OREGON STATE POLICE FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION
WEEKLY REPORT

Southwest Region
February 03, 2025 through February 09, 2025

WILDLIFE:

On February 7, 2025, Trooper Cantrell attempted to contact a guide in the Grants Pass area, who had illegally made false statements in a registration application. No contact was made, and the investigation is ongoing.

On February 8, 2025, Trooper Cantrell followed up with suspects in an elk case from the Paulina Unit. One suspect was contacted and agreed to meet for an interview. The other two suspects are still outstanding, and the investigation is ongoing.

On February 7, 2025, Sr. Trooper Koell and Sergeant Harris assisted Springfield F+W Troops serve a search warrant in Coos County for Lane County charges related to the illegal use of a thermal device during the 2024 Rifle Deer Season. Springfield F+W Troops will be charging two subjects related to the case.

On February 5, 2025, several antelope were reported to have been struck by a vehicle and injured or killed in the Christmas Valley area. Summer Lake Wildlife Area ODFW personnel responded and found 7 recently deceased antelope. Hay trucks have been reported to be travelling the icy roads far too fast for the conditions. After several feet of snowfall, antelope and other wildlife have been travelling on the plowed roads rather than the deep snow. 10 quarters and 6 loins were able to be salvaged from the antelope. The next morning, Senior Trooper Niehus came in on his day off to drive the near 1 hour round trip to North Lake High School where the meat was donated. The high school has a certified meat lab and students who learn and process meat as part of their educational curriculum. The antelope will be processed and donated to school families in need. Lake County Sheriff's Deputies were made aware of the speeding problems on the County Roads and will increase enforcement efforts there.

On February 3 and 4, 2025, Senior Trooper Stone and Trooper Kercher served a search warrant for two cell phones which led to two confessions and the recovery of an illegally taken trophy bull elk that occurred in September of 2024 in the Melrose Unit. A 7 by 7 bull elk skull with antlers, 65 packages of elk meat, and a .300 magnum rifle were recovered as a result of the case. One subject was cited and released for Unlawful Take Possession Bull Elk and Hunting Elk No Valid Tag. The other subject was cited and released for Aiding in a Wildlife Offense and Possession of Illegally Taken Game Parts – Elk. Additional charges will be forwarded to Cow Creek Tribal Authorities and the Douglas County DA'S Office. (Photos)

ANGLING:

On February 8, 2025, Trooper Jamison conducted angling checks along the upper section of the Rogue River between Casey Park and Cole Rivers Hatchery. (12) anglers were contacted; (2)

anglers were warned for angling for Steelhead without a valid 2025 Rogue-Southcoast Steelhead Validation and (1) angler was warned for angling for Steelhead without a valid combined angling take or a valid 2025 Rogue-Southcoast Steelhead Validation.

HABITAT & ENVIRONMENTAL:

SHELLFISH:

COMMERCIAL FISH:

PUBLIC OUTREACH:

On the weekend of February 7, 2025, Lieutenant Brimmer, Sergeant Bowersox, Senior Troopers Baimbridge, Stone Bachmeier and Trooper Kercher, spent the weekend manning the Trailer of Shame at the Douglas County Sportsman's Show. (Photo)

GENERAL LAW:

On February 9, 2025, Sr. Trooper Baimbridge stopped a driving complaint vehicle. Baimbridge cited the female driver for speed and a patrol Trooper arrived and arrested the male passenger for having a no contact clause with the driver.

GOV TO GOV:

MISC.:

Throughout the week, Troopers Cantrell and Jamison, Sergeant Hanigan and Lieutenant Brimmer assisted the Grants Pass and Medford Patrol area commands with a severe snowstorm that caused extensive traffic hazards, crashes, disabled vehicles and poor driving conditions.

On February 9, 2025, Trooper Jamison conducted an ATV patrol in the Cooperative Travel Management Area between Eagle Point and Butte Falls. (29) individuals were contacted on green dot roads within the TMA. There was significant evidence throughout the TMA that individuals had been traveling off the designated roadways in violation of the TMA restrictions, but no individuals were located on closed roads during this patrol.

On February 6, 2025, Senior Trooper Rice located a large, downed tree blocking one lane of Highway 66. The tree was cut back further to allow ODOT to plow the lane open. See picture.

On February 6, 2025, Senior Trooper Rice was the first unit on scene for a CMV tanker truck that had rolled over on Highway 95. The truck was hauling a load of highly toxic anhydrous ammonia. The truck driver was extracted from the scene and the highway was temporarily shut

down until it could be confirmed that there was no leak. Once the load was confirmed to be secured, the highway was reopened. The driver was not injured.

On February 8, 2025, Senior Trooper Rice assisted KCSO with a welfare check on Bly Mountain. KCSO had handled dozens of SAR calls due to recent snow fall trapping rural residents in their homes. One such homeowner was concerned that her daughter had not returned home with supplies in a timely manner. Sr. Trp. Rice checked the access roads to the residence and confirmed the individual was not lost in the snow. She was later contacted by phone and confirmed safe. Much of southern Klamath and Lake Counties had received several feet of snow over the week.