



OREGON STATE POLICE FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION





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*On the cover:
2022 Fish and Wildlife Team of the Year*

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Sergeant Helps Construct Life Jacket Kiosk

A John Day Fish and Wildlife Sergeant has been working with the Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) for over a year on the planning and installation of a Life Jacket Loaner Kiosk and sign at Magone Lake. This was based on consistent lower compliance with life jacket use. In the spring of 2023, a local high school student from Grant Union High adopted the Life Jacket Kiosk for his senior project. After continued planning with the US Forest Service (USFS) and assistance with sign material from ODFW, the life jacket kiosk installation was completed on August 14th at the day use area of the lake. Multiple lake users commented during the installation how appreciative they were with having the life jacket kiosk available and how much they felt it was needed.

The Blue Mountain Eagle newspaper interviewed the high school student and Sergeant about the project:

[Free loaner life jackets at Magone Lake, courtesy of Grant Union graduate](#)



Trooper Speaks at Lions Club - McMinnville

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Trooper and K-9 Buck traveled to McMinnville where they spoke with members of the local Lions Club. The Trooper discussed the Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division and the K-9 program. Topics covered poaching in Oregon and how the K-9 program is utilized to assist in solving such cases. Senior Trooper Wolcott answered many questions from the group and conducted a wildlife detection demo.

Hunters Education Field Day - Hood River

Fish and Wildlife and Patrol Troopers assisted with a field day for hunters education at the Hood River Gun Club. Troopers spent the day talking about ethics regarding fish and wildlife laws, working the live fire range, scenarios and interacting with the 21 students in attendance and their parents. Troopers received positive comments on the class.



Troopers Teach at American Legion Academy

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Fish and Wildlife Troopers taught a section of Fish and Wildlife Enforcement at the American Legion law enforcement academy, which was held at Camp Rilea. The 15-18 year old students participated in the academy for one week and got an introduction to different aspects of law enforcement. The Fish and Wildlife section included an introductory section in the classroom and then a practical section where two different scenarios were demonstrated by the Troopers as the students watched. The students were instructed how Fish and Wildlife Troopers operate and the difference in an administrative check and a stop. The scenarios were well received by the students who asked many questions throughout and were very engaged in the practical portion.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Oregon Wildlife Foundation Annual Event

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Trooper and K-9 Buck traveled to Sauvie Island for Oregon Wildlife Foundation's annual Across the Arches event. The Trooper spoke with many of the attendees who were able to interact with K-9 Buck. The Trooper discussed the Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division and the K-9 program. Topics covered included poaching in Oregon and how the K-9 program is utilized to assist in solving such cases.



Troopers Assist at Wasco County Fair and Rodeo

Fish and Wildlife Troopers from The Dalles assisted Patrol Troopers and the Wasco County Sheriff's Office for multiple late-night patrols at the Wasco County Fair and Rodeo in Tygh Valley, OR. Troopers provided supplemental coverage and back-up on the grounds for any incidents that came up. Areas of coverage included the camp area, parking lots, beer garden, rodeo contestants staging area, rodeo grounds and arena, entrance gates and the vendor area. Saturday evening was reported to be one of the busiest days the fair board could ever remember. For the most part patrons and fairgoers behaved themselves with only minor issues. Fairgoers were very happy to have so many law enforcement personnel around.

Trooper Speaks at Assisted Living Center

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Trooper and K-9 Buck traveled to Salem where they spoke at an assisted living establishment. The Trooper discussed the Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division and the K-9 program. Topics covered included poaching in Oregon and how the K-9 program is utilized to assist in solving such cases. The Trooper answered many questions from the group and conducted a wildlife detection demo.

Trooper Interviewed on Harney County Live

A Burns Fish and Wildlife Trooper was a guest on the local Burns/Hines Radio Station KZHC 92.7 Harney County Live for a half hour segment with the host of the station. The host had emailed the Trooper requesting an interview before the Big Game seasons started in the local area. Numerous topics were discussed with an emphasis on hunters checking their tags to make sure they have the proper tags and are hunting in the correct unit. The host was thankful for OSP's participation with the broadcast, and asked the Trooper to come back this winter to give a recap of the 2023 Big Game Seasons. The interview can be found here: <https://omny.fm/shows/harney-county-live-podcast/state-trooper-dean-trent-osp-fish-and-wildlife>.

Hunters Education Field Day - John Day

A John Day Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted with a hunter's education field day held at Bear Creek range near John Day. There were 17 students who attended the field day which consisted of testing, live fire, and a hunter's trail walk. The Trooper assisted with the trail walk which presented different hunting scenarios depicting shoot/no shoot and ethics, and concluded with a mock license check by the Trooper. All students did well, and several questions were answered concerning hunting regulations.

2022 F&W TEAM OF THE YEAR



OSP is proud to announce the Southeast Team as our Fish and Wildlife Division Team of the Year for 2022. The team is comprised of members assigned to the Baker City Worksite and the Ontario Area Command; and is led by Sergeant First Class Isaac Cyr. The team members are: Trooper Dakotah Keys, Senior Trooper Casey Hunter, Senior Trooper Anthony Spencer, and Senior Trooper Brad Duncan.

The team is responsible for patrolling portions of eight Wildlife Management Units in their respective areas, totaling over 13,000 square miles. The Southeast Fish and Wildlife Team demonstrated their dedication to protecting Oregon's citizens and natural resources throughout the year. In 2022, SE Team Troopers collaborated with partner agencies and other OSP Fish and Wildlife Teams to address various fish, wildlife, environmental, and general law issues. They also demonstrated leadership through mentoring and educational events with local youth/community groups, as well as agency trainings. In their off duty time, SE Team Troopers continued to make positive impacts on their communities; by running a high school weight lifting program and coaching several youth sports teams.

When asked about his team, Sergeant First Class Isaac Cyr said, "I would like to thank the Troopers of the Southeast Fish and Wildlife Team for their motivation and dedication to protecting and preserving Oregon's natural resources."

Please join us in congratulating the Southeast Team for their outstanding work in 2022!

GENERAL LAW & RESCUES



Owl Rescued from Fence

A Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Trooper responded to a report of an owl stuck in a fence. The owl had its leg stuck in chicken wire. The owl was cut free and was able to fly away.

Subject Warned for Feeding Fawn

A Portland Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a complaint of a fawn in captivity in Estacada. Upon investigation the fawn had not been seen with its mother recently and was free to come and go at subject's property. The subject admitted to feeding the fawn but not holding it captive. The subject was educated about holding wildlife in captivity without a permit and issued a warning. Subsequent follow-up showed the subject was in compliance.

Wounded Pelican Taken to Rehab Facility

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Sergeant responded to a report of a wounded pelican on the beach in Lincoln City. He was able to locate the pelican and notified Chintimini Wildlife Center in Corvallis. Chintimini staff responded and were able to catch the pelican and take it to their facility for rehabilitation.

DUI Driver Nearly Hits Trooper

A La Pine Fish and Wildlife Trooper was parked in a turnout along the highway on South Century Drive when a vehicle went out of control at a high rate of speed and nearly struck the Trooper's parked patrol vehicle. The operator was stopped and eventually arrested for **Reckless Driving** and **Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUII)**. A breath test revealed the subject had a blood alcohol level of .30%.



Elk Relocated from Ft. Stevens Campground

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted ODFW biologists with tranquilizing and removing an unruly cow elk from the Fort Stevens State Park campground. Over a significant period of time the cow had gotten increasingly aggressive in raiding campsites for food. When OSP and ODFW arrived, the cow was actively ransacking a campsite and gorging itself on marshmallows. The area was cleared and ODFW successfully administered a tranquilizer dart. The cow was loaded into a trailer for relocation. ODFW and OSP were assisted by State Parks staff.

RV Fire - Gearhart

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to an RV that had caught fire on Hwy 101 north of Gearhart. OSP response was requested after ODOT reported the owner of the RV was attempting to walk away from the scene. Upon arrival, the fire had spread into the nearby brush causing the highway to be shut down. After interviewing the subject, he was found to have been living in the RV nearby and stated the engine bay had caught fire while traveling down the highway. Eventually the fire was contained and the highway was reopened without further incident.



WILDLIFE & ENVIRONMENT



Subject Self-Reports Taking Spike Elk

A Burns Fish and Wildlife Trooper was contacted by ODFW regarding a subject who self-reported shooting a spike bull elk by accident during his hunt. The Trooper responded to the subject's camp in the Malheur River Unit and interviewed him about what happened. The spike bull elk only had about five inch tall horns that were still in velvet and it was hard for the subject to see them combined with the elk's ears. The subject was issued a warning for **Unlawful Take/Possession Spike Elk**, and for **No Electronic Angling License in Possession**. The meat was taken to the local meat market for processing and donation.

Polk County Buck Deer Investigation Concludes

A Salem Fish and Wildlife Trooper completed a long-term investigation into the killing of a large three-point buck out of season on a landowner's property in rural Polk County in the fall of 2022. In late November 2022, a landowner reported a known suspect who killed a buck on his property out of season. While preparing to execute a search warrant on the suspects residence, the suspect moved out of the residence. No new addresses were discovered for the suspect for months. In the spring of 2023, the Salem/Albany Fish and Wildlife team executed a seizure warrant for the suspects cell phone and cellular trail camera when the suspect arrived to pick up his tree stand and ground blind from the landowner's property. Following the seizure warrant the suspect agreed to meet a Trooper at the Salem Area Command where he admitted to hunting closed season and killing the large three-point buck out of season. The Trooper seized the buck head and attached antlers and the last remaining package of deer meat. Later when analyzing the cell phone, numerous incriminating statements were discovered from within the cell phone. The suspect was later issued criminal citations for **Hunting Closed Season** and **Take/Possession Buck Deer Closed Season**.

Subject Accidentally Shoots Quail

Bend and La Pine Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted follow up on a reported hunting of quail out of season. A neighbor reported seeing the suspect shoot the quail, one of which died on his property, with a high-powered pellet gun. The neighbor also stated that suspect was shooting chipmunks. During the interview with the suspect, he stated that he was shooting chipmunks and that any quail shot was by mistake. The suspect was reminded of the cardinal safety rules and issued a citation for **Hunting Closed Season**.

Illegal Take of Cougar

A Baker City Fish and Wildlife Trooper received an anonymous TIP regarding a believed illegal take of a cougar. The Trooper identified three suspects and confirmed with ODFW, one of the suspects checked in a cougar a few days after the reported illegal take. Troopers conducted an investigation, and obtained the following information: a father and son (age 13) had shot a cougar from/upon Sunny Dell Lane in Halfway. The cougar was shot after legal hunting hours with the aid of artificial lights. The son used a semi-automatic rifle with the capacity to hold twenty rounds of ammunition. The father and son admitted to the above illegal activity. The father was cited and released for **Hunting with Artificial Light** and **Aiding/Counseling in a Wildlife Offense**. Two rifles and the cougar were seized as evidence.



PRONGHORN ANTELOPE SEASON



Juniper Unit Patrol

A John Day Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Burns Fish and Wildlife Trooper patrolled the Juniper unit on opening day of antelope season. About 30 contacts were made and six antelope bucks were checked. Troopers were pleased to note that only two very minor tag violations were observed. One of the lucky hunters was a 12-year-old girl on her first big game hunt. She was proud to tell Troopers she made a one shot kill at 465 yards to harvest her first big game animal and it was a nice pronghorn buck! The young hunter (pictured above) was fully in compliance wearing her hunter orange hat, properly validated her electronic tag, and had a proper tag on the animal.

Whitehorse Antelope Season

An Ontario Fish and Wildlife Trooper worked the opening weekend of the Whitehorse Antelope season. While patrolling Whitehorse Road, the Trooper observed a vehicle approximately 100 yards out in the sagebrush and tumbleweeds on BLM Land. Just north of this location was a wilderness study area placard posted on a hillside which was visible to north and southbound traffic. A subject was contacted and investigation revealed that he was in the process of skinning a pronghorn buck. Upon inspection of his tag, it was discovered that approximately one hour's time had elapsed since the time of harvest and the tag was not signed or dated and had not been validated. The subject was cited for **Fail to Immediately Validate Big Game Tag** and was warned for **Violation of the Access and Habitat Area**.

Trooper Locates Man Hunting in Wrong Unit

A Burns Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a report by phone from a concerned citizen that had contacted a subject in the Juniper Unit near Moon Reservoir. The subject told the citizen that he had been hunting antelope the last five days and was waiting for a buck and a couple of does to leave the private land. The subject told him that he had a Harney Basin antelope tag. The Juniper Unit was not open for antelope and is considered one of the top trophy antelope units. The Trooper was called out in attempt to locate the subject before he unlawfully killed a buck. The Trooper located the subject as he was going back out to hunt and found the man was using ELS and did not know how to use the system. The Trooper assisted him in logging into ELS and showed him how to locate his tag, which was a Harney Basin doe antelope tag that didn't open until September. The subject was very embarrassed and apologetic and thought his season opened in August. He was very appreciative for the Trooper locating him before he made a costly mistake. He was warned for **Hunting with No Valid Tag** and **Hunting Prohibited Area**.

Subject Self-Reports Shooting Two Antelope

A Burns Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to an Antelope hunter's location in the Malheur River unit after the hunter self-reported shooting two Antelope bucks. The subject was approximately 1.7 miles from his truck and the Trooper hiked out on foot to help him salvage the meat from both bucks. The subject explained that he shot the first buck and did not realize it had fallen down, and he shot another one approximately sixty yards away thinking it was the same buck. The Trooper and the subject looked at the elevated spot where the subject shot from, and where the antelope were standing during the shot. The Trooper advised the subject that at only 125 yards, with an elevated position, that he should have been able to see the first buck down had he taken just a few seconds to follow up on his first shot. The subject agreed with the Trooper and realized that he clearly should have seen the first buck down in the sparse low grass habitat, given his elevated position. The Trooper and the subject each packed out one of the bucks the 1.7 miles back to the trucks. The subject was later issued a violation citation for **Exceeding the Bag Limit: Game Animal**. The meat from the second buck was taken to the local meat market for processing and donation. The subject later contacted the Trooper and thanked him for helping him pack the antelope out and for treating him fairly.

PRONGHORN ANTELOPE SEASON



High Desert Patrols

The South-Central Team and South Valley Team members took to the high desert to patrol the pronghorn antelope season with the assistance from the Southwest Region Airplane. A large number of contacts were made and many miles patrolled on ATVs. However, a strong weather system from Hurricane Hilary arrived and most hunters quickly left the area.

Pilot Spots Fires While Looking for Hunters

A Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted a flight with the SW region pilot. The flight was to scout for antelope hunters and blinds before the start of the seasons. Numerous blinds were located. While flying over a very remote area in southern Lake County, four small fires were observed, likely caused by lightning. The information was forwarded to Lakeview Interagency Fire Center. Radio contact was also made with fire resources on the ground to ensure that the information was relayed.

Warner Unit Patrol

Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a patrol in the Warner Unit for archery antelope season. Many hunters and hunting camps were contacted. Three harvested antelope were checked and one subject was warned for **Fail to Attach Tag in Plain Sight**.

Troopers Team Up for Multi-Unit Patrols

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Sergeant, along with several Troopers from other offices, assisted the Lakeview OSP Office with patrolling the Warner, Beatys Butte, and Juniper hunt units for antelope seasons. One subject was warned for **Fail to Attach Tag in Plain Sight**. Other Troopers issued similar warnings for ELS and tagging issues. Several antelope were checked and overall compliance was high.

Subject Takes Antelope in Wrong Unit

A Lakeview Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted the driver of a vehicle headed out of the woods. During the conversation, he learned that the subject's son had taken an antelope two days prior. It was clear from the description that the antelope had been taken in the Interstate Unit, not the Silver Lake Unit where the tag was issued. The subject had already left with the antelope. The Trooper caught up to the subject who had pulled over when he got a message from his father. The subject had never hunted there and was unaware that he had been in the Interstate Unit, even though he was using OnX maps on his phone. He was cited for **Unlawful Take/Possession Antelope**. The antelope was seized and donated to charity.



UTV and Aircraft Patrols

A Springfield Lieutenant, Sergeant and Trooper worked in various units during the 2023 any legal weapon pronghorn antelope season. While patrolling they utilized UTVs and aircraft to locate numerous hunters in the field. During their patrols one citation was issued for **Failure to Immediately Validate a Big Game Tag**. The subject admitted four hours had passed, he was going home and he had not validated his tag. He explained to the Troopers he had not ensured he could use his electronic tag properly and did not know his password to access the system. He was assisted in recovering the information. Other warnings were issued to subjects for improper validations and **Aiding in a Wildlife Offense**.

MARINE FISHERIES TEAM



South Coast Boat Patrol

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper patrolled the ocean in Gold Beach and Brookings, utilizing a small police craft. Numerous groundfish, halibut, and salmon anglers were contacted. The following citations were issued: **Take Marine Fish Closed Season x2, Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Fish, No Combined Angling Harvest Card, No Resident Angling License, and Angling Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks.** Numerous warnings were also issued for various violations. Eight Rockfish were seized.

Mid-Coast Ocean Patrol

Mid-Coast Fish and Wildlife Team members conducted an ocean patrol out of Newport. Anglers were checked on the ocean out from Newport to Depoe Bay. Multiple citations were written for failure to validate harvest card, the use of treble hooks, and possession of two undersized coho. During this patrol Troopers approached a recreational fishing boat and the two subjects on board immediately stood up and started to move fishing gear around. One of the subjects went down into the cabin of the boat. A Trooper requested permission to board the boat. When the Trooper boarded the boat, he asked if the two had any fish on board. The two stated they had only one coho salmon. The Trooper asked if there were any other fish on board and the two told him no. The Trooper requested to search the boat for other fish. The two subjects consented to the search and the Trooper discovered a sunfish in a garbage bag in the sink of the cabin. The Trooper questioned the subjects about the sunfish and asked if any other fish were on board, one of the subjects eventually admitted there were two salmon in the toilet in the cabin of the boat. The subject showed the Trooper two undersized 13" and 15" coho salmon and was cited for **Take/Possession of Undersized Coho.**

Buoy 10 Patrol with CCSO

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted a Columbia River boat patrol with Clatsop County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) during the Buoy 10 salmon fishery. Multiple boaters and anglers were contacted and multiple warnings and citations were issued for **Angling Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks** and **No Valid License/Tag in Possession.** On one contact on the Columbia River a subject was observed cleaning a very small fish off the transom of his boat. Upon contact two adults and two juveniles stated they had caught a coho and a Chinook while angling in the ocean. Upon inspection the subjects were actually in possession of an undersized Chinook and a legal sized Chinook. No fish were tagged and 3 of the 4 deployed fishing rods were using barbed hooks. Citations were issued for **Angling Prohibited Method: barbed hooks** and **Take/Possession of Undersized Chinook.** The undersized Chinook was seized and donated to Loaves and Fishes in Astoria.

Commercial Crab Captain Exceeds Quota

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper reviewed the commercial crab landings in the ODFW system for the commercial boats which landed crab in Newport. During the review of the landings the Trooper discovered one boat had gone over their weekly limit of 1,200 lbs of Dungeness crab. The fishing vessel had landed 1,411 lbs of Dungeness crab. The Trooper contacted the captain of the fishing vessel and after an interview the captain admitted to knowing he was over at the time of landing and had been expecting to hear from OSP. During the conversation with the captain, it was estimated the captain had gone over his weekly quota by approximately 124 crab. The captain was cited for **Exceeding 1,200 lb Summer Landing Limit for Commercial Dungeness Crab.**

Lower Columbia River Boat Patrol

Astoria Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a lower Columbia River zodiac boat patrol from Buoy 10 to Tongue Point. They contacted 18 boats (37 anglers) and issued seven citations for angling violations that included: **Angling Prohibited Method: Two Poles, Angling Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks,** and **Angling Closed Area: Young's Bay Control Zone.** In addition, multiple other verbal warnings were given to subjects on boats (Including two guides) angling in the Young's Bay Control Zone. This area continues to see subjects consistently fishing south of the boundary during afternoon flood tides. Fishing success continued to be extremely poor for the average angler and very few keeper Chinook were being caught.

MARINE FISHERIES TEAM



Steelhead Seized and Donated

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted angler checks at the Hammond Marina during the Buoy 10 fishery. Over 30 anglers were checked. While working with ODFW fish checkers, the Trooper was alerted to one subject who had inadvertently retained a large steelhead. The Trooper inspected the subject's tag and catch and found he was in possession of a 34" steelhead. The subject stated he thought it was a Chinook. The subject was ultimately issued a citation for **Take/Possession of Fish Closed Season: Columbia River Steelhead**. The steelhead was seized and donated to Loaves and Fishes in Astoria.

Skipper Cited for Unloading Pots After Closure

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper observed a fishing vessel in Port Orford unloading a load of crab pots. The season ended at midnight on August 14th and all gear had to be out of the water at that time. The skipper stated he couldn't find a crew and he thought he had a grace period after the season ended. After unloading the 80 crab pots, he was issued a citation for the offense and informed of the regulations.

South Beach Marina Evening Patrol

Newport Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted an evening patrol of South Beach Marina and the Newport Fishing Pier. During the patrol the Troopers contacted several anglers and crabbers. Multiple citations were written for **No Shellfish License, Exceeding Three Crab Pots, and Failure to Tag Coho Salmon**.

Joint Agency Columbia River Patrol

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted a multi-agency boat patrol with the US Coast Guard (USCG) and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), focusing on guided boat trips in both the Columbia River and the Ocean. Over a dozen guide boats were inspected and multiple citations and warnings were issued for **Angling Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks, Fail to Immediately Validate Tag, and Angling Closed Area: Columbia River Control Zone**.

Subject Attempts to Evade Fish Checker

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to a call from an ODFW fish checker who told the Trooper she observed a boat approach the docks in Depoe Bay, but when they realized someone from ODFW was there they left the dock. The ODFW employee told the Trooper they sat away from the docks and were on their phones for approximately a half hour. The Trooper was in the area and told the ODFW employee to walk away from the docks and keep an eye on the boat. When she did the boat came to the docks. The Trooper arrived as the subjects were pulling the boat from the water. After a check of the two subjects' licenses the Trooper observed the two had non-resident three-day licenses that were purchased that day. After questioning the subjects, the Trooper accessed the ODFW ELS system and discovered the two had purchased their licenses after they arrived at the docks. The Trooper conducted a consent search of the boat and discovered the two had 24 Dungeness crab, one of which was undersized. The Trooper also discovered a starfish. The two subjects were cited for **No Non-Resident Shellfish License** and warned for the undersized crab and starfish.

Commercial Crab Overage

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper followed up on a commercial crab overage for the summer crab fishery. A fishing vessel landed 1,703 lbs of crab on two offloads during the same week period. The skipper was contacted and admitted to making both landings. He thought his first landing was on Sunday of the prior week. He was issued a citation for the offense and the dealer was contacted regarding the overage and need for an amended fish ticket.

SHELLFISH & ANGLING



Trooper Seizes 112 Excess Clams from Group

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper checked clambers in Charleston. A female subject was observed carrying a large bag of clams back to her vehicle, which she dumped inside and returned to her group of three other clambers. The group dug clams for a while longer before the first subject took another load of clams back to her van, at which point, she moved it to a parking area farther away from the clam beds. The group was observed until they all returned to the parking area. A male subject was last to return, and when he was contacted he was carrying one gaper clam. When asked how they did, he said he only got one clam, and showed off the gaper. When the male was told he and his group had been observed for some time, he retrieved one bucket of clams from the van. After further questioning he opened an ice chest in the back of the van, which also contained clams. The group was found in possession of a total of 192 assorted bay clams, 112 clams over their collective limits. Each subject was cited for **Exceeding Daily Limit of Clams**. The excess clams were seized and donated to charity.

Subject Cited for Multiple Violations

Fish and Wildlife Troopers from The Dalles received multiple reports that a subject had posted a salmon for sale on a local online forum. A Trooper contacted the subject and was told he received several calls that selling sport caught fish was illegal and took the posts down. He said he did not sell any portions of the fish. The Trooper checked his angling license and harvest card and noticed the fish was recorded on the card an hour after he had posted it for sale. He was cited for **Failure to Immediately Validate Harvest Card** and warned for the attempted unlawful sale. The subject was confused on multiple fishing regulations regarding the Deschutes fishery and general angling regulations. The Trooper answered all his questions and gave him his contact information for future questions.

Odell Lake Boat Patrol

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Oakridge Trooper conducted a boat patrol on Odell Lake. During the patrol, 17 boats and 38 anglers were contacted. Three citations were issued for **No Two-Rod Validation**. Four warnings were issued for **No Electronic Angling License in Possession** and two boat violation warnings were issued for **ID Number Forward Half of Boat** and **No Fire Extinguisher**.

Coos River Boat Patrol

Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol on the Coos River checking salmon anglers. Catch rates were low, along with compliance. One subject was contacted who left his paper tag at home in Brookings, and had retained a Chinook salmon. The subject was cited for **No Valid License/Tag in Possession** and warned for **Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Tag**. Another subject was contacted who had knowingly not purchased a tag for 2023 but chose to fish anyway; the subject was cited for **No Combined Angling Tag**. Two subjects were contacted in a 14 foot boat, and did not have any life jackets on board. Wind waves made the situation quite hazardous, so their voyage was terminated and they were followed back to the boat ramp. The boat owner was cited for **Inadequate Number of PFDs**. One subject admitted to not having his paper license or tag, and chose to fish anyway; the subject was cited for **No Valid License/Tag in Possession**. Additionally, warnings were issued for **No Valid License/Tag in Possession (x3)**, and **No Combined Angling Tag (x2)**.

Coho Salmon Seized and Donated

Roseburg Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol on the lower Umpqua River between Scottsburg and Reedsport. They performed 11 boat inspections and gave warnings for life jacket accessibility and registration sticker placement. A total of 24 anglers were checked and one subject was cited for **Unlawful Take of Non Fin-clipped Coho Salmon**. It was seized and donated to the Roseburg Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).



SHELLFISH & ANGLING



Kids in the Know on Life Jacket Safety

A John Day Fish and Wildlife Sergeant was patrolling Magone Lake and was surrounded by a group of kids wanting to show off their crayfish catch. The Sergeant was asked to judge who had the largest crayfish and then had a discussion with the youth about the importance of using life jackets. They said they knew to wear them because they were camping at Magone Lake last year and saw Troopers give tickets to people for not wearing them. OSP Junior Trooper stickers were handed out and the kids posed for a photo.

Subjects Found with Undersized and Female Crab

Newport Fish and Wildlife Troopers received a report of two subjects retaining undersized and female Dungeness crab in the Yaquina Bay. Troopers located the subjects based on description. Initially, they denied doing any crabbing. When a Trooper explained that someone reported them they admitted to crabbing for about an hour. One of the subjects admitted to having female crab. Two coolers in the subject's vehicle contained 31 Dungeness crab with only three of the 31 being legal crab. The two subjects were issued citations for **Take/Possession Female Dungeness Crab, Take/Possession Undersized Dungeness Crab, and Exceeding Daily Limit of Dungeness Crab**. The crab were returned to the bay.

Couple Exceeds Limit of Rockfish

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper completed an investigation where two subjects exceeded their combined daily limit of rockfish. The husband and wife pair were contacted by an ODFW Port Sampler after returning to port in Winchester Bay, and were found in possession of 13 rockfish, three over their combined limits. These same subjects were warned for the unlawful retention of a Quillback rockfish in June. The wife took responsibility for the violation and she was issued a citation for **Exceeding Daily Limit of Fish**. The extra fish were donated to charity.

Troopers Seize Eight Rockfish

Newport Fish and Wildlife Troopers responded to the report of a boat that had exceeded the daily limit of rockfish. Upon contact, the captain said he asked someone and must have misheard him. They kept 18 rockfish, exceeding the daily limit of five each by eight fish. The fish were seized and donated to the senior center. The captain was issued a citation for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Rockfish**.

Trask River Salmon Snagger Caught

While checking salmon anglers on the Trask River, a Tillamook Fish and Wildlife Trooper watched a subject cast a jig over the backs of salmon who were bunched up in shallower water. The subject would wait for the jig to reach bottom and begin jerking his rod tip up attempting to snag salmon. The subject soon hooked a salmon and the Trooper made contact. After the salmon was landed the Trooper could clearly see the jig's hook was in the Salmon's back. The subject was cited for **Angling Prohibited Method: Snagging Salmon**. The fish was released in the river.

Hundreds of Shore Crab Seized - Garibaldi

North Coast Fish and Wildlife Team members conducted a plain clothes saturation clam patrol of the Garibaldi clamming area. Multiple subjects were contacted and multiple citations were issued for **Possession of Falsely Applied for License, Take/Possession Undersized Dungeness Crab, Possession of Mutilated Crab, and Exceeding Daily Bag Limit of Clams: Bay Clams and Shore Crab**. Hundreds of shore crab were seized along with multiple undersized Dungeness crab, and bay clams. All were released safely back into Tillamook Bay.



SHELLFISH & ANGLING



Late Night Sturgeon Poacher Caught

St. Helens and Salem Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a late night patrol of the Sauvie Island Wildlife Area. At around 2:30 am Troopers were watching a group of people fish at the confluence of the Gilbert River and Sturgeon Lake. Sturgeon angling/retention is prohibited in the Gilbert River and the Sauvie Island Wildlife area is closed from 10:00 pm to 4:00 am. Troopers watched an adult male reel in a sturgeon, then a juvenile male shot it in the head with a pellet gun, and the adult male ran it into the bushes and hid it. When confronted the juvenile stated his father told him to shoot it because he wanted to eat it. The adult was issued a criminal citation for **Unlawful Take of Sturgeon** and **Aiding/Counseling in a Wildlife Offense**. He was also issued a violation citation for closure hours and having a campfire. The pellet gun and the sturgeon were seized as evidence. In 2015, this suspect was found guilty for **Unlawful Take of Sturgeon** on the island and was sentenced to a three-year angling suspension from 2016 to 2019.

Subjects Try to Avoid Trooper Contact

A Salem Fish and Wildlife Trooper observed a subject actively fishing at Walling Pond and when he drove towards the subject, a driver in a nearby van honked and signaled for the subject to get in. The subject stepped into the van leaving the fishing pole at the water with the line still deployed. The Trooper contacted the driver of the van and the subject, who adamantly denied fishing. The driver said he owned the fishing pole, and he was just letting the subject use it, even though he knew the subject did not have an angling license. The subject refused to identify himself before having a medical emergency, which was later believed to be drug related. The subject was taken to the hospital by ambulance where he was identified. The subject had two misdemeanor warrants and one felony warrant, all for **Failure to Appear**. He was cited and released on scene for the warrants. Additionally, the subject was issued a citation for **No Resident Angling License**. The driver of the van was issued a citation for **Aiding/Counseling in a Wildlife Offense** and **Fail to Attend Rod/Line**.

Subject Guesses Crab Sizes Incorrectly

A Tillamook Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted a subject on the shores of Netarts Bay and found him to be in possession of five undersized crab. The subject explained he did not have a measuring device and was just guessing at the legal size. The subject presented an Idaho driver's license and had purchased an Oregon resident shellfish license. The subject said he had lived in Oregon for three months. The Trooper explained the required six-month residency requirement and cited the subject for **Possession of Undersized Dungeness Crab** and **Possession of Falsely Applied for Shellfish License**. The crab were released back to the bay.

Crab Thrown into Concrete Pylon - Waldport

While patrolling the Waldport crab docks at about midnight, a Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper observed two male subjects crabbing and throwing crab back into the water more aggressively than necessary. The Trooper was about to make contact with them regarding their technique, when one of them took a crab and overhanded it into a nearby concrete pylon and laugh at how well he aimed. The Trooper saw the impact and heard a cracking sound when it hit. The Trooper introduced himself and the subject stated he had a couple of alcoholic drinks and was frustrated that they were only catching undersized crab, and he had no excuse for throwing the crab at the concrete pylon. The subject was cited for **Failing to Release Shellfish Unharmmed**.





Oregon's fish and wildlife populations depend on us.



Turn in poachers.

Oregon Hunters Association (OHA) Cash Rewards

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

Oregon Wildlife Coalition (OWC) Cash Rewards

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

Mammals
 \$500 Cougar, Bobcat, Beaver (public lands only), Black bears, Bighorn Sheep, Marten, Fisher, Sierra Nevada Red Fox

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

ODFW Preference Points Rewards

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

Oregon Outfitters & Guides Association Cash Rewards

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



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



Oregon State Police Fish & Wildlife Division



We are the Guardians of Oregon's Fish and Wildlife

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



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

For information, please visit our website at:

www.osptrooper.com

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

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