

Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division

Field Operations

Weekly Report
August 28 – September 3, 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)

WILKES COUNTY

On September 3rd Sgt. Brian Carter and Cpl. Mark Patterson patrolled portions of Clarks Hill Lake for goose hunting activity. A number of violations were detected by the Rangers to include hunting without a Federal waterfowl stamp, hunting waterfowl with lead shot, operating a vessel without personal flotation devices, and operating a vessel without registration.

LINCOLN COUNTY

On September 3rd, Cpl. Ryan Swain apprehended seven subjects for hunting waterfowl (geese) without permission. The subjects were hunting a farmer's field without his permission. Four geese were killed during the hunt. The subjects were cited and released.

On September 5th, Cpl. Ryan Swain and RFC Robert Timmerman detected a baited dove field. Ten subjects were apprehended for hunting doves over bait. The subjects were cited and released.

WALTON COUNTY

Ranger Jason Harrison and RFC Tim Butler patrolled Walton County over Labor Day Weekend for Dove Hunting Activity. The Rangers checked 9 fields and 59 hunters. Violations documented were hunting doves over bait, unlawful enticement of game, and hunting with unplugged shotguns.

LAKE OCONEE

September 3-5, Cpl. David Allen patrolled Lake Oconee during the holiday weekend. Cpl. Allen cited individuals for towing skiers without a PFD on PWC's, operating vessels during the hours of darkness without lights and operating vessels with improper lights, 100' violations on PWCs. On September 5, Cpl. David Allen worked a drowning of a 13 year old boy near the Parks Mill recreation area.

NEWTON COUNTY

On September 3, while patrolling for dove hunting activity, Sgt. Matt Garthright and RFC Ricky Boles encountered dove hunters on a baited field. The field was baited with bird seed. Six hunters were cited for hunting over bait and one individual was arrested for possession of firearm by a convicted felon. The convicted felon was also charged for hunting over bait, hunting without a license and hunting with an unplugged shotgun.

MORGAN COUNTY

On September 3, Sgt. Matt Garthright and RFC Ricky Boles gave a safety speech to 40 dove hunters at a pre-hunt BBQ. The Rangers discussed firearm safety, hunter etiquette and hunting laws.

On September 3, Sgt. Matt Garthright and RFC Ricky Boles while patrolling for dove hunting activity cited four hunters for hunting over bait and one subject was charged for hunting without a license. The dove field was baited with bird seed. Field was flagged.

On September 4, RFC Ricky Boles cited two subjects for dove hunting over bait. The field was baited with bird seed and wheat. Field was flagged.

On September 4, RFC Ricky Boles flagged a dove field due to it being baited with bird seed and wheat. Signs were posted around the field and landowner along with the hunters were notified.

BURKE COUNTY

On Saturday, September 3, RFC Jeff Billips patrolled Burke County, Di-Lane Plantation WMA and Alexander WMA for dove hunters. Sportsmen at the Adult-Child dove field on Di-Lane Plantation contacted RFC Billips when they observed an adult shooting over the limit of dove. When the adult saw RFC Billips approaching, he began to throw doves out of his bucket. The adult was cited for taking over the daily bag limit, hunting without WMA license and failure to participate in the Harvest Information Program (HIP). The adult's primary concern was the fact that sportsmen on the field had called DNR Law Enforcement about his violation. Twenty two doves were confiscated.

Region IV- Macon (West Central)

HOUSTON COUNTY

On Saturday, September 3rd, RFC Ronnie Beard and Cpl. Bubba Stanford patrolled the Perry Dove Fields and Flat Creek PFA. Numerous dove hunters were checked with no violations noted.

PUTNAM COUNTY

On Sunday, August 27th, RFC Jeremy Reese answered a boating complaint on Lake Sinclair. Further investigation lead to 4 subjects being charged with operating a PWC without wearing PFD's.

On Saturday, September 3rd, RFC Micheal Crawley and RFC Jeremy Reese located a dove shoot near Lake Sinclair. Further investigation lead to one subject being charged with unlawful enticement.

TWIGGS COUNTY

On the evening of September 3rd, Cpl. Stanford located 3 dove hunters in a livestock pasture. The field was determined to be baited and a citation for hunting over bait was issued.

Region V- Albany (Southwest)

TIFT COUNTY

On the morning of August 28th, Cpl. Greg Wade was contacted by Tift 911 in reference to two deer dumped in a local creek. After a thorough investigation, it was determined that the deer were harvested on a crop damage permit. The individual responsible for dumping the deer was charged with littering and instructed to properly dispose of the carcasses.

CHATTAHOOCHEE COUNTY

On September 3rd, Cpl. Steve Robinson was patrolling River Bend landing for alligator hunting and fishing activity. At 11:30 pm Cpl. Robinson had 2 PWC's come into the landing. The two operators were issued citations for operating a PWC during hours of darkness.

STEWART COUNTY

Over the holiday weekend Cpl. Steve Robinson patrolled Providence Canyon State Park issueing 6 warnings for people who were either climbing the canyon walls or had climbed over the barrier fence onto the canyon rim.

Region VI- Metter (Southeast)

ECHOLS COUNTY

On September 2nd, Sgt. Patrick Dupree and Ranger First Class Daniel North assisted Echols County Sheriff's Department with calls to clear debris from Hurricane Hermine. The officers chain-sawed and cleared several fallen trees blocking roadways leading to residences.



Ranger First Class Daniel North clearing trees that were blocking access to residences after Hurricane Hermine in Echols County

CLINCH COUNTY

On September 2nd, Corporal Jason Shipes assisted Clinch Sheriff's Department with locating downed power lines and tree blocking roadways due to storm damage from Hurricane Hermine.

PIERCE COUNTY

On September 3rd, Sgt. Patrick Dupree and Ranger First Class Sam Williams were patrolling for dove hunting activity in the northern portion of the county when they encountered five hunters shooting doves near cracked corn that was spread in the field. One of the hunters admitted to pouring out the cracked corn several days earlier. The unlawful enticement violation was documented and the hunt was halted on the illegal field. Three additional hunters did not possess a harvest information program license and were given verbal guidance.

On September 3rd, Sgt. Patrick Dupree and Ranger First Class Sam Williams encountered a citizen fishing in a small creek in the northern portion of the county. He was issued a written warning and asked to purchase a fishing license before his next fishing trip.

On September 3rd, Ranger First Class Daniel North and Ranger Judd Sears patrolled eastern and northern Pierce County for dove hunting activity. The officers checked two fields with several hunters. Five hunters did not possess a harvest information program license and were given verbal guidance.

LAURENS COUNTY

On August 29th Corporal Dan Stiles located and posted a baited dove field. Cpl. Stiles posted the field with signage to alert hunters that the field was illegal for hunting doves.

On September 3rd, Corporal Dan Stiles and Ranger First Class Rodney Horne patrolled the Riverbend Wildlife Management Area dove fields. Many hunters were contacted before and during the hunt to check for hunting license compliance. No violations were documented. The officers also patrolled another public dove field in Laurens County leased for hunters by the Wildlife Resources Division, Game Management Section.

WHEELER COUNTY

On September 3rd, Corporal John A Stokes and Sergeant James McLaughlin patrolled for dove shoots, one baited field was located, and one violator was charged with hunting with unplugged shotgun.

On September 3rd Ranger First Class Rodney Horne and Corporal Dan Stiles located several dove hunters hunting in a wooded area that had been baited with wheat. Five citations for hunting over bait and one citation for hunting with unplugged gun were documented. Five doves were also confiscated.

Region VII- Brunswick (Coastal)

No activity to report.