information on social media of a subject harvesting big game, game birds, and wild steelhead without any licenses or tags in southern Curry County. Intelligence indicated that the subject had harvested a spring bear, spring turkey, and three wild steelhead in 2022 without purchasing any tags or licenses. Additionally, it was discovered the subject had likely falsely applied for a resident hunting license, angling license, and deer tag in 2020. The subject was utilizing false addresses through DMV and ODFW. In late August, local Troopers observed the suspect standing on the side of the roadway and made contact. The subject was criminally cited and released for **Take/Possession of Bear, Take/Possession of Game Bird-Turkey, Take/Possession of Buck Deer, No Resident Hunting License, Take/Possession of Wild Steelhead, and No Resident Angling License**. Additional charges are being referred to the District Attorney's Office. A compound bow, a shotgun and buck deer antlers were seized.





# MARINE FISHERIES TEAM



## Over Limit and Undersized Crab - Bandon

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper on the Marine Fisheries Team (MFT) received a report that a subject crabbing off the dock in Bandon had taken a bucket of crab to his vehicle and then continued to crab. The Trooper responded to the area and walked into visual distance to observe the subject from a concealed location. The subject was actively crabbing and kept several crab before packing up to leave the area. The subject was contacted at his vehicle. Initial inspection revealed the subject retained 15 Dungeness crab in his bucket. Three of the 15 were also undersized. The suspect claimed to have no other crab. A consent search of his vehicle resulted in the discovery of additional crab that were halved/backed and stored in a mini fridge/freezer. The subject was issued a citation for **Possession of Mutilated Crab, Take/Possession of Undersized Dungeness Crab, and Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Dungeness Crab**, and 27 crab were seized.

## One Day Wild Coho Season Patrol

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted a boat patrol on Nehalem Bay during a one day wild Coho retention season (with a one-a-year annual wild Coho limit). Multiple citations were issued for **Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Card: Wild Coho**.

## Salmon Tangle Net Violation

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Sergeant conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River during the opening day of the Columbia River commercial salmon tangle net season. Multiple commercial boats were contacted, and the catch rate was relatively low. This fishery has a 3-<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" max net size, and vessels are prohibited from having nets that exceed the legal size on board (unless it is stored). One boat was contacted with its net deployed, and it was found to also have a 4-<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" net on its spool. The captain said that he was planning on using the second net in a different location, and that he thought that it was legal size. The captain was cited for **Fail To Properly Store Tangle Net**.

## Columbia River Sturgeon Patrol

Astoria Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a Columbia River patrol in Clatsop and Columbia Counties during a one-day sturgeon season. Numerous anglers were contacted and multiple boating inspections were conducted. As the Troopers approached one boat that was sturgeon angling, they watched as one of the subjects on board stood up, untied a rope from the opposite side of the boat, and pulled the rope out of the water and into the boat. The subjects admitted that there was a sturgeon tied to that rope, and that they didn't have a tape measure, so they weren't sure if it was legal size. They saw the Troopers coming and panicked, and decided to get rid of it before getting checked. One of the subjects was cited for **Fail to Allow Inspection of Catch**, and **Fail to Immediately Release Sturgeon**. The other subject was cited for **Aid in a Wildlife Violation**.

## Subject Found Angling While Suspended

Several months ago, a Gold Beach Fish and Wildlife Trooper observed a social media post from a subject, who resides in Grants Pass, posting pictures of him posing with fish in the ocean near Brookings. The Trooper had issued a citation to this subject for **Angling while Suspended** four years prior. While checking boats recently, the Trooper identified the suspect on board a boat that was coming in from the ocean. A records check revealed the subject was still suspended from angling. The subject stayed out of sight in the cabin of the boat once he saw the Trooper. Two other subjects on board the boat were interviewed. Initially, they were all dishonest and claimed that their friend was not fishing and was just along for the ride. After some time, they admitted that he was suspended, and that the suspect asked him to cover up for him. Ultimately, the subject took responsibility for his actions and was cited for **Angling While Suspended**.



# SHELLFISH & ANGLING



## Columbia River Boat Patrol

McMinnville Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River from Chinook Landing to Dalton Point to work the reopening of sections of the Columbia River for salmon angling. The patrol resulted in 21 citations and multiple warnings for **Unlawful Take of Hatchery Coho: Closed Area, Unlawful Take: Chinook Salmon, Angling Closed Stream, Barbed Hooks, No Resident Angling License, No Combined Angling Tag, and Fail to Immediately Validate**. The Troopers contacted a group of seven subjects outside the mouth of the Sandy River standing in deep water casting into the Columbia River. The group all knew the Columbia was closed, all had barbed hooks, and had retained four hatchery Coho arguing they were in the Sandy River delta. Each subject was cited for either **Unlawful Take** or **Angling Closed Stream**. All were warned for barbed hooks and the four Coho were seized. Troopers noted a very low compliance rate with barbed hooks with one of the Troopers citing multiple anglers attempting to switch hooks upon seeing the Troopers.

## Restaurant Manager and Employees Cited

A Fish and Wildlife Sergeant received a complaint regarding the unlawful take of Chinook salmon out of Mill Creek in downtown The Dalles. The Sergeant met with the complainant and was provided photos of the suspects in the act from the previous day. Subsequent info led the Sergeant to the restaurant in The Dalles where he located one of the suspects, still wearing the same clothes from the previous day in the photos, behind the restaurant on a break. The second suspect was also working that day at the restaurant. The manager of the restaurant retrieved what was left of the three illegally taken Chinook salmon from the restaurant freezer. The Sergeant performed a full inspection of all additional fish and records at the restaurant with no more issues found. Ultimately, both men that took the fish were cited and released for the crime of **Unlawful Take Chinook Salmon: Closed Stream** and the restaurant manager was cited and released for the crime of **Restaurant Without Required Records** and warned for the **Unlawful Possession of Chinook Salmon**. The remaining salmon was seized as evidence.

## Violations Found at Bond Butte Pond

A Fish and Wildlife Sergeant checked two subjects at Bond Butte Pond who were in possession of a large bass and several bullheads. One subject had his angling license but it was determined he had an active arrest warrant for **Probation Violation** and **Contempt of Court**. The jail elected to have the warrants serviced with a citation in lieu of custody and the subject was cited accordingly. The second subject was determined to be angling without a license and a violation citation was issued for **No Resident Angling License**.

## Multi-Agency Special Emphasis Patrol - Lincoln County

Fish and Wildlife Troopers participated in a multi-agency special emphasis patrol hosted by the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office and the Oregon State Marine Board. Participating agencies included Lincoln County, Klamath County, Linn County, Clackamas County and Lane County. Over the three day period, The Troopers conducted boat patrols on the Yaquina River, Siletz River, and Alsea Bay, and contacted 127 anglers and crabbers. Citations were issued for **No Valid Angling Tag in Possession** and **Possession of Undersized Dungeness Crab**. Warnings were issued for **No Valid Electronic License/Tag in Possession** and **Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Card**. Several boat safety inspections were done and boating related citations were issued throughout the weekend by the Troopers and Deputies.



# SHELLFISH & ANGLING



## Angling Violations on Big Creek

An Astoria Sergeant received a call from a local landowner regarding a suspicious vehicle parked on ODFW property on Big Creek, which is currently closed to angling. Two men were observed attempting to snag salmon a short way down the trail. Approximately an hour later one of the subjects returned to the vehicle without any fish or angling gear. When he was contacted he denied angling and said he was there alone. The subject was confronted in regards to angling rods in his vehicle and admitted he was angling, and that his angling license was suspended, but maintained that he was alone. He eventually admitted there was a second subject still on the creek and that he had a Chinook salmon hidden down the trail. A consent search of the vehicle turned up a second Chinook salmon filleted in a grocery bag in the trunk. When the second subject was contacted he threw his angling rod in the brush and denied having angled or having any fish. He eventually admitted that he had been angling and his angling license was also suspended. He also said he had two Coho salmon, which he retrieved from a hiding spot in the brush. A search of the area turned up another Coho salmon and a small trout. Both subjects are well known violators from previous criminal fish and wildlife cases, and each was cited and released for **Angling While Suspended** and **Unlawful Take of Salmon: Closed Season**. Additional charges were referred to the District Attorney. Three Coho, two Chinook, a trout, and two angling rods were seized.

## Subject Cited for No Guide's License

A Coos Bay Sergeant investigated a subject providing salmon guide services on the Lower Rogue River. The OSP Special Investigation Unit (SIU) provided assistance on the investigation. The subject was ultimately cited for **No Guide's License** and the altered 2022 Guide Stickers on his fishing boat were seized.

## Overnight Float Patrol - Deschutes River

Fish and Wildlife Troopers covered 39 miles on an overnight enforcement float trip on the lower Deschutes River. Troopers conducted 37 angler checks, seven guide checks, 14 boat checks and 14 boater pass checks. Three citations were issued: one for **No Harvest Card** and two for **No Electronic License On Person**. Six warnings were also given for a variety of game violations and boater pass issues.

## Willamette River Angler Checks

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Sergeant was conducting angling checks on the Willamette River when he encountered a subject who he recognized from two prior enforcement contacts. The subject admitted to having suspended angling privileges. In addition to his angling privileges being suspended he also had an active arrest warrant for **Probation Violation: Wildlife Offense** from one of the Sergeant's prior interactions with the subject. The subject was cited criminally for **Angling While Suspended**, and per the Linn County Jail, cited in lieu of custody for the arrest warrant. Two fishing rods were seized as evidence.

## Umpqua River Boat Patrol

Roseburg and Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol on the lower Umpqua River. The first boat contacted stated they had one Chinook on board however, the fish was actually a large Coho. The subject was cited for **Unlawful Take Non Fin-Clipped Coho**, and the fish was seized. Later during the patrol another subject was checked who did not have a 2022 Angling Harvest Tag, although he had stated it was on ELS. The Troopers checked ODFW files confirming that he had not purchased an angling tag in 2022 and he was cited for the violation.





# SHELLFISH & ANGLING



## Evening Boat Patrol Nets Multiple Violations

Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a late evening boat patrol on the Columbia River upriver from Chinook Landing focusing on salmon anglers and the last day of Columbia River sturgeon retention. During the boat patrol, many angling related violations were encountered and compliance was extremely poor. Eight of the nine boats contacted were in violation of numerous angling offenses, including: **Take/Possession of Oversized Sturgeon, Take/Possession of Chinook Salmon, No Combined Angling Harvest Tag, No Resident Angling License, Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Card, Angling Closed Area: Below Deadline, Angling Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks, and Angling Prohibited Hours.** A Chinook salmon and an oversized white Sturgeon were seized as evidence and later donated to charity.

## OSP/Hood River County Joint Patrol

On the Columbia River, in front of the Hood River and Big White Salmon River, a Fish and Wildlife Trooper from The Dalles performed a joint boat patrol with a Hood River County Marine Deputy. Together they checked boating safety/equipment, registration, and anglers. Several boats/anglers were contacted during the patrol. Two citations were issued for **Failure To Immediately Validate Harvest Cards** and two warnings were issued for **Angling Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks.**

## Columbia River Sturgeon Opener

The North Valley Fish and Wildlife Team worked the Columbia River sturgeon retention opener. A North Plains Trooper conducted a shore patrol and checked several anglers and several legal sturgeon. McMinnville Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol checking over 100 anglers. Multiple warnings and citations were issued for **Retention of Undersized Sturgeon, No Combined Angling Tag, Fail to Immediately Validate, and Angle with More Than One Line/Rod.** Two undersized sturgeon were seized and were able to be released back to the river. Portland Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol and contacted approximately 73 anglers. The Troopers observed a subject on a boat reeling in a sturgeon. As the sturgeon got to the boat, Troopers watched the angler gaff the sturgeon several times before landing it. Troopers contacted the angler who admitted to having three sturgeon on board, none of which were on a tag. Troopers asked the subject to measure the sturgeon for them. The subject measured one sturgeon at 42 inches. When the Troopers informed the angler that the retention limit was between 44 inches and 50 inches the subject quickly kicked the sturgeon overboard and it sunk to the bottom of the river. Another sturgeon measured out to 51.5 inches, which was also outside the retention limit. One subject was issued a citation for **Take/Possession of Oversized Sturgeon and Failure to Immediately Validate.** The other subject was issued a citation for **Gaffing a Sturgeon, Take/Possession of Under-sized Sturgeon and Failure to Immediately Validate.** The oversized sturgeon was seized and donated to charity.

## Boat Captain Attempts to Hide Wild Coho

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to the Hammond boat basin for a boat that had brought in an un-clipped Coho salmon. When the ODFW fish checker had asked to inspect the catch the captain of the boat had asked if they could do it up at the processor that is located near the ramp. The ODFW employee agreed to this, but as he walked up to the processor he saw the captain slide the fish into a trash can. When he asked to inspect the fish the captain picked it up in a manner to hide the adipose fin. Ultimately the captain allowed the fish to be fully inspected. While the Trooper was speaking to the fish checker the captain drove back to the area and came over and admitted his mistake. He said the fish had been kept accidentally by one of his less experienced anglers and he hadn't known until he took it out of the bag and put it on the table at the processor. He was cited for **Unlawful Take Coho Salmon** and the fish was donated to the local food bank.



# 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 \*OSP(677)

[TIP@OSP.oregon.gov](mailto:TIP@OSP.oregon.gov)

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.”**



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

For information, please visit our website at:

[www.osptrooper.com](http://www.osptrooper.com)

Questions? Please call 503-378-4474  
or email [ospTROOPER@osp.oregon.gov](mailto:ospTROOPER@osp.oregon.gov)

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