

Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division

Field Operations

Weekly Report
September 4 – September 10, 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)

No activity to report.

Region II- Gainesville (Northeast)

No activity to report.

Region III- Thomson (East Central)

RICHMOND COUNTY

On September 10, Cpl. Ben Payne worked hunting without permission complaints in Richmond County. He checked 4 complaints with no activity documented. Several of the stands located appeared to be set up for firearms season. Investigations are ongoing. He checked Phinizy and Spirit Creek WMA's talking with hunters about deer movement and discussing options of areas to hunt. Later in the afternoon Cpl. Payne listened for dove shoot in the southern end of the county with no shot heard.

ELBERT COUNTY

On September 10th Cpl. Mark Patterson patrolled the Lower Broad River WMA. During a check of the WMA dove field a number of violations were detected including hunting without a license, hunting without a WMA license, and failure to participate in the HIP program.

OCONEE COUNTY

On September 4th RFC Tim Butler and Ranger Jason Harrison checked Caruthers Mill on the Apalachee River. Three fisherman were located fishing without a license, and one of the fisherman was in possession of numerous game fish he illegally caught with a cast net.

MORGAN COUNTY

On September 9, RFC Ricky Boles found two individuals dragging a deer out of the woods from a deer stand baited with corn. One hunter was charged for unlawful enticement of game.

GREENE COUNTY

On September 9, Cpl. Derrell Worth encountered several individuals swimming at a local boat ramp. Under further investigation, marijuana was found. One female was charged for possession of marijuana less than an ounce.

BURKE COUNTY

On Saturday, September 10, RFC Jeff Billips issued a citation for taking over the daily bag limit of dove. Nineteen doves were confiscated.

Region IV- Macon (West Central)

BALDWIN COUNTY

On the afternoon of September 9th, Cpl. Stanford and Sgt. Bo Kelly met with a complainant in reference to a possible boating incident that occurred the previous day. Statements and photographs were taken and the investigation is ongoing.

HARRIS COUNTY

On September 10th, Cpl. Mitch Oliver was patrolling Blanton Creek WMA for hunting activity when he located a truck parked near the river. It appeared due to the contents of the truck that the subject was hunting waterfowl, but the WMA was closed to small game hunting due to the opening of archery deer season. Cpl. Oliver waited at the truck and eventually 2 subject's exited the woods wearing waders, carrying duck decoys, and were in possession of shotguns. Both hunters had all the proper licenses and had not killed any Teal. They were unaware that the WMA was closed to small game hunting and it appeared to be an honest mistake on the hunter's part. The 2 hunters were issued written warnings for hunting on a closed WMA.

HOUSTON COUNTY

On the evening of September 9th, RFC Ronnie Beard patrolled the Perry Dove Fields. Two hunters were located hunting on the closed area. Warnings were issued and guidance was given.

PULASKI COUNTY

On the evening of September 10th, RFC Ronnie Beard responded to the Ocmulgee River in reference to a possible drowning. Someone reported a possible human body floating in the river but shortly after launching a boat RFC Beard determined it to be a deer carcass.

TWIGGS COUNTY

On the morning of September 5th, Cpl. Bubba Stanford patrolled the Jeffersonville area of Twiggs County and located a dove shoot. The field was determined to be baited and citations were issued. One hunter claimed to not be hunting and a shotgun was located hidden in tall grass. The hunter was subsequently charged with hunting without a license.

Region V- Albany (Southwest)

RANDOLPH COUNTY

On September 4th, Sgt. Jim Atchley and Cpl. Scott Carroll assisted Randolph County Sheriff's Office in searching for two individuals who were reported to be riding the roads shooting doves from the power lines. The two people were finally located and were determined to be two juveniles 15 and 16 years old. The rangers addressed the violations with the two and released them to their parents.

BAKER COUNTY

On September 5th, Sgt. Ellis Wynn and Cpl. Scott Carroll located and cited six people for hunting doves on a baited field.

COLQUITT COUNTY

On September 4th, Cpl. Greg Wade and RFC Eric White located a dove shoot on a planted millet field. As the officers inspected the area, they found it baited with corn and sorghum. The officers charged 16 subjects with hunting over bait and issued multiple warnings for failure to participate in the HIP program. All dove were confiscated and donated to a local needy family.

Region VI- Metter (Southeast)

WILCOX COUNTY

On September 10th, Corporal John A Stokes patrolled for dove shoots in the northern part of the county. One shoot was located on a corn field. The corn field was baited with peanuts, ten hunters where charged with hunting over bait.

CHARLTON COUNTY

On September 5th, Sgt. Patrick Dupree, Ranger First Class Sam Williams, Ranger First Class Daniel North, and Ranger Judd Sears responded to a request for assistance from Charlton County Sheriff's Department to recover a body floating in the St. Mary's River near St. George. RFC Williams along with officers from Florida Fish & Wildlife Commission were able to retrieve the body. Investigators with the sheriff's department and Georgia Bureau of Investigation are continuing the investigation into this incident.



RFC Williams, Florida FWC officers, and Nassau County, FL Sheriff's Department after recovering the body from the St. Mary's River.

COFFEE COUNTY

On September 9th, Sgt. Chris Moore, Sgt. Patrick Dupree, Sgt. Morty Wood, Corporal Jason Shipes, Corporal Tim Hutto, Corporal John Stokes, Corporal Tommy Daughtrey, and Corporal Kevin Joyce attended a legislative luncheon near Pridgeon. The officers spoke with local citizens and legislators about DNR issues and enjoyed a BBQ meal.



Officers from DNR LE and Georgia State Patrol enjoying a BBQ meal at the legislative luncheon in Coffee County.

WARE COUNTY

On September 10th, Ranger Judd Sears investigated a hunting incident that occurred on the Cowhouse Island Unit of Okefenokee NWR and Dixon WMA. A bow-hunter fell from his climbing stand and received injuries to his head, face and teeth. Ranger Sears' investigation discovered the hunter may have lost consciousness prior to the fall. He was transported to the hospital for treatment.

EFFINGHAM COUNTY

On September 4th Ranger First Class Jordan Crawford and Ranger First Class Jason Miller assisted the Effingham County Sheriff's Office and the Effingham County Fire Department with the search for a missing person. The subject who suffered from dementia had gone missing on the evening of September 2nd, but had not been reported missing until the night of the 3rd. After a search of the woods around the subject's home the person was found alive and in stable condition. He was transported to an area hospital for further treatment.

Region VII- Brunswick (Coastal)

No activity to report.