



# OREGON STATE POLICE FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION



**MONTHLY FIELD REVIEW**

**JUNE 2025**





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*On the cover:  
Fish and Wildlife Troopers at White Horse  
Rapids on the Deschutes River*



# 2024 F&W PARTNER OF THE YEAR



The Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division proudly announces Boyd Perry, a dedicated Baker City resident, as the recipient of the 2024 Fish and Wildlife Division Partner of the Year Award. This prestigious recognition celebrates Perry's selfless volunteer service, exceptional commitment, and significant contributions to OSP's mission.

For many years, Boyd Perry has volunteered his time to process big game and game fish seized by OSP during various hunting and fishing seasons. Primarily working with animals from Baker County, Perry has also assisted troopers from Malheur and Union Counties when needed. Each year, he processes numerous seized animals, including up to 20 elk in a single season, saving OSP substantial butchering costs. Beyond processing, Perry collaborates with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) to distribute the meat to local charities and individuals in need within Baker County, ensuring it benefits the community.

In addition to his work with OSP, Perry processes big game, primarily elk, related to ODFW landowner kill permits.

He has rallied other community volunteers to assist with this labor-intensive work, fostering a spirit of collaboration. Perry transformed his garage into a professional processing facility, equipped with walk-in coolers, stainless steel tables, a meat saw, and a meat grinder provided by ODFW. His facility is always accessible to OSP troopers, who can store seized animals in the cooler for later processing if Perry is unavailable. Known for his reliability, Perry responds to calls day or night with a warm smile and a helping hand.

Remarkably, Perry undertakes this demanding work in his eighties, often processing multiple animals weekly during peak big game seasons. His dedication exemplifies extraordinary community service and resilience.

The Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division extends heartfelt gratitude to Boyd Perry for his tireless efforts, generosity, and unwavering support. His contributions have made a lasting impact on OSP's operations and the Baker County community.

# 2024 F&W PROSECUTOR OF THE YEAR



The Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division is proud to announce our 2024 Fish and Wildlife Division Prosecutor of the Year, former Jackson County Deputy District Attorney Melissa LeRitz. Deputy District Attorney (DDA) LeRitz was recognized at the OSP Women in Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Workshop where she gave a presentation. It should be noted that LeRitz was previously recognized for her outstanding work as our 2019 and 2022 Prosecutor of the Year. She is the first and only recipient to receive this award multiple times.

In a nomination memo submitted for her efforts, several things were pointed out:

“Melissa is constantly available to Law Enforcement, frequently stepping out of trials or responding by text message to answer questions. She frequently answers the phone late at night, early in the morning, or any time a Trooper calls with questions.”

“During 2024, Melissa is the only prosecutor I know that has participated in WED (Wildlife Enforcement Decoy) operations with her local OSP Fish and Wildlife Team, physically assisting the team in setting up a deer decoy... helping the team spot for oncoming vehicles and suspects and staying through the whole operation to assist in safely taking down the set up.”

“Melissa is an unmatched resources for the Rogue Valley Fish and Wildlife Team, a passionate prosecutor of Fish, Wildlife and Environmental crimes...”

The OSP Fish and Wildlife Division thanks Melissa LeRitz for her support of our Division, and for her knowledge and assistance in prosecuting those who violate fish and wildlife laws.

Please join us in congratulating former DDA LeRitz on a job well done!



# THE DESCHUTES WILD AND SCENIC RIVER



On June 13 and 14, Fish and Wildlife Troopers from Bend, Madras, and Prineville completed an overnight float down the lower Deschutes River, from Trout Creek at Harpham Flat, 32.6 river miles. Troopers voyaged on two OSP drift boats contacting rafters, campers, and anglers along “The Deschutes Wild and Scenic River,” a federally protected resource. The Deschutes River was designated a Federal Wild and Scenic River in 1988.

Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Troopers partner with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Oregon State Parks, Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Oregon State Marine Board, and Wasco and Sherman County Sheriff’s Offices, to provide education and enforcement to users with the goal of protecting the natural resources of this beautiful river. Use of the river requires an individual boater’s pass, proper personal flotation devices (PFDs), and regulations to include camping locations, the use of fire, and minimizing environmental impact. River floaters who choose to angle must possess an Oregon angling license and follow the Deschutes River restrictions, like no use of bait.

“Hey! State Police, River Patrol,” says a firm but positive voice coming from a drift boat as it slides closer to the bank. Senior Trooper Scott Vaughn (below) raises his hand, revealing a toothy smile, and begins a low-key interaction with voyagers of two boats stopped along the bank of The Deschutes River.

Senior Trooper Vaughn began his Oregon State Police Trooper career as a Recruit Trooper in 1995. But his first service to Oregon was in the summer 1989 as an OSP Cadet tasked with floating sections of the Deschutes River, contacting users, and enforcing much of the same regulations as in 2025. As you can imagine, Trooper Vaughn is passionate about preserving The Deschutes River wild and scenic resource through education and enforcement.

“When you contact people on the river, you become part of their wilderness experience,” said Senior Trooper Vaughn. He described the importance of positive interactions and serving the river users by spending time answering questions and providing valuable education on water safety, fire restrictions, trespassing, environmental issues, and angling. Senior Trooper Vaughn said most river users respond with, “We are so glad to see you’re here! Thank you.”





# THE DESCHUTES WILD AND SCENIC RIVER



Senior Trooper Vaughn's value of politely and purposefully entering into people's wilderness experience was tested and found successful when Troopers were rowing into a camp spot, spotting what appeared to be a woman in a wedding dress walking on a trail. When the Troopers pulled into shore, they found an engagement photo shoot going on. The future bride and groom (below) welcomed the Troopers for a group photo before they departed to their campsite.



Some other notable contacts on this river patrol were a group having a bachelor party float and camp. They were advised about fire regulations and water safety. They promised they would be conducting themselves in a safe manner. During another rafting camp contact, it was noted that a baby rattle snake was crawling toward a juvenile standing near his tent. The snake was safely removed and released away from the camp.





# K-9 SPOTLIGHT



## K-9 Scout Locates Skull from Deer Killed Last Fall

Madras Fish and Wildlife Troopers concluded a long-term investigation into the unlawful killings of several big game mammals. The investigation began with information about an individual who had unlawfully killed two trophy mule deer bucks in Crook County in December of 2024. After several interviews with numerous individuals, information was obtained that another mule deer buck, mule deer doe and a spike elk were killed unlawfully in Jefferson County in November 2024. Evidence regarding the killings were believed to have been shared via social media, and search warrants were served. The suspects ultimately confessed to the crimes. K-9 Scout was deployed nearly four months after the mule deer doe was unlawfully killed. K-9 Scout located the doe's head near the last known area the doe was left. K-9 Scout and his handler proved again they are an asset to the agency.

## K-9 Team Attends OHA Youth Day

K-9 Buck and his handler traveled to Myrtle Point with the Trailer of Shame and to participate in the OHA Tioga Chapter Youth Day. During the event, 114 kids were rotated through eight stations. Accompanying the kids were around 70 adults. The Trooper discussed everything from protecting Oregon's fish and wildlife, K-9 Buck's role within the Oregon State Police, and discussion of case examples within the Trailer of Shame. The Trooper discussed some K-9 related cases and answered many questions. All of the kids were very active in the discussion and participated well.



## K-9 Teams Attend OWF Event

K-9 Buck, K-9 Scout, and their handlers participated in a meet and greet located at the Oregon Wildlife Foundation (OWF) Gift Shop in Bonneville. OWF, which supports the OSP Fish and Wildlife K-9 program, hosted the event that brought approximately 200-300 people to interact with K-9 Buck and K-9 Scout. The Troopers were able to connect with the public and discuss the OSP Fish and Wildlife K-9 program and how it helps with Oregon's anti-poaching goals. The event was a big success and well received by the public.

## K-9 Buck Locates Shell Casing at Crime Scene

K-9 Buck and his handler were contacted to assist with a criminal investigation related to a subject discharging a firearm at passing motorist in the Portland area. Upon arrival, K-9 Buck was deployed and searched the roadside. The area was partially covered in briars. K-9 Buck located one of the shell casings a short distance within the briars. The casing was collected by crime lab personnel. K-9 Buck continued to help on scene, which led to additional shell casings being located.

## K-9 Demo at Hunter Education Event

Springfield Fish and Wildlife Troopers participated in a hunter education event in Creswell. Both Troopers taught regulations and answered several questions. K-9 Buck and his handler did a demonstration for everyone at the event. After the demo, the Trooper answered K-9 related questions.



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH



## Trooper Gives Presentation on Water Safety

A Hermiston Fish and Wildlife Trooper provided a lifejacket safety/awareness presentation for Highland Hills Elementary School for three kindergarten classes. Kids got to interact with the Trooper and received whistles or fishing bobbers for answering questions correctly. Students also got to tour the teams' Columbia River boat. In total, 46 kids attended, along with six teachers and one school administrator. The Trooper's presentation was appreciated and there was discussion about doing a larger scale one next year to more of the school.



## Roseburg Troopers Umpqua Fishing Derby Event

The Roseburg Fish and Wildlife Team worked with local guides, veterans, community members, and the Umpqua Fishery Enhancement Derby to provide a positive outdoor experience for over 150 children. The kids left the event with a fitted life jacket, fishing pole, tackle, and better understanding of the safety and angling rules. The kids had the opportunity to fish from a boat, tie flies and develop into future sportsmen and women. Huge kudos to Senior Trooper Baimbridge who took a major proactive role in creating the kids day for local 5th graders.



## Trooper Assists at SRCI Fishing Event

An Ontario Fish and Wildlife Trooper attended the 4th annual Fish with an Inmate Event at Bully Creek Reservoir. The event is sponsored by the Oregon Department of Corrections Snake River Correctional Institution (SRCI) and is designed for minimum security adults in custody who are within two years of being released to have a day of fishing with their children and families as part of reintegrating them into society. A lunch was provided and multiple fish including small mouth bass, trout, and carp were caught by the children and their family members.

## Troopers Attend YMCA Water Safety Day Event

Central Point Fish and Wildlife Troopers participated in Water Safety Day at the local YMCA. Multiple kids were given OSP stickers and coloring books. The Troopers brought the OSP jet boat for the kids to observe.



## Troopers Participate in Sisters Rodeo Parade

A Bend Fish and Wildlife Trooper and Patrol Trooper participated in the Sisters Rodeo Parade through downtown Sisters. The weather was perfect and hundreds of spectators attended the parade. OSP was well received and thanked for their attendance.



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH



## Women in Fish and Wildlife Enforcement

Oregon State Police hosted a Women in Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Workshop for prospective women interested in the career field. The event was held at E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area and the participants had hands on activities and classroom presentations. Several members from ODFW were also present and aided in presentations.



## Troopers Assist on School Fishing Trip

Fish and Wildlife Troopers from The Dalles assisted the Cascade Locks Elementary School third grade class with a fishing field trip at the Cascade Locks Marina. Fishing poles were provided by the local CCA chapter. The class had fun and caught several small mouth bass.

## Troopers Provide Lifejacket Safety Presentation

Hermiston and Heppner Fish and Wildlife Troopers provided a lifejacket safety/awareness presentation to Sam Boardman Elementary School. In addition, Troopers showed off the team's Columbia River boat and a fish and wildlife truck. Students got to interact with Troopers and engage in discussions and scenarios. Troopers talked with 250 kids and 10 teachers/admin. Admin told Troopers that this previously had been done by local law enforcement but appreciated the smaller groups with more personable interaction and asked Troopers to come back again next year.

## Trooper Supports Special Olympics LE Torch Run

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper provided support to Newport's Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run with Lincoln City Police Department, Newport Police Department, and the Lincoln County Sheriff's office. Participants ran from the north side of the Yaquina Bay Bridge to the City Hall.

## Trooper Attends Steelheaders Meeting

A Portland Fish and Wildlife Trooper was a guest speaker at the Sandy River Chapter of Steelheaders meeting at Glen Otto Park. There were approximately 25 members in attendance. The Trooper fielded questions from the members and talked about key priorities with the OSP Fish and Wildlife North Valley Team. The Trooper received a very positive response from the attending members.



# GENERAL LAW & RESCUES



## Troopers Assist with Ocean Vessel Tow

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Troopers conducted an ocean patrol out of Newport targeting recreational halibut, groundfish, and salmon anglers. During that patrol, a vessel was found with mechanical issues 12 miles from the coast of Newport. OSP towed the stranded vessel for approximately three miles while coordinating with the Coast Guard to complete the rescue.

## Angling Patrol Nets DUII Arrest

A Bend Fish and Wildlife Sergeant was checking anglers on the Deschutes River. He contacted a subject as his juvenile grandson was angling with bait. The subject exhibited obvious signs of impairment and admitted to parking only minutes prior. Subsequent investigation led to the arrest of the subject for **Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUII)** and **Reckless Endangering**. The subject provided a breath sample of .13%. He was also cited for **Counseling in a Wildlife Offense**.

## Subject Cited for Possession of Meth

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Trooper was conducting angler checks at Junction City Ponds. A total of 31 anglers were checked at the ponds. Two violation citations were issued for **No Resident Angling License** and two warnings were issued for **No Angling License in Possession**. While walking around the pond, the Trooper observed a female subject sitting in the bushes smoking a substance out of a clear glass pipe. The subject was contacted and admitted she was smoking meth. The meth and glass pipe were seized, and the subject was issued a criminal citation for **Possession of Methamphetamine**.



## Injured Crow Taken to Wildlife Images

A Central Point Fish and Wildlife Trooper located an injured fledgling crow in the parking lot of Cole Rivers Hatchery. The Trooper secured the juvenile crow and transported it to Wildlife Images when they opened the following day for evaluation and treatment.



## Boater Cited for BUII

A John Day Fish and Wildlife Sergeant was patrolling the John Day River between Spray and Service Creek when he noticed two adult males in a raft that displayed indicators of possible impairment. Upon further observations, the Sergeant noted more indicators and saw both subjects continued drinking beer. The Sergeant contacted both subjects who had open beers and empty beer containers in the raft. The operator of the boat consented to field sobriety tests and performed poorly. He subsequently admitted to being impaired and apologized for his actions. The operator was cited for **Boating Under the Influence of Intoxicants (BUII): Non-Motorized** and they parked the boat at camp.



# WILDLIFE & ENVIRONMENT



## Unlawful Take of Buck Deer - Terrebonne

A Prineville Fish and Wildlife Trooper took a report of a buck deer that was shot and dying at a private residence in Terrebonne. Initial reports indicated the buck was shot by a rifle and the suspect had been aiming right at the back deck of the callers when he shot the deer. Follow-up revealed the suspect had shot the deer with a high-powered .177 air rifle with the intent of hazing the deer out of his yard. The deer was deceased upon arrival. The subject was interviewed, criminally cited for **Unlawful Take of Buck Deer**, and the air gun was seized. The deer was donated through The Butcher Block for distribution to local families in need through The Gathering church.

## Sergeant and Citizen Assist on Fire

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Sergeant was patrolling the north spit of Coos Bay and was the first emergency responder on scene for two fires that sparked after a train passed by. The Sergeant and a citizen slowed the largest fire with a fire extinguisher and shovel until fire units arrived to assist. Winds and dry weather had increased fire danger significantly. The fires burned about two acres.

## Subject Cited for Alcohol Possession and Littering

A St. Helens Fish and Wildlife Trooper was observing anglers on the Gilbert River at Big Eddy when he noticed a man drinking a beer. Alcohol possession is currently prohibited on the Sauvie Island Wildlife Area. After finishing the beer, the man stashed the empty can in the brush. The man was later contacted and denied drinking a beer or placing the can in the brush. The Trooper retrieved the hidden can and handed it back to the man and advised him to dispose of it properly. The subject was issued a citation for **Possession of Alcohol** and issued a warning for **Littering**.



## Subjects Cited for Multiple Wildlife Offenses

Madras Fish and Wildlife Troopers concluded a long-term investigation into the unlawful killings of several big game mammals. The investigation began with information about an individual who had unlawfully killed two trophy mule deer bucks in Crook County in December of 2024. After several interviews with numerous individuals, information was obtained that another mule deer buck, mule deer doe and a spike elk were killed unlawfully in Jefferson County in November of 2024. The suspects ultimately confessed to the crimes.

Suspect 1 was cited for the following: **Unlawful Take of Antlerless Deer, Unlawful Take of Spike Elk, Unlawful Take of Protected Wildlife, Waste of a Game Mammal x4, Hunting from/or Across a Highway x2, Unlawful Take of Buck Deer x2, Hunting in Violation of Criminal Trespass, and Criminal Trespass Second Degree x2.**

Suspect 2 was cited for the following: **Unlawful Take of Buck Deer, Aiding/Counseling in a Wildlife Offense x4, Hunting from/or Across a Highway, and Waste of a Game Mammal.**

## Man Admits to Shooting Deer Eating His Plants

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Trooper responded to a citizen report of a doe deer with a head injury running up a hill in the Bridge area with an ATV following it a bit later. The deer was located and euthanized due to its condition. The ATV was backtracked to a nearby residence and was found in the driveway. None of the residents initially admitted to knowledge of the situation. An elderly man eventually admitted to shooting at the deer after the Troopers found fresh blood near his garden. The subject expressed frustration that the deer were eating his tomato plants and that his landlord was feeding the deer, which exacerbated the situation. He was issued a citation for **Taking Deer Closed Season** and his .22 Rifle was seized. The deer was donated to the Coquille Indian Tribe Elders.



# MARINE FISHERIES TEAM



## Troopers Seize Illegally Imported Shellfish

A Fish and Wildlife Lieutenant received information regarding possible sales of prohibited species at a market in Portland. The Lieutenant, an MFT Sergeant and Trooper contacted a vendor at a food truck that had boxes of live blue crab and non-native crayfish for sale. Two sport caught shad were also discovered in the refrigerator of the food truck without any record of transfer. The seller was cited for **Possession of Prohibited Species** and warned for **No Written Record of Transfer**. The company from Texas that imported the product into Oregon will be contacted for follow up enforcement action. Approximately 350 lbs of blue crab and crayfish, and two shad were seized.



## Yelloweye Rockfish Seized and Donated

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a complaint from an ODFW fish checker in Depoe Bay of a subject in possession of a yelloweye rockfish. Yelloweye harvest is prohibited year long. The subject stated he misidentified the fish and was educated by the fish checker on how to correctly identify fish in the future. A citation was issued for **Take/Possession of Marine Fish Closed Season** and the fish was donated to charity.

## Subject Cited for Unlawful Sale of Shad

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper observed a Facebook posting advertising the sale of shad out of the Portland area. The subject was identified by his Facebook profile and no commercial license was identified, leading the Trooper to believe the shad were sport caught fish being offered for sale. A conversation was started on Facebook in which the subject offered to sell 130 shad for over \$500. A meet up was agreed upon at the subjects residence in Portland. The Trooper and a Sergeant coordinated a plan and met the subject who admitted to offering the sale of sport caught shad for camping money. The subject was ultimately cited for **Purchase, Sell, or Exchange (Or Offer to) Wildlife/Parts/Products**.

## Ocean Boat Patrol - Brookings

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted an ocean boat patrol in Brookings. During a contact with a salmon angler, the subject was found to be using three poles and barbed hooks. The subject was issued a citation for **Angling More Than One Rod/Line** and warned for **Angling Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks**. During a contact with a halibut angler, the subject was found to be angling with two poles. The subject was issued a citation for **Angling More Than One Rod/Line**.

## Subject Cited for Undersized Crab - Taft Beach

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a complaint at Taft beach in Lincoln City of an individual in possession of undersized crab. An individual in the parking lot matching the description of the subject provided by the reporting party was spotted loading up his truck. A bucket of crab was observed next to the truck. The Trooper requested to inspect his crab and shellfish license. A check of the crab revealed five undersized Dungeness crab. The subject stated he did not have a measuring stick. A citation was issued for **Take/Possession Undersized Dungeness Crab** and a measuring stick was provided to the crabber.



# MARINE FISHERIES TEAM

## Subject Exceeds Daily Limit of Marine Fish

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper was on routine patrol in North Lincoln County when he came across a subject speaking with an ODFW fish checker at the Depoe Bay boat launch. The Trooper learned from the ODFW employee that the angler was in possession of five marine fish when the daily bag limit was only four. The subject was cited for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit** and the additional fish was seized and donated to charity.

## App Misidentifies Rockfish

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to a report from ODFW regarding two quillback rockfish that were retained in Charleston. The fishermen utilized a paid app to identify the fish which was not accurate. The subjects utilized the app properly and uploaded good profile pictures of the fish however the identification that the app gave was not correct. The subjects were warned for **Take/Possession of Fish Closed Season** and the fish were donated to the local Gospel Mission.

## Fish Dealer and Restaurant Checks in Newport

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Trooper conducted commercial fish dealer and restaurant checks in the Newport area. Multiple dealers and restaurants were contacted over a two-day period. One warning was issued for **Fail to Maintain Proper Fish Dealer Records** and one warning was issued for **Restaurant Without Required Records**.

## Subject Cited for Undersized Crab - Bullards Bay

A Coos Bay Senior Trooper contacted a group of recreational crabbers at the Bullards Beach boat ramp on free fishing weekend. A check of their catch located seven undersized Dungeness crab and five legal Dungeness crab. One subject took responsibility for the measuring and she was issued a citation for **Take/Possession of Undersized Dungeness Crab**. The undersized crab were released back into the river.

## Troopers Assist Boaters Back to Port

Newport Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol out of Yaquina Bay and the Pacific Ocean near Newport. Multiple anglers and crabbers were contacted during the patrol. While on the ocean, Troopers contacted a boat with engine issues and was running on its kicker motor only. To make matters worse, visibility was limited due to dense fog. The Troopers escorted the boat back to port to ensure they made it back safely.

## Misidentified Rockfish Seized

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a call from an ODFW fish checker regarding an angler in possession of a cabezon rock fish at South Beach marina. The Trooper spoke to the subject who stated he misidentified the fish and initially thought it was a quillback (which is also a prohibited species). The subject was educated on fish identification and issued a citation for **Take/Possession of Marine Fish Closed Season**. The cabezon was seized and donated to charity.

## YRCA Boat Patrol

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Troopers conducted a boat patrol in vicinity of the North and South Rock Pile and the Stonewall Bank Yelloweye Rockfish Conservation Area (YRCA). Over 50 recreational anglers were contacted with three citations issued for **Fail to Validate Harvest Card: Halibut**. Several warnings were issued for **No Valid License/Tag in Possession** and **Operate Without Valid Certificate of Registration**.

While on patrol they observed the use of a required descending device on a Yelloweye Rockfish. Thank you to these in-compliance anglers (below) for letting us take their photo! To learn more about rockfish descending devices (also called recompression devices or release devices) go to: [myodfw.com/articles/rockfish-recompression](http://myodfw.com/articles/rockfish-recompression).





# SHELLFISH & ANGLING



## Subjects Cited for Shellfish Violations

Astoria Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted surveillance of recreational crabbers on Seaside Beach and the Necanicum River Estuary. Multiple citations and warnings were issued for **Taking Female Dungeness Crab** (three separate subjects), **Taking Undersized Dungeness Crab**, **Exceed Daily Limit of Razor Clams**, **Fail to Retain Clams as Required**, **Possession of Falsely Applied for Resident License**, and **Aid in a Wildlife Offense**. On one contact, a Trooper watched two subjects that were digging clams stop at a tidepool and take multiple crab out of the tidepool. The subjects put the crab into a bucket without measuring them and were contacted by the Trooper as they were leaving. During the contact, one of the subjects repeatedly tried to hide six female crab that were in a bucket, and a plastic bag full of razor clams. The subject repeatedly tried to walk away from the contact, and at one point when she thought the Trooper wasn't looking, she tore open the bag of razor clams and threw them into a tidepool. When the Trooper told her to stop, she tried to kick sand on top of them while he was watching. Further investigation revealed that one of the subjects didn't have a shellfish license, and the other had a resident license (even though the Trooper could see a Washington driver's license in his wallet). The subjects were cited and released for **Taking Female Dungeness Crab**, **Taking Undersized Dungeness Crab**, **Exceed Daily Limit of Razor Clams**, **Possession of Falsely Applied for Resident License**, and **Aid in a Wildlife Offense**.

## Ochoco Reservoir Boat Patrol

Fish and Wildlife Troopers from the Bend area and K-9 Scout conducted a morning boat patrol of Ochoco Reservoir. Seven anglers were contacted in five boats. Enforcement activities included two warnings for **No Resident Angling License in Possession**, one warning for **Expired Boat Registration**, and one warning for **No Sound Producing Device** (a whistle was issued to the boater).

## Unlawfully Taken Clams Returned to Netarts Bay

A Tillamook Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted a pair of clambers near Netarts Bay who were each in possession of 23 bay clams. The Trooper inquired if the subjects knew the daily bag limit was 20 bay clams per person. The subjects stated they both must have miscounted. The subjects did not have shellfish licenses and ultimately admitted to forgetting to buy one this year. The subjects were both cited for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Clams** and warned for **No 2025 Shellfish License**. All 46 clams were seized and released back into the bay.



## Diamond Lake Shore Patrol

A Roseburg Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted shore patrols at Diamond Lake. Over the two day patrol 27 anglers were checked, and eight boat inspections were conducted. Compliance rates were high and angling success was great. Lots of large rainbow trout being caught. Anglers also reported catching several brown and tiger trout that were released back into the lake.



# SHELLFISH & ANGLING



## Seized Chinook Salmon Donated

A Salem Fish and Wildlife Trooper was conducting a shore patrol of the North Santiam River at the Mill City deadline when he noticed a subject leaving the deadline area with a Chinook Salmon in hand. The Trooper contacted the subject and discovered he did not have a combined angling tag or the required Columbia River Basin endorsement. The subject was issued a citation for **Unlawful Take of Game Fish: Chinook Salmon** and **No Combined Angling Tag**, and was warned for **No Columbia River Basin Endorsement**. The subject admitted to fishing over the deadline and was educated on the regulations. The Chinook salmon was seized and donated to the Union Gospel Mission.

## Subjects Cited for Angling Violations

A Fish and Wildlife Sergeant from The Dalles responded to an angling complaint on the Columbia River below the John Day Dam. The report was that multiple anglers were unlawfully sturgeon angling well within the current sturgeon sanctuary below the dam. Upon arrival, the Sergeant observed multiple subjects not only angling for sturgeon in the sturgeon sanctuary, but also angling above the year-round angling deadline below the John Day Dam. Further investigation revealed that two of the three subjects did not even possess an angling license. No sturgeon were retained. Ultimately, one subject was cited for **Angling Closed Waters**, a second subject was cited for **No 2025 Resident Angling License** and warned for **Angling Closed Waters**, and the third was cited for both **No 2025 Resident Angling License** and **Angling Closed Waters** as he was dishonest up until he was shown video of his illegal angling activities.

## Subject Exceeds Daily Bag Limit of Crappie

A Heppner Fish and Wildlife Trooper was contacted by an angler who reported three men on a boat in Willow Creek Reservoir keeping more crappie than the 25 per day bag limit. The Trooper watched the reported subjects from a distance and contacted them when they returned to the dock. The Trooper counted the fish on the boat and found 53 crappie over the limit of 75 total allowed for the three subjects. Two of the subjects had never fished the reservoir before and each had only one-day nonresident angling licenses. The boat owner has fished the reservoir many times and has had a nonresident angling license in Oregon every year since 2018. The boat owner took responsibility for the 53 fish over the limit and was cited criminally for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit**. The other two subjects were warned for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit**. A Pendleton Fish and Wildlife Sergeant arrived on scene and assisted the Trooper by transporting the 53 seized crappie to be frozen and donated to a raptor rescue facility.

## Subject Cited for Razor Clam Violations

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted razor clam surveillance along Clatsop Beaches during an early morning low tide. One subject was observed clamming with a bag that appeared to be nearly full of clams. The subject was watched for nearly an hour as he continued to dig over 30 holes, but was only harvesting the larger clams, putting the small ones back. As the subject began to walk back to his vehicle, he observed the OSP truck parked next to it and immediately turned around and pretended to continue clamming. The subject then walked approximately 100 yards away, dug a hole and began putting clams from his bag into the hole. Contact was made with the subject as he was putting the clams back. A subsequent search revealed the subject was in possession of 22 razor clams and did not have a shellfish license. The subject was issued citations for **Exceeding Daily Bag Limit of Razor Clams**, **No Resident Shellfish License**, and **Fail to Retain Clams as Required**. All 22 razor clams were seized and donated to the local food bank.



# CASE DISPOSITIONS

## Guide Convicted and Sentenced in Bighorn Sheep Unlawful Take/Waste Case - Wallowa County

During the spring of 2023 Northeast Fish and Wildlife Team members investigated a hunting guide/outfitter business after receiving reports of illegal hunting activity that occurred during the 2021 bighorn sheep hunt in the Minam unit. Felony charges were filed in Wallowa County against one of the owners who acted as the head guide for two bighorn sheep hunts. Charges were also brought against one of the assisting guides on the hunt. During the hunt there were two hunters/clients involved in the hunt. One of the bighorn sheep were found to have been wasted and the other bighorn sheep was found to have been unlawfully taken. After a two-day trial, the owner/head guide was found guilty of one felony count of **Unlawful Take Bighorn Sheep** and one misdemeanor count of **Waste of Wildlife: Bighorn Sheep**. The assisting guide was found not guilty.

The owner/head guide was sentenced as follows:

- 10-Days in jail with the subject being remanded at the end of sentencing
- 5-year hunting license suspension
- Revocation of Outfitter/Guide License
- \$32,250 fine to be paid to ODFW
- 18-months' probation to include the subject being prohibited from possessing weapons, firearms and/or ammunition. May not accompany anyone hunting, be in hunting camp or assist anyone in hunting. May not camp with firearms.







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

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

Follow us on Twitter: [@OSP\\_Fish](https://twitter.com/OSP_Fish)

