



### **CONTENT**

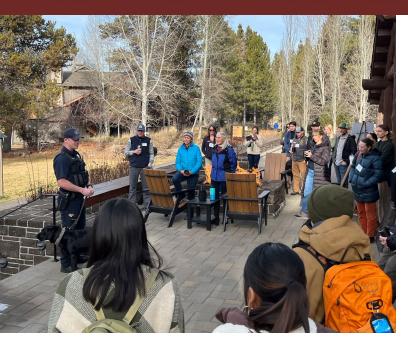
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### On the cover:

South Valley Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol on the McKenzie and Willamette Rivers, see <u>page 8</u>.

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**



### **Oregon Outdoors Recreation Summit - Sunriver**

A Bend Fish and Wildlife Trooper and K-9 Scout attended the Oregon Outdoors Recreation Summit in Sunriver at the request of ODFW. The Trooper spoke about the role of OSP Fish and Wildlife Troopers, then K-9 Scout gave search demonstrations for happy dog lovers.



### **Troopers Attend College Career Day - Roseburg**

Roseburg Fish and Wildlife Troopers participated in a Career Day at Umpqua Community College for local high school students. Four hundred students were in attendance and about 90 students came through the Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife presentation throughout the day.



### Yaquina Bay Lighted Boat Parade

The OSP Marine Fisheries Team decked out the PV Guardian for Newport's Yaquina Bay Lighted Boat Parade. Team members and their families donned the boat with hundreds of lights as they joined 20 other boats for a parade along Newport's Bayfront. Hundreds of spectators lined the docks to view the lighted boats and some holiday cheer This was the first time OSP has participated in the event and was well worth the time and effort to spread holiday wishes to the hundreds of spectators that lined the docks.

#### **Trooper Reads to Kindergartners**

A Hermiston Fish and Wildlife Trooper was asked for the 9th consecutive year to read "The Polar Express" to the Highland Hills Elementary School Kindergartners. Across 3 classes totaled approximately 35 kids. Afterwards, the Trooper had time to show the students some pictures of various activities the Fish and Wildlife Division gets to participate in, which resulted in almost every student wanting to be an Oregon State Trooper by the end of the session. The Trooper also handed out stickers and bracelets to the students.

### **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**



### North Clatsop County Shop with a Cop Event

Astoria Fish and Wildlife Troopers, as well as the Astoria Area Command Evidence Technician participated in the North Clatsop County Shop with a Cop event. Troopers escorted grade school children as they picked out holiday gifts for their family and themselves. The Evidence Technician assisted in wrapping each gift upon request for multiple children. In all, around 20 school aged children were given an opportunity through a generous Walmart holiday grant to walk with a Law Enforcement Officer from the area to fill their holiday spirit.



### Umatilla County Shop with a Cop Event

A Hermiston Fish and Wildlife Trooper, a lateral from Umatilla Police Department, continues to keep his relationships with his former agency as he participated in his 9th annual Shop with a Cop. Umatilla Police Department was excited to have the Trooper back for another year as their event continues to grow. The Trooper was able to assist two kids the local school selected, with shopping for gifts for their families.



### Grants Pass Shop with a Cop Event

The Southwest Region Fish and Wildlife Lieutenant joined several Grants Pass Patrol Troopers, Josephine County Sheriff's Deputies, and Grants Pass Police Officers for the Grants Pass Shop with a Cop event. The event aims to make the holidays brighter for less fortunate families and children. Children are paired with officers and shop for gifts for their families with funds provided by donations from the community.

#### Baker City Shop with a Cop Event

A Baker City Fish and Wildlife Sergeant, as well as Fish and Wildlife and Patrol Troopers out of the Baker City Worksite and La Grande Area Command participated in the annual Shop with a Cop event in Baker City. Approximately 45 children participated this year. Fun was had by all, and Santa made an appearance and visited with the kids.

### Pendleton Shop with a Cop Event

A Pendleton Fish and Wildlife Trooper participated in a Shop with a Cop event at the Pendleton Walmart. During the event approximately 30 children were in attendance along with five local area law enforcement agencies.

### **GENERAL LAW & RESCUES**



#### Blacktail Deer Freed from Anti-Erosion Net

Newport Fish and Wildlife Troopers assisted an ODFW Biologist with a large blacktail buck that had one antler caught in an anti-erosion net on a hillside overlooking the ocean in Lincoln City. The buck was frantically trying to get loose and twisted the net increasingly tighter around its antler. At times while it was struggling the buck swung outward and was actually lifted off the ground. The buck was tranquilized and the antler that was caught was sawed off. The buck was then revived and did not appear to have any lasting negative effects from the incident.



### **Injured Eagle Rescued**

A Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to a report of an injured eagle near the Lower Klamath Wildlife Refuge. Multiple attempts to locate this bird had been conducted since Thanksgiving. The bird was located and appeared to have been using a badger hole to stay warm during the nights. Badger Run Wildlife Rehab responded and assisted in recovering the wounded bird.

### **Trooper Assists on Search and Rescue**

A Heppner Fish and Wildlife Trooper was contacted by Morrow County Sheriff's Office and asked to assist with a search and rescue (SAR) operation for an older gentleman who went for a drive up Shaw Grade Road outside Heppner and didn't return home that night. The Trooper had contacted the man the previous day and advised him he should not go any further due to road conditions, the driver continued and became stuck in the snow. The Trooper located the stuck vehicle and the driver appeared to be hypothermic, dehydrated and was unable to answer questions or help himself in any way. The Trooper assisted with getting his vehicle started and the heat turned on, also provided the man water and some food. The SAR team arrived later in a tracked UTV with Fire personnel and EMS on board. EMTs advised the man had to be transported to the hospital, but the SAR team did not have a way to transport the man in his condition. The deputies assisted with loading the man into the Troopers patrol truck so he could be transported to the waiting ambulance. The man's vehicle was secured and he was transported to a local hospital.

### Subject Cited for DUII on Sauvie Island

A St. Helens Fish and Wildlife Trooper was driving past The Pumpkin Patch on Sauvie Island when he noticed a small SUV in the field where they normally have the corn maze attempting to get back up onto the road. The vehicle was not able to get back onto the road and wound up stuck in the mud. The owner of The Pumpkin Patch was contacted and confirmed it was not one of his employees. When the driver was contacted, a strong odor of alcohol could be smelled coming from him. A Multnomah County Sheriff's Deputy responded to the scene and subsequently arrested the driver for **Driving Under the Influence of Intoxicants** (**DUII**). The owner of The Pumpkin Patch did not wish to pursue criminal charges for the man crashing through his wire fence.

### **GENERAL LAW & RESCUES**



#### Barn Owl Rescued from Power Line

A Klamath Falls Fish and Wildlife Trooper received multiple complaints about an owl hanging from a power line. The barn owl had become tangled in fishing line which was hanging from a power line. The power line was about 20 yards from a bridge that crosses the Lost River. A local Pacific Power employee had a boom truck and offered to help. Using the Troopers net, he was able to safely cut the owl down. The owl received some treatment at a local wildlife rehabilitation center and was released on the same day.

### **Sergeant Helps Stranded Motorists**

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Sergeant came across two young adults walking along a forest road on Burnt Mountain. Their vehicle had quit running when they drove into a flooded area. They had been walking for about an hour and were soaked by the rain and unprepared for the conditions. The Sergeant gave them a courtesy ride to Winston and got them warmed up. They made their own arrangements to recover their vehicle.

### Operating an Off-Road Vehicle on a Highway

Fish and Wildlife Troopers from The Dalles conducted a traffic stop on a class IV side-by-side that was traveling down the highway with traffic. The operator stated he just purchased the side-by-side and was driving it home (about six miles total on public highways). He was issued a citation for **Operating an Off-Road Vehicle on a Highway** and arranged for the off road vehicle to be transported the rest of the way home.

### Cervid Urine Seized from Waldport Store

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper responded to a report of a hardware store in the Waldport area that had cervid urine for sale as an attractant for deer during hunting activities. For the past few years, it has been unlawful to sell, possess or use cervid urine in Oregon. The store had four bottles of urine, which had been removed from the shelves. Investigation showed that the business had not sold any of the product since it came in. The product had a label which advised it had been "CWD Tested" so the store owner was under the impression that it was legal to sell. The product was surrendered to ODFW for disposal.

### **Trooper Assists Stuck Motorist**

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper from The Dalles assisted Wasco County Sheriff's Office with a stranded/stuck motorist. It was reported the subject slid off the road in snow when attempting to turn around on a forest service road. The Trooper assisted the deputies getting the vehicle out of the ditch and back onto the road.

### **WILDLIFE & ENVIRONMENT**



#### Unlawful Take of Buck Deer

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a report of a property owner in Bend who shot a large buck on his property and wanted to keep it. The landowner told the Trooper he shot the buck with his bow in the morning because it was eating and destroying his fruit trees. After salvaging the animal, he notified ODFW that evening and wanted to keep the animal. The property owner is a hunter and was not able to hunt his General Western Tag this year because he didn't "have the time." The buck was seized and the property owner was cited and released for **Unlawful Take of Buck Deer.** He was advised to contact ODFW about his issues with deer eating his fruit trees.

### Protected Dusky Goose Killed on Sauvie Island

A St. Helens Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a TIP involving three subjects on Sauvie Island Wildlife Area (SIWA) who shot and killed a protected goose on Mudlake Unit. Contact was made and all three subjects lied about shooting a goose multiple times before being asked for consent to search. One of the subjects opened his hunting gear and pulled out a dusky goose. They said they hid it because they knew they made a mistake and did not want to get a citation. Two criminal citations were issued for Unlawful Take of a Protected Bird and one criminal citation for Aiding in a Wildlife Offense.

### **Trapping While in Violation of Criminal Trespass**

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Trooper was contacted by a timber company who had been given information about a dog getting caught in a trap on their land. During the investigation, the Trooper was able to locate the trapper. After interviewing the trapper, he was ultimately issued a criminal citation for **Trapping While in Violation of Criminal Trespass.** The trapper had also caught and killed a bobcat while on the property. The bobcat was seized and entered into evidence.

### K-9 Buck Finds Evidence of Hunting Violations

Springfield Fish and Wildlife Troopers received information from the Lane County Sheriff's Office regarding possible evidence of hunting violations located on a property on which they were executing a search warrant. Troopers arrived on scene and observed several items indicating the individual was unlawfully hunting. K-9 Buck was deployed on the property, also locating similar items. Pertinent items were seized and taken back to the Springfield Patrol Office and placed into evidence. The case will be forwarded to the Lane County District Attorney's Office for charges of **Hunting Prohibited Method.** 



### **Duck Hunting on Closed Property**

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a complaint of a subject duck hunting on a closed wetland conservancy property near Alsea Bay. The subject was located and found to have harvested a daily bag limit of seven mallard ducks in the closed area. He was cited for **Take Game Birds Prohibited Area** and the ducks were seized and donated to a local senior center.

### **WILDLIFE & ENVIRONMENT**



### McKenzie and Willamette River Boat Patrols

Fish and Wildlife Troopers from the South Valley Team, along with K-9 Buck conducted a boat patrol on the McKenzie and Willamette Rivers utilizing three boats. During the patrol, two Troopers contacted two duck hunters, ultimately seizing seven ducks, and issuing one citation for **No Waterfowl Validation.** Also, during the patrol, three persons were issued warnings for various angling violations.





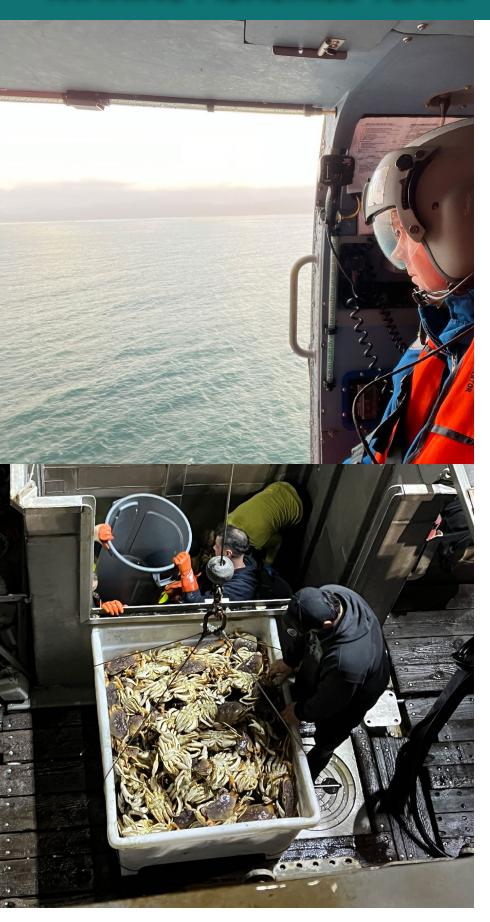
### **Import of Restricted Cervid Parts**

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper from The Dalles responded to a call from a Patrol Trooper who was on a traffic stop and discovered two mule deer buck heads in the back of a pickup truck. The Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted the driver and passenger, and it was determined the bucks were killed on a late season muzzleloader hunt in SE Washington. The subjects stated they were enroute to a taxidermy in Sherwood. The deer heads had the cape still on the skull with antlers attached and the brain matter had not been removed. Trooper advised the subjects of the law prohibiting importation of cervid parts into Oregon. The subjects claimed they were unaware of the law and argued the taxidermist should have informed them prior to bringing them into Oregon. The subjects were allowed to cut the antlers off at the pedicle. The heads were seized, doubled bagged, and taken to ODFW for disposal; both subjects received citations for Import of Restricted Cervid Parts.

#### Wasted Bear Carcass Located

A Springfield Fish and Wildlife Trooper was contacted by a timber worker who had located a full bear carcass missing only the hide. There was no meat taken and the head was still attached. The Trooper contacted local taxidermists and ODFW offices checking to see if any bears had been checked in. Several days later, the Trooper located a taxidermist who had recently received a bear hide that matched the description of the dumped bear carcass. The Trooper contacted the subject who dropped off the bear hide. The subject admitted to wasting the bear and later removing the head to check it into ODFW. The subject was cited for **Waste of a Big Game Mammal** and released.

### **MARINE FISHERIES TEAM**



### **Commercial Crab Season Opener**

Marine Fisheries Team (MFT) Troopers along the entire coast participated in the opener of the 2024-2025 Commercial Dungeness Crab Season with an opening from Cape Falcon to the California Border. MFT Troopers and local Fish and Wildlife Troopers (Tillamook and Coos Bay) conducted hold inspections into the early morning hours in all ports to accommodate the late arrivals of fishing fleet from setting gear due to weather and extreme tides. Once the season officially started for harvest on December 16th, Troopers were present at docks to monitor commercial license requirements and only legal size crab were landed.

- Troopers in Newport and Astoria conducted Living Marine Resource flights with Coast Guard Air Stations Astoria and North Bend/Newport. These flights were to ensure fair start times for the pre-soak on December 13th and the official start of the season on the 16th. The Cape Falcon and Cape Perpetua Marine Reserves were also flown to ensure no gear had been set in these restricted areas.
- Several commercial fishing licenses were checked where crew members had purchased individual licenses for 2024 but had been inadvertently sold 2025 licenses by the agent. The individuals were warned to check the year on their license and instructed to purchase a 2024 license for the remainder of the year. Once the correct licenses were purchased, they were warned.
- Multiple crab offloads were checked in all ports from Garibaldi to Brookings. Partial loads from two vessels were sampled and ultimately the two captains were cited criminally for Unlawful Possession of Undersized Crab. Samples were taken and measured from three other boats where small amounts of undersized crab were detected. These captains and crew were warned.

### **MARINE FISHERIES TEAM**



#### Seafood Dealer Checks - Portland

MFT Members conducted seafood dealer and market checks in the Portland metro area. The focus was on crab traceability records and monitoring any illegal live imports that may be offered for the holiday season. Troopers conducted inspections on wholesale dealers, markets and restaurants. All the businesses contacted had live Dungeness crab and had issues with providing the proper paperwork and receipts. Most of the retailers did not have receipts on hand for the crab they possessed but Troopers were eventually able to verify they had been purchased from a legal dealer. These businesses were warned for not having the records immediately available on site. Two businesses were contacted that were acting as a broker for crab that were being sold to local retailers and some being shipped overseas and to other states. Anyone acting as a broker or middleman is required to have a Non-Reporting Wholesale fish dealer license from ODFW. Additionally, they are required to have crab zones of harvest recorded on all paperwork and receipts as required in crab traceability regulations. One Non-Reporting Wholesale fish dealer was found to have no records for any of his crab. He was cited for No Required Records. Another business was contacted who was unaware of the Non-Reporting License Requirement since they were not buying directly from the fisherman. They were warned for not having the correct licenses and they immediately contacted ODFW to get their license.

### Subject Cited for Driving While Suspended

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper was on a routine patrol in north Lincoln County when he came across a cold crash that had occurred earlier in the morning. The vehicle was approximately 20 feet down the embankment and needed a tow. A male individual was on scene and stated the car belonged to him and his wife. He initially stated that someone had borrowed the car the previous night, but he did not know who. A property owner in the area approached the Trooper and stated that the male individual claiming to own the car, knocked on his door at around 3:00 am and asked for a ride to town. After further investigation, the individual stated he was in fact driving the car at the time of the crash and he did not have a drivers license. The subject was cited and released for **Driving While Suspended/Revoked: Misdemeanor.** 

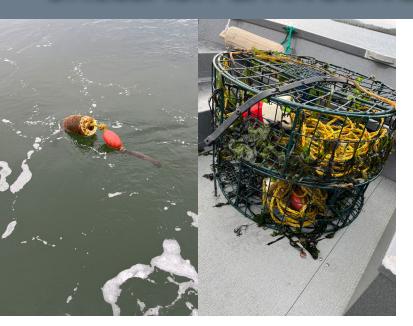
### North Coast Streams Angler Checks

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted multiple angler checks at North Coast streams as the winter steelhead fishery kicked off. Multiple anglers were contacted and one citation was issued for **No Resident Angling License** and a warning for **No Columbia River Endorsement.** 

#### **Commercial Fishermen Cited**

A Newport Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted multiple commercial Dungeness crab fisherman regarding failure to submit crab logbooks for the 2023-2024 season. All were issued citations for the offense.

### **SHELLFISH & ANGLING**



### Crab Pots Recovered - Coos Bay

A Coos Bay Fish and Wildlife Sergeant patrolled Coos Bay by boat. While checking crabbers, two crab pot buoys were observed that appeared to have been there for some time. The Sergeant contacted the owner who was very surprised as he thought the pots had been stolen in October when he was crabbing. The pots were near the location that the subject advised he had placed them. The two pots, valued at \$300, were recovered to be returned to the owner.

#### Subjects Cited on Deschutes River

A Bend Fish and Wildlife Trooper received a complaint of two subjects fishing with bait on the Deschutes River at Riverside Park. One of the subjects had left but the second subject was still fishing upon arrival. The subject was observed using two rods, one with eggs and one with a worm. The subject was issued a citation for **Angling Prohibited Method: Bait** and warned for using two rods. A subject unrelated to the complaint had walked by as the citation was being issued and began to fish on the river. The subject was contacted, found to not have a license and cited for **No Resident Angling License.** 

#### Steelhead Anglers Cited on Snake River Patrol

A Baker City Fish and Wildlife Sergeant patrolled the Snake River below Hells Canyon Dam checking steelhead anglers. During the patrol six citations were issued and two non-fin clipped trout were seized. The citations were for the following: three citations for **Angling Prohibited Method: Barbed Hooks,** two citations for **Take/Possession of Game Fish: Non-Fin Clipped Trout** and one citation for **No Resident Angling License.** 

### Angling Violations - Big Cliff Dam

While traveling from a training in Salem, an Ontario Fish and Wildlife Trooper observed two subjects actively angling on the North Santiam River at the base of Big Cliff Dam. The two subjects were casting fishing lines above a marked deadline area and using nightcrawlers as bait. Upon contact with the subjects, they stated they were unaware of the deadline marker as well as the restrictions of artificial lures and flies in streams for the Willamette Zone. The investigation revealed that one of the subjects did not have a 2024 angling license and both admitted to angling for trout which is closed from October 31st to May 22nd in the Willamette Zone Regulations. Citations were issued for Angling Closed Area and No Resident Angling License, and warnings were issued for Angling Closed Season: Trout and Angling Prohibited Method: Bait.

#### **Columbia River Shore Patrol**

A Hermiston Fish and Wildlife Trooper conducted a shore patrol on the Columbia River for steelhead anglers. Fifteen contacts were made, with no violations observed. Later that day, Hermiston Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River below McNary Dam to Crow Butte. Seventeen anglers were contacted, one warning was issued for **No Boaters Education Card in Possession**, two legal Steelhead Harvests were observed.



#### North Fork Nehalem River Float Patrol

Astoria Fish and Wildlife Troopers conducted a float patrol on the North Fork Nehalem River. Steelhead angling pressure was high, but no angling or boating violations were observed.

### **SHELLFISH & ANGLING**



#### Two Steelhead Seized - North Fork Nehalem River

An Astoria Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted a steelhead angler leaving the North Fork Nehalem River. The Trooper asked the subject if he had caught any fish, and he said that he had not. The subject appeared nervous and had two steelhead validated on his tag for that day. The subject said he had tagged those two fish for a friend, and repeatedly said he did not have any fish in his truck. The subject eventually admitted to having four steelhead in a cooler in the back of his truck. He said he had lied about having the fish because he knew he was exceeding the daily limit of two. The subject was cited for **Exceed The Daily Limit of Steelhead** and for **Fail To Allow Inspection of Catch.** 

### **Subject Retains Native Coho Salmon**

A Tillamook Fish and Wildlife Trooper contacted two subjects fishing on the upper Wilson River. Both subjects said they had not retained any fish and presented the Trooper their angling licenses and tags. The Trooper noticed a black trash bag with something in it and asked the subject if there was something in the trash bag. The subject admitted to catching a fish and said it was in the bag. The subject showed the Trooper the fish which was a native Coho salmon. The Trooper explained the regulations to the subject and seized the Coho salmon. The subject was issued a citation for **Retaining Non-Adipose Fin Clipped Coho Salmon.** The salmon was donated to charity.

### Subject Cited for No Angling License

A Fish and Wildlife Trooper checked a subject in The Dalles on the Columbia River who was angling with gear consistent with someone targeting sturgeon. The subject claimed to be angling for catfish. He was warned previously for angling for sturgeon without the required angling harvest card. On this occasion, the subject could not produce either an angling harvest card nor an angling license upon request. He was consequently cited for **No Angling License in Possession.** 

### **Guide Cited for False Application**

A Portland Fish and Wildlife Trooper received information about an outfitter/guide who provided false information when filling out his 2025 guide renewal application. The subject stated he had not been convicted of any wildlife related offenses, but he was convicted of **Exceeding his Daily Bag Limit of Clams** in July of 2023. The Trooper reached out to the subject by phone and arranged a meeting. The subject was issued a criminal citation to appear in Marion County Circuit Court for **Making False Statements in Registration Application.** 



### Trout Anglers in Compliance - Ochoco Reservoir

A Prineville Fish and Wildlife Trooper patrolled Ochoco Reservoir contacting anglers. Anglers were having success fishing from the bank, as well as trolling from boats. The trout caught ranged from 10" to over 20" with some anglers catching their limits from the bank. No violations were observed, and the happy angler (above) posed for a photo with his legal catch.



# Oregon's fish and wildlife populations depend on us.

# Turn in poachers.

### **Oregon Hunters Association (OHA) Cash Rewards**

\$2,000 Bighorn Sheep, Mountain Goat & Moose

\$1,000 Elk, Deer & Antelope

\$600 Bear, Cougar & Wolf

\$400 Game Fish & Shellfish

\$400 Snagging/Attempt to Snag

\$300 Habitat Destruction

\$200 Illegally obtaining Oregon hunting or angling license or tags

\$200 Unlawful Lending/Borrowing Big Game Tag(s)

\$200 Game Birds or Furbearers

\$200 Spotlighting

### **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 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)

### 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



### We are the Guardians of Oregon's Fish and Wildlife

"Assuring compliance with the laws which protect and enhance the long-term health and equitable utilization of Oregon's fish, wildlife, and habitat resources."



## Interested in becoming an Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Trooper?

For information, please visit our website at: www.osptrooper.com

Questions? Please call 503-378-4474 or email osptrooper@osp.oregon.gov

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