

# Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division

# The Field Review



Our oath of office pledges enforcement protection.  
*We Are the Guardians of Oregon's Fish and Wildlife.*

April 2011

Volume 6, Issue 4

## Albany Fish and Wildlife Trooper Received Two Top Awards

An Albany Fish and Wildlife Division trooper received two top awards in April, the 2010 Fish and Wildlife Division "Trooper of the Year" and the Shikar-Safari Club International "Wildlife Officer of the Year." Capt. Jeff Samuels, Division Director, presented Sr. Tpr. James Halsey the Division award on April 21 during a Mid-Valley Team meeting at the OSP Albany office. On April 22, Lynn Loacker, Shikar-Safari Club International (SSCI) representative, recognized Sr. Tpr. Halsey as Oregon's top conservation enforcement officer with the Shikar-Safari award during a presentation at the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission meeting at ODFW headquarters.



Capt. Samuels presenting Sr. Tpr. Halsey with award. Photo credit: File

The Division award is the fifth annual presentation and is based on criteria including professionalism, dedication to the citizens and natural resources of our state, and work ethic.

Nominations were received from around the state and reviewed by regional and General Headquarters staff before the announcement of the award recipient.

Given annually for more than 25 years, the Shikar-Safari award from the conservation-based organization honors an officer whose efforts during the previous year reflected outstanding performance and achievement among the state agency's sworn fish and wildlife law enforcement personnel. Sr. Tpr. Halsey's selection by the SSCI places him in a distinguished group who has earned this recognition for their commitment to fish and wildlife enforcement.



Sr. Tpr. Halsey receiving award from Loacker. Photo credit: File

"Sr. Tpr. James Halsey is a professional in every sense of the word," said Capt. Samuels. "He is well respected by his peers and local community. He routinely serves as a mentor to younger troopers as well as supports others involved in critical incidents. Sr. Tpr. Halsey goes above and beyond the expectations of an Oregon State trooper, and I am proud he is the recipient of the 2010 Fish and Wildlife Division 'Trooper of the Year' and the Shikar-Safari Club International 'Wildlife Officer of the Year.'"

Sr. Tpr. Halsey joined OSP in 2000 and was assigned to the Patrol Services Division at the Oregon State University Patrol office. He transferred to the Fish and Wildlife Division in April 2005 and was stationed at the Albany office. Sr. Tpr. Halsey has trained four new Fish and Wildlife Division troopers, is a team leader on the Critical

Incident Response Team, and acts as a Patrol Tactics Instructor. Those who nominated Sr. Tpr. Halsey for the awards remarked at his dedication to the protection of Oregon's natural resources, unwavering leadership, and high integrity.

SSCI presents annual awards to wildlife enforcement officers in all 50 states, 10 Canadian provinces, and the territories of both nations. This exclusive organization, with a worldwide membership of no more than 200, formed in 1952 to provide members an opportunity to get together and talk about their hunting experiences and has evolved into an organization that supports conservation and education through a worldwide foundation. SSCI is recognized globally for its efforts in the protection, enhancement, and preservation of wildlife and has placed particular emphasis on endangered and threatened species through the promotion of enforcement of conservation laws and regulations.

# Dispositions

## Suspects Found Guilty and Sentenced

In April 2010, Sr. Tpr. Turnbo (McMinnville) and Sr. Tpr. Culp (Salem) conducted an administrative check on the owner/operator of Oregon Taxidermy in Salem after receiving numerous complaints. The troopers subsequently cited and released the suspect for **No Taxidermy License x 2**. The owner appeared before the judge who fined him \$150 and instructed him to return all items to his customers who wanted them in lieu of probation. After several months of not returning the items, the court then placed the owner on probation and gave him until December 31, 2010, to return all the items or he would be found in violation of his probation. In March 2011, since the owner had not returned the items or calls to his customers; the court determined the owner violated the terms of his probation and sentenced the owner to one week in jail, \$1,122 in fines, and forfeit his taxidermy license. The stipulations of this new agreement allowed Salem and Albany Division troopers to enter his establishment and inventory the items. The court also gave the owner 30 days to return the rest of the items or OSP would take possession of the items and return them to the rightful owners. In April 2011, since the owner had not complied with the new terms; OSP consequently seized the items and is working with the public to return them.

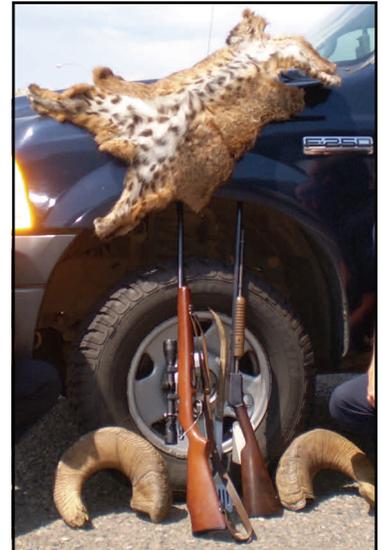
Tpr. Keeler (Coos Bay) received a disposition on a commercial crab case he worked in 2010 when he cited the skipper for **Fail to Maintain Crab Logbook and Unlawful Possession of Crab Pots without Ownership Tags**. The skipper pled guilty, and the court sentenced him to pay a \$500 fine.

Sr. Tpr. Bowen (Coos Bay) received a disposition on a commercial crab case he worked in early 2011 when he cited the skipper for **Unlawful Possession of Crab Pots in a Closed Area, Unlawfully Taking Commercial Dungeness Crab from a Closed Area, Unlawful Possession of Crab Pots without Ownership Tags, and Crab Pots Present in the Ocean without Buoy Tags**. The skipper pled guilty to **Unlawful Possession of Crab Pots in a Closed Area and Unlawfully Taking Commercial Dungeness Crab from a Closed Area**, and the court sentenced the skipper to pay a **\$5,500** fine.

In April, a Sweet Home-area man was sentenced following a conviction related to an investigation into the unlawful taking and possession of a bighorn sheep. Albany and Springfield troopers involved in the investigation also determined two blacktail deer were killed out of season in the spring of 2010, and a cougar was killed without a game tag during the fall of 2009. Sr. Tpr. Halsey (Albany) cited the suspect for **Unlawful Possession of a Game Mammal—Bighorn Sheep, Unlawful Possession of Bobcat Hide, Taking Blacktail Doe Deer in Closed Season, and UPCS—Less than an Ounce of Marijuana**.

Linn County Circuit Court found the suspect guilty of five counts of wildlife crimes and sentenced him to:

- **\$16,910** fines and restitution
- **Lifetime** hunting suspension
- 40 months bench probation
- Six days in jail
- 10 days of compensatory service
- Forfeit all property seized during search warrant, including but not limited to the bighorn sheep, a bobcat hide, two rifles, antlers, and meat



Items seized in search warrant. Photo credit: File

The trophy-sized bighorn sheep was thought to be approximately seven years old, had a gross score of over 173 Boone and Crocket points, and is believed to have been taken illegally in May 2010 near Richland, Oregon.

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### Abbreviations and Acronyms

AIS	Aquatic Invasive Species	EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	Rct.	Recruit
ATV	All-Terrain Vehicle	FTA/FTP	Failure to Appear/Pay	Sgt.	Sergeant
BAC	Blood Alcohol Content	IDFG	Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game	SIU	Special Investigations Unit
BER	Boat Examination Report	LEO	Law Enforcement Officer	Sr.	Senior
BLM	Bureau of Land Management	Lt.	Lieutenant	SO	Sheriff's Office
BUII/DUII	Boating/Driving Under Influence	NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	TMA	Travel Management Area
Capt.	Captain	ODF	Department of Forestry	Tpr.	Trooper
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game	ODFW	Department of Fish and Wildlife	UPCS	Unlawful Possession of Controlled Substance
DA	District Attorney	ODOT	Department of Transportation	USCG	U.S. Coast Guard
DEQ	Department of Environmental Quality	OHA	Oregon Hunters Association	USFS	U.S. Forest Service
DSL	Department of State Lands	OSMB	Oregon State Marine Board	USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
DWS	Driving while Suspended	PFD	Personal Flotation Device	WDFW	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
				WED	Wildlife Enforcement Decoy

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# General Law / ATV / Environment

## Various Livestock, ATV, Environmental, Traffic, and Drug Laws Enforced

While conducting camp and angler checks on the Owyhee River, Tpr. Spencer (Ontario) and Sgt. Cyr (Baker City) contacted minors with alcohol and marijuana. The troopers issued two citations for **MIP—Alcohol** and one for **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana**.

Tpr. Baimbridge (Roseburg) contacted a subject regarding his wayward cows. In April, the subject's cows were discovered next to the freeway a total of eight times. After the seventh time, Baimbridge warned him and told him about being cited. Two days later, the cows were out again. Consequently, Baimbridge cited the subject for **Livestock at Large**.

Tpr. Miller (Enterprise) stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation in Wallowa County near Enterprise. He made several observations that led to a consent search, resulting in discovering meth and a stun gun. He confirmed both belonged to a passenger. Miller lodged this subject in the Wallowa County Jail for **UPCS—Meth**. The subject was also on felony probation.

Sr. Tpr. Maher (Oakridge) worked ATV enforcement at the Huckleberry Flats OHV area. During the patrol, he contacted 10 individuals at the OHV area. The patrol resulted in Maher issuing one ATV operator a citation for **Operating without a Valid Off-Road Permit / Decal** and giving out four warnings for other ATV-related violations. On another patrol at Huckleberry Flats, Maher contacted four ATV riders. During this patrol, Maher warned three subjects for No ATV Safety Education Card and warned one subject for No ATV Permit.

People grid the winter range on ATVs looking for shed antlers, and off-road travel is illegal in the area. Sr. Tpr. Bean (Gilchrist) spent one weekend patrolling the area looking for antler hunters and illegal ATV use. Sr. Tpr. Menlow (Bend) also patrolled via aircraft. During this patrol, the troopers did not detect any violations. Over another weekend, Bean patrolled the winter range. Of the 10 ATV operators he contacted, he issued six citations for **No Valid ATV Sticker** and warnings for Loaded Weapon on ATV and Operating in Restricted Area.

Tpr. Stone and Sr. Tpr. Merritt (Roseburg) contacted two subjects angling with three rods from a boat below Elkton on the Umpqua River. The troopers issued one citation and seized one rod and reel. Later that day while checking bank anglers around Bunch Bar, the troopers observed an angler smoking marijuana. Consequently, the troopers cited this subject for **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana**. As they were ending their patrol, they stopped a pickup on Hwy 138W for Fail to Maintain Lane. The troopers arrested the driver for **DUII** and took him to the Douglas County Jail, BAC .18%. The troopers also cited the passenger for **Unlawful Possession of a Firearm** and **Open Container**.

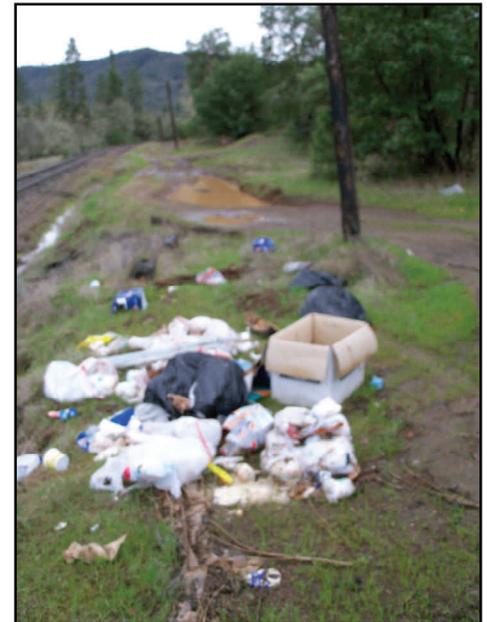
### Drugs a Persistent Issue for Portland during Angling Checks

In one week, Tpr. Fromme cited five people for **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana**, one for **Frequenting a Place Where Drugs are Being Used**, one for **UPCS—Schedule III Prescription Narcotics**, one for **UPCS—Schedule III Prescription Narcotics and UPCS—Schedule IV Prescription Narcotics**, and one for **Felony UPCS—Hashish**. Additionally, Tpr. Schoenborn cited three subjects for **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana**.

Tpr. Fromme contacted two anglers on the Willamette River in Oregon City and noted signs of drug intoxication. When asked for his license and tag, the subject presented only a license and said he was about to go buy his tag. When asked about the impairment, he stated he just finished smoking marijuana. A consent search of his belongings found a digital scale, an empty marijuana baggie, and a recently used glass pipe. Fromme cited the subject for **No 2011 Oregon Harvest Card** and **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana**.

Tpr. Fromme contacted two bank anglers on the Willamette River in Oregon City. One angler reeled in his line and attempted to conceal something near his tackle box. When asked, he denied concealing anything. Further investigation discovered found a pipe and marijuana. A records check found the other angler had a warrant for FTA on a **DUII—Alcohol** out of Jackson County. Fromme cited first subject for **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana** and lodged the second in the Clackamas County Jail to await extradition to Jackson County.

Lt. Gifford (Southwest Region) investigated a trash dumping incident near Central Point. A name and address was found on documents in the trash. Further investigation revealed the son of the subject identified had been given some money to take the trash to the dump. With the assistance of the suspect's mother, along with evidence and digital photos from the scene; the juvenile finally confessed to dumping the trash. Gifford cited the son for **Offensive Littering**.



Garbage dump discovered. Photo credit: File

Sgt. Meyer (Central Point) responded to a complaint from the DEQ that a suction dredge was set up on the Rogue River near the location of the former Savage Rapids Dam. The in-stream work period did not begin until June 15. When Meyer arrived, he found a man using a power sluice box, not a suction dredge, to mine gold on the bank of the river. Meyer found the subject had a DEQ permit for highbanking; however, Meyer detected the subject had a couple of violations. The subject was working below the ordinary high water mark, a DSL violation. In addition, the subject was set up where the run-off from his sluice box and nozzle was running back into the river, causing turbidity in the water. Meyer instructed the subject to stop using the power sluice box in this manner and additionally educated the subject on what he would need to do in order to legally work his power sluice box. Meyer warned the subject for **Unlawful Fill/Removal (DSL)** and **Violation of Highbanking Permit (DEQ)**.

# Commercial Fish / Marine Board

## Commercial Laws Enforced

Sr. Tpr. Van Prooyen (Gold Beach) checked a commercial crab delivery in Port Orford and cited one deckhand for **No Individual Commercial Fishing License**.

Sr. Tpr. Klepp (Astoria) conducted a fish dealer check in Astoria and noticed an out-of-state vessel making a crab delivery. After contacting the crew, he discovered one crew member failed to have a license. Klepp cited the subject for **No Nonresident Individual Commercial Fishing License**.

Sr. Tpr. Urbigkeit (Newport) and Sr. Tpr. Salisbury (Florence) completed a commercial crab investigation where a suspect from Florence ran another's commercial crab gear on three occasions. The stolen crab were then landed into Charleston. The troopers cited the suspect for **Theft I x 3** and **Fishing Commercial Dungeness Crab Pots of Another x 3**.

After Sr. Tpr. Klepp (Astoria) patrolled Clatsop Beach for recreational razor clam harvesters and cited one for **Failure to Retain First 15 Razor Clams Dug**, he performed an administrative check on a commercial shellfish buyer who was purchasing several deliveries of razor clams from commercial harvesters. Klepp discovered one harvester was not in compliance and issued the harvester a warning for **Failure to Completely Complete Razor Clam Logbook**.

Sr. Tpr. Harris (Coos Bay) watched a subject cutting gaper clams out of their shell on the mud flats of South Slough, discard the shells, and keep the rest in a bag. The subject continued to dig many more bay clams. The subject eventually boarded his canoe and paddled over to the other side of the channel where Harris contacted him. The trooper found the subject had 147 bay clams in his possession. Harris cited the subject for **Taking Commercial Gaper Clams Closed Season** and referred **Unlawful Taking Commercial Bay Clams, No Shellfish Sanitation Certificate, No Commercial Shellfish Harvest Permit, and No Commercial Clam Logbook** charges to the DA's office. He also warned the subject for **No Life Jacket, No Sound Producing Device, and No Aquatic Invasive Species Permit**.

## Troopers Rendered Aid to Rafters on Owyhee

During a rafting patrol, Sr. Tpr. Duncan (Baker City) and Tpr. Spencer (Ontario) contacted a group of rafters on the Owyhee River. Two elderly women had been knocked out of their raft. One went into shock, and both suffered from mild hypothermia. The troopers rendered aid and camped with the group of rafters for the night at the Hike Out Camp in case any further assistance or medical treatment was needed. The women decided they did not want to raft any further. Transportation arrangements were made, and the troopers hiked out of the canyon with the women the following morning so they could meet a shuttle. The troopers then resumed their patrol.

## Boat Patrols Worked and Numerous Violations Discovered

Sr. Tpr. Duncan and Sgt. Cyr (Baker City) patrolled the wild and scenic section of the Owyhee River from Rome to Birch Creek during a three-day raft trip. They contacted six rafts with numerous people and cited five for **No AIS Permits**.

Sr. Tpr. Gunderson, Sr. Tpr. Vanderwerf, and Sr. Tpr. Kipper (The Dalles) conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River between the mouth of the Deschutes River and the John Day Dam. The troopers checked 36 anglers and conducted 14 BERs. Along with several warnings issued for minor boating violations, they issued six citations for **Fail to Validate Salmon Tag**, two for **Angling with Two Rods (Bass)**, and one for **No Boat Education Card**.



Rafters navigating the Owyhee River. Photo credit: Wylth2o.com/CC

Sr. Tpr. Klepp (Astoria) patrolled the Blind Slough/Knappa Slough commercial gillnet 12-hour opener. He contacted 10 vessels and inspected gear and safety equipment. Klepp issued five Marine Board citations (**No PFD, Expired Marine Board Boat Registration, and No Fire Extinguisher**) and several warnings for equipment violations.

Sr. Tpr. Stinnett (Gold Beach) and Sgt. Lea (Coos Bay) conducted a boat patrol on the lower Rogue River and contacted 35 boats and 90 anglers. They only checked about 10 fish. The troopers completed a boat exam and issued one citation for **No Salmon Harvest Card**. On another patrol on the river, Stinnett and Sr. Tpr. Van Prooyen (Gold Beach) inspected 13 boats and checked 25 anglers. They issued one citation for **Angling Prohibited Method—Two Rods**. During this patrol, the troopers also observed a hazard to navigation and removed it.

Tpr. Schwartz, Tpr. Vogel (St. Helens), Tpr. O'Connor, Tpr. Herman, and Tpr. Warwick (Astoria) conducted a saturation boat patrol of the Columbia River and Multnomah Channel using two vessels. The troopers contacted several dozen anglers and boaters and performed multiple boat inspections. They found several recreationalists not in compliance, resulting in citations for **No Nonresident Angling License x 3, Angling Prohibited Method—Two Rods x 2, No Angling License x 2, Failure to Immediately Release Sturgeon, Failure to Immediately Validate Harvest Card—Salmon, and Insufficient PFDs**. They also gave out many verbal warnings as well.

Sgt. Cyr (Baker City) and Trooper Spencer (Ontario) were patrolling the Owyhee Reservoir when they observed a boat head upriver with the registration numbers taped over. This was the same boat OSP and BLM have had reports on operating in the wild and scenic section of the Owyhee River that is closed to motorboats, and a BLM Ranger cited the owner last year for the same violation. Cyr and Spencer could not overtake the boat, so they waited at the motorized deadline for over three hours for it to return. They observed and videotaped the operator boating in the closed area upon returning. When contacted, the owner discussed with the troopers about his intent to continue to boat in the closed area. The troopers cited the operator (owner's son) for **Operating a Motorboat in a Prohibited Area** and the owner for **Fail to Properly Display Registration Numbers**.

# Shellfish Saturation

## Subjects Unlawfully Possessed Crab

Tpr. Galusha (Tillamook) contacted a man crabbing at the public docks in Garibaldi. The subject showed the trooper three crab he kept that were located in a cooler in the trunk of his car. Galusha discovered three short female Dungeness crab in the cooler. He cited the subject for **Unlawful Possession of Female Dungeness Crab**.

Tpr. Keeler (Coos Bay) contacted a sport boat as it returned to the Empire boat ramp. The four subjects onboard caught 38 Dungeness crab, and seven were undersized. Keeler cited the subject who took responsibility for measuring the crab for **Unlawful Possession of Undersized Shellfish—Crab**. The short crab were returned to the bay.

Tpr. Peterson (Tillamook) worked crabbers in Tillamook Bay and contacted a boat with crab pots on board. The crabbers told Peterson crabbing was pretty good and they had retained 24 crab; however, when Peterson inspected the crab, he found 20 female Dungeness and four short male Dungeness crab. He seized all 24 crab and cited the boat operator for **Unlawful Possession Female Dungeness Crab**.

## Several Exceeded the Limits of Bay Clams

In one week, the Newport Team cited six subjects for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit on Bay Clams**. Sr. Tpr. Kehr contacted a group of three clambers who were 120 clams over their limit.

Sr. Tpr. Guerra and Tpr. Galusha (Tillamook) patrolled Tillamook Bay during a low tide. They contacted a subject leaving the flats with 15 clams over his limit. The troopers cited him for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Bay Clams**.



Trooper counting bay clams. Photo credit: File

On Netarts Bay, Sgt. Hoodenpyl (Tillamook) and Sr. Tpr. Turnbo (McMinnville) contacted two clambers who were leaving broken gaper clams in the holes and found they were eight over their limits. They cited both for **Exceeding the Daily Limit of Gaper Clams**. Turnbo contacted two clambers in a boat. The father was three gaper clams over his limit and the son was eight bay clams over his limit. Turnbo cited the father for **Exceeding the Bag Limit of Bay Clams**.

Sr. Tpr. Harris (Coos Bay) watched two clambers throw broken clams to seagulls. One subject also put extra clams in a bag and helped fill the other subject's bucket. Upon contact, the subject with the extra clams walked quickly away and failed to stop. The suspect dug a hasty hole and buried the bag of clams. Harris advised the subject to dig up the bag or receive a Littering citation. He discovered both subjects had 20 unbroken butter clams in their buckets and 17 unbroken in the bag. He recovered five discarded broken clams from the digging area as evidence. Harris cited one subject for **Failure to Retain Broken Bay Clams** and the second for **Exceeding the Daily Limit of Bay Clams**.

## Turn in Wildlife Poachers

Tpr. Peterson and Tpr. Galusha (Tillamook) contacted two subjects digging at Netarts Bay during a low clam tide and found one subject did not have a shellfish license and was visiting from Washington. The other subject was five clams over his limit and presented an Oregon resident shellfish license. After lying to the troopers several times, the subject admitted to living in Washington and using his uncle's address to claim residency. The troopers cited the first subject for **No Nonresident Shellfish License** and the second for **Unlawful Possession of Falsely Applied for Resident License** and forwarded a report to the DA for possible **Theft** charges.

## Razor Clams Unlawfully Taken

While working razor clam tides on Clatsop Beach, Tpr. Herman (Astoria) observed a calm digger pull some razor clams out of his bag and give them to another digger. When contacted, Herman found the digger did not have a valid shellfish license. He cited the subject for **Unlawful Taking Razor clams—No Valid Shellfish License** and seized 15 razor clams.



Trooper checking razor clams. Photo credit: File

While working razor clam diggers, Tpr. Warwick (Astoria) observed a man place two handfuls of clams into his coat pockets despite having a clam bag. After observing several violations in his group, Warwick contacted them at their vehicle. The diggers eventually admitted to the violations. Warwick issued two citations for **Exceeding the Bag Limit** and two for **Failure to Retain the First 15 Razor Clams Dug** and three warnings for **Digging Part of Another's Bag Limit**.

## Gaper Clammers Attempted to Conceal Violations

Sr. Tpr. Reid (McMinnville), Tpr. Peterson, and Tpr. Galusha (Tillamook) conducted a saturation patrol of Netarts Bay during a low clam tide. Peterson contacted a subject who had placed his jacket over the top of his bag of gaper clams to conceal them and then continued to dig for more clams. He found the subject had 16 gaper clams over his limit. Peterson cited the subject for **Exceeding the Daily Limit of Gaper Clams—Four over the Limit**.

Sgt. Lea (Coos Bay) observed two clambers for about an hour. One clammer was digging clams and putting them into both buckets. After a time, one subject returned to a residence on the bay while the other continued to dig. Lea contacted the returning subject, determined he was 15 gaper clams over his limit, and cited him for **Exceeding the Daily Limit of Gaper Clams**. This subject then walked back out to the other subject to tell him he was being watched. The second clammer dumped his clams out, hid his bucket and shovel, and then started walking down the beach. Lea contacted the second subject on the beach and discovered he did not have a shellfish license and had dug three gaper clams over his limit. Lea cited the second subject for **No Shellfish License** and **Exceeding the Daily Limit of Gaper Clams**.

# Sport Angling

## Diamond Lake Still Frozen in April

April 23 was the opening day for angling in the high lakes. Diamond Lake, one of Oregon's premier fishing lakes, will have an increased bag limit from five to eight trout over eight inches long starting May 1. The lake was still frozen over when Sgt. Meyer and Rct. Nugent (Central Point) made a pre-season check of the lake.

## Retiree Provided Tip about Violation

Following up on a tip from an OSP sworn retiree, Tpr. Brandon (Coos Bay) checked three bank anglers on the Umpqua River near Scottsburg Park. One subject kept two trout he caught while angling for spring Chinook. Brandon cited the subject for **Unlawful Take Trout—Closed Season**.

## Some Areas Close to Protect Native Species

Tpr. Boyd and Tpr. Imholt (Springfield) observed a subject angling with bait on the McKenzie River above Leaburg dam. This area was closed until April 24 for the protection of native and bull trout. They cited the subject for **Angling Closed Area**.

As Sr. Tpr. Allison and Sr. Tpr. Thompson (Central Point) crossed the Applegate River at Applegate, they observed a subject angling upstream turn and race up the embankment to his van. The troopers made a u-turn and contacted the subject at his vehicle. The subject claimed he was ignorant of the angling closure on the river and just wanted to take his sons fishing. The troopers explained the river was closed due to the presence of smolts. The troopers cited the man for **Angling Closed Season** and warned him for Criminal Trespass and Counseling in a Wildlife Violation.

## Unlawfully Angling Discovered

At Cottage Grove Reservoir, Sr. Tpr. Maher (Springfield) observed an operator loading a Washington registered boat on a trailer. Maher contacted the operator and a consent search of the live wells revealed four bass. This reservoir has special regulations prohibiting keeping bass over 15 inches long. Maher found three bass over 15 inches long. The operator admitted catching the oversized bass. The three illegally taken bass were released unharmed back into the lake, and Maher cited the operator for **Unlawful Take of Bass over 15 Inches in Length**.

Tpr. Warwick (Astoria) and Tpr. Vogel (St. Helens) received a call of a subject keeping live salmon at Dibblee Beach in Rainier. Warwick contacted some subjects in a vehicle leaving the area and gained consent to search the vehicle. He did not find any salmon in the vehicle; however, the subject did act nervous during the contact. As the subject began to leave, he popped the clutch too soon; and the vehicle lurched forward, causing an illegal salmon to come out of concealment between the bed and the tool box. Warwick cited the subject for **Illegal Possession of Nonadipose Fin-Clipped Chinook Salmon**.

Sr. Tpr. Kehr (Newport) patrolled the Siletz River near Logsden after receiving complaints of people continuing to angle after retaining a limit of steelhead. He contacted a guide with an angler in his boat who caught his limit of steelhead and still angling. The guide stated he did not realize anglers could not continue to fish after retaining a limit, so he told his client he could keep fishing. Kehr cited the guide for **Aiding in a Game Violation—Continuing to Angle after Retaining a Limit of Steelhead**. In the next boat, Kehr located three anglers with four steelhead. After discussion of who caught two fish, the operator remembered he had, but he only tagged one fish. Kehr cited the operator for **Fail to Validate Harvest Card**. During the patrol, Kehr checked four boats with a total of 14 anglers and 10 steelhead.



Snow covered Mt. Bailey looms in the background of frozen Diamond Lake the troopers are standing on. Photo credit: File

## Prohibited Species Used as Bait

Tpr. Warwick (Astoria) contacted a salmon angler at Jones Beach in Columbia County and found the angler in possession of 49 "water dogs," or tiger salamanders. The angler was visiting from New Mexico and told Warwick he was using the salamanders as salmon bait. As these salamanders are a prohibited species, Warwick cited the angler for **Unlawful Possession of a Prohibited Species**.

## Having Invalid Licenses is Poaching

Sr. Tpr. Van Prooyen (Gold Beach) completed an investigation regarding a man who moved out of state and continued to purchase resident angling and hunting licenses. Van Prooyen cited the subject for **False Application for Resident License** and seized his licenses.

As Tpr. Fromme (Portland) entered Dodge Park on the Sandy River; three anglers noticed him, stopped angling, and walked quickly to their vehicle. Contacts with other anglers confirmed these three were fishing. He saw a truck with the three anglers inside leave the park at a high rate of speed. He made it to his truck and pursued the fleeing subjects. He overtook the vehicle just outside the park and performed a stop. Two subjects presented their angling license and harvest cards, and the third only produced a license. Fromme's interviews roadside eventually found the angler was trying to flee because he had not purchased a harvest card and knew he was in violation. Fromme cited the subject for **No 2011 Oregon Resident Harvest Card—Misdemeanor**.

Sr. Tpr. Maher (Springfield) worked anglers below Dexter Dam on the Middle Fork Willamette River. Shortly after 6:00 a.m., he saw some subjects who he recognized from previous contacts. One subject told Maher the day before he was not fishing and appeared nervous. After seeing this subject again, Maher set up across the river. Eventually, this subject nervously walked down the riverbank, retrieved a spin rod from a concealed location in the brush, and took a position near the river's edge in a secluded location. Holding the rod in his hands, he looked up and down stream then casted the steelhead rigged line. This process was repeated four times. Maher drove to the location and contacted the angler who was sitting in the passenger seat of a pickup. Maher asked if he had caught anything. The angler looked surprised and proclaimed he was not fishing. Maher explained his observations and cited the angler for **No Angling License** and **No Combined Angling Tag**.

# Wildlife / Hunting

## Four Charged Following Five-Month Investigation into Unlawful Hunting and Guiding Activities



Evidence seized in search warrants. Photo credit: File

Led by Sr. Tpr. Turnbo (McMinnville), Division troopers from Albany, Burns, McMinnville, Portland, Salem, and Tillamook completed a five-month investigation into unlawful hunting and guiding activities. During the investigation, multiple search warrants were served in Oregon and Indiana to gather evidence. The offenses allegedly occurred between February 2009 and February 2011 in Clatsop, Douglas, Gilliam, Harney, Linn, Multnomah, Tillamook, and Washington Counties. The wildlife unlawfully taken and/or possessed included blacktail and mule deer, elk, antelope, bear, raccoon, beaver, and a hawk. Indiana Department of Natural Resources and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife assisted with the investigation. Examples of the alleged activity included:

- During the 2009 archery season, subject #1, the guide service owner, and subject #2, a guide service employee, unlawfully killed four large mule deer bucks. All four sets of antlers were recovered.

- During a September 2010 hunting trip involving subject #1, subject #2, and subject #3, an Indiana resident, an antelope was unlawfully killed by subject #3 during a closed season. Parts of the antelope were recovered in Indiana during the execution of a search warrant.

- In January 2011, subject #1 and subject #3 unlawfully killed two cow elk without valid tags. A few weeks later, subject #1 killed a spike bull.
- Subject #4, a Washington resident, purchased an Oregon 2011 Sports Pac. By making a false application for the license, subject #4 saved over \$1,300 in nonresident fees. Subject #4, a convicted felon, also shot a cow elk in January 2011 with a rifle. This rifle was seized.

Consequently, the four subjects were cited in the above listed counties on multiple crimes including **Unlawful Taking and/or Possessing of Wildlife, Taking Wildlife Closed Season, Exceeding the Bag Limit of Deer, Waste of a Game Mammal, Theft in the First Degree, Falsely Applying for a Resident Sport Pac, Convicted Felon in Possession of a Firearm, and Aiding or Counseling in a Wildlife Violations**. Subject #3 has been charged in the State of Indiana with misdemeanor crime of **Unlawful Possession of Wildlife Unlawfully Taken in Another State**.

## Nine Arraigned on Numerous Wildlife Crimes, Racketeering, and other Criminal Offenses

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) with the assistance of Tpr. Imholt (Springfield) finalized a 15-month investigation alleging a long criminal conspiracy involving the illegal harvest of approximately 300 deer in the McKenzie Unit over the last five years, resulting in the execution of two search warrants at three locations. Troopers from Springfield, Albany, Florence, Oakridge, Bend, and Roseburg; BLM law enforcement; Lane County parole and probation; the Lane County DA's Office; and OSP Patrol troopers all participated in the search warrants which produced two whole unlawfully taken cow elk, about 1,600 pounds of processed game meat, 108 sets of deer and elk antlers, timber company master keys, numerous hunting licenses and tags, and 18 rifles. Lane County SO forest deputies assisted in the recovery of the two cow elk the day the warrant was served.

The offenses allegedly occurred during 2009 and 2010 in Lane County on both BLM and private timber lands. The wildlife unlawfully taken and/or possessed were elk, antelope, bear, and blacktail deer. Many of the deer were taken to fill tags for people who either do not hunt or who had their identification stolen for the purpose of illegally obtaining hunting licenses and tags in their name. A break in the case came when one an identification theft victim received an ODFW big game tooth envelope in the mail and contacted ODFW to advise them of their mistake. The initial investigation indicated hunting licenses and tags were bought in the reporting person's name without their consent or knowledge.



Evidence seized during the investigation. Photo credit: File

As a result of the investigation, the Lane County Grand Jury indicted nine people in April 2011 on over 150 total counts of various crimes, including **Unlawful Possession of Big Game Parts x 100, Racketeering x 9, Identity Theft x 11, Forgery in the Second Degree x 3, Computer Crime x 6, Loaning/Borrowing/Transfer of Big Game/Hunting Tags x 15, Unlawful Take of Big Game x 5, Unlawful Hunting Cow Elk x 2, Unlawful Take Antlerless Deer x 2, Unlawful Take of Cow Elk, Unlawful Possession of Game Mammal, Unlawful Possession of Bear Meat, and Unlawful Possession of Antlerless Deer**.

This case is a reminder that illegal conduct such as this should be reported to the TIP line at 800-452-7888 or e-mailed to [TIP@state.or.us](mailto:TIP@state.or.us) for the protection and future enjoyment of our natural resources. Violation report forms can be obtained on the Internet and either filled out on the computer, saved, and e-mailed to the Division or printed off and mailed or faxed to the Division or presented to an official. These forms are available by visiting [http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/FW/docs/Suspicious\\_Activity\\_Form\\_Fillable.pdf](http://www.oregon.gov/OSP/FW/docs/Suspicious_Activity_Form_Fillable.pdf). TIPs can remain anonymous.

# Wildlife / Hunting

## Unlawful Bird Hunting Detected

Tpr. Imholt (Springfield) followed up on a suspect who shot a mallard duck while out target shooting. The suspect stated he just got a new scope and wanted to try it out, so he shot a duck off a pond in the woods from the road. The suspect did not realize there was someone watching him who reported in detail what they saw. Imholt cited the suspect for **Hunting Waterfowl Closed Season** and seized his rifle.

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) responded to a complaint of a resident shooting and killing a Canadian goose on the McKenzie River near Vida. Boyd interviewed the witnesses along with the suspect and recovered the goose. He cited the suspect for **Unlawful Take of Canadian Goose Closed Season** and seized the shotgun. During the contact, the suspect complained that the two geese were eating the manicured grass on the bank of the river.

Sr. Tpr. Coggins (Enterprise) completed an investigation into the unlawful possession of chukar. On New Year's Day, an ODFW biologist checked an out-of-state hunter who was chukar hunting. At the time, the subject did not have an Oregon hunting license and stated he killed the chukar he had in possession in Washington. The biologist reported the incident to Coggins to investigate. Coggins' investigation revealed the subject had been hunting in Oregon and actually killed the chukar in Oregon. Coggins cited the subject for **Unlawful Possession of Chukar**.

## DNA Test Proved Suspects Poached Deer

In October 2010, Tpr. Ritter (John Day) responded to a complaint in the Izee area. The complainant advised that on a Friday, he saw a green Jeep pass by his ranch with a large 4 x 4 buck draped over the spare tire mounted on the back of the Jeep. A few minutes later, he saw a gate open on his property, fresh tire tracks entering and leaving one of his fields through the gate, blood between the tire tracks, and a gut pile across a creek from where the tracks ended on his property. Ritter collected samples from the scene then contacted area ranchers and asked them to look out for the Jeep. The Silvies Unit buck muzzleloader hunt was underway, and Ritter searched for the Jeep but could not find it. On Sunday, Ritter received a call from a rancher he had contacted who reported the suspect Jeep just passed by headed toward Prineville and provided a license plate that was registered to a Prineville resident. Ritter notified Sr. Tpr. Madison (Prineville) to look for the suspect Jeep. A short time later, Madison stopped another vehicle with a 4 x 4 buck in the back. He determined the driver of this vehicle hunted on Friday with the owner of the Jeep and a friend and killed the deer on public land. They draped the deer over the Jeep's spare tire and drove through the area the private property was in, even though it was many miles from where he said he shot the deer and they were camped. Ritter contacted two other witnesses who said they saw a green Jeep in the complainant's field on that Friday near the creek loading a large buck onto the spare tire. Ritter arrived at Madison's location and interviewed the driver who provided the same story. Ritter seized the deer. Ritter attempted to locate the other suspects but was unsuccessful. He sent the sample taken from the scene and a meat sample from the deer to the Idaho Wildlife Laboratory for DNA analysis. In April 2011, he received the test results that concluded the samples matched. Ritter cited the shooter for **Hunting on the Enclosed Land of Another** and the other two suspects for **Aiding in a Game Violation** and **Criminal Trespass II**.

## Trooper Responded to Complaint of Sick Cougar

Tpr. Fromme (Portland) received a complaint of a sick cougar on Mt. Hood near the Ski Bowl base area. Tpr. Deforest (Patrol) was nearby and performed an area check. Upon doing so, Deforest found a small bobcat kitten that appeared ill. Deforest and Clackamas County SO were able to take custody of the kitten. Fromme made arrangements to have the kitten boarded overnight at a 24-hour emergency veterinarian clinic. The next morning, the kitten was transported without any problems to the Audubon Society of Portland for an exam and rehabilitation.



Bobcat kitten rescued. Photo credit: File

## Deer and Elk Illegally Taken

Sr. Tpr. Halsey and Tpr. Burkholder (Albany) contacted a 22-year-old subject in Scio after receiving an anonymous tip the subject had illegally taken a large blacktail buck in November 2009. The investigation revealed the subject shot the buck in the middle of the night with a .17 caliber rifle. The troopers seized a large 3 x 5 set of blacktail antlers and cited the subject for **Taking Buck Deer with Aid of Artificial Light**.

Tpr. Baimbridge (Roseburg) completed an investigation with the assistance of Sr. Tpr. Marshall Maher (Oakridge) and Sr. Tpr. Martin Maher (Springfield). In November 2010, two suspects shot and killed three bull elk, including a prized 7 x 8, on private timber property. Baimbridge did an outstanding job with his investigation and arrested the main suspect for **Unlawful Taking of an Elk Closed Season x 3** and cited the second suspect for **Aiding in a Wildlife Crime x 3**.

## Injured Birds Reported to OSP

Tpr. Imholt (Springfield) followed up on a report of someone taking an injured barn owl from a barn. Imholt located the subject who took the owl and determined they were going to take it to a rehabilitation center. Imholt took possession of the owl and delivered it to the Cascades Raptor Center for evaluation and treatment.

Sr. Tpr. Reid (McMinnville) received a report of road-struck eagle on Hwy 99W just north of Sherwood. This area is next to a federal wildlife refuge. A citizen reported they saw a vehicle hit a mature bald eagle. Upon arrival, Reid searched the area and located the eagle approximately a 1/4-mile from the initial incident location. He contacted USFWS, and a biologist responded to the location. When approached, it was apparent the eagle was struck, but the eagle was able to fly several hundred yards before landing safely in a tree. The biologists said three eagles are nesting on the wetlands, and they would continue to monitor the eagle. Reid contacted the reporting citizen who was grateful of the effort.

# Interagency

## Interagency Cases Worked

Tpr. Ritter (John Day) found ATV tracks on a posted closed USFS road in the Desolation Unit. He contacted a turkey hunter at his camp in the vicinity of the closed road. Ritter determined the turkey hunter drove his ATV on the closed road. Ritter provided the suspect's information to the USFS LEO, along with photos of the road closure sign that was prominently displayed. USFS will contact the suspect at his camp and cite him for **Violating the Posted Road Closure**.

Tpr. Clement and Tpr. Andrews (Salem) responded to a hunting complaint called into the Polk County SO. Deputies responded to a residence in Dallas and held the suspect until Clement and Andrews arrived. The suspect shot and wounded a turkey on private property, and the wounded turkey crossed the road onto an adjacent property. The suspect pursued the turkey in his truck and shot twice from inside his pickup on a public highway. The troopers cited the suspect for **Hunt from a Motor Vehicle**.

Sr. Tpr. Hanson (Portland) and Tpr. Schnackenburg (Patrol) responded to assist Clackamas County SO deputies with five subjects at Wilsonville Pond. The troopers found two four-wheel drive vehicles on the back side of Wilsonville Pond in an area closed to motor vehicles. ODFW has been experiencing problems with vehicles driving over their cable marking the parking area and four-wheel driving through the mud around the pond causing property damage. Officers cited all five suspects for **Criminal Mischief I** and the two operators additionally for **Operating a Motor Vehicle in a Prohibited Area on ODFW Controlled Land**.

Astoria, Tillamook, and St. Helens Division troopers partnered with WDFW officers to work the six-hour Columbia River main stem gill net fishery. During the patrol, Sr. Tpr. Klepp (Astoria) checked 11 commercial gillnet vessels after they participated in the fishery on shore as they arrived to various moorages in the lower Columbia River east of Astoria. Of the 11 vessels checked, Klepp found one skipper had eight spring Chinook in his possession. The imposed vessel catch limit was six spring Chinook. During a search, Klepp discovered the additional two salmon wrapped in plastic and concealed under a seat inside the vessel's cabin. Consequently, Klepp cited the skipper for **Illegal Possession of Chinook Salmon—Exceeding Vessel Catch Limit** and seized both salmon. Also during the patrol, Tpr. Warwick (Astoria) warned a fish buyer for Not Having a Certified Scale.

## Freighter Crashed into Mill

Tpr. Herman, Tpr. Warwick (Astoria), Tpr. Schwartz, Tpr. Vogel (St. Helens), and Clatsop County SO Marine Deputy Phillips all responded in multiple boats to a report of a freight ship that collided with the Wauna Mill in Westport. The fully loaded log freighter lost control of its steering while transiting downstream on the Columbia River. The freighter subsequently collided with the mill's shipping and receiving pier on the Oregon side of the river. The collision resulted in substantial damage to the mill, and multiple people were reported to have been in the water. Upon arrival at the scene, all of the people had been pulled from the water and were safe. Troopers and deputies remained on scene for several hours assisting USCG with security and the investigation. The port captain subsequently closed that area of the Columbia River due to the damage to the mill and the freighter being anchored in the channel.



Freighter crashed into mill, causing damage. Photo credit: File

## Interagency Boat Patrols Conducted

Sr. Tpr. Connell (Hermiston) conducted a joint boat patrol with Morrow County SO Marine Deputy Wilson. The officers checked 25 anglers and conducted 10 BERs and three visual boat inspections and issued only three citations for **No Angling License**.

Sr. Tpr. Stinnett (Gold Beach) conducted a boat patrol with a Curry County SO Marine deputy on the Rogue River. The officers checked 20 boats and conducted two boat examinations, resulting in issued two warnings for boat equipment violations and several warnings for angling-related violations. They also checked eight salmon.

Sr. Tpr. Thompson and Sr. Tpr. Allison (Central Point) coordinated with Jackson County SO for a joint boat patrol on Howard Prairie Lake for the opening of high-lake angling season. The weather started out fair but soon turned to rain and wind. Although the miserable weather and low harvest rate of fish soon drove most sportsmen from the lake, the officers inspected over 30 boats and contacted 70 anglers, resulting in a very high compliance rate.

USCG ran a multi-agency saturation for salmon anglers dubbed Operation Spring Catch. Tpr. Fromme (Portland), Tpr. Schwartz, and Tpr. Vogel (St. Helens) patrolled the Multnomah Channel and lower Willamette and Columbia Rivers and contacted 74 anglers and boaters. Of the boaters contacted, eight boating checks conducted resulted in two citations issued for **Expired Certificate of Numbers—Failing to Register** and **Insufficient PFDs**. Of the anglers contacted, the troopers gave out nine warnings and issued four citations, one for **No Nonresident Angling License**, one for **No Resident Angling License**, and two to one subject with a false license who concealed his crime. This subject presented a 2011 Oregon resident angling license and harvest card along with Washington identification where he claimed to live. The subject also claimed not to have caught any sturgeon; however, a consent search found a sturgeon had recently been in the cooler. Further questioning resulted in the angler consenting to a search of a van located in the parking lot of the park where a live adult sturgeon was found stuffed under the middle seat of the van. The sturgeon was still alive and returned successfully to the river. The troopers issued the subject citations for **Possession of a Falsely Applied for License and Tag** and **Unlawful Possession of Sturgeon**.

# Interagency / Public Relations

## Inspections Held Annually

Sr. Tpr. Gunderson (The Dalles) and Sr. Tpr. McNerney (Hood River) conducted a boat inspection day at The Dalles Marina. Hood River County SO Marine deputies assisted with the inspections. The officers inspected over 40 boats. This public service has become an annual event that is well received.

## “Dinner” Found during Search

Washington County SO notified Sr. Tpr. Reid (McMinnville) about a four-foot alligator that they located when they served a drug search warrant. The suspect purchased the alligator off of an Internet website with the intentions of eating it when it grew to an appropriate length. The suspect affectionately named the alligator “Dinner.” The suspect relinquished all ownership of the alligator to the deputies. “Dinner” was handed over to an alligator rescue group in Portland.

## Baby Delivered Roadside

While en route to pick up a drift boat in Central Point, Sr. Tpr. Stinnett (Gold Beach) stopped on Hwy 199 near Selma to help a motorist whose vehicle he thought was disabled. He contacted a woman standing at the back of the car who was frantically trying to describe her location on a cell phone to 9-1-1 because the other vehicle occupant, a 32-year-old female, was about ready to deliver a baby. Stinnett confirmed the location to 9-1-1 and contacted the woman. He saw the baby’s head was about half way out, and he helped deliver the baby about three minutes later. “When the baby took her first breath, I took my first breath too,” said Stinnett. Shortly after delivery, off-duty Illinois Valley FD Captain Sherman stopped and helped Stinnett until AMR ambulance and Illinois Valley FD arrived. AMR transported the mother and child to the hospital. The mother and child are doing well.



The baby Stinnett delivered is doing well. Photo credit: File

## Troopers Participated in Youth Events and Classes



Trooper spoke to Cub Scouts. Photo credit: File

Sr. Tpr. Merritt (Roseburg) participated in a Hunter Education class. He assisted by showing the class how to track a blood trail.

Sgt. Allori (Portland) gave a presentation to about 60 students and parents at a Hunter Education class at the American Legion Hall in Portland.

Sr. Tpr. Collom (Central Point) spoke at a two Hunter Education classes. During one class, he gave a one-hour presentation to about 25 Internet students.

Sr. Tpr. Vanderwerf and Sgt. Katzenstein (The Dalles) gave a

presentation and answered questions at the annual OHA Youth Turkey Clinic held at the White River Wildlife Area. Of the over 200 people who attended, about 150 were youth.

Sgt. Withers (Roseburg) and Tpr. Ledbetter (Patrol) showed off drug canine Charger to the first, second, and third grade classes at Hucrest Grade School. About 80 students watched Charger show off his skills. The kids were very impressed.

Sr. Tpr. Salisbury (Florence) gave a public talk to the Siuslaw Elementary School fifth graders. The students are working on the ODFW responsible angling workbook. He explained some of the basic regulations and helped them complete a worksheet. About 75 kids attended the presentation.

Sgt. Meyer and Rct. Nugent (Central Point) made an appearance at a local Cub Scout den meeting that one of Meyer’s friend’s son is in. The troopers told the young scouts and their fathers what an Oregon State Police trooper does and how the fish and wildlife laws are enforced in Oregon. They also had a “name the critter” game using a pelt kit borrowed from ODFW. The scouts and their fathers were very thankful for the time spent with the troopers, and the fathers seemed to be just as interested as the youngsters.

## Project Improved Habitat

Tpr. Freitag (Salem) attended a Habitat Improvement Project near Detroit led by OHA. Volunteers from several other organizations, including Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Mid-Valley Crawlers, USFS, Axle Noble Corporation, and Eagle Fasteners Plus, assisted with the project. Volunteers removed litter; pruned bushes; and spread fertilizer, lime, and seed on the power line right-of-way near Breitenbush. This was the tenth year of the project.

## Spoke at Meetings and on Radio

Sgt. Hand (Klamath Falls) attended another Dog Training Advisory Group meeting.

Sr. Tpr. Stinnett (Gold Beach), Sr. Tpr. Harris, and Sgt. Lea (Coos Bay) attended an ODFW public meeting regarding the upcoming salmon seasons.

Sr. Tpr. Martin Maher (Springfield) and Sr. Tpr. Marshall Maher (Oakridge) were guests on local AM 590 KUGN radio station. The troopers talked about opening day of trout season, angling regulations, and water safety issues (emphasizing wearing PFDs).

Tpr. Van Meter (Newport) attended the Siletz Watershed council meeting and gave a presentation on angling enforcement to include river fishery of salmon and steelhead and ocean fishery of halibut, salmon, and rockfish. She also discussed Oregon Plan work and what has been done recently.

# Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division

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