

The Oregon Rural Report

OSP Seeking Suspected Poacher



Yamhill County, OR – The Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division is asking for help to identify a suspected poacher.

The suspected poacher was hunting in the Trask Wildlife Management Unit (Yamhill County) from Oct. 18-20 and again from Oct. 25-27. The male suspect is believed to be associated with an older maroon sedan, possibly a Honda, with a black damaged front fender.

The suspect shot numerous doe deer with a high-powered rifle from the roadway on private property. On one occasion, the suspect shot a doe from a residential front yard before fleeing the area. He returned after dark and recovered the deer carcass, ignoring posted "No Trespass" signs.

Anyone with information is encouraged to contact OSP dispatch at 800-452-7888, *OSP (*677) on a mobile device, or by email at TIP@osp.oregon.gov. Please reference case number # SP24349341.

OSPFW investigating Deer Kill Douglas County, OR– Roseburg area Fish and Wildlife troopers are asking for the public's assistance to locate and apprehend the person responsible for unlawfully killing a buck deer and leaving it to waste earlier this week.

The preliminary investigation indicates the buck was shot multiple times with a handgun from the roadway. The incident occurred between 6 and 7 p.m. on Oct. 20, 2024, in the 500 block of South Deer Creek Road. The individual left the area in a vehicle traveling southbound on South Deer Creek Road.



Anyone with information is asked to contact Sgt. Matt Bowersox through OSP Dispatch at 800-442-2068 or *OSP (*677) from a mobile device. Those with information can remain anonymous and a TIP reward for cash or preference points will be offered for information leading to a citation or arrest in the case. Please reference Oregon State Police case number #SP24344796.

OSPFW investigating Yearling Kill Crook County, OR – Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife is investigating the unlawful take and waste of a yearling buck deer in the Grizzly Wildlife

Management Unit.

On October 11, 2024, Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife troopers from Prineville responded to a report of a deer which had been shot. The incident was reported to have occurred Thursday, October 10, at about 10:30 p.m. and occurred on McKay Creek Road/USFS 27 Road near the USFS 33 Road junction north of Prineville. The deer was shot multiple times with a 9mm. The suspect vehicle is believed to be a Chevy S10 or similar small pick-up truck.



The Fish and Wildlife Division is asking for the public's assistance in identifying the person(s) responsible for killing the yearling buck deer. Anyone with information is asked to contact the Sr. Trooper Tayler Jerome via the TIP hotline at 1-800-452-7888, email TIP@osp.oregon.gov, or contact OSP dispatch at *OSP (*677).

OSPFW Find Waste of Cow Elk

Crook County, OR– The Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division is investigating the unlawful take and waste of a cow elk in the Ochoco Wildlife Management Unit and is asking for the public's assistance to identify the person(s) responsible.

On October 9, 2024, Oregon State Troopers from Prineville responded to a report of a cow elk that had been shot and left to waste near the southwest corner of Big Summit Prairie and within 75 yards of the USFS 42 Road. Troopers investigated and confirmed a bullet wound and no meat was taken from the elk. Troopers had witnessed the elk in the area three days earlier. It is believed the elk was shot between Sunday, Oct. 6, and Tuesday, Oct. 8, 2024.



Anyone with information is asked to contact the Sr. Trooper Tayler Jerome via the TIP hotline at 1-800-452-7888, by email at TIP@osp.oregon.gov, or by contacting OSP dispatch at *OSP (*677). Please reference case number SP24-330774.



Report Wildlife and Habitat Law Violators

The Turn In Poachers (TIP) program is a collaboration among the Oregon State Police, Oregon Hunters Association, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Oregon Wildlife Coalition, Oregon Outfitter and Guides Association, and the Oregon State Marine Board.

The TIP program offers preference point rewards for information leading to an arrest or issuance of a citation for the unlawful take/possession or waste of big game mammals.

Preference Point Rewards

- 5 Points: Bighorn Sheep
- 5 Points: Rocky Mountain Goat
- 5 Points: Moose
- 5 Points: Wolf
- 4 Points: Elk
- 4 Points: Deer
- 4 Points: Pronghorn Antelope
- 4 Points: Bear
- 4 Points: Cougar

The TIP program also offers cash rewards for information leading to an arrest or issuance of a citation for the unlawful take/possession or waste of the following fish and wildlife species. Cash rewards can also be awarded for habitat destruction, illegally obtaining hunting or angling license or tag, lending or borrowing big game tags, spotlighting, or snagging.

Cash Rewards

- Oregon Hunters Association (OHA) cash rewards:
- \$2,000 Bighorn Sheep, Mountain Goat, or Moose
 - \$1,000 Elk, Deer, or Antelope
 - \$600 Bear, Cougar, or Wolf
 - \$300 Habitat destruction
 - \$200 Illegally obtaining Oregon hunting or angling license or tags
 - \$200 Unlawful lending/borrowing big game tag(s)
 - \$200 Game Fish & Shellfish
 - \$200 Game Birds or Furbearers
 - \$200 Spotlighting
 - \$200 Snagging/Attempt to Snag

- Oregon Wildlife Coalition (OWC) Cash Rewards:
- \$500 Hawk, Falcon, Eagle, Owl, Osprey
 - \$500 Cougar, Bobcat, Beaver (public lands only), Black bears, Bighorn Sheep, Marten, Fisher, Sierra Nevada Red Fox
 - \$1,000 Species listed as "threatened" or "endangered" under state or federal Endangered Species Act (excludes fish)

- Oregon Outfitters & Guides Association (OOGA) Cash Rewards:
- \$200 Acting as an Outfitter Guide for the Illegal Killing of Wildlife, Illegally Obtaining Oregon Hunting or Angling Licenses or Tags, or Illegally Offering to Act as an Outfitter Guide as defined in ORS 704.010 and 704.020.

How to Report a Wildlife and/or Habitat Law Violation or Suspicious Activity:
 TIP Hotline: 1-800-452-7888 or *OSP (*677)
 TIP email: TIP@osp.oregon.gov (monitored Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.)
 For more information visit: www.oregon.gov/osp/programs/fw/Pages/tip.aspx

First Salmon since 1912 Spotted after Klamath Dams Removal

Klamath Falls, OR – On October 16, a fall-run Chinook salmon was identified by ODFW's fish biologists in a tributary to the Klamath River above the former J.C. Boyle Dam, becoming the first anadromous fish to return to the Klamath Basin in Oregon since 1912 when the first of four hydroelectric dams was constructed, blocking migration.

The salmon and others likely traveled about 230 miles from the Pacific ocean to reach the tributary only months after four Klamath River dams were removed to ensure fish passage from California to Oregon.

"This is an exciting and historic development in the Klamath Basin that demonstrates the resiliency of salmon and steelhead," said ODFW Director Debbie Colbert. "It also inspires us to continue restoration work in the upper basin. I want to thank everyone that has contributed to this effort over the last two decades."

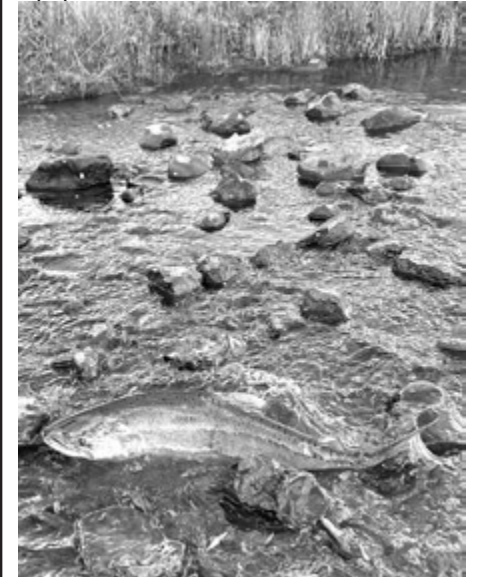
"The return of our relatives the c'iyaa'l's is overwhelming for our tribe. This is what our members worked for and believed in for so many decades," said Roberta Frost, Klamath Tribes Secretary. "I want to honor that work and thank them for their persistence in the face of what felt like an unmovable obstacle. The salmon are just like our tribal people, and they know where home is and returned as soon as they were able," added Frost.

"c'iyaa'l's are culture carriers," said Natalie Ball, Klamath Tribes Council Woman. "I'm excited for their return home and for us to be in relation with them again."

Fish biologists have been surveying the Klamath River and tributaries since dam removal as part of the agency's responsibility to monitor the repopulation of anadromous fish species to the basin in collaboration with The Klamath Tribes. Mark Hereford, ODFW's Klamath Fisheries Reintroduction Project Leader, was part of the survey team that identified the fall-run Chinook. His team was ecstatic when they saw the first salmon.

"We saw a large fish the day before rise to surface in the Klamath River, but we only saw a dorsal fin," said Hereford. "I thought, was that a salmon or maybe it was a very large rainbow trout?" Once the team returned on Oct. 16 and 17, they were able to confirm that salmon were in the tributary.

ODFW, The Klamath Tribes and other partners have been working together on this historic restoration project to monitor Chinook salmon, coho salmon, steelhead, and Pacific lamprey once they are able to repopulate habitat above the dams.



A fall-run Chinook Salmon seen on Oct. 16, 2024, in a tributary of the Klamath River after removal of the dams marking the first fish to return since 1916. Photo by Mark Hereford, ODFW.