



GEORGIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Field Operations

Weekly Report
July 1 – July 7, 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)

BARTOW COUNTY

July 1st Warden Mark Puig and Cherokee County Deputy Patty stopped a vessel for a rules of the road violation in the area of Park Marina on Allatoona Lake. The operator was found to be under the influence of alcohol. The operator was placed under arrest for BUI.

July 2nd Cpl. Bart Hendrix and Warden Mark Puig stopped a vessel in the no wake zone at the rail road bridge on Allatoona Lake. The operator was found to be under the influence of alcohol. The operator was placed under arrest for BUI.

July 3rd Sgt. Jason Roberson and Warden Frank Pucci were on patrol on Allatoona Lake and stopped a vessel for improper lights in the area of Park Marina. The operator was found to be under the influence of alcohol and in possession of marijuana. The operator was placed under arrest and charged with BUI and VGCSA possession of marijuana less than 1 oz.

July 4th Cpl. Bart Hendrix and Cadet Tyler Lewis stopped a vessel near the Blockhouse on Allatoona Lake without registration. The operator was found to be under the influence of alcohol and placed under arrest for BUI.

July 4th, Sgt. Jason Roberson and Cpl. Byron Young stopped a vessel for a rules of the road violation on Allatoona Lake. The operator was found to be under the influence of alcohol. The operator was arrested and charged with BUI and Child Endangerment.

July 4th, Warden Frank Pucci responded to a boat incident on Allatoona Lake near Bethany Bridge. A 14 year old male was involved in a PWC crash that resulted in a broken femur. The male was transported to the Cartersville Medical Center for treatment.

July 4th, Warden Frank Pucci assisted Bartow County Fire / Rescue in locating a missing hiker on the Pine Mountain Trail near Cartersville.

July 7th, Sgt. Jason Roberson and Warden Mark Puig stopped a vessel for a wake violation at Bethany Bridge on Allatoona Lake. The operator was found to be under the influence of alcohol and placed under arrest for BUI.

July 7th, Sgt. Jason Roberson, Warden Mark Puig and Warden Frank Pucci stopped a pontoon for a rules of the road violation in the area of Park Marina on Allatoona Lake. The operator was found to be under the influence of alcohol and placed under arrest for BUI.

CHEROKEE COUNTY

July 3rd, Cpl. Bart Hendrix and Cadet Tyler Lewis stopped a vessel driving erratically in the area of Kellogg Creek on Allatoona Lake. During the stop marijuana located in the boat. The operator was charged with VGCSA possession of marijuana less than 1 oz.

DOUGLAS COUNTY

July 4th, Cpl. Brooks Varnell and GWFC Daniel Gray patrolled on Sweetwater Creek State Park. During the patrol, 23 individuals were checked fishing. Two citations and nine warnings were issued for fishing without license. Two individuals were arrested during the patrol.

FULTON COUNTY

July 4th, Cpl. Brooks Varnell and GWFC Daniel Gray investigated an illegal dump site at the HWY 166 boat ramp, where 5 tractor trailer tires had been illegally dumped. One person was issued a citation for illegal dumping less than 500 lbs.

July 4th, Cpl. Chad Cox and Cadet Garrett Pownall patrolled the Chattahoochee River and checked over 30 vessels. The game wardens issued 7 cases and warnings to boaters who did not have any PFD's.

FLOYD COUNTY

On July 4th, Game wardens, Floyd County Police, Floyd County Sheriff's Deputies, and Troopers from the Georgia State Patrol held a road check at Rocky Mountain PFA. Many people that come through said they were glad to see the officers out in that area. There were many violations detected such as driving without license, seatbelt violations, child restraint violations, alcohol on PFA, and no insurance. It was a very successful event that was welcomed by the visitors to the Rocky Mountain and the local community.

On July 7th and July 8th, Cpl. Shawn Elmore patrolled Heath Lake at Rocky Mountain PFA. This lake is only open the first 10 days of each month. The parking lot was packed and the lake was full, but unfortunately the fish weren't cooperating. During the patrol, Cpl. Elmore issues several citations for fishing without license and possession of alcohol on a PFA.

Region II- Gainesville (Northeast)

BARROW COUNTY

On July 4th, Sergeant Mike Burgamy conducted park patrol on Fort Yargo State Park. During the day, several violations were addressed such as alcohol consumption and traffic. At closing time, Burgamy approached a vehicle that was still in the lot at the beach area. He made contact with two individuals, one male and one female. As soon as the female rolled down the driver side window, Burgamy smelled marijuana and confronted them. He located the marijuana in the driver side door pocket and called Winder PD for assistance. They arrived and charged both subjects with possession of marijuana and charged the passenger male with open container of alcohol.

Region III- Thomson (East Central)

LAKE OCONEE

Between July 2nd and Sunday July 8th, SGT Garthright, CPL Worth, Game Warden Schay, Game Warden Rhodes, and Game Warden Boles patrolled Lake Oconee for boating activity. During these patrols, multiple violations of allowing an underage child to ride in a moving vessel without wearing a PFD were documented, towing without an observer onboard, operating a PWC within 100' of an object in the water above idle speed, failure to obey regulatory marker, failure to meet boater education requirements, operating a vessel under the influence, operating a vessel with improper lights, and operating a vessel with insufficient PFDs were documented. Game Wardens Garthright, Worth, Allen, and Schay responded to a medical call to assist Greene County EMS on Lake Oconee as well.

Region IV- Macon (West Central)

HARRIS COUNTY

On July 4th Game Warden Ethan Franklin and Cpl. Mitch Oliver were patrolling Lake Harding when they stopped a small boat for a boating safety inspection due to the heavy boat traffic on the lake. The two officers detected the odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from inside the vessel, and they discovered both occupants were underage. Upon further investigation wardens determined the operator was impaired. The operator was arrested for the offense of boating under the influence (under 21 years of age) and was also charged with possession of alcohol by an underage person. The other occupant was also charged with possession of alcohol by an underage person.

MUSCOGEE COUNTY

On July 4th Cpl. Mitch Oliver and Game Warden Ethan Franklin were checking boating activity at Lake Oliver when they observed a vessel being operated with improper lights. The officers made contact with the vessel and observed three small children who were not wearing personal flotation devices. While talking with the operator about the violations, Cpl. Oliver could smell a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from the operator. The operator admitted to consuming a number of beers while on the boat. Cpl. Oliver administered field sobriety exercises to the operator and subsequently determined that he was under the influence. The operator was placed under arrest for the offense. He was also charged with three counts of child endangerment.

TROUP COUNTY

On July 4th Sgt. Brent Railey, Cpl. Keith Waddell, Cpl. Travis Sweat, RFC Kevin Godbee, RFC Russell Epps and Ranger Ken Lalumiere patrolled West Point Lake. They checked several boats and issued citations for violations including allowing a person to ride the bow of a boat, insufficient PFDs, improper lights, overloaded vessel and other violations. They also worked a domestic disturbance at Whitetail Ridge campground.

Region V- Albany (Southwest)

DECATUR COUNTY

On July 1st, Cpl Tony Cox and Game Warden Ryan Cleveland were patrolling Silver Lake WMA when they encountered four subjects fishing the trophy managed Panic pond which is currently closed and signs are posted stating such. The subjects were cited for fishing on a closed WMA.

On July 7th, Sgt. Bob Holley, Cpl. Tony Cox, and Game Warden Steve Thomas responded to a boating incident on Spring Creek. The operator of the vessel struck a submerged object causing one of the passengers of the vessel to fall and puncture her arm on an object inside the vessel. She was treated at a local hospital and released that day.

Region VI- Metter (Southeast)

DODGE COUNTY

On July 7th, Game Warden Allen Mills and Game Warden Chris Thompson patrolled landings along the Ocmulgee River. Three vessels and seven anglers were checked for licenses and boating safety equipment. One violation for fishing without a license was documented.

Later that day, the officers patrolled the Dodge County Public Fishing Area. Four vessels and fifteen angler/visitors were checked for license and regulation compliance. One violation for fishing without a license and three violations for entering upon Wildlife Resources Division (WRD) properties without a WRD public lands pass were documented. Also, Officer Thompson assisted a young boater with picking out a properly fitting S.P.L.A.S.H life jacket to use while on the area.

WHEELER COUNTY

On July 1st, Ranger First Class (RFC) Rodney conducted a vessel patrol on the Oconee River. RFC Horne stopped three vessels and documented violations for operating a vessel without registration on board, operating a vessel without coast guard approved personal flotation device, and two for operating a vessel above idle speed within 100 feet of an object/shoreline.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

On July 7th, Game Wardens Sergeant Jon Barnard and Randell Meeks patrolled the Altamaha River for boating and fishing activity. One violation of operation of a vessel within 100' of an object above idle speed was documented.

TOOMBS COUNTY

On July 7th, Game Warden Randell Meeks and Sergeant Jon Barnard patrolled the Altamaha River for boating and fishing activity. One violation of a non-resident fishing without a license and one violation of operation of a vessel without a registration was documented.

JEFF DAVIS COUNTY

On July 7th Game Warden Patrick Gibbs and Intern Taylor Mitchell checked boats coming off the Ocmulgee River at Burketts Ferry landing. Five boats and six fishing licenses were checked. One of the boat operators lost their balance while standing at the boat ramp and fell on the ground. That subject was screened and arrested for BUI. Additional violations were addressed for operating a vessel without PFD's and operating a vessel without registration.

APPLING COUNTY

On July 3rd, Cadet Cameron Dyal and Cpl. Chase Altman patrolled the Altamaha River for boating safety violations. Three citations were documented for allowing an underage child to ride in a moving vessel w/o wearing a PFD, towing a skier w/o an observer, and operating a vessel w/o CGA PFD's.

On July 7th, Cpl. Altman patrolled the Altamaha River and Lake Mayers. Three warnings were given out for fishing w/o a license and towing a skier w/o an observer.

Region VII- Brunswick (Coastal)

No activity to report.