

Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division

The Field Review



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

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Monitoring Compliances Protects and Enhances Long-Term Health of Wildlife and Habitats

In the early 1900s, the U.S. wild turkey population experienced a severe decline (and extinction in some states) due to habitat destruction, lack of regulations, and overharvesting. In the 1950s, after decades of research and unsuccessful attempts at releasing pen-raised turkeys, wildlife agencies nationwide found success trapping and transplanting wild turkeys to help restore or establish populations to huntable levels. ODFW reported an estimated 5.6 million turkeys are present in the U.S. Per North American Wild Turkey Federation, the “comeback of wild turkeys in North America is arguably the greatest conservation success story in history.”



Merriam's wild turkey strutting. Photo credit: NWTF

Oregon presently supports two of the five North American wild turkey subspecies, Rio Grande and Merriam's; however, wild turkeys are not native to our state. Oregon introduced turkeys beginning in 1961, first with wild-trapped Merriam's and then Rio Grande in 1975. The Merriam's population grew quickly but later stabilized at lower numbers; however, the Rio Grande adapted surprisingly well to Oregon's various habitats, resulting in a widespread growth and establishment. Hence, Oregon's turkey management plan focuses more on the Rio Grande, and our state continues to supplement natural expansion with a trap and transplant program. Turkeys are now found in nearly every county, and their numbers and distribution should continue to expand. Since the statewide spring season opened in 1987, turkey hunting has increased tenfold. Hunting seasons occur both in the spring and the fall, and ODFW reported potential regulation changes could provide additional hunting opportunities.

To ensure compliance with turkey hunting laws and regulations that protect and enhance the species' long-term health comes enforcement. The following are some of the March turkey cases the Division made:

Sr. Tpr. Bennett (Grants Pass) and Sr. Tpr. Thompson (Central Point) responded to a complaint of a subject who shot at a turkey out of season and was reportedly drunk and a wanted felon out of California. Upon contact, the suspect initially admitted to shooting the turkeys to scare them away from his poaching neighbor (the complainant). The troopers noticed if the suspect would have shot as described, he would have scared them right to his neighbor's residence. The troopers located turkey feathers and blood in the area. When the troopers advised the suspect what they could do to determine if the blood belonged to a turkey, the suspect admitted to shooting at one of two turkeys that wandered through his yard and said that the opportunity presented itself, he took it knowing he should not. The troopers cited the suspect for **Taking Wild Turkey Closed Season** and seized the turkey meat as evidence.

Tpr. Ritter (John Day) received a complaint from a Heppner Unit landowner that unknown suspect(s) shot from a public road at turkeys on her property during a 2011 rifle buck hunt. She was particularly upset, because two of her daughters were in the vicinity. Ritter recently located and contacted the suspects who both live near Portland. He determined suspect #1 shot at turkeys on the victim's fenced property from the public road and did not see the children. He also learned suspect #2 moved to Oregon in December 2011 and had applied for Oregon resident licenses and tags for the prior seven years while residing in Washington. Ritter issued criminal citations to suspect #1 for **Hunting on the Enclosed Land of Another, Hunting Turkeys Closed Season, and Hunting from a Public Roadway** and suspect #2 for **False Application for 2010 and 2011 Oregon Resident Hunting License, False Application for 2010 Oregon Resident Elk Tag, False Application for 2010 and 2011 Oregon Resident Deer Tag, and False Application for 2010 and 2011 Oregon Resident Angling License**. Tpr. Reel (Portland) served the citations to the suspects.

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) responded to a report of a male who shot a turkey in a Veneta neighborhood, and the witness photographed and video-recorded most of the incident. Boyd contacted the juvenile suspect who advised he shot a “wounded turkey” with his pellet gun, and the turkey ran across the street where a city worker killed it and hauled it off. After discussing the circumstances, Boyd warned the subject for **Hunting Turkey Closed Season** and **Hunting in City Limits** and instructed him to notify authorities in the future. After contacting the city and verifying they picked up a turkey, Boyd left the scene, parked nearby, and reviewed the witness' photos. He discovered additional details including a second turkey not mentioned. Boyd re-questioned the suspect and determined he shot two turkeys with his .22 rimfire rifle. The suspect rode with Boyd to recover the meat of the second turkey at his father's residence and the carcass he dumped on private property. Boyd cited the suspect for **Unlawful Possession of Turkey—Take Closed Season**, warned him for **Offensive Littering** and **Hunting inside the City Limits**, and seized the turkey and rifle.

For more information on turkeys, visit ODFW at http://www.dfw.state.or.us/resources/hunting/upland_bird/species/wild-turkey.asp and National Wild Turkey Federation, a nonprofit conservation and hunting organization, at <http://www.nwtf.org/>.

Dispositions / General Law

John Day Troops Received Dispositions

Tpr. Ritter (John Day) cited three suspects for Placing Offensive Substances in or near Waters during the 2011 Murderers Creek rifle elk hunt. All three pled guilty, and the court sentenced each to a \$1,000 fine.

Tpr. McClay (John Day) worked an investigation in December 2011 when a suspect killed a cow elk after the hunt ended. The suspect was charged with Illegal Possession of Elk and Taking Elk Closed Season. The court sentenced the suspect to 36 months hunting license suspension, \$1,750 fine, 12 months probation, and 40 hours community service.

Tpr. Ritter (John Day) cited a subject for three counts of Hunting on the Enclosed Land of Another during the 2011 Northside archery elk hunt. The suspect pled guilty to one count, and the court dismissed the other two counts. The court sentenced the suspect to 36 months hunting license suspension, \$500 fine, 12 months probation, and 40 hours community service.

Tpr. Ritter (John Day) cited a subject for Hunting on the Enclosed Land of Another and for Hunting Outside of Controlled Hunt Area during the 2011 Northside buck deer rifle hunt. The suspect pled guilty to Hunting on the Enclosed Land of Another, and the other charge was dismissed. The court sentenced the suspect to 36 months hunting license suspension, \$500 fine, 12 months probation, and 40 hours community service.

Tpr. Ritter (John Day) cited a subject for Hunting Buck Deer without a Nonresident Hunting License and for Criminal Trespass while in Possession of a Firearm during the 2011 Northside rifle buck deer hunt. The suspect pled guilty to Hunting Buck Deer without a Nonresident Hunting License, and the court dismissed the other charge. The court sentenced the suspect to 36 months hunting license suspension, \$500 fine, 12 months probation, and 40 hours community service.

\$15,000 Restitution Included for One Suspect Sentenced

Sr. Tpr. McNeil and Sr. Tpr. Duncan (Baker City) worked an elk case during the 2011 bow season involving a bow hunter killing a trophy bull without a valid bow elk tag. The suspect then involved several others in aiding him during this offense. Baker County Circuit Court found the first suspect guilty of Unlawful Take of Bull Elk and sentenced the first suspect to three years hunting license suspension, 180 days jail with 178 suspended, 18 months bench probation, 40 hours of community service, \$227 fines/fees, and **\$15,000 restitution** to ODFW for trophy class bull elk. The court found a second suspect guilty of Aiding in a Wildlife Offense and a third suspect guilty of Loaning a Bull Elk Tag and sentenced each to a \$145 fine. During the course of the investigation, the troopers found a fourth suspect involved had wasted a deer and dumped it by a local waterway. The court found the fourth suspect guilty of Placing Offensives Substances and sentenced the suspect to 12 months probation, 20 hours of community service, \$1,134 fines/fees, and \$800 restitution to ODFW.

Troopers Caught Wanted Criminals

Tpr. Andrews (Salem) stopped a car being driven erratically on I-5. Andrews identified the subject and learned he was a **Fugitive from Justice** out of Washington. The subject was arrested with the assistance of Tpr. Burkholder (Albany) and Tpr. Olson (Patrol). A probable cause search conducted on the vehicle revealed a user amount of marijuana. Andrews lodged the subject at Marion County Jail, issued him a citation for **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana** and seized the contraband.

Tpr. Reel, Tpr. Schoenborn, and Tpr. Borchers (Portland) conducted a boat patrol on the Willamette River. Reel contacted a male on the bank near Oaks Park sitting in the trees. The subject identified himself by his driver license. A records check revealed the subject had **six** outstanding arrest warrants out of Yamhill and Clackamas Counties. A search located marijuana on the suspect. The troopers lodged the suspect in jail on the **warrants** and cited him for **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana**.

Sr. Tpr. Halsey (Albany) and Sgt. Shugart (Salem) contacted a subject walking down a logging road. The subject first said a friend of his had gotten their vehicle stuck on a spur road while four-wheeling. The subject presented an Oregon identification card and then admitted he was alone and had driven the vehicle off the road, got stuck, and was walking out. The subject told the troopers he lied, because he knew he was not supposed to be driving. A wants check revealed the subject had an outstanding warrant for his arrest and his driving privileges were violation suspended. A search revealed a user amount of marijuana. The troopers lodged the subject on the **warrant** and cited him for **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana**.

Inside this Issue:

Feature Story	1
Dispositions	2
Environment / General Law	2
ATV / Trespass	3
Wildlife / Hunting	4
Commercial Fish / Shellfish	6
Marine Board	6
Sport Angling	7
Interagency Cooperation	8
Public Relations	9
Career Opportunity	10

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AIS	Aquatic Invasive Species	EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	Rct.	Recruit
ATV	All-Terrain Vehicle	FTA/FTP	Failure to Appear/Pay	Sgt.	Sgt.
BAC	Blood Alcohol Content	IDFG	Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game	SIU	Special Investigations Unit
BER	Boat Examination Report	LEO	Law Enforcement Officer	Sr.	Sr.
BLM	Bureau of Land Management	Lt.	Lieutenant	SO	Sheriff's Office
BUIH/DUIH/Boating/Driving Under		NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	TMA	Travel Management Area
DUID	Influence Intoxicants/Drugs	ODF	Department of Forestry	Tpr.	Trooper
Capt.	Captain	ODFW	Department of Fish and Wildlife	UPCS	Unlawful Possession of Controlled Substance
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game	ODOT	Department of Transportation	USCG	U.S. Coast Guard
DA/DDA	District Attorney/Deputy DA	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
DWS	Driving while Suspended			WED	Wildlife Enforcement Decoy

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Environment / General Law

Various Criminal Investigations Conducted

Sr. Tpr. Turnbo (McMinnville) was patrolling Willamette Mission State Park when he made contact with a subject who tried to drive his vehicle up and over a retaining wall and got stuck. Turnbo cited the operator for **Criminal Mischief III**.

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) and Rct. Wolcott (Patrol) followed up on a trespass case involving a subject who “four-wheeled” across a tree farm then onto another property ultimately getting stuck in a creek. The subject abandoned his heavily damaged vehicle high-centered on a large stump on the edge of a creek. The troopers contacted and interviewed the subject at his residence and cited him for **Criminal Trespass II in a Motor Vehicle**.

Sr. Tpr. Cushman (Central Point) contacted four male subjects in two flatbed trucks hauling firewood in the Battle Mountain area. One subject claimed to have a firewood cutting permit from a local timber company. Cushman determined the permit had been altered and was not valid. He cited the subject for **Unlawful Cutting and Transportation of Minor Forest Products** and additionally cited two subjects for **DWS** and **No Operator License**.

Tpr. Jewett (Heppner) received a report of two subjects who trespassed while shed horn hunting in the Walla Walla Unit on private property. The landowner and reporting party contacted the subjects leaving the property. The subjects refused to identify themselves and had three elk shed horns in possession. The complainants noted the subject’s vehicle license plate number. Jewett located and cited the subjects for **Criminal Trespass II** and seized the horns. Sgt. Brown (Pendleton) and Milton-Freewater PD assisted Jewett with the investigation.

Environmental Violations Found near Five Rivers

Tpr. Van Meter (Newport) completed an environmental investigation near Five Rivers in Lane County. She met the landowner along with two representatives from the Alsea Watershed Council at the location. The investigation revealed two years ago, council members met with the landowner regarding restoration on the property for salmon and beaver habitat from an old mill pond that had been decommissioned approximately 60 years ago. The area was now a wetland adjacent to Five Rivers, as essential salmonid habitat. At the time, funding was not available from the council, so nothing was completed. During the summer of 2011, the landowner decided to hire a contractor to move several hundred cubic yards of fill and created a dam in a portion of the wetland to make a pond. The pond appeared to be approximately two acres in size. The landowner had also pushed dirt around in the bottom of the pond to create several islands in the pond. The landowner instructed the contractor to divert a small tributary away from the wetland and to create a new channel that emptied directly into Five Rivers. In addition, an overflow pipe was installed from the pond into the Five Rivers, and rock rip rap was pulled from the banks of Five Rivers and positioned along the riverbank to support the overflow pipe. Van Meter cited the landowner for **Unlawful Fill and Removal** and warned him for permit requirements through Oregon Water Resources Department and fish passage rules through ODFW. Van Meter notified all associated agencies for follow-up action and permitting.

Trooper Assisted Driver who Ran out of Gas and Found Driver to be in Violation

Tpr. Tague (Central Point) was traveling on Butte Falls Highway when he observed a vehicle slowly coming to a stop in the roadway in the opposing lane. As he passed the vehicle, he observed the subject stop and turn the hazard lights on. Tague turned around and contacted the passenger, and he noted the driver was walking away. The passenger told Tague they ran out of gas. Although the driver saw Tague stop, he continued walking away. Tague then contacted the driver and gave the driver a ride to the gas station. Eventually, Tague determined the driver was suspended and cited him for **DWS—Violation**.

Multi-Convicted Felon Caught with Firearm

As Sgt. Lea (Coos Bay) was driving on Hwy 101, he noticed a pickup parked at a timber gate he knows to be closed to public access with a male subject standing outside the pickup holding a firearm. Lea turned around and pulled up behind the vehicle. He saw the subject holding a very short, pistol-gripped shotgun. When the subject realized Lea was a police officer, he quickly deposited the gun inside the pickup. Lea contacted the extremely nervous subject who said he had not been holding a gun. A records check revealed the subject was a convicted felon (26 felony convictions and 81 total arrests) and an out-of-compliance sex offender. Lea arrested the subject for **Felon in Possession of a Firearm** and **Fail to Register Sex Offender Felony** and lodged him in jail.

WED Operation Ended to Join Vehicle Pursuit

Tpr. King and Tpr. Smith (Tillamook) were working a WED operation in south Tillamook County when they heard a pursuit headed their way from Lincoln County. The troopers headed in the direction of the pursuit and then passed a vehicle that closely matched the description of the suspect vehicle. As the trooper’s turned on the vehicle, another vehicle immediately pulled over. The driver closely matched the description of the suspect of the pursuit vehicle. As the troopers proceeded to walk up to the vehicle, the driver immediately started to run from the scene. They followed the suspect and located him lying in a creek trying to hide from law enforcement. The investigation revealed this was not the suspect of the pursuit, but they did learn the driver had a suspended license and was trying to keep from getting a ticket. The troopers cited the subject for **DWS—Violation** and **Fail to Install Ignition Disabling Device (IDD)**.

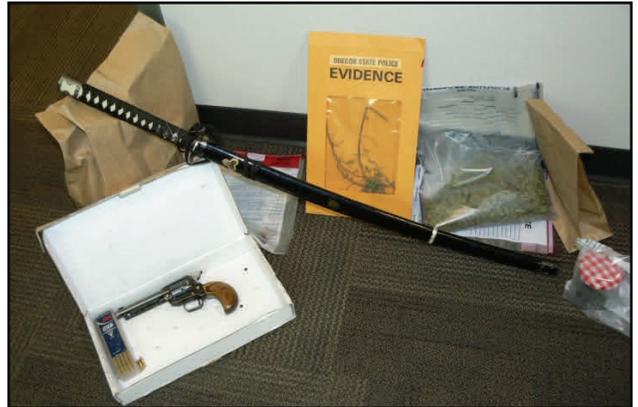
Angling Complaint Led to Catching Juvenile Violators

Sr. Tpr. Duncan and Sgt. Cyr (Baker City) responded to an angling complaint at Thief Valley Reservoir regarding three subjects who were angling in a closed section of the Powder River below the dam. The troopers located the subjects and observed them for a period of time during which they observed the subjects consume multiple beers and throw the cans into the brush. Upon contact, the troopers determined the three subjects were juveniles. The troopers cited all three subjects each for **MIP—Alcohol** and **Offensive Littering within 100 Yards of a Waterway** and two of the subjects additionally for **MIP—Tobacco** and warned all three for **Angling Closed Stream**. During the contact, the troopers questioned the juveniles regarding how they obtained the alcohol. The troopers determined who supplied the alcohol and contacted the male subject at his Baker City residence. Following an interview, the troopers cited and released the subject for **Furnishing Alcohol to Minors**.

Wildlife / Hunting

Felons Arrested for Poaching and Wasting Multiple Deer

Bend Fish and Wildlife Division troopers, with the assistance of Criminal and Patrol Divisions, served a search warrant at a La Pine residence. Troopers determined the suspect involved took deer closed season and was also a convicted felon (for rape and assaults) in possession of a firearm. The subsequent investigation also revealed the presence of an illegal marijuana grow. Troopers took the main suspect into custody and lodged the suspect in the Klamath County Jail for **Felon in Possession of a Firearm, Taking Deer Closed Season x 2, Unlawful Possession and Manufacture of a Controlled Substance, and Parole Violation**. Troopers also arrested a second suspect for **Felon in Possession of a Firearm**. During the investigation, troopers identified another suspect and contacted this suspect at another location. Troopers arrested the third suspect for **Taking Deer Closed Season x 3, Waste of Wildlife x 2, Taking Deer Prohibited Method—Weapon, and Taking Deer Prohibited Method—Artificial Light**.



Evidence seized. Photo credit: File



Tame deer found in Eagle Point. Photo credit: File

Tame Deer not Relocated

Sr. Tpr. Collom (Central Point) received a call to investigate a tame deer living in Eagle Point city limits. The caller wanted to get the deer transplanted outside of town because the caller was afraid someone might hurt it. Collom responded to the residence and determined the deer was in fact very unwarry of humans. The deer was a yearling buck with tiny spikes and probably had been bottle fed by someone nearby. The caller was made aware they could not keep the deer penned up and that the deer would not be relocated.

Trapping Investigations Worked

Tpr. Andrews (Salem) received a complaint regarding a trapper who illegally took a cougar with a leghold trap. He contacted and interviewed the suspect who admitted he shot the cougar while it was in his trap. The suspect then later purchased and validated a 2012 cougar tag. Andrews cited the subject criminally in lieu of custody for **Unlawful Take Cougar—No 2012 Cougar Tag and Unlawful Take of Cougar Prohibited Method—Leghold Trap** and seized the cougar hide and skull as evidence.

Sr. Tpr. Hayes (Bend) investigated a subject who set unbranded traps with sight bait. During the investigation, Hayes set up trail cameras to photograph the trapper and his vehicle. The cameras did not capture the license plate but did give a date and time the subject was coming and going. Using this information, Hayes planned and conducted surveillance of the site. Hayes was able to make contact when the suspect tended to his trap line. As a result of the investigation, Hayes cited the subject for **Trapping Prohibited Method—Unbranded Traps, Fail to Check Traps within 48 hours, and Sight Bait within 15 Feet for Carnivores**.

Licenses Bought when Owed \$

Sr. Tpr. Harris (Coos Bay) investigated a subject who had not made a payment on his court-ordered restitution for over eight months but purchased licenses. Harris cited the subject for **Obtaining ODFW Licenses while Owing Restitution to ODFW**.

Tpr. Nugent (Central Point) contacted a Phoenix subject for purchasing hunting licenses and tags for the last several years while still owing restitution to ODFW for taking a spike deer in a forked antler or better area in Coos County. Nugent cited the subject for **Unlawfully Purchasing Hunt License/Tags while Owing Restitution**.

Hawk Cases Worked

While Sr. Tpr. Lindberg (Madras) conducted interviews on a deer case, he discovered possible falconry permit violations. Another agency previously investigated the subject regarding falconry and illegal possession. Lindberg noted several acts of deception during the previous investigation. Lindberg cited the subject criminally for **Falconry Permit Violation—Possession of Unbanded Harris Hawk and Falconry Permit Violation—Fail to Submit Annual Report**.

Tpr. Smithers (Gold Beach) received information regarding a red-tailed hawk shot in the Brookings area and hanging from a tree in the complainant's neighbor's yard. Smithers responded to the neighbor's residence and observed a red-tailed hawk still hanging from a tree in the neighbor's front yard. The landowner stated he shot the hawk because it was going to kill his chickens, and he hung the hawk from the tree to deter other hawks from stealing his chickens. Brandon cited for **Unlawful Take of a Protected Species—Red-Tailed Hawk**.

Illegal Bird hunting Detected

Sr. Tpr. Frerichs (Roseburg) cited a subject for **Taking Game Bird Closed Season** after his investigation revealed the subject shot and killed a ring-necked rooster pheasant in a Roseburg vineyard.

Tpr. Andrews and Tpr. Freitag (Salem) investigated a complaint regarding two subjects failing to check in their harvested geese at a goose check station. The troopers cited both subjects criminally for **Fail to Check Harvested Geese at Appropriate Check Station** and one subject additionally for **Fail to Immediately Record Goose Harvest on Report Form**.

Sgt. Hand (Klamath Falls) was working the late goose season in an area that seems to attract problems. As the shooting hours came to a close, the white-fronted geese began feverishly flying about, creating temptation for two subjects. Hand observed the subjects fire two volleys of shots at different flocks of geese. Hand contacted the subjects and cited them for **Hunting Prohibited Hours**.

Wildlife / Hunting

Additional Charges Filed in 2011 Deer Case

Sr. Tpr. Duncan and Sgt. Cyr (Baker City) charged a suspect for **Exceeding the Bag Limit of Buck Deer, Aiding in a Game Violation—Unlawful Taking of a Doe Mule Deer Closed Season, and Tampering with Physical Evidence 7mm Mauser Rifle**. This is following an investigation from the 2011 deer season involving the service of two search warrants by Baker City and La Grande troopers.

Anonymous Tip Led to Citing Three Deer Poachers

Tpr. Baimbridge (Roseburg) received anonymous information from the TIP line reporting subjects who poached three deer four days prior to the date of the report. He followed up on the complaint and found it to be accurate. Baimbridge determined three subjects shot three deer while coyote hunting. He located the deer still hanging in one subject's outbuilding. Baimbridge cited all three subjects each for **Unlawful Take of Black-Tailed Deer Closed Season** and seized their rifles and the deer. He released the deer carcasses to Wildlife Safari.

Extensive Metolius Investigation Conducted

Sr. Tpr. Lindberg (Madras) conducted an extensive investigation into a freshly killed buck carcass found in the Metolius winter deer range by a shed antler hunter. The buck had already shed its antlers. Lindberg processed the scene and collected evidence. Prior to this investigation, OSP set up cameras at various locations in the area. One of the cameras took photos and video of the suspect's vehicle and license plate. Due to the suspects' transient nature and their failure to properly register the vehicle, Lindberg experienced challenges in locating the suspects. With the assistance of Madras PD, OSP eventually located the suspects. Lindberg and Sr. Tpr. Prodzinski (Madras) conducted several interviews with suspects and possible witnesses. During the course of the investigation, the troopers discovered, located, and seized additional evidence. As a result of this lengthy investigation, the troopers cited two suspects criminally for **Taking Deer Closed Season**.

Subjects Trespassed and Failed to Allow Inspection

Tpr. Ritter (John Day) received a complaint during the 2011 Murderers Creek rifle buck season regarding two unknown suspects who trespassed on Seneca-area ranch and the suspects refused to show the landowner their hunting licenses or any identification. The landowner provided a license plate and a vehicle description, but Ritter was not able to locate the vehicle during the deer hunting season. Ritter attempted to contact the vehicle owner by phone, but his phone numbers were no longer in service. The vehicle owner lived in Springfield and was a member of a hunt party who drew Murderers Creek Unit buck tags. Tpr. Imholt (Springfield) contacted one of the hunt party members and obtained a current phone number for the suspect. Ritter contacted the initial suspect and an additional identified suspect by phone. Both suspects admitted they had trespassed on the landowner's property and had refused to show their hunting licenses or driver licenses to the landowner. Per [ORS 497.036](#), "the holder of any license, tag, or permit to angle, take, hunt, or trap must consent to the inspection of any such license, tag, or permit and any wildlife taken," including not only for ODFW employees and wildlife enforcement officers but also the owner or owner's agent of any land upon which the holder is angling for, taking, hunting, or trapping any wildlife. Ritter issued criminal citations to both suspects for **Criminal Trespass II** and **Refuse to Show Hunting License to Landowner** and forwarded the citations to Imholt to serve on the suspects in the Springfield area.

Subject Accidentally Shot Second Elk

Tpr. Clement (Salem), Sr. Tpr. Kehr, and Sr. Tpr. Canfield (Newport) responded to a hunting violation near Grande Ronde. A forester working for timber company called OSP after contacting two subjects who killed three cow elk during the east Stott Mountain late cow hunt. The suspect admitted they accidentally killed a third elk during their hunt while shooting at a cow elk. They thought they missed and followed up with additional shots. When the subjects went to retrieve their game, they realized they killed a third elk. Kehr spoke with the suspect on the phone prior to contact who admitted to exceeding the bag limit. The suspect assisted the troopers with the recovery and salvage of the additional elk. The troopers cited the suspect as a violation for **Exceeding the Bag Limit—Cow Elk** and donated the elk to charity.

Troopers Helped Determine where Legal Elk Shot

Sr. Tpr. Merritt and Tpr. Baimbridge (Roseburg) responded to a report of a cow elk down in the complainant's pasture, shot by a neighbor. The troopers investigated the scene and located blood on the neighbor's side of the fence confirming the story the elk was wounded on the neighbor's property and ran onto the complainant's property where the neighbor killed it. The complainant called because she knew the neighbor could not come onto her property to retrieve the elk without her permission and OSP would come out to confirm where the elk was initially wounded since the neighbor could not locate any blood on his side of the fence. She stated she learned this from OSP display at the Douglas County Sportsman Show. After locating blood on the neighbor's side, the neighbor was allowed to retrieve the cow elk.

Subjects Poached Elk while Trespassing

Sr. Tpr. Prodzinski and Sr. Tpr. Lindberg (Madras) investigated a suspect who trespassed onto a private ranch in the Grizzly Unit during elk season. Prodzinski checked the suspect who had harvested a 5 x 6 bull and claimed he took the bull on BLM land that bordered the private property. During the contact, Prodzinski had to respond to another complaint and left the area. The next day, Prodzinski and Lindberg returned to the area and located evidence that indicated the suspect he contacted trespassed and attempted to hide evidence of an elk kill. The investigation revealed the suspect had been arrested before on the same property for Criminal Trespass where he illegally took a large mule deer buck. The suspect was found hiding with his buck during that incident. As a result of this investigation, the troopers cited the suspect for **Criminal Trespass II, Hunting on the Enclosed Lands of Another, and Waste of Wildlife** and seized the elk meat and rack.

Tpr. Shimer (St. Helens) received information regarding three subjects who killed an elk on private property near St. Helens. Tpr. May (Patrol) arrived at the location first and detained the subjects. When Shimer arrived, he determined one subject who had an antlerless elk tag killed a cow elk. As the subject said he had permission to be on the property, the subjects were allowed to leave. Sgt. Schwartz (Astoria) arrived to assist with the investigation. When he and Shimer located where the subject killed the cow, they found a spike elk gutted and left. They contacted the landowner who said the subjects did not have permission. After salvaging the spike, the troopers re-contacted the suspects who admitted to shooting both elk and planned to return after dark to retrieve the spike. The troopers cited the subjects criminally for **Hunting on the Cultivated/Enclosed Lands of Another, Unlawful Taking of Spike Elk, Aiding in a Wildlife Offense, and Criminal Trespass II**.

OSMB / Commercial Fish / Shellfish / Marine

Subjects Illegally “Guided” in Wenaha Unit

Sr. Tpr. Davis (La Grande) investigated two subjects who provided “guiding” services during a Wenaha Unit rifle bull elk season. His investigation determined the subjects had expired guide licenses. Davis cited both subjects for **No Outfitter/Guide License**.

Did you know? OSMB registers guides and outfitters in Oregon. The required registration certifies guides and outfitters have the minimum liability insurance legally required, along with current first aid and CPR training, and a USCG operator license and/or surety bond, if required. Additionally, guides and outfitters are required to carry and show their registration card to anyone who asks. For more information and a registration list, please contact OSMB 503-378-2519 or visit their website at <http://www.oregon.gov/OSMB/BoatReg/pages/guides.aspx>.



Unusual-looking long-nosed lancetfish washed up on beach. Photo credit: File

Boat and Shore Saturation Patrols Performed

The North Coast Team, with the assistance of WDFW officers and Portland and Salem Division troopers, conducted a three-day spring salmon saturation out of St. Helens. The use of covert and uniformed boat and shore patrols resulted in close to 400 angler contacts throughout the time period. Regardless of the slow catch rate, troopers issued more than a **dozen** citations for **Angling Prohibited Method—Two Rods, No Angling License, Failure to Immediately Validate Harvest Card, Aiding in a Wildlife Offense, and Failure to Allow Gear Inspection** and various angling warnings. They also conducted multiple boat inspections and warned several for boating offenses.

Anglers Exceeded Limit of Lingcod

Sr. Tpr. Thompson (Central Point) checked a boat at the Brookings Harbor sport docks with four males who had been bottom fishing and crabbing. He found one undersized crab during the initial check. When Thompson asked if there were any other fish onboard, the subjects said there were not. When he checked another cooler, Thompson located more fish and fish parts. Thompson asked to search the rest of the boat, when the captain moved to the cabin of the boat presumably to hide additional fish. Thompson called for assistance. Tpr. Smithers (Gold Beach) responded to Thompson’s location. He conducted a consent search while Thompson interviewed the four suspects. Smithers found a bag of filets hidden in the bow. The troopers determined the subjects had exceeded their limit on lingcod. The troopers cited two of the subjects for **Exceeding Daily Bag Limit Lingcod** and **Aiding in a Game Violation** and warned all of the subjects for Unlawful Possession of Undersized Crab and seized the lingcod as evidence.

Shellfish Resources Protected

Sgt. Lea (Coos Bay) conducted a patrol on Winchester Bay and contacted a crabber with four undersized Dungeness crab in possession. Lea cited the subject for **Taking Undersized Dungeness Crab**.

Sr. Tpr. Bowen (Coos Bay) checked sport crab activity in Charleston. During one contact, he discovered seven short crab and one female Dungeness crab on a sport boat. Bowen cited one subject for **Unlawful Possession of Undersized and Female Crab**.

Tpr. Peterson (Tillamook) contacted two subjects who were just returning from crabbing on Tillamook Bay. Upon inspection of their catch, Peterson found the subjects had in possession six undersized and one female Dungeness crab. Peterson cited one of the subjects for **Unlawful Possession Undersized Crab**.

Odd-Looking Fish Washed up on Beach

A beachcomber found an odd-looking fish washed up on the beach near Three Mile Creek and contacted Sr. Tpr. Harris (Coos Bay). The specimen was in fairly good shape and barely alive when it was found. Harris identified the nearly four-foot long fish as a long-nosed lancetfish. He contacted the Oregon Institute of Marine Biology (OIMB) who advised they would like to have the fish for the students to dissect. Harris transported the fish to the OIMB. Although the fish is not rare, it is uncommon to have a specimen wash up on the beach.

Commercial Fish Investigations Conducted

Sr. Tpr. Harris and Tpr. Keeler (Coos Bay) contacted a commercial groundfish vessel as it returned to Charleston. The troopers determined one crew member did not have the required license. They cited the subject for **No 2012 Commercial Fishing License**.

Sr. Tpr. Stinnett (Gold Beach) contacted a moored commercial vessel after completing a Dungeness crab offload. When Stinnett boarded the boat, he checked two crew members for commercial licenses. The skipper had left his license and all the permits at home. Stinnett checked the crab logbook sitting on the chart table and could see the last entry was dated for an earlier day in March. When Stinnett asked the skipper why he had not completed the logbook, the skipper said he thought he had to do it before he left the boat. Stinnett cited the skipper for **Failing to Complete the Crab Logbook Prior to Landing** and warned him for Not Having Commercial License and Permits on Board.

Tpr. Keeler (Coos Bay) received a report from a wholesale fish dealer out of Charleston that a boat they purchased sablefish from did not possess a current boat license at the time of landing. Keeler determined the skipper actually caught the sablefish on a different boat; however, when he was offloading, he realized he was going to be over his limited entry sablefish limit of 1,300 pounds for the week, so he hid the remaining 838 pounds of fish onboard and did not completely offload his catch. Later that night, the skipper transferred the fish to his personal pickup using garbage cans. The next day, he offloaded the fish at a different wholesale dealer and told the dealer he caught them with a different boat (which turns out did not have a current boat license.) Keeler cited the skipper for **Theft I** and **Falsifying Business Records**. Keeler seized the second offload of sablefish and had a check issued to ODFW Commercial Fish Fund for \$2066.27.

Sport Angling

License Issues Continually Discovered

Tpr. Shimer (St. Helens) contacted a group fishing on Sauvie Island. One subject presented an Oregon angling license that indicated he was 50 years old. Since the subject looked significantly younger, Shimer questioned him about the license. Eventually, the subject admitted the license belonged to his friend's father. The friend gave it to him when they first saw the trooper. Shimer cited the first subject, a 19-year-old, for **No 2012 Angling License** and **Borrowing an Oregon Angling License** and the second subject for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation—Loaning an Oregon Angling License**.

At McNary Ponds near Umatilla, when Tpr. Mayer (Heppner) proceeded to check two males, subject #1 quickly reeled in his line and set his rod down. Mayer first contacted subject #2 who told him one of the rods belonged to his girlfriend who just left for a while. Subject #1 claimed he was not fishing. After speaking with a nearby witness, subject #1 admitted to be angling without a license, and subject #2 admitted to be continuing to angle after retaining his limit. Mayer cited subject #1 for **No Nonresident Angling License** and subject #2 for **Continuing to Angle after Retaining his Catch Limit**.

At Unity Reservoir, Tpr. Ritter (John Day) noticed an angler scamper down the bank after seeing him. He reached him in time to see him reel in the last few feet of line and drop the rod on the ground. The subject was also angling with another rod. He admitted to angling with two rods without a two-rod license. Ritter cited him for **Angling with Two Rods**. He then checked another angler who drove up to him in a Washington-plated vehicle but possessed an Oregon resident angling license. The subject moved to Oregon about two months ago, after living in Washington for nine years. The subject who still had a Washington driver license justified his resident license by claiming he was born and raised in Oregon. Ritter seized the license, cited him for **Possession of Falsely Applied for Oregon Resident Angling License**, and warned him for failing to obtain a driver license and to register his vehicle within 30 days.

At Expo Ponds, as Tpr. Tague (Central Point) was walking around a corner, he observed an angler he cited two weeks before for no angling license duck into the brush. When contacted, the subject stated he was hunting bull frogs with his pellet gun. The subject denied fishing, but a stranger next to him yelled his rod had a fish on it and to come get it. The subject stated the stranger's family was using his rod. The stranger seemed to get the hint and then told his hesitant son to grab the rod in an attempt to cover for the subject. Tague cited the subject for **Hunting Bull Frogs Prohibited Method** and warned him for Angling without a License. As Tague was talking to this group, he observed two males who had been fishing now walking quickly away. Tague knew they could not get out the way they were heading and continued to check other anglers. Eventually, Tague caught up to and contacted the two unlicensed subjects, issuing each a citation for **No Angling License**.

Trout Unlawfully Possessed

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) responded to a complaint on Fall Creek. Upon arrival, he confirmed the angler was using bait in a fly-and-lure/catch-and-release-only area and had retained two native trout. Boyd cited the angler for **Unlawful Possession of Native Trout**.

Tpr. King and Tpr. Galusha (Tillamook) worked an angling patrol at Hebo Lake when they contacted a subject trout angling who was found to have 15 trout over the daily bag limit of trout. The troopers cited the subject for **Exceeding the Bag Limit of Trout**.

Tpr. Galusha (Tillamook) worked a complaint on Hathaway Slough off of the Kilchis River where subjects reportedly were fishing for sea-run cutthroat trout during closed season. He located a subject fishing who advised he caught only small trout and denied keeping any. Shortly after, his friend arrived; and when Galusha asked if they had any fish, the subject told him they both had retained three trout. A consent search located three large sea-run cutthroat trout in a bag. Galusha cited both subjects for **Unlawful Possession Trout—Closed Season**.

Angled in Closed Areas

Tpr. Tague (Central Point) checked anglers on the Rogue River below Cole River Hatchery and observed a subject fishing in the closed hatchery outflow. He watched the angler walk over to his friend who was still rigging up. Moments later, the subject who had been angling waded across the outflow and walked to Tague's location. The angler admitted he was fishing the outflow and figured he might as well come get his ticket. Tague cited the subject for **Angling Closed Area**.

Sr. Tpr. Collom (Central Point) worked the Applegate River and walked in near the deadline below the dam and discovered a subject angling about 80 yards above the deadline. He also heard voices and saw two others about 200 yards above the deadline carrying rods but were never observed angling. When Collom contacted all three, they did not know where the deadline was, although there were two visible signs next to where they were parked explaining the special rules and to consult the regulations. Collom cited the subject he observed angling for **Angling Prohibited Area—Above Deadline** and warned the two others.

Angled with Prohibited Method

Tpr. Galusha and Tpr. Smith (Tillamook) conducted a patrol on the lower Wilson River to address multiple complaints OSP had received regarding a subject using two rods to fish for steelhead. This subject had property along the river, and several fishermen reported the subject was a repeat offender. On this patrol, the troopers observed the subject angling for steelhead with two rods. The troopers contacted and cited the violator for **Angling Prohibited Method—Two Rods**.

Sr. Tpr. Bean (Gilchrist) contacted a couple angling at Ana Reservoir. He observed the male reel in and hide a rod under his lawn chair after seeing Bean. The couple still had four lines out with high hopes. Bean found both subjects possessed two-rod permits. The male admitted to using the three rods because nothing was biting, and he wanted one more chance. The female teased the male how she had just asked him prior to Bean's arrival how many rods he needed to outfish her. Bean cited the male for **Angling Prohibited Method—Three Rods**.

Tpr. Shimer (St. Helens) received information from a volunteer of a suspicious angler on Tressel Beach. Upon arrival, he observed an unattended rod. After several minutes, with no sign of an angler, he reeled in the line. On the line, Shimer counted **nine hooks**, most with steel leader and with a mix of salmon and sturgeon setups. He waited until a group walked down the beach and claimed the rod. When contacted, one subject admitted the rod was his and said he was trying to catch "anything." Shimer cited the subject for **Fail to Attend Rod, Angling Prohibited Method—Using More than Three Hooks**, and **Angling Prohibited Method—Using Barbed Hooks for Sturgeon** and seized the rod and hooks as evidence.

Interagency Cooperation

Trooper Assisted with Census Helo Flight

Sr. Tpr. Thompson (Central Point) went along with ODFW biologists on a helicopter flight doing their annual elk census. They flew over winter elk range in the southern Cascades and the Siskiyou. They counted over 200 elk, and many bulls had already shed their antlers.

Division Troopers and PD Arrested Assaulter

Sr. Tpr. Marshall Maher (Oakridge) received information regarding a domestic disturbance at a dispersed camp site located at Hills Creek Reservoir along USFS Road 21. He responded to the area to investigate. An Oakridge PD officer also responded as a cover officer and assisted with the investigation. Maher determined a male assaulted a female in camp. He arrested the male for **Assault IV, Menacing, and Strangulation**. Sr. Tpr. Martin Maher (Springfield) also responded and transported and lodged the suspect in jail.

Burglary and Theft Investigation Conducted

With the assistance of Lane County SO (LCSO) and Florence PD, on March 28, OSP arrested a Florence-area subject on multiple charges following a search warrant at a Florence-area residence related to an investigation into several reported burglaries and thefts in Lane and Coos Counties. The investigation to that point resulted in seizing about \$40,000 worth of property located inside a stolen cargo trailer, including motorcycles, musical instruments, fishing gear, firearms, and other items. Fish and Wildlife Division Sr. Tpr. Salisbury (Florence), assisted by LCSO Deputy Kerry Boggs, continued the investigation. The suspect was arrested and lodged in the Lane County Jail for **Burglary I, Theft I x 2, Unauthorized Use of a Vehicle, Possession of a Stolen Vehicle, and Felon in Possession of a Restricted Weapon**.

Traffic Stop Led to ID Theft-Related Arrests

Tpr. Borchers (Portland) stopped a vehicle for traffic violations on I-84 west of the Sandy River. The driver nor the passenger possessed any identification. Borchers smelled the odor of marijuana. When questioned, the two admitted to having marijuana and hypodermic needles in the vehicle. Dispatch advised Borchers that both subjects were suspended and the driver was on felony probation and not allowed to be in possession of any narcotics or have association with any drug users. Borchers took the driver into custody on a detention warrant. During a search of the vehicle, Borchers located the backpack where the drugs were allegedly stored. He found a user amount of marijuana, a pipe, and several hypodermic needles containing trace amounts of methamphetamine. He also found multiple checkbooks, savings bonds, birth certificates, and social security information. With the help of Fairview PD, Borchers determined the documents were stolen during a burglary two weeks prior. Further investigation showed the female passenger had written several checks to herself and friends from the stolen checkbooks. Borchers took the female into custody and placed her in the back of a Fairview PD car where she then unsuccessfully attempted to kick out the back window. Officers took both suspects to jail where they were booked and lodged. During booking, a fingerprint scan revealed the driver's true identity along with a felony warrant for his arrest. The driver was charged with **Giving False Information to Police, Identification Theft, Theft I, and Possession of Stolen Property**. The passenger was charged with **Identification Theft, Theft I, Possession of Stolen Property, and Forgery**. Fairview PD and Gresham PD also were involved in the investigation.



Five bull elk photographed during elk census count. Photo credit: File

Division Troopers Requested to Assist Agencies

Tpr. Freitag (Salem) contacted a subject for Alberta Fish and Wildlife regarding unlawfully taking a moose in Alberta during the 2011 archery moose season. Freitag conducted an interview and issued him the Alberta citation for **Hunt without a License** and seized the moose.

Tpr. Smithers (Coos Bay) received a call from the Curry County SO requesting assistance on the Chetco River with the removal of two subjects who became stranded in their home when the Chetco River began to flood causing the house to be surrounded by 5- to 6-foot deep water. Officers moved both subjects to higher ground using a drift boat.

John Day PD Officer Pelayo requested back-up regarding an intoxicated subject menacing others with a knife. Tpr. Ritter (John Day) and a Grant County SO deputy arrived on scene. While questioning the suspect to determine what had occurred, the suspect said he was done talking and started to walk away. Ritter restrained the suspect, placing him in handcuffs and detaining him until officers interviewed witnesses. The investigation revealed the suspect had menaced others with a knife. John Day PD arrested and lodged the suspect in jail for **Menacing**.

Tpr. Ritter (John Day) and Tpr. Weaver (Patrol) assisted Grant County SO with a domestic dispute 911 call. The complainant reported a male suspect had left the scene and took a semi-automatic weapon with him. The officers located the suspect, but they did not find a firearm in his possession. The investigation determined the suspect took the phone away from the female victim to prevent her from calling the police and an assault had not occurred. Grant County SO took the suspect into custody for **Interfering with a 911 Call** and lodged him in jail.

Sr. Tpr. Bennett (Grants Pass) assisted Josephine County SO in locating an eluding subject who crashed a stolen vehicle in the Applegate River. Downstream of the crash, he observed a blackberry branch turned upside down shaking excessively. He climbed on top of the truck to get a better view and observed the subject hiding in the brush across the river. He ordered the subject into a take-down position at gunpoint. A deputy working the dog near Bennett's location took the suspect into custody. The subject was lodged in jail after treatment for hypothermia.

Interagency Cooperation / Public Relations

“Wolf” Illegally Killed in Union County

On March 16, Sr. Tpr. Davis (La Grande) received a call regarding the discovery of a possible deceased wolf on private property about six miles north of Cove in Union County. Davis and Sgt. Cyr (Baker City) responded with ODFW and contacted the property owner and person who reported finding the deceased animal to ODFW that morning. The deceased animal’s measurements and physical appearance match that of a wolf, but confirmation was pending through DNA analysis. After taking possession of the 97-pound animal, OSP took it to a veterinarian for x-rays. The initial examination did not confirm a cause of death, and the investigation continued. A necropsy performed confirmed the animal had been dead about one week and the cause of death was the result of a criminal act. The Division is asking for the public’s help for information related to the death of the possible wolf. The Humane Society of the United States and The Humane Society Wildlife Land Trust are offering a reward of up to \$2,500 for information leading to the identification, arrest, and conviction of the person(s) responsible in this case. Wolves are protected, and, except in the defense of human life or with a special permit, the law prohibits killing a wolf. Anyone with information regarding this investigation is asked to contact Davis at (541) 963-7175 ext. 4673 or e-mail kris.davis@state.or.us.

Troopers Participated in Meetings, Events, and Presentations

Tpr. Baimbridge (Roseburg) gave a presentation at a Hunter Education class.

Tpr. Tague and Sr. Tpr. Collom (Central Point) attended an OHA monthly meeting, and Collom gave an Division update.

Sr. Tpr. Gunderson (The Dalles) assisted Lt. Shortt and Sr. Tpr. Raiser (Patrol) with a search and seizure presentation to two high school classes of about 35 students.

Bend, Burns, and The Dalles troopers participated in the Central Oregon Sportsman Show in Redmond with the Trailer of Shame and answered numerous questions during the four-day event.

Lt. Gifford (SW Region), Sr. Tpr. Marchand, and Sr. Tpr. Bennett (Grants Pass) attended the first committee meeting for the Chetco Unit Black-tailed Deer Management Plan, along with several landowners, ODFW, BLM, USFS, and OHA.

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) participated in a law enforcement panel for recreation providers at the request of the US Army Corps of Engineers in Springfield. The meeting was attended also by USFS, BLM, OPRD, Lane County Parks, and others. Topics discussed ranged from gang activity to recent trends seen by law enforcement on public lands. The attendees asked good questions and were interested in what the panel had to say.

Troopers Assisted with Wildlife Issues

Sr. Tpr. Prodzinski (Madras) and Sr. Tpr. Love (Bend) responded to the Sisters area to provide public safety while USDA Wildlife Services removed three cougars from the area. People complained seeing cougars frequenting the area on several occasions, and one resident reported having one on his back deck. The cougars attacked and injured two dogs belonging to residents. During the weekend, Wildlife Services brought in three cougars. The cougars were transported to ODFW in Bend.

State Troopers Chosen to Referee State Finals

Sr. Tpr. Collom (Central Point) and Sr. Tpr. Pearson (The Dalles) both referee high school basketball games during the winter months. This year, the referee association choose both to referee the high school state championships held in February-March; Collom, the 3A boys and girls in Coos Bay, and Pearson, the 1A boys and girls in Baker City. Being selected to referee at a state tournament is an honor; most referees never get this opportunity. After more than 10 years of reffing, this was the first year the association selected Collom; and after 20+ years of reffing, this was Pearson’s second opportunity to referee. Thank you both for your dedication, commitment, and passion to serve your communities and being a positive role model for youth.

Tpr. Keeler (Coos Bay) gave a talk to about 12 USCG Coos Bay personnel regarding fish enforcement.

Tpr. Brandon (Coos Bay) attended a PFMC-sponsored public meeting that discussed alternatives for sport and commercial ocean salmon regulations for 2012. Several sport and commercial fishermen gave input.

Sr. Tpr. Urbigkeit, Tpr. Van Meter, Sr. Tpr. Canfield (Newport) and North and Mid-Coast troopers attended the Saltwater Sportsman Show at the Salem Fairgrounds. Urbigkeit and Van Meter constructed a new ocean fisheries display for the show. The troopers received a lot of positive feedback regarding the display, spoke to hundreds of people, and answered numerous questions regarding ocean fisheries.



Troopers attended Saltwater Sportsman Show. Photo credit: File



Troopers participated in youth turkey clinic. Photo credit: File

Pendleton. They spent time answering questions from the public and local media in regards to the illegal activities in the area and enhanced penalties for trophy animals. Sr. Tpr. Carter worked hard on putting together a display with unsolved and adjudicated cases from the local area. The display was well received and generated much conversation.

The Dalles’ Sr. Tpr. Kipper, Sr. Tpr. Vanderwerf, Sr. Tpr. Pearson, and Tpr. Frazier displayed the Trailer of Shame at the OHA-sponsored 2012 Youth Turkey Clinic at the White River Wildlife Area. During the event, 102 kids participated with a total of 250 people, including parents and volunteers, and the troopers answered numerous questions.

Pendleton troopers attended the Northeast Oregon Sportsman Show in

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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