



Oregon

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OSP CENTRAL POINT FISH & WILDLIFE TROOPER RECEIVES SHIKAR-SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL AWARD (PHOTO)

News Release from **Oregon State Police**
Posted on FlashAlert: August 20th, 2014 4:13 PM



Conservation-based organization, Shikar-Safari Club International, honored a Central Point-area Oregon State Police (OSP) Fish & Wildlife Division trooper today as the State's top wildlife enforcement officer for 2013. The award was presented in Salem with the OSP's leadership staff in attendance.

On August 20, 2014, Shikar-Safari Club International representative Lynn Loacker presented Senior Trooper James Collom with the Shikar-Safari Club International "Wildlife Officer of the Year" award, placing him in a distinguished group of officers who have earned recognition for their commitment to fish and wildlife enforcement and protection of natural resources. The award has been given annually for more than 25 years to honor outstanding wildlife enforcement officers whose efforts during the previous year reflected outstanding performance and achievement among the state agency's sworn fish and wildlife law enforcement personnel.

In presenting the award, Lynn Loacker noted that wildlife enforcement officers rarely receive the

recognition and encouragement they so greatly deserve for protecting our wildlife and natural resources.

"We congratulate Senior Trooper Collom on being our selection for the Shikar Safari Club International's 'Wildlife Officer of the Year' award. This award puts him in a very distinguished group who has earned this recognition for their outstanding performance and dedication to duty," said Loacker.

Senior Trooper Collom has been involved with enforcing fish and wildlife laws for about 22 years including fourteen years with OSP following nine years as a game warden in Idaho. Passionate about his job, Collom is known to be a top performer on his Fish & Wildlife team including the number of field contacts, investigations, and enforcement activities. He has a high number of field contacts, written the majority of search warrants for his team, and assists Patrol Division troopers in handling crashes and other calls for rural law enforcement services.

As the Department's statewide coordinator for the "Turn-in-Poachers" (TIP) program, Collom administers rewards given by the Oregon Hunters Association (OHA) to tipsters for information on fish and wildlife cases. He also writes articles for the OHA magazine, works closely with local ODFW biologists, is a speaker at hunter education classes, and helps organize OSP's booth each year at the Sportsmen's Show.

Some recent cases worked by Collom include:

- * The investigation of an Eagle Point-area deer poaching ring that led to the service of seven search warrants and the charging of eight suspects for crimes including 23 felony counts.
- * The investigation of the poaching of a trophy class buck that was shot and left to waste in a field in the Eagle Point area. A difficult case to solve with little evidence, Collom had a news release issued and solicited funding for a \$3,000 reward. The investigation also identified the unlawfully shooting of three large bucks and led to charges for a husband and his wife.

In May, Senior Trooper Jim Collom also received the OSP Fish & Wildlife Division's 2013 "Trooper of the Year" award.

Shikar-Safari Club International is a worldwide organization dedicated to 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.

Photograph - Oregon State Police
(Left to right: Lynn Loacker and Senior Trooper Collom)

The Oregon State Police is a full-service public safety agency providing diverse services to the citizens of Oregon. Our mission is to enhance livability and safety by protecting the people, property, and natural resources of the state. To realize our vision and accomplish our mission our objectives are to BE THERE (be ready and able to respond to the increasing needs of Oregonians); PREVENT HARM (engage in vigilant enforcement of laws and regulations while making Oregon's roadways safe and reducing our citizen's exposure to crime, fire and disasters); and, SUPPORT OREGON COMMUNITIES (providing specialized services and assistance throughout Oregon in support of the statewide public safety infrastructure).

The primary responsibility of the Fish and Wildlife Division is enforcement of fish, wildlife, and commercial fishing laws and protection of Oregon's natural resources and the habitats upon which they depend. Fish and Wildlife Division officers are fully trained State Troopers who also enforce traffic, criminal, boating, livestock, and environmental protection laws and respond to emergency incidents.

www.oregon.gov/OSP

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