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News Release For Immediate Release

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Heyburn Police Officer Shoots Dogs on Interstate

On May 27, 2023, around 5:50 p.m., Heyburn Police officers were dispatched by Minidoka County Sheriff to Interstate 84 near Mile Marker 211 for two uncontrolled loose dogs on the freeway, causing traffic safety concerns.

Heyburn Police officers responded and found the interstate completely stopped, prior to mile marker 212. Officers recognized the heightened traffic hazard as the speed limit of this section of Interstate is 80 miles per hour and traffic cannot stop abruptly.

Officers arrived at 5:57 P.M. and found two large dogs running loose on the interstate. Two citizens risked their safety to try and capture the dogs to no avail. Officers made efforts to call the dogs to them including whistling, calling, and shouting, but the dogs were uncooperative. The dogs were not in range to use a taser. Recognizing traffic was heavy for Memorial Day, and in fear for the motoring public with great potential of a rear end collisions at 80 MPH, the officers made the decision to shoot the dogs at 6:03 P.M. Each dog was shot once and removed from the roadway. Neither dog had tags.

Heyburn Police recognizes the distress this incident has caused in light of a bystander video that has been made public. The video was shot by a driver who stopped on the Interstate and highlights the potential safety risks these dogs were presenting to the motoring public. These circumstances are not easy for first responders or the public.

It is vital to note, the above information is based on a preliminary and ongoing investigation. The understanding of the facts and circumstances may change as additional evidence is collected and analyzed by investigators.

End of release.

Authorized By:
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