



# GEORGIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

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## LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Field Operations

**Weekly Report**  
**June 24 – June 30, 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)**

### **CARROLL COUNTY**

June 27<sup>th</sup>, GWFC Daniel Gray patrolled at John Tanner Park, Lake Carroll, Lake Seaton and Lake Paradise. During the patrol 7 individuals were checked fishing. One person was issued a citation for fishing w/o license.

June 29<sup>th</sup>, Sgt. Eric Brown, Cpl. Brooks Varnell and GWFC Daniel Gray patrolled at John Tanner Park, Lake Buckhorn, Lake Carroll and Lake Seaton. During the patrol game wardens checked 6 vessels and 12 individuals fishing. Nine violations were documented during the patrol for minor boating and fishing violations.

June 29<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Chad Cox and Cadet Garrett Pownall patrolled Lake Seaton by boat. The game wardens checked 10 fishing license and 4 vessels. They issued eight cases and warnings for boating and fishing violations. They also located a subject with a warrant on him and he was also in possession of suspect marijuana and was cited for less than ounce of marijuana. Carroll County Sheriff Office transported him to the county jail.

### **DOUGLAS COUNTY**

June 30<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Brooks Varnell and GWFC Daniel Gray patrolled at Sweetwater Creek State Park. Three vessels and 12 individuals fishing were checked during the patrol. Three warnings were issued for fishing w/o license.

### **FULTON COUNTY**

June 30<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Chad Cox and Cadet Garrett Pownall patrolled the Chattahoochee River by boat and issued one citation for operating a vessel with PFD. The game wardens also located a person in possession of suspected marijuana and cited the subject for having less than an ounce of marijuana. They also issued two warnings for minor boating violations.

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

On June 24<sup>th</sup>, GWFC Joe Hill and Rabun County Deputy Tony Parrish conducted a boating safety patrol of Lake Burton. Citations were issued for towing a skier without a PFD and towing a skier without a mirror/observer. Warnings were issued for registration violations, operating a vessel without a throwable device, 100' rule violations, and violating rules of the road.

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

### **LAKE OCONEE**

Between Friday, June 22<sup>nd</sup> and June 24<sup>th</sup>, SGT Garthright, CPL Allen, 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, 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, and operating a vessel with insufficient PFDs were documented.

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

### **BALDWIN COUNTY**

On June 26<sup>th</sup> Game Wardens Josh Cockrell and Jon Segars conducted a TV interview with 13WMAZ. The officers talked about the importance of boating safety as well as having a designated operator.

On the evening of June 29<sup>th</sup> Game Warden Josh Cockrell and Corporal Bubba Stanford patrolled the Island Creek area of Lake Sinclair. The officers stopped a pontoon boat for not having a registration displayed. Further investigation led to the operator being arrested for boating under the influence.

## **HANCOCK COUNTY**

On the afternoon of June 24<sup>th</sup> Corporal Bubba Stanford and Sergeant Bo Kelly patrolled Lake Sinclair. The officers responded to a boating incident near Oconee Springs Park where an individual was thrown from a PWC. The victim received injuries to his arm and was treated and released from the hospital. After working the boating incident, the officers stopped a boat because a passenger was riding the gunwale. Further investigation led to the operator being arrested for boating under the influence.

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

### **DECATUR COUNTY**

On Tuesday June 26<sup>th</sup>, G.W Steve Thomas received a complaint of someone dumping trash on the side of a public road. After further investigation G.W Thomas contacted and interviewed a subject who admitted to throwing the trash out. He received a citation for unlawful dumping of waste (less than 500 lbs.).

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

### **LAURENS COUNTY**

On June 30<sup>th</sup>, Ranger First Class (RFC) Rodney Horne and Intern Gibbs conducted a vessel patrol on the Oconee River during Operation Dry Water. RFC Horne documented six violations on three suspects. Violations document consisted of two fishing without licenses, one operating a vessel without coast guard approved personal flotation devices and three violations for operating a vessel without registration.

On June 25<sup>th</sup>, Corporal Dan Stiles responded to a report of domestic violence incident in the campground located at the River Bend Wildlife Management Area. One female was transported to a local hospital for injuries sustained in the incident. A male subject was arrested and transported to the Laurens County Law Enforcement Center. Additional charges are pending on the male subject related to the incident.

### **WHEELER COUNTY**

On June 24<sup>th</sup>, Ranger First Class (RFC) Rodney Horne responded to a fishing without permission complaint. The suspect fled on foot with the fish in hand while leaving behind a reel and a cricket basket. Arrest warrants on the suspect are being issued for fishing without permission and misdemeanor obstruction.

### **WILCOX COUNTY**

On June 24<sup>th</sup>, Corporal Dan Stiles and Game Warden Chris Thompson patrolled the Ocmulgee River by vessel. Fifteen vessels were checked for registration and boating safety equipment and thirteen anglers were checked for fishing licenses and creel limit compliance. Two citations were issued for fishing without a license, one citation was issued for operating a vessel without Coast Guard approved personal flotation devices (PFD's) and one violation was documented for operating a vessel without registration.

### **WARE COUNTY**

On June 25<sup>th</sup>, Game Wardens Daniel North and Joseph Cowart spoke to approximately eighty students during the day. Wardens North and Cowart talked about general boating safety, how to properly wear and size a life jacket and the importance of wearing a life jacket any time they are on a boat or in the water. The students were participating in Camp Reveille which was being held at Laura S. Walker State Park near Waycross.



*Game Warden Joseph Cowart explaining life jackets at Camp Reveille.*

On June 30th, Corporal Jason Shipes was conducting a boating safety patrol along the Satilla River near Jamestown. While checking for all the required safety equipment, Cpl. Shipes found that the operator of the vessel failed to have enough personal flotation devices onboard. The violation was documented.

On June 24<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant Patrick Dupree & Game Warden First Class Sam Williams responded to an in-progress call of night deer hunting in the Bickley area. Once the officers arrived in the complaint area, they began to locate and check field entrances. A few minutes after arriving at the area, a vehicle drove past them matching the description given earlier by the complainant. The officers conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle occupied by three adult male subjects. The subjects were in possession of a .308 caliber rifle and a .22 magnum rifle. The officers also observed a rabbit in the back of the vehicle that had been recently shot. As the officers questioned the occupants of the vehicle, it was determined that the driver was in possession of a deer control permit, but the occupants were not listed as assistants. Violations for hunting rabbits at night with the aid of a light and violation of deer control permit were documented.



*Rabbit killed illegally by deer control assistant in Ware County.*

On June 25<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant Patrick Dupree & Game Warden First Class Sam Williams were checking the Hwy. 84 boat landing on the Satilla River for fishing and boating activity when the officers observed two subjects fishing from the bank near the railroad trestle. Upon checking their fishing licenses, the officers discovered that one of them was not in possession of a valid fishing license. The violation for fishing without a license was documented.

On June 30<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant Patrick Dupree, Corporal Jason Shipes, Game Wardens First Class Judd Sears and Sam Williams were observing boating activity on the lake at Laura Walker State Park when the officers noticed the operator of a boat wearing a ski vest that did not appear to be a personal flotation device (PFD). Cpl. Shipes and

GWFC Sam Williams conducted a boating safety inspection on the boat and determined that the ski vest the operator was wearing was not a PFD. The operator did not have a correct PFD in the boat. The violation for operating a vessel without a PFD was documented.

#### **APPLING COUNTY**

On June 30th Game Warden First Class Clint Jarriel and Cadet Cameron Dyal patrolled the Altamaha River for fishing and boating activity. Many boats were checked and citations written for fishing without a license and operating without lifejackets.

#### **TATTNALL COUNTY**

On June 30th Game Warden First Class Clint Jarriel and Cadet Cameron Dyal patrolled the Altamaha River for boating activity. Numerous boats were checked and citations written for operating vessel without lights.

#### **TOOMBS COUNTY**

On June 30th Game Warden First Class Clint Jarriel and Cadet Cameron Dyal patrolled Dead River for boating and fishing violations. Citations were written for fishing without a license.

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

No activity to report.