



# GEORGIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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## LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Field Operations

**Weekly Report**  
**February 18 – February 24, 2018**

**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- Acworth (Northwest)**

### **FANNIN COUNTY**

On February 18<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Cody Jones was first on scene to a two car wreck. Two victims were transported to the local hospital but they were conscious when they were loaded into the ambulance.

### **DOUGLAS COUNTY**

February 19<sup>th</sup>, GWFC Daniel Gray patrolled on Sweetwater Creek State Park. During the patrol Gray checked 2 individuals fishing, and issued 1 warning for fishing w/o license. On February 23<sup>rd</sup>, Cpl. Chad Cox patrolled Sweetwater Creek State Park and checked 5 individuals fishing.

### **FULTON COUNTY**

February 20<sup>th</sup>, GWFC Daniel Gray assisted with a Career Day Program at Georgia State University. February 24<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Chad Cox and GWFC Daniel Gray patrolled on the Chattahoochee River. During the patrol 3 individuals were checked fishing, and one individual received a citation for fishing w/o license.

### **CARROLL COUNTY**

February 24<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Chad Cox and GWFC Daniel Gray patrolled on Lake Seaton. During the patrol the game wardens checked 4 vessels and conducted 8 fishing license checks. Game Wardens issued 2 citations and 5 warnings during the patrol.

### **POLK COUNTY**

February 22<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Chad Cox conducted a Wildlife Program to the Rockmart Methodist Pre K School. He used skulls, furs, and mounts to educate the young kids. Cpl. Chad Cox checked the Aragon Mill Pond and issued one warning for fishing w/o license.

## **Region II- Gainesville (Northeast)**

### **TOWNS COUNTY**

On February 24, Game Warden First Class David Webb patrolled Lake Chatuge for fishing activity and checked five fishermen at the Macedonia Church Bridge. One of the fishermen did not have his license on person and stated that he did not think his fishing license had expired yet. Game Warden Webb obtained the male's last name and date of birth, in which he checked online for any current licenses. The male subject's fishing license had expired in September 2017. He was issued a citation for fishing without a license.

## **Region III- Thomson (East Central)**

### **WILKES COUNTY**

On February 19<sup>th</sup> Cpl. Mark Patterson conducted a foot patrol of an area suspected of having steel traps set illegally. During the patrol a number of traps were located that were not tagged with the owners name as required. Contact was made with the responsible party on the property. Violations documented in this case were trapping without a license and failure to tag traps.

### **NEWTON COUNTY**

On February 19<sup>th</sup>, Game Warden Dan Schay patrolled Newton County for fishing activity and a violation of fishing without permission was documented.

On February 25<sup>th</sup>, Game Warden Jason Harrison patrolled Newton County for Fishing Activity. Violations for fishing without a license were documented.

## **MORGAN COUNTY**

On February 24<sup>th</sup>, Game Warden Dan Schay patrolled in the area of Swords Boat Ramp on Lake Oconee. Violations of fishing without a license were documented.

## **GREEN COUNTY**

Between February 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, CPL Derrell Worth patrolled Green County for Hunting and Fishing Activity. Violations for Unlawful Dumping, Blinding Wildlife with Lights, and Allowing Child in Moving Vessel without wearing PFD were documented.

## **LAKE OCONEE**

Between February 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>, Game Wardens Ricky Boles and CPL David Allen patrolled Lake Oconee for Fishing and Boating Activity. Violations for Fishing Without a License and Insufficient PFD's were documented.

## **WALTON COUNTY**

On February 22<sup>nd</sup>, Game Warden Jason Harrison and Cadet John Rhodes Patrolled Walton County for Hunting and Fishing Activity. Violations for Fishing Without a License and Trapping Without a License were documented.

## **Region IV- Macon (West Central)**

### **BALDWIN COUNTY**

On February 19<sup>th</sup> Game Wardens Josh Cockrell and Jonathan Segars checked several fishermen at the Sinclair Dam. After further investigation, one of the fishermen was charged with misdemeanor possession of marijuana.

### **COWETA COUNTY**

Ranger Charlie Follin patrolled Line Creek on February 23 and issued a citation for fishing without a license.

### **FAYETTE COUNTY**

Ranger Charlie Follin patrolled Lake Kedron on February 23 and issued a citation for possession of undersized largemouth bass.

### **HOUSTON COUNTY**

On February 23<sup>rd</sup> Corporal Robert Stilwell responded to Flat Creek PFA in reference to a theft. Once on scene it was discovered the entrance gate had been stolen. The investigation is ongoing by DNR LED and Houston County Sheriff's Office.

### **LAKE SINCLAIR**

On February 24<sup>th</sup> Game Warden Josh Cockrell and Sgt. Bo Kelly patrolled Lake Sinclair. A pontoon boat was stopped and it was discovered the operator's privileges were suspended from a BUI arrest in 2017. A citation was issued for the offense.

### **TROUP COUNTY**

On Friday February 23 and Saturday February 24 RFC Russell Epps and Cpl. Keith Waddell patrolled Troup and Heard County for fishing activity in West Point Lake. They issued numerous citations and warnings for fishing without a license, possession of over the limit and illegal size fish. One fisherman that was cited was in possession of 15 spotted bass which was 5 over the daily limit.

## **Region V- Albany (Southwest)**

No activity to report.

## **Region VI- Metter (Southeast)**

### **LAURENS COUNTY**

On February 19<sup>th</sup>, Ranger First Class (RFC) Rodney Horne responded to a complaint on River Bend Wildlife Management Area in which a motorhome was driven on a non-improved road and became stuck. RFC Horne waited for a wrecker service with a tractor to pull the vehicle out to the main road. The driver of the motorhome had a violation documented for driving on a non-improved road on a wildlife management area.

On February 24<sup>th</sup>, Corporal Dan Stiles performed a vessel patrol on the Oconee River. Fifteen vessels were checked for registration and boating safety equipment compliance. Fourteen anglers were also checked for fishing licenses and creel limit compliance. The violations documented included fishing without a license, operating a vessel with expired registration, and operating a vessel with insufficient personal flotation devices (PFD). Verbal guidance was also given to persons operating a vessel without registration numbers displayed, failure to meet boating education requirements, and fishing without license on person.

### **DODGE COUNTY**

On February 23<sup>rd</sup>, Game Warden Allen Mills conducted a vessel patrol at the Dodge County Public Fishing Area (DCPFA). 16 vessels were inspected for safety equipment and 37 anglers were checked for license and regulation compliance. 2 violations for fishing without a license and 2 violations for operating a vessel without a throwable device were documented.

On February 24<sup>th</sup>, Game Warden Mills conducted a foot patrol at DCPFA. 4 vessels, 13 anglers, and several hikers were checked for license and regulation compliance. 2 violations for entering into Wildlife Resources Division (WRD) area without WRD land pass were documented.

### **WHEELER COUNTY**

On February 18<sup>th</sup>, Ranger First Class (RFC) Rodney Horne responded to a deadhead logging complaint on the Ocmulgee River. RFC Horne interviewed four loggers. Two violations were documented on the operator of the vessel for operating a vessel with insufficient personal flotation devices and for operating a vessel without registration on board.

On February 19<sup>th</sup>, Ranger First Class (RFC) Rodney Horne responded to a littering complaint. After a thorough investigation on all the trash dumped onto the right of way of the highway, RFC Horne located the suspect who left the litter on the right of way. One violation for littering was documented and the suspect cleaned up all of the litter.

### **PIERCE/BRANTLEY COUNTY**

On February 17<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Jason Shipes and Game Warden Judd Sears conducted taxidermy inspections at multiple taxidermy businesses in Pierce County. During one of these inspections it was discovered that a person had dropped off two bucks to be mounted but did not possess a hunting license when the deer were harvested. On February 18<sup>th</sup>, Game Warden Judd Sears made contact with this individual in Brantley County where the bucks were harvested. This individual admitted to harvesting the animals illegally without the required hunting license. Both bucks were seized as evidence and violations of hunting without a license and hunting without a big game license were documented.



*Antlers from illegally-taken bucks seized from Pierce County taxidermist.*

## **ECHOLS COUNTY**

On February 23<sup>rd</sup>, Sgt. Patrick Dupree and Game Warden Sam Williams participated in the annual Echols High School career fair in Statenville. The officers provided DNR Law Enforcement career information and answered questions from over 100 students.



*Game Warden Sam Williams speaking with Echols County students at career fair.*

On February 24<sup>th</sup>, Sgt. Patrick Dupree and Game Warden Daniel North encountered several hog hunters east of Statenville. Three of the hog hunters did not possess a hunting license. The violations were documented.

## **TATTNALL COUNTY**

On February 24<sup>th</sup> Game Warden First Class Clint Jarriel was patrolling the fishing areas around Rogers State Prison when one violation was detected for fishing without a license.

## **APPLING COUNTY**

On February 24<sup>th</sup> Corporal Chase Altman was patrolling around the Altamaha River when one violation for fishing without a license was documented.

## **TOOMBS COUNTY**

On February 24<sup>th</sup> Game Warden First Class Bobby Sanders was patrolling boat landings along the Altamaha River. While at Greys Landing one violation was detected for operating a vessel with insufficient life jackets.

## **Region VII- Brunswick (Coastal)**

### **BIBB COUNTY**

On February 20th, Cpl. John Evans was returning from training in Forsyth when he observed a minivan with smoke rolling from under the hood. The van's engine compartment caught on fire as the driver was pulling over. Cpl. Evans got out with the van on the side of I475 and helped remove an elderly man from the vehicle as the engine compartment burst into flames. Evans was able to extinguish the fire and contact Fire and EMS to the scene without incident.

### **OFFSHORE GLYNN/ CAMDEN**

On February 18<sup>th</sup>, Game Wardens David Brady, Cpl. John Evans and Sgt. Chris Ridley conducted an offshore vessel patrol out to approximately 40 miles. Numerous vessels were checked during the Offshore JEA patrol with most of the target fish being large sheepshead and black drum.

