OREGON STATE POLICE FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION
WEEKLY REPORT

Southwest REGION
September 11, 2023 through September 17, 2023

WILDLIFE:

On September 11, 2023, Trooper Gray responded to Juncos and Junipers Elementary School for a dead deer on the school grounds. The school staff had attempted to utilize other resources, but they were either too expensive or unavailable. Trooper Gray removed the deer from the property for which the staff and parents were grateful.

On September 13, 2023, Trooper Gray responded to a report of a male suspect shooting at deer with an air rifle in Keno Oregon. Contact was made with the male. He had been using a paintball gun to shoot near the deer because they were eating his garden vegetation. He was informed of better ways to keep deer away from his garden and received a warning for wildlife harassment.

On September 14, 2023, Senior Trooper Rice received information from ODFW about a cougar harvest that was not checked in with biologists. Further investigation revealed that the animal was harvested by a youth in early September. The mother had called ODFW the next day and "checked in" the animal, not realizing that she was just completing the tag reporting process. She did not realize that the animal had to be physically checked in. A check in appointment was scheduled with a local biologist. She was warned and educated about the process for cougar and bear.

On Saturday, September 16, 2023, Senior Trooper Gosse, Neville, Hillyer and Trooper Cantrell, conducted an early am flight on the Oregon/California border of Jackson County. The operation was scheduled to make a significant presence with the opening of California rifle season starting. Past issues brought about the idea and need to make a presence. 10 hunters were contacted by Trooper Cantrell, no violations were observed but, all were educated on the importance of understanding where exactly they are hunting, the laws that regulate CWD and crossing borders with a potential animal. 18 hunters were contacted by Senior Trooper Hillyer and Senior Trooper Neville. Education on hunting the border was issued and 2 evasive hunters were tracked near the border. No violations were reported and the area will be continually monitored for the rest of the season.

On September 17, 2023 Senior Trooper Maher stopped to check a group of archery elk hunters near Oakridge. It was learned that one of the hunters had shot and wounded a cow elk earlier in the morning on USFS land. It was further learned the hunter turned 18 a few days prior and

had an Oregon Youth Bow Elk Tag (200R-one elk). Although the hunter was a juvenile at the start of the season the trooper explained he was no longer eligible to hunt on his youth tag because he was no longer a "youth" (12-17 yoa). The hunter said he was told by ODFW he could hunt on this tag even though he had turned 18. After going through a lengthy explanation process, Senior Trooper Wolcott and Buck helped search the area for the wounded elk. After crossing the Middle Fork Willamette River two times the trail was lost and the elk wasn't found. The hunter was issued a violation citation for No Valid Elk Tag.

ANGLING:

On September 11, 2023, Sergeant Harris and Senior Trooper Koell conducted a boat patrol on the Coos River checking salmon anglers. The following enforcement actions were taken: One citation for No Combined Angling Tag; two citations for Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Tag; one warning for No Electronic License/Tag in Possession.

On September 12, 2023, Senior Trooper Stone located an angler fly fishing on the North Umpqua River which is currently closed to all angling. Upon contact, the angler clearly didn't know about the closure as he was visiting from California and his ELS would not load on his phone application although he was properly licensed. The man was educated about the closure and issued a written warning for Angling Closed Stream.

On September 13, 2013, Senior Trooper Stone located an angler in fly only section of the North Umpqua River above Rock Creek. The subject was not aware that the river was closed, but admitted that he did not have a valid angling license. He was issued a citation for No 2023 Angling License and warned for Angling Closed Stream.

On September 15, 2023, Senior Trooper Rice was conducting shore patrol of the Williamson River. He observed two individuals angling from the bank. One appeared to be using bait. Sr. Trp. Rice was able to sneak up to about 5 yards behind the individuals and record their illegal fishing activity. While recording, they began to discuss the illegal bait they were using and how it was getting more strikes then the lure one subject was using (also illegal due to treble hook). One subject was cited for angling prohibited method-bait. The other was warned for the treble hook (recent rule change for the Williamson).

On September 16, 2023, Troopers from the Coos Bay, Gold Beach, Florence and Springfield offices conducted simultaneous boat patrols on the Coos, Coquille, Umpqua and Siuslaw Rivers checking salmon anglers. Across all rivers, about 275 anglers were contacted, 24 warnings were issued, 10 citations were issued, and five wild Coho salmon were seized. (Photo)

Coos:

- Contacts: 71
- Warnings: (x3) No E-Tag in Possession, (x2) Boating Violations, (x1) Aiding/Counseling in a Wildlife Offense (Youth Tag)
- Citations: (x4) No Valid License/Tag in Possession
- One voyage terminated

Coquille:

- Contacts: 22
- Warnings: (x2) No Valid License/Tag in Possession

Umpqua:

- Contacts: 104
- Warnings: (x7) No Valid License/Tag in Possession, (x5) Boating Violations, (x4) Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Tag
- Citations: (x5) Unlawful Take of Wild Coho Salmon, (x1) Fail to Immediately Validate Harvest Tag
- 5 wild Coho salmon seized

Siuslaw:

- Contacts: 78
- Units called to assist with body recovery on the river approximately 1.5 hours in to the saturation

HABITAT & ENVIRONMENTAL:

September 16, 2023, Trooper Gray found a pile of trash that was dumped on Green Diamond land. Green Diamond is a private timber company that allows access by the public for recreation and is an ODFW TMA. Multiple receipts were found in the trash. Follow up was conducted at various local businesses. With help from a loss prevention employee, it was established the suspect previously worked at a local business. The manager was contacted, and the suspect was identified. She was contacted over the phone. She no longer lives in the state. She received a warning for the litter.

SHELLFISH:

COMMERCIAL FISH:

PUBLIC OUTREACH:

GENERAL LAW:

On September 14, 2023, Senior Trooper Rice responded with multiple patrol units to a reported domestic in progress on the side of Hwy 140 east of Klamath Falls. While responding to the domestic, a welfare check was broadcast of a subject walking in Highway 140. The subject was observed crossing the highway directly in front of units responding to the domestic code 3. The subject was detained and given a courtesy ride to a residence by a patrol sergeant. Sr. Trp. Rice continued to the reported domestic with a patrol troop and a BLM ranger. The suspect in the domestic was detained and numerous interviews conducted. No crime was reported and the suspect was released. The victim party and her child were transported by patrol to Bonanza.

GOV TO GOV:

On September 14, 2023, Sergeant Tague conducted a site visit with several Oregon and California Tribes in response to human remains found near Lakeview. A plan was made to reintern the remains the following week. Also, plans to assist the landowner in securing the hillside to prevent further erosion is in the works.

On September 14, 2023, Senior Trooper Rice received information about a potentially missing and endangered disabled female from northern California. A local sheriff's deputy was en-route to the location to take the report. The subject's phone was pinged to an area just north of the California state line near Worden. Sr. Trp. Rice and patrol resources responded to the area to ATL. A residence of interest was established, and the subject was located unharmed. She was transported back to her parents by Siskiyou County SO. This was an excellent team effort between CHP, Siskiyou County and OSP. The local CHP sergeant called Sr. Trp. Rice after the incident and expressed his appreciation for the efforts of local LE.

MISC.: