



OREGON STATE POLICE FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION



MONTHLY FIELD REVIEW

FEBRUARY 2025



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*On the cover:
A Fish and Wildlife retro patrol truck at
Molalla Tree Farms in Clackamas County*

SPORTSMEN'S SHOWS



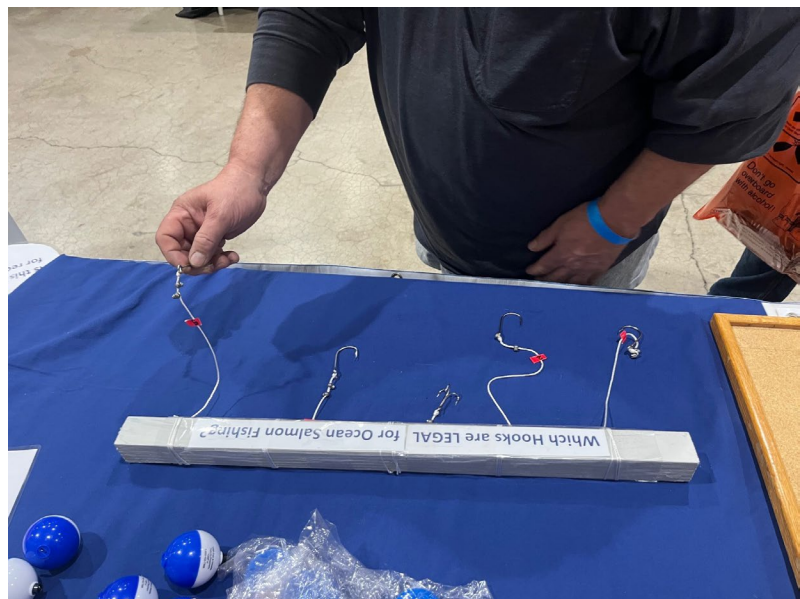
Pacific Northwest Sportsmen's Show

Several Troopers from Northwest Region took turns running the OSP booth at the Pacific Northwest Sportsmen's Show in Portland. This is the largest sportsmen show in the Northwest. Foot traffic was light during the weekday but the show was very busy throughout the weekend. Troopers answered numerous hunting and angling questions, stamped many thousand passport booklets (program sponsored by ODFW), and actively recruited potential applicants. The Trailer of Shame and retro F&W truck were hits at the show and generated much discussion.



Eugene Sportsmen's and Outdoor Show

South Valley Fish and Wildlife Team Members and K-9 Buck attended the Eugene Sportsmen's and Outdoor Recreation Show. The event was a success and Troopers were able to interact with the public in a positive way. The Troopers answered questions and educated the public with regards to the Fish and Wildlife Division and their mission. K-9 Buck, as always, was a show favorite.



Saltwater Sportfishing Show

Marine Fisheries Team Members attended the Saltwater Sportfishing Show in Salem. The show draws recreational ocean anglers through vendors, agency booths and seminars in many ocean fisheries. Troopers focused outreach efforts on recreational crab buoy marking and gear restrictions for ocean salmon.

SPORTSMEN'S SHOWS



Central Oregon Sportsmen's Show

Many Troopers in Central Oregon and East Region attended the Central Oregon Sportsmen's Show for five days. Lots of happy faces were there. The ODFW passport was a great idea and sparked a lot of public to interact with Troopers at the Trailer of Shame. K-9 Scout and his handler were at the show when a lost girl was brought to the booth. K-9 Scout helped calm the lost girl and she was later reunited with her mother.



Douglas County Sportsmen's Show

Fish and Wildlife Members from the Roseburg area manned the Trailer of Shame at the Douglas County Sportsmen's Show. The boy in the above photo caught a fish at the fishing pool across from the OSP booth and excitedly ran over with his parents to show the "animal cops" his big catch.

Willamette Sportsman Show

Fish and Wildlife Troopers from Albany and Springfield and K-9 Buck attended the Willamette Sportsman Show at the Linn County Fairgrounds. The event was a success and Troopers were able to interact with the public in a positive way. The Troopers answered questions and educated the public with regards to the Fish and Wildlife Division and their mission. They also answered various questions regarding wildlife law and gave OSP swag out to the next generation of outdoor sports enthusiasts.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Sergeant Brings Cougar to Elementary School

A John Day Fish and Wildlife Sergeant was contacted by ODFW about a trapper that had self-reported catching a mountain lion in one of his snares in the Murderers Creek Unit. The Sergeant spoke with the trapper and subsequently located the mountain lion that was deceased in the snare. Investigation resulted in finding no trapping violations. The Sergeant, with the help of two citizens, packed the mountain lion to his patrol truck and it was subsequently processed by ODFW. The mountain lion was an adult male weighing 127 pounds. The Sergeant then spoke with a 6th grade teacher at Humbolt Elementary School who was interested in her students being able to see the mountain lion. The Sergeant met with the 6th grade students and other school staff who got to see and examine the mountain lion. The Sergeant answered multiple questions about mountain lions and ended the contact with a game of guessing the weight of the cougar. Guesses ranged from 400 pounds to 150 pounds, with the 6th grade teacher having the closest answer. Several students said they now want to be Fish and Wildlife Troopers!

RCC Student Interviews Sergeant

A Central Point Fish and Wildlife Sergeant met with a Rogue Community College (RCC) student pursuing a degree in Wildlife Management. The day-to-day aspects of an OSP Fish and Wildlife Trooper were discussed. The student was provided contact information for an ODFW biologist for more follow-up concerning threatened and endangered species management. The student plans to join the Rogue Valley Team for a ride along later in the year.

Troopers Attend CCA Meeting

Fish and Wildlife Troopers from The Dalles attended the local Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) chapter meeting as representatives of the Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife. The guest speaker at the meeting was Jeff Whisler, ODFW Columbia River Management.

Boise State University Career Day

Ontario Fish and Wildlife and Patrol Troopers attended a career fair day at Boise State University. The Troopers were well received at the event and fielded lots of questions from students, staff members and prospective future hires.

Trooper Assists with Salmon Lesson

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper from The Dalles assisted with a salmon anatomy and dissection lesson for a 3rd grade class at a local elementary school. The kids were very excited, though some were slightly grossed out. The Trooper briefly spoke about the duties of a Fish and Wildlife Trooper as well.

Trooper Meets with Potential Recruits

An Ontario Fish and Wildlife Trooper met with a group of four high school Students at Vale High School to discuss how they can prepare to pursue a career as Fish and Wildlife Troopers.

Hunter Education Class - Pilot Rock

A Pendleton Fish and Wildlife Trooper presented at a hunter education class at Pilot Rock Elementary School. During the class six adults and 20 juveniles were present.

Sergeants Attends OHA Meeting

A Central Point Fish and Wildlife Sergeant attended a Jackson County Chapter Oregon Hunters Association (OHA) meeting. Approximately 40 people were in attendance. An update for the 2024 hunting season was provided.

GENERAL LAW & RESCUES



Deer Removed from Truck Drive Line

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Trooper responded to the report of a deer stuck under a parked truck. They arrived and found a yearling doe wedged above the drive line under the truck. The Troopers and truck owner worked together to free the deer by climbing under the truck, dropping a skid plate to free it's front left leg, then raised the rear of the truck allowing the deer to have more wiggle room. Once the deer was freed it wandered off toward a field.



Barred Owl Rescued from Highway 101

A Tillamook Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to mile post 97 on Highway 101 in rural Tillamook County. It was reported that a small owl had been struck by a vehicle and was possibly still alive in the southbound lane of travel. When the Trooper arrived, the injured barred owl was sitting upright near the fog line of the southbound lane. The Trooper picked up the owl and contacted Cascade Raptor Rescue the following morning. The friendly owl was handed over to rescue personnel.



Trooper Cuts Fallen Tree - Highway 66

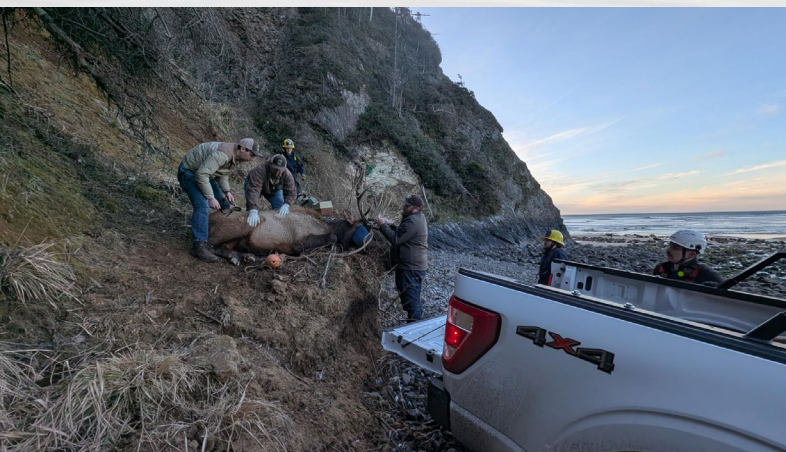
A Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Trooper located a large, downed tree blocking one lane of Highway 66. The tree was cut back further to allow ODOT to plow the lane open.

GENERAL LAW & RESCUES



Elk Untangled from Crab Buoy Line

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Troopers assisted ODFW biologists with the removal of an elk in Arch Cape who had gotten its antlers wrapped in a crab buoy and buoy line. ODFW tranquilized the elk, and it was transported to a safe location where the line was removed from its antlers and it was released back to the wild.



Trooper Locates Elderly Man Stuck in Snow

While patrolling the Elkhorn Wildlife Area a La Grande Fish and Wildlife Trooper located a 73-year-old male who got his car stuck in the snow then got himself stuck in the snow trying to get the car out. The subject was traveling from Pasco, Washington to Kansas City when he exited I-84 onto a gravel road, then attempted to drive on a snowmobile trail. Rescue personnel responded to evaluate the subject after he was removed from the snow. The subject was then escorted to a local truck stop and contact was made with his family.



Injured Owl Taken to Rowena Wildlife Clinic

Fish and Wildlife Troopers from The Dalles responded to the report of an injured owl. The owl was located and appeared to have a broken wing. Troopers were able to capture the owl and take it to Rowena Wildlife Clinic where it underwent successful surgery. The owl will hopefully be back to flying again soon.

Driving Complaint Becomes DUI Investigation

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper from The Dalles assisted on a driving complaint that generated several calls. The suspect vehicle was not able to maintain a single lane and fluctuating speeds of 70-80 mph. It was reported the vehicle had almost crashed several times with the concrete divider. One of the reporting parties had hazard lights going to warn traffic of the dangerous driving behavior. The Trooper located the vehicle and estimated the speeds at 90 mph before contact. The vehicle had a flat tire and was not able to maintain a lane of travel. The Trooper activated emergency lights and sirens and the vehicle failed to yield for several miles. The suspect vehicle appeared to be coming to a stop, then the vehicle ran into the rear of a patrol vehicle and continued driving. The driver was ultimately detained, and was extremely intoxicated, was checked out by medics and refused further care. The driver was arrested for **Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUI), Reckless Driving and Attempted Elude Vehicle**. His medical blood alcohol content (BAC) was .38%.

WILDLIFE & ENVIRONMENT



Eight Canada Geese Seized - Sauvie Island

A St. Helens Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a report from an anonymous source stating a man and his grandson had killed more geese than is allowed while hunting on the west side of Sauvie Island. The subjects were located driving on NW Sauvie Island Road and a traffic stop was conducted for a traffic violation. When questioned about what the pair had been doing today, he stated they had been shooting geese. The man then stated he had not shot at all today and was not hunting but his grandson was. He then changed his story to say he had been hunting and shot three geese, the daily limit for Canada geese, and then changed his story again to claim he had not been hunting. A total of 14 Canada geese were found in the bed of his truck, eight over the daily bag limit for two people. The man was subsequently issued a criminal citation for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Game Birds** and eight geese were seized for donation to charity.

Unlawful Take of Antlerless Elk

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to an illegally harvested cow elk in the Alsea unit. The subject self-reported after killing a cow elk before realizing he had purchased the wrong tag for his hunt. The elk was processed with the help of another Trooper. The subject was issued a warning for **Unlawful Take of Antlerless Elk**. The meat was donated to a local food bank to be distributed to the local community.

Several Cited on Winter Range Patrol

A Pendleton Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Troopers conducted a winter range patrol in the Heppner and Ukiah units. The Baker City OSP Pilot assisted from overhead in the airplane to locate anyone traveling in the National Forest on snowmobiles, tracked UTVs, or wheeled vehicles. A Trooper made 21 contacts, three UTVs, two pickups, and six snowmobilers. One warning was issued for **Operating an ATV on a Highway**. Two Troopers utilized the team's tracked UTV to check the North Fork of the John Day River and Bridge Creek Wildlife Area for cougar hunters. Five cougar hunters were contacted with two warnings for **Fail to Possess Valid Paper Tag**. Later, four snowmobilers were contacted, and two operators were warned for **Operating an Unregistered Snowmobile**.

Subject Self-Reports Killing Cow Elk

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Sergeant responded to a self-reported cow elk kill with no tag. The subject is a brand new hunter and was told by a friend he could participate in any controlled hunt, as an over the counter hunt, due to his status as a disabled veteran. After finding a controlled cow hunt in a subunit of Saddle Mountain for the month of January in the regulations, he called ODFW who walked him through purchasing a controlled hunt application for the 2025 hunt. The subject then went out and shot a cow elk, after which he realized he did not have a tag, only a controlled hunt application. The elk was seized and the very remorseful hunter was warned for **Unlawful Take of Antlerless Elk**. The elk was taken to a local church for donation.

Subject Unlawfully Cuts Wood in Wildlife Area

A John Day Fish and Wildlife Trooper followed up with a subject who had been contacted by ODFW Philip Schneider Wildlife Area staff while cutting firewood inside of the wildlife area closure. The subject had also presented a Malheur National Forest wood permit. This area would require a BLM wood permit or a state wildlife area wood permit. The subject was issued a violation citation for **Unlawful Entry in the Wildlife Area** and warned for **Cut/Transport Special Forest Product**.

WILDLIFE & ENVIRONMENT



Subjects Cited for Multiple Wildlife Crimes

Fish and Wildlife Troopers from The Dalles responded to a report of a truck stuck in the mud (causing damage to a field), with a deceased deer next to it on private property. The investigation showed that the deer had been shot in the head. A bullet was later recovered from the deer. The stuck truck had equipment that was associated with poaching (spotlights and ammo) within plain view inside the truck. During recovery of the truck, three subjects drove past and were contacted. During the investigation, it came to light that a total of five subjects had been involved the night prior. Two of the subjects admitted that they had shot the deer from the roadway at approximately 10 PM the night prior, while using a spotlight. Both subjects were later criminally cited. One rifle was seized with another to be seized later. Criminal charges included **Hunting on Another's Cultivated or Enclosed Land, Hunting Deer Closed Season, Waste of a Game Mammal, Hunting with Artificial Light, and Criminal Mischief II**. Multiple warnings were also issued for **Hunting with the Aid of a Motor Vehicle** and **Hunting Prohibited Area: Public Road**.

Subjects Cited for Using Thermal Devices

Portland and St. Helens Fish and Wildlife Troopers interviewed subjects about using a thermal device while hunting for a deer at the Weyerhaeuser Tree Farm. Two subjects were issued a criminal citation in lieu of custody for **Hunting or Scouting Wildlife with Infrared, Thermal or any other Night Vision Device**, and one thermal device was seized as evidence.



Troopers Assist on Bighorn Sheep Collaring

Enterprise Fish and Wildlife Troopers assisted ODFW and Idaho Department of Fish and Game with the annual bighorn sheep capture/collaring event on the Snake River in Hells Canyon. The crew was delivered to the sample site via jet boat and the sheep were captured using helicopter/mugger operations. In total, 18 sheep were captured and collared, with additional sampling.

MARINE FISHERIES TEAM



Captain Cited for Undersized Commercial Crab

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper was observing commercial crab offloads in Newport when he observed multiple undersized Dungeness crab in a tote. With the help of Newport Marine Fisheries Team (MFT) Members, the Trooper measured the entire 943 lb load and found 35 lbs of undersized crab, 3.85% of the load. The captain of the boat was cited for **Take/Possession of Undersized Dungeness Crab** and two crew members were warned for the same violation.

Crew Cited for Undersized Commercial Crab

A Fish and Wildlife Sergeant observed undersized commercial crab in an offload at a Newport processor. The entire load of 872 lbs was measured and there was found to be 82 lbs of undersized crab, 9.4% of the load. One crew member claimed sole responsibility for measuring all of the crab and was cited for the offense. The other two crew members and captain were warned for the same.

Multiple Cited for Undersized Commercial Crab

During an inspection of a commercial offload of Dungeness crab, a Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper discovered undersized crab in two loads. Another Trooper and ODFW assisted with the inspections. One of the offloads contained 2.9% illegal crab. The fishing vessel captain was cited violation level as he was the one measuring the crab on that trip. The other fishing vessel contained 16% illegal crab. Both deckhands admitted they were told several times by the captain to be careful and stated they took sole responsibility for the undersized crab. Both deckhands were cited criminally for **Take/Possession of Undersized Dungeness Crab**.

Captain Fails to Sell Crab to Wholesale Dealer

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper followed up on a commercial fishing complaint regarding approximately 200 lbs of Dungeness crab not being recorded on a fish ticket. The Trooper interviewed the captain of the commercial fishing vessel who stated the crab was for take home use and that it was not recorded on a ticket. The captain was cited for **Fail to Sell Commercial Shellfish to a Wholesale Fish Dealer**.

Subject Sells Sport Caught Shellfish Online

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper investigated the sale of razor clams discovered on a Facebook posting. The seller was contacted and interviewed. It was found that the subject recreationally dug the clams in Washington state and then posted on various Facebook sites within Clatsop county selling the razor clams for \$5 a pound. The subject admitted to the scheme and additional sales in WA state. The subject was taken into custody due to active warrant for failing to appear for an unrelated offense, and was cited and released for **Sale of Sport Caught Shellfish**. The subject's girlfriend who aided in the harvest and sale was also cited and released for **Aiding in a Wildlife Offense**.

Subject Cited for Taking Sea Lion Head

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to information obtained regarding a missing head from a sea lion which was found on the beach a week prior. Multiple interviews were completed and a suspect was identified. The subject admitted to cutting the head off the sea lion, then turned over the sea lion skull and eyes which he had retained. Sea lion parts were seized and he was criminally cited for **Possession of a Protected Wildlife**. The case will also be referred to NOAA enforcement for any federal violations.

Skipper Cited for Crab Sale Violation

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper followed up with a commercial crab skipper regarding his 2024 bay crab season. The skipper had turned in logbook pages for four commercial bay crab trips in September and October of 2024. There were no landings of crab for this vessel or skipper for bay crab. The skipper was contacted and admitted to taking some of the crab home and returning some of the crab to the bay because he could not find a market to purchase his small quantities of crab. Subject was informed that all commercial crab and fish must be sold to a wholesale dealer or through a limited fish seller permit. The subject was cited for **Fail to Sell Commercial Crab to a Wholesale Fish Dealer**.

SHELLFISH & ANGLING



Siuslaw River Boat Patrol

Springfield Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol on the Siuslaw River for steelhead anglers. A total of 34 people were contacted, four steelhead were checked, and four warnings were issued.

Ice Fishing Patrol - Phillips Reservoir

A Baker City Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted seven subjects ice fishing on Phillips Reservoir in Baker County. One subject, who the Trooper observed angling for 10 minutes, denied angling upon contact. Ultimately, the subject admitted to fishing and not having a valid angling license and was cited for **No Resident Angling License**.



Eight Trout Seized - Foster Reservoir

An Albany Fish and Wildlife Trooper checked three anglers at Foster Reservoir (one on the bank and two on kayaks). The subject on the bank did not have an angling license and had retained four trout and caught a 5th while the trooper was contacting him. The two subjects in kayaks did not have a sound producing device and upon further inspection one person retained six trout and the other retained eight. The person on the bank was violation cited **Take/Possession of Trout**. The two subjects in kayaks were both violation cited for **Exceeding Daily Bag Limit**. Eight total trout were seized and donated to the Lebanon Soup Kitchen.



Young Angler Poses with Legal Trout

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Sergeant checked anglers in the Lane County area. During the day he spoke with a young angler after witnessing him catch a legal 21 inch trout. The young angler was excited and posed for a photo with his catch.

Sturgeon Opener - The Dalles Pool

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper from The Dalles performed a boat/shore patrol during a one-day sturgeon opener on the Columbia River in The Dalles Pool. During the patrol approximately 100 anglers were contacted and 26 boat checks were performed. Nine minor warnings were issued for angling/boating related violations. One sturgeon was seized and released alive. In all, 28 keeper sturgeon were checked/observed.

SHELLFISH & ANGLING



Sturgeon Boat Patrol - The Dalles Pool

Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River within The Dalles Pool during a one-day season for sturgeon retention. A total of 24 boats were checked, along with 89 anglers. During the boat patrol, the Troopers responded to a report of two boats well within the John Day Dam boating restricted zone. Operators of both boats were cited for operating in the restricted area, and the other anglers warned for **Angling in a Prohibited Area**. One warning was later given to another boater who entered the prohibited area for a short period of time. Two boaters were warned for not properly wearing USCG Type V inflatable PFDs and Fail to Have PFD's Immediately Accessible. One subject was warned for **No Columbia River Endorsement**. One subject was warned for **No Angling License or Tag on Person**. A total of 12 sturgeon were checked.



Subjects Cited, 37 Razor Clams Seized

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to a TIP of two razor clam diggers that had put a bag of clams in the back of their truck and then returned to the digging area. The Trooper located the two subjects (there was also a third subject sitting in the truck) and watched them dig numerous clams before returning to the truck. They said they had each dug a limit of clams and there were no other clams in the truck. A consent search revealed they had an additional 37 razor clams in a cooler in the back of the truck. Both subjects were cited for **Exceed the Daily Limit of Clams and Dig Clams for Another**.

Bull Trout Saturation - Lake Billy Chinook

Fish and Wildlife Troopers from Prineville, Bend, Madras, The Dalles, and Pendleton teamed up to conduct a bull trout saturation on Lake Billy Chinook. Two patrol boats were utilized to observe the closed to angling bull trout sanctuary for violators. During the patrol, a group of subjects anchored a boat close to the angling closure on the Metolius Arm and were observed angling. When contacted by Troopers, the large group lied about their angling activities. Great surveillance led the group to receive six citations for improper personal flotation devices (PFDs), and two citations for **No Valid Angling License**. This same group was contacted last week angling on the Columbia River by one of the Troopers. In total, approximately 80 anglers were checked resulting in 13 warnings for minor licensing violations and marine board violations. Eight citations were issued for **Improper PFDs** and three citations were issued for **No Angling License**. Two voyages were terminated.

Three Cited on Angler Patrols

A Roseburg Fish and Wildlife Trooper worked local and high mountain lakes. The patrol resulted in only four angler checks, but three citations were issued (25% compliance rate). Two citations were issued for **No 2025 Angling License** and one citation issued for **No Two-Pole Validation**.

CASE DISPOSITIONS



Serial Poacher Sentenced in Grant County

Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division members from the East Central Team received resolution to a case they worked for almost two years. The suspect ended up accepting a “global plea” for all the wildlife and angling charges from 2023-2024. In total, this investigation led to over 50 wildlife and angling crimes, including three felony unlawful takes of wildlife.

The suspect pleaded guilty to two felonies (**Unlawful Take of Bull Elk** and **Unlawful Take of Mule Deer Buck**), nine misdemeanor wildlife and angling crimes, and a probation violation. East Central Team troopers were present in the Grant County Circuit court when the judge sentenced Palmer to:

- 95 days jail
- 18 months probation
- \$22,500+ in fines/restitution
- Forfeiture of 7mm Weatherby rifle, bow, spotlight and hunting calls
- 260 hours community service
- An additional lifetime revocation of hunting/angling rights

Following sentencing, Fish and Wildlife Troopers lodged the suspect in the Grant County Jail.

The cases began in March of 2023 when Fish and Wildlife Troopers received information that the suspect was in possession of a large 6x6 bull elk. The suspect's hunting privileges were suspended at the time. Further investigation resulted in the seizure of the bull elk head and subsequent conviction of the suspect for **Unlawful Take/Possession of Bull Elk** where he received a lifetime revocation of hunting privileges. Troopers then received information that the suspect was unlawfully hunting during the 2023 Archery season while his hunting privileges were revoked. This investigation revealed that the suspect had unlawfully killed a 5x6 bull elk and two 3x4 mule deer bucks by spotlighting and shooting the animals with a rifle from a public roadway in September of 2023 in the Northside Hunt Unit. Troopers continued their investigation which led to the execution of search warrants and the arrest of the suspect on numerous wildlife crimes. Items seized included antlers from the 5x6 bull elk and 3x4 mule deer bucks as well as a spotlight, 7mm Weatherby rifle, bow, calls, and other items related to the unlawful take. The suspect was released from jail awaiting trial and Troopers received more information that the suspect was unlawfully angling for wild steelhead in the John Day River in the early spring of 2024. Troopers conducted surveillance on the suspect and two other individuals for almost two months and found the suspect and his friends unlawfully angling multiple times, even at night in the John Day River. The suspect was then charged with over 30 angling crimes. The suspect's two friends were also charged with numerous angling offenses.

CASE DISPOSITIONS



Commercial Fisherman Found Guilty

A commercial fisherman was cited for fishing violations including **No Late Season Buoy Tags** and **Fail to Make a Landing within 14 days** in both Lane and Douglas counties. The subject appeared in the Florence and Reedsport Justice courts for these offenses. He was ultimately found guilty of those charges and issued presumptive fines by both judges.

Suspect Pleads Guilty to Killing/Waste Spike Elk

In 2023 Enterprise Fish and Wildlife Troopers were notified by a landowner that a subject had trespassed on their property in the Sled Springs unit, killing and wasting three spike elk. The Troopers were able to identify the suspect who lived in Pendleton. The Troopers interviewed the suspect who admitted to killing the spike elk and leaving them to waste. The suspect was charged with **Hunting Enclosed Lands of Another, Unlawful Take of Spike Elk x3, Waste of a Game Mammal x3, and No Big Game Tag**. The suspect pleaded guilty as part of a plea deal and received the following:

- 10 days jail
- 24 months probation
- 3-year hunting license suspension
- \$16,000 in fines
- \$1295.20 in restitution to OSP
- 40 hours community service
- All seized weapons/firearms forfeited

Suspect Pleads Guilty in Union County Case

A La Grande Fish and Wildlife Trooper attended a plea and sentencing hearing for a case he investigated in Union County this past archery season. On Labor Day weekend a subject harvested a 6-point bull elk in the Starkey unit. When the Trooper arrived in the area the subject disappeared and never returned, leaving the bull elk behind. The bull was eventually salvaged by Troopers and taken to a local butcher. K-9 Scout tracked the blood trail for the bull was back to a trail camera. A search warrant was granted for the camera which led to a press release with a photo of the suspect asking for the public's assistance in identifying him. Several people responded with information identifying the suspect. The suspect was found to not have a Starkey Unit archery elk tag. The subject was contacted and admitted to unlawfully harvesting the bull elk without a valid tag. The suspect pleaded guilty to an A-Misdemeanor and was sentenced to the following:

- 24 months probation
- \$4000 to ODFW for restitution
- \$1000 to OHA for TIP Reward program
- \$405 for cut/wrap fee for the salvage of the elk
- 36-months hunting license suspension with forfeiture of preference points which included 19-elk points
- Forfeit of all items seized including the subjects bow, hunting knife, bone saw, and trail camera

Suspect Found Guilty in Angling/DWS Case

In March of 2024, a McMinnville Fish and Wildlife Trooper arrested a subject for several counts of **Angling in a Closed Area, Unlawful Take Native Steelhead**, and numerous counts of **Driving While Suspended (DWS) felony** stemming from an investigation on Willamina Creek. The case went to trial last week and the defendant was found guilty on multiple counts. The defendant was sentenced to the following:

- 20 months prison
- 5-year angling suspension
- \$2,250 in restitution to ODFW



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
\$400 Game Fish & Shellfish*
\$400 Snagging/Attempt to Snag*
\$300 Habitat Destruction
\$200 Illegally obtaining Oregon hunting or angling license or tags
\$200 Unlawful Lending/Borrowing Big Game Tag(s)
\$200 Game Birds or Furbearers
\$200 Spotlighting

*Rewards for Game, Fish & Shellfish and Snagging/Attempting to Snag are sponsored, in part, by Northwest Steelheaders Association and Coastal Conservation Association.

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, Black bears, Bighorn Sheep, Marten, Fisher, Sierra Nevada Red Fox
\$10,000 for Wolves east of Highway 395
\$11,500 for Wolves east of Highway 395 and north of Highway 20

\$1,000 Species listed as "threatened" or "endangered" under state or federal Endangered Species Act (excludes fish)
(e.g. 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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