

# The Field Review



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

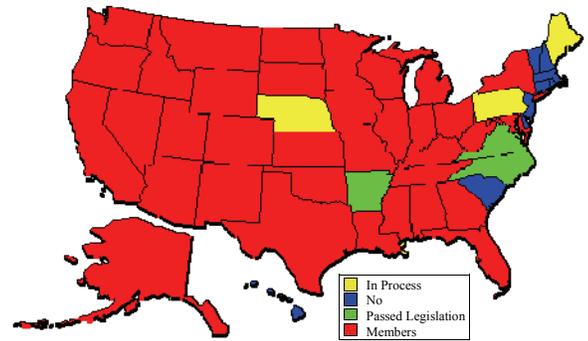
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## Suspended Wildlife Law Violators Could Face Revocation in Compact Member States

In the early 1980s, law enforcement units of the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies discussed the concept of a compact between states to address wildlife violations based on the format in use by a number of states for handling motor vehicle violations by visitors to other states. Wildlife and resource protection needed additional teeth when dealing with people who moved freely among and violated the wildlife and resource laws in various states.

Public Law No. 293, H.R. 7353, was passed June 6, 1934, and re-codified May 24, 1949, as Title 4 USC Section 112, allowing states to enter into compacts for cooperation in crime prevention. The section reads: "The consent of Congress is hereby given to any two or more states to enter into agreements or compacts for cooperative efforts and mutual assistance in the prevention of crime and in the enforcement of their respective criminal laws and policies, and to establish such agencies, joint or otherwise, as they may deem desirable for making effective such agreements and compacts." In 1989, Colorado, Nevada, and Oregon passed the first legislation in their respective states, setting up the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact (Compact); and new states join each year.



Current status on Compact membership. Photo credit: ODFW

Currently, 35 states are members, three are in the process, and three more have passed legislation. When a person has their hunting, fishing, and/or trapping privileges legally suspended in the Compact state where the violation(s) occurred, the suspension may be recognized by all Compact member states. Having privileges suspended in Oregon means a violator can be prevented from hunting, fishing, and/or trapping in all Compact member states. This not only prevents chronic violators from simply moving their activity to another state, it provides a form of deterrence that is often more powerful than monetary fines and penalties. The following are two cases resulting in adding suspects to the Compact after their hunting and/or angling privileges were revoked:



Seizures from Shady Cove residence. Photo credit: File

Sr. Tpr. Collom and Sr. Tpr. Cushman (Central Point) spearheaded an investigation alleging two suspects worked together to use bait and hounds to kill black bear and cougar. In March 2009, troopers served a search warrant at a Shady Cove residence and seized nearly 60 items. The troopers eventually charged the first suspect with 15 counts of wildlife crimes and the second suspect for his involvement with the May 2008 killing of a black bear using dogs. A previous investigation resulted in both suspects pleading guilty in early 2009 to Unlawfully Using Dogs to Pursue and Kill a Cougar. Oregon law mandates that a person's second conviction for the offense of using dogs to pursue and kill a bear or cougar results in a lifetime hunting revocation. The first suspect pled guilty to Illegal Possession of

Wildlife and three counts of Hunting Bear/Cougar with Dogs/Bait. In addition to the lifetime hunting suspension and forfeiture of items seized from his residence, the court sentenced him to 24 months probation, 80 hours community service, and \$2,001 in fines and restitution. The second suspect pled guilty to one count of Hunting Bear with Dogs. In addition to his lifetime hunting suspension, the court sentenced him to 24 months probation, 64 hours community service, and \$1,340 in fines and restitution.

The Wenaha Unit is among the most sought-after trophy bull elk hunts in Oregon, with less than 1% of applicants receiving a tag. Law-abiding hunters wait as long as 13 years to earn enough points to draw a tag, or they can participate in an auction that can cost up to \$25,000. In 2006, ODFW auctioned five tags, and two were used in the Wenaha Unit. In 2009, as a result of a joint USFWS and Division investigation, a US District Court sentenced a suspect who illegally killed a trophy bull elk without a tag in the Wenaha Unit in 2006 and illegally transported the elk across state lines, a federal Lacey Act violation, to California to three years federal probation, \$50,000 penalty, lifetime hunting and fishing license revocation, \$4,700 restitution to the State of Oregon, and publish a public apology in Eastern Oregon newspapers and Oregon Hunter magazine. The suspect also admitted he illegally hunted three bears pre-season and used bait to attract the bears; illegally killed a cow elk without a tag and used a falsified tag to make the kill appear legal; and illegally killed a white-tailed deer using a crossbow and with the aid of artificial light, all in 2006. Additionally, a second suspect involved in the investigation pled guilty in Umatilla County Circuit Court to multiple counts of the taking bear during closed season and over bait. The court sentenced this suspect to lifetime hunting license revocation, probation, and fines and fees.

# Dispositions

## Suspects Found Guilty and Sentenced

Tpr. Schwartz (St. Helens) and Tpr. Herman (Astoria) cited two subjects who were snagging salmon from a raft at the mouth of Big Creek in September. One of the two subjects was convicted of **Aiding in an Angling Offense—Snagging Salmon**. The court sentenced the subject to \$422 in fines and assessments and \$500 restitution to ODFW. The court has not sentenced the other subject yet.

Sr. Tpr. Wilson (Ontario) investigated a case regarding a California resident who shot deer during the 2009 and 2010 deer seasons in Oregon and unlawfully applied for and received Oregon licenses and tags. In a plea agreement, the subject pled guilty to **Unlawful Taking of Mule Deer—Misdemeanor**. The court sentenced the subject to three years hunting license suspension, \$2,009 restitution to ODFW, \$200 fines and fees (\$500 originally with \$300 suspended), and one year bench probation.



Seized evidence from Alsea case. Photo credit: File

In September 2010, Albany and Salem Division troopers investigated a report that an Alsea subject had unlawfully taken a spike bull elk and a 6 x 7 bull elk during the 2010 General archery season west of Alsea. The investigation resulted in the troopers citing the subject for **Exceeding Bag Limit of Bull Elk, Hunting on Enclosed Cultivated Lands of**

**Another**, and **Unlawful Possession of Elk Antlers** and seized the 6x7 bull elk and spike elk along with an additional set of branch elk antlers. Under new penalties that took effect January 2010, the 6 x 7 bull elk qualified for the increased trophy fines. Any bull elk with at least 6 points on either side qualifies for a trophy fine of \$15,000, paid as restitution to ODFW. In March 2011, the subject pled guilty in Benton County Circuit Court. The court sentenced the subject to fines totaling \$15,202, three years hunting license suspension, and forfeit all evidence seized.

In Grant County Justice Court, a defendant cited for **Hunting on the Enclosed Land of Another** pled guilty. The court sentenced the defendant to three years hunting license suspension, \$500 fines and fees, 40 hours community service, and one year bench probation.

In Grant County Justice Court, a defendant pled guilty to **Hunting on the Enclosed Land of Another** and **Hunting Elk without a Valid Tag**. The court dismissed one count of Tampering with Physical Evidence. The court sentenced the defendant to three years hunting license suspension, \$633 fines and fees, 80 hours community service, and two years supervised probation.

In Grant County Justice Court, a defendant pled guilty to one count of **Exceeding Bag Limit—Buck Deer**. The court dismissed one count of Borrowing Buck Deer Tag. The court sentenced the defendant to three years hunting license suspension, \$500 fines and fees, pay cut and wrap fees, \$800 restitution to ODFW, 40 hours community service, and two years bench probation.

As a result of a lengthy deer poaching investigation Tpr. Weaver (Lakeview), Sr. Tpr. Bean (Gilchrist), Tpr. Ring, Sr. Tpr. Hayes (Bend), and a Lake County SO deputy worked on, two suspects were cited on numerous wildlife and criminal charges. The first suspect pled guilty to **Theft in the First Degree** two counts, four **wildlife violations**, and **Tampering with Physical Evidence**. The court disposed charges with no conviction: Conspiracy to Commit a Class C Felony two counts, two wildlife violations, two wildlife misdemeanors, Theft in the Second Degree, and Criminal Trespass while in Possession of a Firearm. The court sentenced the suspect to 30 days in jail, 10 years license suspension, \$9,100 restitution to ODFW, and \$1,750 fines and assessments. The second suspect pled guilty to **Theft in the First Degree** two counts, two **wildlife violations**, and **Tampering with Physical Evidence**. The court also disposed charges with no conviction: Conspiracy to Commit a Class C Felony, wildlife violations, Theft in the Second Degree, and Criminal Trespass with a Firearm. The court sentenced this suspect to 10 years license suspension, \$8,300 restitution to ODFW, and \$1,250 in fines and assessments.

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### Abbreviations and Acronyms

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

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# Shellfish / Commercial Fish / Marine Board

## Commercial and Shellfish Laws Enforced

At the Port of Charleston, Sr. Tpr. Bowen (Coos Bay) was checking license requirements on commercial vessels. During one check, he discovered one deckhand did not have a license. Bowen cited the subject for **No Individual Commercial Fishing License**.

Sr. Tpr. Bowen (Coos Bay) investigated numerous commercial fish overages at the Port of Charleston. During one of these investigations, Bowen found the vessel had delivered an overage of commercially caught Petrale sole. Bowen cited the operator for **Exceeding the Limit of Commercially Caught Petrale Sole (13%)**.

At ODFW's request, Sr. Tpr. Klepp (Astoria) contacted a local seafood processor in Astoria and advised the company manager he was no longer able to buy seafood under the company's wholesale buyer's license as a result of unpaid commercial fish taxes. The company failed to pay over \$16,000 in taxes over the prior two months. Several days later, the tax bills were paid in full to ODFW headquarters and their buyer's license was reinstated.

Sr. Tpr. Klepp (Astoria) cited a skipper of a commercial vessel for **Retaining Commercially Harvested Sablefish for Personal Use**. Tpr. O'Connor (Astoria) observed the skipper in December 2010 deliver about 30 pounds of sablefish to a restaurant in Astoria immediately after unloading commercial groundfish to a wholesale fish dealer. The investigation revealed the fish was not used in the restaurant or sold but rather taken home for smoking.

Sgt. Hoodenpyl and Tpr. King (Tillamook) were working clambers on Netarts Bay when Hoodenpyl contacted two subjects leaving the beds with under two limits of steamer clams. Both subjects admitted to only digging a few clams and the other clams in their possession were from friends who were still on the beds clamming. King went out into the beds and contacted the friends still clamming and, while there, one subject admitted to digging the other subject's clams. The troopers seized 19 clams and cited one subject for **Exceeding the Bag Limit of Bay Clams**.

Tpr. Galusha (Tillamook) was working clambers on Tillamook Bay when he checked clambers coming into the parking lot at the Pier's End. While there, he noticed a subject arrive in the parking lot and return to the clam beds after seeing troopers. Galusha stopped the subject and found he was over his limit by 15 bay clams. The subject was from California and also clamming for his wife who was not at the clam beds. Galusha seized 15 clams and cited the subject for **Exceeding the Bag Limit of Bay Clams**. Also during this low tide, Galusha found three other subjects clamming together who were 28 clams over their combined daily limits. During the contact, one subject said he was the group leader and took responsibility for the extra clams. Galusha cited this subject for **Exceeding the Bag Limit of Bay Clams** and seized the extra clams and returned them to the bay.

## Boat Patrols Conducted to Monitor Compliance

Sr. Tpr. Frerichs (Roseburg) observed a drift boat on the South Fork of the Coquille River with four subjects. Upon inspecting the boat, Frerichs noted only three PFDs on board for the four occupants. He also observed two hatchery steelhead contained in the boat and discovered only one fish was tagged. One subject stated he caught the steelhead and left his license and tag in a vehicle near Powers. Frerichs cited the boat operator for **Insufficient Number of PFDs on Board** and the angler for **Fail to Validate Salmon-Steelhead Tag**.

Sr. Tpr. Connell (Hermiston), Sr. Tpr. Gardner (Pendleton), and Tpr. Mayer (Heppner) conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River below McNary Dam to Boardman. They checked 22 boats and 50 anglers and issued two citations for **UPCS—Less than One Ounce Marijuana**, one for **Fail to Validate Harvest Tag—Sturgeon**, and one for **Counseling in a Wildlife Violation—Unlawful Take of Undersized Sturgeon** and three warnings from Inadequate or Missing Boat Numbers and one for Unlawful Take of Undersized Sturgeon.

Sgt. Lea (Coos Bay) observed a small boat with expired registration operating erratically on the Smith River. While the operator stopped the boat about 75 yards away, Lea used his siren and PA to direct the boat to shore. The operator acted like he could not understand the instructions and then drove to a houseboat and went inside. Lea and Tpr. Keeler (Coos Bay) contacted the operator at the residence. The operator apologized, stating his boat was not registered and he was afraid. After inspecting the boat, the troopers cited the operator for **Fail to Register Boat**.

Sgt. Pond, Tpr. Ring (Bend), and Sr. Tpr. Lindberg (Madras) conducted a boat patrol on Lake Billy Chinook. They conducted 12 boat exams with two failures and checked 30 anglers. During the patrol, the troopers found two boaters near the entrance of the Deschutes Arm in

distress. The boaters were the first to launch at Lake Billy Chinook in the dark, and their boat motor died 100 yards from the ramp. They drifted for two miles until the anchor caught the bottom before striking the rocky shoreline with a vertical cliff. The boaters were stranded for five hours. The troopers towed them back to the boat ramp where they failed a boat examination. Jefferson County SO Marine deputies also responded to the incident and found another boater in distress that they towed in.

Sr. Tpr. Connell (Hermiston), Sr. Tpr. Gardner, and Sgt. Brown (Pendleton) conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River below McNary Dam. During the patrol, the troopers conducted 51 angler and numerous boat checks (with one fail), resulting in issuing four citations (one for **No PFD**, one for **Angling Prohibited Method—Barbed Hook for Sturgeon**, and two for **No Non-Resident Angling License**) and six warnings (two for No Juvenile Angling License, one for Angling Prohibited Method, one for Counseling in Wildlife Violation, one for No Juvenile Harvest Card, and one for Fail to Change Boat Registration). Also during the patrol, the troopers lodged one subject on an arrest warrant out of Douglas County for **Fail to Pay Fines on DWS—Misdemeanor** and another subject on a probation violation arrest warrant out of Tracy, California, for **Convicted Sex Offender** (this subject was living in Washington and came down to fish with a friend on the Columbia River, and the warrant was adjoining states only).



Troopers conducting boat inspection. Photo credit: File

# Sport Angling

## Suspended Subject Caught Angling

Sr. Tpr. Harris (Coos Bay) patrolled the South Jetty of the Umpqua River for anglers. He contacted a subject and inspected this angler's catch. During the contact, Harris determined the angler had a suspended angling license. He cited the subject for **Angling while Suspended** and seized his catch.

## Steelhead Season Not Based on Catch Numbers

Sr. Tpr. Klepp (Astoria) checked about 35 sport anglers with many spring Chinook and conducted boat inspections at boat ramps in Westport and Clatskanie. One subject was untruthful in admitting his catch while the ODFW catch monitor interviewed him at Jones Beach. Several witnesses later advised the checker that the subject had indeed caught a steelhead. Klepp interviewed the subject about a half hour later. The subject admitted to catching a hatchery steelhead and dug up the fish buried in the sand near his vehicle. Klepp cited the angler for **Denying ODFW Employee Inspection of Catch—Steelhead**.

## Illegal Angler Hid from Trooper

On the Wilson River, Tpr. Galusha (Tillamook) contacted a subject who was walking up the bank and said he was not fishing. When Galusha walked to the river, he saw a fishing rod left behind. Another angler informed Galusha that the subject who just walked out was angling and the gear left by the river belonged to that subject. Galusha determined the subject was hiding from him, as he also left his vehicle behind, and the location was 22 miles from town. Sgt. Hoodenpyl (Tillamook) and Sgt. Plummer (Patrol) arrived to assist. After a short search, the subject came out of the woods and said he was not hiding and then displayed a 2010 angling license and harvest card. Galusha cited this subject with a Class A misdemeanor of **No 2011 Angling Harvest Card**.

## License Issues a Persistent Problem

Sr. Tpr. Reid (McMinnville) was working anglers on Henry Hagg Lake when he contacted a subject who had a resident angling license in possession. Reid's further investigation revealed this subject was not an Oregon resident when the license was purchased. Consequently, Reid cited the subject for **False Application for Resident Angling License**.

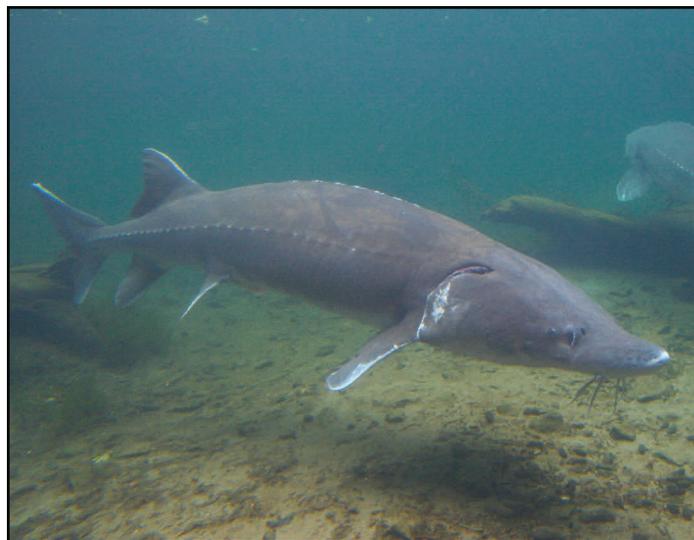
Tpr. Imholt (Springfield) patrolled Alton Baker Ponds. Upon arrival, two anglers immediately reeled in and started to walk away from Imholt, so he contacted them first. He discovered both did not have angling licenses. They said they did not know they needed an angling license to fish at the ponds. Imholt cited each for **No Angling License**.

Sr. Tpr. Stinnett and Sr. Tpr. Van Prooyen (Gold Beach) checked steelhead anglers on the Elk River. They contacted a drift boat with three anglers and three nonadipose fin-clipped steelhead. Regulations allow one nonadipose fin-clipped steelhead per angler per day. One angler was a juvenile who did not have a tag. Van Prooyen issued the juvenile's father a citation for **Aiding in a Game Violation**.

Sr. Tpr. Cushman (Central Point) patrolled the Rogue River and encountered two anglers at the Bridge Hole. When they spotted him, they performed a short dance, their eyes widened, and they shuffled about as if not sure if they should run, throw the rods down, cut the line, or stand there. They chose to stand there. Neither had licenses, so Cushman cited each for **No Angling License**.

## Seized Sturgeon Released Alive

Tpr. Herman (Astoria) and Tpr. Vogel (St. Helens) conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River, Willamette River, and Multnomah Channel. During the patrol, they inspected 12 boats, contacted 35 anglers, issued multiple warnings for various violations and one citation for **Unlawful Taking Undersized Sturgeon**, and seized one sturgeon. Fortunately, the sturgeon was released alive.



Poaching affects future generations. Photo credit: Candescant/CC

## Subjects Continued to Angle

Sr. Tpr. Frerichs (Roseburg) received information about an angler who retained two steelhead on the South Umpqua River near Canyonville and leave, then he returned and continued to fish. Frerichs conducted surveillance on the suspect and another subject. After some time, he contacted both subjects and found the suspect recorded only one steelhead on his tag and the other subject did not have a license or tag. The suspect said he retained two steelhead earlier and forgot to tag the second one. A search of the suspect's vehicle located three additional steelhead. The suspect advised he caught and filleted another steelhead and gave it away. Frerichs cited the suspect for **Continuing to Angle after Retaining a Daily Bag Limit, Fail to Validate Salmon—Steelhead Tag**, and **Unlawful Possession of Steelhead** and the other subject for **No Resident Salmon—Steelhead Tag**.

On the South Umpqua River around Canyonville, a complainant informed Sr. Tpr. Merritt (Roseburg) that a subject caught a steelhead earlier that morning at a location farther downriver and left and returned later and continued fishing. When Merritt arrived at the location, the suspect was not in the area. While checking anglers, the suspect again returned, and another witness pointed him out. Merritt contacted the suspect and checked his tag, noting it lacked any entries. While Merritt inspected the tag, the suspect asked to borrow the trooper's pen to fill out his tag. The suspect admitted to both catching a steelhead that morning, but he could not find a pen to fill out his tag, and returning to the Canyonville area. Merritt cited the suspect for **Fail to Validate Steelhead Tag**, and the suspect became upset. Merritt explained he caught the steelhead 2½ hours prior to the contact and had returned to town twice, leaving him plenty of opportunity to validate his tag.

# Wildlife / Hunting



Swans illegally killed and dumped (left). Photo credit: File

## Swans Killed and Dumped

The Division is asking for the public's help to identify and locate the person(s) responsible for the unlawful take and waste of two Tundra swans in the Burns area in March. Taking swans at any time is unlawful in Oregon. On March 25, Tpr. McClay (Burns) responded to the Burns Christian Church to investigate the report of two birds illegally dumped in the church's garbage cans. McClay identified the birds as Tundra swans and determined they were shot on or about March 24 with a small caliber firearm. The birds were then dumped by an unknown person(s) in the church's garbage cans. Anyone with information regarding this investigation is asked to contact Tpr. McClay at (541) 589-0486, or the Turn in Poachers (TIP) hotline at 1-800-452-7888. Information may be reported anonymously.

## Troopers Located Goose Violations

Tpr. Imholt (Springfield) received a report of hunters shooting at geese and the shot pellets would fall and hit the house behind them. Upon contact, he informed the suspects their pellets were hitting houses. Imholt also noticed they had not filled out their harvest cards, even though they harvested three cackler geese. Imholt cited both suspects for **Failure to Immediately Validate Goose Harvest Card** and told them to be more careful with the direction they were shooting.

Sr. Tpr. Maher (Springfield) checked hunters leaving a field south of Fern Ridge Wildlife Area. One subject presented a 2011 resident hunting license but said he moved from Arkansas about two months ago. He also did not have a NW Goose Zone Permit. Another subject said he left his license, permit, and federal waterfowl stamp at home. During the contact, a third subject Maher observed walking the field's perimeter and was told looking for a "cripple" arrived. When asked if he found the "cripple," the subject adamantly denied goose hunting and said he was hunting crows. At the end of the contact, Maher cited the first subject for **Possession of Falsely Applied for Resident Hunting License and No NW Goose Zone Permit**, the second for **No Hunting License in Possession and No NW Goose Zone Permit/Harvest Report Form in Possession**, and the third for **No Hunting License in Possession and Hunting Crows Closed Season**.

## Bobcat Trappers Out of Compliance

Tpr. Burkholder (Albany) received a complaint of a female subject trying to check in four bobcats at ODFW after the deadline for bobcat check-in. Burkholder contacted the subject who said she thought she had 10 days to check the bobcats in, not five. Burkholder subsequently seized all four bobcat hides and skulls and cited the subject for **Unlawful Possession of Bobcat with No Ownership Tag**.

Tpr. Imholt (Springfield) met a trapper at the Springfield ODFW office checking in three otters and one bobcat. The trapper was under the impression he had five days to check in his bobcat after the end of trapping season instead of five days within the end of bobcat season. ODFW will not affix an ownership tag on a bobcat that is outside of the five-day check-in time. Imholt cited the trapper for **Unlawful Possession of Bobcat with No Ownership Tag** and seized the bobcat.

Tpr. McClay (Burns) was informed of a bobcat and a coyote caught in leghold traps along Hwy 20 near Juntura. He found the captured bobcat and observed one of its rear legs caught in a steel trap with multiple compound fractures to the leg. McClay dispatched the cat because of its injuries and seized the trap. The coyote was also in bad condition, and he dispatched the coyote and seized that trap. McClay identified and contacted the owner of the traps, issuing the owner a citation for **Taking Bobcat Closed Season** and a warning for Fail to Inspect Traps.

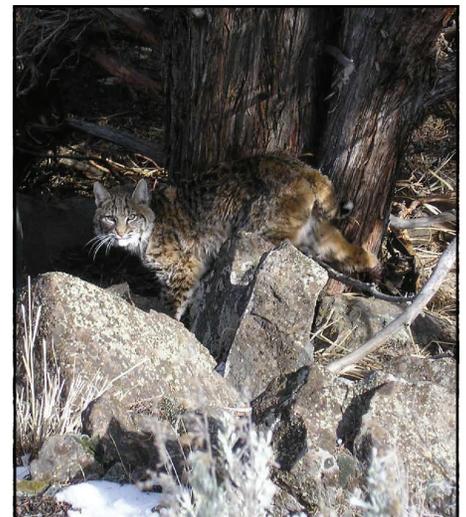
## Wildlife Issues Handled

Sr. Tpr. Cushman (Central Point) pulled up to a car that appeared to be disabled only to find the driver had an owl that she had picked up. Cushman took the wounded owl to an ODFW volunteer who took it to a rehabilitation facility for evaluation and treatment.

Tpr. Stone (Roseburg) contacted a trapper after conducting surveillance and noted violations. The subject is a licensed trapper and was very honest and cooperative during the contact. As a result of the investigation, Stone issued the trapper a citation for **Unlawful Taking of Gray Squirrel Closed Season** and warnings for several violations.

Sr. Tpr. Niehus (Klamath Falls) responded to a residence at the homeowner's request to pick up a red-eared slider turtle. A renter brought the slider with him, and when the homeowner evicted him, he left it. The homeowner knew it was unlawful to possess the slider and called to self-report. Niehus seized the turtle and warned the homeowner for Possession of a Prohibited Species.

Sr. Tpr. Collom (Central Point) received a call about a store selling illegal antlers and feathers. He went into the store and discovered several sets of deer antlers attached to the skull, some shed antlers, and several canes with some type of raptor feathers. Collom contacted the store's owner. After issuing the owner a warning, Collom educated him on what wildlife parts he could and could not sell and advised him about getting an antler dealer permit.



Bobcat caught in trap. Photo credit: File

# Wildlife / Hunting

## Privileges Revoked for Life

Sr. Tpr. Niehus and Sr. Tpr. Randall (Klamath Falls) contacted a Klamath Falls subject to inform him his hunting license had been suspended for life through the Interstate Compact. California caught the subject falsely applying for resident licenses in their state and, as a result of their investigation, suspended his hunting privileges for life in California. The subject's privileges were then suspended through the Interstate Compact in Oregon. State officials sent the subject notification of the revocation via certified mail which he refused. The troopers made a personal notification to ensure the subject knew he could not hunt in Oregon.

## Cougar Determined Safety Risk

A neighbor contacted Sr. Tpr. Spencer (Patrol, Baker City) and advised Spencer's horses were acting agitated. The neighbor later observed a cougar in Spencer's backyard and shot at it twice, missing it. Spencer responded home and found cougar tracks on his property, but he was unable to locate the cat. A short time later, the neighbor re-contacted Spencer and advised the cougar was in Spencer's backyard again. Spencer located the cat and, after a short standoff, dispatched it. Spencer and the neighbor determined the cougar had been living nearby under a house. Residents had observed the cougar several times in the area and domestic cats were starting to come up missing. Sgt. Cyr and Sr. Tpr. Duncan (Baker City) responded and transported the cougar to ODFW.



Cougar determined safety risk. Photo credit: File

## Deer Shot for Eating Bird Seed

Sgt. Cyr (Baker City) completed his investigation into a subject that was shooting deer on his property with a pellet rifle. Neighbors had observed the subject shoot at deer that were eating his bird seed, and they noticed several injured deer in the area. They watched the subject shoot a doe and a fawn in the leg, and the doe was discovered dead on the property a short time later with a festered wound on one knee. Cyr located and seized the air rifle which was rated at over 1,000 feet per second. After interviewing the suspect at the Baker City office, Cyr cited him for **Taking Deer Closed Season** and **Harassing Wildlife**.

## Suspect Possessed "Road-Struck" 5 x 6 Elk

Tpr. Ritter (John Day) received a report that an unknown suspect harvested a large bull on the John Day River. The bull had been seen earlier and was possibly sick or injured. During the investigation, a subject called Ritter as he heard Ritter was looking for him and wanted to talk about the elk. When contacted, the suspect said he found the elk dead, and it appeared vehicle-struck. He pulled the elk up the riverbank with his backhoe, took it home, and salvaged it. The meat was not yet wrapped and in two refrigerators. Ritter could not determine if the elk had been shot. He cited the suspect for **Illegal Possession of Bull Elk** and seized the meat and head with attached 5 x 6 antlers. Upon adjudication, ODFW will mount the large antlers for display.

## Bull Elk Illegally Taken in Closed Season

Tpr. Peterson (Tillamook) responded to south Tillamook County where two subjects were hunting elk with antlerless tags. He determined the subjects shot two cow elk and accidentally shot a 4 x 4 bull in the process. After Peterson recovered a bullet from the bull, he identified the shooter. Peterson cited the subject for **Taking Bull Elk Closed Season** and salvaged and seized the bull elk.

Sr. Tpr. Marshall Maher (Oakridge), Sr. Tpr. Martin Maher (Springfield), and Tpr. Baimbridge (Roseburg) began an investigation in November regarding the unlawful taking of elk in northern Douglas County. Troopers identified and contacted two Lane County suspects and determined they were responsible for the unlawful taking of two elk. The troopers cited one suspect for **Taking Bull Elk Closed Season x 2** and the other suspect for **Aiding in a Game Offense**.

Tpr. Olsen (Salem) investigated a report of several subjects with landowner preference tags (LOP) in Polk County hunting and trespassing on neighboring property. Olsen, Tpr. Freitag, and Tpr. Andrews (Salem) contacted several suspects. During the investigation, the troopers learned two elk had been legally taken that morning with LOP tags, but one elk was taken on neighboring property. The troopers cited three suspects for **Hunting in Violation of Criminal Trespass** and one suspect for **Taking Elk Closed Area** and seized the elk.

## Suspects Attempted to Hide Mistake

Dispatch received multiple calls regarding a group of subjects who shot at and killed multiple elk, including at least one bull, in Birkenfeld. Tpr. Herman (Astoria) and Tpr. Vogel (St. Helens) responded and found a truck at a residence with one cow elk and two bull elk with freshly cut off antlers in the bed. Three subjects with the truck had three landowner preference (LOP) cow tags. The subjects stated they shot the two bulls on accident, thinking they were cows. They also said they had not cut off the antlers; they were cut off before they shot them. The subjects eventually admitted to shooting the bulls inadvertently; and once they realized they were bulls, they tried to conceal the fact by cutting off the antlers and throwing them in the Nehalem River. The subjects stated they were planning on keeping all three elk but were going to give away some meat. The troopers cited two of the subjects criminally for **Take/Possess Bull Elk Closed Season** and the third subject criminally for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation—Take/Possess Bull Elk Closed Season** and seized the two bull elk and two rifles.



Antlers cut off bulls to disguise mistake. Photo credit: File

# General Law

## Suspicious at Boat Landing Found Drugs

Tpr. Stone (Roseburg) observed a suspicious vehicle parked at a boat landing along the North Umpqua River with three young adult males inside. Upon contact, the operator was nervous and made furtive movements near his feet. Upon further investigation, Stone noted several baggies of marijuana and packaging material inside the vehicle. A search revealed digital scales, two smoking devices, four baggies of green marijuana, and two pill containers not belonging anyone in the vehicle. One container had 16 hydrocodone pills that the suspect stated belonged to his grandfather who allegedly died about a year ago. Stone cited the operator for **Unlawful Possession Schedule II Substance—Hydrocodone** and **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana** and forwarded additional charges to the Douglas County DA.

## Suspect Resisted Arrest

Sr. Tpr. Gardner (Pendleton) was dispatched to US 730 at US 395 near Umatilla for an intoxicated male was walking back and forth across the highway, not only causing a traffic hazard but endangering himself. Gardner arrived on scene and observed the subject slowly walking across US 730, causing traffic to stop and slowly drive around him. When he reached the north side of the highway, the subject walked back to the middle of the westbound slow lane and walked east, causing more vehicles to stop and drive around him. Eventually, after some resistance, Gardner and Sgt. Cooney (Patrol) took the suspect into custody for **Disorderly Conduct** and **Resisting Arrest**.

## Felon Posted Photos Online with Firearms and Game

Members of the Central Point Team served a search warrant on a house in Medford. The suspect was a convicted felon from another state who had a business in Oregon. In the course of his employment, the suspect created an internet social media page on which he posted pictures of himself posing with big game mammals and firearms. Sr. Tpr. Allison obtained the search warrant. Allison, Lt. Gifford, Sgt. Meyer, Sr. Tpr. Cushman, Sr. Tpr. Floyd, and Evidence Tech Parrish served the warrant and contacted the suspect at his front door. A search resulted in locating a black-powder pistol, ammunition, firearm cleaning supplies, and a computer with photos. The troopers packages of game meat and a 4 x 2 deer skull that matched a picture of the suspect kneeling behind the dead deer with a rifle. Meyer and Cushman contacted a relative at a different location and talked to him about the situation. When Cushman returned to the office, this relative's wife called on the phone crying. When the suspect heard OSP was investigating him, he took his rifles to the relative's house. Cushman and Gifford returned to the relative's house and seized two rifles and a shotgun. The troopers lodged the suspect for **Convicted Felon in Possession of Firearms x 4** and **Unlawful Possession of Big Game Parts x 2**.



Respectable bull elk grazing. Photo credit: Onwuma/Flickr/CC

## Suspect Trespassed on Private Property and Damaged Landowner's Gate

Sr. Tpr. Cushman and Sr. Tpr. Allison (Central Point) received a complaint of vandalism to privately owned property located in the Ashland area. The area is well known to Division troopers due to the large number of elk and deer that inhabit the region. The damage occurred on an access road adjacent to an irrigation ditch. Cushman and the property owner were waiting for Allison prior to the second gate. The landowner stated when his ranch manager found the first gate open, she closed and secured the gate, and then contacted the landowner. The landowner said he walked down the ditch road that morning, found the destroyed second gate, and called OSP. He figured the damage was done around Friday night and estimated at about \$1,500. All three walked west along the road until they came to the second gate. Smashed into the dirt road just past where the gate had been mounted was an Oregon license plate. The wood posts of the gate had been ripped from the ground due to the force of the impact of the vehicle. The metal gate was damaged beyond repair and lying on the west side of the road. They also noted fresh tire tracks along the road and fresh drag marks down the center of the road. At a 90-degree left corner, they found part of the fence assembly that left the drag marks. Tire tread tracks showed that the vehicle turned around at the corner. Cushman ran a records check and found the vehicle was registered out of Crescent Lake.

Allison and Sr. Tpr. Thompson (Central Point) later located the suspect vehicle on South Peach Street in Medford. The troopers noted the sport-utility vehicle (SUV) had a missing front license plate and visible impact damage to the front, and the tire tread pattern matched tracks found at the scene. Allison alternated interviewing the suspects, with Thompson standing with the subject not being questioned. The interviews were lengthy and time-consuming, due to the reluctance of the suspects to give a logical statement. Both of their stories were inconsistent and vague. Cushman arrived at the location with the piece of damaged gate. He held the metal pipe up to the front bumper of the suspect vehicle, and the bend in the pipe matched the contours of the bumper. The vehicle also had paint scratches across the hood and fenders which were consistent with crashing through a steel and wire gate. The troopers took photos and continued their investigation. Thompson and Allison later contacted the suspect at her residence. She was in the process of moving out of her house, as she had been evicted. She again denied driving the SUV that night, placing the blame on another person. She also claimed she had memory loss and could not remember events or times. She told Allison that between her medication and using drugs, she could not remember the chain of events the night the property was damaged. The troopers lodged her in the Jackson County Jail for **Criminal Mischief I, Criminal Mischief II, Trespass II, and Fail to Perform the Duties of a Driver—Property Damage**.

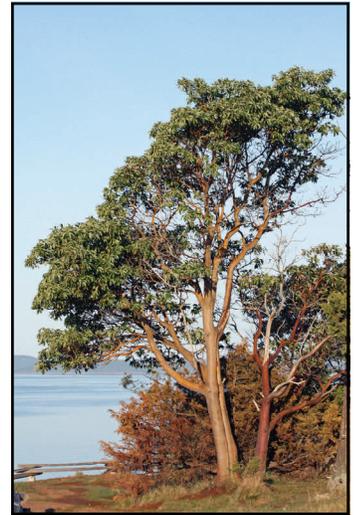
# Environment / ATV / General Law

## Habitat and Trespass Laws Enforced

Sr. Tpr. Frerichs (Roseburg) contacted two subjects who were utilizing a large water pump and sluice box washing mining material on Cow Creek outside of Riddle. The muddy wastewater from the operation was going directly into Cow Creek that is designated as essential salmon habitat by ODFW. Frerichs warned both subjects warned for the permit violations under DEQ and DSL.

Sr. Tpr. Maher (Springfield) finished up an investigation where a subject trespassed on timber company land south of Cottage Grove Reservoir, illegally cut and removed several standing madrone trees, and cut the trees into firewood. The illegally taken firewood was stored at the suspect's residence. Maher cited the suspect for **Unlawful Cutting of Special Forest Products**. The timber company chose not to seek prosecution for Theft or Criminal Trespass. Maher seized less than a cord of firewood and released it to the timber company.

Tpr. Ritter (John Day) received a call from a ranch that a pickup was parked on Holmes Creek Road where the road is bordered on both sides by ranch property. Ritter responded and performed an area search. The pickup owner came back to the road a short time later at a location where BLM land borders the road. He initially said he and his friend had not accessed BLM property by trespassing across the ranch. The second suspect came back to the vehicle a short time after that. After interviewing both suspects, Ritter determined they trespassed on ranch property to access BLM ground. After conferring with the ranch manager, Ritter cited the suspects for **Criminal Trespass II**. Both suspects had large elk shed antlers in their possession.



Madrone trees. Photo credit: W. Siegmund/CC

## Subjects Caught DWS

Sgt. Martin (Springfield) contacted three subjects in a vehicle four-wheeling on a BLM road causing unlawful damage. During the contact, Martin learned the operator was misdemeanor suspended. He cited the subject for **DWS—Misdemeanor**.

Tpr. Clement (Albany) contacted two anglers at E.E. Wilson Pond. A records check revealed both subjects' driving privileges were criminally suspended. The owner of the associated vehicle admitted he drove to the pond and added he had a hardship permit. E.E. Wilson Pond was not on the authorized route for the suspect to drive, and the permit did not allow him to drive to go fishing. Clement cited the subject for **DWS—Felony**.

## Suspects Led Troopers on Pursuits

Tpr. Freitag (Salem) assisted Tpr. Ward (Patrol) with a traffic stop on I-5 that led to a pursuit that resulted in the suspect vehicle colliding with another vehicle and a tree inside the city of Salem and the suspect fleeing on foot. Eventually, the troopers apprehended the suspect and lodged the suspect in the Marion County Jail on **Felony Elude, Misdemeanor Elude, DUII—Controlled Substance, Reckless Driving, Resisting Arrest, Assault III x 2, Assault IV x 2, and Offensive Littering**.

While sitting at a traffic light, Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) noticed the driver in the vehicle next to him look at him and the marked door of his pickup. After the light turned green, the driver sped off. Boyd was able to pace the suspect at 90 mph in a 55 mph zone. The suspect also failed to drive within his lane of travel and was slow to yield. After Boyd stopped the suspect, he noted the suspect showed signs of impairment and failed SFSTs. Boyd took the suspect into custody and transported him to the Springfield Jail, .09% BAC. He cited and released the suspect for **DUII—Alcohol, ESL 90/55, and Fail to Drive within Lane**.

## Trooper Arrested One of Umatilla County's Most Wanted

Sr. Tpr. Connell (Hermiston) observed a suspicious vehicle in front of a gas station in Boardman. He recognized a passenger sleeping in the back seat as being on the Umatilla County's most wanted list. The driver of the vehicle appeared to be avoiding eye contact, so Connell went inside the gas station. When Connell came out, the vehicle had left. He relocated it back behind a business across the street. The vehicle was moving, and no one was wearing a seatbelt, so Connell stopped the vehicle. He asked the passenger for identification, and the passenger said he had none. He asked the passenger to step from the vehicle; and, as he did, a small bundle of methamphetamine fell out on the ground. The passenger fled on foot when Connell asked about the ownership of the bundle. Connell secured the vehicle by obtaining the keys from the driver. The passenger who fled ran into a sandy desert area and had run about two city blocks in the sand before he stopped, exhausted. Connell drove to his location and took him into custody. He discovered the passenger was in possession of additional bundles of methamphetamine. A records check found the passenger had four warrants for his arrest. Connell transported the passenger to the Umatilla County Jail, charging him with **UPCS—Methamphetamine, Felony Warrant for Possession of Controlled Substance—Methamphetamine (Umatilla County Circuit), FTA—Misdemeanor (Umatilla County Circuit), FTP—Misdemeanor (Umatilla County Circuit), and FTP—Misdemeanor (Irrigation Justice Court)**.

## Stop Found Wildlife Parts and Drugs

Sgt. Williams (Patrol) attempted to stop a vehicle for a speed violation on I-84 near Ontario. The vehicle failed to yield and attempted to elude pursuing troopers at speeds reaching 80 mph. The troopers deployed spike strips, deflating both front tires, and the driver went off the freeway and into a fence. During the stop, the troopers found mule deer antlers and osprey talons in the vehicle. Tpr. Spencer (Ontario) responded and charged the subject for **Unlawful Possession of Mule Deer Antlers and Unlawful Possession of Protected Bird Parts**. Spencer determined both the deer and osprey were unlawfully killed by the suspect in California. Troopers found the suspect also possessed about a quarter-pound of marijuana. Patrol troopers arrested the subject and lodged him in the Malheur County Jail for **Felony Attempt to Elude, Unlawful Possession/Distribution/Manufacture of Marijuana, Reckless Driving, and Criminal Mischief Second Degree**.

# Interagency / Public Relations

## SO Took Impaired Driver into Custody

Sr. Tpr. Reid (McMinnville) worked the trout opener at Henry Hagg Lake. During his patrol, he stopped a subject in a vehicle for a traffic violation and found the driver was extremely intoxicated. Washington County SO was nearby, and they took the driver into custody. During the angling patrol, Reid contacted over 69 anglers who were all in compliance. Anglers noticed the high visibility of Division troopers on the lake, and Reid received numerous positive comments from the public.



Troopers often conduct boat patrols with other agencies. Photo credit: File

## Joint Boat Patrols Conducted

Tpr. Herman (Astoria) conducted a joint boat patrol on the Columbia River with Clatsop County SO Deputy Phillips. During the patrol, officers contacted 17 boats, 36 anglers, and six goose hunters and issued multiple warnings for various violations. Herman issued one citation for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation—No Valid 2011 Combined Angling Harvest Card** and two Marine Board-related citations.

Tpr. Herman (Astoria) performed another enforcement joint boat patrol on the Columbia River with Clatsop County SO Deputy Phillips. During this patrol, they contacted 16 boats and 46 anglers and gave out numerous warnings. Herman issued one citation for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation—No Valid 2011 Combined Angling Harvest Card** and one Marine Board-related citation.

## Two Suspects Cited for Trespassing on Ranches

Tpr. Ritter (John Day) assisted Wheeler County SO with a trespass complaint on two ranch properties between John Day and Mitchell. Ritter and the SO contacted a subject and determined that he had been trespassing on two separate ranch properties while antler hunting that day. At the ranch owners' request, the suspect was cited and released for **Criminal Trespass II**. A short time later, officers contacted a second suspect after he returned to the highway and determined that he had been trespassing. During the interview, officers discovered that he hid a 9mm pistol and some antlers in the brush after he became aware law enforcement was in the area. He said he hid the firearm, because he knew having the firearm was a more serious offense if he was caught with it while trespassing. The firearm was seized and the suspect was cited for **Criminal Trespass while in Possession of a Firearm**.

## Division Worked Squatter Case with BLM

Tpr. Imholt, Tpr. Boyd (Springfield), and BLM Ranger Cox worked a case involving a subject who had been squatting on BLM land for the last year. The officers ordered the suspect to clean up his garbage and vacate the area. Cox cited the suspect for **Violating the 14-Day Camping Rule on BLM**.

## OSP and USCG Conducted Search on Vessel

Tpr. Keeler (Coos Bay) received a call from USCG personnel regarding a commercial fishing vessel that reportedly contained drugs and weapons. Keeler and USCG personnel contacted the vessel and escorted it into the Port of Charleston. When officers searched the vessel, they did not locate any drugs or weapons; however, a check of the skipper's crab logbook determined he had not completed an entry for his last delivery. Keeler cited the skipper for **Fail to Complete Crab Logbook**.

## Division Troopers Worked Tsunami Evacuation

Multiple Division troopers responded to assist with the tsunami warning issued by NOAA after the Japan earthquake in March. When the Lincoln County Emergency Operation Center (EOC) was activated, Sr. Tpr. Kehr, Sr. Tpr. Urbigkeit, Tpr. Van Meter, and Sgt. Thompson (Newport) assisted with the tsunami evacuation in Lincoln County. Tillamook troopers worked with the Tillamook County SO on evacuation and patrol during the tsunami warnings issued for the Tillamook coast. Sgt. Hoodenpyl (Tillamook) manned the EOC with other members of the Tillamook County SO.

## City PDs Assisted with Locating Wanted Subject

Sr. Tpr. Harris (Coos Bay) contacted a subject angling at Upper Empire Lake. When Harris broke contact and ran a records check on the subject, the results revealed the subject had a felony arrest warrant. While returning to re-contact the subject, Harris heard crashing through the brush, and he could not immediately find the subject. Coos Bay PD used a tracking dog to assist with locating the subject, and North Bend PD helped establish a perimeter. At the subject's residence, Tpr. Mullins (Patrol) eventually located and arrested the subject. Harris' further investigation resulted in also charging the subject with **Possession of a Falsely Applied for 2011 Resident Angling License**.

## WDFW Cited Suspect in Residency Case

Sr. Tpr. Collom (Central Point) worked a license/tag residency case with WDFW. During the investigation, when he attempted to locate and contact the suspect, Collom was never able to find the suspect in Oregon. Collom did speak to the suspect's parents who live at the address the suspect used to obtain a resident angling license in 2010; however, his parents said he lived most of the year in Washington and comes home every so often. The parents could not give Collom the exact dates their son was home. Collom advised WDFW about his findings. In March, WDFW found the suspect in Ellensburg, Washington, where they cited him for **Unlawful Purchase of a License (2009), Unlawful Purchase of a License (2010), Fail to Obtain Washington Driver License, and No Federal Waterfowl Stamp**.

# Interagency / Public Relations

## Landowner Meeting Addressed Issues

Tpr. Van Meter (Newport) attended a South Beaver Creek landowner meeting coordinated by the Wetlands Conservancy District (WCD). WCD purchased two large parcels of land in the area within the last year and wanted to hold a meeting to allow landowner to familiarize themselves with these parcels. The goal was also to generate a better relationship between the landowners in that area. Van Meter spoke to the landowners regarding trespass issues and proper signage for property boundaries. The South Beaver Creek area also had an increase in hunting complaints during recent elk and waterfowl seasons. The meeting addressed these issues.



Troopers speaking to the public at an event. Photo credit: File

## Division Troopers Spoke to Youth

Sr. Tpr. Bennett (Grants Pass) gave a two-hour presentation regarding hunter safety to about 20 kids.

Tpr. Stone (Roseburg) was a guest speaker for a Hunter Education class at the Roseburg Rod and Gun Club. About 25 parents and students were in attendance.

Sgt. Thompson and Sr. Tpr. Urbigkeit (Newport) attended Toledo High School's Career Day. They gave a presentation outlining the Division. Over 100 students attended the four sessions.

Sgt. Thompson and Tpr. Van Meter (Newport) gave a presentation to a fifth grade class at the Newport Intermediate School. The talk focused on animal adaptations and how wildlife is utilized today as compared to the past and the need for regulations. About 35 kids participated.

Sr. Tpr. Van Prooyen (Gold Beach) presented a one-hour talk regarding the WED program, hunter ethics, and outdoor safety to a Hunter Education class in Gold Beach. Present during the talk were approximately 15 students, a circuit court judge, and three parents. The presentation was well received by all in attendance.

Sr. Tpr. Gardner (Pendleton) spoke at a Hunter Education class in Hermiston and advised there was a large attendance of young hunters and parents at the event. Gardner fielded several questions regarding landowner trespass and landowners who do not allow hunters to retrieve game that crossed onto their property. He had additional inquiries about USFS employees checking hunters in the field for licenses and tags.

## Participated in Law Enforcement Panel

Sgt. Martin (Springfield) participated in a law enforcement panel along with deputies from Lane, Linn, and Marion Counties; a BLM Ranger; and a USFS LEO. The US Army Corp of Engineers hosted the meeting that also included Oregon State Parks, USFS, and BLM representatives from various regions in western Oregon. The panel answered questions regarding the respective agency's roles, available resources, problem areas, enforcement and education philosophies, and growing trends.

## Interagency and Groups Meetings Attended

Sr. Tpr. Bennett, Sr. Tpr. Marchand (Grants Pass), and Sgt. Withers (Roseburg) attended a three-hour OHA meeting in Grants Pass.

Sr. Tpr. Thompson (Central Point) gave the monthly update at the local OHA meeting. About 60 members were in attendance.

Sr. Tpr. Thompson (Central Point) attended the monthly area biologist's breakfast meeting in Medford.

Sr. Tpr. Harris (Coos Bay) attended a multi-agency pre-season meeting to address Snowy Plover issues at the Coos Bay BLM office.

Sgt. Hand (Klamath Falls) attended Dog Training Advisory Group meetings that ODFW set up to discuss and remedy issues surrounding wildlife releases and dog training. Some progress is being made.

Tpr. Van Meter (Newport) attended the Longview Hill Fishing Club meeting. She gave a presentation on "How We Protect Your Investment" to cover Division and fishing-related enforcement operations in Lincoln County. About 20 members attended.

## Trailer of Shame Displayed at Banquets

Tpr. Freitag and Tpr. Andrews (Salem) took the Trailer of Shame to the OHA Capitol chapter annual banquet. Several hundred people were in attendance, and the trailer was well received. The troopers answered many questions regarding the trailer and hunting and fishing laws.

Tpr. Freitag (Salem) and Sr. Tpr. Halsey (Albany) took the Trailer of Shame to Jefferson Baptist Church's annual sportsmen's banquet. Approximately 800 people were in attendance, and the trailer was well received. The troopers answered many questions regarding the trailer and hunting and fishing laws.



A side view of Trailer of Shame. 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.*



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