

Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division

Field Operations

Weekly Report
February 14 – February 20, 2016

This report is a broad sampling of events that have taken place in the past week, but does not include all actions taken by the Law Enforcement Division.



Region I- Calhoun (Northwest)

FLOYD COUNTY

On February 19th, Sgt. Mike Barr received a call about a deer that had been shot from the roadway on Fouche Gap Rd. Sgt. Barr met with the complainant, was able to get a vehicle description and collected evidence. On Sunday February 21st, Sgt. Barr was patrolling the area and located the suspected vehicle on Little Texas Valley Rd. Sgt. Barr interviewed the 18 year old suspect and he confessed to shooting the deer from the roadway. The Rome man also told Sgt. Barr he had thrown the deer out on the side of the road because he could not find anyone to take the deer. He was charged with hunting from a public road, hunting from a motor vehicle, and littering.

On February 16th, RFC Ben Cunningham received information from the Rome Fire and Rescue about the search for a missing person. The missing person had made comments about “ending it all.” The missing person’s vehicle was located near 5th Avenue in Rome. Rangers have been searching the Oostanaula River and Coosa River throughout the weekend with side scan sonar and sector scan equipment. The investigation and search continues.



GORDON COUNTY

On February 14th, Cpl. Shawn Elmore heard a lookout on a possible impaired driver on I-75 around Resaca. Cpl. Elmore was in the area and made contact with the vehicle on Highway 225. When Cpl. Elmore made contact with the driver, he noticed signs of impairment. The driver failed a series of field sobriety exercises and was arrested. The Tennessee man was charged with driving under the influence of drugs, driving while license revoked, and failure to maintain lane.

Region II- Gainesville (Northeast)

BANKS COUNTY

On February 20, Sergeant Burgamy and Ranger Chris Kernahan patrolled Wilson Shoals WMA. Throughout the course of the patrol, they checked 19 hunters. They issued warnings for various violations.

HALL COUNTY

On February 20, Sergeant Burgamy and Ranger Chris Kernahan patrolled Hall Co. They made contact with a subject who was found to be illegally burning egregious litter. The violation was documented.

BARROW COUNTY

On February 21, Ranger Kernahan conducted an investigation concerning the egregious dumping of litter. Ranger Kernahan made contact with the subject who was responsible for the violation. While contacting the subject, Ranger Kernahan found him to be in possession of marijuana. Ranger Kernahan issued the subject citations for the violations.

HABERSHAM COUNTY

On February 14, RFC Joe Hill patrolled the Soque River for trout fishing activity. RFC Hill checked several people fishing and found one person fishing for trout without a fishing license and without a trout license. RFC Hill issued the fisherman a citation for fishing without a license and a warning for fishing without a trout license.

RABUN COUNTY

On February 20, RFC Joe Hill and Ranger Beth Gilbert patrolled the Tallulah River for trout fishing activity. The Rangers checked ten people trout fishing and issued one fisherman a citation for fishing without a license.

WHITE COUNTY

On February 19, CPL Anne Britt checked several fishermen on Smith Creek on the delayed harvest section. CPL Britt found three adult males who were fishing with power bait. She wrote the males warnings for fishing with unlawful bait in artificial lure stream.

On February 20, CPL Anne Britt assisted Cleveland Police Department and White County Sheriff's Office with an in-progress hit and run incident. CPL Britt was located near the area where the fleeing vehicle had been seen. CPL Britt located the suspected vehicle off Bill Pressley Rd. She investigated the incident and arrested an adult female and had her transported by White County Sheriff's Department and turned the female over to Cleveland PD for charges for hit and run and leaving the scene of an accident.

RABUN COUNTY

On February 15, RFC Chad Chambers was able to locate a subject on which he had received a complaint about back in November. The subject had posted a Facebook photo of himself posing with a freshly killed bobcat on November 15th. The season for bobcat did not begin until December 1. The subject admitted to RFC Chambers that he had killed the animal on that date and that he did not know that there was a season for bobcats. RFC Chambers charged the subject with Hunting out of Season and confiscated the bobcat carcass as evidence.

Region III- Thomson (East Central)

MCDUFFIE COUNTY

RFC Robert Timmerman patrolled McDuffie County PFA. During the patrol, 14 license inspections were conducted. No violations were detected.

LINCOLN COUNTY

Cpl. Ryan Swain and RNG Michael Madden conducted a concentrated patrol of the Savannah River. Several vessels and licenses were inspected. No violations were detected.

Region IV- Macon (West Central)

BALDWIN COUNTY

On the afternoon of February 16th, Cpl. Bubba Stanford checked several residences in reference to an ongoing hunting without permission investigation.

HARRIS COUNTY

On February 19th, Cpl. Mitch Oliver attended the Mulberry Gobblers Chapter NWTf Banquet and discussed the upcoming requirements pertaining to the harvest log. The banquet was well attended and all the comments that Cpl. Oliver received about the harvest log were positive.

On February 20th, Cpl. Mitch Oliver checked fishermen at Goat Rock and encountered various violations such as non-resident fishing without a license, operating a vessel with insufficient PFD's, and failure to wear a PFD in a hazardous area.

JASPER COUNTY

On the evening of February 16th, RFC Freddie Hays, Cpl. Bubba Stanford and several game management technicians checked a property in the southern part of the county in reference to a possible bear cub. The den site and cub were located and the information was documented.

LAKE SINCLAIR

On the afternoon of February 20th, RFC Ronnie Beard, RFC Jeremy Reese and Sgt. Bo Kelly patrolled crappie fishermen. Over 40 anglers were checked and no violations were documented.

Region V- Albany (Southwest)

LEE COUNTY

On February 18th Cpl. Bob Holley was recognized by the Southwest Georgia Sportsman Club at their annual awards dinner. The club presented Cpl. Holley with their Ranger of the Year award for his many accomplishments in 2015.



Region VI- Metter (Southeast)

LAURENS COUNTY

On February 20th, Corporal John A Stokes and Sergeant James McLaughlin patrolled Hugh Gillis PFA, eight violations were found, ranging from fishing on a PFA without a WMA license, fishing without license and fishing in closed waters.

WARE COUNTY

On February 18th, Corporal Mark Pool and Ranger Judd Sears responded to a call from Ware County Sheriff's office about a subject burning trash. Cpl. Pool and Ranger Sears arrived at the location and found a large burning pile of debris behind a residence. The debris contained household trash, aluminum, carpet and other synthetic materials. Violations of unlawful burning of egregious litter were documented. Ware County Sheriff's Deputies had originally responded to the residence in reference to theft of services from Georgia Power. Three subjects were arrested at the residence for theft of services and possession of drug related objects, in addition to the environmental violations.

CLINCH COUNTY

On February 19th-21st, Sgt. Patrick Dupree, Corporal Mark Pool, Ranger First Class Sam Williams, and Ranger Judd Sears attended a BOW (Becoming an Outdoors Woman) hunting skills event in Fargo. This event was provided by the Wildlife Resources Division. All participants lodged at Stephen Foster State Park and hunted on Superior Pine Products property. The rangers that attended the event helped the participants with their shooting skills on the 19th and served as a hunting guides for hog hunts on the 20th and 21st. The participants were also presented with the opportunity to fish in the Okefenokee Swamp and were assisted by park staff and staff from the Waycross Fisheries office. Other volunteers were utilized during this event and Superior Pine employees also assisted with the hunt. One big boar hog was taken on the hunt.

Region VII- Brunswick (Coastal)

CHATHAM COUNTY

On February 18th, 19th and 20th, Chatham County Rangers patrolled Ossabaw Island Wildlife Management Area for the managed feral hog hunt. Rangers worked with the Game Management Division to ensure hunters had a safe and enjoyable experience while camping and hunting on the island.

On February 20th, Sergeant Cindy Miller, Corporal Kate Hargrove and Ranger Tim Morris patrolled Chatham County waters and attended the weigh-in for the Coffee Bluff Sheepshead Fishing Tournament.