

The Field Review



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September and October Searches Led to Citing Subjects for Wildlife Crimes

According to Sr. Tpr. Turnbo (McMinnville), in the last part of 2010, OSP received information about possible unlawful hunting activities involving a Sheridan-area subject. The investigation led to the issuance of a search warrant at the subject's residence in July 2010. Division troopers from Tillamook and McMinnville executed several search warrants and contacted the subject. The troopers seized numerous evidentiary items, including firearms, eight bear skulls, deer and bear mounts, and unlawfully possessed wildlife and wildlife parts. In September, OSP cited the subject to appear in both Yamhill and Tillamook Counties on several crimes, including **No Taxidermy License, Unlawful Possession of Bear Skulls, Baiting Bear, Unlawful Possession of Deer Mounts, Unlawful Possession of Fur Bearing Mammals, Taking Black-Tailed Deer—No Tag, Borrowing a Western Rifle Deer Tag, and Unlawful Possession of a Cougar Cape.**



Seized wildlife from Sheridan taxidermy case. Photo credit: File

Tpr. Stone, Sr. Tpr. Merritt, Sgt. Withers (Roseburg), and Det. Willis (Criminal) served a search warrant at a Sutherlin residence regarding an unlawful waste of five antelope and offensive littering case. After OHA and The Humane Society of the United States offered a combined reward of \$3,500, OSP received several tips which led to serving the search warrant. Troopers located and seized packaged antelope meat, several antelope front and hindquarters, and paperwork as evidence. They were also able to interview the suspect and obtain his confession. The antelope had been taken in Wyoming and then transported to his residence in Sutherlin. The suspect then processed some of the meat and disposed of the carcasses, along with several pieces of litter, on a piece of private timber land in the Marvin Hill area near Sutherlin. Troopers have contacted the Wyoming Fish & Wildlife Department, and they have started their own investigation into the taking of the antelope. The suspect was transported to the Douglas County Jail where he was cited and released for **Waste of a Game Mammal—Antelope x 2 and Offensive Littering.**



Antelope partially salvaged or wasted and dumped. Photo credit: File

Tag and Aiding in a Wildlife Offense. During the search warrant service, troopers also determined one of the subjects had unlawfully taken nonadipose fin-clipped coho salmon from the Nestucca River drainage in late 2010. The troopers additionally cited this subject for **Taking Coho Salmon Closed Season.**

In September, Central Oregon Team members served a search warrant at a residence in Bend after Sr. Tpr. Love (Bend) developed information that a subject had unlawfully taken and possessed two cougars. During the warrant service and subsequent investigation, evidence was found pointing to other crimes of illegal take and possession of wildlife. In October, Love completed the investigation and contacted and lodged the suspect in jail on the following 22 charges: **Unlawful Take of Cougar—Use of Dogs, Unlawful Possession of Cougar x 3, Failure to Check in Cougar as Required x 2, Aiding in a Wildlife Violation x 5, Hunting Cougar Without a Valid Tag x 2, Unlawful Possession of Antelope Parts x 2, Unlawful Possession of Bobcat Parts, Unlawful Possession of Bear Parts, Unlawful Possession of Deer Parts x 3, Unlawful Possession of Protected Bird—Owl, and No Written Record of Transfer.**



Seized items from Central Oregon case. Photo credit: File

Dispositions / Environment / ATV

Sandy Man Sentenced on Wildlife Crime Convictions

Beginning in 2009, information was received about possible unlawful hunting activities involving a Sandy subject. The investigation led to the issuance of a search warrant at the subject's residence in March 2011. Portland and Salem Division troopers executed several warrants and contacted the subject. The troopers seized numerous evidentiary items, including archery hunting equipment, a cougar skull, a cougar mount, 3 x 4 and 4 x 4 black-tailed buck mounts, and unlawfully possessed wildlife parts. OSP charged the subject in both Clackamas and Marion Counties. In July 2011, the subject pled guilty in Clackamas County to several crimes, including Unlawful Taking of Bear during a Closed Season, Unlawful Possession of Cougar, Unlawful Possession of Deer, and False Application for Fish/Wildlife License/Tag/Permit. The court sentenced the subject to \$1,268 fines; a three-year hunting suspension; and forfeit the cougar skull, cougar mount, 3 x 4 buck mount, and .325 caliber rifle. In October, the subject pled guilty in Marion County to Unlawful Taking of Deer. The court sentenced the subject to \$7,702 fines, a five-year hunting suspension, and forfeit the trophy 4 x 4 buck mount.

Trooper Located ATV Accident Victim

Tpr. Baimbridge (Roseburg) overheard an accident dispatched on the county channel where an ATV had rolled on the victim and gas was leaking. The accident was close to where Baimbridge was working, so he responded. He rolled the ATV off the victim's legs and stabilized the victim until medical personnel arrived. Baimbridge assisted medical personnel as they loaded the victim into the ambulance and transported him to the hospital.

Citations Issued for Littering

Sr. Tpr. Canfield (Newport) completed the investigation into the dumped elk carcass off of Canal Creek Road. A subject had harvested a bull elk and put it in a private meat locker to hang. The compressor went bad, and the elk spoiled. The subject took the carcass and dumped it off of Canal Creek with sheets and other non-biodegradable items. Canfield cited the subject for **Offensive Littering**.

Sr. Tpr. Collom (Central Point) received a phone call concerning someone seeing a silver Yukon parked off of West Branch Elk Creek and that someone associated with the vehicle was observed tossing black garbage bags off into the ditch. Collom responded and found four bags of grass hay. Collom asked Sr. Tpr. Cushman (Central Point) to drive to the address listed on the Yukon's registration and have the owner come back up and pick up the bags. The registered owner denied she was the one who threw out the bags. Collom and Cushman went back up the next day and confronted her again. She still denied it, even though she had a whole stack of identical black bags in her driveway filled with grass hay. The troopers cited the owner for **Littering within 100 Yards of a Waterway**.

ATV Operators Cited

Sr. Tpr. Maher (Springfield) worked the Cottage Grove area on the evening before Cascade elk season. On the way up Mosby Creek, he observed a four-wheel ATV operating on the highway. He stopped and cited the operator for **Unlawful Operation of Class I ATV on Highway**.

Sr. Tpr. Turnbo (McMinnville) was checking hunters near Willamina Creek Road when he heard an ATV in a stand of trees owned by Weyerhaeuser. He contacted a subject who drove around a locked gate. Turnbo issued the subject a citation for **Operating a Vehicle in Violation of the North Coast Travel Management Area** and a warning for Criminal Trespass II.

Tpr. Keeler (Coos Bay) followed up on a complaint of a deer possibly killed on a closed section of Weyerhaeuser property. While locating the kill site, two subjects on an ATV rode by. The subjects were hunting deer and in possession of a loaded .17 caliber rifle. Keeler warned them for Hunting with Restricted Caliber and Possessing a Loaded Firearm on an ATV. His follow-up resulted in citing the driver for **Hunting in Violation of Criminal Trespass** and warning the passenger for the same.

Tpr. Imholt (Springfield) received a report of hunters on ATVs behind a closed Weyerhaeuser gate. He arrived just as the ATVs were coming back to their vehicle. Imholt's investigation revealed a subject and his teenage children were hunting the Weyerhaeuser property on ATVs looking for a buck to kill. The subject admitted to shooting a buck two weekends before and not tagging it so he could kill another buck. Imholt cited the subject for **Criminal Trespass II, Fail to Validate Deer Tag, and Attempt to Exceed Bag Limit on Black-Tailed Deer**.

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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	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	OSMB	Oregon State Marine Board	WDFW	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
		PFD	Personal Flotation Device	WED	Wildlife Enforcement Decoy

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Trespass / General Law



Trooper caught vehicle operating on a closed beach. Photo credit: File

Poaching Suspects Tampered with Witnesses

Tpr. Van Meter (Newport) attended grand jury on Tampering with a Witness charges relating to a large-scale poaching case. In February 2011, one of the suspects made threatening comments and actions to two witnesses after the investigation began. Van Meter contacted both suspects and warned them not to make any threats with witnesses or their family. In August 2011, troopers arrested the two suspects on misdemeanor and felony fish and game offenses. In October 2011, one witness called Van Meter reporting one suspect made additional threatening comments toward them. The case was presented to the grand jury in October. As a result, a true bill was passed down. With the help of Toledo PD officers, Van Meter arrested the suspect soon after, charging the suspect with **Tampering with a Witness—Felony**.

Felony to Possess Psilocybins

Tpr. Warwick (Astoria) was informed by off-duty Tpr. Schuerger (Patrol) and Tpr. Herman (Astoria) that a subject was picking mushrooms in Fort Stevens State Park. Schuerger said the male subject showed him a psilocybin mushroom he had picked, pulled from a backpack. Warwick and Tpr. Vogel (Astoria) responded to the area and observed the suspect walk out of the brush without his backpack. After contact, Vogel located the backpack in nearby vegetation. When confronted about the backpack, the subject admitted it was his and he knew what he had been picking were psilocybin mushrooms. The troopers discovered the backpack contained over four pounds of fresh psilocybin mushrooms. Additionally, a records check revealed the subject had two outstanding warrants for his arrest. The troopers arrested the subject and lodged him in jail on the warrants and for **UPCS—Psilocybin Mushrooms**, a felony.

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Trespass Complaints Investigated

Sgt. Lea and Tpr. Brandon (Coos Bay) discovered a vehicle in the vehicle closure zone along the beach near the Tahkenitch Creek outlet. The troopers issued the vehicle driver a citation for **Operating Motor Vehicle in Closed Zone of Ocean Shore** and a warning for No Flag or Off-Road Permit.

Tpr. Freitag and Tpr. Andrews (Salem) investigated a trespass complaint at Wheatland Ferry on DSL property which is closed to motor vehicles. The investigation located five vehicles, including one ATV, about 50 yards behind the posted boundary. The troopers cited all five operators for **Criminal Trespass II**.

Tpr. Mayer (Heppner) responded to a complaint of a trespasser who shot and killed a buck on private property owned by his neighbor. Mayer located the suspect with the 4 x 4 buck loaded into the back of a rental car. The investigation revealed the suspect had to trespass to kill the buck. Mayer cited the suspect for **Criminal Trespass II** and seized the buck.

Tpr. Mayer (Heppner) responded to a complaint of a deer shot and left to waste on private property outside of Heppner. When he received the information, he recognized the vehicle in the description. After locating the unoccupied vehicle, Mayer sat down the road and waited. When the suspect returned to his vehicle, he made contact. He determined the suspect shot the buck and left it to waste. Mayer cited the suspect for **Criminal Trespass II** and **Waste of Wildlife**.

Suspects Caught Hunting on Ranches without Permission

Sr. Tpr. Collom (Central Point) received a call from a ranch manager about a trespass on the 2,000 acre ranch where a ranch hand caught two subjects dragging a three-point buck on the property. The subjects told the manager to “pound sand,” gave him fictitious names, and continued to drag the deer when the manager told them they were trespassing and ordered them to stop. Collom and Tpr. Nugent (Central Point) caught up with the suspects near South Fork Little Butte Creek. The suspects said they shot and wounded the deer on BLM land and then caught up with it on the ranch. Collom and Nugent back-tracked the drag marks all the way to the gut pile and then to where the deer was first shot, about three miles from any public land. The troopers charged both suspects with **Hunting on Enclosed Lands of Another** and seized their rifles and the buck.

After working the above case, Collom received a call of another trespass on a nearby ranch. A security officer at this ranch reported some one shot a deer in the middle of the night on ranch property. Collom located the gut pile and took blood samples for future DNA analysis if a suspect was developed.

After taking the samples, Collom received another call about a Trespass off East Fork Evans Creek where a subject shot a buck on private property directly across from a “No Trespassing” sign and in the same direction of a house and shop on the property. The deer was shot 15 yards from the road and only about 40 yards from the property owner’s house. One of the witnesses ran out to the suspects and told them to leave the property or they were going to call the police. The suspect left without the deer, and the witness called OSP anyway after writing down the license plate. OSP responded and salvaged the deer. The next day, Collom and Tpr. Nugent (Central Point) interviewed the suspect who admitted to the crime. He thought he was shooting the deer on BLM land even though he was right next to a “No Trespassing” sign and a fence. The troopers cited the suspect for **Hunting on Enclosed Lands of Another**.

General Law

Wanted Subject Apprehended during Marine Board Patrol

Acting on a tip provided by Keizer PD, Division troopers located and arrested a man wanted on multiple sex-related crimes as he was apparently fleeing Oregon on a sailboat in the Columbia River west of St. Helens. Keizer PD Det. Howden traveled to Vancouver, Washington, to attempt to locate and arrest a Keizer subject related to an investigation he sexually abused a known juvenile female. A Marion County grand jury indicted the subject and issued warrants for his arrest for **Rape I x 2**, **Sodomy I x 2**, and **Sex Abuse I x 2**. Howden developed information that the subject fled the Vancouver area to St. Helens where he may have departed in a 27-foot sailboat. St. Helens PD checked a local dock, confirmed the subject left in the sailboat, and provided a description to OSP. Coincidentally, Tpr. Boeholt (Portland) and Tpr. Shimer (St. Helens) were already on a routine boat patrol to check sturgeon anglers on the Columbia River in the St. Helens area. They spotted the sailboat near Goble where they pulled alongside and contacted the male operator. The troopers positively identified the operator as the wanted subject and took him into custody on the felony warrant. One trooper transported the subject in the OSP boat back to St. Helens, and the other operated the sailboat back to the St. Helens dock. Evidence found on the boat led officers to believe the subject was planning to leave the area for extended period of time. The subject was lodged in the Columbia County Jail pending transport to Marion County.



Trooper Caught DUII Subject on USFS Road

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) checked elk hunters in the upper McKenzie Unit on USFS Robinson Lake Road. He checked a large group of subjects at their camp near dark. One of the members of the camp was visibly intoxicated and had a difficult time standing. Boyd left the camp after visiting with the subjects and continued down USFS 2664 Road where he noticed ATV tracks that went down every closed road. The operator had driven past signs on each road that indicated "No Motor Vehicles." Boyd gathered evidence for the crime of Operation of a Motor Vehicle in Violation of Cooperative Travel Management Area. He started up the road in his patrol vehicle as a Jeep approached. The Jeep stopped, and Boyd recognized the driver as the intoxicated subject he just contacted at the camp. The investigation resulted in Boyd arresting the subject. Tpr. Berland (Patrol) transported the subject to the Lane County Jail, BAC .14%. The troopers cited and released the subject for **DUII** and **Open Container**.

Marijuana Grown in Plain View of Public Road

Sr. Tpr. Kipper, Sr. Tpr. Vanderwerf, Sr. Tpr. Pearson (The Dalles), Lt. Ashmore, and Sr. Tpr. Raiser (Patrol) responded to a complaint of a marijuana grow on private property in plain view of a public road south of The Dalles. The troopers determined two of the five growers on the property did have medical grow permits; however, the main grower did not. Additionally, the troopers determined the people involved possessed way over their allowable amount of marijuana and further discovered a convicted felon on the premises was in possession of two firearms. At the direction of the Wasco County DA, the troopers seized the plants that were in plain view of the roadway. The buds and leaves from these very large plants weighed 59 pounds. They also seized the two firearms. The troopers forwarded a report to the DA who later indicted one suspect for **Felon in Possession of a Firearm x 2** and **Unlawful Manufacture and Possession of a Controlled Substance—Marijuana** and another for **Unlawful Manufacture and Possession of a Controlled Substance—Marijuana**.

Traffic Stop Resulted in Lodging Subject for Drugs

Tpr. Freitag (Salem) stopped a vehicle on I-5 near Salem for Failing to Drive within Lane of Travel. Upon contact, he noticed the driver had just sprayed an air freshener inside the vehicle, but the fragrance soon changed to the odor of marijuana. The driver provided him with his California Medical Marijuana information and advised he had approximately one pound of marijuana in the vehicle. During a search, Freitag recovered approximately 3.5 pounds of marijuana, 2.5 ounces of hashish, \$6,788 in cash, and a glass pipe and plastic baggies containing cocaine residue. Freitag arrested and lodged the driver in jail for **UPCS—Marijuana**, **UPCS—Hashish**, **UPCS—Cocaine**, and **Unlawful Distribution of a Controlled Substance—Marijuana**.

Wildlife Contact Turned into Drug Bust

Sr. Tpr. Marchand (Grants Pass) and four detectives turned a knock-and-talk about deer carcasses into a drug bust. Troopers contacted a subject after someone found four deer carcasses on BLM land behind his residence. They further discovered ATV tracks in the area that led back to his residence. The troopers contacted the subject who admitted to shooting one deer, but he initially refused the troopers to enter his garage. After a certain amount of time, the subject allowed the troopers to enter his garage. A search located five deer antler sets in the garage along with over 20 pounds of dry marijuana. The troopers not only issued the subject a citation for **Exceeding the Bag Limit of Deer x 4**, they issued him one for **Unlawful Manufacture and Unlawful Distribution of a Controlled Substance—Marijuana**.

Night Flight Found Juveniles with Drugs and Alcohol

Sr. Tpr. Guerra (Pilot, Baker City), Sr. Tpr. Davis, Sr. Tpr. Madsen, and Sgt. Hawkins (La Grande) conducted a night flight in the Grande Ronde Valley. Madsen was the spotter in the aircraft with Guerra, while Davis and Hawkins were the chase vehicles on the ground. Madsen spotted a vehicle driving in a suspicious manner and guided the ground crew to its location. Davis and Hawkins made contact with the vehicle behind a locked timber company gate. They found two occupants in the vehicle, a male and a female under 21. Upon contact, the troopers observed the passenger throw a baggie out the window. They found the baggie and discovered it contained less than an ounce of marijuana. They also found a bottle of whiskey inside the vehicle. The troopers cited both subjects for **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana**, **MIP—Alcohol**, and **Criminal Trespass II**.

Wildlife / Hunting



Hunter Rightly Called OSP to Report Shooting Charging Bear

Sgt. Meyer (Central Point) received a call from a deer hunter who shot a sow bear with a cub when the bear charged her. She said she was sitting near a hilltop when she saw a bear approach. The hunter took video of the bear as it was walking past, about 30-40 feet away. The hunter then saw a cub approach her. She stopped videoing and tried to hide, but the cub kept coming closer. When the cub saw the hunter, it was only a few feet away from her. The cub stopped and scowled at the hunter, and the hunter stood up and yelled to scare both bears away. Unfortunately, the sow bear charged at the hunter from about 30 feet away. Shooting from the hip, the hunter shot the bear from about five feet away. Both bears turned and ran off, and the hunter hiked out and called OSP to report the incident. When Meyer hiked back in to the spot with the hunter, they found the sow bear dead nearby. After salvaging the bear, the looked for the cub and could not find it.

Trooper caught vehicle operating on a closed beach. Photo credit: File

New Motorcycles Provided Troops Access

Sgt. Brown (Pendleton) and Sr. Tpr. Guerra (Pilot, Baker City) were conducting a flight around Ukiah for hunting camps and located a large camp in a remote area on the North Fork John Day River. Brown and Lt. Scorby (East Region) later attempted to locate the camp on the ground, but they found floods had washed out the road, and it appeared the campers may have gone in by horse. The next day, Brown and Sr. Tpr. Gardner (Pendleton) conducted a motorcycle patrol into the area. They found the campers had pulled out, but they did contact four subjects hunting in a field with only two tags. The troopers cited two for **Hunting Elk without a Valid Tag**.

Cougar Unlawfully Taken, "Taxidermist" Cited

Tpr. Boyd (Springfield) contacted a subject after receiving a TIP that the subject harvested a cougar at daylight then bought a tag at 9:00 a.m. later that day. Consequently, Boyd cited the suspect for **Unlawful Take of Cougar—No Tag** and seized the meat and tag. The suspect advised the cougar hide and skull were at a taxidermy business. Boyd went to the business and seized the remaining cougar parts. While at the business, Boyd finalized an investigation into the business. He determined the owner had operated the business without a taxidermy license for nearly nine months. Boyd cited the owner of the "business" for **No 2011 Taxidermy License**.

WED Operations Resulted in Citing Multiple Subjects

Tpr. Schoenborn, Tpr. Borchers, and Tpr. Ferguson (Portland) conducted an early morning, closed season deer WED in the Santiam Unit. The three-hour operation resulted in issuing two citations for **Attempting to Take WED—Closed Season**, two for **Hunting from Highway**, and two for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation** and multiple warnings and seizing two rifles. They also gave out one orange ODFW hat to a youth.

The South Central Team, Lt. Gifford (SW Region), Sr. Tpr. Harris (Coos Bay), and Tpr. Herman (Astoria) conducted 16 WEDs in the Interstate Unit over the deer controlled hunt opening weekend. They contacted 32 subjects, and five did not have a valid tag. One of the five already shot a four-point buck. The troopers issued eight citations **Hunting from a Motor Vehicle** and two for **Unlawful Take of Deer—No Valid Tag**.

Ret. Sr. Tpr. Miller, Sr. Tpr. Canfield, and Tpr. Van Meter (Newport) conducted a WED in Lincoln County. A subject stopped prior to legal time and positioned the truck sideways in the road to illuminate the deer. The passenger exited, positioned the rifle on the open window, and fired at the decoy, hitting it in the head. After making contact, the troopers found the shooter possessed marijuana and admitted to smoking it a half hour prior to the stop. The shooter also had an arrest warrant. The troopers cited the driver for **Aiding in a Wildlife Offense** and the shooter for **Hunting Prohibited Hours**, **Hunting with the Aid of Artificial Light**, and **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana**; seized the rifle and marijuana; and lodged the shooter.

Ret. Sr. Tpr. Bertram and Sr. Tpr. Niehus (Klamath Falls) conducted WEDs in the Keno Unit. They issued several citations for **Hunting Prohibited Area—Roadway**. They lodged one subject who aimed a loaded rifle at the WED and was a convicted felon and in violation of a restraining order. The troopers charged him with **Felon in Possession of a Firearm**, **Violation of a Restraining Order (Firearms Prohibition)**, and **Hunting without a Valid Tag** and seized the gun. In another contact, a subject who stopped in front of and aimed a loaded rifle at the WED had an LOP tag. The troopers cited him for **Hunting without a Valid Tag**. In another contact, the troopers had not fully deployed the WED when two subjects rolled up and stopped to talk to them. Neither had a valid tag and both had open beers. The troopers cited each for **Violation of Open Container**.

Pilot Located Night Hunters

Sgt. Culp (Salem) patrolled Tillamook and Washington Counties in the aircraft looking for spotlights. He located a subject in a vehicle in the Timber area casting a light at 11:30 p.m. Ret. Sr. Tpr. Carver and Sr. Tpr. Turnbo (McMinnville) responded and contacted the suspect. Consequently, the troopers cited the suspect for **Casting an Artificial Light while Armed**. Also during this patrol, Culp notified Sgt. Hoodenpyl (Tillamook) of a subject travelling in a vehicle by the Nestucca River while casting a spotlight. Hoodenpyl located the vehicle and contacted the driver who had in his possession a .22 caliber pistol and a .17 caliber rifle. Hoodenpyl cited this subject for **Casting Artificial Light while Armed**.



Troopers with decoy and two seized rifles. Photo credit: File

Wildlife / Hunting

Parts Imported from CWD State

Sr. Tpr. Caldwell (Burns) contacted some subjects who were transporting elk skulls back from a Wyoming hunt. The skulls were not completely cleaned of material, and Wyoming is a CWD state. Caldwell seized the racks and cited the subjects for **Unlawful Importation of Prohibited Cervid Parts from a CWD State**.



Seized racks from CWD case. Photo credit: File

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No Leads on Poached Elk

Tpr. Ritter (John Day) received a complaint from a rancher in the Northside Unit near Dayville that an unknown subject shot a very large, heavy-antlered bull elk with a rifle. The elk was still alive, but very sick, when the rancher found it. The elk was dispatched, and a necropsy revealed it had been shot three times just prior to the start of rifle deer season. No bullets or casings were found, and the meat could not be salvaged. OSP is looking for tips on several cases. Press releases: www.oregon.gov/osp/fw.

Elk poached near Dayville. Photo credit: File



Investigations Resulted in Apprehending Elk Poachers

Tpr. O'Connor (Astoria) received a report of several subjects hauling out blood-stained game bags from a clear-cut in the Woodson area. O'Connor, Sgt. Schwartz, and Tpr. Warwick (Astoria) contacted one suspect at a nearby residence. This suspect admitted he had an elk hanging in an outbuilding. Two of the suspects were present at the residence. Through questioning, the troopers determined the suspects drove a tractor behind a locked gate on private property and unlawfully camped overnight. The suspects went deer hunting the next morning and observed a herd of elk in a clear-cut. Two of the suspects shot at the elk. Using the tractor, the suspects towed the quartered elk on a snow sled back to the residence. The troopers cited two of the suspects for **Unlawful Take of Cow Elk—Closed Season, Criminal Trespass II**, and **Offensive Littering**. Additionally, one suspect admitted to hunting deer the day prior without a tag, and the troopers also cited this subject for **No 2011 Western Oregon Deer Rifle Tag**.

Sr. Tpr. McNeil and Sr. Tpr. Duncan (Baker City) investigated a complaint from the last weekend of archery season. They determined a Baker City man killed a large six-point bull without a tag while bow hunting for deer then called a friend with a tag to assist in covering his crime and transporting the elk to a commercial cooler in Baker City. Three days later, after the season closed and the bull cooled, the shooter enlisted the help of a second tag holder who placed his tag on the elk before they cut and wrapped the meat. The meat was distributed between three residences, and the trophy rack was hidden at the second accomplice's house. While interviewing one suspect at his residence about the elk case, McNeil noticed striking similarities in how a white-tailed buck was dressed and hung in the garage (a rifle season harvest) with a mule deer buck that had been wasted and dumped outside of town two weeks prior that McNeil was investigating. During the interview about the elk incident and the deer case, McNeil determined the suspect dumped the deer after it spoiled. The troopers cited suspect #1 for **Taking Bull Elk without a Valid Tag and Borrowing a Big Game Tag x 2**; will cite suspect #2 (first tag loaner) for **Loaning a Big Game Tag**; cited suspect #3 (second tag loaner) for **Loaning Big Game Tag—Elk, Waste of Wildlife—Deer**, and **Placing Offensive Substances on Highway (deer)**; and will cite suspect #4 for **Aiding in Wildlife Offense**.

Tpr. Freitag, Tpr. Andrews, Tpr. Clement (Salem), and Sr. Tpr. Halsey (Albany) investigated the unlawful taking of a bull elk and determined a spike bull was shot with a mechanical broad head on private property and then ran onto the Adair Rifle Range north of Corvallis and died. The two subjects involved trespassed onto the rifle range to retrieve the elk without permission. The troopers cited both subjects for **Criminal Trespass II** and cited the shooter additionally for **Unlawful Take Bull Elk—Prohibited Method**.

Sr. Tpr. Madsen, Sgt. Hawkins (La Grande), and Sgt. Cyr (Baker City) investigated a report of a 5 x 5 bull shot during an LOP cow hunt. The troopers located the three identified suspects at a residence described by the witness and the suspect vehicle hidden behind a barn. When contacted, the suspects advised they located a herd of 60-80 elk and shot into the herd, accidentally killing the bull. They field dressed the bull, loaded it into their vehicle, and left. The troopers cited the shooter for **Taking Bull Elk Closed Season**, the subject who made the kill shot with a .22 pistol for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation**, and a third subject who helped field dress and load the elk for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation**.

With Sgt. Schwartz, Tpr. Warwick (Astoria) finished a month-long investigation involving two subjects who shot and wasted two bull elk. The report stated suspect #1 shot a 5 x 5 bull during the first week of archery season. The suspect took the head and never retrieved the carcass. Warwick's investigation linked suspect #1 and suspect #2 to a 3 x 4 bull shot one week prior to archery season about one mile from the other wasted elk. Both suspects hunted elk the week prior to archery season. After shooting the elk, the two suspects filmed a video in which they discussed leaving the elk, because they did not want to risk getting caught. Warwick charged the two suspects criminally with **Unlawful Taking Bull Elk Closed Season, Waste of Game Mammal—Elk x 2, Hunting Elk Closed Season**, and **Aiding in a Wildlife Offense—Waste of Game Mammal**.

Wildlife / Hunting

Wrong Deer Species Taken

Tpr. Andrews (Salem) followed up on a complaint that a subject unlawfully took a white-tailed deer. He contacted the subject and positively identified the deer as a Columbian white-tailed doe, an endangered species in Oregon, except in Douglas County where USFWS delisted the species due to recovery. The subject took the deer using a tag allowing only the take of black-tailed deer. Andrews cited the subject for **Unlawful Possession White-Tailed Deer** and seized the subject's tag and the deer.

Witnesses Instrumental

After receiving a report a buck was shot illegally off of Riddle By-Pass Road, with the assistance of a witness, Tpr. Stone (Roseburg) located a trophy-seized black-tailed buck about 30 feet from the road, shot through the spine and crippled. He had to dispatch it. He determined the suspect shot the deer and left it to suffer and waste. Stone lodged the suspect in jail without incident for **Taking Deer Prohibited Hours, Waste of a Game Mammal, and Hunting from a Public Roadway.**

Sr. Tpr. Lindberg (Madras) completed an investigation regarding a doe taken unlawfully in the White River Unit. A hunter heard a shot then two subjects celebrating. When the hunter contacted the subjects, they said they had not killed anything. A short time later, the hunter located a gut pile and called OSP. Lindberg confirmed the gut pile belonged to a doe. Eventually, he located and interviewed the suspects. Lindberg issued the suspects citations for **Taking Doe Deer Closed Season** and **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation.**

Doe Taken Closed Season

Sr. Tpr. Hayes (Bend) received a report of subject who killed a doe near Wickiup Reservoir in the Paulina Unit. He located the subject with his doe hanging. The subject produced a Permanent Disabilities Permit (PDP) he received in the late 1990s but failed to renew and advised he could kill does and could not walk. Hayes determined the subject shot the doe from his vehicle, then the doe traveled uphill away from the subject for 300 yards. The subject did not have any problem with the recovery. Moreover, a PDP holder cannot take a doe in this unit. Hayes cited the subject for **Taking Doe Deer Closed Season.**

Deer Found during Stop

Sr. Tpr. Johnson (Patrol) made a traffic stop in the Burns area and found deer meat in a cooler. Suspicious, Johnson requested Sr. Tpr. Caldwell (Burns) respond to assist with the deer. Caldwell determined the subject shot the deer in the Klamath Falls Unit with a Sprague Unit tag and put his father's tag on it. Caldwell contacted the father who said he was in Baker City and did not shoot the deer. The father said he left his deer tag at the camper for when he returned to continue deer hunting. The meat did not have proof of sex attached, and the head was missing. Caldwell charged the subject with the crimes of **Unlawful Possession of Deer—No Proof of Sex** and **Borrowing a Deer Tag.**



Deer meat found during traffic stop. Photo credit: File

Deer Poachers Caught

Tpr. McLain (Patrol) and Tpr. Glaser (Salem) responded to a call of a deer shot on private property. McLain stopped the suspect vehicle. The driver was the wife of one suspect, and both suspects hid in the brush. Glaser contacted the suspects via cell phone and convinced them to give themselves up. A short while later, they walked out. One suspect admitted to shooting a doe in the headlights two weeks prior, and the other admitted to shooting a buck from the vehicle and trespassing to retrieve it. The troopers cited one suspect for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation, Hunt with the Aid of Artificial Light, and Taking Black-tailed Deer—No Valid Tag** and the other for **Felon in Possession of a Firearm, Hunt from a Motor Vehicle, Hunt in Violation of Criminal Trespass, Taking Black-Tailed Deer—No Valid Tag, and UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana.**

Sr. Tpr. Coggins, Tpr. Miller (Enterprise), and Sgt. Hawkins (La Grande) conducted a WED near Enterprise and heard shots. Miller located a vehicle stopped about a quarter mile away. The two occupants had been driving toward the set when they saw a doe in a rancher's field. They stopped, shot the doe, laid the fence down, drove onto the field, and loaded the deer. When Miller contacted them, they had just exited the field and had the doe wrapped in a tarp with tires stacked on it. After questioning, they said they made a mistake and were going to take the doe in and contact OSP. Since both had cell phones and the area had excellent coverage, he was suspicious about them calling OSP. Miller cited the shooter (who had a buck tag) for **Taking Antlerless Deer Closed Season** and the second subject for **Aiding in a Wildlife Violation and UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana.** He also lodged the second subject in jail on a **Felony Warrant.**

Tpr. Ritter (John Day) investigated two trespass complaints. In the Heppner Unit case, the rancher had only a vehicle description. Ritter followed a skid trail across the property under a fence onto another rancher's property and located a gut pile. Ritter located the suspect vehicle at a camp. He learned the two subjects in the camp shot at a 4 x 4 buck standing on the ranch, both hitting it. The deer ran, jumped a fence, and died on adjoining property. Suspect #1 shot from the road and trespassed with his rifle on both properties, and suspect #2 shot while standing on private property and trespassed on both properties. Ritter issued suspect #1 citations for **Hunting Buck Deer while in Violation of Criminal Trespass** (ranch #1) and **Criminal Trespass while in Possession of a Firearm** (ranch #2) and a warning for Shooting from a Public Roadway. He cited suspect #2 for **Hunting Buck Deer while in Violation of Criminal Trespass** (ranch #1) and **Criminal Trespass II** (ranch #2). He seized the deer. In the Northside Unit case, Ritter met with the complainant and rancher and determined the incident did occur on ranch property. He located the suspects in the Desolation Unit. The suspects both shot at a buck on ranch property but missed. Suspect #1 trespassed with his rifle, was a nonresident, and did not have a hunting license or tag. Suspect #2 had a buck tag for the Desolation Unit, not Northside, and also trespassed. Ritter cited suspect #1 for **Criminal Trespass while in Possession of a Firearm and Hunting Buck Deer—No Nonresident Hunting License** and suspect #2 for **Hunting on the Enclosed Land of Another** and for **Hunting Outside Controlled Hunt Area.** He also warned both for other violations.

Wildlife / Hunting

Slough Baited with Wheat

Tpr. Andrews and Tpr. Glaser (Salem) located a slough off of a small creek that a considerable number of waterfowl were using. They checked the area and determined the waterfowl were attracted to the slough because someone dumped large amounts of harvested wheat. The troopers speculated whoever dumped the wheat would return on opening morning of duck season to hunt the baited slough. On opening morning, the troopers contacted four subjects hunting the baited slough for waterfowl and issued criminal citations to each for **Hunt/Take Waterfowl over Baited Area**. Additionally, they seized four shotguns and the waterfowl that the subjects had taken over the baited area.

Injured Owl Rescued

Lt. Gifford and Tpr. Tague (Central Point) were assisting Klamath Falls in the Bly area when a call came in regarding a great-horned owl that was entangled in a fence and sustained a severe wound to its chest. The complainant was able to free the bird and took it to Bonanza where Gifford and Tague made contact. The troopers wrapped the owl in a blanket and transported it to a Klamath Falls veterinarian's office for assessment. The office then turned the owl over to a bird rehabilitator where it is recovering.



Taking injured owl in for treatment. Photo credit: File

Subject Wasted 23 Chukars



Chukars harvested with only breast meat removed. Photo credit: File

recovered 23 carcasses, all with only the breast meat removed. Caldwell cited the suspect for **Waste of Game Bird—Chukar**. He also issued his hunting partner a citation for **No Upland Bird Validation** and a warning for Waste of Game Bird, for he had only killed two birds.

Hunted during Prohibited Hours

Sr. Tpr. Carter (Pendleton) responded to Cold Springs Refuge to a report of late shooters duck hunting. Legal hours ended at 6:03 p.m., and Carter heard the last two shots at 7:05 p.m. He contacted two juvenile offenders with the assistance of witnesses who were keeping him apprised of their activities. Carter cited both subjects for **Hunting Prohibited Hours**.

Tpr. Imholt (Springfield) patrolled the Fern Ridge Wildlife Area for duck hunters on more than one occasion. On opening day, he checked 49 hunters and warned one for No State Waterfowl Validation and several subjects who were entering the hunt area before 4:00 a.m. to get a "good" spot. Troopers working opening duck season in 2010 observed dozens of subjects shooting ducks before legal hours. Numerous citations, warnings, and education resulted in no early shooters on opening morning in 2011. However, on another patrol, he cited two subjects for **Shooting before Legal Shooting Hours**.

Summer Lake Patrolled

Sgt. Hand, Sr. Tpr. Randall (Klamath Falls), and Tpr. Tague (Central Point) worked Summer Lake Wildlife Area for waterfowl opening weekend. Hunter numbers were down, but violations were up. They cited one subject for **Unlawful Taking of a Protected Species—Trumpeter Swan** and seized his shotgun, another for **Unlawful Taking of a Protected Species—Cormorant**, four subjects who breasted out their birds before their transit home for **Disguising Sex/Species of Game Bird**, another for **Exceeding the Bag Limit of White-Fronted Geese**, another for **Unplugged Shotgun**, and a subject who dumped his RV's gray water in the camping area for **Depositing Offensive Substance on Highway**. They also gave out 16 warnings for other violations such as Fail to Immediately Retrieve and No License or Permit in Possession.

Birds Harvested during Closed Season

Sr. Tpr. Maher (Springfield) checked the Fern Ridge Wildlife Area and found a group of four subjects out on an island in a pond. They had all shot ducks and harvested a total of nine birds. They were shocked to learn that duck season was closed (a mid-season closure). Maher cited each for **Hunt Ducks Closed Season** and seized the ducks.

Sr. Tpr. Collom and Tpr. Nugent (Central Point) responded to a report of a subject who shot a turkey in Shady Cove. A witness saw the subject put the sneak on the turkey, shoot it with his bow, and take it home. The witness confronted the poacher and called OSP. When troopers showed up, the subject was waiting to confess. He handed over the turkey, his bow, and the arrow. In return, the troopers gave him a citation for **Hunting Turkey Closed Season** and a warning for Discharging a Bow and Arrow in the City Limits.

In Curry County, Sr. Tpr. Bennett (Grants Pass) observed a subject from a distance clean a grouse and throw the carcass over an embankment. He contacted the subject who was then cooking on his tailgate. Bennett observed blood on the subject's hands, a grouse feather on the tailgate, and feathers near the embankment. When asked if he had seen and/or harvested any animals, the subject replied he saw five deer and had not taken anything. He then asked specifically about grouse. The subject admitted he had and retrieved it. As the subject did not have an upland game bird validation, Bennett cited him for **Unlawful Take of Ruffed Grouse—No Upland Game Bird Validation** and seized the grouse.

Commercial Fish / Shellfish / Marine Board

Commercial Salmon Fisherman Cited and Warned

Tpr. O'Connor (Astoria) contacted a commercial gillnetter who delivered salmon to a local fish processor back in late August. The processor discovered a steelhead and a sturgeon included in the delivery. O'Connor cited the fisherman for **Unlawful Take of Commercial Steelhead** and warned for Unlawful Take of Commercial Sturgeon Closed Season.

Fish Tickets Used to Manage Resources

Tpr. Peterson (Tillamook) completed an investigation into a local commercial dive fisherman. The investigation revealed the fisherman did not turn in his fish tickets on time. Fish tickets are not only used for revenue purposes, but biologists use fish tickets to monitor quotas and manage marine resources. The fisherman's failure to submit his fish tickets timely caused the fishery to over harvest cockle clams out of Tillamook Bay by **thousands** of pounds. Peterson cited the subject for **Failure to Submit Fish Receiving Tickets**.

Shellfish Laws Enforced along the Coast

In the Coos Bay area, Sgt. Lea and Tpr. Brandon (Coos Bay) issued three crabbers citations for **Unlawful Take of Undersized Dungeness Crab**, and Brandon issued one citation for **Fail To Immediately Release Undersized/Female Dungeness Crab Unharmed**.

Tpr. Herman (Astoria) contacted a crabber on the Necanicum River in Seaside with seven crab pots for himself. He claimed he did not know the law limited the number of pots he could use. Herman cited him for **Attempt to Take Dungeness Crab with More than Three Pots**.

Sr. Tpr. Canfield (Newport) conducted shellfish patrols on Yaquina Bay and contacted a boat with 36 Dungeness crab. Upon inspecting the catch, Canfield found 25 were undersized. He cited one subject for **Unlawful Possession of Undersized Dungeness Crab**.

Sr. Tpr. Klepp and Tpr. Warwick (Astoria) worked the Hammond dock in an effort to apprehend crabbers who exceed the daily limit of Dungeness crab. Warwick conducted surveillance in plain clothes and observed a number of boats leave the ramp in the morning. Upon their return, contact was delayed to see if additional people arrived to claim crab. No additional people arrived. The troopers cited one subject for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Dungeness Crab** after a consent search revealed five crab hidden in the toilet compartment of the boat.

While working clam diggers on Clatsop Beach, Tpr. Warwick (Astoria) observed a subject look around suspiciously and then place a large handful of clams into one of his hip boots. Upon contact, the subject had 21 clams in his bag and said he must have lost count. When confronted about the clams in his boot, he said he only had one and pulled out a single clam. When asked, he removed his boot and Warwick found five more clams inside. Warwick cited the subject for **Exceeding the Bag Limit of Razor clams by 12**. Later that same night, Warwick contacted a male and female returning to their vehicle with two bags of clams and a single shovel. After noticing the female did not have any sand or water on her hands or shirt sleeves, Warwick questioned the male about who dug her clams. Eventually, the male admitted to digging most of her clams. Warwick cited the male for **Digging Part of Another's Bag Limit of Razor Clams**.

Trooper and Guide Rescued Woman from Water

On the main Coquille River above Rocky Point launch, Sr. Tpr. Frerichs (Roseburg) was off duty fishing with a guide in a boat. The guide noticed an older female had fallen out of a boat and was attempting to keep afloat in the cold water without a PFD. The guide immediately operated his jet boat over to the woman who was attempting to hold onto the hand of the operator of the boat where she had fallen out. The guide and Frerichs reached the woman who was then struggling to hold on in the cold water and tidal current of the river. They were able to grab the woman and pull her out of the water and into the boat. They took the cold and tired woman to the bank where she recuperated and was reunited with her male companion.

Troopers Conducted Boat Patrols

Sr. Tpr. Salisbury and Tpr. Wetzel (Florence) conducted a boat patrol on the Siuslaw River. They checked approximately 40 boats, gave numerous Marine Board warnings, cited three subjects for **Unlawful Possession of Nonadipose Fin-Clipped Coho**, and lodged one subject on a warrant out of Cottage Grove.



Trooper on boat patrol on a river in southern Oregon. Photo credit: File

Sgt. Lea, Sr. Tpr. Harris, and Tpr. Keeler (Coos Bay) worked a boat patrol on the Coquille River. They contacted 94 anglers. They issued three citations for **Fail to Immediately Validate Angling Tag and Aiding in an Angling Offense—Failure to Validate Salmon Tag** and warnings for Fail to Immediately Validate Angling Tag, Unlawful Take Undersized Dungeness Crab, Fail to Possess Angling License and Tag, and Fail to Display Current Registration on Vessel.

Sr. Tpr. Salisbury and Tpr. Wetzel (Florence) worked salmon anglers on the Siuslaw River. They checked several anglers in the upper river and then conducted a boat patrol in the lower river. In all, they checked over 30 boats and 50 anglers, resulting in several Marine Board warnings. When they contacted two adults and one small child in a boat and asked how they did; the adults said they had not caught any fish, but the young boy said they had fish in the boat. The boy's father insisted they did not have any fish, and none were visible. When the troopers got closer to the boat, they observed coho scales in the boat. When asked if they had a coho, the father admitted they did and produced the hidden fish. The adipose fin had just been cut off, and the subject had not tagged the fish. The troopers issued the subject a citation for **Possession of Wild Coho** and a warning for Mutilation of Game Fish and seized the fish.

Sport Angling

Subject Caught Another's Limit

A witness who saw suspicious activity between two boats on the Rogue River contacted Sr. Tpr. Van Prooyen (Gold Beach). He reported the boats come close together, and a fish transferred from one boat to the other, which was a guide boat. The witness provided registration numbers for both boats. Van Prooyen contacted the boat operator who transferred the fish. The subject admitted to transferring the fish but said it was only a jack salmon. Van Prooyen cited the subject for **Unlawful Catching Part of Another's Bag Limit—Jack Salmon** and later contacted and cited the guide for **Aiding in a Wildlife Crime**.

Big Creek Monitored

Tpr. Herman (Astoria) watched a subject try to snag Chinook salmon at Big Creek. The subject had a hook on his line without a lure or bait. He had the hook reeled all of the way in on his rod and was dipping the rod tip with the hook into pools in an attempt to snag the large amounts of Chinook. All of this activity was taking place above the deadline at the Big Creek Hatchery. He watched the subject snag and lose two Chinook. Herman cited the subject for **Attempt to Snag Salmon and Angling Closed Area—Upstream of Hatchery Deadline**.

Tpr. Warwick (Astoria) observed a subject snag a Chinook salmon at the Big Creek Hatchery. He could clearly see from his vantage point that the fish was hooked above the gill plate on the back. The subject looked around and dispatched the fish with a rock. Upon contact, the subject claimed the fish had been hooked in the mouth. Through questioning, the subject eventually admitted that the fish was foul-hooked. Additionally, the subject had a second fish in a backpack that had not been validated on his harvest card. Warwick cited the subject for **Unlawful Take of Snagged Chinook Salmon and Failure to Immediately Validate Combined Angling Harvest Card**.

Necanicum River Patrolled

Tpr. Herman (Astoria) worked salmon anglers on the Necanicum River in Seaside. As he came around a corner on the riverbank, he observed an angler carrying a salmon and walking away from the river. The angler saw Herman and immediately turned back and put the salmon in the water. Upon contact, Herman found the angler trying to revive a nonadipose fin-clipped coho. The angler was uncertain if he could keep the fish; and when he saw Herman, he decided to release it. Herman was able to revive and release the salmon, then he cited the angler for **Fail to Properly Release a Nonadipose Fin-Clipped Coho Salmon**.

When Herman worked the Necanicum River on another occasion, he came upon an angler standing next to a car next to a popular snagging hole. As he approached, the subject acted suspiciously and appeared to try and conceal something next to his car. Upon contact, Herman asked the subject for consent to search the trunk. The subject refused and said he had not caught any salmon. A records check revealed he was on felony probation. Herman called the subject's probation officer who told the subject he must give consent to search. The subject then told Herman he did have two native coho in his trunk and claimed he caught them on the lower Nehalem River earlier in the day which has a native coho fishery. Herman cited the subject for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Nonadipose Fin-Clipped Coho Salmon and Failure to Immediately Validate Nonadipose Fin-Clipped Coho Salmon**, warned him for multiple offenses, and seized one coho.

Subject Netted Spawning Kokanee

Tpr. Freitag (Salem) responded to an angling complaint on Kinney Creek near Detroit Lake. The complainant reported two females netted spawning trout, smacked them on their heads with a rock, and placed them in a bucket. Freitag located and stopped the suspect vehicle traveling west on Hwy 22 near Mill City. The two female occupants opened the trunk and revealed nine spawning kokanee. Neither subject had an angling license, and both admitted to netting the fish. Freitag cited both subjects for **Unlawful Possession of Kokanee**.

Newport Found Poor Compliance on Salmon River

Sr. Tpr. Kehr (Newport) received a call from an angler on the Salmon River who observed a subject retain a salmon foul-hooked in the tail and leave in his vehicle. The witness gave the suspect's description and vehicle license plate. Kehr was able to obtain the suspect's cell phone number and contacted the suspect while he was still in transit from the river. He directed the suspect to return to the river with the fish where he met the trooper. Kehr cited the suspect criminally for **Unlawful Possession of Foul-Hooked Chinook Salmon**.

Sr. Tpr. Kehr and Sr. Tpr. Canfield (Newport) worked the Salmon River and contacted numerous anglers not in compliance. The troopers issued two citations for **Unlawful Possession of Nonadipose Fin-Clipped Coho**, four for **No Salmon Tag**, two for **Angling Prohibited Method—Snagging**, four for **Angling within 200 feet of a Fish Weir**, one for **Angling Closed Area—Above Deadline**, one for **Taking Salmon Closed Area**, and one for **Altered Tag**. They also warned over a dozen people for various angling violations.

Umatilla River Snaggers Caught

Sr. Tpr. Carter (Pendleton) responded to the Umatilla River regarding a report of anglers who snagged two fish at a popular fishing hole near Umatilla. Upon arrival, he contacted the two described suspects with two fish that had obvious snag marks. Carter cited both suspects for **Taking Salmon Prohibited Method—Snagging**.

Sr. Tpr. Gardner (Pendleton) responded to a complaint about two males snagging salmon at the China Hole on the Umatilla River. He observed the suspects for about 30 minutes and noted 58 pole jerks and 12 fish hooked, with six clearly snagged. The suspects retained four snagged coho salmon. Gardner arrested and lodged both subjects in the Umatilla County Jail for **Unlawful Retention of Snagged Salmon x 2 and Angling Prohibited Method—Snagging** and seized the four unlawfully taken coho as evidence along with suspect's fishing gear.

Sr. Tpr. Gardner and Sr. Tpr. Carter (Pendleton) conducted surveillance at the China Hole on the Umatilla River and noted one subject "jigging" with a large bare hook in the pool below the falls. The snagger lost one fish after a fight then dragged a large female coho into a shallow pool and stood on the fish to unhook it. The subject left the fish stranded to recover on its own. Gardner made contact and learned Carter recently cited this subject for **Taking Salmon Prohibited Method—Snagging**. Carter's further research revealed the subject used an angling license/harvest card issued under a false name and date of birth. The troopers lodged the subject in jail for **Giving False Information to Police, False Application for Angling License/Harvest Card, Possession of a Forged Document, and Angling Prohibited Method—Snagging**.

Sport Angling

Species Misidentified

Tpr. Galusha (Tillamook) responded to a call regarding a subject who retained a wild coho in Tillamook Bay when the wild coho season was closed. Upon contact with the subject, the subject stated they thought the fish was a Chinook. Galusha cited the subject for **Unlawful Possession of Wild Coho Salmon** and seized the fish.

Tpr. Wetzel (Florence) interviewed boaters and checked anglers at the Tiernan boat ramp near Mapleton. He checked three subjects in a boat who thought they had a Chinook and filleted it while underway before approaching the ramp. Inspection of the boat located the carcass with the head still attached, revealing the salmon was a coho, not a Chinook. Wetzel cited the angler who tagged the coho for **Unlawful Possession of Nonadipose Fin-Clipped Wild Coho**.

Continuing to Angle Is Poaching

Sr. Tpr. Urbigkeit (Newport) received a report of a subject bank fishing at the mouth of the Siletz River, exceeding the limit of coho. She responded to Taft Beach where a volunteer also reported the suspect's activity. Upon contact, the suspect was with his cousin and had a wild coho he just caught. The suspect reported this coho was the only one caught and tagged. After further investigation, the suspect confessed to having three more wild coho in their cooler in the back of a vehicle; one lawfully tagged by his cousin. Urbigkeit cited both for **Exceeding the Daily Bag Limit of Salmon—Wild Coho** and one also for **Continuing to Angle after Retaining Limit**. She seized two coho and donated them to charity.

Sgt. Lea, Sr. Tpr. Harris, and Tpr. Brandon (Coos Bay) conducted a boat patrol on the Smith River. They observed one boat angler hand over a Chinook to a subject at the dock then leave and continue to fish. They contacted all parties and determined the boat angler caught the Chinook and gave it to the subject at the dock without a transfer slip, and this subject tagged the fish on his own tag. The troopers issued the boat angler citations for **Continuing to Angle after Catching Limit** and **Fail to Immediately Validate Salmon Tag** for another Chinook he had on board and a warning for **Unlawful Borrowing Another's Salmon Tag**, the angler's partner on the boat a citation for **Fail to Immediately Validate Salmon Tag for a Chinook** he retained, the subject at the dock a warning for **Unlawful Loaning of Salmon Tag**, and another subject contacted a citation for **Angling Prohibited Method—Two Rods**.

Subjects Angled while Suspended

Tpr. King (Tillamook) received information a subject he arrested the previous year, who was found guilty and received a 36-month angling suspension, was angling on the Nestucca River. After a short search, King located the subject Chinook angling. King lodged the subject in the Tillamook County Jail for **Angling while Suspended**.

Tpr. Warwick (Astoria) contacted a subject attempting to snag at the Big Creek Hatchery. The subject admitted to not having an angling license or tag. Warwick recognized the subject from a contact the previous year when the subject was cited for **Angling Prohibited Hours**. A records check found the subject's angling privileges were suspended. Warwick cited the subject for **Angling while Suspended**.

Tpr. Keeler (Coos Bay) contacted two subjects angling at the mouth of New River. He recognized one subject from a contact the previous year when a citation was issued. The subject produced a current license and tag with a name Keeler did not recognize. A records check revealed this name was "unable to locate." A check through ODFW found the subject had not purchased a license prior to 2011. Keeler re-contacted the subject at the mouth of New River and obtained his correct name and date of birth. A second check through ODFW with the correct name revealed his angling privileges were suspended. The subject purchased this year's angling license using his middle name as his last and changed his date of birth. Keeler cited the subject for **Angling while Suspended** and forwarded a report to the DA.

Regulations Not Double-Checked

Tpr. Galusha (Tillamook) worked a problem area on the Nehalem River where subjects were Chinook angling in a closed area. Over a weekend, he contacted many anglers in the area. As a result, he warned numerous subjects for **Angling Closed Stream**, seized four Chinook, and cited four for **Unlawful Possession of Chinook Salmon**.

Tpr. Borchers and Tpr. Boeholt (Portland) were observing a large group of people sturgeon fishing at Bonneville Dam and noted four subjects fishing above a deadline. Upon contact, they cited all four subjects for **Angling Prohibited Area**, one additional subject for **No Angling License**, and another for **Fail to Validate Combined Angling Tag**. The troopers seized one sturgeon and revived and released it back into the water.

Tpr. Galusha (Tillamook) received information that several boats were seen trolling for salmon on the Pacific Ocean off the tips of Nehalem Bay in an area closed to all sport salmon angling. Upon arrival, Galusha located a boat on the Pacific Ocean trolling with salmon gear. Upon contact with the boat, the operator stated he did not know the area was closed. Galusha cited the subject for **Angling Closed Area**.

Tpr. Ring (Bend) patrolled the Deschutes Arm of Wickiup Reservoir and located three subjects angling in a closed area. He issued the subjects citations for **Angling Closed Area**. This area is closed to protect large spawning brown trout vulnerable this time of year as the reservoir's water level drops. Sgt. Pond (Bend) also patrolled the closed area and located a subject angling in the closed area. He cited this subject for **Angling Closed Stream**.

Sr. Tpr. Frerichs (Roseburg) observed a subject attempting to snag spawning salmon in the South Umpqua River near Dillard. The river is currently closed to all angling to protect the spawning fish. He noted the subject foul-hook a large salmon and attempt to bring it to the bank; however, the fish broke free. Frerichs contacted the subject and cited him for **Unlawful Attempt to Take Salmon—Closed Stream** and **UPCS—Less than One Ounce of Marijuana** and seized his fishing rod and gear.

Sr. Tpr. Stinnett (Gold Beach) contacted a Brookings subject at his residence about an undersized lingcod. The subject said someone told him a green lingcod only had to be 18 inches long to be legal; however, the minimum length is 22 inches. He admitted he made the mistake of not reading the regulations and kept a 20-inch lingcod. Stinnett cited the subject for **Taking an Undersized Lingcod**. Sr. Tpr. Van Prooyen (Gold Beach) contacted an angler at the Port of Brookings and located a 21-inch lingcod amongst the catch. This angler also said someone told him 18 inches was the legal minimum length. Van Prooyen cited him for **Taking an Undersized Lingcod** and suggested he read the regulations and not take someone else's word on what constitutes legal catch.

Interagency Cooperation / Public Relations

Cooperation Helped Catch Violators

While conducting redd (nests) counts for fall Chinook on the Rogue River, ODFW witnessed a subject keep two nonadipose fin-clipped steelhead. ODFW provided OSP the information. Sr. Tpr. Marchand (Grants Pass) responded and contacted the suspect. Marchand cited the suspect for **Unlawful Take of Nonadipose Fin-clipped Steelhead** and seized the illegal fish.

Tpr. Tague (Central Point) was called to assist a Jackson County SO deputy on a hunting violation east of Medford. Tague arrived and took over the investigation in which a suspect shot a buck during closed season. The suspect was trespassing and had a freshly killed buck when the deputy found him. Tague cited the suspect for **Shooting from the Roadway, Criminal Trespass II**, and **Taking Deer Closed Season** and seized a rifle and the deer.

Tpr. Warwick (Astoria) received a report about two subjects in a boat who caught and retained two native coho in Seaside. Immediately upon catching the second fish, the subjects sped off downriver. Warwick requested Seaside PD contact the subjects at the ramp while he was en route from Astoria. When the subjects did not pull in, SPD drove the road parallel to the river and spotted the subjects walking between houses carrying fish in a gunny sack. SPD detained the subjects until Warwick arrived. Warwick cited the subjects for **Unlawful Possession of Nonadipose Fin-Clipped Coho Salmon** and warned them for failing to validate.

Sr. Tpr. Kipper and Sr. Tpr. Pearson (The Dalles) and Wasco County SO Sgt. Birchfield and Dep. Steen investigated a case in Tygh Valley where two fawn bucks were shot at close range with a 12-gauge shotgun using steel shot. The investigation revealed a subject was upset about the deer eating his apples. He told several people about wanting to kill the deer and also told his juvenile son to lie to investigators about an empty shell found at the scene. The troopers charged the homeowner with **Unlawful Take of Deer x 2** and **Waste of Wildlife x 2**. Pearson cited this same subject previously for shooting a deer while trespassing.

Tpr. Andrews (Salem) responded to assist Stayton PD after they located a deer in a backyard following a welfare check due to a reported odor. He located a skinned deer with the meat wasted. When he contacted the tenant at a friend's house, Andrews was suspicious the tenant wanted to indicate the friend as the suspect. Andrews contacted the friend and determined he took the doe without a tag using a .22 rifle. The suspect admitted he did not take care of the meat prior to it spoiling. Andrews seized the .22 rifle and cited the suspect criminally for **Waste Game Mammal—Doe Deer** and **Unlawful Take Doe Deer—No Doe Tag**.

Tpr. Shimer, Tpr. Boeholt, and Columbia County SO Deputy King conducted a boat patrol on the Columbia River and contacted 49 anglers and arrested one found to have a **felony warrant**. During the patrol, when they contacted a boat, they noted a subject filleting a large Chinook he caught but had not validated and learned another occupant did not have an angling tag or license. A consent search yielded one small coho with all of its fins recently cut off hidden in the cabin. The troopers issued violation citations for **No 2011 Angling License, Fail to Immediately Validate Salmon Harvest Card**, and **Unlawful Mutilating Game Fish** and one criminal citation for **Unlawful Possession of Nonadipose Fin-Clipped Coho**.

At daybreak, in the span of a half hour, Tpr. Klepp (Astoria) watched a group hook and retain about 15 salmon, regardless if they were snagged, near the Big Creek Hatchery deadline. He witnessed subjects throw multiple salmon in the brush and continue to angle after retaining their two-fish limit. One subject thought he heard an ODFW employee approaching and threw his rod into the brush and ran away, only to return later. Klepp waited until the subject walked back and then contacted the group. After rounding up five subjects, Klepp walked them to the hatchery and obtained the assistance of an ODFW employee to prevent any subjects from getting away. Along with several warnings, Klepp issued 10 citations to six subjects for various charges, including **Continuing to Angle for Salmon after Retaining a Daily Adult Bag Limit, Illegal Possession/Taking of Snagged Salmon, Failure to Immediately Validate Salmon Harvest Card, Angling Prohibited Area—Above Hatchery Deadline, and No Nonresident Angling License**. Klepp returned to the area about 90 minutes later and cited an adult who allowed a 12-year-old to repeatedly cast his line above the deadline for **Aiding in an Angling Violation—Angling Prohibited Area (Above Hatchery Deadline)**.

Boat Trailer Recovered

Tpr. Wetzel (Florence) assisted a couple with rescuing their boat trailer at the Mapleton boat launch. The subjects were backing their boat down the ramp when the trailer bounced off the ball and continued down the ramp uncontrolled. Wetzel directed assistance from others who also helped to successfully retrieve the trailer.

Lost Hunter Provided Food and Ride

While patrolling the Silver Lake Unit, Sgt. Hand (Klamath Falls) stopped to check a 71-year-old subject walking along the road. The subject immediately told Hand he was glad to see him as he was lost. After checking his license and tag, Hand told him he would help him find his truck. After climbing into the patrol truck, the subject made a comment about how cold it was during the night. When asked, the subject admitted to staying out all night and was unable to get a fire started and did not have a coat. Once these facts were discovered, Hand opened up his lunch box and shared some granola bars and water. A check was made with Lake County SO, and no one had reported the subject missing. After some time, Hand and the subject eventually located the hunting camp and hunting party about five miles from where Hand found the subject walking.

Meetings and Presentations

Sr. Tpr. Salisbury and Tpr. Wetzel (Florence) instructed wildlife identification classes for the Siuslaw Middle School 7th grade Stream Team field trip at the Enchanted Valley near Florence.

Sgt. Hand and Ret. Sr. Tpr. Bertram (Klamath Falls) attended a JWTR coordination meeting. One topic of discussion was what improvements could be made to the law enforcement portion of the project.

Sr. Tpr. Maher (Oakridge) conducted a career class talk at Lowell High School. About 20 students attended. Maher talked about the duties of a Fish and Wildlife trooper and about the other divisions of the Oregon State Police.

Sr. Tpr. Marshall Maher (Oakridge) and Sr. Tpr. Martin Maher (Springfield) were guests on the KUGN AM 590 morning show. They spoke about the upcoming opening weekend of general deer season. Some talking points were youth hunter orange, appropriate license and tags, and private property issues including the new Wendling TMA. The next Monday, Marshall Maher conducted a short phone interview with the station as a follow up to the show and provided a recap of opening weekend.

Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division

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