



# **OREGON STATE POLICE FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION**



**MONTHLY FIELD REVIEW**

**AUGUST 2025**





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*On the cover:*

*East Region OSP Fish and Wildlife plane at  
Red's Horse Ranch in Wallowa County*



# FISH AND WILDLIFE AVIATION UNIT

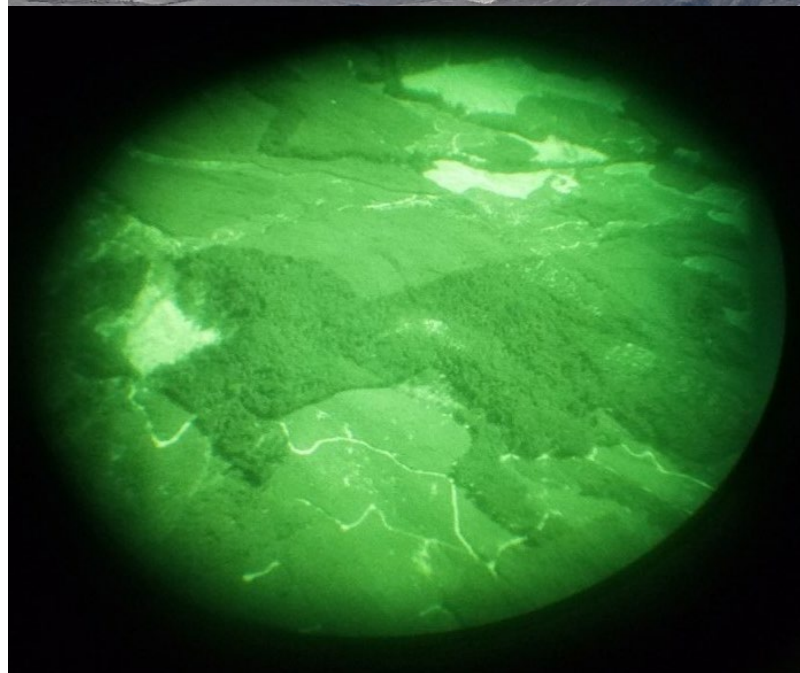


OSP Fish and Wildlife Division's Aviation Unit currently has four Fish and Wildlife Pilots stationed regionally throughout the state to assist with a variety of missions. All four aircraft are single-engine, fixed-wing and include three Cessna 182s and one Cessna 206. Three of the aircraft are equipped with gyro-stabilized cameras that are great for daytime missions while our SW Region plane has a camera with day/night infrared capabilities.

Aircraft are an excellent tool to quickly survey large areas and view areas that may not otherwise be patrolled due to remoteness, terrain, travel conditions (e.g. snow), or lack of available Troopers. Acting as a force multiplier, Fish and Wildlife Pilots can locate vehicles and/or persons who may be engaged in hunting/angling activity, trespassing, environmental crimes, riding ATVs/snowmobiles, or who may be lost/in need of assistance. Additionally, Pilots regularly assist with ODFW surveys, and assist all OSP Divisions as well as our partner law enforcement agencies.



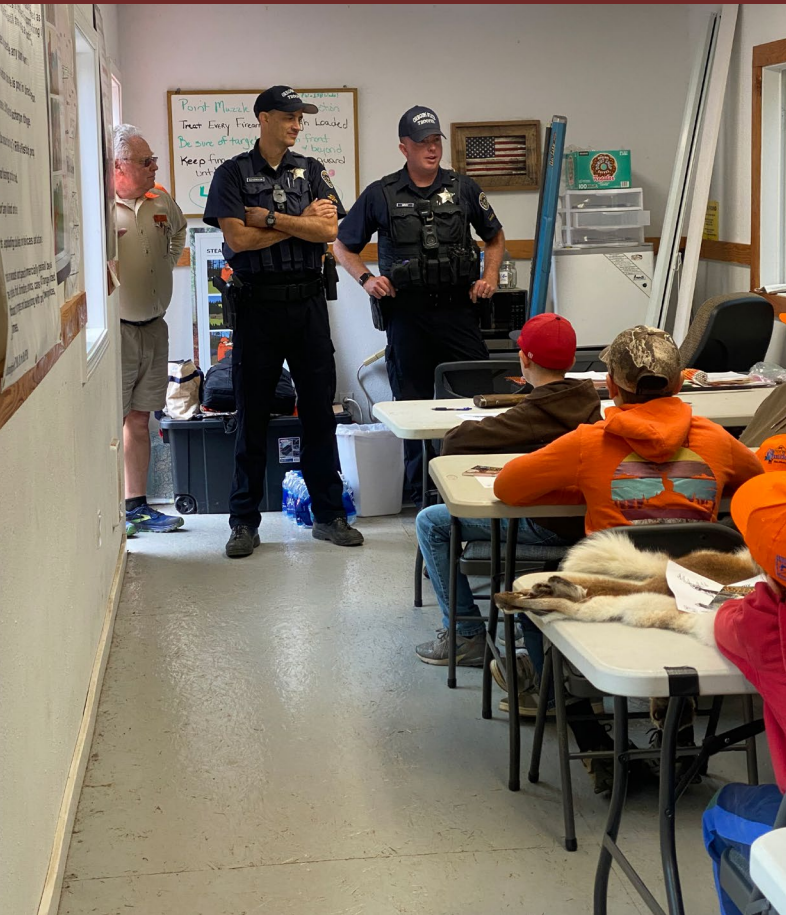
*Photo of an environmental case taken with gyro-stabilized camera*



*Photo taken with night vision camera*



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH



## **Troopers Attend Hunter's Ed Class in Siletz**

Newport Fish and Wildlife Troopers provided support to a hunter's education class taught at the Big Timber Rifle Range in Siletz. In total, 16 youths were given instructions on hunting safety and ethics, conducted rifle marksmanship using .22 cal rifles, and conducted a terrain walk with several hunting scenarios.

## **Trooper Gives Presentation to Hunter's Ed Class**

A Madras Fish and Wildlife Trooper gave a PowerPoint presentation to a hunter's education class in Prineville. The presentation consisted of what local OSP Fish and Wildlife Troopers do throughout the year with photos of local work done. The class was also given scenarios about if they harvested the wrong sex/species of animal.

## **Trailer of Shame Displayed at Oregon State Fair**

Fish and Wildlife Trooper Division members from around the state displayed the Trailer of Shame at the Oregon State Fair. Citizen contacts were high with OSP swag being handed out. Troopers answered numerous fishing and hunting questions as well as provided information to future potential applicants about a career with OSP in both Patrol and Fish and Wildlife.

## **Trooper Attends Hermiston Melon Festival**

A Hermiston Fish and Wildlife Trooper attended the Hermiston Melon Festival with the team's Columbia River Boat. The Trooper allowed children and adults to tour the boat, and answered multiple questions about angling regulations and Oregon State Marine Board requirements. In total, the Trooper spoke with 300 kids and adults.

## **Troopers Assist with Hunter's Ed Field Day**

A John Day Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted with a hunter's education field day in John Day. The Trooper conducted a hunter's trail walk in which various scenarios are presented regarding hunting safety, ethics, shoot/no shoot situations and then concluding in a mock field check by a Fish and Wildlife Trooper. There were 11 students in attendance and the activity was well received by the students, producing several regulation questions.

## **Trooper Attends CCA Meeting**

A Fish and Wildlife Sergeant from The Dalles attended the Mid-Columbia Chapter Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) meeting in The Dalles. A representative from the Hood River Watershed council gave a presentation regarding fish habitat projects for the 21 members in attendance.

## **Bay Area Hospital Community Partners Event**

Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife and Patrol Troopers attended the Bay Area Hospital Community Partners event in Coos Bay. Several dozen police, fire, and EMS agencies were in attendance, along with the US Coast Guard. This was the second such event and was well attended by the public.

## **Springfield Troopers Attend Hunter's Ed Course**

Springfield Fish and Wildlife Troopers attended a hunter's education course located in the Creswell area. The Troopers provided information pertaining to the hunting regulations and answered questions from both the youth and parents. The Troopers conducted a demonstration with K-9 Buck.

## **American Legion Law Enforcement Academy**

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Troopers participated in the American Legion Law Enforcement Academy for teenagers held annually at Camp Rilea. A poaching scenario was set up using a road struck deer and the students were able to shadow a Trooper as he conducted an investigation and ultimately the students were able to use metal detectors to find and retrieve a bullet from the carcass. Several of the students commented this was their favorite part of the academy.



# COMMUNITY OUTREACH



## Commercial Crab Pop-Up Gear Workshop

Astoria Fish and Wildlife Troopers attended a Commercial Crab Pop-Up Gear workshop hosted by ODFW and supported by Sea Grant in Astoria. The workshop is intended to provide members of the Dungeness crab industry, fishery managers, and Oregon and Washington enforcement partners a demonstration of the unique equipment currently being used as experimental commercial fishing gear in California waters as a reduction for whale entanglements.

## Trooper Attends USFS Event - Prineville

A Madras Fish and Wildlife Trooper participated in a hunter's information booth in Prineville. US Forest Service (USFS) hosts the event each year, on the day prior to the opening day of bow season. Crews from Crook County Fire and Rescue (CCFR), USFS, Warm Springs fire prevention and Oregon Department of Forestry were there. Approximately 80 people stopped by the booth and were given information on fire prevention, hunter information, and a "stop the bleed" course hosted by CCFR.

## Troopers Attend National Night Out Events

Springfield area Fish and Wildlife and Patrol Troopers participated in National Night Out at PK Park in Eugene. The annual event brings hundreds to interact with various law enforcement agencies, special teams, and K-9s. There is a baseball game held at the event as well. The event is a successful way to have positive interactions with the public.

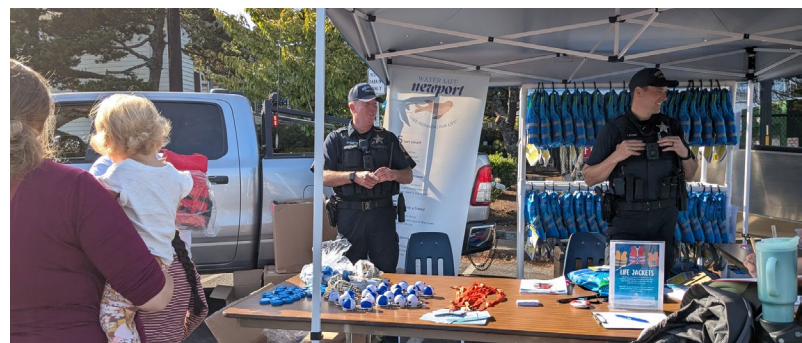
K-9 Buck and his handler, and Troopers from the McMinnville/Salem area attended National Night Out in Lafayette. The event brought several visitors, and they were able to interact with K-9 Buck, the Oregon State Police Explosives Unit, and an OSP Recruiter. The event was well received and left a positive impact on the community.

A Madras Fish and Wildlife Trooper participated in the city of Madras National Night Out. The Trooper displayed items seized during local investigations and Fish and Wildlife equipment. The public appreciated the display.

Bend and Prineville Fish and Wildlife Troopers attended National Night Out in Redmond. The Troopers answered questions for the public and handed out stickers and swag to youth. A Trooper participated in the doughnut eating contest, and K-9 Scout and his handler gave an article search demonstration to a large audience.

A Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Trooper displayed The Dalles 28' North River patrol boat at the National Night Out event in The Dalles. They enjoyed a few hours of positive interactions with the public and other local law enforcement.

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Trooper participated in Newport's National Night Out event at the Newport Community Center. Newport Parks and Rec partnered with Englund Marine and Walmart to purchase life jackets for the public. The Newport Fish and Wildlife team, along with a Parks and Rec Lifeguard ensured proper fit and gave out several hundred life jackets to members of the community.



*Newport's National Night Out (photo credit: Newport Police Department)*



# GENERAL LAW & RESCUES



## Porcupine Relocated to Wooded Area

Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Troopers responded to a residence in Coos Bay after receiving a report that a porcupine was lounging around in the carport on the property. The porcupine was corralled into a pet carrier and was relocated to a wooded area nearby.

## Sergeant Assists with Criminal Investigation

A Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Sergeant was asked to assist Patrol Troopers and Lake County Sheriff's Office with a hit-and-run domestic. The suspect had attempted to block in his girlfriend from leaving and hit her vehicle with his. He then chased her over 10 miles to and around Lakeview at speeds over 100 mph before she finally was able to lose him. The Sergeant was asked to assist the victim with a safety plan and connecting with crisis services when the subject arrived at the location. The subject was interviewed and arrested. During his search over two grams of methamphetamine was located on his person. He was lodged on **Reckless Driving, Reckless Endangering, Criminal Mischief First Degree, Menacing, and Attempted Assault I**. The additional charges of **Possession of Meth** and **Failure to Perform Duties of Driver** were referred to the District Attorney.



## Heron Relocated After Wandering into Garage

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to a report of an injured great blue heron wandering into neighborhood garages. The heron was located, and no injuries were observed, but the heron would not fly away. The heron was captured and relocated to a more suitable environment.

## Trooper Assists with Redmond House Fire

A Madras Fish and Wildlife Trooper observed a plume of black smoke rising from a residential area in Redmond. He responded and located a home ablaze. A Taylor NW water truck driver happened to be in the area and began to douse what he could with his water truck before Redmond Fire and Rescue arrived on scene. The home's occupant was able to escape with his pet dog. Redmond Police arrived and took over the scene. No injuries reported.

## Trooper Assists Rancher with Stuck Calf

A Lakeview Fish and Wildlife Trooper was patrolling the Silver Lake Unit when he came across a cattle rancher needing assistance. They had a large calf that was stuck in a spring box, which was essentially a 24" culvert set vertically in the ground and somehow the calf backed into it. Only its head was above water. They were unable to pull it out with horses and did not have a chainsaw to clear a path to get a truck to the calf. The Trooper used his department issued chainsaw to clear a path to back his truck up to the spring box and calf. He then used a tow chain to pull the calf out of the hole. The rancher was appreciative of the assistance of a Fish and Wildlife Trooper and the equipment carried to assist those in need.

## Injured Gray Owl Rescued

A Madras Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to a wounded owl call in Eagle Crest. The gray owl was observed to have an injured wing. A volunteer from Think Wild Wildlife Hospital and Conservation Center responded to the scene to take possession of the animal and transport it to Think Wild.



# WILDLIFE & ENVIRONMENT



## Trophy Elk Taken Prior to Season Opening

A John Day Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Trooper were conducting a wildlife enforcement decoy (WED) on the evening prior to archery season opening. The decoy activity was cut short when they received a report of a trophy bull elk with two arrows in it. The location was approximately five miles into the Strawberry Mountain Wilderness. The following day, with the assistance of the reporting party, the violator was located. A full confession was obtained, and the meat, head and archery equipment used in the commission of the crime were seized. A criminal citation was issued for **Unlawful Take of Bull Elk**.

## Driver Cited for TMA Violation

A Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Trooper was patrolling the Green Diamond Resource Company (GDRC) Aspen Lake Road closure. He received information about a vehicle being operated in the closure. The vehicle was located and stopped. The driver was escorted out of the closure and cited for the TMA violation. A second vehicle was also reported to have violated the closure but was not located.



## Bear Taken Two Days Before Season Opening

Salem Fish and Wildlife Troopers received information about a bear that had been unlawfully harvested two days before the opening of the general fall bear season on Port Blakely Tree Farm property in Molalla. During the investigation, it was discovered the suspect had shot the bear using his bow with field tipped arrows. The suspect then called a friend and used their suppressed rifle to complete the kill. As a result of the information both individuals were identified. A Trooper authored a search warrant for the suspect's house, the suspect's vehicle, and the Port Blakely Property for trail cameras. Upon serving the search warrant Troopers discovered the bear, rifle, bow, cameras, and other evidence located at four different locations. Both the suspect and his friend admitted to knowing the season was closed and criminal citations will be issued for **Take/Possession of Black Bear Closed Season, Hunting Closed Season, Hunting Prohibited Method: Bow and Arrow Restrictions, and Aiding/Counseling in a Wildlife Offense**. Multiple Fish and Wildlife Lieutenants, Sergeants and Troopers assisted in the investigation.



# WILDLIFE & ENVIRONMENT



## Subject Cited for Hunting Bear Over Bait

On the opening day of bear season, a Salem Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Trooper and St. Helens Fish and Wildlife Troopers investigated a subject baiting bears in the Scappoose Unit. The location of his bait site and tree stand was located and surveillance was conducted on the area. After watching the suspect walk into the site with a handgun, bow, and two jugs of molasses, contact was made as he was actively hunting while sitting in his tree stand. Subsequent to an interview, the subject was cited for **Hunting Bear Over Bait**. The area reeked of molasses and there was a large pile of wet cob 31 yards from his stand. A consent search of his trail camera app showed multiple bears at the site almost every day since March. His bow, pistol, tree stand, two cameras, and two empty jugs of molasses were seized.

## Subject Self-Reports Salvage Violation

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Trooper responded to the report of a poached deer near Veneta. The investigation revealed the deer was road struck but still alive and not dispatched by the driver who hit it. A third party saw the deer and called a family member to harvest it under the roadkill salvage law. The person arrived, shot the deer and removed it. They obtained the permit as required then realized they were not allowed to shoot it. They self-reported, the deer was seized and the person was warned.



## Youth Rider Excited to Show Off ATV Permit and Decal

A John Day Fish and Wildlife Sergeant contacted a group of adults and their 7-year-old son who were riding outside of Bull Prairie Lake. The youth was excited to show his ATV decal and his recently obtained ATV Permit. The Sergeant gave the youth an OSP sticker and agreed to take a photo at the parent's request. The family shared a story that they had been victims of a hit-and-run crash outside of Prineville, where an OSP Trooper had responded to locate the suspect that had fled the scene. The family said the Trooper then returned to the scene and took time to speak with them and their son, which helped their outlook on the scary situation. They just wanted to pass along their appreciation of their positive experiences with State Troopers.



## Successful Elk Hunter Poses for Photo with Trooper

A Madras Fish and Wildlife Trooper patrolled the Grizzly WMU on opening day of archery season and contacted several unsuccessful hunters. One hunter stopped his vehicle next to the Trooper and said, "I got one!" The hunter had been hunting elk with his 9-year-old son watching. About two miles from the truck a spike elk came into view at 32 yards and dad made a good archery shot. The rest of the family came out to help and posed for a photo with the legally harvested elk.



# WILDLIFE & ENVIRONMENT



## Hart Mountain Archery Antelope Season

A Madras Fish and Wildlife Trooper worked the Hart Mountain archery antelope season for five days, camping at the Hot Springs Campground. During this time 14 of the 22 tag holders were contacted as well as the Special Auction Antelope Tag holder. Four antelope were harvested and checked by the Trooper. One hunter was observed 3.26 miles away via spotting scope harvest an antelope. The hunter was photographed standing over his harvest. The hunter was met when he returned to camp and took a selfie with the Trooper and his legally harvested buck antelope. Another hunter also wanted to take a selfie with his legally harvested buck. While patrolling, the Trooper contacted two women driving northbound onto the refuge that were lost and trying to find their way to California. They were led back to the town of Adel and given directions to Lakeview and California. Several Hart Mountain Refuge staff members were contacted as well as other user groups. They appreciated the OSP presence.

## Subject Trespasses to Take Antelope

A Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Sergeant received a report of a subject trespassing on private land and killing a buck pronghorn. The Sergeant responded and located the subjects at camp. The subjects stated they had shot the animal on Forest Service land, and it ran onto private land. They then shot it again on the private land and entered to retrieve the animal. No evidence could be located on the Forest Service side of the fence to suggest the animal had been on public land when they first shot. Evidence suggested a rapid recovery from private land, and they admitted to knowing it was private. A Lakeview Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted on scene and located a bullet casing. The animal was seized, and the subject cited for **Hunting Enclosed Lands of Another.**



## Lake and Harney County Antelope Patrols

The South-Central Fish and Wildlife Team conducted patrol operations for the rifle antelope opener in Lake and Harney Counties. Numerous ATV patrols, a flight, and other activities were conducted. Troopers camped out and enjoyed the cooler weather. Numerous warnings and citations were issued for a variety of violations.

## Antelope Season Opening Weekend Patrols

A Central Point Fish and Wildlife Trooper provided assistance patrolling Grant County during opening weekend of antelope season. A John Day Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Trooper conducted patrols and decoy operations in the Murderers Creek and Malheur Units resulting in approximately 50 hunter checks, five antelope were checked, and four warnings were issued for tag/license violations. Troopers investigated one incident of a reported trespass involving the taking of an antelope buck in the Murderers Creek Unit. Troopers located the suspects and investigated the case. The landowner, who leases his property for hunting, met with the main suspect and then decided to handle the incident civilly. The suspect was warned for **Hunting in Violation of Criminal Trespass.** The landowner appreciated the Trooper's quick response and investigation.



# MARINE FISHERIES TEAM



## Salmon Fisheries Keep MFT Members Busy

Marine Fisheries Team (MFT) members continue to work the salmon fisheries coastwide. There are continued issues with salmon fish ID or anglers not being aware of the regulations:

- A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper followed up with a subject who had retained a wild Coho in Winchester Bay that ODFW seized. The fish was donated to charity and the subject was issued a citation for **Take/Possession of Non-Adipose Fin-Clipped Coho**.
- Astoria Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted surveillance of a subject on the Nehalem River during the fall salmon fishery. Catch rates were moderate. Multiple boats were contacted; and citations and warnings were issued for **Fail to Immediately Validate Wild Chinook, Lend or Borrow Angler Harvest Card, and No Valid License/Tag in Possession**.
- Astoria Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River during the Buoy 10 fishery out of Warrenton. Hundreds of boats were observed trolling for salmon. Multiple warnings and citations were issued for **Fishing Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks** and **No/Expired Certificate of Number**.
- An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted angler checks at Hammond Marina as boats returned from angling in the Columbia River for the popular Buoy 10 fishery. Success rates were high with many of the boats returning with limits of salmon. Multiple citations and warnings were issued for **Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Card, Take/Possession of Undersized Chinook Salmon, and Take/Possession of Non-Adipose Fin Clipped Chinook Salmon**. One undersized Chinook (above) and one wild Chinook (below) were seized and donated to a local food bank.



## Troopers Seize 212 Clams - Garibaldi

Astoria Fish and Wildlife Troopers worked an early morning minus tide conducting shellfish surveillance in Garibaldi. There was a large showing of effort for bay clams and multiple contacts were made. Multiple warnings and citations were issued for **No Resident Shellfish License** and **Exceeding Daily Bag Limit of Clams**. During one contact two subjects were observed digging a limit of clams, walking and placing the bag into their vehicle before returning to continue digging. A Trooper contacted the subjects at their vehicle checking their shellfish licenses and two daily limits. They were asked if there were any other shellfish in their car, and they said that there was not. A consent search revealed three hidden bags in the passenger leg area containing 212 additional bay clams. The subjects were both criminally cited for **Exceeding Daily Limit of Clams**. The 212 seized clams were returned to the bay.

## Commercial Crayfish Harvester Cited

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper investigated the sale of live crayfish from a retail store in Astoria. Investigation revealed the market owner convinced a commercial crayfish harvester to land 15 lbs of live crayfish directly to her store under the premise of using another wholesale dealer's information. The store owner admitted to weighing the crayfish at her store, using another's wholesale dealer license to create a fish receiving ticket, and forging the dealer's name on the fish receiving ticket. The market owner was criminally cited and released for **No Wholesale Fish Dealer License** and **Falsifying Commercial Fish Report**. Charges for **Forgery in the Second Degree** were referred to the Clatsop County District Attorneys Office.



# MARINE FISHERIES TEAM



## Bay Clams and Marine Invertebrates Seized

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper worked an early morning minus tide conducting shellfish surveillance in Garibaldi. Multiple contacts, warnings and citations were issued for **Exceeding Daily Bag Limit: Marine Invertebrate, Exceeding Daily Bag Limit: Clams, Dig Clam for Another, Fail to Allow Inspection, and Fail to Use Own Container**. On one contact, the Trooper checked licenses and daily limits of a group of several subjects who were at their vehicle finished clamming. Over an hour later the Trooper observed the same subjects back on the clam beds digging for a second time. The group was recontacted and admitted they had brought their first clams back to their nearby rental and came back out to dig more. They admitted to not reading Oregon's shellfish regulations. The Trooper seized 76 bay clams and 49 marine invertebrates and returned them to the bay.

## Dealer Improperly Recorded Catch

A Tillamook Fish and Wildlife Trooper investigated issues with discrepancies in salmon troll tickets submitted by a wholesale fish dealer regarding catch area and species. Troll salmon fish tickets are used to regulate salmon quotas and timely and accurate reporting is critical in the management of this fishery. It was determined the fisherman had retained salmon legally, but the dealer had not recorded the catch properly. The dealer was warned for **Failure to Accurately Complete Fish Ticket**.



## Two Chinook Seized - Columbia River

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted angler inspections at a local marina during the opening weekend of the Buoy 10 fishery. Multiple anglers were contacted with most anglers having success in the Pacific Ocean or the Columbia River. On one contact, ODFW samplers notified the Trooper that a group of subjects returned after fishing from the Columbia River with a short hatchery Chinook. Upon investigation it was found that the angler retained a hatchery Chinook well below the 24" length minimum thinking it was a jack and legal to retain in the lower river. Further inspection found that of the four subjects, two failed to validate their combined angling tags, one had no valid 2025 angling licenses or combined angling tag, and one had no 2025 combined angling tag. The undersized hatchery Chinook and another hatchery Chinook were seized and donated to a local food bank. The subjects were cited for **Take/Possession Undersized Chinook, Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Card, No Combined Angling License, and No Resident Angling License**.

## Subject Cited for Take of Wild Coho

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper followed up with a subject who had retained a wild Coho in Winchester Bay that ODFW seized. The fish was donated to charity and the subject was issued a citation for **Take/Possession of Non-Adipose Fin-Clipped Coho**.



# SHELLFISH & ANGLING



## Mt. Hood National Forest High Lakes Patrol

The Dalles Fish and Wildlife Team, along with East Region Lieutenant and a Trooper from the Portland Team, conducted a saturation patrol of the high lakes in the Mt. Hood National Forest. During the patrol over 100 contacts were made involving anglers and boaters. As a result, several boat inspections were conducted, and a handful of marine board warnings were issued. For the anglers, six citations were issued for various violations including **No Non-Resident Angling License, No Resident Angling Licenses, and Angling Prohibited Method: Bait** where four trout were seized. Two citations were also issued for **Offensive Littering**. Multiple warnings were issued for other minor angling violations.



## Evening Crab Patrol - Yaquina and Alsea Bays

A Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Trooper checked evening crabbers on the Yaquina Bay Pier and Alsea Bay Port Dock. A subject in Waldport was checked that was found to be in possession of a cooler nearly full of illegally caught Dungeness crab. The crab in the cooler were sorted, with 17 females and 13 undersized males identified. A separate subject was checked and found to be in possession of five females and two undersized males. Both subjects were cited for **Unlawful Take/Possession of Female Crab** and **Unlawful Take/Possession of Undersized Dungeness Crab**. Two other subjects were warned for **Aiding/Counseling in a Wildlife Offense**. In total 37 Dungeness crab were seized and returned to the bay.

## Subject Tries to Hide Foul Hooked Salmon

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Trooper was working on the McKenzie River below Leaburg Dam. During the patrol, the Trooper located a subject who had foul hooked a Chinook salmon. The subject kept the salmon and hid it in the bushes. During the contact, the subject lied about keeping the salmon and told the Trooper he had released it. The subject finally walked into the brush and recovered the hidden salmon. The subject was criminally cited for **Angling Prohibited Method: Snagging** and **Fail To Immediately Validate Harvest Card**. The salmon and fishing pole were seized as evidence.



# SHELLFISH & ANGLING



## Subject Posts Photo of Unlawfully Taken Sturgeon

A Pendleton Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a TIP regarding a photo on a dating app of a live sturgeon in a bathtub. The Trooper and a Hermiston Fish and Wildlife Trooper were eventually able to contact the female subject who posted the photo by phone. She gave various stories of the photo and when questioned about it she hung up and stopped answering calls from the Trooper. Hours later she called and confessed to catching the sturgeon and met with the Troopers in person. She explained she was unaware of the type of fish and drove it home wrapped in a wet blanket in the backseat of her car from Irrigon to Hermiston where she put in her bathtub. She advised she could not find a large enough fish tank on Amazon, so she loaded it back up in the car and released it back in the river. She advised she saw men on the dating app posting photos of fish, so she decided to add a photo of the fish she caught. Charges forwarded to the District Attorney's Office include: **Take/Possession of Sturgeon, Transport of Live Fish, Angling Closed Season, No Combined Angling Harvest Tag.**



## Columbia River and Ocean Boat Patrol

Astoria Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol in the Columbia River and Pacific Ocean out of Astoria. Angling effort and success rates were both extremely high with almost everyone happily showing off limits of salmon. During the patrol, citations and warnings were issued for: **Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Card, Angling Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks, Angling Prohibited Method: Treble Hook, and Take/Possession of Undersized Lingcod.** Two undersized Lingcod were seized and donated to the food bank. In addition, approximately 25 derelict commercial crab pots were located in the Columbia River. Once back at the boat ramp, one angler requested a safety inspection of his vessel and a picture with the Troopers upon passing inspection (below).





# SHELLFISH & ANGLING



## Garibaldi Area Ocean Patrol

Astoria Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted an ocean patrol out of Garibaldi. Conditions were good and many boats and anglers were contacted and checked. Multiple citations and warnings were issued for **Taking Wild Coho Salmon, Angling Prohibited Species: Chinook, Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Card, and Angling Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks for Salmon**. On one contact the subjects on board had retained two Chinook in the ocean where taking Chinook was closed. Another boat had a subject that had retained a Chinook but claimed he had caught it in the bay prior to coming to the ocean and used the code for the bay on his tag. The subject had tagged a Coho he caught in the ocean one line above the Chinook making it blatantly clear he had knowingly retained the Chinook in the closed area. One wild Coho and three hatchery Chinook were seized and donated to Loaves and Fishes in Astoria.



## Subjects Caught Razor Clamming During Closure

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a complaint of three subjects razor clamming near Del Rey Beach. Razor clamming is closed on Clatsop Beaches from July 15 to September 30 every year. Upon arrival, the Trooper located the three subjects in question with a large bucket of clams. The subjects were found to be in possession of 33 razor clams and claimed to be visiting from Colorado. One male subject claimed he had dug all of the clams and was unaware of the closure or the bag limits. A further inspection also revealed none of the subjects possessed a valid non-resident shellfish license. The male subject was issued a citation for **Take/Possession of Razor Clams Closed Season** and warned for **No Non-Resident Shellfish License** and **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Clams**. The 33 razor clams were seized and donated to the local food bank.



## Angler Checks at Hammond and Skipanon Marina

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted angler checks at Hammond and Skipanon Marina as boats returned from salmon angling on the Columbia River. In one instance a subject was found to be in possession of a non-adipose fin-clipped Coho salmon. The subjects stated they misidentified the fish and believed it was a Chinook. The subjects had also retained a legal Chinook salmon and the Trooper was able to educate the subjects on the differences between the two fish. The subject's husband took responsibility for the misidentification and was issued a citation for **Aiding/Counseling in a Wildlife Offense** and **Take/Possession of Non-Adipose Fin-Clipped Coho Salmon**. The salmon was seized and donated. Additional warnings were also issued on the patrol for **Fail To Immediately Validate Harvest Card** and **No/Expired Certificate of Number**.



# SHELLFISH & ANGLING



## Unlawful Take of Crab - Sandlake Campground

A Tillamook Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to an unlawful take/waste of crab case at the Sandlake campground. The camp host was helping a group of campers take out their trash and noticed a large amount of wasted female Dungeness crab. The Trooper conducted an investigation and seized 83 female Dungeness crab and one undersized male Dungeness crab. The suspects buried some of the crab when Troopers arrived on scene and stated that their kids found them in the sand next to their trailer. The Trooper advised the suspects that most of the crab that were seized weren't sandy. The two suspects ultimately admitted to taking the crab. There were cooked crab parts all over the ground between the three camp sites. The two suspects from Washington did not have Oregon Shellfish licenses and were both charged with three misdemeanors each.



## Subject Admits to Snagging Fish

While conducting a gill net patrol on the Columbia, Troopers from Astoria, Portland, and Salem contacted a subject who had been observed fishing in an area known to have large numbers of fish stacked up and easy to snag. Upon contact, the subject stated he had caught a few fish. He was found to have five wild Coho and two Steelhead, all of which had obvious snag marks. None of the fish were tagged. The subject was honest about his activities and said he "gets greedy." He was criminally cited for **Angling Prohibited Method, Take Non-Fin Clipped Coho, and Exceeding the Bag Limit**. All seven fish were seized.

## Sixty Clams Seized and Donated - Garibaldi

Astoria Fish and Wildlife Troopers traveled to Garibaldi and observed recreational bay clammers harvest clams on the mud flats. Near the end of the tide contact was made with a group of three just prior to them arriving to their vehicle with a cooler full of clams. A consent search revealed 120 clams inside the cooler (60 clams over their limit of 20 per person per day). All three stated they misinterpreted the regulations. All three subjects were cited for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Clams**. Sixty clams were seized and donated to Loaves and Fishes in Astoria for charity.

## Subjects Cited for Crab Violations - Taft

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a complaint of a family keeping undersized and female Dungeness crab on the Siletz Bay in Taft. Three female Dungeness crab and two undersized male Dungeness crab were seized and returned to the bay. The family was given a crab gauge, and citations were issued for **Take/Possession of Female Dungeness Crab, Take/Possession of Undersized Dungeness Crab, and Aiding/Counseling in a Wildlife Offense**.



# CASE DISPOSITIONS

## Subject Convicted of Trapping Charges

In March of 2024, a Portland Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Trooper received information about a bobcat trapped on Mount Hood National Forest property near Corbett. During the investigation, it was ascertained that the bobcat had been trapped outside of the season, a game bird (goose) was used as trap bait and was in sight of and within 15 feet of the trap set. The Trooper authored a seizure warrant for a cellular trail camera used for the trap set and foothold trap while the Sergeant remained on scene in cold weather. During the service of the seizure warrant, the bobcat was euthanized for humane reasons and was seized along with the camera and foothold traps. Neither trap was legibly marked with the owner's brand number. Also used in the trap set was an opossum and a wing from a bird tied to and hanging from a string. The Trooper authored two additional warrants, one for the analysis of the trail camera and one requesting information from the company that retained evidence from the use of the camera. A suspect was identified and contacted by phone after a failed attempt to contact him in person. The suspect refused to be interviewed in person and all charges were referred to the Multnomah County District Attorneys office for review and prosecution. In August of 2025, a criminal trial was held, and the defendant was found guilty of all recommended charges including:

- **Take/Possession of Furbearers: Closed Season**
- **Use of Sight Baiting for Carnivores within 15 feet of Trap**
- **Use of Game Mammal, Game Bird, or Game Fish Flesh for Trap Bait**
- **Fail to Brand Traps/Snares**

The defendant was sentenced to:

- 12 months bench probation
- 32 hours of community service
- \$700 fine
- Forfeiture of all property seized
- A three-year license suspension was recommended by the deputy district attorney but was not imposed by the judge.

## Subjects Sentenced in Elk Case

A Burns Fish and Wildlife Trooper received the final court judgment on two subjects who conspired for one of the subjects to shoot an elk for the other one if the opportunity presented itself. One subject shot his second 6x6 bull elk of the year and his hunting partner tagged the bull and assisted in field dressing and packing the bull out. One subject was issued criminal citations for **Exceeding the Bag Limit** and **Lending/Borrowing Big Game Tag**. The other subject was issued criminal citations for **Lending/Borrowing Big Game Tag** and **Aiding/Counseling in a Wildlife Offense**. Both subjects received:

- A 3-year hunting license suspension
- Each ordered to pay the OHA TIP fund \$3,750 (for a total of \$7,500)







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  
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