

The Field Review

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Investigation Led to Wildlife Crime Charges for Adults, Juveniles in Myrtle Creek

In November, Roseburg Division troopers, with the assistance of Douglas County SO, searched three Myrtle Creek area residences that led to troopers charging three adults and two juveniles for various crimes.

Tpr. Baimbridge and Tpr. Stone credited the involvement of one citizen who was willing to step forward with information considered instrumental for concluding these investigations.

OSP and the SO conducted the first search warrant at a residence in Myrtle Creek where they seized six sets of illegally taken black-tailed deer antlers and two rifles. Their investigation resulted in the troopers citing one 17-year-old male for **Failure to Validate Big Game Tag** and **Aiding in a Wildlife Offense** and another 17-year-old male for **Exceeding the Bag Limit of Black-Tailed Deer**, **Taking Black-Tailed Deer Closed Season**, **Unlawful Possession of Deer Parts**, and **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana**.

Information obtained during the execution of the first search warrant led troopers to obtain a search warrant for a second Myrtle Creek-area residence. During the second search, troopers seized evidence including 28 sets of illegally taken black-tailed deer antlers (for a total of 34 deer), one set of 6 x 7 bull elk antlers, three black bear skulls, and four rifles.

Troopers arrested a subject and lodged him in the Douglas County Jail for **Exceeding the Bag Limit of Black-Tailed Deer x 5**, **Taking Black-Tailed Deer Closed Season x 7**, **Unlawful Possession of Black-Tailed Deer Parts x 16**, **Unlawful Possession of Bear x 3**, **Unlawful Possession of Bull Elk Antlers**, **Hunting Prohibited Hours**, **Tampering with Evidence**, and **Aiding in a Wildlife Crime x 2**. The court set the bail at \$1.9 million.



Evidence seized in Myrtle Creek case. Photo credit: File

While executing the second search warrant, troopers developed information that additional subjects involved moved evidence prior to the execution of the search warrant, leading investigators to a third Myrtle Creek residence. The subsequent search and ongoing investigation led to troopers citing a second subject for **Tampering with Evidence**, **Taking Trophy Black-Tailed Deer Closed Season**, and **Aiding in a Wildlife Offense** and a third subject for **Tampering with Evidence** and **Aiding in a Wildlife Offense**. As of the date on the press release, the main subject was no longer in custody, and charges were pending for a 35-year-old female resident relating to the first search and for a 54-year-old male relating to the second search.

OSP encourages anyone with information on wildlife- and environmental-related crimes to report the suspected violation. Turn in violators 24/7 by calling 1-800-452-7888, e-mailing TIP@state.or.us, or faxing 503-363-5475; or visit any OSP office during business hours. Violation forms are available on our website at www.oregon.gov/osp/fw.

Dispositions / ATV / Trespass

John Day Trooper Received Dispositions

A 2011 archery suspect Tpr. Ritter (John Day) cited for **Violation of Murderers Creek—Flagtail Cooperative Travel Management Area** pled guilty. The Grant County Justice Court sentenced the subject to a \$250 fine.

Tpr. Ritter (John Day) cited two subjects in summer 2011, and both pled guilty to **Criminal Trespass II**. The Grant County Justice Court sentenced each to a \$400 fine, one year bench probation, and 20 hours of community service.

Tpr. Ritter (John Day) cited a subject for dumping a load of garbage near Dixie Creek in the summer of 2011 pled guilty to **Placing Offensive Substances In or Near a Waterway**. The Grant County Justice Court sentenced the subject to a \$500 fine, two years bench probation, and 40 hours of community service.

A subject Tpr. Ritter (John Day) charged with **Criminal Trespass while in Possession of a Firearm, Taking Bobcat Closed Season, and Hunting without a Hunting License** pled guilty. The Wheeler County Justice Court sentenced the subject to \$700 restitution to ODFW, three years hunting license suspension, 30 hours community service, bench probation, miscellaneous fines and fees, and write a letter of apology to the victim landowner.

ATV Operators Cited

Sr. Tpr. Collom (Central Point) checked deer hunters in the Burnt Creek area near Howard Prairie. Collom checked a subject on an ATV with a gun loaded. The subject also did not have an ATV safety card. Collom issued the subject a citation for **Loaded Firearm on ATV** and a warning for No Safety Card.

Tpr. Ritter (John Day) testified before the Baker County Grand Jury regarding a case during 2011 archery season when the subject eluded him on an ATV on USFS roads between Granite and Sumpter. Ritter took the subject into custody the next day. The jury returned a true bill on **Felony Attempt to Elude**.

While Sr. Tpr. Cushman and Tpr. Tague (Central Point) conducted a WED; they heard gun shots and a subject driving an ATV in the JACTMA closure, so they ended the WED and searched for the violator. The troopers located the ATV coming around a gate near "Four Corners." They determined the subject was hunting turkeys (unsuccessfully) and had proper licenses, but he violated about all the possible ATV regulations. The troopers issued the operator a citation for **Operating in Violation of Posted Restrictions** and warnings for Loaded Firearm on an ATV, No ATV Permit, No Operator's Card, Endangering Passenger—No Helmet, and Hunting with the Aid of a Vehicle.

Trespassers Caught around the State

Sr. Tpr. McNeil and Sr. Tpr. Duncan (Baker City) responded to a complaint involving a large elk in Durkee. As a result of their investigation, they cited three subjects for **Criminal Trespass II** and one subject for **Hunting on the Enclosed Lands of Another** and seized a 5 x 6 bull elk as evidence.

Tpr. Clement and Sgt. Shugart (Salem) contacted a subject riding a dirt bike behind locked gates on private property. The subject accessed the property by going a locked gate just up the road. The troopers issued the subject a citation for **Criminal Trespass II** and a warning for No OHV Permit.

Ret. Sr. Tpr. Oriet (McMinnville) received information about entry into Camp Olson while the area was closed to the public. The complainant observed a Jeep parked at several locations while he was working. Ret. Sr. Tpr. Poggi (McMinnville) located the vehicle parked at the end of a closed road a half-mile inside the 101 Road in Camp Olson. After a short wait, the subject returned, and Oriet and Poggi made contact. They cited the subject for **Illegal Motorized Entry—North Coast TMA**.

Sr. Tpr. Lindberg (Madras) contacted a subject camped on a BLM land next to a ranch. The subject had a Grizzly Private Lands elk tag and claimed to be hunting on BLM land. The subject also did not have permission to hunt the ranch. The investigation revealed the subject set up a ground blind on the ranch and had been riding past two No Trespassing signs to access it. Lindberg cited the subject for **Hunting outside Controlled Hunt Boundary and Criminal Trespass II**.

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) found an unoccupied vehicle parked 200 yards in a closed road system in the Wendling TMA. He hailed the subject(s) on a loud speaker. Two subjects walked out of the woods with rifles in hand. A records check indicated one subject was a convicted felon. Boyd seized the rifle and pistol the felon possessed, both fully loaded with full metal jacket bullets. Boyd cited both for **Operate/Transported in Vehicle in Violation of Cooperative Travel Management Area** and the felon additionally for **Felon in Possession of Firearms** (a felony), **Hunting with Prohibited Ammunition**, and **Possession of Falsely Applied for Deer Tag**.

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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
BUII/DUII	Boating/Driving Under Influence Intoxicants/Drugs	NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	TMA	Travel Management Area
Capt.	Captain	ODF	Department of Forestry	Tpr.	Trooper
CDFG	California Department of Fish and Game	ODFW	Department of Fish and Wildlife	UPCS	Unlawful Possession of Controlled Substance
DA/DDA	District Attorney/Deputy DA	ODOT	Department of Transportation	USCG	U.S. Coast Guard
DEQ	Department of Environmental Quality	OHA	Oregon Hunters Association	USFS	U.S. Forest Service
DSL	Department of State Lands	OSMB	Oregon State Marine Board	USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
DWS	Driving while Suspended	PFD	Personal Flotation Device	WDFW	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
				WED	Wildlife Enforcement Decoy

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Environment / General Law

Beer Hid in Cracker Box

Tpr. Tague (Lakeview) contacted a vehicle near Shale City Road. The driver stated he was archery hunting for deer, though in the front seat, the driver and passenger both had rifles sitting beside them. The driver stated his rifle was a .22 rimfire for grouse and quail, and the passenger stated his rifle was for bear. As he could smell a strong odor of alcohol, Tague conducted SFSTs. The driver passed the tests, but Tague did find an open beer can in a cracker box. The driver stated the empty beer cans had been tossed out. Tague issued the driver a citation for **Open Container** and warnings for (and provided education on) Hunting Quail with a Rifle, No Mudflaps/Fenders, and Offensive Littering.

Drugs Found on Angler

Sgt. Hoodenpyl (Tillamook) was checking anglers on the Wilson River when he contacted a subject along the river holding a marijuana pipe. The subject immediately tried to hide the pipe, and Hoodenpyl then saw a syringe in the subject's pocket. A consent search of the subject resulted in finding more marijuana and crushed-up morphine in the subject's possession. Tpr. Peterson (Tillamook) arrived and received consent to search the subject's vehicle, resulting in finding more drug evidence. The troopers took the subject into custody and lodged him in the Tillamook County Jail on charges of **UPCS—Methamphetamine** and **UPCS—Morphine**.

Troopers in the Right Place at the Right Time

Tpr. Shimer (St. Helens) contacted two male subjects fishing on Sauvie Island and checked their angling licenses as well as their driving status. One subject had his driving privileges felony suspended for **multiple DUIs**. Shimer detected the subject had an odor of alcohol on his breath. This subject admitted to Shimer he had driven that day and added he had several beers while fishing. Shimer arrested and cited the subject for **DWS—Felony**.

Tpr. Clement (Salem) stopped a vehicle for a traffic violation in Albany. When contacted, Clement could smell the odor of alcohol coming from the driver. The driver handed Clement an Oregon ID card and admitted to drinking earlier that evening. Clement also noticed that of the four juveniles in the back seat, only two were buckled up properly. The driver consented to and failed SFSTs. Clement arrested the driver for **DUI—Alcohol** and transported him to the Linn County Jail where he cited the driver also for **Reckless Endangering x 4**, **DWS—Violation**, and **Unlawful Right Turn**. The children's mother was notified and came to the scene where Clement released the children to her.

Garbage Dumpers Cited for Misdemeanor Crimes

Ret. Sr. Tpr. Lane (Albany) completed an investigation in the Benton County area. Lane determined the subject was not only illegally trespassing and 4x4ing on Starker Forests' Dan Farmer Tree Farm, the subject also dumped a large amount of trash on the private property as well. Lane contacted the subject. Consequently, Lane cited the male offender for **Offensive Littering** and **Criminal Trespass II**.

Garbage dumped on private lands. Photo credit: File



Garbage dumped on public lands. Photo credit: File

Sr. Tpr. Prodzinski (Madras) was in the process of making a contact alongside the road when he observed a subject drive a pickup past his location with an old couch and tires. After the contact, he noted the subject was leaving public lands without the couch and tires, so he made contact. After providing several stories, the subject finally led the trooper to where he illegally dumped the couch and tires. Prodzinski cited the subject for **Offensive Littering** and had him clean up the area.

Special Forest Permit-Related Investigations Worked

Sr. Tpr. Davis (La Grande) made contact with a subject who had a load of firewood near Elgin. During the contact, Davis asked the subject where he cut the wood and for his permit. The subject told Davis he had cut the firewood on USFS land and did not have a permit. Davis cited the subject for **Unlawful Transportation of Minor Forest Products**.

Sr. Tpr. Harris (Coos Bay) finished an investigation into two subjects who committed unlawful activities at the Condie B. McCullough State Park Wayside. Harris cited one subject for the Department of State Parks violation of **Unlawfully Cutting Plants in a State Park** and the second subject for **Littering within 100 Yards of a Waterway** and **Unlawful Cutting of Special Forest Products (Trees/Firewood)**.

Tpr. Frazier (The Dalles) contacted a subject with a load of firewood as he was leaving the Mt. Hood National Forest on USFS Road 16. When Frazier asked for the firewood permit, the subject stated the permit belonged to his friend who at the time was up the road still cutting wood. The subject did not have any identification with him. Frazier checked DMV and learned the subject's driving privileges were violation suspended. As Frazier was gathering information to issue the subject citation for DWS, he noticed the subject was clearly very nervous. The trooper's subsequent investigation revealed the subject possessed marijuana. Frazier cited the subject for **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana** and **DWS—Violation**. After issuing the citations, Frazier located the subject's friend (the owner of the vehicle) and confirmed he had a permit for the firewood. The subject's friend drove the vehicle home.

Wildlife / Hunting



Buck shot from public road. Photo credit: File

Hunted in Prohibited Areas

Sr. Tpr. Thompson (Central Point) received a complaint of a trespass in the Rogue Unit. The caller heard a vehicle the night before; and the next morning, he found a dead buck shot and left by a bow hunter. Thompson responded and removed an arrow from the wasted deer. He later located and contacted the suspect in the area. The suspect claimed the buck was on the roadway side of a fence when he shot it from the road. The deer jumped a fence onto private property. Thompson cited the suspect for **Hunting Prohibited Area—Public Roadway**.

A witness observed a subject shoot and kill a forked horn buck on private property from and across the highway while sitting in his vehicle on Hwy 202. As a result of his investigation, Sr. Tpr. Klepp (Astoria) lodged the subject in the Clatsop County Jail for **Hunting on the Cultivated and/or Enclosed Land of Another, Hunting from a Motor Propelled Vehicle, and Discharging Firearm on/across Highway** and seized the deer and donated it to charity.

Sgt. Schwartz (Astoria) responded to a complaint of two subjects who shot a bull on private property near Rainier. He determined the suspects shot the bull from the road on heavily posted private property and used their vehicle to drag the bull from private property down a county road to an adjacent property. Two neighbors observed the entire ordeal. Subsequently, Schwartz cited one subject for **Hunting on the Cultivated/Enclosed Lands of Another and Hunting Elk Prohibited Area—Public Roadway** and seized the elk and .300 Winchester short magnum rifle.

Tpr. Herman (Astoria) found a truck parked on a closed road but could not locate the hunters. He advised Ret. Sr. Tpr. Carver (McMinnville) who later in the day located the vehicle and two hunters on another closed road packing out an elk in a spike-only unit. The subjects actually had two elk down, a spike and a three-point bull. Carver cited both subjects for **Trespassing in Violation of the Travel Management Area** and one subject additionally for **Unlawful Taking Three-Point Elk Closed Area** and seized one elk and donated it to a food bank.

During an antlerless deer hunt, Sr. Tpr. Lindberg (Madras) investigated three extremely uncooperative subjects for illegally taking deer and issued a tagging citation. He later located a witness who provided very detailed observations about how two of the subjects shot at the deer from across a public road and hid two deer in a ditch. Lindberg secured three search warrants that troopers served in the Madras area, resulting in seizing rifles, deer, and an illegal bobcat acquired from another subject. Troopers issued citations for **Taking Deer Prohibited Method—Shooting across a Public Roadway, Unlawful Possession of Bobcat, and Aiding in a Wildlife Violation**.

Ret. Sr. Tpr. Oriet (McMinnville) encountered a truck operator in Camp McGregor ending his shift who advised he observed a vehicle parked on the gated 210 Road that he needed to secure prior to leaving. He said he noted two subjects walking away from the vehicle apparently elk hunting. Oriet arrived at the vehicle and found a 90-year-old male asleep inside. This subject had a Saddle Mountain #2 tag and a PDP permit and advised the others were hunting elk. He added the others picked him up from the Eugene assisted living center where he resided to take him hunting. About 45 minutes later, two subjects returned, both armed with centerfire rifles. The subjects both possessed Coast #2 elk tags, invalid for the Saddle Mountain Unit, and they admitted they were “helping” the PDP holder to hunt elk and were not really familiar with the PDP regulations. In addition, none of the subjects possessed an entry permit to be on Stimson property when it was closed to public entry for logging operations. Oriet cited both Coast #2 tag holders for **No Valid Elk Tag** and the operator and vehicle owner for **Illegal Motorized Entry—North Coast TMA**.

Elk Wasted in Chesnimnus

Sr. Tpr. Carter (Pendleton) who was off-duty hunting in the Chesnimnus Unit reported a wasted bull elk to Sr. Tpr. Coggins (Enterprise). Carter attempted to salvage the bull prior to contacting Coggins, but the bull was already wasted. Carter learned who the suspect was while in the area. Coggins and Tpr. Miller (Enterprise) responded, interviewed the suspect, and examined the wasted elk. Coggins cited the subject for **Waste of Wildlife—Elk**.

Deer and Illegal Weapon Found

Newport Fish and Wildlife troopers executed a search warrant on a Seal Rock property in Lincoln County that stemmed from a report of a subject who shot and killed several deer, possessed illegal firearms, and sold prescription medications. The complainant provided detailed information as well as deer meat and photographs of the deer when it was shot. Newport Division troopers executed the search warrant with assistance from Newport Patrol troopers and the Lincoln County SO. The search resulted in locating a forked horn deer head along with a short-barreled shotgun. The troopers cited the suspect for criminally for **Unlawful Take of Black-Tailed Buck Deer and Unlawful Possession of a Short-Barreled Shotgun**, a felony.

“Rightful” Owner Found Illegal

Sgt. Lea (Coos Bay) and Tpr. Wetzel (Florence) responded to a dispute between two pairs of hunters over a harvested five-point bull elk shot three times. Two subjects from one pair and one subject from the other pair shot at the bull, and both pairs claimed to have delivered the kill shot. Between interviews, re-creation of the scene, and a necropsy; troopers determined two subjects (one from each pair) shot the elk. One subject made a glancing shot to the jaw, and the other shot through middle and into a rear leg. The elk slowly walked out of sight, and then one subject shot into the neck, severing the spine. All parties agreed the subject who shot into the neck was the rightful owner; however, he could not produce his tag, as he claimed he lost his wallet. All parties searched the clear-cut for his wallet without success. A pointed interview revealed the subject actually filled his tag the day before. The troopers cited this subject for **Hunting Elk without a Valid Tag**, and the other subject took possession of the elk.

Wildlife / Hunting

Tags Illegally Loaned and Borrowed

Sgt. Schwartz (Astoria) received a report regarding a subject who unlawfully shot a 7 x 8 bull in the Rainier area on the last day of the 1st Coast rifle elk season. Schwartz learned the suspect hunted elk during the 2011 archery season and did not possess a valid rifle tag. He determined the suspect shot and killed the trophy bull using a rifle, took the elk to a friend's shop for processing, and then borrowed another friend's valid tag for transport to a meat processor. Subsequently, Schwartz cited the suspect criminally for **Unlawful Taking of Bull Elk—No 1st Season Coast Elk Tag** and **Borrowing a Big Game Tag** and the friend criminally for **Loaning a Big Game Tag** and seized the bull and one rifle as evidence.

Tpr. Imholt (Springfield) followed up on a trespass case where two subjects trespassed and killed two black-tailed deer on private property. One of the subjects did not have a tag and used his brother's tag on one of the deer. Imholt cited both subjects for **Hunting while Criminal Trespassing—Unlawful Take of Buck Deer** and the brother additionally for **Loaning a Deer Tag** and seized two rifles and the deer.

Tpr. King and Tpr. Galusha (Tillamook) received information that a Gaston convicted felon shot and killed a doe with a rifle. Both troopers responded to the suspect's residence where the suspect admitted to killing the doe with a .22 rifle and putting his wife's deer tag on the animal. The suspect knew he could not possess a firearm. The troopers lodged the suspect in the Washington County Jail on charges of **Felon in Possession of a Firearm, Unlawful Taking Deer—No Tag**, and **Borrowing a Big Game Tag** and seized the rifle and deer.



Suspect illegally shot 7 x 8 bull without a tag. Photo credit: File

Sr. Tpr. Salisbury (Florence) received information regarding a subject who killed a second spike elk by mistake and called another subject to tag it. He was familiar with the subjects involved and contacted them. The first subject was with his son and shot a spike in a herd of about 15 elk. The spike moved into the herd, and they lost track of it. When the herd moved off, a spike stayed behind. Thinking this elk was the wounded spike, the subject shot it, and the spike dropped. When the subjects walked up to the location and found two dead spike elk, the father panicked. Instead of notifying OSP, the father called a friend to find an unused elk tag. The friend arrived with another subject who put his tag on the elk and took it home. Salisbury cited the shooter for **Borrowing 2nd Season Coast Elk Tag**, the subject who tagged the elk for **Loaning 2nd Season Coast Elk Tag**, and the friend who coordinated the two subjects' meeting for **Aiding in a Wildlife Offense**. He seized the elk and donated it to the Mission.

Troopers Handled Poaching Complaints near John Day

Tpr. Ritter (John Day) received a complaint from a Kimberly-area ranch manager that unknown suspect(s) threw a cow elk head and hide off of the side of Holmes Creek Road after dark. The witness provided a plate number and said the suspect(s) fled in a hurry when he approached them in his pickup. Ritter and Tpr. McClay (John Day) located the remains within 100 yards of a waterway and collected evidence. The elk had been shot once in the head. The troopers and BLM Ranger Carothers later located the suspect vehicle and initiated a traffic stop. They noted blood in the bed of the vehicle. The driver said he dumped the elk remains, but he denied knowing who in his party killed the elk. All three occupants were deceptive during the investigation. The troopers followed the suspects back to the driver's residence where they contacted additional people. One subject said he found the elk already shot in a field he leases. He said he did not want the elk to go to waste, so he and a second subject gutted it, took it back to his residence, and skinned it. A consent search located elk meat not fit to eat and partially eaten by dogs. The troopers seized the carcass and disposed of it. A consent search of the field the suspect leases several miles away from his house and adjacent to Hwy 19 confirmed the kill site, but they could not find any shell casings. As a result, the troopers cited the first suspect for **Unlawful Possession of Cow Elk** and a second suspect for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation—Unlawful Possession Of Cow Elk** and warned both for **Placing Offensive Materials within 100 Yards of a Waterway**. They issued the third suspect a citation for **Placing Offensive Materials within 100 Yards of a Waterway** and a warning for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation—Unlawful Possession of Cow Elk**.

Tpr. Ritter (John Day) received a complaint from an elk hunter in the Murderers Creek Unit that an unknown suspect killed a large 4 x 4 buck and left it to waste. The reporting party was suspicious that another subject he saw in the area killed the deer. The witness provided the suspect's vehicle description and plate number. Ritter and Tpr. McClay (John Day) were en route to the area to determine if they could salvage the deer when the suspect vehicle containing three occupants sped past them going in the opposite direction. The troopers caught up to the vehicle several miles away and initiated a traffic stop. One occupant said he inadvertently hit the deer with the vehicle, critically injuring it. He said he shot the deer from the road with his 30.06 to put it out of its misery. He added the antlers were still attached to the deer when he last saw it. The suspect said he was on his way to report the incident to law enforcement. The vehicle showed no indication of hitting a deer. The suspect's hunting partners advised the suspect told them he had no intention of reporting the incident to OSP and added the suspect sawed the antlers off and hid them in the vehicle. The troopers located and seized the 4 x 4 antlers, the suspect's rifle, and meat saw. After they located the carcass and performed a necropsy, they determined the deer had not been struck by a vehicle, only a bullet. Fortunately, they were able to salvage the deer. They also located a 30.06 shell casing in the road. The troopers took the suspect into custody, and Tpr. Weaver (Patrol) lodged him in jail for **Taking Buck Deer Closed Season, Waste of Wildlife—Buck Deer, Illegal Possession of Wildlife Parts—Deer Antlers, Shooting from a Public Roadway, and Hunting Bear without a Valid Used or Unused Elk Tag**.

Wildlife / Hunting



Deer taken illegally with rifle in muzzleloader season. Photo credit: File

Deer Taken using Prohibited Method

Sr. Tpr. Duncan (Baker city) contacted a subject with a buck during muzzleloader season. His investigation discovered the subject did not take the buck with a muzzleloader but a .270 rifle. Duncan cited the subject for **Unlawfully Taking Whitetail Buck Deer—Centerfire Rifle during Muzzleloader Season** and seized the rifle and the deer.

Tpr. Smith (Tillamook) conducted an investigation into a trapper who caught a deer in one of his snares placed on private property where the deer eventually died. Smith found the snare with the dead deer and identified the trapper. He left the snare with the deer in it to see if the trapper would report a deer inadvertently killed by his trap. Smith returned several days later and found the trapper removed the snare and left the deer behind. The trapper had not reported the incident to OSP. Smith contacted and cited the trapper for **Unlawful Taking Deer—Snare**.

Game Hunted in Closed Areas or during Closed Time Periods

Sr. Tpr. Vanderwerf (The Dalles) and Sr. Tpr. McNeerney (Hood River) investigated a report of a deer killed during elk season. They contacted the suspect and determined the suspect did kill a deer. The subject finally allowed inspection of the deer. Vanderwerf lodged the subject in jail for **Taking Deer Closed Season**.

Tpr. Shimer (St. Helens), Tpr. Boeholt (Portland), and Sgt. Schwartz (Astoria) conducted a spike elk WED operation in the Saddle Mountain Unit, a three-point or better unit. During the WED, a subject in a truck pulled up, and two men shot at the decoy. Neither man had a Saddle Mountain Unit elk tag. The troopers cited both subjects for **Unlawful Take of Spike Elk Closed Area** and additionally cited one subject for **Hunting from a Motor Vehicle**.

Tpr. Imholt (Springfield) and Tpr. Wetzel (Florence) conducted an early morning WED in the Siuslaw Unit. A subject approached in a vehicle, stopped, and shot the decoy three times. When contacted, he said he thought it was legal shooting hours and blamed his clock since he did not adjust it for daylight savings time. The time was one hour before legal shooting time and very dark. He also blamed his wife since she was the one who saw the decoy. The troopers cited the subject for **Hunting Elk Prohibited Hours** and seized his rifle.

Tpr. Shimer (St. Helens), with the assistance of Tpr. Meyer (Patrol) and Sgt. Schwartz (Astoria), concluded an investigation that revealed one subject killed a bull near his residence one week before the season and contacted a friend to help salvage the bull, butcher it, and take possession of the meat. Shimer determined the friend attempted to conceal the unlawful activity by hiding the meat in coolers and placing them in his attic. Both subjects admitted to the unlawful activity. Shimer issued citations for **Unlawful Taking of Bull Elk Closed Season, Aiding in a Wildlife Offense, and Unlawful Possession of Game Animal—Elk**.

Sr. Tpr. Frerichs and Tpr. Baimbridge (Roseburg) received information about a subject who had an elk hanging near Days Creek. The troopers located a freshly killed spike elk head with a validated Cascade elk tag. The season ended 11 days prior. The troopers determined the spike elk was shot two days prior to contact on the rented property. They seized the spike elk head, a front quarter and a hindquarter, and an unlawful beaver hide. The troopers responded to a Myrtle Creek address where they located the rest of the elk. They contacted the suspect's brother as he was attempting to remove the front quarter and rear hindquarter from the residence. Frerichs cited the main suspect for **Unlawful Take of Elk Closed Season** and warned him for Unlawful Possession of Beaver and cited the brother for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation** and warned him for Tampering with Evidence. Baimbridge cited their father for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation**.

Subjects Aided Youth

Tpr. Andrews (Salem) contacted a father and son who Andrews observed take a deer outside the Willamette Unit. The son had a Willamette Unit tag, and his father guided him into the closed area to fill the tag. Andrews cited the father for **Aiding/Counseling in a Game Violation** and seized the deer.

Sr. Tpr. Merritt and Tpr. Baimbridge (Roseburg) responded to Sutherlin on a deer poaching complaint off of Waite Street. The investigation revealed the subject allowed his 12-year-old son to shoot a deer in the city limits thinking his tag was valid for the youth continuation hunt under the mentoring program. The troopers cited the subject for **Taking Deer Closed Season and Hunting Prohibited Area—City Limits** and seized the deer.



Deer taken in city limits. Photo credit: File

Tpr. Baimbridge (Roseburg) followed up on a report of a possible poached deer from private property on the last day of youth season. The investigation revealed a father pulled off alongside a paved two-lane road and let his 13-year-old son get out and shoot a deer across a fence. The wounded deer went onto another landowner's property, paralleling the road. The juvenile ran down the road and shot the deer again. Baimbridge located the suspect. He cited the father for **Aiding in a Wildlife Offense x 2** and seized the deer.

Wildlife / Hunting

Four Swans Unlawfully Killed and Left

Sr. Tpr. Pearson (The Dalles) is investigating four swans found shot and killed in a pond on private property near Dufur Gap Road and Friend Road south of Dufur in Wasco County. The swans were believed to be killed during the latter part of November. The suspect(s) made no effort to retrieve the swans and left them to waste. Hunting swans is unlawful in Oregon during waterfowl seasons. OSP completed a media release advising OHA is offering a TIP reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for unlawfully killing and wasting the four swans. Anyone with information regarding this investigation is asked to call Sr. Tpr. Swede Pearson or Sgt. John Katzenstein at 541-296-9646 or the Turn-in-Poachers hotline at 800-452-7888. Information can be reported anonymously.

One of four swans illegally killed and wasted. Photo credit: File



Poor Compliance Found during Waterfowl Patrol

Sr. Tpr. Klepp (Astoria) used the 14-foot skiff to conduct a lower Columbia River boat patrol from Tongue Point to the Clifton area and contacted 10 subjects waterfowl hunting. During the patrol, he found poor compliance. Klepp issued three citations for **Hunting with Unplugged Shotgun**, two for **Hunting Waterfowl Prohibited Method—Aid of a Motor-Propelled Boat in Motion**, one for **Illegal Possession of Lead Shot**, one for **Failure to Sign Federal Waterfowl Stamp**, and one for **No Boat Registration** and several warnings for license violations.

Permits, Licenses, and Tags Falsely Applied For

Tpr. Peterson, Tpr. King, and Sgt. Hoodenpyl (Tillamook) conducted a WED in the Trask Unit. During the operation, two separate subjects pulled their vehicles up to the set and shot the decoy from the road and inside the vehicle. The troopers found the subjects had disability permits, but neither subject actually qualified for them. The troopers cited each subject for **False Application for Oregon Disabilities Hunting Permit**.

Tpr. Herman (Astoria) contacted a subject in the Wilson Unit who had a Washington driver license and an Oregon resident hunting license and elk tag. His investigation revealed the subject bought multiple resident big game tags over the last few years while living in Washington. Herman cited the subject criminally for **Unlawful Possession of Falsely Applied for 2011 Resident Hunting License** and **Unlawful Possession of Falsely Applied for 2011 Resident Coast Elk Tag**.



Turkey illegally shot for dinner during elk season. Photo credit: File

Subject Used Bait to Aid in Taking Bear

Sr. Tpr. Turnbo (McMinnville), with the help from the Tillamook and Salem Division troopers, completed an investigation into the unlawful taking of a black bear over bait. The investigation resulted in the troopers serving a search warrant at a Grand Ronde residence. Turnbo subsequently issued the subject a citation for **Taking Bear with the Aid of Bait**. During the course of the investigation, the troopers also learned the subject did not check in a bear that he harvested in 2010 to ODFW as required. Turnbo additionally cited the subject for **Unlawful Possession of Bear Parts—Failure to Check In with ODFW**. Troopers subsequently seized two bear skulls, one bear hide, one rifle, and a shoulder mount as evidence.

Unlawful Possession of Wildlife

Sr. Tpr. Bean (Klamath Falls) was patrolling the Fort Rock/Silver Lake Winter Range when he located a deer with the head removed. The deer appeared to have been dead for several days; however, it was clear the head was only removed. As luck would have it, a light snow fell overnight which allowed for tracking. Bean followed vehicle tracks for over 40 miles that ultimately led to a residence. Bean contacted a subject at the residence. The subject admitted he found the deer several days before and believed it to be a lion kill. The suspect then returned to the area and looked at the head again. He admitted the head was too hard to pass up, so he took it. Bean cited the suspect for **Unlawful Possession of Wildlife**.

Turkey Taken Closed Season

Sgt. Pond (Bend) patrolled the Ochoco Unit near Rager for first season bull elk hunters. He and ODFW Biologist Crystal Strobl contacted a large camp with a bull elk hanging. One subject (not the successful one) advised the head was in a cargo trailer and offered to produce it so it could be sampled. When the subject opened the door to retrieve the head, a cleaned wild turkey was observed in a pan prepared for cooking with the tail fan lying in the back of the trailer. When asked about the turkey, the subject was surprised to see it and advised it must be one of the other subject's turkey. When the other subjects returned to camp, Pond interviewed them. One subject advised he shot the turkey and was going to cook it for camp that evening. Pond issued the shooter a citation for **Taking Turkey Closed Season** and seized the turkey and donated it to charity.

Commercial Fish / Shellfish / Sport Angling / OSMB

Multi-Time Offender Lodged

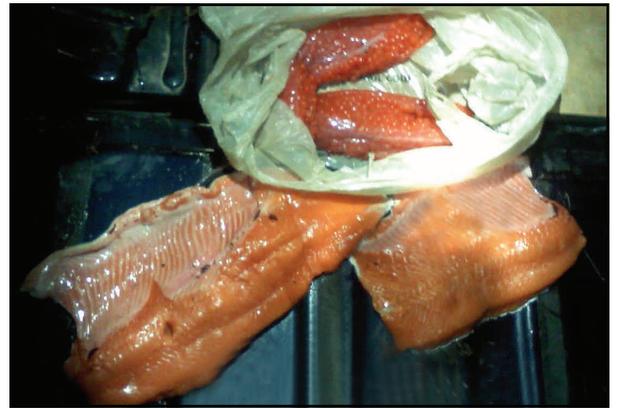
An off-duty trooper observed a male angler retain at least three adult Chinook and one jack salmon on the Elk River. Sr. Tpr. Harris (Coos Bay) responded to the area where about 100 people were angling. The daily limit on the Elk River is two adult Chinook and five jacks with only one adult nonadipose fin-clipped fish. Upon contact, the suspect had one adult and one jack salmon, and he refused to admit to taking two adult salmon earlier in the day. Harris searched, but he could not locate the other two salmon. Upon checking his tag, Harris noted the suspect altered his tag by scratching out and changing an entry and writing over other entries, potentially allowing the angler to take more than the allotted 20 fish per year on his harvest card. Harris arrested the suspect for **Exceeding the Daily Limit of Chinook Salmon** and lodged him in jail due to his lack of voluntary compliance, the number of complaints for the area, and the suspect has committed three Class A misdemeanors.

39 Illegal Crab Discovered

Tpr. Van Meter (Newport) received a complaint of four subjects keeping undersized Dungeness crab from the public docks on Alsea Bay. The vehicle associated with the complaint was a white car with Washington registration. When she arrived, she noticed two men in a white car with Washington plates beginning to leave. She approached the vehicle and asked the occupants if they had been crabbing and had any crab to which they told her they did not. She asked if they would mind if she look in the trunk, and the driver opened it. Inside, Van Meter discovered a large plastic garbage bag filled with something moving—Dungeness crab. Neither man had a shellfish license. Meanwhile, two other men associated with these two subjects were still crabbing. Upon contact, she found they had more crab in a cooler that were undersized and female. Neither of these men had shellfish licenses either. In total, the four men had 13 undersized male Dungeness crab, 36 female Dungeness crab, and two legal crab. Van Meter cited three subjects for **Unlawful Possession of Female Dungeness Crab** and two subjects for **No 2011 Oregon Shellfish license**. Fortunately, all illegal crab were released back into the bay.

Angler Filleted Salmon in the Field

Tpr. Herman (Astoria) contacted a salmon angler on the Nehalem River who told him he had caught a coho earlier in the day. His subsequent investigation revealed the angler caught and retained a native coho salmon in an area that was closed. He also filleted the salmon and threw away the carcass. While conducting a consent search of the angler's vehicle, Herman found two salmon fillets and salmon eggs, as well as marijuana. Herman issued the angler citations for **Unlawful Possession of Mutilated Salmon** and **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana** and seized the salmon, eggs, and marijuana as evidence.



Fish and eggs seized as evidence. Photo credit: File

Over 30 Cites Issued on Owyhee Boat Patrol

Sr. Tpr. Duncan (Baker City) completed an evaluation for his Owyhee River Wild & Scenic Waterway Enforcement Action Plan. The plan's goal was to generate voluntary compliance with Department of State Parks, OSMB, and angling regulations, as well as protection of cultural sites in the corridor. During the four-hour raft patrols from Rome to Birch Creek, troopers contacted 224 people, inspected 188 boats, and issued **30** citations. Troopers issued two jet boat operators citations for **Illegally Operating within the Non-Motorized Area** and several citations to other subjects for **No AIS Permit**, with a compliance rate of 78% for AIS permits. General public response to OSP enforcement personnel on the river was positive. This action plan will be continued in 2012.

Several Cited for Illegal Sturgeon and Salmon Angling

Sgt. Allori (Portland) received information of an angler who retained a sturgeon on the Willamette River at Cedar Oak and hid the fish in the brush. The Willamette River was closed to the retention of sturgeon. Allori located the subject and found the hidden sturgeon. The sturgeon was still alive and returned to the Willamette River. Allori cited the subject for **Unlawful Possession of Sturgeon** and **Angling Prohibited Method—Barbed Hook**.

While checking anglers on the Chetco River, Sr. Tpr. Stinnett and Tpr. Smithers (Gold Beach) observed a 12-year-old boy fight a large salmon for 45 minutes. Three males in a drift boat eventually picked up the boy. Numerous anglers saw the fish and said it was hooked on its side. Stinnett contacted the boy and his father. The boy admitted the fish was hooked in the back just above the gills and said the adults in the boat netted and killed the fish. Stinnett had a long talk with the boy and warned him for **Taking a Foul-Hooked Fish** and **No Harvest Card**. The troopers contacted the adults in the boat. Stinnett cited the angler who netted and killed the fish and removed the roe and warned the other two for **Aiding in a Game Violation**.

Tpr. King (Tillamook) was working anglers on the Wilson River when he saw a subject running to his pickup with a fish in a net. The subject then threw the fish and net into his vehicle and attempted to flee the area. King contacted the subject and found the fish was an illegal wild coho. King cited the subject for **Unlawful Possession Nonadipose Fin-Clipped Coho Salmon** and seized the fish.

Sgt. Hoodenpyl (Tillamook) responded to a complaint of three subjects snagging Chinook on the Wilson River. Upon arrival, he located the suspects sitting inside a parked car. Upon contact, the driver had dried blood on his hands and agreed to show Hoodenpyl the three fish in the trunk. Upon opening the trunk, Hoodenpyl saw three fish and noticed one Chinook was still flopping around. The subject took two large Chinook from the trunk and then grabbed the third by covering the adipose fin with his hand. Hoodenpyl noticed the fish's mouth was covered in sand to hide the fact it had a white tooth line instead of black. The subject admitted he caught the wild coho. Hoodenpyl seized the illegal fish and cited the subject for **Unlawful Possession Nonadipose Fin-Clipped**

Interagency Cooperation / Public Relations



ODFW and OSP recovered elk. Photo credit: File

Hunter Shot by Loaded Rifle on ATV

Tpr. Ritter, Tpr. McClay (John Day), Master Sgt. Larson (Patrol), and Grant County SO Undersheriff McKinley responded to a report of a hunter accidentally shot with a rifle in the Northside Unit. The victim and two partners were traveling on an ATV on a USFS road when the ATV lost traction. His partners dismounted to allow the victim to drive the ATV up the snow-covered road. When one partner dismounted, the bolt-action rifle he was carrying discharged. The bullet struck the ATV then hit the victim in his leg. The partners, both paramedics, administered first aid. The victim was treated and released at a hospital.

Suspect Eluded Officers

Tpr. O'Connor (Astoria) assisted Astoria PD and Clatsop County SO near Astoria Pipeline Road searching for a suspect who eluded APD. As he proceeded up a forest road off of Hwy 202, he encountered the suspect. He attempted a stop, but the suspect accelerated in reverse until he got turned around. He pursued the suspect for about two miles, until a deputy was waiting for him at an intersection. With nowhere to flee, the suspect attempted to go back around O'Connor's vehicle and became stuck in the mud. O'Connor lodged the suspect in jail on **Attempt to Elude—Felony, Unlawful Possession of Methamphetamine, and Recklessly Endangering x 3** and additionally cited the suspect for **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana, DWS, No Insurance, and Failure to Register Vehicle.**

Cooperation Rendered

ODFW assisted The Dalles Division troopers with investigating the accidental shooting and recovering of two elk on the White River Wildlife Area. ODFW worked many hours late into the night and took samples for research purposes.

Sr. Tpr. Klepp (Astoria) received a report about a boater who retained an illegal salmon on the Necanicum River. While en route, the informant called Seaside PD who was able to stop the suspect after he exited the river by vehicle. Upon contact, Klepp found one wild coho. Klepp cited the suspect for **Illegal Possession of Nonadipose Fin-Clipped Coho Salmon.**

Tpr. Baimbridge (Roseburg) responded to a report of a subject in a California pickup killing a deer on Cole Road. He coordinated with Los Angeles County SO and CDFG to locate and seize two deer heads and parts from the suspect. The suspect stated via phone he picked up the deer from I-5. Baimbridge cited the suspect for **Unlawful Possession of Black-Tailed Deer x 2.**

Lt. Gifford, Sgt. Meyer, and Tpr. Nugent (Central Point) received a call of multiple people who reported a male skinning a deer roadside near Shady Cove. Jackson County SO stopped the suspect vehicle. Officers made contact and found the suspect was actually female. Nugent's investigation revealed the suspect took portions of the hide for tanning and a shoulder of the road-killed deer for consumption. The troopers seized deer and cited the her for **Unlawful Possession of Deer.**

ODFW Presented Award

Sgt. Katzenstein (The Dalles) accepted an award at the ODFW High Desert Region meeting on behalf of The Dalles Team for their enforcement efforts on the White River Wildlife Area. The award was presented by Josh Moulton and Chip Dale.

Events Attended

Sr. Tpr. Stinnett, Tpr. Smithers (Gold Beach), Sr. Tpr. Keeler, and Sgt. Lea (Coos Bay) attended a public meeting regarding the implementation of the Red Fish Rocks Marine Reserve.

Lt. Gifford (SW Region), Sgt. Lea, Sr. Tpr. Harris (Coos Bay), Tpr. Smithers (Gold Beach), and Sgt. Withers (Roseburg) attended a meeting regarding cooperative enforcement of guides with members of the OSMB, Curry County SO, and USFS.

Lt. Gifford (SW Region) attended a Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) presentation in Roseburg. The French Foreign Legion (FFL) awarded two VFW members the Medal of Honor and inducted them as "Chevalier," the highest honor the FFL bestows. One subject, Frank Moore, is a long-time proponent of fish and wildlife and is internationally recognized for his flyfishing accomplishments. The FFL recognized Moore for his actions while serving in Normandy and at the Battle of the Bulge. Gifford received positive comments for his attendance and had the opportunity to meet and speak briefly with Governor Kitzhaber's Chief of Staff, Curtis Robinhold. About 300 people attended the event.

Agency Partners Assisted with Conducting WED Operations

Tpr. Boyd, Tpr. Imholt (Springfield), Lane County SO Deputy Combs, and BLM Ranger Cox conducted a WED operation on BLM land near Marcola. Two subjects in a vehicle stopped at the location and illuminated the decoy with the headlights. The passenger exited the vehicle and took aim through his riflescope. The subject did not shoot and got back in the vehicle. Troopers cited the passenger for **Hunting Prohibited Hours with the Aid of Artificial Light** and the driver for **Aiding in a Game Violation—Hunt Prohibited Hours with the Aid of Artificial Light.**

Tpr. Herman, Ret. Sr. Tpr. Stanton (Astoria), and ODFW Gary Duke conducted a spike WED operation on a forest road in the Saddle Mountain Unit, a three-point or better unit. Three subjects from two separate vehicles fired at the decoy during the operation, one from within the vehicle and all from the road. The investigation revealed two subjects did not have valid tags for the unit, and the third did not have an elk tag or hunting license. The troopers criminally cited one subject for **Unlawful Take Spike Elk (Decoy) Closed Area** and **Unlawful Hunting from a Motor Vehicle** and a second subject for **Unlawful Take Spike Elk (Decoy) Closed Area.** The third subject was a convicted felon with two warrants for his arrest. The troopers criminally cited this subject for **Felon in Possession of a Firearm, Unlawful Take Spike Elk (Decoy) Closed Area, and Hunting Prohibited Method—Shooting from a Public Roadway** and lodged him in jail on the warrants. The troopers seized three rifles as evidence.

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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