



OREGON STATE POLICE FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION



MONTHLY FIELD REVIEW

MARCH 2025



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*On the cover:
SW Region Fish and Wildlife Troopers
on a boat patrol of the Rogue River in
Josephine County*

SOUTHWEST REGION ANGLING



Between its epic rivers and 350 miles of ocean coast, Oregon boasts a stunning diversity of fishing grounds, where anglers get to face some of the finest game fish on the planet. The bulk of Oregon's freshwater angling takes place from early spring to fall, with February and March being the peak of winter steelhead angling. The southwest region of the state contains some of the best rivers for steelhead angling on the west coast, with the Umpqua (pictured above), Rogue, and Chetco Rivers and their tributaries.



A happy angler poses with his legally harvested hatchery steelhead

Winter steelhead angling regulations are complex and can change during the season, so anglers are strongly encouraged to check the ODFW website (myodfw.com) and eregulations.com/oregon prior to angling. ODFW implemented temporary harvest restrictions on the Illinois and Rogue rivers for winter steelhead season, and a relatively new Rogue-South Coast Steelhead Validation is required for all winter steelhead anglers fishing in the Rogue basin, or on the south coast. Both of these regulations are in place from December 1, 2024, through April 30, 2025. As of April 1, the Rogue is the only winter steelhead opportunity on the south coast, as all of the smaller south coast rivers closed to all angling at the end of March.



Recent flooding in Drain, Oregon

This year's steelhead season has been impacted by high, muddy conditions, fast moving waters and flooding across the region, but anglers, and OSP Fish and Wildlife Troopers, didn't let these challenges stop them, as Troopers made 749 angling contacts, issuing 66 warnings and 19 citations, across the southwest region, in March.

In the southwest region, the most commonly seen violation, by far, is **No Rogue-South Coast Steelhead Validation**, which was new for the 2023-2024 steelhead season. The steelhead validations provide more accurate harvest information and close annual harvest loopholes on certain daily licenses. The validation also officially establishes a winter steelhead season in the Rogue and south coast basins. Anglers often claimed they did not know about the validation, or that they weren't sure if or where the validation was required, when contacted by Troopers. Other common violations include **No Angling License/Tag in Possession**, **No Angling License**, and **Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Card**.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



OSP and Elevate Oregon Youth Event - Portland

Oregon State Police members from across the agency interacted with Elevate Oregon, who hosted an event in Northeast Portland for area youth. Elevate Oregon is a non-profit organization serving youth in communities with high rates of childhood poverty. The event was a great opportunity for youth to interact with law enforcement in a positive way. The below stations were set up for kids to rotate through to learn, interact, and even use some of the equipment/gear of the Oregon State Police:

- Fish and Wildlife Trailer of Shame
- SWAT vehicle
- Bomb truck - and robot!
- Fish and Wildlife boat
- Fish and Wildlife truck and Patrol vehicle
- K-9 teams



COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Troopers Attend Harney County Career Fair

Burns Fish and Wildlife Troopers participated in the annual Harney County Career Fair. Students from Burns High School, Crane High School, Silvies Charter School, and the Hines Middle School participated in the event. Approximately 150 High School students and 30 Middle School students attended the event. The career fair coordinator was happy to have the Fish and Wildlife Troopers and OSP attend the event for a third year in a row.

Troopers Attend Hunter Safety Class - Hermiston

Hermiston and Heppner Fish and Wildlife Troopers attended a hunter safety class in Hermiston to speak to new youth hunters and parents about what a Fish and Wildlife Trooper does, common mistakes new hunters make, what a Fish and Wildlife Trooper might do upon contact in the field, and e-tagging and the common issues hunters and anglers have. Overall, the youth and parents enjoyed the content Troopers had to offer and thanked OSP for coming.

Troopers Attend OHA Capitol Chapter Banquet

Salem Fish and Wildlife Troopers attended the Oregon Hunters Association (OHA) Capitol chapter banquet. They provided an update to OHA members on recent enforcement activities. There were several hundred attendees.

Troopers Give Salmon Presentation to 4th Graders

A Beaverton School Teacher reached out to a Portland Fish and Wildlife Trooper about doing a presentation for her fourth grade class who were learning all about salmon and how salmon are important to the tribal community. Troopers presented information to the class about water safety, OSP's role in salmon enforcement, and a general overview of what the Troopers in the Fish and Wildlife Division do to protect our natural resources. Also assisting with the presentation was a fish biologist from the Columbia River Intertribal Fisheries Commission who is also a member of the Umatilla Tribe. The biologist showed the class a rich history of the tribal community associated with salmon and the Columbia River. There were a total of 50 fourth grade students participating in the presentations.

Troopers Attend CCSO Citizen's Academy

Prineville Fish and Wildlife Troopers attended the Crook County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) Citizen's Academy. Troopers instructed a 90-minute block beginning with an introduction to the Fish and Wildlife Division's structure, missions, and funding. Troopers also provided a brief legal overview as well as playing fun videos, answering questions, and engaging in discussion with attendees. The CCSO Citizen's academy had 12 participants as well as the under-sheriff and CCSO Jail Lieutenant. The presentation was well received.

Trooper Attends High School Career/Job Fair

A Hermiston Fish and Wildlife Trooper attended a multi-high school career/job fair at the Pendleton Convention Center. He assisted other local East Region OSP Patrol Recruiters. Overall, the OSP booth was a success. The Trooper was able to display photos showcasing the different things a Fish and Wildlife Trooper gets to do and was able to answer questions to young and future Fish and Wildlife Troopers.

Trooper Attends Career Fair - Butte Falls School

A Central Point Fish and Wildlife Trooper attended a career fair at Butte Falls School to talk about being a Fish and Wildlife Trooper with the kids and their families. The turnout was relatively low since this was the first time they held the event. Approximately 75 people attended.

K-9 SPOTLIGHT



K-9 Buck Visits the State Capitol

K-9 Buck and his handler traveled to Salem for a legislative hearing in front of the Joint Subcommittee on Public Safety. They interacted with various people before and after the hearing.

K-9 Buck Locates Deer Carcass from November

K-9 Buck and his handler responded to the Sutherlin area to assist local Fish and Wildlife Troopers with an investigation regarding an unlawful take of a blacktail deer, including waste. Upon arrival into the search area, K-9 Buck was deployed off lead and searched two gravel roadways. K-9 Buck located one deer carcass that was not associated and located another deer carcass that was determined to be involved with this case. K-9 Buck's search was instrumental in locating evidence as it occurred in the November time frame.



K-9 Scout's Handler Interviewed on TV

K-9 Scout and his handler appeared on Outdoor GPS on Fox 12 Oregon for a 15 minute interview. Topics discussed included OSP Fish and Wildlife Division, the K-9 program, and the Oregon Wildlife Foundation. Watch the interview here: [Part 1](#) and [Part 2](#).

K-9 Buck Locates Deer Carcass

K-9 Buck and his handler joined a Roseburg Fish and Wildlife Trooper to locate a deer kill site. K-9 buck located the deer carcass approximately 20 yards off the roadway. The found deer carcass matched the location of an illegal deer harvest described by the witness and the suspect in the case.

K-9 Scout Locates Doe Head

Prineville and Madras Fish and Wildlife Troopers and K-9 Scout followed up on an ongoing investigation. K-9 Scout was deployed by his handler and searched an area already previously searched by Troopers. K-9 Scout located the head of a dead doe in the area. K-9 Scout and his handler have yet again proved to be assets to the Fish and Wildlife Division!

Trooper Gives K-9 Presentation - Keizer

K-9 Buck and his handler conducted a presentation at Emerald Pointe Senior Living Center in Keizer. The Trooper presented the K-9 program and day-to-day operations for the Oregon State Police. The Trooper also made a visit to a neighboring memory care facility and met with a retired California Game Warden prior to the conclusion of the visit.

GENERAL LAW & RESCUES



Trooper Rescues Citizens from Flooded Homes

A Roseburg Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted a Douglas County Marine Patrol Deputy rescue people from their houses during a flood in Drain, Oregon. Over a few hours, the Trooper and Deputy helped rescue 10 people from six houses with the Sheriff's Office Pontoon Boat. Most of the people were elderly. One was in a wheelchair, and another was a dementia patient on hospice who had to be carried out of the house and to the boat because she did not understand what was going on. The operation started at about 5:00 pm and ended about 9:00 pm.



Elude Suspect and Vehicle End Up in River

Pendleton and Hermiston Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia river. During the patrol 15 contacts and six warnings were made. One voyage was terminated due to inadequate number of personal flotation devices. During the patrol an elude occurred on Interstate 84. The suspect continued into Irrigon, towards the Columbia River. The suspect abandoned the vehicle then fled into the Columbia River, attempting to swim a short distance, and allowing the vehicle to roll into the river. The suspect swam back to shore after becoming tired and was taken into custody. Troopers arrived on scene in the boat and were able to recover the suspects clothing he removed while swimming.



Bald Eagle Rescued from Roadway

A St. Helens Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a report regarding a bald eagle that had flown into a moving vehicle on Hwy 202 near the community of Birkenfeld and was laying injured alongside the roadway. The eagle was able to be moved into a crate with the assistance of a Mist/Birkenfeld firefighter and then transported to The Wildlife Center of The North Coast for evaluation.

GENERAL LAW & RESCUES



Labs Rescued from I-84, Returned Home

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper from The Dalles was in the Rufus area when a call was received that two dogs (a black and a yellow lab) were running near Interstate 84. The dogs were located chasing waterfowl and running along the interstate. Both dogs responded to commands and jumped in the back of the Trooper's truck. Shortly afterwards, the owner was located, and the dogs were returned home.



Road Struck Fox Taken to Rehabilitation Center

An Albany Fish and Wildlife Trooper seized an injured road struck fox being held at a residence by a concerned citizen. The fox was taken to a rehabilitation center and is expected to recover.

Eagle Found Suffering from Lead Poisoning

A Prineville Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to a Powell Butte residence reporting an injured eagle on the property. The eagle was recovered and transported to Think Wild in Bend. The initial assessment revealed the eagle was a large juvenile bald eagle suffering from lead poisoning. The vet began treatments immediately.



Injured Bald Eagle Taken to Animal Hospital

A St. Helens Fish and Wildlife Trooper and a Patrol Recruit responded to a report of an injured bald eagle. The eagle was captured and taken to Dove Lewis Animal Hospital for care. The homeowner claimed the capture efforts by the Troopers was in his "Top 10" life events he has witnessed.



Trooper Pulls Large Rock from Roadway

A Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to the report of a large rock in the northbound lane of Highway 97, near Collier State Park. He was able to chain up the rock and drag it off the highway.

GENERAL LAW & RESCUES

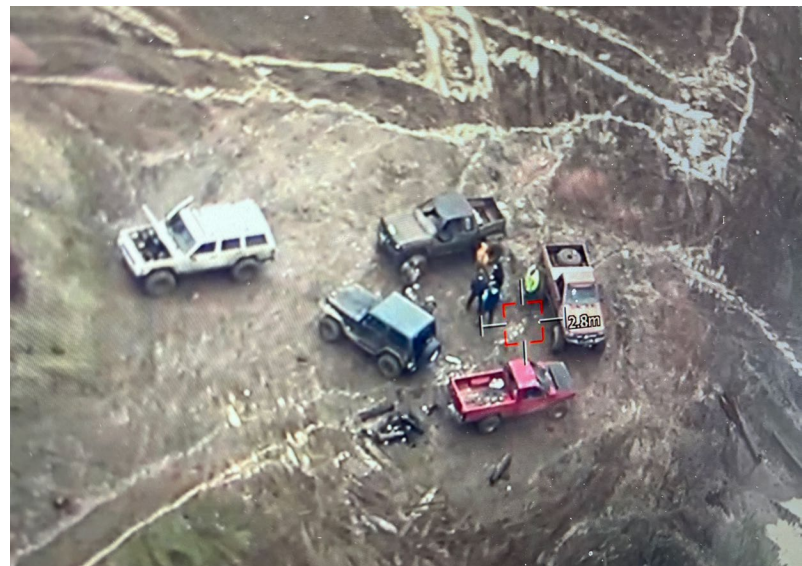


Trooper Rescues Driver Who Crashed in River

An Albany Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to a crash involving a female driver who drove off the roadway, down an embankment, and into the South Santiam River where the vehicle was mostly submerged in the river. The Trooper arrived at the same time as a medic unit from Sweet Home Fire and they both noted an off-duty paramedic and a civilian had removed the female driver from her vehicle and assisted her to the hood of the vehicle. The driver sustained serious injuries during the crash and was unable to safely get to shore because the current was swift and the river was high due to recent, heavy rains. The Trooper went into the river to put a life jacket on the stranded driver and assisted her to the riverbank where he waited with her for more resources to arrive. When additional resources arrived the driver was winched up the embankment with assistance of a Patrol Trooper and others from various agencies.

Trooper Assists with Flood Evacuations

A Burns Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted the Harney County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) and Burns Police Department with going door to door in the Triangle Park area of Burns to advise residents of a Level Three "Leave Now" evacuation notices because of major flooding in the area. When the Trooper made it to Stancliff Road to advise people the water was knee high and already coming into resident's houses. The Trooper was able to contact numerous individuals and ended up wading through waist deep water to assist a family with getting their sick mom and wife out of their residence by raft to safety. Two days later, Troopers helped the HCSO and Burns PD with evacuating people who had previously refused to leave and had gotten stranded. Numerous people and pets were rescued with the efforts of local law enforcement and public assistance.



Trespassing Off-Roaders Cited

A Central Point Fish and Wildlife Trooper received information from two timber company representatives that a large group of off-roaders were planning to bring their rock crawlers up East Evans Creek Road above Sam's Valley. The timber companies have experienced ongoing issues with off-roaders cutting locks, cutting gates, and causing thousands of dollars in damage to the property and roads in this area since the 1990's. Due to the steep terrain, deep mud, and heavily rutted roads caused by the rock crawlers, the timber companies and their security agents had been unable to effectively address the issue. Assisted by the SW Region OSP Pilot, Central Point and Grants Pass Fish and Wildlife Troopers contacted the off-roaders trespassing on privately owned timberlands in the East Evans Creek Road area. Ultimately, 15 individuals were criminally charged by citation for **Trespassing** on private timber lands.

WILDLIFE & ENVIRONMENT



Search Warrant Served in Baker City

The Northeast Fish and Wildlife Team served a residential warrant in Baker City, in connection with a convicted felon killing and wasting multiple big game mammals. During the warrant service the subject admitted to and was arrested for **Unlawful Take/Possession of Bull Elk, Waste of Game Mammal-Bull Elk, Unlawful Take/Possession of Buck Deer x5, Waste of Game Mammal-Buck Deer, and Possession of Firearm by Felon**. Additional big game mammal parts were seized as evidence, and further investigation is continuing. The warrant service was supported by local patrol units and an Ontario Fish and Wildlife Trooper.

Subject Cited for Shooting in Closed Area

A St. Helens Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a game camera photo via e-mail showing a man walking into Oak Island on the Sauvie Island Wildlife area, which is currently closed to all entry, wearing camo and holding a rifle. The Trooper was currently on a boat patrol so he reached out to another Trooper who went to the Oak Island gate and waited with the man's truck until the first Trooper arrived. While waiting at the gate, the second Trooper heard two gunshots coming from the wildlife area. The Troopers then drove onto the wildlife area and contacted the 18-year-old man from Washington who admitted to being there to coyote hunt and taking three shots at one. The man was educated on the wildlife area rules and issued citations for **No Non-Resident Hunting License, Discharging a Firearm on the Wildlife Area, and Entry Into a Closed Area**.

Subject Cited for Shooting Squirrel from Vehicle

A Fish and Wildlife Sergeant from The Dalles observed an SUV traveling very slowly, stopping frequently, and meandering down a USFS Road. After several miles, the Sergeant observed the driver shoot from the driver seat out of the passenger window. He then observed the driver retrieve a ground squirrel which he planned to eat. The driver was cited for **Hunting Prohibited Area: Public Road** and warned for **Hunting with the Aid of a Motor Vehicle**. The squirrel was seized as evidence.



Subjects Cited for Removal of Driftwood Burl

Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Troopers investigated a report from Oregon State Parks regarding the removal of a large driftwood burl from Sunset Bay State Park a few days earlier. The subjects were identified after one of them tried to sell the burl on social media. Two male subjects were issued citations for **Pick, Cut, Mutilate or Remove Plants or Natural Resources from a State Park**. A female subject provided a false name, but her true identity was easily determined because she provided a similar false name to one of the Troopers the year prior. The female subject was arrested and lodged at Douglas County Jail on a probation violation warrant and was criminally cited and released for **False Information to a Police Officer and Possession of Restricted Weapons by a Felon** (brass knuckles).

Unlawful Take of Antlerless Elk on Timberland

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a TIP from a Weyerhaeuser lease holder. The lease holder stated he located a fresh gut pile from an elk on the property and his nearby trail camera captured images of a white truck inside the lease area that was not on the list of approved vehicles. The registered owner of the truck was contacted at his address and he ultimately admitted he was the one who killed an antlerless elk on Weyerhaeuser property without permission. The subject was issued a citation for **Unlawful Take of Antlerless Elk**. The elk was seized and donated to a local church.

TMA Enforcement Flight - Keno Unit

Southwest Region Troopers conducted an enforcement flight in the Keno Unit. The primary purpose of the flight was Travel Management Area (TMA) enforcement. During the flight, Troopers made 33 contacts resulting in 11 enforcement contacts. Activity levels were very high during the short flight. Over the course of the weekend, 64 contacts were made for TMA and ATVs in the Keno Unit. Of those, 16 resulted in citation or warning.

MARINE FISHERIES TEAM



South Coast Guardian and Aircraft Patrols

Marine Fisheries Team (MFT) Troopers conducted Guardian and aircraft patrols from Cape Blanco to Newport focusing on commercial crab, marine reserves, shellfish sanitation, and closed ATV beach areas. One vessel was found to have a string of gear with at least five buoys missing regular season tags. Another vessel was found to have more than three buoys on surface gear and surface line was longer than the maximum of 36 feet, which is in violation of the commercial crab gear rules.

Undersized Commercial Crab Offload

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a call from an ODFW sampler on the Newport bay front, reporting a commercial crab load with a significant amount of undersized Dungeness crab. The Trooper responded and measured the entire 1,921 lb load with the help of the ODFW sampler. It was found that 72 lbs. (3.7%) of the load were undersized. Two crew members took responsibility for measuring the load and were both cited for **Take/Possession of Undersized Dungeness Crab**.

Fisherman Cited for No Buyer's License

A Fish and Wildlife Sergeant contacted a fisherman selling crab from his boat in Newport. The fisherman was associated with a wholesale dealer license but did not possess a buyer's license to allow him to make sales away from his dealer location which was in Grants Pass. The fisherman was also weighing crab from a scale that was not ODA certified. The fisherman was cited for **No Buyer's License** and warned for the scale.

Multiple Crabbing Citations Issued - Newport

Newport Fish and Wildlife Troopers checked anglers and crabbers on the Newport fishing pier. A Trooper contacted a crabber and his juvenile son who had retained eight Dungeness crab. Five out of the eight crab they had were excessively undersized. The adult crabber was cited for **Take/Possession of Undersized Dungeness Crab**. The Trooper checked a couple who were crabbing. The male subject was doing the majority of the crabbing when the Trooper observed them. When asked to see their shellfish license, they told the Trooper the female subject was the only one with a license. The woman told the Trooper when she bought her shellfish license at the store, they told her she was the only one who needed to get a license and her husband could crab using her license. The male subject was cited for **No Shellfish License**.

Undersized Dungeness Crab - Coos Bay

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted a recreational crab boat as it returned to Charleston. A check of their catch located four undersized Dungeness crab. The undersized crab were released back into the bay. One of the subjects on the boat took responsibility for measuring the crab and was issued a citation for **Take/Possession of Undersized Dungeness Crab**.

Subjects Angling Without a License - Newport

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper checked anglers at the south jetty in Newport and when she approached two subjects, they reeled up their lines and attempted to walk away. The Trooper contacted them and learned neither one of them had an angling license. One of the two subjects told the Trooper he had a commercial fishing license and asked if the Trooper would "consider that good." Both subjects were cited for **No Angling License**.

Crab Gear Found with Incorrect Buoy Numbers

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper followed up on a case from a previous Guardian patrol. A string of commercial crab gear was found fishing that had incorrect buoy brand numbers on the surface gear and belonged to another vessel. The captain was cited for **Failure to Mark Buoys with Required Buoy Brand Number**.

SHELLFISH & ANGLING



One-Day Recreational Smelt Harvest - Sandy River

On March 27, 2025, ODFW opened a one-day recreational harvest of eulachon smelt on the Sandy River from noon until 7 pm. Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Troopers from the Northwest and East Regions conducted uniform and plain clothes foot patrols in the area. Troopers encountered many dip netters who had easily retained their daily limit of 10 lbs per licensed angler and many who had exceeded the daily limit of smelt. Throughout the seven-hour fishery, Troopers seized an estimated 2,000 lbs. of smelt. The estimated 2,000 lbs of smelt were split up between the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs and the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde as a food donation. The following is a list of the day's enforcement action taken by OSP Troopers:

- **Exceeding Daily Limit of Smelt: 84**
- **No Resident Angling License: 17**
- **No Non-Resident Angling License: 16**
- **Dip Smelt without Own Container: 16**
- **Unlawful Possession of Smelt: 8**
- **Aiding/Counseling in Wildlife Offense: 5**
- **Fail to Allow Inspection of License/Catch/Gear: 2**
- **Falsely Applied for License: 1**
- **Waste of Smelt: 1**

Metolius Arm of Lake Billy Chinook Boat Patrol

A Central Region Trooper patrolled the Metolius Arm of Lake Billy Chinook and conducted foot patrols into the Bull Trout Sanctuary angling closure. A 22 ft jet sled with four subjects on board was contacted after it was observed making three drifts down the closure. The operator was directed to shore for contact. Three citations for **Angling Closed Area**, one citation for **No Resident Angling License**, and one warning for **Aiding in a Game Violation** were issued.



Boat Patrol on Lookout Point Reservoir

Springfield Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol during a bass tournament on Lookout Point Reservoir. 16 boats were contacted with approximately 32 people. Four warnings were issued for angling violations.

Columbia River Boat Patrol

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River near Clifton. Numerous spring salmon angler and boating inspections were conducted. Multiple citations and warnings were issued for **Angling Prohibited Method – Barbed Hooks for Salmon**, **No Harvest Card**, **No Angling License**, and **Inadequate Number of Flotation Devices**.

Angler Checks Lead to Multiple Citations

An Ontario Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted angler checks on the Owyhee River, Lake Owyhee, and Brownlee Reservoir. The Trooper had a student ride along on this shift from Adrian High School who was doing her senior project on the duties and responsibilities of a game warden. During the shift seven citations were issued to five different subjects for the following violations: **No Non-Resident Angling License**, **No Resident Angling License**, **No Two Rod Validation**, and **Take/Possession of Game Fish**. One catfish was seized.

Crab Checks - Siletz Bay

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted crab checks in the Siletz Bay contacting eight crabbers. Catch rates were low with only one person landing three crab, of which one was very small. A citation was issued for **Take/Possession of Undersized Dungeness Crab**. Another crabber was found to be crabbing without a license and was issued a citation for **No Valid Shellfish License**.

SHELLFISH & ANGLING



Astoria Area Angler Checks

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted angler checks at multiple local creeks and rivers. Numerous anglers were checked with harvest rates being low. One hatchery Chinook and two hatchery steelhead were checked with multiple anglers reporting they had caught and released several other wild steelhead. Warnings were issued for the following offenses: **No Combined Angling Harvest Card** and **Angling Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks for Salmon/Steelhead**. One angler (above) requested a photo with his legal catch in front of the OSP Patrol Truck.

Take/Possession of Fish Closed Season

A Portland Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted angler checks at Lewis and Clark State Park on the Sandy River. One subject was contacted at the parking lot with a bag of smelt. The subject was reminded the smelt netting was closed. The subject said his kids took it with their hands. The subject was issued a citation for **Take/Possession of Fish Closed Season**. The smelt were seized and returned to the river. Two more subjects were contacted on a different day during the closed season for smelt netting. They were both issued citations for **Take/Possession of Fish Closed Season**.

Joint Boat Patrol - Cooper Creek Reservoir

A Roseburg Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted a joint boat patrol with Douglas County Sheriff's Office on Cooper Creek Reservoir. The patrol was busy, with sunny weather and numerous boaters out for the first time this season. The officers conducted 23 boat safety checks resulting in 13 marine board warnings, three terminated voyages and one citation for a father and two juveniles on paddle boards for **No Personal Flotation Device** and **No Sound Producing Devices** on either board. All three were escorted to the dock after the father was issued a citation. Also, during the patrol 18 angler license checks were conducted resulting in three citations for **No 2025 Angling License** with an additional two people being warned for **No License in Possession**.

Two-Day Rogue River Angler Patrol

A Central Point Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted weekend angling checks along the upper section of the Rogue River between Shady Cove and Cole Rivers Hatchery. On the two-day patrol, a total of 42 anglers were checked. One angler was cited for **No Non-Resident Angling License** and warned for **No Combined Angling Tag** and **No Rogue-Southcoast Steelhead Validation**. Multiple warnings were issued to other subjects for **No Combined Angling Tag**, **No Rogue-Southcoast Steelhead Validation**, **Aid/Counsel in a Wildlife Offense**, and **Possession of More Than One Combined Angling Tag**.

Pine Hollow Reservoir Patrol

A Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Trooper from The Dalles patrolled Pine Hollow Reservoir. The Trooper contacted a subject fishing with two rods. The subject did not have a two-rod endorsement and stated he thought when a Trooper came around he could ask for help getting the endorsement since the ODFW website was confusing. After getting the subject's identification, the Trooper helped him log into MyODFW and proceeded to have a two-rod endorsement in his cart within about 15 seconds. While the subject checked out the Trooper completed a citation for the violation of **Angling Two Rods with No Two-Rod Endorsement**. The Trooper explained to the subject that Fish and Wildlife Troopers are more than willing to help individuals get the correct licenses and endorsements, but that occurs before the violation. Several other minor angling/boating warnings were issued during the patrol.

CASE DISPOSITIONS

Felon in Possession and Unlawful Take of Bear

A Portland Fish and Wildlife Sergeant received information of a subject in Estacada who harvested a black bear in the overnight hours over a bait pile. Portland and St. Helens Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted in gathering information from witnesses. During the initial investigation, it was also determined the suspect is a convicted felon and in possession of multiple firearms. Troopers also determined from witness statements that gunshots were heard from the hunting area between 2:00 AM and 3:00 AM. Troopers also learned the suspect likely harvested a black bear over the same bait pile in the middle of the night on or around 10/24/23. Probable cause was developed for **Felon in Possession of Firearms, Hunting Bear Over Bait, and Hunting Prohibited Hours**. There was also probable cause to charge the suspect with felony level **Unlawful Take of Black Bear**, because a second unlawful take occurred within a 12-month period. A Portland Fish and Wildlife Trooper wrote a search warrant for the suspect's property and residence along with the separate property where the suspect hunted over the bait pile. The following day, multiple Troopers from the North Valley Team served the search warrant and seized several items corroborating the information already gathered. The suspect was taken into custody and lodged at the Clackamas County Jail on the above charges.

The suspect accepted the State's plea offer in this case and was sentenced to:

Felon in Possession of Firearm:

- 60 months supervised probation
- Forfeit firearms
- 15 months DOC/2 years PPS if revoked
- Zero tolerance for any possession of firearm or hunting
- No early termination of probation

Unlawful Taking of Black Bear (10/24/23):

- 36 months of bench probation
- Forfeit bear products
- 60 month hunting license suspension
- \$7500 compensatory fine to ODFW
- Comply with all terms of probation on Count 1

Unlawful Taking of Black Bear (10/16/24):

- 36 months of bench probation
- Forfeit bear products
- Lifetime hunting license revocation
- \$7500 compensatory fine to ODFW
- Comply with all terms of probation on Count 1

Subject Pleads Guilty to Illegal Gillnet Fishing

A Portland Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a TIP from ODFW of a gillnet actively fishing in the Sandy River, in an area commonly known as Dodge Park. The Trooper responded to the area and observed a gillnet approximately 20ft in length set from the bank to a log jam along the west side of the river. A Trooper later returned and set trail cameras to catch the suspect. Days later, he reviewed the surveillance footage and observed the suspect in the area of the gillnet. The Trooper brought in another Trooper to assist with the investigation and to provide additional resources to catch the suspect. After reviewing the camera footage, the Troopers set out to identify the gillnet suspect. While walking the bank in the area just upriver from where the gillnet had been seen, Troopers contacted a subject at his camp. While interviewing the subject, one of the Troopers recognized a float-line to a gillnet, partially sticking out from under an inflatable raft, from a failed attempt to conceal the net. As a result of locating the gillnet in possession of the subject, along with the surveillance footage, he was cited for **Angling Prohibited Method**, and the net was seized as evidence.

In March of 2025, the subject pleaded guilty to **Angling Prohibited Method: Misdemeanor** and received the following sentence:

- 12 months of probation
- 3-year angling suspension
- 36 hours of community service

Hunting in Violation of Criminal Trespass

In September of 2024, an Albany Fish and Wildlife Trooper investigated an archery hunter who shot an elk on private property and ultimately cited the subject for **Hunting in Violation of Criminal Trespass** into the Linn County Justice Court. The subject transferred the criminal case to the Linn County Circuit Court where he pleaded guilty to the misdemeanor, and received the following sentence:

- 3 year hunting suspension
- \$5,000 in fines to the court



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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