



OREGON STATE POLICE FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION



Oregon State Police
2023
Fish and Wildlife Division Partner of the Year
Josh Bryan
Josh Bryan Taxidermy



CONTENT

Community Outreach	<u>3-5</u>
2023 F&W Partner of the Year	<u>6</u>
2023 F&W Prosecutor of the Year	<u>7</u>
General Law and Rescues	<u>8-9</u>
Wildlife and Environment.....	<u>10-11</u>
Marine Fisheries Team	<u>12-14</u>
Shellfish and Angling	<u>15-16</u>
Turn in Poachers (TIP) Program	<u>17</u>
F&W Recruitment.....	<u>18</u>



*On the cover:
Fish and Wildlife Division 2023 Partner
of the Year Josh Bryan, with Josh Bryan
Taxidermy (see [page 6](#) for more info)*

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



National Night Out Event in Eugene

South Valley Fish and Wildlife Troopers and K-9 Buck attended the National Night Out event located at PK Park in Eugene. There were many different law enforcement stations set up educating and interacting with the public. K-9 Buck was able to interact with a wide variety of visitors, creating a positive experience. This event draws large groups of people who get to interact with police, fire, and then watch a baseball game.

Trooper Attends 4-H Camp

A Heppner Fish and Wildlife Recruit Trooper was asked to attend the local 4-H Camp at Cutsforth Park near Heppner. The Trooper spent an hour speaking with about 70 children and adults. The park has a stocked trout pond so there were lots of questions about fishing, police work, and the gear Troopers carry in our vehicles as well as our duty gear.

Sergeant Speaks at Tag Holder Event

A Fish and Wildlife Sergeant from The Dalles gave a presentation to the bighorn sheep and mountain goat tag holders at the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)/Oregon Wild Sheep Foundation sponsored orientation regarding OSP's role in those hunts. Over 150 people were in attendance including tag holders, friends, family, vendors, and guides.

American Legion Law Enforcement Camp

North Coast and North Valley Fish and Wildlife Sergeants and Troopers attended the American Legion Law Enforcement Camp at Camp Rilea. The 18 youth were put through an extensive poaching scenario with many props as a group and had a lot of fun.



International Soccer Group Visits Newport

Newport area families hosted soccer coaches from the UK International Soccer program as part of their exchange and summer camp program. The participants also got to experience the Oregon Coast and all that it has to offer. A few of the families and coaches visited the Patrol Vessel Guardian to learn about how enforcement helps in protecting marine resources. The group also got to learn about Dungeness crab and how to identify males vs females and properly measure crab. They had a lot of laughs and no one got pinched!

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



OHA Youth Event - Veneta

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Sergeant, Trooper and K-9 Buck attended an OHA youth event west of Veneta. Attendees participated in a wide variety of events designed to educate and entertain visitors of all ages. Troopers had the Trailer of Shame at the event and handed out many items to the youngsters.

Trooper Assists with “Learn to Hunt” Event

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted with an OHA “Learn to Hunt” event. During the event students learned the basics of planning a hunt, glassing for animals, route selection, ethics, and many other topics. The Trooper provided information regarding fish and wildlife laws and common mistakes to avoid while hunting or angling.

Junior Women’s Law Enforcement Academy

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted and instructed at the first annual Junior Women’s Law Enforcement Academy put on by Central Oregon Women in Law Enforcement. The one-day camp, held on July 10th in Redmond, was the first of its kind in Central Oregon and designed for teens 13-18 years of age. It was led by women in a wide variety of law enforcement roles. Activities included a physical agility test, mock trial, traffic stops, dispatch, handcuffing, crime scene processing, Fish and Wildlife, drone operations, CERT/SWAT, K-9, parole and probation and more.

Trooper Presents to Ochoco Chapter of OHA

A Prineville Fish and Wildlife Trooper presented to the Ochoco Chapter of Oregon Hunters Association (OHA). A summary of activities over the last year was covered via PowerPoint and many questions answered. Twenty-two members were in attendance and were very pleased and appreciative for the presentation. Later that week the Trooper volunteered at the chapter’s 4th of July parade booth.

Troopers Attend Lincoln County Fair

Newport Fish and Wildlife Troopers staffed the Trailer of Shame at the Lincoln County Fair. The trailer was a popular feature at the fair, and visitors to the trailer were able to ask the Troopers questions about fish and wildlife related topics, and discuss career opportunities with OSP. Several copies of current fish and game regulations were handed out, as well as stickers and fishing bobbers for the children.



Troopers Attend Quad State Meeting

Several members of the OSP Fish and Wildlife Division from the East and Southwest Regions attended the annual Quad State meeting with Nevada, California, and Idaho Game Wardens. Nevada was the host state this year and the meeting was held in the Jarbridge Wilderness in Jarbridge, Nevada. There were eighteen Troopers and Game Wardens from the other states that attended the meeting. Several high-profile poaching cases were shared by Game Wardens that involved suspects poaching in one state then driving back across the border of another state. OSP helped with one of these cases which involved identifying suspects and executing a search warrant in Oregon. The Game Wardens working the case were grateful for OSP’s help with the massive poaching case that involved five different states.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Trooper Attends Camp Rosenbaum

A Central Point Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted with Camp Rosenbaum, a non-profit youth camp held every year for more than 50 years at Camp Rilea in Warrenton. Throughout the week-long camp, the Trooper joined numerous officers, deputies, and volunteers from agencies across the state to assist in making 2024 Camp Rosenbaum a success for more than 100 at-risk youth. The Trooper was assigned to the Horse Camp activities where kids were given the opportunity to ride horses, learn about nature, participate in campfire stories, and make s'mores. During their time at camp, the kids were unaware that many of their counselors were law enforcement officers or firefighters until the final day when all of the counselors arrived in uniform. Many of the kids were shocked that the counselors that they had been hanging out with all week were actually law enforcement officers. Camp Rosenbaum creates a unique opportunity for these at-risk youth to see beyond the uniform and build trusting, positive relationships with the law enforcement community.



Sergeant to Appear on New TV Show

A Fish and Wildlife Sergeant from The Dalles participated in filming for a new TV show called "Wardens; Case Files" on the Outdoor Channel. The series has a premiere date of February 14, 2025. This outreach opportunity spawned from an interview the Sergeant gave to Randy Nelson back in 2019. Randy Nelson, retired Canadian Fisheries Enforcement Officer and author, interviewed the Sergeant about one of his cases for his book: "The Wildest Hunt." The book is a collection of game warden stories from across North America. The Outdoor Channel approached Mr. Nelson about the idea, and they are off and running. The premise of the show will be Mr. Nelson informally interviewing the officers about their cases with cutaways to reenactments.

Trooper Assists with OHA Event

A John Day Fish and Wildlife Trooper assisted with a hunter education class and field day in John Day. There were 11 students in attendance. During the classroom portion the Trooper gave a presentation explaining the role of the Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division, and each student was given questions to look up in the regulations to get them accustomed to using the Big Game regulations. During the field day the students completed their live fire portion along with a hunters trail that the Trooper assisted with in which the students are presented with legal, ethical, and shoot no shoot scenarios. The Trooper also demonstrated what to expect during a typical license/tag check. The students and some parents asked several questions regarding the regulations.

2023 F&W PARTNER OF THE YEAR



OSP Fish and Wildlife Division is happy to announce Josh Bryan, with Josh Bryan Taxidermy, as the recipient of our Fish and Wildlife Division 2023 Partner of the Year award. Josh was presented the award recently at his shop in Newberg.

Josh first began building Wildlife Enforcement Decoys (WEDs) for OSP in 2019. He has also competed nationally, winning multiple taxidermy awards with his black-tailed deer mounts. His attention to detail and build quality in Roosevelt elk mounts has been unmatched. As part of this dedication and attention to detail Josh was constantly taking our feedback and looking for ways to improve. In

2023, he built a deer WED with removable legs for easier transport and tried out naturally reflective eyes that are built into the mount. In 2023 Josh built the first robotic elk WED built within Oregon in many years. In total, Josh built or reconstructed eight WEDs in 2023, which included three robotic decoys for our Division, and one for a partner agency Division members work with often.

Josh is a valued partner of the Oregon State Police, and we appreciate all of his hard work and passion to assist our Division in catching those who choose to violate the wildlife laws of our State. Please join us in congratulating Josh on a job well done!

2023 F&W PROSECUTOR OF THE YEAR



OSP Fish and Wildlife Troopers presented our 17th annual Fish and Wildlife Division Prosecutor of the Year award to Columbia County Deputy District Attorney Mihnea Moga. DDA Moga was recognized in front of his colleagues at the Oregon District Attorneys Association (ODAA) Summer Conference in Seaside. The award consists of a wildlife print with an engraved plaque that is made in coordination with the Oregon Hunters Association.

Following are excerpts from the nominations submitted for his 2023 efforts:

“DDA Moga is very dedicated to natural resource protection and has proven to be extremely valuable to furthering the Fish and Wildlife Division mission.”

“DDA Moga has been one of the best prosecuting attorneys I’ve had the pleasure of working with in my 15 years as a member of the Fish and Wildlife Division.”

“DDA Moga has shown an incredible understanding of what it takes to be the best F&W prosecutor. He has shown time and again he is a great communicator, goes above and beyond with his dedication to natural resource prosecution and is always available to the field force.”

We want to thank DDA Moga for his support of our Division, and for all of his work prosecuting those who violate fish and wildlife laws. Please join us in congratulating DDA Moga on a job well done!

GENERAL LAW & RESCUES



Young Osprey Taken to Wildlife Images

In early July, a Central Point Fish and Wildlife Trooper dealt with several calls for assistance with fledgling birds. The Trooper received a call about an individual in Grants Pass who had located a young osprey who was grounded. Upon speaking with the individual, the Trooper was able to determine that the osprey was a juvenile bird who was very thin and appeared to be grounded due to starvation. A Grants Pass Patrol Trooper was able to capture the osprey and transport it to the Fish and Wildlife Trooper to hold onto. The following day, the Trooper transported the young osprey to Wildlife Images where it was admitted for evaluation.

Injured Turkey Vulture Rescued

A McMinnville Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to a report of an injured turkey vulture that had been struck by a vehicle in Amity. A juvenile male had found the bird and was seen walking around town with it. Several concerned citizens called in about the situation. The bird had a broken wing and head injury. It was transported to the Chintimini Wildlife Center for evaluation.



Cooper's Hawk Fledgling

A Central Point Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to an animal call off of Old Ferry Rd in Shady Cove. The caller reported finding a fledgling in the roadway and had cornered it in a bush in an attempt to secure it to bring it to safety. Upon arrival, the Trooper located the caller and what appeared to be a fledgling Cooper's Hawk. Upon further inspection the Trooper determined that the fledgling was not injured and was in a location that was appropriate and suitable for a young fledgling to be at this stage of their life. In the area around where the fledgling was on the ground, the Trooper noticed old eggshells, the feathers of adult hawks, and fresh feathers from what appeared to be a pigeon which indicate that the fledgling's nest is likely nearby, and the parents are actively caring for the bird. No further assistance was needed.



Owlet Rescued

A Central Point Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a call about a fledgling owl (owlet) that was located outside of a residence in Merlin. A Grants Pass Patrol Trooper responded and secured the owlet in a box at the Grants Pass Patrol Office until the Fish and Wildlife Trooper could respond to attempt to re-nest the owlet. Upon returning to the residence, the Trooper discovered that the owlet's nest appeared to have blown out of its tree. The presence of a significant number of feathers around the base of the nest tree indicate that the homeowner's cat likely got the second owlet. Since the owlet could not be safely re-nested, it was transported to Wildlife Images for evaluation and care.

GENERAL LAW & RESCUES



Red-Tailed Hawk Fledglings Given New Nest

A Central Point Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to a call of two fledgling red-tailed hawks on the ground in Medford. Upon arrival, the Trooper located two juvenile hawks who had jumped from their nest in a nearby tree. When temperatures get very hot for an extended period of time, fledglings will prematurely jump from the nest in an attempt to escape the extreme heat and avoid dying of heat exhaustion. This results in an influx of calls regarding grounded fledglings. Since the parents will remain in the area and care for the chicks until they are able to fly, the Trooper went to a local store and purchased a basket and ratchet strap which was secured in a shaded area of the fledgling's nest tree with the help of several firefighters from the Medford Fire Department. The fledglings were successfully placed back in their nest tree in a more shaded spot where the parents can watch after them until they learn to fly.

Trooper Finds DUI Driver Passed Out

A Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Trooper was patrolling in the Bly area when he saw a disabled vehicle on the side of Highway 140 East, partially in the lane of travel. The driver was passed out behind the wheel. Upon contact it was apparent the driver was under the influence of alcohol. The Trooper conducted an investigation and arrested the driver for **Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants (DUI)**. Once at the jail, the driver consented to provide a breath sample, which showed a 0.14% blood alcohol content (BAC).

Boaters Rescued - Fern Ridge Lake

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Sergeant assisted the Lane Fire Authority and the Lane County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) with a water rescue on Fern Ridge Lake. The initial report identified two people in the water. The two were located and wearing proper life jackets with whistles attached. Once they were removed from the water it was learned they rolled their sailboat and were in the water for approximately 1½ hours. They were able to get the attention of a dog walker utilizing their whistles and emergency personnel were notified and responded. They were thankful to be out of the water prior to dark and their boat was recovered utilizing the LCSO search and rescue boat.

Trooper Assists with Injured Cyclist

A Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to assist a volunteer fire crew locate a subject who had crashed his bicycle on a remote trail system. The cyclist was experiencing numbness and pain from a neck/head injury. The subject was located over a mile from the trailhead, up a steep mountainside with no road access. The Trooper guided the EMT crew into the patient. Search and rescue resources responded and the Trooper and his recruit assisted in packing the cyclist to a location accessible by a side by side. It was a brutal hike with extreme heat and difficult terrain. The cyclist was relayed to an ambulance and transported to the hospital.

Brothers Arrested for Trespass and Theft

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Trooper was notified of a trespass and theft in progress. He contacted two male subjects behind a Roseburg Forest Products gate who were stealing wire and had cut down two power poles with a chainsaw. The truck was stuck with no way to escape and the Trooper apprehended both of them with assistance from a Lane County Sheriff's Deputy. There was stolen wire in the bed of their truck with more on the ground cut into sections. The subjects were initially untruthful about their intentions until they were confronted by evidence at the scene. The suspects were identified as brothers and an active restraining order was discovered between the two. Both subjects were charged with **Criminal Mischief I, Theft II, and Trespass II**. One subject was also charged with **Violation of a Restraining Order**. Both subjects were lodged in the Lane County Jail.

WILDLIFE & ENVIRONMENT



Troopers Assist on Lone Rock Fire

Fish and Wildlife Troopers from Heppner, Fossil, The Dalles, Prineville, and John Day spent several long days answering the call for aide from Grant and Wheeler County Sheriff's Offices. OSP Troopers covered all law enforcement calls for service as well as patrolled the entire county to assist as the Sheriff's Offices have been tied up with the Lone Rock Fire. Troopers assisted in sharing communication and providing firsthand observations of the fires between Incidents Commands in Monument and Fossil. An ongoing issue has been drivers following their GPS instructions and driving directly into fire zones, with Troopers having to inform drivers of the dangers of driving into a wildfire and redirect them. Long hours have been worked by doing evacuations, road closures/traffic control and area patrols.



WILDLIFE & ENVIRONMENT



Troopers Help Rancher Move Sheep from Fire

Burns Fish and Wildlife Troopers were dispatched to assist a local rancher who was trying to move 3,200 sheep out of the mountains to safety because of the Falls Creek Fire in the Silvies unit. The Troopers assisted the rancher with shutting down Hwy 20 and the Hines Logging Road so he could safely move the sheep. The rancher was extremely grateful for OSP's help and thanked the Troopers numerous times.

Trooper Assists Montana Conservation Officer

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a request from a Montana Conservation Officer to track down a subject that lives in the Springfield area. The subject was wanted by Montana for several wildlife crimes that involved the unlawful take of a buck deer that occurred in November of 2023. The Trooper was able to track down the subject and located him in custody at the Springfield Municipal Jail. The Trooper issued the subject five criminal citations on behalf of the Montana Officer for **Failure to Obtain Landowner Permission for Hunting, Unlawful Hunting Within City or Town, Hunting Game Animal without a License, Hunting Closed Season, and Unlawful Possession of Game Animal.**

Subject Fails to Check in Black Bear

A Roseburg Fish and Wildlife Sergeant and Trooper were investigating a potential unlawful take of a black bear that occurred during the 2024 spring black bear season. During the investigation, it was determined that the bear was legally harvested, but the subject had not checked his bear in at ODFW. After listening to the subject's story of how a taxidermist advised to not check his bear in, the Troopers dug deeper into the investigation. The subject was cited for **Fail to Check in Black Bear to ODFW within 10 Days** for the 2024 spring bear. The subject was also warned for a 2022 bear he harvested, which he also blamed the taxidermist for not checking in to ODFW and was he cited for falsifying the 2022 ODFW outcome report for that bear.

Trooper Assists with Fire Near Klamath Falls

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper observed a growing smoke column near a residential area and church camp west of Klamath Falls. A volunteer fire crew was dispatched but was struggling to locate the fire in the heavily wooded area. The Trooper knew the area, so he responded and located the fire. He directed the volunteer crew to the fire and assisted them with suppression efforts until US Forest Service and Oregon Department of Forestry crews could arrive. They were able to contain the fire at less than half an acre.

Subject Kills Deer in Garden - Warrenton

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Sergeant responded to a residence in Warrenton for a subject that self-reported shooting a black-tailed doe to haze it off his flowers in his yard. Upon discharging his air rifle from his hip, the deer was hit in the spine and it collapsed. The subject did not have a hazing permit and had never had one despite admitting to repeatedly discharging his air rifle at deer in the city limits, which is also a violation of Warrenton Municipal Code. The subject was issued a violation citation for **Unlawful Take of Deer.** The deer carcass was disposed of because the deer was very thin and suffering from sores making it not fit for human consumption.

Two Subject Cited for Unlawful Take of Deer

A Roseburg Fish and Wildlife Trooper concluded an investigation of an illegally harvested black-tailed buck deer. In January, the Trooper received a TIP that a subject had sent a picture of a dead deer, thought to have been shot at night and out of season. The investigation revealed the subject had assisted in processing the deer that another subject had shot on private property. Both subjects were located, interviewed, cited and released for **Take/Possession Buck Deer.**



Snowy Plover Closure

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Sergeant stopped a subject who drove about a mile into a Snowy Plover protection area on the ocean shore north of the Umpqua River. There were multiple signs or sign posts indicating the closure. The subject also had a couple of off-road vehicle violations and was issued a citation.

MARINE FISHERIES TEAM



Ocean Patrol - Garibaldi

Fish and Wildlife Troopers and a Patrol Recruit Trooper conducted a boat patrol on the Pacific Ocean out of Garibaldi. Throughout the course of the day, the Troopers wrote 23 citations and issued eight warnings for a variety of angling offenses, primarily barbed hooks and fail to immediately validate. At one point in the morning the marine layer rolled in reducing visibility to a few hundred feet. Utilizing the radar, Troopers were able to locate and contact boats in the fog, resulting in an unpleasant surprise to one boat that had clearly deployed the “outlaw” gear under the cover of the fog. The Troopers emerged from the fog a few hundred feet away and observed two subjects in an open boat with three rods out. Further investigation revealed barbed treble hooks in use and untagged Coho in the boat, for which the subjects were cited accordingly.

Subjects Cited for Crab Violations

A Fish and Wildlife Sergeant observed a male loading what appeared to be crab into the back of his vehicle which was parked at a commercial fishing dock in Newport. The man admitted to having crab and showed the Sergeant two coolers with more than the individual allowed limit of 24 red rock and visibly undersized Dungeness crab. There was a second associated individual still crabbing down on the docks, which is prohibited by port ordinance. The second person was contacted with a bucket of an additional 28 red rock crab and one undersized Dungeness. Once the count was complete, the men were in possession of 98 red rock crab (50 over the limit) and five undersized Dungeness crab. Both were cited for **Unlawful Possession of Undersized Dungeness Crab** and **Exceeding Daily Limit of Red Rock Crab**.

Subject Cited for No Resident Angling License

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted two subjects angling from the Rocky Point boat ramp dock. One of the subjects was upfront about not purchasing his angling license this year. They decided to go fishing for the day and he didn't want to try to get cell phone service to purchase his angling license, so he decided to take a chance that he wouldn't get checked. He was issued a citation for **No Resident Angling License** and informed he couldn't fish until he purchased his license.

Multiple Citations Issued on Ocean Patrol

Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol on the Pacific Ocean out of Garibaldi, working the dory fleet out of Pacific City then salmon anglers to the north. A multitude of citations and warnings were issued, including **Angling Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks, Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Card, Take/Possession of Undersized Chinook Salmon, and No Combined Angling Tag**. One undersized Chinook salmon was seized as evidence.

Mussel and Bay Clam Closure Patrol

A Gold Beach Fish and Wildlife Trooper patrolled low tides during mussel and bay clam closures. Two subjects were observed hurrying out to a rock and harvesting a 5-gallon bucket full of mussels. The subjects were contacted and claimed the mussels were going to be used for bait. Investigation revealed they knew harvest was closed. The mussels were seized, and one citation was issued for **Take Mussels Closed Area**.

MARINE FISHERIES TEAM



Guardian Ocean Patrol - Newport

Newport MFT conducted a Guardian patrol out of Newport. Troopers contacted sport halibut and salmon anglers and commercial salmon trollers. Citations were issued for **Fail to Validate Harvest Card** and **Angling Barbed and Treble Hooks**. One boat was contacted fishing for halibut inside the Stonewall Banks Yelloweye Rockfish Conservation Area (YRCA) and had two halibut and a chilipepper rockfish. Troopers were able to determine all of the fish were caught inside the closed area. The fish were seized and the captain of the vessel was cited for **Angling Closed Area** and **Failure to Validate Harvest Tag**. The fish were seized and donated to a local charity. The Troopers also seized two sport crab pots that were fishing in the ocean without the required identification marking on the buoys.



Subject Cited for Angling Violations

A Fish and Wildlife Lieutenant and Sergeant contacted an individual on a boat that was returning to the dock from Tillamook Bay. The individual initially told the ODFW Fish Checkers and the Troopers that they hadn't caught anything. An administrative inspection of a cooler revealed filleted rockfish and two undersized crab. The filleted rockfish had come from a charter trip earlier in the day. The individual was cited for the **Undersized Dungeness Crab** and warned for the **Mutilated Rockfish** and **Fail to Allow Inspection (ODFW)**.

CMV Driver Cited in Charleston Area

While traveling west on Seven Devils Road towards Charleston, a Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper was run off the road by a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) towing an unloaded lowboy that was traveling down the centerline on a series of corners. The Trooper had to brake hard and go onto the shoulder to avoid being struck. The CMV was stopped and the driver cited for **Fail to Maintain Lane** and warned for **Careless Driving**. Roadway evidence of brake marks showed the CMV perfectly centered over the double yellow centerline.

Columbia River Boat Patrol

Astoria Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River. Multiple anglers were contacted with some success rates with harvested steelhead. Two citations were issued for **Angling Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks Columbia River**.

Late-Night Crab Patrol

Newport Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a late-night crab patrol on Yaquina and Alsea Bays. During the patrol, multiple individuals were contacted. Two subjects were found to be in possession of 23 female Dungeness crab and two undersized Dungeness crab. The subjects were cited for **Take/Possession of Female Dungeness Crab** and warned for **Take/Possession Undersized Crab** and **Exceeding the Daily Limit**.

Bay Clam Patrol - Garibaldi

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted an early morning bay clam patrol at the Garibaldi clam beds. Focusing on recreational clam harvesters that appear to take multiple trips and are over harvesting their daily limit. During the patrol the Trooper observed a female subject return to her vehicle with a clear plastic bag full of bay clams and place them in the back seat of her vehicle before returning back to the clam digging area with a shovel. A short time later she returned with her husband and more clams tucked in her arms. Upon contact it was found that both subjects had a three day non-resident shellfish license that had expired two days prior, and were in possession of 58 bay clams. Both subjects were criminally cited for **No Non-Resident Shellfish License** and the female subject was also cited for **Exceed Daily Limit of Clams: Bay Clams**. The bay clams were seized and returned to the bay unharmed.

MARINE FISHERIES TEAM



Angler Checks at Hammond Marina

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted angler checks at Hammond Marina of returning ocean salmon anglers. Catch rates are high for ocean salmon anglers with most transiting north off up the Washington coast. During one administrative inspection it was found that one subject did not tag his two harvested Coho and another subject did not purchase a combined angling tag after harvesting two Chinook. Citations were issued for **Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Card**, and **No Combined Angling Harvest Tag**. A warning was issued for the extra Chinook and both Chinook Salmon were seized and donated to a local food bank.

Ocean Boat Patrol - Brookings

Coos Bay and Gold Beach Fish and Wildlife Troopers performed a boat patrol on the ocean near Brookings. Compliance was high while checking recreational salmon and halibut anglers. One warning was issued for **Fail to Immediately Validate Combined Angling Harvest Card: Fin-Clipped Coho**. During an inspection of an open access fixed gear lingcod commercial fishing vessel, the captain was found to be over the cumulative limit of incidental catch. The boat had exceeded the limit by 13 black rockfish. The fish were seized, and the captain was cited for **Exceeding a Cumulative Landing Limit: Black Rockfish**.

Ocean/Columbia River Boat Patrol

Astoria Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted an ocean boat patrol out of the Columbia River. Most anglers were traveling north into Washington waters for the early morning Coho bite before returning south along the “green line” of the Columbia River entrance buoys. Multiple anglers were contacted and warnings and citations were issued for **Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Card**, and **No Combined Angling Harvest Tag in Possession**.

Skipper Fails to Maintain Logbook

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted a commercial crab skipper regarding his logbooks for the 2023-2024 season. The skipper had not turned in any of his logbook pages for the entire season. He stated he doesn't like to fill them out because he doesn't like paperwork. He was cited for **Fail to Maintain/Submit Commercial Dungeness Crab Logbook**.



Subject Cited for Retaining Quillback Rockfish

A Fish and Wildlife Lieutenant responded to a call from an ODFW fish checker in Pacific City of a boat that had retained a quillback rockfish. The Lieutenant contacted the individuals at a house in Pacific City. One individual took responsibility for retaining the quillback. The individual was aware of the closure but admitted to not looking at the fish close enough. The individual was cited for **Unlawful Possession of Quillback Rockfish**.

SHELLFISH & ANGLING



Steelhead Seized and Donated

A Portland Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted a group of bank anglers near Warrendale on the Columbia River. Prior to contact, the Trooper observed the group for some time and could see one fish on a stringer far from the group. Upon contact one of the subjects, who the Trooper had never observed angling, claimed the steelhead was his and it had been given to him by an angler that had already left. He did not have any identifying information for that person nor an angling license or tag himself. An ODFW fish checker on scene notified the Trooper he had been told the subject had caught the fish himself. The subject was given a violation citation for **Take/Possession of Steelhead**. The fish was donated locally.

Trooper Cites Known Suspended Angler Again

An Albany Fish and Wildlife Trooper observed a male subject angling who he knew to be currently on both a 3-year and 5-year angling suspension. The Trooper seized the subject's fishing pole and criminally cited him for **Angling While Suspended**. This was the 5th time the Trooper had cited the subject.

Laurance Lake Saturation Patrol

Multiple Fish and Wildlife Troopers worked an all-day operation at Laurance Lake in Hood River County. Troopers were targeting and watching for violations around the newly closed areas around pinnacle and clear branches that flow into Laurance Lake. These are sensitive areas to the protected bull trout. The use of bait is also prohibited on the lake. In addition to anglers, recreational boaters were also contacted. During the patrol, 20 anglers were checked along with 16 stand-up paddle boards (SUPs) and other watercraft. Four citations were issued for angling violations to include two for **Angling Prohibited Method: Bait**, and one each for **No Resident Angling License** and **No Non-Resident Angling License**. Warnings for the patrol included 35 warnings for boating violations, and two for angling violations.

Subject Dumps Fish, Gets Additional Charges

A Salem Fish and Wildlife Trooper was conducting a shore patrol of the North Santiam River at Church Street bridge when he noticed two subjects catch and retain their limits of five trout and then continue catching additional trout. He noticed a third subject who appeared to be with the subjects nearby. Upon contact the Trooper observed a bag full of fish, but the subjects denied catching over their limit. The Trooper inquired about the third subject and attempted to contact him, but when he turned from the first two subjects, they dumped their fish into the water from the bag. The Trooper counted 20 fish between the two subjects. The third subject caught four fish but when interviewed he admitted to hiding 12 more. All three subjects were criminally cited for **Exceeding Daily Limit of Fish** and **Continue to Angle After Retaining Daily Limit**. The subject who dumped the fish received the additional criminal charges of **Fail to Allow Inspection of Catch, Waste of Game Fish, and Tampering with Physical Evidence**.

Columbia River Boat Patrols

Pendleton and Hermiston Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted multiple boat patrols on the Columbia River with a focus on sturgeon angling. Over a two-day period 16 boats and 52 anglers were contacted. Various minor warnings were issued for angling and Oregon State Marine Board (OSMB) violations. No boats were found sturgeon fishing within the restricted area unlike the previous couple of weeks. Their focused efforts have been paying off protecting the sturgeon within the sanctuary.

SHELLFISH & ANGLING



Four Catfish Seized - Owyhee Reservoir

An Ontario Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted angler checks at the Owyhee Reservoir at Leslie Gulch Road, which resulted in citations being issued for **No Two Rod Validation, No Non-Resident Angling License, and Unlawful Take/Possession of Game Fish**. Four catfish were seized.

Big Fall Creek Angling Patrols

An Oakridge Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted two suspects in an ongoing case where spring Chinook salmon are being illegally harvested from a stream closed to salmon angling. This run of spring Chinook is naturally reproducing and have historically been the target of illegal angling activity due to the remote location. Trail cameras were deployed at a particular location where this activity typically occurs. The two mentioned suspects were observed on two consecutive days snagging multiple salmon and illegally taking at least three wild adult Chinook. While checking anglers on the Middle Fork Willamette below Dexter Dam the Trooper recognized one of the suspects and conducted an interview. The second suspect arrived a short time later and was also interviewed. At the end of the contact the suspects were issued criminal citations for **Angling Salmon Closed Stream, Angling Prohibited Method: Snagging, and Take Chinook Salmon Closed Stream**. Angling gear including rods/reels were seized.

Father Cited for Aiding in a Wildlife Offense

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper from The Dalles received a tip that a father and two young boys had unlawfully taken a steelhead at the mouth of Herman Creek (Thermal Sanctuary) after being advised the previous day that the area was closed for angling by an ODFW employee. The suspect was identified the following week and contact was made. The suspect admitted that he was in fact advised the area was closed before returning the next day with his 10 and 12-year-old sons. His 12-year-old son then caught a steelhead in the closed area of the Herman Creek Lagoon, and it was retained. The suspect met with the Trooper and was issued a criminal citation for **Aiding/Counseling in a Wildlife Offense (Unlawful Take)**.

Subjects Ignore Trooper's Advice, Get Cited

While checking clammers in Tillamook Bay, a Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted two subjects walking to their car with clams. The same subjects had contacted the Trooper earlier in the day wanting to know where to clam. At that time the Trooper explained where to clam and told them they needed a shellfish license. When contacted later that same day the subjects said they did not know they needed a shellfish license. The Trooper reminded them of the previous conversation regarding licenses and issued both subjects citations for **No Non-Resident Shellfish License**. The clams were returned to the bay.



Three Trout Seized - Detroit Lake

A Salem Fish and Wildlife Trooper was checking anglers on Detroit Lake and encountered a subject actively reeling in large trophy trout. The Trooper contacted the subject and observed a five gallon bucket next to the subject that appeared to be full of trout. The subject consented to allow inspection of his trout and was found to be in possession of eight trout, all of which he had caught and retained. The subject was issued a citation for **Exceeding the Daily Limit of Trout**. Three trout were seized as evidence.



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
- \$300 Habitat Destruction
- \$200 Illegally obtaining Oregon hunting or angling license or tags
- \$200 Unlawful Lending/Borrowing Big Game Tag(s)
- \$200 Game Fish & Shellfish
- \$200 Game Birds or Furbearers
- \$200 Spotlighting
- \$200 Snagging/Attempt to Snag

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 (public lands only), Black bears, Bighorn Sheep, Marten, Fisher, Sierra Nevada Red Fox

\$1,000 Species listed as "threatened" or "endangered" under state or federal Endangered Species Act (excludes fish) (e.g. wolf, 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 to learn more.



Oregon State Police Fish & Wildlife Division



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