

Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division

Field Operations

Weekly Report
October 20-26, 2013

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)

BARTOW COUNTY

On October 20th, Cpl. Byron Young and RFC Brooks Varnell were patrolling the area of Hardin Bridge Road and the Etowah River. The Rangers located two young hunters who were goose hunting out of kayaks on the Etowah River. The two young hunters were found to be hunting without a federal duck stamp and unplugged shotguns. The young hunters were issued warnings for the violations. The Etowah River is a cold water environment and any winter boaters should be prepared, use life jackets, let family or friends know the float plan, and have a plan to deal with an overturned boat or bad weather.



Kayaks used by goose hunters on Etowah River.

On October 22nd, Cpl. Lee Burns responded to a call for assistance on Kings Camp Road near Glade Road. A witness, who was walking, saw a truck stop and shoot a rifle out of the window of a truck at a deer near the edge of the roadway. Cpl. Burns located the deer and started an investigation. Cpl. Burns spoke with Sgt. Mike Barr and they discussed how to proceed on the case. Although there was very little information on the shooter or truck, Cpl. Burns was able to piece together information on a possible suspect. The deer was seized as evidence. The case is still open and under investigation and a suspect will be questioned about the incident. Shooting from a motor vehicle or from a public road is a violation of law and a dangerous practice. If you have any information on this case,

contact Sgt. Mike Barr or Cpl. Lee Burns through the DNR Law Enforcement Division Region I office at (770) 769-9680 or the Turn In Poachers number at 1-800-241-4113.



Doe found on roadway where a witness saw a person shoot from a truck.

On October 22nd, Cpl. Lee Burns was conducting an investigation of an illegally killed doe off Kings Camp Road. While checking a local deer cooler in Cobb County, a person of interest from the illegally shot doe came in with a freshly shot fawn button buck. Cpl. Burns obtained his information and later went to his residence for an interview. After interviewing the person and viewing the hunting site, Cpl. Burns found that the fawn deer was killed while hunting over bait which was whole kernel corn. Cpl. Burns charged the person for hunting big game over bait.

On October 26th, Cpl. Lee Burns was patrolling on Old Alabama Road when he witnessed a man walking in the middle of the road. The man was staggering from the center line to the yellow line and cars were having to adjust their lane of travel to avoid hitting the man. Cpl. Burns checked the man and conducted sobriety test. The sobriety test indicated a high level of alcohol consumption and drug use. This man was just recently released from prison. He was arrested for public drunkenness and transported to the Bartow County Jail.

On October 26th, Sgt. Mike Barr, Cpl. Byron Young, RFC Brooks Varnell, and RFC Zack Hardy conducted a HIN inspection at Allatoona Lake. During the inspection process, the Rangers check to ensure that a vessel is not “stolen” and that all paperwork is in order to receive a Georgia boat registration. The officers inspected 28 vessels during a two hour period. For more information on boat HIN inspection sites, go to www.goboatgeorgia.com



RFC Brooks Varnell inspects a vessel and completes paperwork at a HIN inspection at Allatoona Lake.

CHEROKEE COUNTY

On October 26th, Cpl. Byron Young checked a baited deer stand located earlier in the week by RFC Bart Hendrix and RFC Brooks Varnell on Deer Track Road in Cherokee County. Cpl. Young found a deer hunter 40 yards from a small food plot baited with corn and mineral blocks. The hunter was issued a citation for hunting big game over bait.

COBB COUNTY

On October 25th, Cpl. Lee Burns received a complaint call about fawn deer tied up with a rope behind a residence off Highway 278 in Mableton. Upon arrival, Cpl. Burns saw in plain view a fawn deer tied up in a junk pile behind the residence. While interviewing the sister-in-law and wife at the residence, Cpl. Burns discovered that the doe was being

held for Thanksgiving dinner. Cpl. Burns discovered that the deer had been found while landscaping on a job. The father at the residence spoke with Cpl. Burns by phone but refused to come to the residence and meet with DNR. After explaining that it was illegal to hold wildlife without a permit, the fawn was turned over to Cpl. Burns by the wife and released back into the wild.



Doe fawn deer found tied up with rope in Mableton.

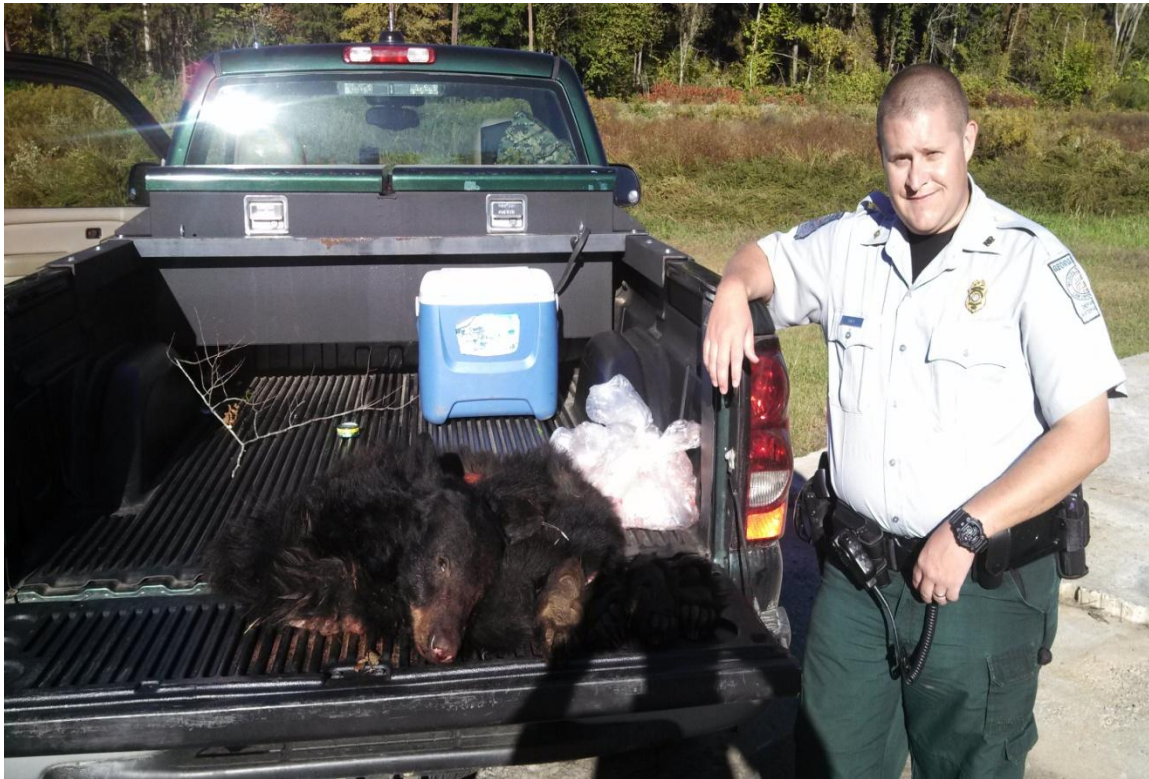


Doe fawn released back into the wild.

During the 2012/2013 deer season RFC Brooks Varnell found and checked a baited stand on property owned by Cobb County Parks at the Aquatic Center off Macland Road. No hunting is allowed on the Cobb County Park property. RFC Varnell checked the area multiple times but was unable to locate anyone hunting the property during the 2012/2013 season. On October 26th, RFC Varnell received a call from a citizen who saw a vehicle parked at the same location. RFC Varnell and Cpl. Byron Young responded to the property and located a male using a crossbow and hunting deer on the park property. The hunter was also hunting directly over whole kernel corn which is a violation of law in north Georgia. The hunter was issued a citation for hunting big game over bait and a citation for hunting without permission. The minimum fine for the first offense of hunting without permission is \$500 as described in the law.

GILMER COUNTY

On October 20, RFC Joe Hill received a call from W/L Tech Mitch Yeargin in regards to a Florida resident harvesting a bear and providing a Georgia resident hunting and big game license. RFC Hill addressed the hunter, who told W/L Tech. Yeargin he was staying a while in Georgia. The Ranger interviewed the man from Florida and discovered he had only been in Georgia for four days. RFC Hill issued the man citations for nonresident hunting without a license, nonresident hunting big game without a nonresident big game license, and possession of illegally taken wildlife. RFC Hill seized the bear and illegally obtained licenses’.



MURRAY COUNTY

On October 26th, Cpl Casey Jones and RFC Joe Hill charged a Murray County man for hunting without permission, hunting from a public road and hunting from a motor vehicle.

On October 27th, Cpl. Casey Jones, RFC Joe Hill and RFC Cody Jones charged a Murray County man for illegal use of an ATV on a WMA.

POLK COUNTY

On October 19th, RFC Chad Cox was patrolling in the western part of the county when he located a hunter walking out of the woods. RFC Cox stopped to check his license and the hunter had a big game license and deer harvest record but did not have a hunting license. RFC Cox issued him a written warning and explained to him exactly what license is required to hunt deer.

On October 22nd, RFC Chad Cox was able to complete two dumping investigations. After traveling to Dallas to interview a subject, RFC Cox issued a citation for littering. The subject confessed to hauling off carpet and dumping it on private property. The subject will be returning to pick up the carpet. RFC Cox also issued another citation for littering after he located four bags of household trash dumped on the side of a freshly mowed road in the east part of the county. The subject has already picked up the trash.

FULTON COUNTY

On October 26th, Sgt. Ricky Dempsey, Cpl. Wil Smith and RFC Daniel Gray checked multiple baited stands in South Fulton County. Several individuals were cited for hunting big game over bait, hunting w/o fluorescent orange and illegal possession of wildlife. A seven point buck was confiscated, which was killed over a baited area.

Region II- Gainesville (Northeast)

HALL COUNTY

On October 26, Cpl. Jason Roberson located three subjects hunting deer over bait near Hwy 365, citations and warnings were issued for the violations. He also located one subject hunting deer over bait off of Duckett Mill rd. and one subject who had not recorded his deer harvest.

JACKSON COUNTY

On October 24th, RFC Eric Isom was patrolling for hunting activity in Southwest Jackson County. He utilized his K9 partner, Colt to track a subject who was found hunting without orange and over bait. The subject received a citation and a warning for hunting big game over bait and hunting without wear florescent orange.

BANKS COUNTY:

On October 26th, Cpl. Adam Loudermilk patrolled Banks County. During the patrol he checked six hunters and issued a citation for hunting big game over bait and a warning for hunting without a license.

DAWSON COUNTY

On October 21st, Sgt. Lee Brown, Cpl. Jason Roberson, Cpl. James Keener, RFC Barry Britt, RFC Mitchell Crump, Ranger Shane Brown, PRHS Rangers and the Dawson County Fire and EMS personal participated in training with the DNR Aviation Unit. The training was long line rescue operations.

On October 23rd, Wildlife Technician III David Shattuck and Ranger Shane Brown were patrolling Dawson Forest WMA when they encountered two hunters with loaded firearms in their vehicle. The rangers issued written warnings for the infractions.

On October 25th, Sgt. Lee Brown, Cpl. Eddie Tompkins, RFC Eric Isom, K-9 Colt and Wildlife Technician III David Shattuck conducted a road check on Dawson Forest WMA. Numerous hunters were checked. During the road check the rangers received information that there were hunters hunting without the required fluorescent orange and target practicing on the WMA. Wildlife Tech Shattuck and RFC Isom investigated this complaint. A subject came through the road check that couldn't produce a current driver's license to the rangers. The subject gave his name and date of birth to the officers but a check didn't reveal that the subject had a driver's license. When Cpl. Tompkins went to arrest the subject he ran. Cpl. Tompkins was able to secure the subject. He was arrested for driving on a suspended license, giving a false name and date of birth and for misdemeanor obstruction of an officer. Also, citations, written warnings and verbal guidance was given for failure to check-in on the WMA hunt, hunting without a WMA license, hunting without taking the Hunter Education Class, hunting deer without wearing fluorescent orange, accompanying a subject hunting deer without wearing the required fluorescent orange and target practicing on the WMA.

On October 25th, RFC Mitchell Crump was called to the Dawson Forest WMA check station reference a subject that had harvested an illegal buck on the hunt (Dawson Forest is a Quality Buck area.) The subject was issued a citation for the infraction and the deer was confiscated and donated to a needy family.

On October 26th, Sgt. Lee Brown was patrolling on Dawson Forest WMA for the deer hunt. Sgt. Brown issued written warnings and gave verbal guidance for failure to check-in on the WMA hunt, hunting without a license and hunting within 50 yards of a WMA road.

DEKALB COUNTY

On October 24th, Cpl. Eric Sanders was the first one on the scene of an automobile accident. He tended to the injured until the ambulance arrived. Cpl. Sanders then directed traffic until Dekalb PD and the Rockdale County Sheriff's Office could arrive.

FORSYTH COUNTY

On October 21st, RFC Barry Britt and Ranger Shane Brown conducted an On-Line Hunter Education Class. During the class a total of 68 students were certified in Hunter Education.

GWINNETT COUNTY

On October 20th Cpl. Eric Sanders and Cpl. Eddie Tompkins located a father and son hunting without permission. The juvenile also had no visible fluorescent orange because he put a jacket on over his orange vest when he got cold. The adult subject was given written warnings and verbal guidance.

HART COUNTY

On October 20th, RFC Brandon Pierce, Sgt. Greg Colson, Cpl. Craig Fulghum, and Cpl. Bill Bunch assisted the Hart County Sheriff's Office Deputies with a safety check. During the check RFC Pierce noticed a buck deer in one of the vehicles. The subject's hunting license was checked for proper documentation. After speaking with the individual it was determined that the subject had a couple violations. A total of two citations were issued consisting of a non-resident hunting with a resident license and possession of illegally taken wildlife. RFC Pierce seized the eight point rack and meat as evidence. The meat was donated to a needy family.



On October 20th, RFC Brandon Pierce responded to a complaint in reference to a shot being heard from residence and possibly hitting a tree in the yard. RFC Pierce investigated the matter and found three subjects hunting close by in the direction were shot come from. It was determined that one of the subjects had shot a deer. Firearm safety was talked about and two warnings were issued. The violations consisted of hunting deer without fluorescent orange and killing of antlerless deer.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

On October 26th, Ranger First Class Tim Vickery was patrolling Franklin County when he received a call from Corporal Bill Bunch about an illegal burn on the northern end of the county. When RFC Vickery arrived, Cpl. Bunch was already out with a female subject behind a trailer where household garbage and plastic was burning. The subject was told to put the fire out and was issued a citation for an illegal burn.

On October 26th, Ranger First Class Tim Vickery and Sergeant Stan Elrod were patrolling Franklin County on Highway 145 when Sgt. Elrod noticed a hunter sitting in a stand on the edge of a clear-cut. The hunter was not wearing fluorescent orange. RFC Vickery and Sgt. Elrod drove around the clear-cut, located a vehicle, and walked to the hunter's location. The hunter was a 14 year old who was hunting by himself. When asked, he told the Rangers that he did not have his Hunter Safety certification. The young man told the Rangers that his father's friend was hunting about three hundred yards away. He also stated that his father and three other juveniles were hunting on the back side of the property. Sergeant Elrod went to locate the other hunter while RFC Vickery waited for the young man to exit his stand. When Sgt. Elrod located the other hunter, the hunter was not wearing his fluorescent orange. The Rangers met back at the vehicle with all the hunters and talked to them. One subject was cited for hunting deer without fluorescent orange. The juvenile's father was cited for allowing a juvenile to hunt without Hunter Safety certification.

HABERSHAM COUNTY

On October 22nd, Cpl. Bill Bunch received a call about an area that had been baited for deer. He patrolled the area and located a baited stand. He also noticed where a deer had been killed and began to determine who hunted in the area. He located the hunter and after investigating further was able to charge a subject for killing antlerless deer and hunting over bait.

Region III- Thomson (East Central)

RICHMOND COUNTY

On October 25, Cpl. Ben Payne patrolled Richmond County checking without permission complaints and baited deer stands for activity. Later in the afternoon he followed up on a lead of hunting without permission by Richmond County Deputies. After contacting the landowner and investigating the area where the illegal hunting occurred, the violator was contacted. Cpl. Payne met the violator and presented the evidence. The violator confessed to hunting without permission and was issued a citation for hunting without permission.

On October 25, Cpl. Payne worked baited deer stands in Richmond County. After checking several stands he located a hunter hunting over corn. The hunter was issued a citation and a warning for another violation.

BURKE COUNTY

On October 25th and 26th, RFC Matherly assisted with a quota hunt on Di-Lane WMA. Several hunters were checked, no violations were issued.

On October 26, RFC Matherly and Wildlife Tech Steve Kyles worked a night hunting detail in Burke County. RFC Matherly observed a white in color truck shining a spot light out both the driver's side and passenger side windows. RFC Matherly followed the vehicle for a short distance watching as the two subjects shined the light from both sides of the vehicle. The vehicle was stopped, and was found to have two subjects in the front seat, both with loaded weapons. The subjects were arrested and transported to the Burke County Jail where they were charged with: hunting deer at night, hunting from a motor vehicle, and hunting from a public road.

WARREN COUNTY

On October 26th, RFC Brian Adams responded to hunting without permission complaint. Upon arrival at the scene, RFC Adams apprehended two subjects hunting without permission. One subject did not have a license or big game license. Citations were issued and RFC Adams went back in service.

WILKES COUNTY

On the morning of October 20th, Sgt. Brian Carter and Cpl. Mark Patterson checked areas known to have baited deer stands. Violations documented were three cases of hunting big game over bait and three hunting deer without fluorescent orange. That afternoon Sgt. Brian Carter, Cpl. Julian Wilkins, and Cpl. Mark Patterson continued to check baited deer stands documenting one instance of unlawful enticement.

On October 26th Cpl. Mark Patterson checked areas known to have baited deer stands. Violations documented included three cases of hunting big game over bait, placing bait on a WMA, hunting deer without fluorescent orange, hunting within 50 yards of a WMA road, possession of illegally taken wildlife, and the confiscation of four deer. Sgt. Brian Carter and Cpl. Patterson responded to an incident in the early evening hours of a hunter found deceased on a hunting club. The cause of death is still under investigation.

CLARKE COUNTY

On the morning of October 26th Sgt. Brian Carter, Cpl. Julian Wilkins, and RFC Phillip Nelson responded to an incident of a deer hunter falling from a tree stand. The incident is still under investigation.

OCONEE COUNTY

On October 22nd Sgt. Brian Carter responded to hunting without permission complaint. A juvenile was found hunting on the complaint property.

Region IV- Macon (West Central)

BUTTS COUNTY

On October 21st, RFC Freddie Hays received a complaint of a man and his son hunting deer over bait. RFC Hays went to the location and documented that there was indeed corn at the location that was being hunted. After checking the area several times, RFC Hays located a man and his eleven year old son hunting over the bait and neither was wearing their fluorescent orange vest. The adult was issued citations for hunting big game over bait and hunting without fluorescent orange clothing.

CLAYTON COUNTY

On the morning of October 26th, Cpl. Travis Sweat located a vehicle parked on the eastside of Fayette County. Cpl. Sweat called RFC Kevin Godbee to respond to the area. The two Rangers patrolled the wooded area behind the vehicle and located one deer hunter that had just shot a deer. The two Rangers knew the area well and knew that the property that the hunter was on was located in Clayton County. The hunter was charged with hunting deer with a rifle in Clayton County and hunting without permission.

CRAWFORD COUNTY

On October 20th, Cpl. Robert Stillwell, Cpl. Josh Swain and Ranger David Fisher checked baited stands that they had previously located. One non-resident was charged with hunting big game over bait, hunting deer without fluorescent orange, and hunting without a license.

On Sunday morning, October 20th, while patrolling along the Monroe/Crawford County line, Cpl. Tony Wynne found one hunter hunting with a big game license but no hunting license. A few miles away he found a hunter assisting a handicapped deer hunter. The hunter assisting the blind hunter had a hunting license but no big game license. Both hunters were issued written warnings for the license violations.

On October 22nd, Ranger David Fisher and Cpl. Josh Swain worked an area wherein they had received complaints of night deer hunting. One subject was apprehended after he shined a field and shot at a deer – the subject was charged for hunting deer at night and hunting from a motor vehicle.

On October 26th, Cpl. Josh Swain checked baited deer stands that he had previously located. One subject was found and charged for hunting big game over bait and warned for hunting without a license.

On October 26th, Cpl. Robert Stillwell checked baited deer stands that he had previously located. Three subjects were located; two were charged for hunting big game over bait, one subject was charged with hunting without a license, and all three were warned for hunting deer without fluorescent orange.

HARRIS COUNTY

On the evening of October 25th, Cpl. Jeremy Bolen and RFC Russell Epps responded to a fatality ATV accident involving one individual. Cpl. Bolen and RFC Epps assisted the Harris County Sheriff's Office and the Georgia State Patrol with the investigation.

On October 26th, Cpl. Jeremy Bolen noticed a truck pulling into a deer cooler. Cpl. Bolen had observed the truck earlier in the morning while out on patrol. Cpl. Bolen decided to pull into the deer cooler and see if the hunter's had any luck. Cpl. Bolen observed a 6 point buck in the bed of the truck. Cpl. Bolen issued the hunter a citation for taking an illegal antlered buck in a QDM county. The deer was confiscated and later donated to a food bank.

On October 26th, Cpl. Jeremy Bolen received information about a subject who had field-dressed 2 deer and dumped the guts on the edge of a public dirt road. A hunter in the area took a picture of the tag on the truck. Cpl. Bolen went to the residence of the subject and located 2 deer being quartered. Cpl. Bolen spoke to the subject about dumping deer guts on the road. The subject admitted to cleaning the deer on the public road and dumping them there. The subject was issued a citation for littering.

HENRY COUNTY

On opening weekend of firearms deer season, RFC Kevin Godbee and Dep. Ranger Joe Sebo checked a hunting club off Peeksville Rd. in Henry Co. RFC Godbee and Dep. Ranger Sebo checked four hunters. Two of the hunters were found to be hunting deer over corn and were cited for hunting big game over bait. The other two hunters were legal and no charges were filed against them.

HOUSTON COUNTY

On October 26th, Sgt. Tony Fox was patrolling Oaky Woods WMA when he encountered a subject who was deer hunting near the edge of a road – the management area was closed to big game hunting. The hunter was cited for hunting big game on a closed WMA and warned for hunting within 50 yards of WMA road.

JASPER COUNTY

On October 20th, RFC Freddie Hays checked a complaint of hunting deer over bait. Hays located two subjects who were hunting over bait. Both subjects were issued citations for hunting big game over bait.

On October 20th, RFC Freddie Hays was patrolling for hunting violations during opening weekend of deer season and located a truck with corn in the back. RFC Hays conducted a foot patrol of the area and found one subject hunting without fluorescent orange clothing and found that the subject had removed all the corn from the area that he was hunting. The subject was issued a citation for hunting without fluorescent orange clothing.

On October 26th, RFC Freddie Hays checked an area that he had previously located that was baited with corn and deer pellets. RFC Hays found two subjects hunting over the bait and hunting without wearing fluorescent orange. The subjects were issued citations for hunting big game over bait and for hunting without fluorescent orange clothing.

JONES COUNTY

On the morning of October 26th, Ranger Jeremy Reese checked several baited stands in the northern part of the county. One hunter was located hunting the area and a citation was issued for the offense.

LAMAR COUNTY

On October 20th, RFC Keith Page, K-9 Drake and Cpl.. Tony Wynne located a man on Unionville Road who was hunting deer over bait. Cpl.. Wynne had previously located several baited stands on the property and asked RFC Page to help check the stands. Because only one truck was parked at the scene and there were multiple stands to check, K9 Drake was commanded to “track“ the suspect to his stand. K9 Drake led RFC Page and Cpl.. Wynne straight to the third stand on the property where a man and his son were found to be hunting over a pile of corn and a mineral block. The adult was charged with hunting big game over bait.



On October 26th, RFC Keith Page checked several baited deer stands on Reeves Road. Page was able to locate four men hunting over bait. In addition, three of the men were found to be hunting without wearing fluorescent orange clothing. One of the men was also hunting with an expired hunting license. All the men were issued citations for hunting big game over bait and warnings were issued to the hunters for the other violations.

MERIWETHER COUNTY

On Saturday October 26th, Cpl. Keith Waddell, Cpl. Travis Sweat, and RFC Kevin Godbee attended the Ducks Unlimited Green Wing event at Big Red Oak Plantation. The event was a big success with a large turnout. The Rangers setup an Archery range and Laser Shot which was a big success with all of the event participant's.

MONROE COUNTY

On Thursday morning, October 24th, Cpl. Susan Morris and Cpl. Tony Wynne were on ATV patrol for deer bait. As they rode through one hunting club to get to an adjacent hunting club, Morris spotted a deer hunter in a stand located to the side of the trail she was on. The hunter was not wearing fluorescent orange. A check of the area revealed a pile of corn approximately twenty yards from the stand. Cpl. Morris wrote the hunter a citation for hunting big game over bait and a written warning for not wearing fluorescent orange clothing.

PUTNAM COUNTY

On the morning of October 20th, Cpl. Lynn Stanford and Lt. Sam O'Neal located a hunter hunting on Cedar Creek WMA, which was not open to deer hunting. The hunter was issued a citation for hunting without wearing fluorescent orange and received a warning for hunting on a closed WMA.

On the evening of October 21st, Cpl. Josh Copelan responded to a complaint of possible hunting without permission in the northern part of the county. Once on scene, Cpl. Copelan located a hunter hunting over bait and without a license and it was determined that the hunter had permission to be on the property and citations were issued for the other violations.

On the morning of October 26th, Cpl. Lynn Stanford located a hunter hunting on Cedar Creek WMA, which was not open to deer hunting. The hunter was issued a citation for hunting on a closed WMA.

Later that morning, Cpl. Josh Copelan and Cpl. Lynn Stanford met with numerous hunters taking part in the Georgia Power's Plant Branch Special Handicap Hunt. Four deer were harvested that morning and the kids had a wonderful time thanks to volunteers and to the Special Youth Challenge Ministries of Georgia.



Pictured is Austin Whitley (left) of Adel and Terry Wiggins (right) of Ashburn.



Pictured is Zack Buffington (center) of Gainesville, his father Tony Buffington (right) and Joey Wiggins (left), with SYC, showing off Zack's buck.

TALBOT COUNTY

On October 26th, Cpl. Jeremy Bolen gathered information about an illegal buck kill on the Big Lazer WMA hunt. Another hunter had been watching a 5 point buck and as it walked out of sight the hunter heard a shot. The hunter later located the illegal buck in front of an empty deer stand and notified Cpl. Bolen. Cpl. Bolen later located the vehicle at the scene and utilized K-9 Ruger to track the subject to his deer stand. Ruger also located an illegal 5 point buck concealed with debris in a ditch. Cpl. Bolen located the hunter in a climbing stand approximately 50 yards away. Cpl. Bolen had the hunter climb down and he asked him about the illegal buck in front of the stand. The hunter admitted to shooting the deer and leaving it in the woods earlier in the day. The hunter was issued citations for taking an illegal antlered buck in a QDM county and failure to allow inspection of wildlife. He was given a written warning for hunting deer without fluorescent orange. The deer was seized as evidence.



TROUP COUNTY

On October 26th, Sgt. Jim Bradfield was checking hunting activity in north Troup County and stopped to check out an ATV parked just inside a gate. As Sgt. Bradfield exited his truck, he heard another ATV coming out of the property. As the ATV arrived, the hunter indicated that he had messed up and stated that he had just killed a small spike buck thinking it was a doe. Sgt. Bradfield looked at the buck which was completely wrapped up and concealed in a camouflage shirt on the back of the ATV. The hunter was charged by RFC Russell Epps with failure to record deer harvest and written a warning for taking an illegal antlered buck in a QDM county. The deer was seized and donated.

TWIGGS COUNTY

On October 20th, Sgt. Tony Fox conducted an investigation involving three subjects who had allegedly killed a doe deer on Ocmulgee WMA when the area was closed to deer hunting. Although the investigation failed to reveal the exact location of the kill site, it did result in the issuance of several citations and warnings for violations that included hunting without licenses, hunting without hunter education, and failure to record deer harvest.

On October 26th, RFC Ronnie Beard was patrolling on Will Hendricks Road when observed an individual hunting in a head of pines at the edge of a roadway. After stopping and talking with the individual, Beard discovered the hunter did not have a hunting license. The subject was issued a citation for the offense.

UPSON COUNTY

On Sunday morning, October 20th, Cpl. Susan Morris and Sgt. Tim Kendrick checked a complaint of hunting deer over bait. A neighbor to the hunting property called and reported finding a blind and corn on the ground near the property line. After checking the area Saturday with no activity, Morris and Kendrick checked the blind on Sunday morning and noticed someone had been in the blind, but the blind was vacant. They thought maybe the hunter had killed a deer and was looking for it. Finding no evidence of a kill, both rangers went back to the hunter's unoccupied vehicle. Morris stayed with the vehicle while Kendrick attempted to locate the hunter. Kendrick located the hunter and his little girl walking around on the property. The hunter admitted to hunting in the blind, but advised his daughter got bored so they got out and walked around looking to walk up a deer. He advised there was another hunter on the property. Kendrick located the second hunter and he was also hunting over bait and not wearing fluorescent orange. Both hunters were cited for hunting big game over bait and one was given a written warning for not wearing fluorescent orange clothing.

On Saturday morning, October 26th, Cpl. Susan Morris and Sgt. Tim Kendrick were checking a hunting club on Pobiddy Road where Morris had previously located ten baited deer stands. Morris and Kendrick went in on ATV's and Kendrick located two hunters that were hunting over bait. One of the hunters was not wearing an orange vest and the other hunter had an expired hunting license. Both were issued citations for hunting big game over bait. One of the hunters was given a written warning for not wearing his orange vest and the other hunter was issued a citation for hunting without a non-resident hunting license and given a written warning for hunting without a non-resident big game license.

Region V- Albany (Southwest)

DECATUR COUNTY

On Oct 20th, RFC Tony Cox was on patrol when he encountered and cited two non-residents hunting without the required licenses. He also issued three citations for hunting deer without wearing the required fluorescent orange.

On October 25th, Sgt. Rick Sellars and RFC Tony Cox were on patrol when they encountered a non-resident subject hunting on property that had recently been through a foreclosure. The hunter admitted that he had never asked anyone for permission to hunt, but he hadn't seen a sign saying that he couldn't. After a brief interview, the hunter was arrested for non-resident hunting with a resident license and resident big game license, hunting deer without wearing fluorescent orange, and hunting under the influence. It has not been determined at this time as to whether the landowner wants to prosecute the hunter for hunting w/o permission.

THOMAS COUNTY

On October 20th, RFC Jon Penuel located a dove shoot and entered the field to check the hunters. While the officer was checking one of the hunters, it was determined that the subject had purchased the wrong type of license. During his conversation with the hunter, RFC Penuel ran the subjects for warrants and it was determined that the subject had an active warrant for his arrest. The subject was arrested on the outstanding warrant and turned over to the Thomas County Sheriff's Office.

On October 25th, RFC Jon Penuel responded to a complaint of fishing without permission. A landowner had located a subject fishing in his private pond and contacted the Thomas County Sheriff's office to respond to the situation. When the Sheriff's deputy arrived, contact was made with the suspect and the officer requested DNR for assistance. RFC Penuel arrived on scene shortly after receiving the call and the subject was charged with fishing without permission.

On October 25th, Sgt. David Ruddell was working a night hunting detail when he observed the occupants of a truck shining spotlights into the fields from both the driver and passenger's side windows as they hunted from the road. After stopping the truck and conducting a brief interview, the four suspects were arrested and charged with hunting deer at night and other related charges.

WORTH COUNTY

On October 21st, RFC Chris Carlisle secured a warrant for dumping of egregious litter greater than 500 lbs. for commercial gain. The officer received a complaint in reference to the illegal dumping of approximately three thousand tires on September 11, 2013. After a lengthy investigation, the suspect was arrested and the tires are being removed from the property.

TERRELL COUNTY

On Wednesday October 23rd, Cpl. Scott Carroll responded to a call of hunting without permission. Upon arrival Cpl. Carroll found a subject being detained by a Terrell Co Sheriff's deputy. The subject was extremely intoxicated and hunting illegally on private property. The subject was charged with hunting without permission, hunting under the influence, hunting without license and big game license, hunting without fluorescent orange. Cpl. Carroll also discovered that the subject was a convicted felon and a warrant was secured for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

CLAY COUNTY

On October 26th, RFC Jim Atchley and Ranger Quinn Fogle were conducting a night patrol when they stopped two vehicles and issued seven warnings for blinding wildlife with lights.

STEWART COUNTY

On October 26th, Cpl. Steve Robinson and Ranger Quinn Fogle located and cited a non-resident deer hunter for hunting without proper licenses.

On Saturday October 26th Cpl. Steve Robinson and Ranger Quinn Fogle participated in a Youth Hunt Program at Bradley Farms in Stewart County. Eleven youth participated and all harvested their first deer. One lucky hunter bagged a nice 11pt buck.

Region VI- Metter (Southeast)

ECHOLS COUNTY

On October 25th, RGR Daniel North located a deer hunter near Mayday. A violation of hunting without fluorescent orange and hunting without license was documented.

On October 26th, RFC Mark Pool, RGR Daniel North and RGR Sam Williams conducted a hunter development program utilizing the laser shot shooting simulator at the Echols Advocacy for Animals Wild-Game Supper. Approximately 30 youths and adults enjoyed various hunting and target practice games during the event.



RGR Sam Williams and RGR Daniel North look on as a young man enjoys the shooting simulator at the wild game supper.

PIERCE COUNTY

On October 22nd, Corporal Josh Chambers responded to a complaint from a landowner in reference to possible hunting big game from a public road and without permission in the southern portion of the county. A deer hunter, who was lawfully hunting the private property, heard a shot and had concerns that the shot had been fired from the nearby public road. The hunter and his father went to the area that the shot had been fired from and found an eight- point buck that appeared to be freshly shot lying in a soybean field. Shortly thereafter, a truck returned to the area apparently trying to retrieve the deer. Corporal Chambers arrived on scene and found the hunter and his father waiting with the occupants of the vehicle near the eight-point buck. After a brief interview with the subjects, it was determined the occupants of the vehicle had shot the deer and were coming back to retrieve it. The poaching incident involved one juvenile and one adult. The juvenile was released to his father while the adult was charged with hunting big game from a public road, hunting from a motor vehicle, and hunting without permission. The eight-point buck was seized.

WARE COUNTY

On October 20th, CPL Jason Shipes, CPL Josh Chambers, RFC Mark Pool, and RGR Sam Williams conducted late-night surveillance in the northern portion of the county near a night-deer hunting complaint area. CPL Shipes observed a light being shined from a vehicle and across fields near his location. CPL Shipes stopped the vehicle and the two occupants were asked what they were looking for. The two individuals claimed to be armadillo hunting. RGR Sam Williams and CPL Chambers arrived at the stop location and the officers discovered an air rifle, and two bows with arrows. The two individuals were charged with hunting from a public road and hunting from a motor vehicle.

DODGE COUNTY

On October 20th, RFC Allen Mills received a call from a Dodge county deputy in reference to some suspicious hunting activity. RFC Mills arrived on scene and made contact with the hunter. After a brief conversation and a check of the hunter's license, violations for hunting w/o a license and hunting w/o big game license were documented.

LAURENS COUNTY

On October 21 – 22nd Cpl. Stiles presented the Hunter Safety portion of the CHAMPS program to four classes of 5th grade students from SW Laurens Elementary School. A total of 78 children over two days attended the program.

On October 23rd Cpl. Stiles patrolled the Hugh M. Gillis PFA. Six anglers' licenses and creel were inspected. One subject received a verbal warning for an expired fishing license, but possessed a current WMA license.

On October 23rd while returning home from working a night hunting complaint, Cpl. Stiles was traveling through Dublin and witnessed a subject near a vehicle at a repair vendor when the alarm on the vehicle was activated. Cpl. Stiles contacted the Dublin P.D. and began foot pursuit of the subject. The subject escaped, but Cpl. Stiles located the bicycle the subject was riding near the area. One vehicle had been broken into by smashing out a window and a window was broken in the vehicle that Cpl. Stiles witnessed the subject near. Dublin P.D. officers were familiar with the subject that rode the bicycle that was located and the description of the subject matched the description given by Cpl. Stiles to Dublin P.D. officers. Dublin P.D. is handling the investigation.

On October 26th, RFC Allen Mills patrolled the Riverbend WMA during an Adult / Child check-in deer hunt. No violations were documented.

TELFAIR COUNTY

On October 24th Sgt. James McLaughlin and Cpl. Dan Stiles responded to and investigated a hunting incident involving a subject falling from a deer stand. The subject had climbed into an unfamiliar metal ladder stand that was not secured to the tree properly and fell while shifting position in the stand. No safety harness or fall arrest system was utilized by the subject. The subject was flown by helicopter from the scene to the Medical Center of Central Georgia in Macon and released the following day with only minor injuries.

On Saturday, October 26, 2013 RFC Rodney Horne and RFC Allen Mills conducted an ATV patrol on a hunting club in Telfair County. The efforts of this patrol resulted in the license checks of 16 individuals and 9 violations were documented for hunting without wearing fluorescent orange vest, non-residents hunting without a license, and non-residents hunting without a big game license.

COFFEE COUNTY

On the 26th RFC Hilton was on routine patrol on the Satilla and Willacoochee rivers and made contact with three individuals fishing without a license. RFC Hilton issued warnings for the violations. Also, RFC Hilton was on patrol for hunting activity and made contact with several individual's deer hunting. RFC Hilton issued citations to two individuals for non-resident hunting without a license and non-resident hunting without a non-resident big game license. RFC Hilton also issued several warnings for failure to record deer harvest and hunting deer without fluorescent orange.

COOK COUNTY

On October 20th, Corporal Tommy Daughtrey checked two subjects fishing near the Barney Bridge at the Little River. Violations of fishing without a license and fishing without permission were documented.

Later in the day Corporal Tommy Daughtrey responded to a disturbance call at Reed Bingham State Park. Deputies from the Cook County Sheriff's Department also responded to the call. Corporal Daughtrey stopped the four suspect vehicles as they were leaving the State Park. The subjects were turned over to park manager Suzanne Passmore. Violations of underage consumption of alcohol, consumption of alcohol on a state park and open container were documented. Two subjects were taken to the Cook County Jail.



LOWNDES COUNTY

On October 27th, RFC Keith McDonald responded to a complaint on the Alapaha River reference fishing without permission. RFC McDonald located two individuals. Citations were issued for fishing without a license and warnings were written for fishing without permission.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

On October 26, Cpl. Kevin Joyce assisted the Georgia State Patrol with a road check. During the road check several deer hunters were checked. One hunter was found to be in possession of an illegal buck in a QDM county. The hunter was cited for the violation and the buck was seized as evidence.

TATTNALL COUNTY

On October 26, Sgt. Jon Barnard responded to a landowner complaint where the landowner was holding a deer dog he caught running deer on his property. Sgt. Barnard located the hunter who owned the dog and issued him a citation for failure to keep dogs on permitted property.

On October 25th, RFC Debbie Brannen patrolled Big Hammock WMA for GORP compliance. Two violations for no GORP license were documented.

On October 26th, RFC Debbie Brannen and Sgt. Jon Barnard patrolled a hunt on Big Hammock WMA. Numerous licenses were checked resulting in violations for hunting without a license, hunting without a big game license and hunting within 50 yards of a WMA road were addressed.

SCREVEN COUNTY

On October 20, Cpl. Shaymus McNeely and Sgt. Don Dasher investigated a complaint off Hiltonia Creek Rd. Cpl. McNeely had received information that a deer hunter in the area had been killing over the limit of deer. Cpl. McNeely was able to determine through talking with witnesses that the suspect had killed two bucks the day before. Cpl. McNeely and Sgt. Dasher were able to locate both deer at a nearby processor. Officers located the suspect on the hunting club. The suspect failed to record the harvest of the two deer from the previous day. The antlers of the deer were seized as evidence and the suspect was cited for failure to record deer harvest.

Region VII- Brunswick (Coastal)

BRANTLEY COUNTY

On October 26, RFC David Brady and Ranger Colte Shaske were patrolling in South Brantley County when they encountered a man that was trapping coyote's. The man was cited for trapping without a license, failure to carry .22 and failure to affix stamped metal tags.

CAMDEN COUNTY

On October 23rd Cpl. Craig Smith responded to a Camden County Deputy who had stopped a vehicle off Hwy 259. When Cpl. Smith arrived at the traffic stop he learned that the subjects had been skinning a small light in the ditch while they were riding down the road. All four people in the vehicle said that they were hunting hogs while riding down the highway. The four subjects were cited for Hunting from a Vehicle and Hunting from a Public Road.

WAYNE COUNTY

On October 21st, RFC John Evans responded to a hunting without permission complaint on private property inside Sansavilla WMA. Upon investigation RFC Evans and Wildlife Technician Robert Danley located the hunter who was actually on the WMA. That hunter had however killed a doe illegally because it was buck only on the WMA. The hunter was cited for taking an antlerless deer out of season and the deer was seized, cleaned, and processed by Sterling Wild Game Processing for a local food pantry.

On this same evening RFC Evans received a call from a Florida hunter who realized when he returned home that he had left his new rifle leaning against the pine tree beside the road where he was picked up on the Sansavilla WMA earlier that evening. RFC Evans and Technician Danley found the rifle and returned it to him the following day.

CHATHAM COUNTY

October 20th Corporal Chris Moore checked hunters in West Chatham County finding one in violation of not wearing an orange vest.

October 20th Sgt Cindy Miller located a truck parked on Chatham County property at Pipe Makers Canal. She advised RFC Buster Cooper of the vehicles location and he met with her to investigate. One person was located and cited for hunting without permission.

October 21st Cpl. Chris Moore, Sgt. Cindy Miller, Ranger First Class Kiel Toney, and Ranger Jordan Crawford patrolled Wassaw Sound, Ossabaw Sound, and offshore waters in Chatham County for illegal commercial shrimping violations. One boat was boarded and no violations were documented.

October 21st Cpl. Chris Moore and RFC Kiel Toney investigated the illegal kill of a deer on Dutch Island in Savannah. A community bulletin was posted and local media utilized to gain information from the public. The investigation is ongoing.

October 26th, Cpl. Chris Moore and Ranger Jordan Crawford patrolled West Chatham and North Bryan Counties for hunting violations. The officers documented 7 violations for license violations and deer dog hunting without permit numbers displayed.

October 26th, RFC Buster Cooper conducted an I&E program at Skidaway Island for Marine Science Day. Attendants learned about DNR Law Enforcement Division's role in coastal Georgia.

BRYAN COUNTY

On Oct. 25th, RFC Jack Thain and Cpl. Jay Morgan presented two Information and Education programs at Bryan Co. Middle School for Career Day.

LIBERTY COUNTY

On Oct. 26th, Cpl. Jay Morgan and RFC Jack Thain responded to a complaint of deer-dogs chasing and attacking a deer. Cpl. Morgan found three dogs attacking a deer that had apparently had its rear legs broken by a passing vehicle on the nearby highway. The deer was dispatched and disposed of.