

Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division

Field Operations

Weekly Report
November 6 – November 12 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)

CARROLL COUNTY

On November 6th, Sgt. Eric Brown responded to a landowner complaint of an illegal deer being killed. Upon arrival, evidence showed that someone had shot a deer on the complainant's property and over bait. The investigation led to one subject being cited for hunting without permission and hunting big game over bait.

POLK COUNTY,

On November 9th, RFC Daniel Gray worked a night deer hunting complaint in northern Polk County. RFC Gray stopped a vehicle which was spotlighting deer. Three individuals were arrested and charged with hunting deer at night, hunting from a public road, and hunting from a motor vehicle.

PAULDING COUNTY,

On November 11th, RFC Daniel Gray patrolled on the Paulding Forest WMA rifle deer hunt. One hunter was cited for hunting w/o license, hunting w/o big game license, and hunting w/o WMA license.

POLK COUNTY,

On November 12th, RFC Daniel Gray and Wildlife Tech IV Daniel Boone patrolled on the Paulding Forest WMA rifle deer hunt. One individual was cited for littering and target practicing on the WMA and another individual was cited for littering.

BARTOW COUNTY

On November 11th, RFC Zack Hardy responded to a call of hunting without permission off Griffin Rd. RFC Hardy located a hunter that had shot a doe on hunting club without permission. The hunter was issued a citation for hunting without permission.

On November 12th, Cpl. Byron Young and RFC Zack Hardy responded to a complaint on US Army Corps property off Wilderness Camp Rd. Two vehicles that appeared to be hunting were parked on the Corps Property. The officers located 5 hunters that were accessing Allatoona WMA through the Corps Property. The hunters were given information on the property lines and issued warnings for hunting without permission on the Corps property.

CHEROKEE COUNTY

On November 6th, RFC Bart Hendrix and RFC Mark Puig checked baited deer stands near the Cherokee / Fulton County line. The officers issued one citation and one warning for hunting big game over bait.

GORDON COUNTY

On November 9th, Cpl. Shawn Elmore responded to a complaint off of McEntyre Loop in reference to subject hunting deer without fluorescent orange. Cpl. Elmore located the two hunters and issued citations for hunting deer without fluorescent orange. One of the subjects had previously been documented for the same violation on the same property.

On November 13th, Cpl. Shawn Elmore located a vehicle parked along the railroad tracks in the Sugar Valley area. Cpl. Elmore had located several people hunting the surrounding property without permission in the past. Cpl. Elmore was also aware of property that was land locked and the railroad had previously been illegally used to access the property. Cpl. Elmore foot patrolled the land locked property and located two Calhoun men hunting the property. Neither man had the appropriate licenses to hunt deer. Each was issued citations for hunting without a license and hunting without big game licenses. They were also told they could not use the railroad as access without the railroad company permission.

WALKER COUNTY

On November 10th, Cpl. Shawn Elmore and RFC Roger McConkey were foot patrolling a property on Lookout Mountain in reference to a previous complaint received of hunting without permission. While patrolling the property, the rangers located a Flintstone man hunting on the adjacent property. The man was found to be hunting over bait, hunting without orange, hunting without license and hunting without big game license. He was issued citations and warnings for the violations. He and several of his friends were the ones hunting the original complainant's property. He was told not to return to the complainant's property.

DADE COUNTY

During the Veteran's Day weekend, November 11th through November 13th, Cpl. Shawn Elmore and RFC Ben Cunningham attended and assisted with the 2016 Purple Heart "Hunt for Warriors", hosted by the Tennessee Valley Chapter of the Safari Club International in Dade County. Fourteen warriors attended the hunt and all hunters were successful. The rangers assisted with making sure every hunter was properly licensed and assisted with sighting in the rifles prior to the hunt. To see more about this hunt and its success, visit www.facebook.com/groups/tnvalleysci. The weekend was filmed with Mike Rogers, the host of SCI Expedition Safari.



These Warriors all were successful over the weekend. Thanks for their service and sacrifice!!



Region II- Gainesville (Northeast)

BARROW COUNTY

On the morning of November 12th, RFC Mark Stephens, and Ranger Chris Kernahan patrolled Barrow County for hunting activity. While on patrol, the Rangers made contact with a subject who was found to be hunting without a license, and hunting without a big game license. The subject was issued citations for the violations.

On the evening of November 12th, Ranger Chris Kernahan patrolled Barrow County for hunting activity. While on patrol, he made contact with a subject who was found to be hunting big game over bait, hunting without fluorescent orange, and violation of recording and reporting requirements for game animals. The subject was issued citations for the violations.

JACKSON COUNTY

On November 12th, RFC Eric Isom utilized his K9 partner, Colt, to locate 2 subjects hunting on complaint property. The subject's violations were hunting without permission, hunting deer without wearing fluorescent orange and hunting big game over bait. Colt also located a dead deer on the property, which one of the suspects had killed that morning. The deer was taken to a local processor who donated the cut deer to Nails Creek Baptist Church. The church is using the deer to feed the kids who are attending the upcoming Banks County Youth Hunt.

MADISON COUNTY

On November 12, RFC Shane Sartor and RFC Tim Vickery checked an affidavit property for hunting without permission. Two subjects were located and both were issued citations for hunting without permission and one was also issued a warning for not wearing fluorescent orange.

Region III- Thomson (East Central)

No activity to report.

Region IV- Macon (West Central)

No activity to report.

Region V- Albany (Southwest)

STEWART COUNTY

On November 12th, Cpl. Steve Robinson and RFC Quinn Fogle were working a complaint that someone had placed bait out on a Wildlife Management Area. Cpl. Robinson located two hunters in the baited area, one individual had no license and was issued citations and warnings for hunting without a license, hunting without a big game license and hunting without a WMA license. The second hunter was charged with placing bait on a wildlife management area.

TERRELL COUNTY

On November 12th, RFC Quinn Fogle was investigating a hunting without permission complaint and located a subject in one of the several deer stands placed illegally on the property. RFC Fogle charged the subject with hunting without permission, hunting without a license, hunting big game without a big game license and convicted felon in possession of a firearm.

CRISP COUNTY

On November 9th, Sgt. Al Greer met with Crisp County Sheriff's Deputies who had detained two individuals that were dumping a deer carcass on the shoulder of the roadway. An investigation revealed that the two individuals were walking down a dirt road when they shot a deer from the roadway after legal shooting hours and with an illegal weapon. They were in the process of dumping the remains of the deer when they were stopped by Sheriff's Deputies. Both subjects were charged with hunting deer at night, hunting big game from a public road and illegal dumping of egregious litter. The shooter was charged with hunting deer with an illegal weapon.

MACON COUNTY

On November 12th, RFC Jesse Harrison responded to hunting incident where it was determined the thirty-nine year old male victim fell approximately nine feet from his deer stand after shooting a deer. The victim was airlifted to Macon for medical treatment where he was treated for an open fracture of the right leg.

Region VI- Metter (Southeast)

APPLING COUNTY

On November 10th, Corporal Chase Altman served as a Department Honor Guard representative and attended the funeral of the fallen officer in Peach County.



On the night of November 10th and early morning of November 11th, Cpl. Altman assisted as an observer for a night flight detail over Bulloch County.

On November 12th, Cpl. Altman answered an anonymous complaint on a deer processor about the new conformation numbers and the Game Check program.

WARE COUNTY

On November 12th, while patrolling Dixon Wildlife Management Area during the managed deer and bear hunt, Corporal Mark Pool checked several hunters. Three citations for possession/transporting of a loaded firearm in a vehicle on a WMA were issued.

BULLOCH COUNTY

On November 4th, Ranger First Class Jason Miller was checking an area due to night hunting complaints. While watching a peanut field, RFC Miller observed a vehicle drive by his location and began shining a hand held light from the driver side window. RFC Miller conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle. There was two subjects in the vehicle, a male and female occupant. Also in the vehicle was a 12 gauge shotgun, 20 gauge shotgun, and 3 hand held lights. After interviewing the two, the male subject was arrested for hunting from a vehicle, hunting big game from a public road, and hunting deer at night. It was determined that the female was not participating in the violations and she was released with the vehicle.

While on the same night hunting stop, an SUV pulled up to RFC Miller's position. RFC Miller approached the vehicle to assist them in going around the traffic stop due to the narrow dirt road. While speaking to the driver and the 3 passengers, RFC Miller noticed an open box of beer in the floor board of the truck. There was also and the strong odor of alcohol coming from the vehicle and the driver. After failing to perform field sobriety exercises, the driver was placed under arrest for DUI and open container. Also one of the passengers was cited for open container. The driver was transported to the Bulloch County Jail.

EFFINGHAM COUNTY

On November 5th RFC Jordan Crawford received a call from an area land owner regarding deer dogs being on his property. RFC Crawford responded to the area and located several dogs on the property. RFC Crawford was able to catch the dogs and contact the owners. Two violations for failure to keep deer dogs on permitted property was documented.

Later the afternoon Sgt. Brian Hobbins and RFC Crawford patrolled the county for hunting activity. Several hunters where checked with one violation for hunting deer without wearing fluorescent orange documented.

On November 12th RFC Jordan Crawford received a call from an area land owner regarding deer dogs being on his property. RFC Crawford responded to the area and located a dog on the property. RFC Crawford was able to contact the owner and return the dog. One violation for failure to keep deer dogs on permitted property was documented.

LOWNDES COUNTY

On October 12th, Ranger First Class Daniel North encountered a group of guys that were hunting on Grand Bay WMA. The group advised that they had seen several deer that morning and were able to successfully harvest one.



LAURENS COUNTY

On November 6th, Corporal Dan Stiles responded to a complaint of hunting without permission. Three subjects were located on the property looking for a deer. After an investigation it was determined that the deer was shot from the adjacent roadway. All three subjects were charged with hunting without permission. Two subjects were also charged with hunting from a public road and hunting from a vehicle.

On November 9th, Corporal Dan Stiles and Ranger Lamar Burns patrolled the Hugh M. Gillis Public Fishing Area during an archery deer hunt. Two hunters were checked for license compliance and one vessel was checked for registration and boating safety equipment. Also, one angler was checked for license compliance and creel limit. One violations for fishing on a Public Fishing Area, without a Wildlife Management Area license was documented.

DODGE COUNTY

On November 7th, Ranger First Class Allen Mills responded to a call of a wildfire on the Dodge/ Bleckley County line. The fire raced across a hay field putting homes in jeopardy. Residents were evacuated from their homes while the Georgia Forestry Commission (GFC) worked to stop the fire. Eventually the wildfire was contained and burned itself out.



Wildfire in Dodge County

LAURENS COUNTY

On November 6th, Ranger First Class Allen Mills received a complaint of an adult subject and a thirteen-year-old juvenile that killed three hen turkeys with a rifle. RFC Mills met with the complainant, investigated the scene, and collected evidence. A suspect was developed after contacting the landowner and the lease holder of the property. On November 7th, the suspect contacted RFC Mills and admitted to the violation, reporting that the juvenile had shot the three turkeys. The adult subject was cited for possession of illegally taken wildlife and the juvenile received verbal guidance for the violations.



Hen feathers located at scene.

WHEELER COUNTY

On November 14th, Ranger First Class (RFC) Rodney Horne responded to an in progress complaint of night hunting in Wheeler County. Upon arrival, RFC Horne met two Georgia State Troopers who had witnessed and apprehended the poacher. RFC Horne interviewed the poacher and issued three citations for hunting deer at night, hunting from a motor vehicle, and hunting from a public road.

Region VII- Brunswick (Coastal)

MCINTOSH/LONG COUNTIES

On November 12th, Sgt. Damon Winters, Sgt. Phillip Scott, Cpl. Randy Aspinwall, Cpl. Bill Bryson, RFC Mark Day, RFC Jay Bright, RFC Kyle Toney, RFC Patrick Gibbs, and RFC Jack Thain worked a decoy deer detail on Townsend WMA. They worked three locations simultaneously that resulted in 8 violations being documented.