

# The Field Review



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

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## Falsely Applying for Licenses/Tags Is Poaching — Report Violators



Interagency case involving false application of license and tags. Suspects were charged in both Oregon and Washington for multiple crimes involving wildlife/theft, drug, weapons, and identify theft violations. Photo credit: File

A poacher hunts and/or angles for, kills, and/or takes wildlife illegally; not only affecting present and future generations of wildlife, but also impacting communities, affecting the economy, and creating enforcement challenges.

As the Division's mission is to ensure compliance with the laws and regulations that protect and enhance the long term health and equitable utilization of Oregon's fish and wildlife resources and the habitats upon which they depend; along with other wildlife and criminal cases, troopers investigate all acts of poaching, citing some suspects with additional crimes, such as Theft and Criminal Trespass. Examples of poaching could involve hunting and/or angling during a closed season, in a closed area, and/or using a prohibited method or certain mechanical aids; trespassing; borrowing and/or loaning licenses and/or tags; not obtaining a license and/or tag; aiding another to commit a wildlife crime and/or hunting and/or angling for another; exceeding the limit; and/or taking the wrong size, species, gender, and/or type.

People who "work" the system and falsely apply for resident licenses and/or tags are not legally hunting and/or angling and are considered poachers. As with other states that also experience enforcement challenges regarding residency; to obtain resident license and/or tags in Oregon, anglers and hunters need to meet residency requirements. Per Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), a resident has resided in Oregon for six consecutive months immediately prior to purchasing the license, tag, and/or permit. Exceptions include military members and international students who meet certain requirements. As cooperative enforcement is essential to effectively managing wildlife and natural resources; law enforcement agencies assist each other with investigations, especially those involving residency issues. The following are some of the residency cases just from December:

Rct. King (Tillamook) checked an angler at Mills Bridge on the Wilson River who did not have an Oregon Drive License (ODL) listed on his angling license. He asked to see his ODL, and the subject presented a Washington Driver License (WDL). The subject also had an Oregon Trail card in his wallet. King determined he was a multiple convicted felon with charges including theft and forgery. King cited the subject for **False Application for a Resident Angling License** and forwarded his report to the Department of Human Services Fraud Investigations Unit for consideration to prosecute for **Theft**.

Tpr. Galusha (Tillamook) patrolled near the Nestucca River during the 2nd Coast bull elk season. He conducted a camp check and contacted a subject and his son who were hunting elk. Galusha later received information that the subject purchased resident licenses and tags for his son who was an Alaskan resident. With the assistance of Sr. Tpr. Guerra (Tillamook), Galusha re-contacted the subject who then admitted to falsely applying for resident tags and licenses for his son. The troopers cited the subject for **Aiding in a Game Violation—False Application**.

Rct. Warwick (Astoria) contacted duck hunters at the John Day boat ramp. The driver of the vehicle presented an Oregon angling/hunting combination license, but the vehicle had Washington plates. The subject said he borrowed the vehicle from a friend, but records revealed he was the owner. Warwick further found the subject had valid driver licenses in both Oregon and Washington and was a Washington resident. The subject eventually admitted he was in violation of residency requirements when he purchased the licenses. Warwick cited him for **Possession of a Falsely Applied for 2010 Resident Combination License** and seized his ODL.

Tpr. Frazier (Hood River) received information a Washington resident who works in Cascade Locks bought Oregon licenses and tags for several years using a La Pine address, registered his vehicles in Oregon, and had an ODL. Tpr. Ring (Bend) established the address was his brother's, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) located the subject's Washington residence, and Sr. Tpr. Gunderson's (The Dalles) interview revealed the subject falsely applied for the resident licenses in four counties. The subject was cited for **False Application for Oregon Resident Licenses/Tags** and **Theft First Degree** in the appropriate counties.

Sr. Tpr. Stinnett (Gold Beach) received information a dual residence hunter purchased Oregon resident licenses and tags for 2009 and 2010. Stinnett called California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) and verified the suspect has been purchasing California resident hunting licenses every year, including 2009 and 2010. After Stinnett shared the Oregon resident license information, CDFG said they would pursue charges in California. In November, Stinnett finally contacted the suspect who had just returned from his residence in California. The suspect who still has a California driver license claimed his grandson buys his license for him in California each year and that he would have him stop buying them. Stinnett took custody of his resident combination angling/hunting license and his combined angling tag and cited him for **Falsely Applying for a Resident Hunting and Fishing License**.

# Dispositions

## Suspects Found Guilty and Sentenced

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) issued a citation to a suspect in September for **Fail to Immediately Validate Big Game Tag** after the suspect ran from Boyd near the Santiam Pass. The Linn County Justice Court found the suspect guilty and sentenced the suspect to three years hunting license suspension and \$540 in fines.



WEDs placed near closed area. Photo credit: File

Sr. Tpr. Wilson (Ontario) received a disposition on a misdemeanor unlawfully taking deer case in Malheur County by an Idaho resident. Wilson worked jointly with IDFG wardens who charged the subject in Idaho as well stemming from the same incident. The suspect was sentenced to three years hunting license suspension, one year probation, seven days on a work crew, and \$902 in fines.

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) investigated a vehicle crash and deer poaching case west of Veneta that involved the suspect's vehicle landing on the poached doe deer after driving over an embankment. One of the suspects has been sentenced in Lane County Circuit Court to three years hunting license suspension, 18 months bench probation, 24 days in jail, \$800 restitution, forfeit rifle, and \$400 in fines.

Sr. Tpr. Love (Bend) received a disposition on subject who shot a WED buck during controlled rifle season in the Paulina unit at night. The court sentenced the subject to three years hunting license suspension, \$104 in fines, \$100 restitution to the WED fund, six months monitored probation, and forfeit rifle.

Sr. Tpr. Hayes (Bend) received a disposition on subject who illegally shot a WED buck. The court sentenced the subject to \$102 in fines, three years hunting license suspension, \$100 restitution to the WED fund, one year probation, and deliver two chords of firewood to a 501-C-3 charity organization and provide proof to the DA.

Sr. Tpr. Hayes (Bend) received a disposition of a subject who illegally shot a WED buck and took a follow-up shot in an attempt to damage it further. The court sentenced the subject to four days in jail, three years hunting license suspension, one year probation, \$272 in fines, \$125 restitution to the WED fund, and 40 hours of community service.



Suspect crashed truck crushing poached deer. Photo credit: File

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### Abbreviations and Acronyms

AIS	Aquatic Invasive Species	EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	Rct.	Recruit
ATV	All-Terrain Vehicle	FTA	Failure to Appear	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 Intoxicants/Drugs	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
CWD	Chronic Wasting Disease	ODOT	Department of Transportation	USCG	U.S. Coast Guard
DA	District Attorney	OHA	Oregon Hunters Association	USFS	U.S. Forest Service
DEQ	Department of Environmental Quality	OSMB	Oregon State Marine Board	USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
DSL	Department of State Lands	PFD	Personal Flotation Device	WDFW	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
				WED	Wildlife Enforcement Decoy

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# ATV / General Law / Environment

## Illegal Firewood Cutters Cited for Theft, Two Repeat Violators

Ret. Sr. Tpr. Lane and Tpr. Clement (Albany) cited four Alpine-area men for stealing firewood from Weyerhaeuser property that is located approximately eight miles west of Monroe. Lane contacted the four subjects, two in a one-ton flatbed utility truck and two in a pickup, as they left the property together in November. The two vehicles were loaded with approximately 1 1/2 cords of wood. The investigation resulted in the troopers citing each driver for **No Special Forest (Firewood) Harvest Permit** and citing all four subjects for **Theft 2nd Degree (Firewood)**. Weyerhaeuser estimated the wood has a value of \$225. Of note, the drivers have been cited previously for **No Firewood Permit**.

## Subject Only Wanted Trailer and Dumped Boat

Ret. Nugent (Central Point) completed an investigation regarding a complaint of a boat abandoned on property owned by ODFW near Gold Hill. An unknown subject dumped the boat off the trailer and removed many of the identifiers from the hull in an attempt to keep law enforcement from determining the owner of the boat, including removing the boat registration numbers and spray painting over the spot where the numbers were affixed to the hull. Fortunately, Nugent could still read the numbers when he examined up close. He made several contacts until he finally determined who last owned the boat; however, the last owner did not register the boat in his name, for he did not want the boat, only the trailer, so he dumped the boat. Nugent cited the subject for **Offensive Littering** and had him retrieve the boat.



Subject dumped boat and attempted to hide identifiers. Photo credit: File

## Suspect Attempted to Elude by Driving over Frozen Creek



Elude suspect drove over frozen creek Photo credit: File

Paulina Creek where his vehicle became stuck. The trooper took him into custody and lodged him in jail, charging him with **Reckless Driving, Reckless Endangering, Attempt to Elude—Felony, Driving while Suspended, and Open Container of Alcohol**.

## Environmental Complaints Received

Sr. Tpr. Thompson and Ret. Nugent (Central Point) received a mining complaint in Star Gulch. They contacted four subjects who were digging in the creek with shovels next to the Salmon Spawning Survey sign. The troopers warned the subjects about mining in the creek outside the in-stream work period.

Tpr. Keeler (Coos Bay) responded to a report of two subjects on ATVs driving on Roseburg and Menasha Timber properties during the night and gunshots being heard. Keeler located and contacted two subjects on ATVs on a private ranch adjacent to the properties, and they denied driving on the properties. Keeler and Sgt. Lea (Coos Bay) located fresh ATV tracks traveling through the properties leading to where Keeler contacted the subjects. The troopers re-contacted the subjects, citing them for **Criminal Trespass II**.

## Suspects Trespassed to Hunt Elk

Sr. Tpr. Carter, Tpr. Dietz, Sgt. Brown (Pendleton), Sgt. Cyr (Baker City), and Sr. Tpr. Zeckman (Patrol) served a search warrant at a Pendleton residence. The warrant was as a result of an investigation by Carter and Cyr the week prior involving the use of snowmobiles to trespass on private property and kill two cow elk during the McKay Creek cow hunt. As a result of the search warrant, the troopers obtained evidence for analysis and seized rifles. The investigation led to the troopers recovering a snowmobile stolen seven years ago along with two others. The suspects are facing charges of **Criminal Trespass II, Hunting on Enclosed Lands of Another, and Possession of Stolen Property**.

## Husband and Wife Lodged for Traffic Offenses

Tpr. Hutchison and Tpr. Ritter (John Day) doubled up and patrolled the mule deer winter range in the Unity area. They conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for Failure to Maintain a Lane of Travel. They saw several indicators of impairment in both the male driver and his wife. The driver consented to standardized field sobriety tests and failed them. Hutchison took him into custody for **DUII**. As they were placing the uncooperative driver into the cage of their patrol vehicle, his wife started to interfere. The troopers warned her she would be arrested if she did not stop interfering. She got into the driver's side of the pickup and began driving away. Hutchison ran alongside the pickup and repeatedly ordered her to stop the vehicle. He reached through the open driver's window and grabbed a hold of the steering wheel, while repeatedly ordering her to stop the vehicle. She continued to accelerate, while angling towards a snow bank on the edge of Rouse Lane, so Hutchison let go. They pursued her for almost a mile with lights and siren activated, until she stopped at her residence. She was taken into custody and charged with **DUII, Felony Attempt To Elude, Reckless Driving, and Reckless Endangering**. Sgt. Larson (Patrol) helped transport the suspects to the Baker County Jail where they were lodged. Approximately five hours after the initial stop, the male suspect's BAC was .11% and the female suspect's BAC was .10%.

# Commercial Fish / Shellfish

## Helicopter Patrol Yielded No Violations in Closure

Tpr. Bowen (Coos Bay) accompanied the USCG on a helicopter flight to check compliance with the commercial crab season temporary closure in the Cape Blanco area. Officers did not observe any gear in the closed area.

## Troopers Conducted Patrol with the *Guardian*

Tpr. Schwartz (St. Helens) accompanied by Tpr. Herman (Astoria) and Tpr. Peterson (Tillamook) took the Division's patrol vessel *Guardian* into the Pacific Ocean after receiving reports of a string of commercial crab gear bearing Washington buoy tags located off northern Oregon. Sgt. Scroup (Astoria) and a WDFW officer assisted in the rigid hull inflatable (RHI). The crab gear apparently had been moved and was no longer at the position reported. The troopers did pull numerous pots and checked for compliance with the gear regulations. They did not detect any violations.



Troopers conducted patrols on the *Guardian*. Photo credit: File

## Troopers Issued Several Citations during Commercial Crab Patrols

Sr. Tpr. Stinnett (Gold Beach), while conducting investigations on commercial crab permit holders, issued four individuals criminal citations for **Failing to Submit Crab Logbooks to ODFW**.

Sgt. Lea (Coos Bay) checked commercial crab boats at the Port of Charleston. He issued two citations for **No Individual Commercial Fishing License** and one citation for **Fail to Complete Logbook Prior to Landing**.

Sr. Tpr. Bowen (Coos Bay) was checking commercial crab at Hallmark Fisheries in Charleston and started noticing small crab. Sgt. Lea and Tpr. Keeler (Coos Bay) assisted in checking the offload, resulting in the vessel operator receiving a citation for **Unlawful Possession of Undersized Crab**.

Tpr. O'Connor (Astoria) conducted a boat patrol with Clatsop County SO Deputy Phillips on the lower Columbia River. The officers contacted six commercial crab vessels and two sport crab boats. O'Connor issued three citations for **No Individual Commercial Fishing License**.

Sr. Tpr. Salisbury, Tpr. Wetzel (Florence) and Sgt. Martin (Springfield) traveled to Charleston to assist Sgt. Lea (Coos Bay) with commercial crab boat inspections. They checked several boats as they docked for offloading. Salisbury issued two citations to two subjects onboard one vessel, one to the skipper for **No Logbook**, and one to a crew member for **No Commercial Fishing License**.

Tpr. O'Connor (Astoria) was observing an offload of crab at a local fish processor. Once the offload was complete, one of the crew members was observed taking multiple buckets of crab from the vessel without first weighing them and putting them in a personal vehicle. A short time later, the subject left the area. O'Connor stopped the subject and issued a citation for **Unlawful Possession of Commercially Taken Dungeness Crab**. He seized the crab and sold it to a local processor (commercial fish overage and seizure checks are sent to ODFW). O'Connor warned the captain of another vessel for **Failure to Maintain an Accurate and Up-to-Date Logbook**.

Tpr. O'Connor (Astoria) contacted a commercial crab vessel after completing an offload at a local wholesale dealer. O'Connor noticed a metal tote with numerous crab next to the scale. It appeared as though the offload had been completed, because the crew was loading bait onto the boat for the next trip and the remainder of the crab had been loaded onto a truck, bound for a live market out-of-state. The dock manager came out of the plant and O'Connor questioned the manager regarding the crab in the metal tote. The dock manager stated the crab in the metal tote were dead loss, which the live buyer refused to purchase. O'Connor's further inspection of records and interview of the dock workers revealed the crab in the tote had not been weighed, nor had the crab been recorded on the dock or fish tickets. O'Connor cited the plant manager for **Failure to Properly Complete a Dock Ticket / Fish Ticket**.

## Subject Interfered

Tpr. Herman (Astoria) received a complaint from a crabber in Seaside that he had caught another subject pulling his pot and dumping the crab. Herman contacted the suspect and subsequently issued him a citation for **Obstructing the Taking of Wildlife—Dungeness Crab**.

## Commercial Checks Conducted

Tpr. Brandon (Coos Bay) contacted a commercial boat in Charleston. He issued one citation **No Individual Commercial Fishing License**.

Sr. Tpr. Stinnett (Gold Beach) conducted an investigation that led to a criminal citation for an **81% overage** of commercially landed black and blue rockfish. The allowance for period 5 (September and October) was 1,400 pounds. The suspect actually landed 2,538 pounds, 1,100 pounds over the limit.

## Guide Did Not Have License

Tpr. Peterson (Tillamook) finished an investigation into a Tillamook-area guide who was taking people on guided fishing trips on Tillamook-area rivers. Peterson's investigation revealed this subject worked for a local sporting goods store; and when anglers would call into the store requesting a guide recommendation, this subject would book the anglers with his business. Unfortunately, the "guide's" business was not licensed. Peterson cited the subject for **Guiding without a Guide License**.

# Sport Angling / Marine Board

## Trout over 20 Inches in Length Are Illegal

Tpr. Clement (Albany) contacted an angler at Timber-Linn Park who was in possession of two trout over 20 inches (24 and 26 inches). The law prohibits anglers from taking more than one trout over 20 inches in lakes in the Northwest Zone. Clement seized one of the trout and cited the subject for **Exceeding Daily Limit of Trout over 20 inches**.

## Subject Did Not Intend to Fish

Tpr. Clement (Albany) contacted a subject fishing the Alsea South Fork River. When Clement asked to see his salmon/steelhead tag, the subject told Clement he did not have one and he had come out with a friend and had not intended on fishing. The subject said he got bored and only cast a few times. The subject told Clement he thought it was not fair he should get a ticket, but then admitted it was not fair that everyone else had to buy a tag except him. Clement cited the subject for **No Angling License and No Salmon/Steelhead Tag—Violation**.

## Subjects Continued to Angle after Obtained Limit

Tpr. Galusha (Tillamook) responded to an angling complaint on Three Rivers where multiple subjects were snagging and angling closed waters. He observed several subjects angling in Cedar Creek which is closed to all angling. Galusha found two subjects who had already caught their limit of steelhead were continuing to angle. One subject admitted he told everyone it was ok to fish that portion of Cedar Creek. Galusha cited two subjects for **Continue to Angle after Retaining Limit** and one subject for **Angling Closed Stream** and additionally issued seven various warnings for other violations.

## Angler Kept Native Wounded Steelhead

Sr. Tpr. Kipper (The Dalles) observed several anglers in a boat on the Columbia River near the mouth of the John Day River. He watched them hook and net a fish and put it in the boat. One subject held it up by the gills for a photograph then tried to put it back in the river. They pulled the fish back in the boat, and the subject who netted the fish tagged it. When Kipper contacted the subjects, he found the fish had an intact adipose fin. The subject who tagged it claimed the fish was not going to make it, so he kept it and took full responsibility. He even documented it on his tag as “native wounded steelhead” along with the date and water body. Kipper cited the subject for **Unlawful Possession of Nonadipose Fin-Clipped Steelhead**.

## Subjects Borrowed and Loaned Tags

While conducting angler checks on Gnat Creek, Tpr. Herman (Astoria) watched as two anglers walked back up to their vehicle from the creek. One of the anglers was carrying a large steelhead and put it in the back of their truck. The anglers returned to angling on the creek. Herman contacted the anglers, and the angler who was carrying the steelhead did not have a harvest card. The other angler did have a harvest card and tagged the steelhead they put in their vehicle. This angler claimed he caught the steelhead, but after subsequent questioning, both anglers admitted the one without the tag caught the steelhead. Herman cited one angler for **Unlawful Taking Steelhead—No Valid 2010 Combined Angling Harvest Card in Possession and Borrowing Angling Harvest Card—Steelhead** and the second angler for **Loaning Angling Card—Steelhead** and seized one steelhead.

## Boat Patrols Yielded Various Violations

Sr. Tpr. Richardson and Sr. Tpr. Moore (Portland) conducted a boat patrol on the Willamette River and contacted three subjects angling in a boat off the Oregon City “Wall.” An observed lack of personal flotation devices in the vessel led to a boat inspection. The troopers cited the operator for **Insufficient Number of PFDs** and escorted them to the Oregon City boat ramp.

Sr. Tpr. Moore, Sr. Tpr. Richardson, and Tpr. Fromme (Portland) conducted a boat patrol on the Willamette River and stopped a boat for Marine Board violations. During the exam, Fromme noticed signs of drug use from the boat operator. A consent search revealed multiple marijuana containers and marijuana pipes. The troopers cited the boat operator for **UPCS—Less than Once Ounce of Marijuana, No Boater Education Card, and No Certificate of Numbers**.



Trooper on a boat patrol on the Willamette River. Photo credit: File

## Angler Had False License, Barbed Hook, and Drugs

Sr. Tpr. Pearson and Sr. Tpr. Kipper (The Dalles) contacted two men angling for sturgeon on the Columbia River above The Dalles Bridge. The subject Kipper contacted presented a resident angling license that did not list an Oregon driver license number. Kipper asked if he had an Oregon driver license. The subject presented a Washington driver license and stated he moved to Oregon the same month he purchased his angling license. Additionally, the troopers discovered the subject was using a barbed hook and possessed a small amount of marijuana. The troopers cited him for **Possession of a Falsely Applied for Angling License, Angling for Sturgeon Prohibited Method—Barbed Hook, and UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana**.

## Subject Attempted to Elude to Validate Tag

Sr. Tpr. Stinnett (Gold Beach) observed an angler land a steelhead on a Rogue River gravel bar then put the fish in the back of his truck and attempt to drive away. Stinnett drove onto the gravel bar to contact the angler, but the subject saw the patrol truck and turned around and drove back to the riverbank down stream from the anglers. As Stinnett approached, the angler started to drive away again. Stinnett got out and approached the vehicle on foot. The subject started driving in reverse nearing the river. Stinnett got close enough to the driver’s door to see the driver with the tag in his lap attempting to tag the fish. The angler finally stopped and still tried to deny that he was not tagging the fish. Stinnett issued the angler a citation for **Failing to Immediately Validate Steelhead Tag**. Stinnett photographed the scribble where the angler attempted to tag the fish.

# Wildlife / Hunting

## Suspects Found Negligent

Tpr. Imholt (Springfield) followed up on a Coast elk season case of a suspect who trespassed on Junction City-area property and shot into an elk herd, killing a 4 x 5 bull. Witnesses observed an injured cow and a bull walk away from the herd into a timbered area. Several days later, a cow and six-point bull were found dead in the timbered area. Imholt and Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) seized the 4 x 5 bull and **criminally** cited the suspect for **Unlawful Take of Bull Elk while Criminally Trespassing and Unlawful Take of Bull Elk—Exceeding the Bag Limit**.

Sr. Tpr. Guerra and Tpr. Peterson (Tillamook) received information that a subject cut the head off of a branch bull elk and left the carcass to waste. Guerra thought this may be information in regards to a large elk waste case he was working on. Upon contact with the subject, Guerra found this was not related to the waste case but was a new waste case. The investigation revealed the subject shot a branch bull and left the bull ungutted in the field and went looking for assistance to pack the animal out. Upon returning many hours later, he found the elk had spoiled, so he just removed the head and left the carcass to waste. The troopers cited the subject for **Waste of a Game Animal**.

## Subjects Caught Illegally Taking Elk

Sr. Tpr. Turnbo (McMinnville) worked a case in November when he cited a subject who killed a cow elk with a disabled permit that expired in 2007. Turnbo later received information this subject took two elk; but due to darkness, the subject only found one. Turnbo returned to the area and eventually located the other elk. He removed a .27 caliber bullet, consistent with the .270 rifle the subject was using. Turnbo and Sr. Tpr. Reid (McMinnville) re-contacted the subject who admitted he may have shot two animals since his rifle was not working correctly. He said the herd was large, and he had to take his eyes off his target every time he reloaded. The troopers additionally cited him for **Waste of a Game Animal** and **Taking Cow Elk Closed Season**.

Sr. Tpr. Gunderson (The Dalles), Sr. Tpr. McNerney, and Tpr. Frazier (Hood River) received information a landowner located a gut pile on his property then witnessed two subjects running off. They followed drag marks to an abandoned cow elk carcass, and they salvaged the elk. They located tire tracks and four sets of boot prints in the snow. They checked the area and located matching tire tracks and boot tracks in the snow next to a cabin. The next day, the troopers identified the four subjects involved. They determined the subjects trespassed on three properties, and two of the subjects killed the elk then had the other two subjects assist in the recovery. They showed the troopers the truck used and the boots hidden in an orchard. The troopers lodged the four subjects in jail for **Taking Elk without a Valid Tag, Aiding in a Wildlife Violation, Criminal Trespass II, and Waste of Wildlife**.

## Suspect Brought Prohibited Parts into Oregon from CWD State

Sr. Tpr. Hayes (Bend) and Sr. Tpr. Smith (Patrol) contacted a subject who reportedly killed a bull elk near the Sunriver Resort. Several Bend Division and Patrol troopers actively searched for the subject, and Smith located him near Crescent. The troopers determined the subject legally killed the bull in Wyoming, a CWD state, and stopped near Sunriver to put more fresh snow on the meat to keep it cool when a citizen reported him. Unfortunately, the subject brought prohibited parts into Oregon. The troopers cited him for **Illegal Importation of Prohibited Cervid Parts from a CWD State** and seized the prohibited parts.



Hunter transported illegal parts from CWD state. Photo credit: File

## Suspect Caught Taking Deer from Winter Range Area Closed Season



Subject shot deer during a closed season. Photo credit: File

Sgt. Pond (Bend) and Sr. Tpr. Burke (Patrol) responded to a midnight call of a husband and wife arguing about their 24-year-old son who was involved in the illegal killing of a buck deer. The investigation revealed the son was with a subject who shot a 4 x 2 buck closed season. The troopers located the suspect who shot the buck that night and issued a citation for **Taking Deer Closed Season** and seized the rifle, antlers, and what was left of the meat. They also cited the son for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation**. The area where the deer was killed is a winter range area in the Paulina Unit.

## Deer Unlawfully Taken

While checking anglers at Big Creek, Rct. Warwick (Astoria) noticed an elk liver in the back of a pickup. He contacted the two men who arrived in it and recognized the passenger as a subject of a deer complaint. He and Tpr. O'Connor (Astoria) followed the men to the passenger's house. O'Connor recognized his son as having an arrest warrant. The man admitted he shot both his and his "wife's" deer in 2009 and 2010. The troopers cited the man for **Exceeding the Bag Limit of Deer** and his wife for **Loaning a Big Game Tag**, warned the driver for **Transporting another's Wildlife** without a Wildlife Record Transfer Form, and lodged his son in jail.

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) received a report of a buck shot at night with a rifle in the Creswell area and the suspects sped off, leaving the buck. Boyd asked the witness to watch for the suspect's return. Just prior to Boyd's arrival, the suspects returned, and the witness obtained a partial plate. Boyd and Tpr. Duren (Patrol) located a subject walking nearby with hunting knives, but they could not prove his involvement. Duren went to the subject's residence and located a vehicle similar to the suspect vehicle. He contacted several subjects. The suspect intended to tag the deer with his bow tag. The troopers issued citations for **Unlawful Take of Buck Deer Prohibited Hours/Method** and **Aiding/Counseling in a Wildlife Violation—Unlawful Take of Deer x 2**, seized a .22

# Wildlife / Hunting

## Bend Troopers Looking for Poacher Who Injured Mule Buck with



Mule deer shot in neck with arrow. Photo credit: File

Bend troopers are investigating the attempted illegal take of a large 4 x 4 mule deer buck in the Crooked River Ranch area. The incident possibly occurred between November 27 and 30. An unknown subject shot the buck in the neck with an arrow where a portion of it remains lodged. The law prohibits hunting on the private property within Crooked River Ranch. The OHA State and Bend chapters are offering an enhanced TIP reward of \$500 resulting in an arrest of a suspect. The buck is alive and stable. ODFW biologists will make an effort to remove the arrow from the buck.

## Persistence Paid Off

Sr. Tpr. Thompson (Central Point) received a complaint of dogs chasing deer and killing one back in July. Numerous attempts were made to contact the dogs' owner, but he was never home. Thompson had contacted his wife several times, and the man knew a citation was coming, so he was making himself scarce. The suspect's residence was fairly remote and not in an area that could easily be checked often. In the very early morning hours one day, Thompson waited for the man to leave and contacted him. He was finally able to issue the man the citation for **Allowing Dogs to Chase/Kill Deer**.

## Anglers Harassed Ducks

While on a boat patrol, Sr. Tpr. Richardson and Tpr. Fromme (Portland) contacted two subjects angling off Elk Rock Island on the Willamette River. While approaching the anglers, one of the men shot lead split-shot with a slingshot at two ducks swimming in front of him. The troopers seized the slingshot and cited the subject for **No Angling License and Harassment of Wildlife**.

## Bobcat Caught in Trap Set to Catch a Chicken "Thief"

A White City farmer reported to ODFW a raccoon had been killing his chickens, and he applied for received a permit to trap the raccoon. He placed a live trap near his chicken coop with one of his dead chickens in it. The next morning, the farmer found a bobcat in the trap. He did not want to kill the bobcat. He called ODFW who did not have anyone who could respond at the time, so Sr. Tpr. Thompson and Sgt. Meyer (Central Point) responded. The troopers hauled the trap with the bobcat in it out of town and released the bobcat.



Bobcat caught in a trap released. Photo credit: File

## Birds Unlawfully Taken

Tpr. Clement (Albany) responded to E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area where duck hunters observed a subject shoot a goose (closed area). The suspect refused to admit he shot a goose. Clement examined the suspect's shotgun shells, then he located and retrieved the goose. When he informed the suspect he found the goose and ODFW was performing an autopsy, the suspect admitted to shooting the goose. Clement cited the suspect for **Taking Cackler Goose with No Valid NW Permit—Violation**.

Sgt. Meyer (Central Point) spotted a man duck hunting from a blind on a dike at the Denman Wildlife Area. This subject shot at some coots swimming in the pond near Meyer, killing one and wounding another. The bag limit on coots is 25 per day, but most people do not eat them so they do not shoot them. Knowing this, Meyer waited to see if the subject retrieved the coots. Instead, the subject took his dog and all his decoys to his truck. Meyer contacted the subject in the parking area. The subject said he had not killed anything, but Meyer pointed out he failed to retrieve the coots he shot. Meyer cited him for **Waste of Wildlife/Fail to Retrieve—Coot**.

## Adult Directed Youth to Harvest Bear

Tpr. Andrews and Tpr. Olsen (Salem) investigated a complaint in the Lyons area of a bear harvested in November that was not checked into ODFW as required. They determined a juvenile, under the supervision and direction of an adult male, harvested the bear at 11:30 p.m., well after legal shooting hours. In addition, the bear was not checked into ODFW. The troopers issued the adult male a citation for **Aiding in a Wildlife Crime—Taking Bear Prohibited Hours** and a warning for Not Checking the Bear into ODFW and seized the bear.

## Subject Used Dogs to Take Cougar

Sr. Tpr. McNeil and Sgt. Cyr (Baker City) were aware of an area where cougar hunting with dogs was taking place, and they patrolled the area after a fresh snow. They located a vehicle parked in the Keating Unit and found evidence that dogs had been let out on a track along with cougar tracks crossing the road in this location. Eventually, they located hounds with a treed cougar with no subjects around, so they waited. About two hours later, a subject came to the hounds and shot and killed the cougar. The subject then attempted to leave the area with his hounds, hiding the cougar under some brush. The troopers contacted the subject before he left the area and cited him for **Unlawfully Taking Cougar with Dogs** and seized the cougar and his rifle.



Subject used dogs to take cougar. Photo credit: File

# Interagency Investigations



Mule deer buck. Photo credit: National Park Service

## Poacher Cited for 6 Counts

Sr. Tpr. Pearson and Sr. Tpr. Gunderson (The Dalles) assisted a WDFW officer on a deer case in The Dalles. WDFW had information a forked horn buck had been shot in Washington, and the subject has never had a Washington hunting license. Division troopers contacted the wife who showed them two sets of antlers taken in Washington by her husband in recent years. Neither buck matched the one they had information on, but they were seized. Officers later contacted the suspect who produced the third buck. OSP cited the suspect for **Unlawful Possession of Deer x 3**, and WDFW cited the suspect for **Unlawful Take of Deer x 3**.

## Poaching Suspect Contacted in California

Sr. Tpr. Love (Bend) followed up on information that a California resident killed a large mule deer buck during the late Metolius archery season without a tag. Love went to California and, assisted by a CDFG officer, contacted the subject. The subject had a controlled rifle tag for the October Metolius rifle hunt. Love cited the suspect for **Hunting Deer without a Valid Tag** and seized his deer.

## Subjects Bow Hunted on OSU Property

Tpr. Clement (Albany) received a report from a Benton County SO deputy who contacted three subjects bow hunting on Oregon State University property west of Corvallis. One subject killed a small buck that morning, and they were in the process of bringing the deer to their vehicle. Clement cited all three subjects for **Hunting on the Enclosed/Cultivated Land of Another—Crime** and seized their bows. The deer was salvaged.

## Trophy Buck Shot during Closed Season

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) received a report that a Springfield-area resident shot a trophy buck deer to protect his shrubs. Boyd contacted the suspect with the assistance of two Lane County SO deputies. The suspect admitted to shooting the deer and presented a hazing permit issued by ODFW; however, the permit specified hazing by nonlethal means **only** on the suspect's property. Further investigation revealed the suspect shot the buck with buckshot from a 12-gauge shotgun on an adjacent piece of property. Officers could not locate the buck; however, Boyd cited the suspect for **Unlawful Hunting Closed Season—Blacktail Buck with a Shotgun** and seized the shotgun and permits.

## Two Toddlers Observed Outside by Themselves

While off duty at about 10:00 a.m., Sr. Tpr. Pearson (The Dalles) observed a three-year-old in pajamas and a one-year-old wearing nothing but a diaper in 40-degree weather out on a sidewalk by themselves near the west end of The Dalles. Another passerby came by at about the same time and located the home nearby where the children had come from. The Wasco County SO was called, a welfare check was conducted, and DHS was notified. DHS responded and took both children into protective custody, as it was not the first time DHS had responded to that residence on a complaint of child neglect. Evidently, the caregiver for the children had fallen asleep on the couch and had no idea the children had wandered outside.

## Deputy Located Hunter Behind Locked Gate

Sgt. Lea (Coos Bay) received a call from a Douglas County SO deputy who located an timber company gate open and thought the gate might have been vandalized. The deputy patrolled the area looking for possible suspects. While behind the gate, a subject in a truck drove up to her asking if it was okay to drive behind the gate to help recover a cow elk. She told the suspect she could not tell him yes or no, but the gate is normally closed and locked. The suspect drove behind the gate. Lea contacted the landowner who said the gate has been a constant problem and wanted the suspect cited. Lea located the suspect and vehicle far down a muddy skid road having run over multiple trees. Lea cited the suspect for **Criminal Trespass II** and **Criminal Mischief II**.

## Woman Unlawfully Held Injured Crow

Sr. Tpr. Thompson (Central Point) received a complaint of a Talent subject holding a crow and contacted the residence. A woman said she had the crow, but she was reluctant to allow him to retrieve it, saying she did not believe he would take care of it. She said the crow had been injured, and *she* was taking care of it. Officers had told her several times over the previous days the law prohibits her from holding the crow. The woman was very argumentative and causing a disturbance, so other troopers and Talent PD responded. She eventually allowed officers to remove the crow and take it to a wildlife rehabilitation facility. Thompson cited her for **Unlawful Holding Wildlife—Crow**.

## Stranded Boaters Saved from Rolling Surf

Sgt. Hoodenpyl (Tillamook) responded to Netarts Bay to assist Tillamook County SO Deputy Reeder with a vessel containing two people that had lost power and was heading out to sea. The current was extremely swift as there was a large tidal exchange on this day. After getting on the water, Hoodenpyl and Reeder saw the vessel was now in the jaws of the bay and in the rolling surf. USCG was on scene, but due to the shallow conditions of the bay, they were unable to assist the vessel. Hoodenpyl and Reeder went into the surf with the patrol boat and removed the subjects from their boat and returned them to safety inside Netarts Bay. There were no injuries, and USCG later recovered the disabled boat from the ocean.

## Winter Range Patrol Discovered Drug Users

Tpr. Weaver (Lakeview) and BLM Ranger Apley were patrolling the Interstate Winter Range near Bly and made a stop of a vehicle for Failure to Maintain Lane of Travel and for Inadequate Mud Flaps that also somewhat matched the description from an earlier game complaint. The occupants said they were on their way to McDermitt to hunt rabbits. During the course of the stop, Weaver detected the odor of marijuana and gained consent to search. The search revealed 1.9 pounds of marijuana. Weaver cited both occupants for **Possession of Controlled Substance—Marijuana** and **Distributing a Controlled Substance—Marijuana** and additionally cited the passenger for two counts of **Felon in Possession of a Firearm**.

# Interagency / Public Relations

## Multiple Agencies Worked Together to Help Stranded Sea Lion Return to the Ocean

Sr. Tpr. Salisbury, Tpr. Wetzel (Florence), and Tpr. Conklin (Patrol) received information of a stranded sea lion on Hwy 101 near mp 170. According to troopers on scene, the sea lion came ashore at Bob Creek Wayside near mp 170 and worked itself north along Hwy 101 for approximately a half-mile. The sea lion occasionally entered into traffic, creating hazardous conditions for passing motorists and the sea lion. The troopers and Yachats Fire and Rescue personnel patiently guided the sea lion another quarter mile down Hwy 101 to Strawberry State Park. They guided the seal lion across the parking lot and watched it walk down the trail to the beach and return back into the Ocean.

Various agencies helped guide seal back to ocean. Photo credits: File



## Troopers Participated in Various Meetings, Interviews, and Shop-with-a-Cop

Sgt. Meyer (Central Point) held a team meeting for the Central Point Fish and Wildlife Team. Guest speakers included Jackson County ADA Nick Geil and ODFW District Wildlife Biologist Mark Vargas.

Sgt. Meyer and Sr. Tpr. Thompson (Central Point) attended the local monthly Bio Breakfast meeting with ODFW, BLM, USACE, USFS, and others.

Sr. Tpr. Kehr (Newport) had a reporter with the Newport News Times do a ride-a-long on opening day of cow elk season. The reporter is doing a story on the OSP Fish and Wildlife Division.

Sgt. Martin, Tpr. Imholt (Springfield), and Tpr. Wetzel (Florence), along with several Patrol members, participated in the Eugene-area Shop-with-a-Cop at the West 11th Walmart. Over 30 families brought children to the event.

Sr. Tpr. Martin Maher (Springfield) and Sr. Tpr. Marshall Maher (Oakridge) appeared as guests on a local morning radio talk show KUGN 590. They covered several topics, including mandatory hunter reporting, late season hunts, hunter orange for youths, and general hunting and boating safety. They also answered call-in questions.

Sr. Tpr. Kipper and Sgt. Katzenstein (The Dalles) attended a multi-agency feral pig meeting in The Dalles. The group discussed the new laws, landowner requirements, removal techniques, and known local herds. Some pigs are being tagged and tracked.

## Reward Check Presented to TIPster

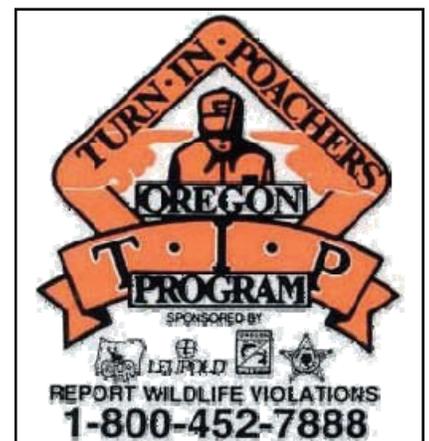


Sgt. Pond (Bend) presented a \$250 TIP reward check to a Maupin resident for turning in a subject who illegally killed a buck deer during elk season.

The complainant was elk hunting when she observed the subject driving out of the area with a buck deer. She contacted the suspect and was able to relay the vehicle license plate and description to OSP.

Report fish, wildlife, and habitat law violators. TIPs can remain anonymous.

Sergeant presented check to tipster. Photo credit: File



# Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division

*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 Officer?**

*Exciting, Rewarding, and Challenging  
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Sr. Tpr. Scott Hite: (503) 378-4421 or [scott.hite@state.or.us](mailto:scott.hite@state.or.us)