

# REGION ONE ENFORCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS - 2016

Captain Dan Rahn

# Objective 1: Prevent Illegal Take and Trafficking of Fish and Wildlife



*Wildlife seized in the service of two search warrants in Spokane County.*





Items seized from an unlicensed taxidermist in Spokane. Taxidermists and meat lockers are inspected throughout the region.

# Enforcement Program is currently working on improving statutory language addressing taxidermists, meat cutters and fur dealers

- ▣ Updating required records and retention information for commercial wildlife businesses
- ▣ Clarifying the taxidermy license requirement when storing items vs. “practicing”
- ▣ Improve definition of taxidermist to close a loophole in the license requirement
- ▣ Address records violation - penalty

# Search Warrants



*Trophy white-tailed deer antlers seized during one of several search warrants served throughout the region.*



# *Seized deer in Whitman County.*



# Moose poaching and Arson case in Pend Oreille County





# Bear Baiting case



Pit Blind Over Bear Bait



Bait pile





Closed season fisheries (sturgeon, salmon, steelhead)

## ▣ Objective 2: Increase Threatened and Endangered Species Protection



Officers monitored fisheries on the Snake River and tributaries to protect ESA listed fish. CRSSE ESA officer patrol hours are documented on select rivers of concern and then summarized in an annual report.



Float patrol of the Grande Ronde River utilizing pontoon boats.



# Wolves in Region One:

## Enforcement Involvement:

- ▣ Depredation investigations
- ▣ Political issues
- ▣ Working with the Wildlife Program and other agency staff
- ▣ Cooperative approach with other LE
- ▣ Poaching investigations





Additional snowmobile patrols in lynx and caribou country

## ▣ Objective 3: Prevent Invasive Species Introduction



AIS check-stations, inspections at boat ramps, roving patrols, and coordinated approach with National Parks at several sites on Lake Roosevelt





Boat ramp inspections



Checking access sites with milfoil infestation



▣ **Objective 4: Increase Protection of Fish and Wildlife Habitat / Public Lands**

# Fire Season in NE WA







Officers routinely assist other law enforcement with fire emergencies (evacuations, road closures, first aid, etc.)



Columbia County Residence





Fire in NE Washington



Water drop on area fires





Tucannon Fire

# Emphasis on protecting agency lands



Wooten Wildlife Area with an unattended burning campfire during the burn ban. The campsite even had a sign stating there is a burn ban.



# Habitat Protection



Man-made dams on ESA waters



**Dam construction without obtaining an HPA permit**



▣ Objective 5: Increase Program Profile and Better Connect with the Public We Serve







Assisting at Kids Fishing Events (Clear Lake)



Senior community fishing event on Liberty Lake





Educating a Cub Scout group





Presentation to students at the Swanson Lakes  
Wildlife Area



Officers actively involved in Hunter Education throughout the region - traditional and online classes





Hunting fatality investigation near Colfax



## ▣ Objective 6: Improve Public Safety and Consumer Protection



Region One Officers conduct annual market/restaurant emphasis patrols, checking several businesses for compliance

# Dangerous Wildlife

Coordinated efforts between officers, other WDFW Program staff, and Law Enforcement Agencies







Officers respond to numerous moose calls  
in the greater Spokane area each year



*A cow moose and two calves enjoying  
the landscape in Spokane*





A cow and calf moose in Spokane that were relocated





*WDFW staff prepping a bull moose for a ride in the sled and then to the transport trailer*





Moose release



Officer attempting to locate a moose *along I-90 in Spokane. Officers directed WSP to stop freeway traffic*



Each Detachment works with a food bank or sportsmen club to salvage animals.

The volunteers often salvage the animals without our assistance.



Road kill recovery/donation program





Several orphaned bear cubs have been captured and placed in approved facilities.



Bear tranquilized and removed from Spokane





Bear release with the new KBD - Jax



# Cougar and Bear Depredation Investigations



Seven lambs killed by a cougar

## Two problem cougars in the Blue Mountains.

- ❑ One cat was hit by a vehicle near a lambing operation and depredation site that eluded hounds for two years while killing 19 sheep.
- ❑ The other cat was tracked with hounds after killing several sheep in another location.







Assisting other Law Enforcement Agencies

▣ Objective 7: Maintain Orderly Fishing, Hunting, Commercial and other Outdoor Activities





Coordinated patrols between detachments to address high use areas.



Pend Oreille River