



OREGON STATE POLICE

FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION



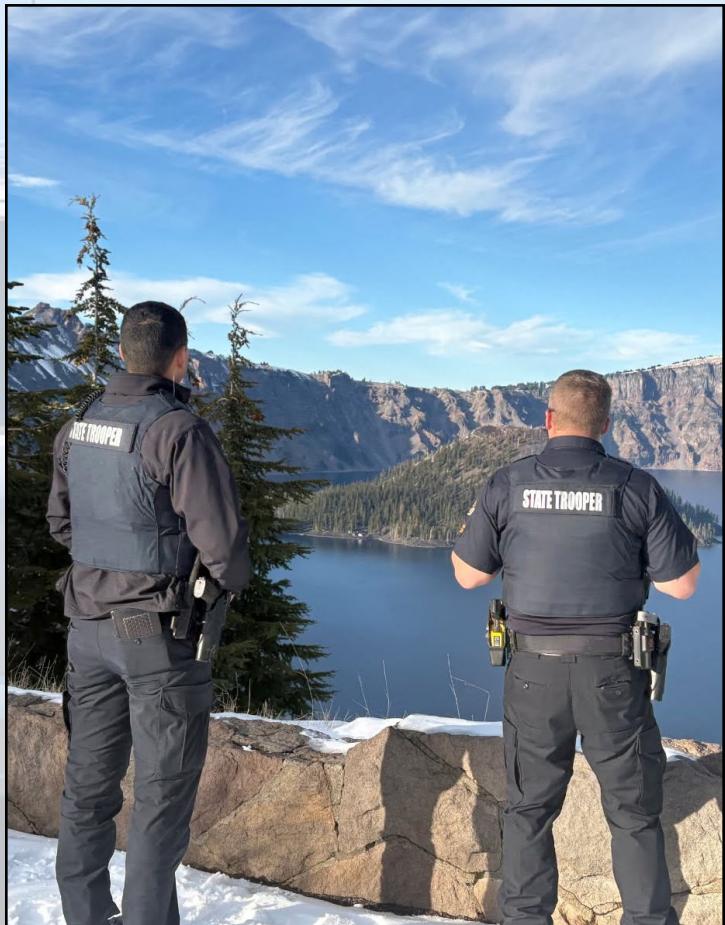
MONTHLY FIELD REVIEW

DECEMBER 2025



CONTENT

South-Central F&W Team	<u>3</u>
Community Outreach	<u>4-5</u>
General Law and Rescues	<u>6-8</u>
Wildlife and Environment	<u>9-11</u>
Marine Fisheries Team	<u>12-13</u>
Shellfish and Angling	<u>14</u>
Case Dispositions	<u>15</u>
Turn in Poachers (TIP) Program	<u>16</u>
F&W Recruitment	<u>17</u>



*On the cover:
Fish and Wildlife Troopers at Crater Lake*

SOUTH-CENTRAL F&W TEAM



The South-Central Fish and Wildlife Troopers patrol a massive expanse of over 14,000 square miles across Klamath and Lake Counties. The team protects Oregon's natural resources across diverse terrain from the depths of Crater Lake National Park (photo above) and the Klamath River to the high desert and volcanic rimrocks of Lake County—Oregon's third-largest county by land area.

The Klamath River travels over 250 miles from its headwaters in Upper Klamath Lake, cutting through the Cascade and Klamath Mountains before reaching the Pacific Ocean in Northern California. For over a century, four dams blocked this path. Following a massive removal effort completed in October 2024, the river's flow was restored, finally reopening vital spawning habitats for salmon and steelhead in the Klamath Basin for the first time in generations.

However, the historic return of these fish also brought new challenges. In October 2025, Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Troopers received a TIP from alert citizens. These witnesses provided photos of an unlawfully taken Chinook salmon and a vehicle license plate.

A Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Trooper successfully located the vehicle and contacted the suspect, who was still in possession of the fish. As a result, the first criminal citation for an unlawfully taken salmon in the history of Klamath County was issued. The salmon and the fishing gear were seized, and the two fish were returned to the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW).

In December 2025 the two witnesses were presented with TIP reward checks. Their vigilance helped ensure that the hard-won return of salmon to the basin remains protected for future generations.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH & EVENTS



Shop with a Cop Events

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Trooper and several Springfield Patrol Troopers participated in a Shop with a Cop Event in Eugene. Troopers, Deputies, and Officers were paired with children to shop for Christmas presents for their family. There were approximately 60 kids in attendance (photo above).

Fish and Wildlife and Patrol Troopers participated in the annual Shop with a Cop Christmas Event at Walmart in Ontario. The Oregon State Police was joined by the following partner agencies at the event: Malheur County Sheriff's Office, Ontario Police Department, Snake River Correctional Staff, Fruitland Police Department, Payette County Sheriff's Office, and the Nyssa Police Department. The kids all received a gift card of approximately \$150 to shop for their family members and or themselves. Santa Claus made an appearance at the event and it was a great success.



A Baker City Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Troopers, and Patrol Troopers participated with the annual Shop with a Cop event in Baker City.

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Troopers participated in a Shop with a Cop event at the local Walmart. One Trooper's young shopper enthusiastically picked out toys, and left with plenty of Christmas cheer.

A Bend Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Madras Fish and Wildlife Troopers participated in the Jefferson County Shop with a Cop event. One of the children attending had recently lost his home to a fire and was thankful to not only bring home some gifts for himself and his family, but some much needed blankets, pillows and jackets. He also picked out a cool Lego set for himself (photo below).



COMMUNITY OUTREACH & EVENTS



Trooper Presents at Elementary School

A Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Trooper visited a local elementary school to present to a group of second graders. The class had been learning about government and the executive branch. The students were very responsive and enjoyed the show and tell session.

Trooper Presents to High School Science Class

A Hermiston Fish and Wildlife Trooper presented to the Hermiston High School Forensic Science class on topics including firearms, ammunition, ballistics forensics, and evidence collection and analysis. After the presentation the Trooper assisted students with their lab identifying case markings and rifling striations. Approximately 50 students and two teachers were in attendance over three different periods throughout the day. Two students expressed an interest in criminal justice careers.

Sergeant Speaks at Oregon Coast Anglers Meeting

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Sergeant was the guest speaker at the Oregon Coast Anglers meeting in Winchester Bay. The presentation included updates on new laws, OSP Fish and Wildlife, and case reviews. Approximately 30 members were in attendance.

Trooper Presents at Boy Scouts Meeting

A Portland Fish and Wildlife Trooper attended and presented at a Boy Scouts meeting in Milwaukie. The presentation covered general fish and wildlife topics. Approximately 30 people including scouts and parents were in attendance.

Trooper Assists at Wrestling Tournament

A Tillamook Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted the City of Tillamook during the Battle for the Badge wrestling tournament at Tillamook High School. This event brought together athletes and community members for a spirited competition.



Trooper Reads to Kindergartners - Hermiston

A Hermiston Fish and Wildlife Trooper returned to Highland Hills Elementary for the last day of school before winter break. The Trooper read Polar Express to three kindergarten classes before watching the movie in their pajamas. In total there were three teachers, three teaching assistants, and 36 students. The students enjoyed having the Trooper there and can't wait for the last week of school for Trooper's life jacket safety presentation.

GENERAL LAW & RESCUES



Trooper and K-9 Buck Rescue Woman from Pond

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded with K-9 Buck, to assist the Lane County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) with a search for an elderly female with dementia. Family of the female located her car in western Lane County. Deputies initiated a search in conjunction with Search and Rescue (SAR). The Trooper and K-9 Buck responded to the last known location of the female and K-9 Buck was deployed. They were able to start a track, going through a wooded area around a pond, ultimately with K-9 Buck tracking to the water's edge. The Trooper observed the top of a boot sticking out of the water, then peered around brush along the water's edge and observed the missing female's face sticking out of the water, lying on her back. The Trooper advised a SAR searcher posted along the roadway that the female was located. The Trooper went into the water, scooping up the female. The SAR searcher and K-9 Buck also jumped into the water and assisted pulling the female up out of the water and onto the shoreline. The female was conscious and breathing, however nonverbal. The Trooper and SAR provided aid related to hypothermia as the female was missing for 2.5 hours or more and was in the water. Medics arrived and transported the female to a local hospital for treatment. LCSO sent out a press release commending the Trooper and K-9 Buck's efforts.

Photos courtesy of Lane County Sheriff's Office

GENERAL LAW & RESCUES



Injured Eagle Rescued - Columbia County

A St. Helens Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to the report of an injured eagle near the community of Chapman in rural Columbia County. The residents believed the juvenile bald eagle flew into one of the posts at the front of the house when it was attempting to get a cat that sleeps on the deck. The eagle appeared to have an injured wing and was transported to the Bird Alliance of Oregon in Portland for evaluation.

Owl Rescued from Highway

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a call from a citizen who had picked up an owl off Highway 101 that was injured and appeared to have been hit by a car. A Patrol Trooper assisted by picking up the owl, placing it in a kennel, and dropping it off to the Fish and Wildlife Trooper who delivered it to the North Coast Wildlife Center for evaluation and treatment.

Barred Owl Rescued - Columbia County

A St. Helens Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to a report of an injured or sick owl in rural Columbia County. The barred owl was found sitting next to a road and did not show any obvious signs of injury and was not afraid to be approached. The owl was placed in a crate and transported to Dove Lewis Animal Hospital in Portland for evaluation.



Injured Owl Rescued in Selma

A Central Point Fish and Wildlife Sergeant responded to a report of an injured owl in Selma. A flagging crew in the area advised it had been there for two days and had barely moved. Upon arrival, the owl was injured but feisty, taking the Sergeant's glove into the cage. The owl was brought to Wildlife Images where it continued resisting by biting a worker and holding onto another glove.

Subject Caught Doing Doughnuts on Side-by-Side

While conducting an ocean beach patrol during a negative tide, an Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper observed a motor vehicle driving erratically while doing doughnuts in the sand on the beach. Upon contact the motor vehicle was actually a side-by-side John Deer Gator (not legal to operate on ocean beaches). The driver admitted to driving over the dunes from a residence and trying to draw his name in the sand with the side-by-side's tire marks. The driver was also found to be criminally suspended. The driver was ultimately criminally cited and released for **Driving While Suspended or Revoked (DWS): Misdemeanor**. Other charges for operating a non-street legal vehicle on the ocean beach and driving over/through the dune grass area were referred to the District Attorney's office.

Bald Eagle Rescued - Eagle Point

A Central Point Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to an injured bald eagle in the Eagle Point area. The eagle was captured and transported to Wildlife Images.

GENERAL LAW & RESCUES



Sea Lion Relocated from Highway

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a report of a juvenile Stellar sea lion on the shoulder of Highway 101 in Lincoln County. When the Trooper arrived, concerned citizens and two Lincoln County Sheriff's Office Deputies were working to keep the sea lion out of the highway. An Oregon Coast Aquarium staff member was notified and responded to secure the animal. The sea lion was captured without incident and relocated to a more suitable location.

Road Struck Red-Tailed Hawk Rescued

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Sergeant responded to a report of an injured hawk. Upon arrival, the Sergeant located an adult red-tailed hawk sitting along the roadside next to a road killed opossum. It appeared the hawk had been feeding on the opossum when a vehicle struck it. The Sergeant retrieved the hawk and transported it to Philomath where she met a volunteer with the Cascade Raptor Center who took it for evaluation.

Raccoon Freed from Trap

A McMinnville Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to a report of a raccoon stuck in a foot trap between two residential fences and had reportedly been stuck for over three days. The trap appeared to have been ripped out of the ground and did not have any identifying tags on it. The Trooper was able to free the raccoon and transported it to a wildlife rescue where it was being treated for an injured foot/leg.

DUII Driver Arrested

A Salem Fish and Wildlife Trooper was southbound on I-5 on his way home in the evening when he observed a vehicle driving past him at 90 miles per hour and swerving over the lane lines. A traffic stop was conducted, and the driver was arrested for **Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUII)**. He provided a breath sample which showed a blood alcohol content of .10.



High-Risk Pursuit: Driver Taken into Custody

Salem Fish and Wildlife Troopers assisted Salem Patrol Troopers in pursuing a reckless driver on Lancaster Drive SE in Salem, just north of the Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST). The suspect had narrowly avoided multiple head-on collisions and had crashed into a jersey barrier on Highway 22 before continuing to drive dangerously toward Salem.

During the pursuit, the suspect attempted to swerve into a patrol vehicle and clipped a Toyota pickup. One Fish and Wildlife Trooper prepared spike strips, but the suspect's vehicle was redirected before reaching that location. Another Fish and Wildlife Trooper, along with two Patrol Troopers, successfully pinned the suspect's vehicle, immobilizing it. The Fish and Wildlife Trooper broke several windows with an ASP baton and, assisted by a Marion County Deputy, removed the driver through a breached rear window.

The suspect initially provided a false name but was later identified as having three active felony and misdemeanor warrants for failure to appear on drug and hit-and-run charges. The suspect admitted to using cocaine prior to driving and was evaluated by medics on scene. He was lodged in the Marion County Jail on multiple charges, including **Reckless Driving, Reckless Endangering, Failure to Perform Duties of a Driver, Elude (Vehicle), DUII, Drug Possession (Cocaine, Methamphetamine, Psilocybin), Providing False Information**, and other offenses. The only injury reported during the incident was minor and sustained by a Trooper.

WILDLIFE & ENVIRONMENT



Subject Cited for Multiple Wildlife Violations

A Salem Fish and Wildlife Trooper began investigating a subject who had killed a deer during a closed season in Jackson County within the Applegate Wildlife Management Unit in late November 2025. In December, the subject was contacted at his apartment in Salem. The subject admitted to killing a mature buck deer on November 21st, 2025, during the closed season, and two fall black bears in September 2025 on private property southwest of Ashland, Oregon. The subject admitted to never checking in the two black bear skulls to ODFW as required and admitted to burying one bear skull and leaving the second bear skull on the property. The subject's 3x4 buck deer euro mount and packaged deer meat was seized as evidence. The subject was issued citations for **Take/Possession of Buck Deer Closed Season** and **Fail to Check in Black Bear to ODFW within 10 Days**, and warned for **Hunting Closed Season**.

Subject Trespassed to Take Deer

Troopers from the Albany Office received a call from a property owner who had a trail camera video of an unknown subject dragging a deer out on their property who did not have permission to hunt. A press release was issued to help identify the subject, and the subject turned himself in. He admitted to going on the property, sitting in someone else's hunting blind, and shooting the doe. The Troopers issued him a citation for **Take/Possession Antlerless Deer** and seized the deer as evidence.

Trail Camera Shows Evidence of Crimes

Springfield Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted follow up after a several months long investigation. In September, a Trooper was notified a landowner had located multiple cellular game cameras on their property that did not belong to them. The cameras were seized, and a search warrant was obtained to search the cameras. Evidence on the game cameras showed several suspects trespassing, baiting bears, and using a thermal monocular. The suspects were contacted and interviewed. One subject was issued criminal citations for **Criminal Trespass with a Firearm, Hunting with a Thermal Imaging Device, and Hunting Bear with Use of Bait**, and the second subject was issued criminal citations for **Criminal Trespass with a Firearm and Hunting with a Thermal Imaging Device**.



Subjects Try to Conceal Unlawfully Taken Swan

A St. Helens Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a report from a waterfowl hunter on the Sauvie Island Wildlife Area stating two subjects possibly shot a swan and were now packing up to leave. ODFW employees at the check station were advised and contacted the subjects who initially reported only killing one pintail duck and did not say anything about the swan. When questioned about the swan, the men admitted to killing one and pulled it out of a bag that was in the backseat of their truck. When the Trooper arrived and questioned the subjects, they stated they thought it was a snow goose so they both shot at it, but soon realized it was a tundra swan. The subjects admitted to not self-reporting the incident and that they were most likely not going to. The subjects were issued citations for **Unlawful Possession of Tundra Swan**, and the swan was seized.

WILDLIFE & ENVIRONMENT

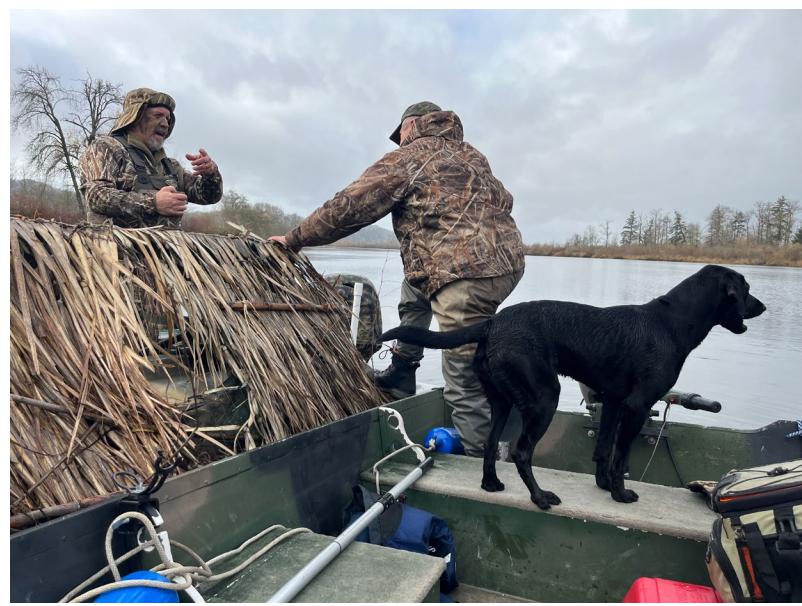


Subjects Cited for Using Spotlight and Thermal

A Madras Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded after hours to a report of a buck deer being illegally shot north of Madras, with suspects possibly returning to retrieve the deer. The late night/early morning investigation revealed that an adult and a juvenile, who are second cousins, had set out on a coyote spotlighting hunt. A large mule deer buck was located with the use of a spotlight and thermal device. The juvenile subject exited the vehicle and fired a single shot at the buck on private property, after legal hunting hours, with no valid tag. The shot was taken from the roadway using the vehicle as a rifle rest while the deer was illuminated by the spotlight. The pair then trespassed onto private property, where the juvenile was confronted by the landowners. The adult fled on foot, taking the rifle and thermal device. Jefferson County Sheriff's Deputies assisted in the initial early morning search for the suspect and deer but both were not located. A Bend Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Troopers responded to the scene the next morning and conducted a thorough search of the field and the surrounding area but no buck was located. The adult suspect was contacted at his residence where he ultimately surrendered the rifle he stowed away in a friend's truck. Troopers were led to an area miles away where another Trooper located the thermal that was left in the brush. Numerous criminal citations were issued. The rifle, scope, detached thermal scope, spotlight, and ammunition were seized. Additionally, the adult suspect was found to be in violation of a restraining order prohibiting possession of firearms and ammunition. The Crook County Sheriff's Office was notified of these violations.

Taxidermist & Client Cited for Parts Ban Violation

A NW Region Fish and Wildlife Lieutenant completed an investigation into violations of the parts ban. A Gresham area taxidermist had been participating in a program where he submitted tissue samples to ODFW for chronic wasting disease (CWD) testing. The samples were intended to be limited to deer and elk harvested in Oregon only. One of the samples sent to ODFW returned positive for CWD. The taxidermist had submitted the sample indicating it was from an elk harvested in eastern Oregon, however further testing by ODFW indicated the sample was actually from a mule deer. In response, the taxidermist volunteered to have all mule deer in his possession be transported to a lab in California for testing and to determine which deer was CWD positive and where it was harvested. In the end, the tissue sample associated with the positive result was genetically linked to a mule deer harvested in Wyoming by an Oregon resident. The taxidermist had submitted the out of state sample by mistake, which couldn't have occurred if the parts ban had been followed by both the hunter and taxidermist. Both the taxidermist and hunter were cited for Import/Possession of Restricted Cervid Parts.



Waterfowl Boat Patrol - Brownsmead Area

Astoria Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a waterfowl boat patrol out of the Brownsmead area. Hunting effort was low. Multiple waterfowl hunters were contacted with no violations observed. On one contact a hunter's dog decided to jump into the Troopers' boat and work with them during the contact. The hunter was in compliance and his dog returned to him after the visit.

WILDLIFE & ENVIRONMENT



Troopers Assist on Bighorn Sheep Capture

Enterprise Fish and Wildlife Troopers assisted Idaho Fish and Game (IDFG) and ODFW with the annual sheep capture on the Snake River in Hell's Canyon. In addition to an Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) patrol, IDFG and ODFW employees were transported via OSP jet boat to several locations on the mid and lower Snake River for capture/sampling purposes while utilizing helicopters with net guns to capture the bighorn sheep. Sixteen sheep were captured and sampled, and it was a successful day on the river.



Subject Trespasses to Take Pheasant

An Ontario Fish and Wildlife Trooper investigated a complaint of a subject trespassing onto private farm ground in Annex, Oregon and killing one rooster pheasant. The investigation revealed the suspect used his boat to access private property from the Snake River near Annex. The suspect then hiked up a five-foot bank, above the high-water mark and onto private ground where he shot and killed a rooster pheasant. The landowner confronted the suspect, recorded the contact and obtained photos of him, his dog, and boat. The suspect was interviewed at a residence in Corvallis and subsequently cited and released for **Hunting While in Violation of Criminal Trespass and Take/Possession of Game Bird**.

Subject Fails to Check in Black Bear

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper investigated a report of two black bears harvested in early October 2025. All the subjects in the hunting party were contacted and the two subjects who had harvested the bears were identified. Neither subject checked in the skulls of the black bear as required by ODFW regulations. One of the subjects was a youth and still had the frozen bear head in his possession. The head was given to ODFW, and the youth was warned for the offense. The other subject has a long history of non-compliance and had disposed of the bear head several weeks prior to contact. He was cited criminally for **Fail to Check in Black Bear to ODFW within 10 Days**.

Subject Cited on Decoy Operation

Astoria Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a cow elk decoy in the Saddle Mountain Unit. The decoy was placed in an area that was approximately two miles outside of the hunt boundaries of two separate adjacent cow elk hunts. Over the past several cow elk seasons, Troopers have observed increased hunting pressure in this closed area and have responded to multiple reports of subjects unlawfully killing cow elk there. During the operation, a vehicle stopped at the decoy and a subject got out with a rifle. Although the subject did not shoot the decoy, he possessed a cow elk tag for one of the adjacent hunts located a couple of miles away. He was cited for **Hunt Outside Unit Boundary**. Later that day, another subject with a cow tag for the adjacent hunt was also contacted hunting near the area of the decoy, and was also cited for **Hunt Outside Unit Boundary**.

MARINE FISHERIES TEAM



USCG and OSP Conduct Pre-Soak Crab Gear Patrol

Marine Fisheries Team (MFT) Members and Fish and Wildlife Troopers in Newport and Brookings conducted ocean patrols during the pre-soak period for the start of the 25-26 commercial Dungeness crab season. Additionally, one of the Troopers flew with the US Coast Guard (USCG) out of Newport. The focus of the patrols was to ensure vessels did not set gear before 8:00 am on December 13 as well as monitor Redfish Rocks, Cape Perpetua, and Cascade Head Marine Reserves, which are closed to fishing.

- At 7:00 am, reports came in from commercial fisherman as well as OSP in the helicopter of what appeared to be commercial crab gear observed in the water near the entrance to Yaquina Bay. The area was checked by the PV Guardian and two strings were found that had been set by two Newport charter boats for recreational use. One of the strings from one charter was using old branded commercial crab buoys and some of the gear had no identification marks on the buoys as is required for recreational crabbing. Three pots were seized and a Trooper followed up with the captain of the charter boat. The captain stated his crew was supposed to put the identification markings on the buoys but neglected to do so. The captain was cited for **No Marking on Crab Buoy** and his pots were returned.
- The PV Guardian was checking Cape Perpetua Marine Reserve and found the start of a string of commercial crab pots that started inside of the reserve. Three pots were seized that were inside the closed area. A Trooper followed up with the captain of the vessel. The fisherman stated a different vessel was setting or “barging” gear for him and mistakenly placed three crab pots within the marine reserve. The Trooper contacted the captain of the barging vessel who admitted to mistakenly placing the three crab pots within the marine reserve. The captain of the barging vessel was cited for **Commercial Fishing: Closed Area**.

Take of Commercial Caught Fish

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper met with a subject who had a commercial shellfish and intertidal animal harvest permit from ODFW as well as a wholesale bait dealer license. The subject was harvesting intertidally, selling to himself, then selling to the public through his website for aquariums. In reviewing his fish tickets, it was discovered that he had landed a species that was not allowed through his permit. He had additionally not sent in his logbook as required. The Trooper advised the subject on the requirements of the permit and what is allowed. The subject was issued a citation for **Take/Possession of Commercial Caught Fish/Shellfish** and warned for **Failing to Submit Commercial Logbook**.

Take/Possession of Undersized Crab

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper was notified by a dealer in Charleston that they had located a few undersized Dungeness crab during an offload. The Trooper responded and found a few more crab in the totes that were coming up from the boat. The Trooper climbed into the fish hold of the vessel and began sorting crab with the crew. Ultimately 56 pounds of undersized crab were located. Through interviews it was determined one crew member was responsible for most of the sorting and measuring. He was issued a violation citation for **Take/Possession of Undersized Dungeness Crab**. The crab were released into the bay after being weighed.

Subject Cited for Leaving Gear

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper followed up with a commercial crab fisherman who failed to make a landing of crab within 14 days on three separate occasions during the 24/25 crab season. Commercial fisherman participating in the commercial Dungeness crab fishery are required to make a landing of crab at least once every 14 days. The fisherman was cited for **Leave Gear Set More than 14 Days Without a Landing**. The fisherman was also warned for **Fail to Maintain/Submit Logbook: Dungeness Crab**.

MARINE FISHERIES TEAM



Guardian Crew Receive Best Lights Award

An MFT Sergeant and Newport Fish and Wildlife Troopers participated in Newport's Lighted Boat Parade on Yaquina Bay. This year the Guardian took the award for best lights! Unfortunately this year's event was cut short when a sailboat ran aground with recovery efforts blocking the channel. King tides and a negative low tide made the parade course challenging for boats with deeper drafts.



Fail to Complete Fish Receiving Ticket

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper followed up with a wholesale fish dealer who failed to complete a fish receiving ticket on two separate occasions in September. The Trooper had received information from ODFW that a commercial fisherman participating in the commercial salmon troll fishery had called in on two separate occasions advising he was going to sell to the fish dealer 13 coho on one trip, and 12 coho on the other trip. No fish receiving tickets were completed and submitted to ODFW for either of the two instances. The commercial salmon troll fishery is managed by call in requirements and quick submittal of fish receiving tickets. Fish receiving tickets are required to be submitted within 24 hours and there should be a fish receiving ticket to match the call in. The dealer told the Trooper a lack of communication between his team resulted in the fish not being recorded on fish receiving tickets which is why fish receiving tickers were not completed. The dealer was cited for **Fail to Complete Fish Receiving Ticket**.

No Resident Shellfish License

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a report of an individual retaining undersized crab at Siletz Bay in Lincoln City. The Trooper responded and contacted the individual who was actively crabbing. An administrative inspection revealed no undersized crab, but the subject was found to be without a valid 2025 shellfish license. The subject was cited for **No Resident Shellfish License**.

Commercial Crab Hold Inspections

MFT Troopers along with help from all of the coastal Fish and Wildlife offices and ODFW staff conducted hold inspections for the commercial Dungeness crab fishing fleet for the start of the commercial crab season. Commercial fishing vessels are required to have their holds inspected and certified the day prior to the season start. Due to vessels being able to set gear 73 hours prior to the start of the season, hold inspections help ensure vessels are not retaining crab prior to season start.

SHELLFISH & ANGLING



North Fork Nehalem River Patrol

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper patrolled the North Fork Nehalem River. Numerous steelhead anglers were contacted, and multiple boating inspections were conducted. Multiple citations and warnings were issued for **Taking Steelhead Closed Area, Continue to Angle After Retaining the Daily Limit of Steelhead, No Harvest Card, No Angling License, No Non Resident Angling License, Fail To Immediately Validate Harvest Card, Angling Closed Area**, and ELS issues. On one contact, two subjects were observed angling on the disabled platform at the North Fork Nehalem River Hatchery. Neither subject had an Oregon Disabilities Hunting and Fishing Permit, or a Disabled Veteran Angling License. Additionally, one of the subjects did not have an angling license or harvest card. The subjects had retained two steelhead and had not validated either of them. Both subjects were cited for multiple offenses, and the two steelhead were seized.

Razor Clam Patrol - Clatsop Beaches

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted a shellfish razor clam patrol during low tide along Clatsop beaches. Low tide had been primarily in the evening well after sunrise. A contact was made on a very rainy and windy evening with subjects returning to their vehicles and upon contact two clam diggers stated they harvested 60 razor clams (four person limit). When asked who was digging the male subject stated their grand-daughter was in the truck. Through interview and observation the grand-daughter was seat belted in the front seat wearing pajamas and was completely dry. The subject admitted to digging her limit of clams due to the weather and difficulty of digging in the sand. The subject was ultimately cited for **Dig Another's Clams** and warned for **Exceeding the Daily Limit of Clams: Razor Clams**.

Captain Cited for Multiple Violations

A Fish and Wildlife Lieutenant, Sergeant, and Recruit responded to the report of a commercial fishing vessel that was discovered to have dead loss Dungeness crab in its hold while offloading at a commercial wholesale dealer. After discovering the dead loss, the captain of the fishing vessel left the dealer prior to offloading the remainder of the crab and did not complete a transportation report. Upon further investigation, the captain of the fishing vessel was cited and released for **No Commercial Fishing Boat License, No Individual Commercial Fishing License, and No Commercial Transportation Report**.

No Commercial Fishing Boat License

A Gold Beach Fish and Wildlife Trooper followed up on information received from Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Troopers regarding a commercial crabbing violation. A Washington-based commercial fishing vessel was found to have been crabbing earlier in the week without a valid commercial vessel license. The skipper was contacted and stated he believed the license was current following the recent purchase of the vessel. The skipper admitted he had been fishing and advised that once he became aware the 2025 license was not valid, he ceased fishing operations and contacted ODFW to obtain the required license. The skipper was cited for **No Commercial Fishing Boat License**.

Habitual Angling Offender Cited

A Baker City Fish and Wildlife Trooper located a habitual offender angling for steelhead below the Hell's Canyon Dam on the Snake River. The subject was known to not have an angling license and was using a barbed hook. The subject was cited and released for **No Resident Angling License, No Combined Angling Harvest Tag, and Angling Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks**.

CASE DISPOSITIONS

Subject Sentenced in Northside Elk Case

A John Day Fish and Wildlife Trooper investigated a case in the Northside Unit involving a bull elk that was shot from a county road on private property and then left overnight, resulting in the waste of the elk. The adult male subject pleaded guilty to **Hunting in Violation of Wildlife Laws** and **Unlawful Take of Game Mammal**. The subject was sentenced to:

- A three-year hunting license suspension
- \$6,500 in fines and restitution
- Forfeiture of his .300 Win Mag rifle and Burris Eliminator scope
- Must take a Hunter Education Class

Subject Sentenced in Murderers Creek Elk Case

A John Day Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Trooper investigated a case involving the unlawful take a trophy class bull elk in the Strawberry Wilderness within the Murderers Creek Unit. The elk was shot the day before archery season opened in 2025. The adult male subject pleaded guilty to Unlawful Take of Game Mammal and was sentenced to:

- A three-year hunting license suspension
- \$7,048 in fines and restitution
- Forfeiture of custom bow and archery equipment
- 40 hours community service
- Must take a Hunter Education Class





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 ProtectOregon'sWildlife.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

Follow us on Twitter: [@OSP_Fish](#)