

Work Enorcement Program

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Winter 2007-2008

Quarterly Newsletter

Washington Fish & Wildlife Officers provide diverse public service.

The following real life events are meant to provide a snap shot of enforcement activity for the Winter Quarter. Rather than attempt to list all accomplishments, examples were selected to show the diversity of issues our Officers encounter while protecting your natural resources. The WDFW Enforcement Program is made up of a number of specialized work units: Land, Statewide Marine, Special Investigative, Hunter Education, and Aquatic Invasive Species. Patrol and outreach responsibilities often overlap and the different units commonly assist each other. All violations are considered "alleged" unless a conviction has been secured.

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WILDLIFE PROTECTION

Second Time Around: After receiving a report that a suspended hunter was hunting on the waters of Penn Cove, Officer Jones contacted Officer Lee and requested his assistance until he could arrive from the Whatcom County area. Upon arrival, he recognized the individuals from a contact/arrest a month prior, located the hunters on Penn Cove, and set up surveillance while they hunted sea ducks. When the hunters attempted to depart the Coupeville area, the team contacted the group. Though the suspended hunter claimed the use of his vessel, decoys, and firearm were merely for guiding purposes, he hadn't expected the officers to observe him shooting at the ducks. He was booked for hunting while suspended, and all gear was seized. This is his second arrest for hunting while suspended and he was using some of the same equipment seized from the first offense. If we have anything to say about it, he won't be getting it back this time.

Deer and Elk Case: Sergeant Chandler and Officers Brazier, Moszeter, and Stevens wrapped up an ongoing elk investigation that began last summer. In August 2007, Officer Stevens received information from several local hunters regarding an elk that was allegedly poached out of season in Fall City. It was learned that the suspects were migrant workers residing on a local dairy farm in Fall City. Everyone seemed to know about the elk incident, yet no one had any substantial or reliable information to

further the investigation. Officer Stevens finally got a break in October with information from an informant. The informant had been trapping raccoons for the dairy farm and came across a large set of antlers in one of the barns. After a few interviews, officers were able to identify three of the poachers and subsequently obtained confessions from each resulting in a closed season elk and three closed season deer citations.



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Successful Follow-Up: Officer Foster investigated two illegal elk kills along the Spirit Lake Highway near Mt. St. Helens. Officer Conklin and Sergeant Holden assisted with evidence processing and interviews. Subsequently, they arrested the suspect in the area near the dead cow and branch antlered bull. This case would never have come together without the assistance of Wildlife Area Manager Brian Calkins and a citizen informant. Final charges will likely be: two counts of elk closed season, two counts of hunting with artificial light, two counts of hunting/no license, one count of wastage, and several others.

As Reported By Paul Harvey: Fish and Wildlife Officers executed a search warrant on an Ocean Shores residence for evidence related to deer poaching. Ocean Shores Police and Grays Harbor County Sheriffs Deputies assisted in the search and investigation. The main suspect and accomplices are believed to have killed four deer with the use of spotlights and vehicles. Yes, not the traditional method of poaching deer, but quite effective. Once the deer were stunned (or outright killed) by the vehicle, the suspect would jump out and slit its throat to be sure. Officer Klump wrote a second search warrant the next day for the taxidermy shop where the suspect had submitted a trophy deer head to be mounted. The deer head was seized as part of the investigation. Local news ran the story, and the incident was also featured on "Paul Harvey."

Click Here to Listen:



Antler Investigation Update: Officer Foster and Sergeant Holden turned a cold trail hot. After seizing antlers from a subject that came from six separate elk and two deer, Officer Foster scoured the country near Mt. St. Helens looking for carcasses. He was able match one 6X6 rack to a skull that he collected and later found two more that he was able to match. As the snow recedes they will likely find more carcasses and be able to match the remaining three racks to skulls. More to come.

AHE Hunter and Friends Party and

Poach: Officer Caton and Sgt. Grant were called out at 0300 hours reference a possible elk poaching in the Ahtanum area. Officers observed a large group of subjects skinning a 6x7 bull elk. Officer Caton and Sgt. Grant made contact and found most of the group to be intoxicated. Officers interviewed members of the group and were able to determine who the actual shooter was (an Advanced Hunter). Officers located the shooter and one of the six that actually had hunted, hiding in a motor home. After numerous interviews, statements, and confessions, officers seized two firearms, a vehicle, and the 6X7 bull.

HUMAN –WILDLIFE CONFLICTS

Officers Pulling Hair Out Over Moose: Spokane Officers received over 40 moose complaints during one week alone. The moose have moved into neighborhoods, business districts, school grounds, etc. This has taken an inordinate amount of officers' time, not to mention all the injured deer calls that are also coming in. Several interviews and contacts with the media have taken place to try and educate the public. This is not the kind of moose you want in your hair!

False Report of Cougar Hits Media: Officer Christensen was required to respond to an emerging issue involving a set of photographs depicting a cougar allegedly watching the children of an Omak resident in the kitchen of a home. The news media including radio station KOMW, KHQ TV in Spokane, and KREM TV in Spokane were immediately preparing to do a story on this. Officers were able to determine from the metadata files that the photographs had originated from Oklahoma in 2004. However, several media outlets had already run with the story before verifying it. Officer Christensen contacted the various media outlets and let them know that the photograph had not been taken in Washington State. Sergeant Brown called Public Information Officer Madonna Luers in the Spokane Office to have her advise KREM and KHQ that they had been duped into presenting the pictures as local and factual. Sergeant Brown also conducted an interview for the local radio station KOMW, which had issued two separate stories about the incident.

Elk Damage on Golf Course: Captain Hebner, Sgt. Chandler, Officer Moszeter and Wildlife Program's Jody Taylor spent a day at a Golf Course in North Bend where the local elk herd has been causing substantial damage to a couple of fairways and putting greens. The golf course has contracted with a fencing company who has already purchased most of the fencing materials and has already installed most of the posts around the entire perimeter. There were several obvious flaws (inadequate posts and fencing) in the design that were not part of the WDFW recommended fencing design. Staff pointed out those flaws and provided further advice.

RECREATIONAL FISHING

Almost Got Away: The selective winter black mouth fishery in Area 8-1 has shown some success. Nineteen fishers were contacted with 8 black mouth. One gentleman was filleting his salmon as the patrol boat came alongside. He tossed the carcass away, preventing any measurement or check to see if the fish was a legal hatchery fish. He had a second fish in the boat; this one was also filleted, but not quite as well as the first. He failed to remove the adipose fin in this case. The subject was cited for possession of a wild fish.

COMMERCIAL ENFORCEMENT

Open Season On Crab?: While field testing a new motor for a patrol boat, two officers discovered approximately 50 closed area crab pots in the Everett soft shell exclusion zone eight days after the tribal season closure per the shellfish management plan. One pot was seized, as it had no buoy numbers, tag, or pot tag. Several other buoys were devoid of any identification. Due to the size of the vessel, additional gear seizure was not possible. A local Tribe was contacted and officers were advised they may have given a couple of people "permission" to set some pots for an upcoming funeral. No regulation was ever cut to authorize the crab fishery. By the time officers returned to seize the gear the following day, it had been removed.

Joint Patrol: WDFW Officers and Oregon State Police (OSP) Troopers teamed up to engage in a joint four-day commercial crab fishery compliance patrol from the mouth of the Columbia River to Newport, Oregon – and back to Westport. Of primary interest, was compliance with the Oregon-Washington commercial crab fishery agreement related to limited entry licensing. Washington law restricts our state's registered vessels from fishing offshore of another West Coast state unless they possess that state's limited entry license. Oregon has a similar law in place in order to spread out competition. Almost 100 commercial crab pots were pulled for biodegradable

escape mechanism violations and fishing without pot tags. One Washington fisher was identified fishing offshore of Newport, Oregon using nylon cord in place of the biodegradable escape mechanism.

Required escape mechanisms must be untreated cotton. If the crab pot becomes lost or derelict, the cord will rot away and allow animal escapement. This necessary tool keeps pots from ghost fishing. Many crab pots were identified with applied substances on the cotton cord, making them last much longer than if straight cotton had been used, defeating the purpose. Of course, nylon will last almost forever. The enforcement vessel Corliss was used, and Lt. O'Hagan and Sergeant Rhoden are to be commended for continuing the great partnership that we have the professionals at OSP. In this case, OSP paid for the boat fuel and per diem.



Operation 'Tag, You're It': Officer Klump organized the operation and with assistance from Lt. O'Hagan, Officers Wickersham, Hopkins, Phillips, and Maschhoff, close to 300 square miles of the Pacific Ocean was checked by Rigid-hull patrol vessels. The goal of the operation was to run along the thousands of commercial crab pots that are fishing in the area between Destruction and Tatoosh Islands to check for buoy tags, buoy numbers, and closed area fishing. Officers were able to locate 137 commercial crab pots fishing inside the closed area of the Quiluete marine area. Officers also located another 200 commercial crab pots that did not have registered buoy numbers or buoy tags. Our patrol vessel Corliss got underway to make a quick grab of the gear. Unfortunately, for all the hard work the group put into the operation the final outcome was less than expected. Upon arrival, Officers learned that their presence the day before drew enough attention from the local fishermen that the closed area gear had been moved from the recorded location the day prior. Officers then headed towards the unidentified commercial gear. After a lot of last-minute checking with the Tribal representatives, Officers were able to confirm that the gear was in fact Tribal. With the threat of WDFW Officers willingness to pull gear that could not be confirmed as tribal or non-tribal, years of unanswered requests for buoy numbers from a local Tribe finally paid off with a list.

Warrant Served in Salmon Trafficking Case: Officer Hobbs wrote and obtained a search warrant for a business in Cle Elum that was trafficking in commercial salmon and processing the illegal fish for sale without a license. Officer Rogers and Sergeant Sprecher assisted in serving the warrant in which numerous documents/receipts for salmon purchases over the last several years were seized. Felony charges will be filed as well as another search warrant for the supplier, who was also operating without the required license.

Halibut Sting: Officer Olson received a request for assistance from National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) law enforcement. A shipment of potentially illegal halibut was being shipped from Alaska to Washington. The agency had been tipped that the product was falsely labeled to prevent harvest accountability. Officer Olson contacted NOAA in Alaska and learned that the halibut were caught without a subsistence permit, and was shipped to Washington. Officer Olson inspected the product and found it labeled only as "Frozen Seafood." False or inadequate labeling is a federal violation.



Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS): AIS Sergeant Anderson received word through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that a contaminated boat (with Quagga mussels) was en route from Lake Mead. The boat was purchased by a private party, and was being moved to British Columbia. California detected the Quagga mussels during a check at a weigh station. Unfortunately, a pressure washer was broken, so no action was taken in that State. Oregon State Police located the vehicle hauling the boat and gave it a police escort into Washington. Sergeants Anderson, Webb, and Officer Hart decontaminated the boat at the Ridgefield Port of Entry.



GENERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

Commercial Clam Patrol Discovers Meth Lab on Shellfish Beach: While conducting a sanitary shellfish patrol in Hammersly Inlet for illegal clam poachers, Officer Jewett noticed a subject attempting to hide from his view. Officer Jewett moved to check this out, and, while approaching, two individuals stepped out and started walking towards Officer Jewett. One of the individuals stated that they were just checking out some garbage on the beach. When asked why they were hiding, they denied it. Assuming the individuals were hiding shellfish, Officer Jewett asked them to walk back to their original location.

Officer Jewett noticed two very full large black plastic garbage sacks and a green tank of some sort. He opened the black bags and recognized the contents as items used in the production of methamphetamine. Officer Jewett arrested the subjects, and Mason County detectives arrived to gather the portable meth lab for processing. Both men also had warrants for their arrest and one was a known meth user.

Search for Guns in Possession of Felon Leads to Much More: Fish and Wildlife Officers orchestrated the execution of a fish and wildlife Search Warrant in the Thurston County area. Also in attendance were two members of the Thurston County Drug Task Force Team. The Drug Team members had expressed great interest in the suspect.

Upon execution of the Warrant and during the cursory sweep of the residence for occupants, Officer Klein and Sergeant Makoviney discovered in plain view, a large amount of marijuana in the laundry room drying in a laundry basket. Drug Team members at this time generated a second search warrant in order to expand the scope of the search to include additional drugs.

The Fish and Wildlife Warrant was successful as weapons that the convicted felon illegally had in his possession were discovered in the residence as anticipated.

The Drug Task Force Team also was successful, seizing illegal drugs to include Marijuana, Oxycotin, and Black Tar Heroin.

Victim Found in Vehicle: Sergeant Chandler noticed a vehicle parked at Crescent Lake when he noticed that there was a 25-year-old male sleeping in the front driver's seat. No amount of pounding on doors and yelling could arouse the young man so Sgt. Chandler called for an aid unit. After hooking a spare set of keys lying on the dash with the radio antenna through a partially rolled down window, the medics were able to extricate the subject and rushed him off to the hospital. The cause: an apparent overdose of meth. A used hypodermic needle was found on the floor of the vehicle. The subject's father contacted Sgt. Chandler later that evening saying that it appeared his son was going to live.

Contraband Seizure: While conducting market checks in the Pike Place vicinity, Officers Olson and Moszeter discovered a vendor selling brass knuckles, switchblade knives, and other dangerous weapons. The illegal weapons were visibly displayed and available to the general public. The contraband was seized and charges will be filed through the King County Prosecutor. The Seattle Police Department was notified of the seizure and thanked our Officers for their efforts.

Felon Arrested: The smelt are in as well as the people. Officer Conklin received several reports about subjects fishing on closed days, and all but one of the reports turned out to be Tribal members fishing legally. The one that wasn't involved a subject with a \$10,000 felony warrant out of Lewis County for Burglary and Theft first degree. After Officer Conklin booked him into the Cowlitz County Jail, she had to be wondering why anyone would chance fishing for smelt closed season with that kind of paper hanging over their head.

High Accolades to WDFW Staff: Sergeant Phillips has been selected to be the Assistant Commander of the Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA) at the Criminal Justice Training Commission (CJTC). Sergeant Philips will be on loan to CJTC on a reimbursed contract.

During his absence, Sergeant Mullins (North Sound and Whatcom County Marine) will assume command of all of Detachment 1



(Central Coast Sound Marine) responsibilities and personnel. The land-based functions currently assigned to Sergeant Mullins will be transferred to Sergeant Heinck, (Skagit County). In addition to this being a career and growth

opportunity for Sergeant Phillips, it is very beneficial to the agency. The recognition of Sergeants Phillips's talents by the professional law enforcement collective is a high honor for him and our agency.

Officer Assists Kittitas on Firearms Brandishing Arrest: Officer Hobbs assisted Kittitas County Sheriff's Deputies in apprehending a man who reportedly brandished a pistol. He then made a threatening phone call from inside the courthouse to the district court office and asked to speak with a judge. Shortly after the incident Officer Hobbs was in Vantage, where the man lives. Officer Hobbs watched for the suspect vehicle and a possible address for the suspect until deputies arrived. The suspect walked out of the house talking about police conspiracies and asking the responding officer and deputies, "How do you feel when somebody is after you?" The man stopped and began to open his jacket, showing his pistol (in a shoulder holster). Deputies responded by drawing their Tasers while Officer Hobbs drew his pistol. The man did not obey initial commands. The man's pistol was loaded and he was carrying two extra magazines, a knife, and a set of handcuffs. After a long standoff, he was taken into protective custody to be evaluated by mental health professionals.

Tragedy: A Grant County Sheriff's deputy was shot in the back with a high-powered rifle while hunting near Soap Lake on January 10th.

The deputy was off-duty and hunting coyotes, when he was shot once with a 30-06 rifle through his lower abdomen on Thursday about 5:25 p.m. The deputy was able to fire three distress shots into the air and scream for help. A motorist driving by just happened to hear the shots and the yelling and pulled over. The motorist ran to the deputy's aid and called 911.

WDFW Lieutenant Crown and Officer Zuchlewski responded to the scene and informed the sheriff's personnel that the state was currently conducting a permit deer hunt in the area, and that the shooting may have involved one of the permit hunters. Lieutenant Crown pulled up the list of permit holders for the hunt on his laptop computer and provided the list to investigators. Later that evening, based upon the names on the list, investigators were able to identify the person responsible for the shooting. The suspect, a 38-year old Moses Lake man, had been accompanying his father who had an antlerless deer permit for the area.

The suspect told detectives he was hunting with his father in the same area where his father was hunting deer near an orchard. The man said that he had heard a coyote and fired one round from his rifle. He said that he didn't think he had hit anything, but that he did not go look.

The suspect was booked into jail on a number of charges including assault and unlawful possession of a firearm. WDFW moved to forfeit the rifle. Based upon previous arrests, the suspect was prohibited from possessing firearms.

CASE DISPOSITION

Deer Poacher Finally Sentenced: A convicted deer-poaching subject was sentenced after a two-year investigation and prosecution in Port Townsend. The archer shot and mortally wounded a four-point deer in a city park near downtown Port Townsend. He received a sentence of 365 days in jail, with 325 days of it suspended provided he have no further violations of fish and wildlife laws for two years. He must serve ten days in jail and another 30 days of home detention. Additionally, the suspect must pay fines and court costs of \$934.65. The deer qualified as a trophy animal, precipitating a wildlife penalty assessment of \$6,000 in addition to the fines. A suspension of hunting privileges for two years by the judge completed the sentencing.

off a mandatory deck camera in order to

Widow rockfish and canary rockfish are currently designated as over-fished by the Pacific Fishery Management Council and stock rebuilding plans are in place for these species. Rockfish can be encountered by trawl vessels that target Pacific whiting and are considered "by-catch." Strict caps on the over-fished species have been applied, and once caps are met, the directed fishing on whiting can be closed.

hide the violation.

This violation occurred at a time when rockfish caps were quickly nearing and threatened to lock out access to millions of dollars in available Pacific Whiting. WDFW Officers initially responded to a reported fish kill on the Long Beach Peninsula. After securing several thousand fish for evidence, the officers teamed up with the Oregon State Police, the U.S. Coast Guard, and NOAA to investigate. A suspect was identified, and ultimately confessed.



Major Wastage Case: The captain and owners of a Pacific Whiting fishing vessel have agreed to pay the National Marine Fisheries Service a \$40,000 civil penalty for illegally throwing away 16,000 pounds of widow rockfish while at-sea and for turning

Multiple Big Game Charges: Officer Allen met with the Skagit County Prosecutor's Office to present four big game cases that he has been working on since November. Charges including closed season, spotlighting, unlawful use of a license/no license, possession of firearms, and wastage were referred in regards to nine deer, two bobcats, and one bear.

Tribal Hunters Plead Guilty: Officer Myers and Sergeant Grant attended Yakama Tribal court for a closed season case on two Yakama tribal members. Officer Myers and Sergeant Grant had contacted the two in possession of two deer closed season back in January. Yakama Tribal Police responded and the two were charged for various crimes. After hearing the Prosecutor's recommendation for punishment, the two changed their pleas from not guilty and pled guilty on two counts of possession of doe deer closed season. The tribal court imposed a fine and six months of probation.

Illegal Hound Hunters Treed: On

November 21, 2007, a subject pled guilty in Wahkiakum County Court to charges of Trespass, Malicious Mischief and Unlawfully Hunting with Dogs. The charges stemmed from his participation with a group of three other hunters who were targets of a seven-month covert investigation conducted by Regional Fish and Wildlife Officers and Detectives from the Special Investigative Unit (SIU). The group of hunters referred to themselves as the "Kill 'Em All Boyz."

For his role in the violations, this subject was sentenced to 60 days in jail, \$1500 in fines plus \$57 to pay for locks that were attached to gates on timber company property, which they broke to enter the private property. Additionally, his hunting privileges were suspended for two years and the judge in the case made it clear that he was not allowed to even accompany other hunters.



In a related case, on November 5, 2007, another member of the "Kill Em All Boyz," from Longview, WA, pled guilty in Lewis County Superior Court to one count of 1st degree Hunting While License Suspended or Revoked. He was sentenced to 30 days in jail and \$1,850 in fines and fees. As a convicted felon, this person is precluded from possession of firearms.

Additional charges related to this WDFW investigation are pending for both these individuals as well as others who have not gone to trial yet.



<u>Legislative News:</u> Headquarters staff tracked over 76 individual pieces of legislation, providing bill analyses on many. Bills having direct impact on the Enforcement Program included:

(1) ESB 6821 Data Sharing. This bill related to protecting certain federal commercial fisheries monitoring information from public disclosure. Negatives related to not passing included being barred from enforcement officer access to critical commercial fishery enforcement information, possible impacts to federal JEA funding, and risk of unfair competitive disadvantage to commercial fishermen as catch areas, catch rates, etc could be disclosed. This bill passed out of the House and Senate and is on its way to the Governor's Office for consideration

- (2) SHB 2514 Orca Whale. Southern Resident Orca Whales are state listed as endangered. That designation changes the landscape with regard to application of state law, which would otherwise be preempted by the federal Marine Mammal Protection Act. This bill passed out of both houses and is on its way to the Governor's Office for consideration. If signed into law, a person will have committed an infraction if they operate a vessel contrary to established guidelines. Exemptions exist.
- (3) HB 2871 Small Scale Mining and Prospecting. This bill decriminalized all violations involving small scale mining and prospecting, to include the illegal uses of dredges. The Enforcement Program was opposed to this bill and it did not make it out of committee.

WILDCOMM: The first phases of the "WILDCOMM" project are underway. WILDCOMM is the Statewide Radio Dispatch System for WDFW, using the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) State Channel Repeater System. Construction of the new Dispatch Secure Area (DSA) is partially completed at the Natural Resources Building (NRB), with completion scheduled within two weeks. The DSA will be a partitioned off area for the new center, with secure access and security glass for lobby frontage. Dispatch furniture has been approved for five workstations. A new Communications Officer 1 (CO1) has been hired effective April 1st, using the CO class specifications borrowed from the Department of Personnel (DOP). The new hire is a former Washington State Patrol (WSP) CO, well trained and qualified. Additional CO staff will be slowly added. WILDCOMM will be operated in partnership with DNR and State Parks using cutting-edge "Radio over Internet Protocol" (RoIP) technology. Eventually RoIP will enable statewide radio dispatch connectivity using the WDFW data network. Additional testing using this technology will be conducted soon, and an orderly, phased statewide build out is planned.

<u>Fish and Wildlife Commission:</u> HQ provided the Commission with an overview of compliance in the recreational crab fishery in Central Sound. A briefing related to the Enforcement Program's role and accomplishments in Homeland Security, Natural Disaster, and Critical Incident Response was presented.

HQ provided input on several rule packages for Commission consideration, to include (1) Master Hunter Program, and (2) Department Lands Use:

(1) Master Hunter Program. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW's) previous program for master hunters was called the "Advanced Hunter Education" program. The program was implemented under WAC 232-12-073 and allowed individuals to participate in special hunts if the individuals successfully completed courses in sharpshooter education, conservationist education, and master hunter education.

Recently, the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission restructured the Advanced Hunter Education program and renamed it the "Master Hunter" program. The Commission recognized that master hunters are ambassadors of WDFW and are role models and mentors for the hunting community and the public at large. So the Commission tightened the program's requirements to hold master hunters accountable for ethical and criminal violations. The Commission also streamlined the program, removing the sharpshooter and conservationist education requirements and integrating those skills in the master hunter curriculum.

WDFW and the Commission look forward to the positive results we expect from this improved program.

(2) Department Lands Use. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW's) paramount responsibilities are to preserve, protect, perpetuate, and manage the fish and wildlife species of the state, and maximize opportunities for people to hunt, fish, and appreciate fish and wildlife. In recent years, WDFW has experienced an increase in activities on department lands that are inconsistent with the department's fish and wildlife management goals and that damage habitat, disturb wildlife, and prevent others from enjoying fish and wildlife recreational opportunities.

The department therefore has created a new WAC chapter, 232-13, under which to consolidate existing land-use rules and add new ones. These rules explain the activities that are allowed or prohibited on WDFW-owned or -controlled lands, waters, or access areas. The activities include everything from aircraft use and commercial activities to camping and target practice. These rules will allow WDFW to provide better enforcement on its lands and fulfill its responsibilities.

<u>Oregon State Police and WDFW Agreement:</u> HQ collaborated with the Oregon State Police on a cross-commissioning agreement that provides Oregon and Washington State Officers with each other's law enforcement authority within 50 miles of the shared border. The intent of this agreement is to allow more law enforcement flexibility during joint patrols and to address jurisdictional challenges in federal offshore waters.

<u>Concurrent Rules on the Columbia River:</u> HQ met with the Oregon State Police and WDFW Policy Staff on two occasions in an effort to align regulations on the concurrent waters of the Columbia River. Without similar regulations, anglers are often confused and enforcement jurisdiction is constrained to within state boundaries, versus bank-to-bank authority for both agencies. Progress was made on a number of regulations, but not all of them.

NOAA and WDFW Joint Enforcement Agreement: WDFW and NOAA enjoy a partnership that provides federal funding to our enforcement program for living marine resource protection under federal jurisdiction. WDFW completed the 2008-2010 Joint Enforcement Agreement (JEA) and submitted it for consideration to NOAA HQ.