



# OREGON STATE POLICE FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION



**MONTHLY FIELD REVIEW**

**JUNE 2026**



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*On the cover:  
Fish and Wildlife Troopers on a  
Columbia River boat patrol*

# Ocean Salmon & Rockfish Identification

OSP would like to remind anglers to ensure they are familiar with ocean salmon and groundfish identification. No one likes to ruin a fun day fishing by bringing in an illegal species due to misidentification. Some common misidentified fish are Coho vs. Chinook salmon, Quillback vs. Copper Rockfish and Canary vs. Yelloweye Rockfish.

When identifying salmon species, be sure to look at the gum line. Chinook salmon have black gums and Coho salmon have white gums. Another helpful feature are the tail fin rays. The skin between the rays on a Chinook are smooth while the skin between the Coho rays are ribbed.

## Coho



## Chinook



Anglers fishing for salmon or with salmon onboard must use BARBLESS hooks when fishing in the ocean. Be sure to purchase barbless hooks or fully remove or pinch down hooks that do have barbs so the hook is smooth.

Finally, if you have an electronic tag, make sure you have the ODFW E-tagging application updated and open BEFORE you leave port. Fish must be immediately recorded on an angling tag and if the app is not open when you have good cell service, you may have issues opening it offshore. **It is your responsibility to immediately record all required catch whether using E-tagging or paper tagging.**

By following these few simple tips, you can ensure your ocean angling trip is a great one!

## Quillback

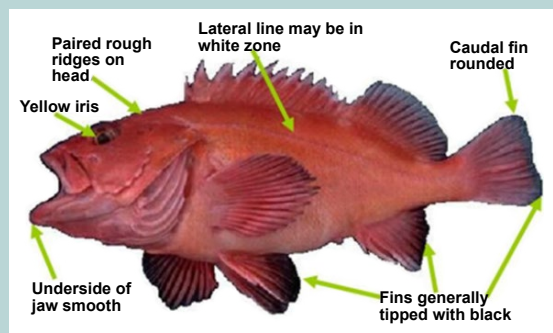


When it comes to identification of Quillback rockfish, they have a deep notch on the dorsal spine and they have noticeable "freckles on the face and head." They are often mistaken for Copper rockfish which do not have freckles and their dorsal fins are not deeply notched.

## Copper



**Yelloweye Rockfish** have a solid yellow eye. They often will have black tips on their fins. Yelloweye rockfish also have two rather sharp raspy ridges on the top of the head between the eyes which is less pronounced or sharp in Canary rockfish.



# OUTREACH & EVENTS



## **Trooper Attends I'm Hooked Event**

A Portland Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted with the annual "I'm Hooked" youth fishing event at Henry Hagg Lake. The Trooper set up a wildlife discovery booth with antlers, skulls, and animal hides for participants to explore. There were also binoculars at the booth the participants could use to view a couple wildlife enforcement decoys from a distance. The event served at least 200 kids from around the area.

## **Troopers Assist with All Hands All Brands**

Prineville Fish and Wildlife Troopers patrolled the Ochoco Unit and met up with the All Hands All Brands multi-agency work crews. The habitat projects being completed included guzzler protection and enhancement, fence work and felling dead burned trees. Many participants camped at USFS Sugar Creek Campground and enjoyed great food after hard day at work was done.

## **City of Newport Touch-a-Truck Event**

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper participated in the City of Newport's Touch-a-Truck event at the Newport Performing Arts Center. Over 150 people attended the event with several future recruits identified, promising to apply in 10 to 15 years when they are old enough.

## **Troopers Attend YMCA Water Safety Day**

Central Point Fish and Wildlife Troopers were invited to the local YMCA for water safety day for the kids. The Troopers contacted many kids and handed out OSP swag.

## **Troopers Teach at Youth Fishing Class**

Columbia Basin Team members were invited to the Boardman Marina for a youth fishing class. The week-long class of 25 students were taught how to purchase angling licenses and given hands-on instruction angling from the marina docks. Troopers attended the event and answered lots of questions. The rest of the morning was spent assisting with casting, untangling lines, and giving angling advice.

## **Umpqua Fishery Enhancement Derby**

Roseburg Fish and Wildlife Troopers were involved in a program funded by Umpqua Fishery Enhancement Derby where 110 fifth grade students from three schools were taught how to fish. Flyfishing Veterans taught fly casting, and Umpqua Fisherman Association taught rod and reel. The students also learned water safety, rules and regulations, knot tying, aquatic invertebrates and fish habitats and were able to bass fish with fishing guides in drift boats. The students went home with life jackets, a stocked tackle box, rod and reel, regulation book, and other miscellaneous gifts.



## **Troopers Assist at Lake County Cycling Event**

A Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Trooper assisted Lake County search and rescue (SAR) manage and coordinate a large cycling event in the Warner Mountains. This event is Lake County SAR's primary fundraising event for the year. Over 140 cyclists were involved and chose from three road courses or two gravel courses of varying lengths and difficulty levels. Troopers deployed a side-by-side to patrol the most remote and challenging sections of the trail, able to respond to any emergencies that arose. There were no major incidents and only one rider was reported to have experienced a minor crash. OSP was able to provide an escort for the riders from the starting point at the Lake County Fairgrounds through town and to the point where the riders dispersed to their respective courses.

# OUTREACH & EVENTS



## **Troopers Attend CCA Fish Fest**

Fish and Wildlife Troopers from The Dalles set up and worked an educational booth at the first annual Fish Fest event put on by the Mid-Columbia chapter of the Coastal Conservation Association (CCA). Attendance was somewhat low but people that did attend were happy to see OSP Fish and Wildlife Troopers.

## **Free Fishing Day Event - Gnat Creek Hatchery**

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper visited the Gnat Creek Hatchery during free fishing weekend. The hatchery puts on an annual youth trout angling event, providing fishing gear and snacks for all of the young participants. Many of the young anglers walked away with their limit of trout and big smiles on their faces. The Troopers' presence was very welcomed by those in attendance.

## **Troopers Return to School for Life Jacket Talk**

Hermiston and Heppner Fish and Wildlife Troopers were asked by Highland Hills Elementary's principal, after previously talking to kindergarten students about life jacket safety, to talk to the entire school about life jacket safety. Troopers returned and talked to grades 1-5. In total 300 students and teachers attended. Troopers brought the team's Columbia River boat for kids to tour.

## **Troopers Provide Dinner at Fishing Derby**

The Columbia Basin Fish and Wildlife Team members volunteered to provide and cook dinner at an annual fishing derby held in Heppner. Participation was lower than expected but overall, it was a great opportunity to have conversations with local teens about hunting, fishing, and marine board changes. Heppner ODFW staff also joined in to help answer questions on wildlife management.



## **Troopers Assist with End of Year Fishing Trip**

The Dalles Fish and Wildlife Team assisted the Cascade Locks 4th and 5th grade elementary classes with their annual end of year fishing field trip. This was the second year OSP has been a part of this fishing event. Many of the 20 plus students successfully landed a small mouth bass with the assistance of the Troopers, some catching their very first fish.



## **Trooper Gives Hunter Education Presentation**

A Burns Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted a hunter education presentation in Burns at the request of both lead ODFW instructors. Numerous topics were discussed including common hunting violations and crimes, ATV laws while hunting, and OSP's enforcement role with the outdoors and natural resources of the state. Several questions were asked, even a question about life jacket requirements came up during the presentation. There were eight students in attendance and one adult for the class. The instructors expressed their appreciation for OSP's participation.

# RESCUES & COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE



## Great Egret Taken to Rehab Center

A juvenile great egret was found on a road in Tillamook County and was temporarily captured and caged by a concerned citizen. An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded, retrieved the bird, and informed the individual that great egrets are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, meaning they should not be captured; instead, people should document the situation and call authorities. The egret was released but showed abnormal behavior around other egrets, so it was transported to the Wildlife Center of the North Coast in Astoria for rehabilitation.



## Trooper Assists with Annual Clean-Up

A Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Trooper attended the Green Diamond Clean-up. This is a community event organized by the Oregon Hunters Association. Community members gather once a year to collectively pick up garbage left in the woods. Most of the land around Klamath Falls is privately owned timber, owned by Green Diamond. Green Diamond is a travel management area (TMA) and events like this assist with keeping these areas open to the public. Approximately 40 attendees were at the event. Thousands of pounds of trash and debris were collected and thrown away.



# GENERAL LAW & ENVIRONMENT



## Fire Fighting Helicopter Dips Water

A Madras Fish and Wildlife Trooper was on patrol on the Deschutes River. A small wildfire started on the Warm Springs Reservation called the Rocky Fire. A helicopter was dipping water near Mecca Flats and made for a unique photo opportunity. The co-pilot and Trooper were close enough to exchange a thumbs-up.

## Subject Drives Past No Vehicles Sign

A St. Helens Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a report of a vehicle driving on Collins Beach on the Sauvie Island Wildlife Area, which is prohibited. The vehicle was located and the driver contacted. When he was advised that vehicles were prohibited on the beach, he stated he did not see any signs and that he was driving a Jeep so of course he was going to drive on the beach. When the man got off the beach and back to the entrance he had driven down, a bright yellow sign reading, "No Vehicles Beyond this Point," was pointed out to him. The man was subsequently issued a citation for the violation.

## DUII Driver Arrested on Multiple Charges

A La Pine Fish and Wildlife Trooper patrolled the Cascade lakes and rivers. A highly intoxicated driver was reported and stopped for driving while suspended and an outstanding sex abuse warrant. The subject was arrested for **DUII**, **Felon in Possession of Firearms**, and **Unlawful Possession of Firearms** after he was found to have concealed pistols. He provided a .28% blood alcohol content (BAC) sample and was lodged at the Klamath County Jail.

## Trooper Helps Extinguish Brush Fire

A Hermiston Fish and Wildlife Trooper discovered a grass fire that had just started on the side of Interstate-84. He contacted the Umatilla County dispatch to get the fire department rolling and assisted the first brush fire truck that arrived, which was manned by a solo volunteer. They were able to extinguish the bulk of the flames prior to additional fire units arriving.

## Subjects Cited for Criminal Trespass

A Fossil Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a trespass complaint from a land agent stating he had two trespassers on dirt bikes access his closed/posted road. The land agent forwarded trail cam photos of the trespassers which the Trooper immediately identified as two individuals from Condon. The Trooper contacted and cited one of the individuals for **Criminal Trespass II** upon the land agent's request. The second individual was contacted and cited at a later date.

# WILDLIFE ENFORCEMENT

## Subject Cited for Wasting Bear and Littering

An Albany Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a call regarding a dumped black bear carcass with no meat taken. With the help of ODFW district biologist, the suspect was identified because he checked the bear in the same day it was dumped. Troopers interviewed the suspect and he admitted to dumping the bear and not taking any of the meat. The suspect was criminally cited for **Waste of Game Mammal** and **Offensive Littering**.

## Subject Cited for Criminal Mischief

During the 2025 big game season, a Salem Fish and Wildlife Trooper received several reports from a hunter that the “No Trespassing” signs on his lease were being torn down and that one of his cellular trail cameras had been shot. The hunter eventually got a photo of a suspect. Troopers interviewed the suspect who admitted to tearing down a sign and shooting the trail camera. He was cited for **Criminal Mischief**.

## Subject Cited for Multiple Hunting Offenses

A Salem Fish and Wildlife Trooper concluded a case from the 2024 archery season involving a subject trespassing on timber company ground, shooting a 5x5 bull elk and leaving it to waste. The subject was criminally cited for **Hunting on the Cultivated or Enclosed Lands of Another**, **Take Bull Elk**, and **Waste of Game Mammal**.

## Subject Charged with Multiple Crimes

Pendleton area Fish and Wildlife Troopers responded to an agency assist call in Pendleton where a resident was reportedly firing a rifle near homes in the area. When confronted by a Patrol Trooper the suspect retreated into his residence with a scoped rifle. After a short standoff the suspect gave up and was taken into custody without further incident. While standing in the driveway after the arrest, Troopers noticed a fresh deer carcass hanging in the suspect’s backyard. The suspect was later questioned about the deer and stated he had located the deer after it was road-struck, and brought it home that morning. The carcass showed no signs of damage from a vehicle, just one bullet wound. Further investigation showed the suspect field dressed the deer when he returned to his residence then discarded the gut pile and hid it in the nearby creek. The subject was lodged by Umatilla County Sheriff’s Office on multiple charges including **Felon in Possession of Firearm**. Additional charges for the **Take Deer Closed Season** and **Placing Offensive Substance in Waterway** were also forwarded to the District Attorney.

## Subject Shoots Deer Without Tag

A Portland Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted a follow-up investigation regarding a subject who potentially harvested a deer prior to obtaining the required tag. During the investigation, the subject admitted he harvested a buck deer, provided a photograph of the harvested deer and stated he later realized he had not purchased a deer tag. ODFW licensing records showed the subject purchased a deer tag after harvesting the deer and immediately tagged it. Based on the investigation, the subject was issued a citation for **No Big Game Tag** and a warning for **Unlawful Take of Buck Deer**. The deer skull was seized as evidence.



## Subject Cited for Keeping Deer Fawn

An Albany Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to a report of a woman feeding a fawn deer with a baby bottle at a popular recreation spot on the bank of the Calapooia River in Brownsville. The woman stated she had picked the deer up from the roadway the night before. The woman was issued a citation for **No Wildlife Holding Permit** and the fawn was seized and released in the woods.

# MARINE FISHERIES



## South Coast Ocean Patrols

Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted two ocean boat patrols. Enforcement action was taken for **Angling Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks, Angling Prohibited Method: Treble Hook, No Ocean Endorsement, and No Angling License in Possession**. Additionally, the Troopers contacted a fishing boat with three subjects onboard. The Troopers located a cabezon as well as four plastic bags of fish fillets. The owner of the boat took responsibility and thought there were fillets from 12 rockfish in the bags. An additional 12 rockfish and a lingcod were located in the fish hold of the boat. In counting the fillets, it was discovered that they were from 29 rockfish. The owner was cited for **Exceeding Daily Limit of Rockfish** and **Possession of Mutilated Fish** and warned for **Possession of Cabezon**. The fillets were seized and donated to a local charity.

## Late-Night Crab Patrol - Lincoln County

During a late-night crab patrol in Lincoln County, a Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper observed a group of individuals crabbing on the Newport Fishing Pier. Upon inspection it was observed the group was in possession of two female Dungeness crab, two undersized Dungeness crab and four red rock crab claws. The group was uneducated in the crabbing regulations and came to the coast to take advantage of the free fishing weekend. All four members of the group were educated on the rules and regulations, and enforcement action was taken for **Take/Possession Female Dungeness Crab, Take/Possession Undersized Dungeness Crab, and Possession of Mutilated Crab**.

## Commercial Logbook Violations

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper was contacted by ODFW requesting enforcement assistance with commercial shellfish harvester's incomplete, missing and illegible commercial razor clam logbooks. Multiple contacts were made with the reported commercial harvesters which resulted in enforcement action for **Fail to Submit Razor Clam Commercial Logbook within 10 Days to ODFW** and **Fail to Maintain Logbook: Commercial Shellfish**.

## Crabber Cited and Educated

During a free fishing weekend, a Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper was conducting a dock walk when he observed a crabber with a noticeably undersized crab in a milk crate. Upon inspection of the catch three undersized Dungeness crab were found. The subject was issued a violation citation for **Possession of Undersized Crab** and the crab were returned to the water. The subject did not have a measuring device in his possession and said he thought because it was free fishing weekend the rules did not matter. He was then educated on proper measuring of crab.

## Seafood Market Inspections and Training

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper attended a Portland Fish and Wildlife Seafood market inspection training/saturation. Multiple Fish and Wildlife Troopers visited local seafood markets in the Portland metro areas working alongside Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) specialist checking wholesale dealer's record-keeping, traceability of product, and regulation of possible prohibited species (i.e., catfish). Enforcement action was taken for **Fail to Display Certificate of Shellfish Sanitation, Cross Contamination of Molluscan Shellfish, and Transportation or Release of Fish without Permit**.

## Subjects Cited for Rockfish Violations

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper followed up with a commercial salmon troller who had caught and retained multiple species of groundfish within the non-trawl rockfish conservation area (NT RCA) while salmon trolling over five landings. The skipper landed 74% over his quota of yellowtail rockfish for the month as well as 184 pounds of widow rockfish, 59 pounds of canary rockfish, and one pound of blue rockfish which are all prohibited while salmon trolling in the NT RCA. The skipper was cited for **Exceeding Monthly Limit of Yellowtail Rockfish** and warned for **Possession of Prohibited Species**. The dealer was warned for **Purchasing Prohibited Species**.

# MARINE FISHERIES

## Fisherman Cited for Exceeding Rockfish Limit

A Gold Beach Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted a commercial fisherman in Gold Beach regarding a groundfish quota overage. ODFW reported that the subject had exceeded the 1,200 lb quota by 441 lbs and profited \$1,292 from the event. The captain of the boat told the Trooper he must have added the wrong numbers. The subject was issued a criminal citation for **Exceeding Cumulative Black/Blue Rockfish Limit**.

## Exceeding Daily Limit of Clams

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper was contacted by ODFW regarding two recreational clammers who were over their limit of bay clams in Charleston. The new clammers did not understand the regulations and thought they could keep 20 bay clams and 12 gaper clams. Each harvester had 32 clams in possession. One subject took responsibility for the offense and was issued a violation citation for **Exceeding Daily Limit of Clams** and the second subject was warned for the same. The extra cockle clams were returned to the bay.

## Take/Possession of Female Dungeness Crab

While conducting a late-night crab patrol, a Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted an individual with a bucket full of crab on the Alsea Bay public dock. Upon inspection of the crab in the bucket, it was observed the individual was in possession of five female Dungeness crab. The individual was cited for **Take/Possession of Female Dungeness Crab**. All five female crab were released unharmed back into the bay.

## Take/Possession Undersized Dungeness Crab

While conducting a late-night crab patrol, a Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted a group of crabbers on the Yaquina Bay Public Pier with a cooler of crab. Upon inspection of the crab, it was discovered they were in possession of four undersized Dungeness crab. One the individuals in the group stated they had measured all of the crab. The individual was cited for **Take/Possession Undersized Dungeness Crab**. All undersized crab were released unharmed back into the bay.

## Failure to Submit Fish Receiving Tickets

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Sergeant contacted a commercial bait dealer who has been submitting excessively late fish receiving tickets. This dealer had been cited and warned for the same thing multiple times in previous years. The dealer was again cited for **Failure to Submit Fish Receiving Tickets**. The dealer was also warned for not having his dealer records at the location listed on his license.

## Central Coast Guardian Patrol

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Troopers conducted a Guardian patrol between Newport and Garibaldi. The focus was on both sport and commercial halibut and crab fisheries. The team spent most of the time contacting commercial halibut fisherman on the last day of the commercial opener. Vessels were contacted to ensure they were retaining legal catch, releasing unwanted catch unharmed and properly marking their longline surface gear. The team also finished up a commercial crab case where a vessel was fishing with untagged gear.

## Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Clams

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper received info from ODFW about a subject witnessed taking off his waders and having extra clams fall out. The info was forwarded to the team and an Astoria Fish and Wildlife Sergeant located the vehicle and observed the subject dig a limit of clams and again hide a few extra in his waders. Upon contact he initially denied having extra clams but quickly admitted to not only having extra but having done that before. He was cited for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Clams** and four clams were seized.

## Possession of a Falsely Applied for License

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper checked a pair of crabbers at the Empire crab dock near Coos Bay. As the Trooper approached, the pair went to their bucket and attempted to subtly throw what appeared to be a Dungeness crab back into the bay. When asked about this, one of the subjects stated they did so because the crab was too small. The same subject produced a resident shellfish license along with his Arizona driver license and stated he moved to Oregon about three weeks prior. The subject was counseled about failing to allow inspection of his catch and was cited for **Possession of a Falsely Applied for License**.

# ANGLING ENFORCEMENT



## Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Card

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a TIP and investigated an alleged Coho salmon caught on the Salmon River. The Salmon River is closed to Coho angling. Photographs were provided and the fish was identified as a steelhead. A check of the ODFW database showed that the suspect was an e-tagger and that he did not tag the fish as required. The suspect was contacted and initially refused to answer any questions. Days later the suspect called dispatch to self-report catching a fish on the salmon river without tagging it. The suspect was contacted a second time and confessed to catching a fish without tagging it. The suspect was issued a criminal citation for **Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Card**.

## Lake Owyhee Boat Patrol

Ontario Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol on Lake Owyhee which resulted in eight total citations being issued for the following violations: **No Resident Angling License, No Non-Resident Angling License, and Unlawful Take/Possession of Game Fish**. Eight crappie were released back into Lake Owyhee.

## Shad Seized and Donated - The Dalles

Fish and Wildlife Troopers from The Dalles patrolled the shad fishery at Bradford Island below Bonneville Dam on the Columbia. Many anglers were contacted during the patrol. One of the Troopers walked the shoreline while the other Trooper observed anglers from above looking for violations and anglers leaving before being contacted. Four warnings were issued for **No Angling License on Person** and **No Angling License (juvenile)**. One citation was issued for **Take/Possession of Game Fish (shad)**. A total of 18 Shad were seized and donated to the Discovery Center Raptor Program in The Dalles.

## Washington Resident Cited - Deschutes River

A Fish and Wildlife Sergeant from The Dalles observed a man unlawfully angling from his boat on the Deschutes River. Further observation revealed that he was also illegally using bait. Upon contact, it was learned that he was a Washington resident without an Oregon angling license. The Sergeant also noticed that his boat registration expired in 2008. Fortunately, the Sergeant was able to educate the subject prior to angling for salmon in the Deschutes River where it was currently closed. Ultimately, the subject was cited for **Angling Prohibited Method: From Floating Device** and **Angling Prohibited Method: Bait** and warned for **Expired Boat Registration** and **No 2026 Non-Resident Angling License**.

## Chinook Salmon Seized and Donated

A Portland Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted a follow-up investigation regarding a subject who retained a wild Chinook salmon. The investigation revealed the fish measured 25 inches in length. The subject stated he retained the fish after receiving guidance from ODFW personnel; however, further investigation determined the information provided was based on incomplete facts regarding the fish's size. The fish was recovered from the ODFW Clackamas office and donated. Based on the investigation, the subject was issued a citation for **Take/Possession of Wild (Non-Adipose Fin-Clipped) Chinook Salmon** and a warning for **Failure to Immediately Validate a Harvest Card**.



## Transporting Live Fish - Lost Creek Lake

A Grants Pass Fish and Wildlife Trooper was working in the Lost Creek Lake area. He observed a trash can in the back of a pick-up with water coming out of it. He contacted the driver who caught four smallmouth bass and was attempting to transport them to his personal pond. The bass were still alive and were transported back to Lost Creek Lake. The suspect was cited for **Transport of Live Fish**.

# ANGLING ENFORCEMENT



## Deschutes River Drift Boat Patrol

Bend and Madras Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted an overnight drift boat patrol on the Deschutes River from Trout Creek to Harpham Flat. Several boaters and a few anglers were contacted with a high compliance rate. Every boater mentioned that they appreciated OSP's presence in that section of river.

## Deschutes River Shore Patrol

While on shuttle duty for Troopers on a drift boat patrol, a Prineville Fish and Wildlife Trooper patrolled the Deschutes River up from Maupin and contacted anglers and boaters at Harpham Flat Recreation Site. Rafters, anglers, and guides were contacted. All the rafters and drift boats contacted expressed appreciation for the overnight OSP drift boat patrol being conducted. Activities included six boat inspections completed and about 40 contacts made. Stickers were handed out to kids and lots of questions answered at the launch site.

## Lincoln County Angler Checks

While conducting angler checks in northern Lincoln County, A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper observed an individual angling that he recognized and knew to be suspended. The Trooper contacted the subject who provided an annual angling license and combined angling tag, which he had obtained prior to being suspended. The subject was cited for **Angling While Suspended** and his paper angling license and tag were seized.

## Subject Illegally Selling Sport Caught Fish

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper identified an advertisement on the internet illegally selling sport caught fish as bait. The Trooper and a Portland Fish and Wildlife Trooper set up a time to meet with the seller. The bait was seized, and the seller was issued a citation for **Purchase, Sell or Exchange (or Offer to) Wildlife/Parts/Product**.

## Klamath Falls Team's Redband Trout Action Plan

A Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted shore patrol operations of Spring Creek and the Williamson River for the team's redband trout action plan. Compliance was very low. During the several-hour patrol over 15 individuals were contacted and five boats inspected. Ten warnings and citations were issued for violations including **No Waterway Access Permit, Angling Prohibited Method: Bait, No Resident Angling License, Angling Prohibited Method: Treble Hook, No Paper Angling License in Possession, and Aiding in a Wildlife Violation**. The following day, the Trooper conducted another shore patrol operation of Spring Creek, Williamson River and Wood River for the teams ongoing trout action plan. Compliance continued to be low. In five hours over 26 documented contacts were made. This resulted in 18 warnings and citations on 11 non-compliant contacts and 13 boat inspections. Violations included **Angling with Bait, Angling with Treble Hooks (Williamson), No License in Possession, No Personal Flotation Devices, No Waterway Access Permits, No Sound-Producing Devices and Expired Boat Registration**. One voyage was terminated for safety violations. An additional 15 compliant, non-motorized watercraft (no fishing activity) were checked.

## Exceeding the Daily Limit of Trout

A Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Trooper was patrolling Applegate Lake and contacted two boats returning to shore at sunset. The first was inspected and did not have current stickers. While assisting that boater load his boat, a second boat was observed approaching the ramp. This boat was clearly exceeding the 10 mph speed limit for the lake and showed registration expired in 2022. The boat was stopped and inspected for the violations. The three occupants advised they had retained fish, and a bag of trout was observed on the bow. The captain admitted there were more fish in his live-well. The contents of the live-well revealed they had retained 19 trout and approximately seven bass. All live bass were released at the captain's request. The captain was cited for **Exceeding the Daily Limit of Trout**, and warned for **Boat Speed, Expired Registration, No Throwable Personal Flotation Device and No Fire Extinguisher**. The four extra fish were seized and donated.

# CASE DISPOSITIONS

## Subject Found Guilty - Lincoln County

In November 2025, a subject was observed using a thermal device from his vehicle while hunting. The subject was contacted and the thermal device was seized. The subject was tried in Lincoln County and found guilty of one count of **Taking, Angling, Hunting, or Trapping in Violation of Wildlife Law or Rule (Hunt, Locate, Scout Wildlife with Thermal Imaging Device)**. The subject was sentenced to:

- Bench probation for 12 months
- 3-year hunting license suspension
- Thermal device forfeited

## Suspect Pleads Guilty - Linn County

A suspect pleaded guilty to three charges of **Unlawful Possession of Game Mammal** in the Linn County Circuit Court. This was from a report to the Albany Fish and Wildlife team of a suspect trespassing and stealing a game camera during the 2023 big game season. Search warrants were served in April of 2024. The suspect was issued multiple game and environmental criminal citations. The suspect received:

- 3-year hunting license suspension
- \$3,000 fine
- Forfeited rifle
- 10 days in jail





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)

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