



**WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH  
AND WILDLIFE (WDFW)**

**ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM**

**2005 Annual Report**



<http://wdfw.wa.gov/enf/enforce.htm>

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## Chief's Introduction

I am so proud of the work of the men and women of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Program in 2005. Every member of the Program contributed to the year's successes. We will continue to make improvements in order to achieve our mission of protecting citizens and our state's precious fish and wildlife resources.

Please contact me at [enforcement-web@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:enforcement-web@dfw.wa.gov) if you have any comments or questions regarding this report.



**Chief Bruce Bjork**

## MISSION/VISION/VALUES

### Enforcement Program Mission Statement

*The mission of the Enforcement Program is to provide for public safety, to protect fish and wildlife from unlawful harvest, to protect fish and wildlife habitat, to assist the public in resolving wildlife problems, and to educate the public about fish and wildlife issues.*

### Enforcement Program Vision

The Department of Fish and Wildlife Enforcement Program has a well-deserved reputation for excellence. We maintain the highest standards of professional ethics and personal integrity. We are committed to the philosophy of community policing, partnering, and problem-solving with those we serve. We employ both time-tested methods and promising new approaches for wildlife protection within the communities we serve. We manage all of our resources – including people, equipment, and technology – prudently and effectively. Our communication is direct, open, and respectful. We value our unity and our differences, recognizing that there is strength in both. Our commitment to a safe and healthy workplace is shown in high morale, job satisfaction, and continually enhanced performance.

### Enforcement Program Values

Enforcement Program employees uphold the following values in our individual conduct and in our personal relationships:

- *Integrity and ethical behavior at all times.*
- *Respect for the rule of law and the dignity of all human beings.*
- *Acceptance of full responsibility and accountability for our actions.*
- *Empathy and compassion for others.*
- *Direct communication that permits and encourages healthy disagreement.*
- *Resolving differences in a mutually-supportive and positive way.*
- *Equal treatment of all sworn and civilian members of the department.*

In our professional responsibilities, we value:

- *Individual and team effectiveness in solving issues affecting fish and wildlife.*
- *Exceptional responsiveness to the public and resource we serve.*
- *Equal protection and service for all, regardless of economic status or position.*
- *Quality training and commitment to personal and professional growth.*
- *Flexibility in adapting to change.*
- *Innovation, creativity, and reasoned risk-taking.*
- *A methodical approach to problem-solving.*
- *Responsible and creative management of all our resources.*
- *Excellence and continuous improvements in all we do.*

### ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM 2005 DATA

<b>TOTAL ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM ACTIVITY</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Contacts	213513	232603	9%
Violations	31852	37796	19%
Arrests	20148	23503	17%
Written Warnings	2779	1740	-37%
Verbal Warnings	10552	14266	35%
Officer Assists	8416	9732	16%
HPA Check Form	579	832	44%
Problem Wildlife Reports	3305	3333	1%
Damage Claim Reports	66	70	6%
Regulated Activity Check	1303	2313	78%

### ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY BY REGION

Region	Contacts		Violators		Arrests		Written Warnings		Verbal Warnings		Officer Assists	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
<i>Years</i>												
<b>Spokane</b>	28863	28453	4459	5161	2809	3076	628	349	1198	2156	1180	1436
<b>Ephrata</b>	26837	27035	4210	4293	2950	2636	347	357	1488	1409	1278	1229
<b>Yakima</b>	24466	27318	3618	4125	2765	3253	136	96	1243	1405	784	993
<b>Mill Creek</b>	30140	37108	4975	6475	3291	4219	419	328	1572	2371	649	1191
<b>Vancouver</b>	21759	17877	3149	3267	2316	2308	127	103	837	782	911	803
<b>Montesano</b>	41063	48536	5314	6796	3063	4130	521	276	2294	3205	1238	1850
<b>Marine</b>	38384	44240	5823	7454	2861	3844	601	227	1773	2820	2244	2119
<b>HQ/SIU</b>	2001	2036	304	225	93	37	0	4	144	118	132	107
<i>Total</i>	213513	232603	31852	37796	20148	23503	2779	1740	10552	14266	8416	9728
<i>% Change</i>	<b>9%</b>		<b>19%</b>		<b>17%</b>		<b>-37%</b>		<b>35%</b>		<b>16%</b>	

### ENFORCEMENT HOURS BY FISH/WILDLIFE TYPE

Region	Big Game		Fish		Game Bird		Migratory Bird		Shellfish		Small Game	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
<i>Years</i>	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
<b>Spokane</b>	8987	9601	7662	6749	1435	1271	770	872	159	190	677	580
<b>Ephrata</b>	5854	5593	7020	6269	682	781	970	1062	456	104	457	410
<b>Yakima</b>	5632	6011	5207	6284	266	664	803	1220	282	289	135	346
<b>Mill Creek</b>	5976	7076	7609	9016	240	329	1300	1934	2345	2622	272	736
<b>Vancouver</b>	6085	5253	7674	6810	186	72	475	381	155	132	146	341
<b>Montesano</b>	7051	7703	6080	7330	197	179	384	795	3685	4385	328	432
<b>Marine</b>	2566	3366	9456	10436	36	114	179	322	7187	7015	62	110
<b>HQ/SIU</b>	790	1312	1329	1236	7	17	27	26	3938	2481	3	698
<i>Total</i>	42941	45918	52037	54130	3049	3427	4908	6612	18207	17218	2080	3653
<i>% FW Activity</i>	<b>35%</b>	<b>35%</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>15%</b>	<b>13%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>3%</b>

### ACTIVITY BY FISH/WILDLIFE TYPE

Type	Enforcement Contacts		Violators		Arrests		Written Warnings		Verbal Warnings		Officer Assists	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
<i>Years</i>	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
<b>Big Game</b>	31928	34054	2536	2855	1929	2272	226	125	709	860	1033	1473
<b>Fish</b>	106201	114097	14179	16285	8388	9648	1256	817	4461	6077	3820	3971
<b>Game Bird</b>	3594	4881	311	433	201	254	39	27	122	200	45	82
<b>Migratory Bird</b>	4559	7234	621	895	355	489	60	66	250	358	167	259
<b>Marine Mammals</b>	N/A	96	N/A	16	N/A	8	N/A	2	N/A	6	N/A	0
<b>Shellfish</b>	33013	35439	4561	5530	2833	3200	525	242	1930	2522	1113	1449
<b>Small Game</b>	552	855	98	145	83	100	7	10	42	56	41	49
<i>Total</i>	179847	196656	22306	26159	13789	15971	2113	1289	7514	10079	6219	7283
<i>% Change</i>	<b>9%</b>		<b>17%</b>		<b>16%</b>		<b>-39%</b>		<b>34%</b>		<b>17%</b>	

<b>HABITAT ENFORCEMENT</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Enforcement Contacts	3163	1590	-50%
Violations	304	365	20%
Arrests	93	125	34%
Written Warnings	0	49	-
Verbal Warnings	144	130	-10%

<b>OFFICER HOURLY ACTIVITY BY MAJOR CATEGORY</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>% of Total</b>
Administration	94733	91718	-3%	32%
Enforcement	136475	148646	9%	51%
Public Education	3352	3564	6%	1%
Support	2244	1864	-17%	1%
Leave	31755	33537	6%	11%
Wildlife Control	11643	10823	-7%	4%

<b>ENFORCEMENT CONTACTS BY REGION</b>			
<b>REGION</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>% Change</b>
1 – Spokane	28863	28453	-1%
2 – Ephrata	26837	27035	1%
3 – Yakima	24466	27318	12%
4 – Mill Creek	30140	37108	23%
5 – Vancouver	21759	17877	-18%
6 – Montesano	41063	48536	18%
Marine Division	38384	44240	15%

<b>ARRESTS BY REGION</b>			
<b>REGION</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>% Change</b>
1 – Spokane	2809	3076	10%
2 – Ephrata	2950	2636	-11%
3 – Yakima	2765	3253	18%
4 – Mill Creek	3291	4219	28%
5 – Vancouver	2316	2308	-0.3%
6 – Montesano	3603	4130	15%
Marine Division	2961	3844	30%

<b>VIOLATOR CONTACTS BY REGION</b>			
<b>REGION</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>% Change</b>
1 – Spokane	4459	5161	16%
2 – Ephrata	4210	4293	2%
3 – Yakima	3618	4125	14%
4 – Mill Creek	4975	6475	30%
5 – Vancouver	3149	3267	4%
6 – Montesano	5314	6796	28%
Marine Division	5823	7454	28%



- **Harassing ESA Listed Fish in Rivers:** Illegal snagging has caused problems with the concept of the selective fishery on the Quilcene River. The Hood Canal summer-run chum salmon stocks are ESA listed as Threatened, and the season is closed for that species in that system; however, Coho salmon are also present and available as legal catch at the same time. In response to this problem, Marine Detachment Officers invested over 145 hours of undercover patrols to protect listed fish. Officers contacted over 524 anglers and made 135 arrests. Of those arrests, 89 were for snagging salmon and an additional 14 arrests involved violations of fish handling rules. Officers also made 15 arrests for closed season fishing.
- **Lacey Act Violation Involving Indian Reservation:** WDFW Officers received information that two Tribal members had harvested several hundred razor clams and were on an Indian Reservation (not their own) calling up prospective clients, and selling the product out of the trunk of their car. This activity was illegal per Tribal and Washington law, and a violation of the Federal Lacey Act. After arranging with the sellers, an undercover WDFW Detective met them a parking lot and purchased 100 dollars worth of clams. WDFW and NOAA Officers contacted the two subjects and seized the remaining **856 razor clams**. Methamphetamine was also discovered in the vehicle after a search. Charges have been filed in both State and Tribal Courts. The Tribal case has since been adjudicated and resulted in a \$4,000 fine and a suspension of fishing rights for one of the suspects.
- **Commercial Halibut Season Emphasis:** Marine Officers participated in a major two-day commercial halibut fishery emphasis patrol. About 35 Officers from multiple agencies, such as USCG, Oregon State Police, and NOAA/OLE were involved in providing coast-wide coverage from the Oregon–California Border to North of Point Chehalis, Washington. Three WDFW Officers and a NOAA Agent patrolled from Westport to Ilwaco in the WDFW patrol vessel Corliss, conducting numerous boardings while underway. In total, identified offenses were: possession of halibut without state license or federal permit, operating a commercial vessel while intoxicated (.174 BAC), falsifying vessel size status, fail to accurately document catch on fish receiving tickets, fishing during the closed season.

MARINE DIVISION	2004	2005	% Change
Contacts	38384	44240	15%
Violators	5823	7454	28%
Arrests	2861	3844	34%
Written Warnings	601	227	-62%
Verbal Warnings	1773	2820	59%

## Marine Division and WDFW Officer of the Year – Dan Chadwick



Dan Chadwick, a fish and wildlife enforcement and field-training officer, has been named statewide Officer of the Year.

Chadwick, who is stationed in Ilwaco, received the top law enforcement award from WDFW supervisors and fellow officers for his work in Pacific County and the department's marine unit. In that time, Chadwick made 206 arrests and issued 44 written warnings in cases that involved a wide range of activities, including commercial fishing violations and big game poaching. He has been a WDFW officer for nearly six years.

"Whether it is a marine-related or a land-base challenge, Dan steps up to it," wrote Capt. Mike Cenci, who nominated Chadwick as WDFW's statewide Officer of the Year. "His dedication to the job, positive attitude, tenacity and superior patrol and investigative skills have all contributed to his success in case work and his value as a fish and wildlife officer."

Before joining WDFW in 2000, Chadwick was a deputy with Adams and Whatcom counties. Chadwick, 32, also serves as the president of the Washington Game Warden Association.

"Dan is an outstanding fish and wildlife officer," said Chief Bruce Bjork. "He's a top-notch field-training officer, who serves as a role model for newly recruited officers. We are very lucky to have Dan as a member of our enforcement team."

Chadwick is the recipient of the Shikar-Safari International Wildlife Officer of the Year award for 2005.

"With the high caliber of people within the enforcement program, I am very honored to be selected as Officer of the Year," Chadwick said. "We have great officers, and I thank them for what I have learned and will continue to learn from them."

## REGION ONE – SPOKANE



**Captain Mike Whorton**

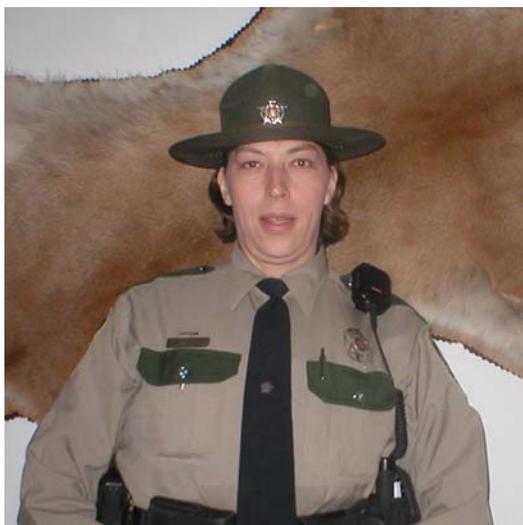
### Region One Challenges/Successes/Events –

- **Poaching Investigation:** Region One Officers broke up a large-scale deer poaching ring in Stevens County in the Fall of 2005. After receiving a tip, Region One officers initiated an investigation that deployed some high tech surveillance equipment. After a month of investigative work, Region One officers where able to capture the primary suspects in the act of bringing two poached deer home. In the course of arrests, an additional seven poached deer were recovered. Ultimately, the investigation resulted in the charging of six individuals with multiple counts of big game poaching. The case is still pending for final adjudication in Stevens County.
- **Officer Recognition:** Officers Johnson and McQuary received recognition awards for their enforcement efforts in the local area from the National Wildlife Turkey Federation (NWTf).
- **Spokane’s Downtown Wild Turkey:** Subsequently, an arrest was made on the party responsible for shooting the bird when Officers received a tip. In the course of the arrest, other game violations were discovered. We immediately capitalized on the arrest with media coverage. Captain Whorton did several television interviews.
- **‘Suicide by Cop’ Attempt:** Officer Lantiegne was the target of a failed attempt at a “suicide by cop.” According to the WSP sergeant and trooper, the suspect voiced repeatedly during transport his frustration at failing to be able to point his weapon at or shoot at Officer Lantiegne and force him to kill the suspect.
- **School Fire at the Wooten Wildlife Area:** WDFW Enforcement sent eight officers to assist, four from Region One and two from each other eastside region.

REGION 1	2004	2005	% Change
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Contacts	28863	28453	-1%
Violators	4459	5161	16%
Arrests	2809	3076	10%
Written Warnings	628	349	-44%
Verbal Warnings	1198	2156	80%

### Region One Officer of the Year – Pam Taylor



Officer Taylor transferred to Region One in 2002. In the three years Officer Taylor has been part of Region One’s Enforcement team, she has distinguished herself as an exceptional officer. This year was no exception. During this past year, Officer Taylor led her Detachment in overall enforcement activity. She is becoming well known for her innate talent to know which areas to work to catch poachers and apprehend violators. Her ability is demonstrated by her key role in the arrest of six subjects involved in a deer-poaching ring, which resulted in over 100 charges this past fall. In addition, Officer Taylor has been working with the U.S. Forest Service on another large poaching outfit near the Idaho border.

Officer Taylor is equally active in other aspects of being a Fish and Wildlife Officer. In 2004, Officer Taylor became a Firearms Instructor for Region One. In 2005, Officer Taylor became the lead Firearms Instructor. Officer Taylor has recently requested to become a Field Training officer in order to be involved in training new Fish and Wildlife officers.

Officer Taylor is always trying to improve operational effectiveness. For example, Officer Taylor was able to obtain a grant to acquire two new Wave-Runners for inland water patrols during the summer. These machines improved her access and mobility to patrol summer waters. Officer Taylor is always working in partnership with the public. She has established an active “Eyes in the Woods” program within her district. This volunteer program recruits and trains local citizens how to detect and report wildlife violations.

Officer Taylor clearly exemplifies today’s professional Fish and Wildlife Officer. We are extremely proud of Officer Taylor being selected as Region One’s 2005 Officer of the Year.

## REGION TWO – EPHRATA



**Captain Steve Dauma**

### Region Two Challenges/Successes/Events –

- **Suspect Wanted in Multiple States:** Officers Jewell, Steinhoff, and Sergeant Anderson stopped a suspect who was a highly skilled white-collar criminal who specialized in hacking into computerized financial systems and transferring money from their accounts. The suspect, when he realized that officers had been able to positively identify him, admitted that he had spent nearly 10 years in prison for hacking into computers in South Carolina and stealing \$250,000. The suspect was surprised to learn that he had been identified and apprehended by state game wardens. The suspect was booked on nine confirmed extraditable felony warrants from all over the United States.
- **Hound Hunter Violators Charged:** Detachment 15 officers conducted an investigation of four hound hunters that were violating the Cougar Pilot Project in Chelan county. After an investigation, four hunters were charged with a variety of big game violations, and all four lost their Pilot Project hunting privileges.
- **Eagles Club Selects Officer of the Year:** The Ephrata Eagles Club has selected Officer Mike Jewell as “Officer of the Year” for both his commitment to the local community and his professional standards as a law enforcement officer.
- **Special Event for Children:** Deputy Chief Jarmon and Detachments 15 and 16 (Chelan and Grant counties) participated with other law enforcement agencies in honoring eleven special needs children in the Ephrata Chief for a Day event. The Grant County Superior Court Judges swore in the new chiefs. Enforcement Officers set up a jet boat, ATVs, personal watercraft, and a moose decoy for the static display of law enforcement equipment.
- **Officer Contacts Net Violator:** Detachment 15 officers were advised of four mule deer that had been shot and killed at night in an orchard in the Entiat area. A lengthy investigation followed and the crime scene was processed. With no suspects, officers began to contact informants and locals and finally interviewed a male subject that admitted that he “just liked shooting things.” A rifle, and evidence were seized and the suspect pled guilty to multiple big game violations.

<b>REGION 2</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Contacts	26837	27035	1%
Violators	4210	4293	2%
Arrests	2950	2636	-11%
Written Warnings	347	357	3%
Verbal Warnings	1488	1409	-5%

### **Region Two Officer of the Year – Mike Jewell**



Officer Jewell clearly exemplifies the highest level of professionalism in his appearance, demeanor, treatment of the public, and relationships with coworkers and other members of the law enforcement community. His dedication and professionalism are reflected in a very high level of enforcement activity, normally the highest producing officer in the region that includes all areas of fish and wildlife violations as well as other violations of general state laws. He regularly provides input to resource managers and seeks information from them in order to be able to assist the public.

Officer Jewell actively serves on the Region 2 Safety Committee and as an Emergency Vehicle Operators Course (EVOC) Instructor for the Enforcement Program. Officer Jewell provides the highest level of service to the public that includes participation in the Chief for a Day events in Ephrata and Wenatchee.

Officer Jewell was recently nominated for a National First-Aid Award for his attempt to save the life of a truck driver who had crashed into the Columbia River, was awarded an Officer of the Year Commendation by the Ephrata Eagles Club, and regularly attends and participates in local sports clubs, hunter education classes, and local kids fishing events.

His knowledge, attention to detail and professionalism have caused officers of other law enforcement agencies hold him in high regard. His knowledge, professionalism, and positive attitude clearly distinguish him as an officer to emulate.

## REGION THREE – YAKIMA



**Captain Chuck Kohls**

### Region Three Challenges/Successes/Events –

- **Warrant Emphasis:** Officer Beireis coordinated a warrant execution on an unlicensed Yakima taxidermist, with the assistance of WDFW Officers from Detachments 17, 18 and US Fish and Wildlife Special Agents. Thirty sets of antlers and various other big game and waterfowl species were photographed and logged. The suspect, plead guilty to unlawful taxidermy and was fined \$1479.00 and then purchased a state and federal license.
- **Major Emphasis Patrols:** Officer Grant patrolled the Chandler Power Plant contacting a very large group of individuals whom were fishing. One individual admitted to not having a fishing license. The individual gave Officer Grant his name but said he was up from Mexico and did not have any identification. Officer Grant ran the individual and found that he had a felony warrant out of Klickitat County for **2 counts of homicide**. Officer Grant arrested the individual and booked him into Benton County jail.
- **Crowd Control Issues:** Officer Hobbs and Officer Baird worked the Vantage area one evening. Kittitas County had only one reserve deputy stationed in Getty's Cove to keep the order. Hundreds of people packed Getty's Cove and the crowd was unruly. Officers slowly worked their way through the cloud of Marijuana smoke, contacting several violators with a variety of violations from marijuana and MIP to possession of Cocaine. Officers Grant, Jewel, Erhardt, and Crown apprehended an individual after he threw a rock at Sergeant Anderson's vehicle as he was leaving the area. The individual was taken into custody.
- **Elk Damage Permit Update:** Region 3 personnel continue to assist landowners with ongoing elk damage issues. Landowner access permits are being issued, although the trend is beginning to show landowners are not satisfied with permits. A landowner is encouraging neighboring ranchers to return permits. One landowner returned his permits. A rancher in Klickitat County called requesting a night hunt.
- **Marijuana Grow Operation:** Officer Myers and Sergeant Grant assisted local drug task force agents with marijuana eradication efforts on WDFW lands. Eighteen hundred (1,800) plants on

the Sunnyside Wildlife Area and another one hundred and fifty (150) plants on the Wenas Wildlife Area were eradicated with an estimated street value of \$2,000,000.

- Tribal Elk Hunt Investigation:** Region 3 Officers received and investigated numerous reports of illegal hunting by Tribal members in Kittitas County. The investigations established the Tribal members were hunting within their Treaty Rights, except for one. An enrolled Tribal member shot and killed a large bull elk on private land near Colockum Pass Road. WDFW Officers contacted the Tribal Member at the scene. An interview was conducted and the Tribal member claimed the land appeared to be open and unclaimed. The Tribal member passed through in opening in one fence and crossed a second fence in order to shoot the elk. The road is heavily posted with no trespassing signs, there are numerous residences in the area, and all the land is fenced and held in private ownership. The elk and the rifle were seized as evidence. A case report was forwarded to the prosecutor’s office for review and a charging decision.

REGION 3	2004	2005	% Change
Contacts	24466	27318	12%
Violators	3618	4125	14%
Arrests	2765	3253	18%
Written Warnings	136	96	-29%
Verbal Warnings	1246	1405	13%

### Region Three Officer of the Year – Shawn Myers



Officer Shawn Myers has worked for the Department of Fish and Wildlife for over seven years, the last three with the Enforcement Program. Prior to Enforcement, Shawn worked on the Sunnyside Wildlife Area as a habitat specialist. This provided him with a well-rounded background related to wildlife.

Fellow officers continue to voice Shawn’s willingness to learn and eagerness to be the first to jump in and help. Shawn has garnered support and respect of his fellow officers and agency professionals.

Shawn was temporarily assigned to assist a local drug task force working marijuana grows on Fish and Wildlife lands. His enthusiasm and can-do attitude was contagious to the others assigned to the task force. He is respected throughout the law enforcement arena.

Shawn has done an excellent job as the Detachment 18 evidence technician. He was instrumental in making the recent state auditor visit a success. Shawn additionally has applied to become the Region Three Fish & Wildlife Officer 1 recruiter. This depicts his tireless enthusiasm and commitment to his role as a Fish and Wildlife Officer.

Shawn continues to balance a full professional schedule with a happy family life as he and his wife raise their two young daughters.

## REGION FOUR – MILL CREEK



**Captain Bill Hebner**

### Region Four Challenges/Successes/Events –

- **Black Bear Successfully Relocated:** Officer Bruce Richards received a call from the Issaquah Police Department about a bear in a city park. When Officer Richards arrived, he saw the bear near the bathrooms in the park and two females were inside. Officer Richards and Biologist Rocky Spencer were able to get close enough to the bear to get a drug dart into him. The 350-pound bear was captured in the brush nearby. The bruin was tagged and relocated into a remote area of the county. The media coverage was extensive on this incident because it is highly unusual for this type of capture on a free roaming bear.
- **Chronic Wasting Disease Cases:** Many hunters who live within the Region travel to hunt in states with documented cases of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD). Region Four Officers have made a concentrated effort to educate hunters, taxidermists, and meat lockers of the danger to Washington's wildlife presented by illegal importation of infected animals. Region Four Officers located and properly destroyed eight animals harvested in infected states.
- **Upper Skagit River Chinook Season:** For the first time in many years, fishers were allowed to retain two hatchery Chinook salmon from the Upper Skagit River. In order to protect wild Chinook salmon, Officers worked over 430 hours and contacted over 500 fishers. Compliance was excellent with 10 warnings and 10 citations issued for fishing violations. Also, 13 citations were issued other crimes. None of the arrests involved retention of wild Chinook salmon.
- **Officers Provide Assistance to Drug Task Force:** Sergeant Phillips and Officer Maurstad assisted with a joint marijuana grow patrol with Federal, State, and the Snohomish County Drug Task Force near Darrington. This effort resulted in the discovery of two grow operations.
- **Captive Duck Controversy:** In response to a complaint from a citizen, two regional Officers seized a mallard duck they determined was illegally removed from the wild and was being held in captivity. Shortly after, the responsible persons accused the officers of severe misconduct, to include criminal trespass, assault, exceeding their authority, and rudeness. The allegations were very serious and attracted significant media attention throughout North America. After a

thorough review by the responsible law enforcement agency, and a comprehensive WDFW administrative investigation, the officers were cleared of any wrongdoing.

- **Enforcement Staff Receives a Recognition Award from Director:** Captain Hebner was one of four Department employees to receive a special recognition award from the Director in 2005. Their successful teamwork resulted in a landmark agreement that abolished a stand off between the agency and the agriculture community in Skagit County. The agreement assures that agriculture and fish needs will be recognized and improved upon now and into the future. The development process and the agreement are being used as examples to resolve other controversial resource issues in Skagit and Whatcom Counties.

REGION 4	2004	2005	% Change
Contacts	30140	37108	23%
Violators	4975	6475	30%
Arrests	3291	4219	28%
Written Warnings	419	328	-22%
Verbal Warnings	1572	2371	51%

### Region Four Officer of the Year – Shane Brazier



Officer Shane Brazier is a veteran officer who not only takes care of business in King County, but also has numerous contacts with other states. Officer Brazier has developed a reputation as the go to Officer for out of state investigative support. Because of his past record establishing his investigative expertise, he routinely receives requests from out of state fish and game agencies for his personal assistance for follow up investigation for big game violations committed in other states by Washington residents. He has spent many hours doing investigations for and with the US Fish and Wildlife Service that resulted in several major arrests.

Perhaps the most important task that Officer Brazier has taken on over the past half dozen years but particularly this year is his active participation and leadership as a Field Training Officer. He is undoubtedly the lead Field Training Officer (FTO) in the region and as such has been the lead Training Officer for countless Officers and has likely spent time training every new hire within the last 6 to 8 years. This past year, due to staffing reductions in Region 4, he was one of several FTOs in the region and the only one willing to take on the responsibility of being the lead or primary FTO for several new hires in King County. He volunteered unselfishly to take on these new officers before he was even asked. There were times when he actually was called on to juggle two new officers at the same time and he never complained about the long hours or many miles driven. He has gone out of his way to take new student officers to different parts of the state to expose them to as many different situations as possible.

Officer Brazier has helped teach numerous hunter education classes and is actively involved with Sportsman Groups in his area of responsibility. He has attended meetings held by Washington Waterfowlers Association, Ducks Unlimited, National Wild Turkey Federation and Pheasants Forever. He volunteers on an annual basis to work the agency booth at the Seattle Sportsman Show and the Seattle Boat Show.

## REGION FIVE– VANCOUVER



**Captain Murray Schlenker**

### Region Five Challenges/Successes/Events –

- **Mount Saint Helens Eruption:** Eruptions of the mountain continue to add a unique dimension to the enforcement of fish and game laws in the Southwest Region.
- **Fishing for Children:** Officers attended Kid's Fishing Derbies at Horseshoe Lake, Lake Sacejawea, Kress Lake, Round Lake, Battle Ground Lake, and Kline Pond, the largest event in the State with more than 1500 kids participating.
- **Sea Lions in Bonneville Dam:** Officers were called in to assist with the hazing of sea lions from the Bonneville Dam fish ladder. Further efforts will continue in the future
- **Lewis County Arrest Warrant Sweep:** The effort focused on deadbeat dads and DUI warrants. Fish and Wildlife Officers concentrated on outstanding fish and game warrants. Many arrests were made and the new jail was busy booking in customers. The overall operation was deemed a great success for the county.
- **Reported Bear Attack:** Officer Conklin filed 36 charges with the Cowlitz County Prosecutor's Office in connection with the reported bear attack incident that took place in June. Six male subjects were hunting bear closed season, over bait and with dogs, when the bear attacked one of the men after he had wounded it. The individual reported that the bear attacked him without being provoked. The suspects then obstructed the investigation by giving false information on where the bear was located. Officer Conklin and Sergeant Holden were able to recover the bear along with several rounds.
- **Joint Deer Operation a Huge Success:** Officer Jeschke implemented a planned emphasis patrol this week for the first day of Western Washington's Modern Firearm Deer Season. Officers from five jurisdictions gathered at the Cowlitz Wildlife Area (WLA) office at noon Thursday for a briefing and team assignments before taking to the woods and contacting hunters. Eleven officers contacted eighty-eight persons in the field during a ten-hour patrol, finding three wildlife-related crimes and eight traffic-related offences. However, the operations

were a great success and are being talked about throughout the county. Officers from all jurisdictions enjoyed participating and look forward to a similar opportunity in the future.

- **Responses to calls of Cougar increase in Clark County:** Officers responded to a significant increase in reports of cougar in Clark County. Many calls could not be verified. Dogs were used numerous times with no results.

REGION 5	2004	2005	% Change
Contacts	21759	17877	-18%
Violators	3149	3267	4%
Arrests	2316	2308	-0.3%
Written Warnings	127	103	-19%
Verbal Warnings	837	782	-7%

### Region Five Officer of the Year – Jon Jeschke



Fish & Wildlife Officer Jon Jeschke started his law enforcement career in 1974 with the Department of Natural Resources. In 1986, he became a Fisheries Patrol Officer in Long Beach, subsequently transferring to Chehalis and then his current station in Randle. Jon is consistently one of the top producers of arrests in Region 5 and always shows enforcement activity across the spectrum, from access areas to technical tribal hunting violations.

As a result of him being well integrated into the community, Jon has developed an extensive network of informants, which enables him to produce the number, type, and quality of arrests that he makes.

Jon is the creator and chair of the east Lewis/east Pierce County Law Enforcement Council. This is a multi-agency consortium, which meets monthly to share intelligence, network, and share resources for the purposes of law enforcement in this rural area. Law enforcement from every state, local, and federal agency in the area, participate in these meetings. Jon is always willing to back up a fellow Officer regardless of the situation and regardless of their Agency affiliation.

Jon has an up-beat attitude and great sense of humor. Over the past few years, his greatest attribute, though, has been his willingness and desire to mentor new Officers. Jon has spent hours assisting, orienting, and developing the new Officers within his detachment. He has gone out of his way to hand off cases (at the expense of his own numbers) to individuals so that they may learn and grow from his over 30 years of experience. This type of behavior is an exceptional quality.



- **Tacoma Mall Shooting:** Officer Prater responded to the Tacoma Mall shooting/hostage standoff. Officer Prater assisted with the safe evacuation of the citizens and employees to a safe area outside the mall during the incident.

REGION 6	2004	2005	% Change
Contacts	41063	48536	18%
Violations	5314	6796	28%
Arrests	3063	4130	35%
Written Warnings	521	276	-47%
Verbal Warnings	2294	3205	40%

### Region Six Officer of the Year – Ryan John



Ryan John came to Region Six in 2002; we were lucky enough to steal Ryan from the Garfield County Sheriff Department where he had worked as a Deputy for three years. Officer John was assigned the Shelton Station in Mason County. Officer John's performance in this demanding station exceeded all expectations. He quickly learned the geography and made community contacts. As a result of his excellent networking with the community, local law enforcement, and his willingness to support other WDFW programs, it was not long before his name and good

reputation were well established throughout Mason County. Ryan never misses the opportunity to provide presentations to the Hunter Education classes and Eyes in the Woods training. Off duty, he and his family are active participants in their church and the community.

Officer John possesses an incredible knack for pursuing violators, no matter how complicated the issues are. He took on the difficult responsibility of sanitary shellfish enforcement and put together several complex investigations tracking illegal product from harvest to marketplace, sorting out difficult tribal issues along the way. His work activity consistently is exceptional with arrests and investigations in a vast diversity of fish, shellfish, big game, and public safety/general authority issues. Additionally, Officer John is always willing to be innovative in his work and ability to solve problems, whether it be catching an alligator in Lake Trask, resolving problem wildlife issues, or conducting patrols and surveillance.

As a team builder and a leader, Officer John coordinates and implements emphasis patrols to focus on priority issues such as sanitary shellfish enforcement and the protection of ESA listed salmon in Mason County streams. These patrols are well organized, strategically planned out, and implemented with a great deal of enthusiasm and professionalism. Officer John follows up with a summary neatly prepared and delivered up the chain of command. Officer John requested and accepted the additional responsibility as a Field Training Officer, a duty that he has taken seriously, and has provided invaluable training to two of our recent hires. His daily reports and the activities he involves the trainee in are among the best in the Program.

## HEADQUARTERS – OLYMPIA



### Headquarters Challenges/Successes/Events –

- **Enforcement In-Service Training:** The training schedule included: legal update on domestic violence, A.G. opinion on trespass, tribal hunting, hunting accident classroom and practical, safety (throw bags), model policy on vehicle pursuit and accreditation, migratory birds (taught by USFWS), etc. Officers also received annual required gas mask fitting, and computer and radio frequency upgrades. Awards were also given.
- **Hunter Education In-Service:** More than 250 instructors attended the 2005 hunter education in-service (IST) training April 2nd-3rd in Yakima, making this year's IST the largest one ever.
- **Lembit Ratssepp Retires:** Lembit Ratssepp, the Assistant Chief of Administration for 8 years, officially retired on June 30. Lembit led many fine efforts for improving just about everything for the agency and the program.
- **Report to the Fish and Wildlife Commission:** Problem Wildlife Coordinator, Sean Carrell, briefed the Commission on June 17 in Yakima regarding public safety cougar removals, implementation of I-713 and the issuance of special trapping permits, as well as special hunt permits and damage claims.
- **FWO 1 Applicant Examinations Held in Olympia:** Seventeen candidates participated in Fish and Wildlife Officer (FWO) 1 testing on July 7 and 8. Applicants completed the oral testing process consisting of a writing exercise and pre-exposed and impromptu situational questions that were scored by a panel. Candidates were fingerprinted, completed a lengthy psychological test battery, and completed a pre-polygraph interview with a detective.
- **Two Sergeants Appointed:** Officer Rich Phillips accepted the Central Sound Marine Sergeant Position and Officer Chris Erhardt accepted the Tri-Cities Sergeant position. These promotions took effect on August 11, 2005.
-

- Enforcement Program Received Positive Review by CALEA Chief:** The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) Recognition on-site assessment of the Enforcement Program concluded on Tuesday, December 6. After spending three days reviewing documentation, talking with staff, and touring various offices, the Assessor, Chief Wayne McCoy of Blue Springs, Missouri Police Department, gave a positive review of the Enforcement Program.



He identified two minor deficiencies, but he said this was one of the best assessments he has conducted. He praised Enforcement for our professional and dedicated personnel, improvements in our evidence process, and our cooperation with other agencies. He recommended the full CALEA Commission to renew our Recognition award for another three years. This award was presented in March 2006.

PERMIT TYPE	# PERMITS ISSUED 2004	# PERMITS ISSUED 2005	% Change
Special Trapping Permits	597	762	28%
Timber Damage Permits	178	219	23%
Public Safety Cougar Permits	12	17	42%
Snag Permits	10	8	-20%
Salvage Permits	9	17	89%
Special Wildlife Permits	5	4	-20%
Nuisance Wildlife Operator Permits	19	14	-26%
Scientific Collection Permits	576	429	-25%

**PROBLEM WILDLIFE COMPLAINTS-STATEWIDE (EXCEPT BEAR AND COUGAR)**

Region	Dangerous Wildlife		Nuisance Wildlife	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
<i>Years</i>				
<b>Spokane</b>	257	288	121	101
<b>Ephrata</b>	82	74	89	90
<b>Yakima</b>	31	68	2	10
<b>Mill Creek</b>	29	33	31	18
<b>Vancouver</b>	54	122	29	85
<b>Montesano</b>	129	144	98	117
<i>Total</i>	582		729	
<i>% Change</i>	<b>25%</b>		<b>32%</b>	

## DAMAGE CLAIMS-STATEWIDE (DEER AND ELK)

Region	Deer		Elk		Damage Claims Filed		Dollar Claimed		Damage Claims Awarded		Percentage Awarded	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
<i>Years*</i>												
<b>Spokane</b>	7	8	7	5	14	13	\$57,680.13	\$114,676.12	\$33,914.65	\$49,551.22	59%	43%
<b>Ephrata</b>	1	0	0	0	1	0	\$2,050.00	\$0	\$1,521.75	\$0	74%	-
<b>Yakima</b>	2	0	12	10	14	10	\$88,066.67	\$158,399.49	\$52,688.28	\$60,514.63	60%	38%
<b>Mill Creek</b>	1	0	4	4	5	4	\$26,286.50	\$13,465.30	\$14,491.00	\$13,430	55%	100%
<b>Vancouver</b>	0	0	10	7	10	7	\$98,357.45	\$52,660.65	\$47,373.90	\$36,927.38	48%	70%
<b>Montesano</b>	1	1	19	9	20	10	\$112,934.04	\$41,154.68	\$25,978.79	\$30,495.61	23%	74%
<i>Total</i>	12	9	52	35	64	44	\$385,374.79	\$380,356.24	\$175,968.37	\$190,918.84	46%	50%
<i>Change</i>	<b>-25%</b>		<b>-33%</b>		<b>-31%</b>		<b>-1%</b>		<b>8%</b>		<b>9%</b>	

\*2004 Data from July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004

\*2005 Data from July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

## DAMAGE CLAIMS BY CROP-STATEWIDE (DEER AND ELK)

Region	Fruit Claimed/ Paid		Grain Claimed/ Paid		Grasses Claimed/ Paid		Legumes Claimed/ Paid		Other Claimed/ Paid		Total Claimed/ Paid	
	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
<i>Years*</i>												
<b>Spokane</b>	\$3619/ \$3600	\$40900/ \$0	\$44183/ \$30315	\$65668/ \$46675	\$2346/ \$0	\$5232/ \$0	\$7532/ \$0	\$2876/ \$2876	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$37680/ \$33915	\$144676/ \$49551
<b>Ephrata</b>	\$2050/ \$1522	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$2050/ \$1522	\$0/ \$0
<b>Yakima</b>	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$62976/ \$38998	\$64906/ \$58249	\$25091/ \$13690	\$36046/ \$2265	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$57448/ \$0	\$88067/ \$52688	\$158399/ \$60514
<b>Mill Creek</b>	\$0/ \$0	\$3523/ \$4560	\$4923/ \$4491	\$8722/ \$7770	\$0/ \$0	\$1220/ \$1100	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$21364/ \$10000	\$0/ \$0	\$26287/ \$14491	\$13465/ \$13430
<b>Vancouver</b>	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$30215/ \$16183	\$40004/ \$34513	\$59223/ \$21642	\$0/ \$0	\$3176/ \$3175	\$0/ \$0	\$5743/ \$5743	12657/ 2414	\$98357/ \$47374	\$52661/ \$36927
<b>Montesano</b>	\$40936/ \$4216	\$0/ \$0	\$3202/ \$2784	\$0/ \$0	\$50641/ \$14980	\$29211/ \$22013	\$0/ \$0	\$0/ \$0	\$18155/ \$4000	\$11943/ \$8483	\$112934/ \$25979	\$41155/ \$30496
<i>Total</i>	\$46605/ \$9338	\$44423/ \$4560	\$145499/ \$92771	\$179300/ \$147207	\$137301/ \$50312	\$71709/ \$25378	\$10708/ \$3175	\$2876/ \$2876	\$45262/ \$19743	\$82048/ \$10897	\$365375/ \$175969	\$410365/ \$190918
<i>Difference</i>	-\$2182/ \$-4778		+\$33801/ \$+55036		-\$65592/ \$-24934		-\$7832/ \$-299		+\$36786/ \$-8846		+\$44990/ \$+14949	

\*2004 Data from July 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004

\*2005 Data from July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

## COUGAR AND BEAR COMPLAINTS – STATEWIDE

Region	Total Cougar Complaints		Confirmed Cougar Complaints/ % Confirmed		Unconfirmed Cougar Complaints		Total Bear Complaints		Confirmed Bear Complaints/ % Confirmed		Unconfirmed Bear Complaints	
	Years	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004
<b>Spokane</b>	186	176	87/47%	88/50%	99	88	101	87	75/74%	65/75%	26	22
<b>Ephrata</b>	108	112	64/59%	75/67%	44	37	44	57	40/91%	53/93%	4	4
<b>Yakima</b>	3	37	0/-	17/46%	3	20	1	1	0/-	1/100%	0	0
<b>Mill Creek</b>	195	184	89/46%	91/49%	113	93	242	230	209/86%	174/76%	33	56
<b>Vancouver</b>	93	152	33/35%	61/40%	60	91	62	73	44/71%	49/67%	18	24
<b>Montesano</b>	163	123	84/52%	50/41%	79	73	146	124	125/86%	106/85%	21	18
<i>Total</i>	748	784	357	382	398	402	596	572	493	448	102	124
<i>% Change</i>	<b>5%</b>		<b>7%</b>		<b>1%</b>		<b>-4%</b>		<b>-9%</b>		<b>22%</b>	



## STATEWIDE INVESTIGATIVE UNIT\*

The Special Investigative Unit (SIU) is comprised of four detectives and one Lieutenant who investigate major complex and organized criminal conspiracies involving Washington State fish and wildlife resources. One of the detectives previously participated in background investigations regarding new officer applicants; however, in the future, two or more SIU detectives will potentially have a role in the hiring process and background investigation of new employee candidates. In 2005, Detectives did background investigations on 38 job applicants for Fish and Wildlife Officer positions.

Detectives collectively and individually conduct, monitor, develop, and bring to prosecution, major investigations of illegal trafficking, excessive harvest, illegal possession, harvest, sale or purchase of food fish, shellfish, wildlife, threatened and endangered species, deleterious and exotic wildlife, and other marine products. Detectives also investigate habitual violators and complex habitat or environmental abuse violations. The types of cases SIU detectives investigate are the most egregious violations committed by well-organized conspiracies of individuals, businesses, and corporations operating both in and out of state or country. These types of violations, which inflict the most serious damage on state resources, are usually conducted for profit and often with complete disregard for the resources themselves. As a result of the severity of crimes committed by these criminal conspiracies, SIU detectives often investigate crimes outside of the Fish & Wildlife Code (RCW Title 77) including violations of RCW Title 9a. These crimes include Theft, Trafficking in Stolen Property, Extortion, Racketeering (RICO), Arson, as well as Federal Felony violations. In 2005, SIU detectives investigated federal crimes including violations of the Lacey Act, Magnuson Act, Tax evasion and fraud, drug trafficking, Wire Fraud, Mail Fraud and Public Corruption. The nexus for all these investigations revolved around the fish and wildlife resources as commodities for these violations.



In 2005, SIU Detectives conducted several covert investigations across the state. Four of these investigations are on going into 2006 and involve both wildlife and fish/shellfish violations in the commercial and recreational arenas. These cases have been time consuming because they involved informants and surveillances. Detectives spent many hours interacting, briefing, debriefing and interviewing informants while essentially managing them 24 hours a day 7 days a week. Confidential Informants require strict management and when a detective is assigned as a “control,” he is required to be available at all times. Two of the SIU detectives were assigned “control” responsibilities in covert 2005 case investigations.

Several overt investigations were conducted in 2005. One of these, the Harrett investigation, was initiated by a Detective and investigated jointly with FWO Jennifer Maurstad. The investigation involved Peter and Traci Harrett, owners of the Wildlife Conservancy, North American Importing Company, who purchased, raised and sold bobcat and Lynx, as well as other non-native species of cats in violation of state wildlife laws (RCW 77.16.260). In September, Detectives, with the assistance of the Region 4 officers, executed search warrants at the Harrett residence in Arlington and business in Marysville, seizing nine computers, four bobcat kittens and documentation indicative of 55 individual illegal sales of bobcat and/or Lynx throughout the U.S. and to countries such as France, Germany and Japan. Witnesses were identified and interviewed in Washington; Oregon; Montana; and Ontario,

Canada. In addition to the witness interviews and documentary analysis, the seizure of nine computers was an onerous task. Since the computer forensic units of other law enforcement agencies are overwhelmed with request for computer analysis' SIU was faced with at least a one year wait for the Harrett computer analysis. With no other options, the SIU Lieutenant decided to form an internal forensic unit within SIU. Detectives, with help from FWO Dan Christensen began training by NW3C to become certified to clone, analyze, and organize the computer evidence. With the computers analyzed, witnesses interviewed and case files completed, the Detective and FWO Maurstad filed the Harrett case with the Snohomish County Prosecutor's office on December 13, 2005. As per direction from the prosecutor's office, the case fully detailed 22 felony violations for Unlawful Trafficking in Wildlife (since October 2004) and Failure to obtain a Game Farm License (a misdemeanor). The additional 33 felonies were described but not charged. As of this printing, the prosecutor is working on the charging documents.



The other major overt investigation continues to be the Clearbay Fisheries investigation. Clearbay Fisheries is the Canadian company that was financing the illegal geoduck harvest activities of Doug Tobin and his conspiracy of 27 individuals to steal \$1.5 million worth of geoduck and crab from Washington. The majority of the geoduck (650,000 lbs.) was shipped to Clearbay Fisheries in British Columbia. The Tobin conspiracy was prosecuted as a criminal RICO investigation and the three Assistant Attorney Generals, working with the Lieutenant and two Detectives, have filed a civil lawsuit in Thurston County against Clearbay. The Clearbay case is a civil extension of the criminal RICO investigation. The state is seeking up to \$11 million in restitution. In 2005, as the case moved toward its eventual trial (May 2006), further investigation was necessary to search for hidden assets and further prove Clearbay Fisheries principals culpability. The first settlement meeting was convened in November 2005 and there was no agreement. Detectives and

Assistant Attorney Generals are dealing with issues from the Squaxin, Puyallup, and Nisqually tribes and their attorneys who also want to partake in settlement.

In 2005, a Detective finished his joint investigation and prosecution with Idaho and British Columbia. Christian Witt, the primary subject, pled guilty to one felony conspiracy charge and twelve misdemeanor wildlife charges that resulted in a lifetime suspension in Idaho and \$29,000 in fines. Witt and his father had previously pled to unlicensed guiding in Canada which resulted in the forfeiture of \$110,000 in gear (vehicle, vessel, and fishing gear) and a total of \$24,000 in fines. The U.S. Coast Guard additionally filed charges as a result of Witt's illegal chartering activities in Washington. Witt unknowingly took two undercover detectives on a fishing trip without a valid USCG license to haul passengers for hire. Based upon those violations, another hearing is pending. In December 2005, the Detective filed misdemeanor charges in Clark County involving the illegal importation of poached big game into the state of Washington. This Detective was recognized for his exemplary investigative and coordination skills on this case at the Western States Wildlife Investigator's Conference in Jackson, Wyoming in July 2005 by the state of Idaho. The Detective received a plaque noting his "outstanding case work" for the Witt investigation.

\* Due to ongoing covert operations, all SIU Detective's names have been withheld.

## Special Investigative Unit Detective of the Year\*



This Detective was selected as the 2005 Detective of the Year because of his contribution to the Special Investigative Unit. This Detective is a talented individual and investigator who has worked cases from Yakima to the North coast of Washington in both covert and overt roles in 2005. His participation in a multi-agency task force combined with his individual accomplishments have distinguished him throughout 2005 for his exemplary work on behalf of SIU. Impressively, his work output for WDFW has not been impacted by his commitment to his task force members.

The Detective of the Year has continually volunteered for new assignments despite his caseload. When presented with intelligence regarding new violations, he has consistently followed the leads to their eventual conclusion. While participating in search warrants, surveillances and arrests with the task force, the Detective has done the same for SIU. He's been the lead in case investigations involving confidential informants, hound hunters, organized poaching rings of deer hunters, tribal and non-tribal wholesale fish dealers, geoduck poachers, and organized crime operations in both Washington and British Columbia. In addition, he stands high above the crowd when you talk about his relationships with other law enforcement agencies at the county, state, federal, and foreign level. He has worked closely with Canadian Fish and Oceans, Clallam County Sheriff's Office, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), local tribal law enforcement, and Washington State Patrol. He is highly regarded and respected by agents of all those law enforcement agencies and has represented WDFW very well.

Although this Detective has nearly 29 years of experience with WDFW, he continues to improve his skills by seeking new training to enhance his current skills. For instance, in 2005, he attended intensive training in Asset Forfeiture and Money Laundering at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, Undercover Operations in Oregon, Search Warrants and Informants in Warrant Affidavits, the Western States Wildlife Investigator's Conference in Jackson, Wyoming, training from Western State Information Network (WISN) to organize an intelligence database for WDFW and finally took a Report Writing skills class in Olympia.

The Detective of the Year has been the lead investigator on a joint state/federal investigation involving a Makah tribal fisherman, a potential Lacey Act violation in conjunction with NMFS involving a non-tribal buyer operating out of Neah Bay, Seattle and Oregon, hunters in Yakima, and a commercial fisherman in coastal waters. He has also assisted other detectives with criminal investigations, hound hunting, and a civil RICO investigation involving a Canadian company being prosecuted through the state Attorney General's Office.

\*Due to ongoing covert operations, the Detective of the Year's name has been withheld.

## COMPLAINTS

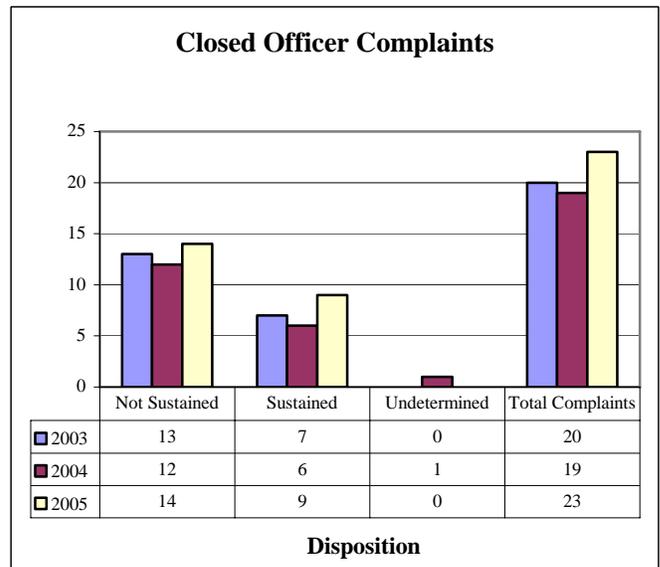
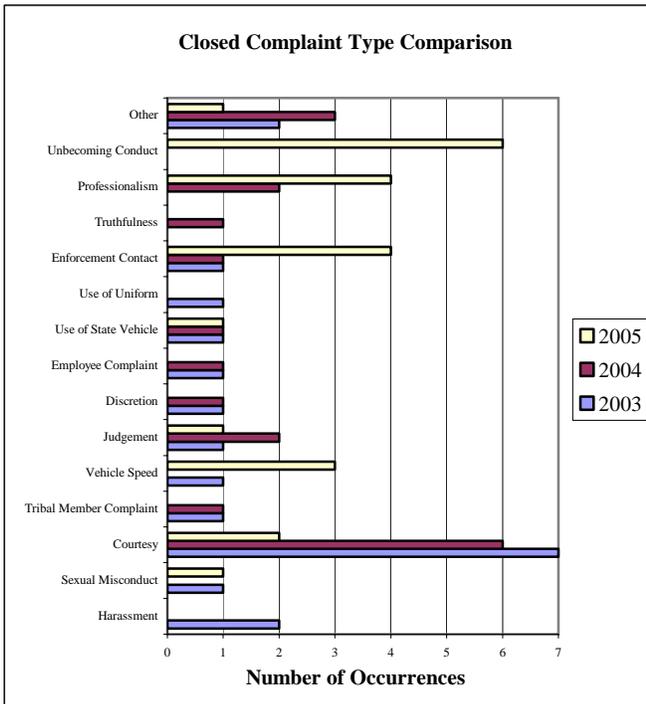
The Enforcement Program accepts verbal or written complaints against any of its employees. An Enforcement Program employee who receives a complaint is required to record the reporting party's name, phone number and name of the employee involved and attempt to immediately refer the reporting party to the employee's immediate supervisor. If a supervisor is not available, the employee is asked to courteously and promptly record as much about the complaint as possible. The complaint is forwarded to the employee's supervisor or next level supervisor.

Complaints of misconduct against the Program or Department are forwarded to the Deputy Chief and Chief for review.

A complaint may be filed by calling (360) 902-2936, or any Regional office listed on our Web page ([wdfw.wa.gov/enf/enforce](http://wdfw.wa.gov/enf/enforce)), Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. You may also file your complaint by mailing a letter to:

Chief Bruce Bjork  
 Department of Fish and Wildlife  
 Enforcement Program  
 600 Capitol Way North  
 Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Citizen complaints against officers in the Enforcement Program were up in 2005: 23 compared to 19 in 2004, an increase of 21%. Issues regarding Unbecoming Conduct were the most frequent type of complaint in 2005. Thirteen complaint cases from 2005 have not been closed as of this printing; therefore, they are not included in these charts.





<http://wdfw.wa.gov/enf/enforce.htm>