

Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division

Field Operations

Weekly Report
October 6-12, 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 6th, Cpl. Byron Young responded to a call for assistance on Pine Log WMA. A Ford Ranger slid off a gravel road and into a tree on the WMA. A trout fisherman was leaving the area and struck a tree causing damage to the front of the truck. Cpl. Young used a chain to pull the truck out and assisted the fisherman from the area. The fisherman was not injured in the crash.



Ford Ranger that struck a tree on Pine Log WMA

On October 6th, Cpl. Byron Young responded to a complaint of hunting without permission off Weissinger Road. During the 2012 deer season Cpl. Young received several complaints on this same property. The property owner also had a trail camera picture to two young men with firearms on the property from the previous season. This time, Cpl. Young found a male hunter on the property with a crossbow. The hunter stated he was not hunting, but tracking a deer shot on another property nearby. Cpl. Young found no evidence that a deer had been shot on adjacent property. The hunter was also found to be hunting without a big game license. The hunter was issued a citation for

hunting on lands of another without permission and a warning for hunting without a big game license.

On October 8th, Sgt. Mike Barr traveled to the Charlie Elliott Wildlife Center in Mansfield, Georgia for the first of several meetings on “mentoring”. The department sponsored program is designed for members of DNR to team-up and work towards common goals as mentees progress through their career. Sgt. Barr teamed-up with a mentee from the Wildlife Resource Division who has been with DNR for a year. The program is in its seventh cycle and has proven to be a successful path for many of its participants.

On October 12th, Sgt. Mike Barr was patrolling Bartow County in the area of Pleasant Valley Road. He stopped and talked with a young hunter that had harvested her first deer. Mary Baker of Calhoun, Georgia, hunted with her parents on the opening day of muzzleloader season. Mary is 8 years old and described in detail the excitement of the hunt and was quick to point out that the Family would be having venison for dinner!



Mary Baker smiles as the result of her first successful deer harvest!

PICKENS COUNTY

On October 2nd, Cpl. Casey Jones charged a Pickens County man for killing a black bear illegally. On September 29th Cpl. James Keener contacted Cpl. Jones asking for assistance with tagging a bear that had been killed on the Dawson County\Pickens County line. The bear had been killed the evening before. Cpl. Keener informed Cpl. Jones that he had reason to believe that the suspect had possibly killed the bear over bait. After a short investigation that resulted in locating the kill site it was determined that the hunter had killed the bear in a baited area. The hunter was charged for possession of illegally taken wildlife and hunting big game over bait. The bear was confiscated.



On September 25th, Cpl. James Keener presented four presentations to students at Pickens County Middle School on a career as a Conservation Officer. Cpl. Keener then travelled to Jasper Middle School and presented the same type of career programs to two groups of students there.

On October 1st, Cpl. James Keener, Cpl. Casey Jones, RFC Cody Jones, RFC Kevin Dyer, and Sgt. Steve Seitz attended the Tri-State Wildlife Officers meeting in Copper Hill Tennessee. Representatives from Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Georgia Dept. of Natural Resources – Law Enforcement Division, and the U.S. Forest Service were present.

On October 6th, Cpl. James Keener issued citations for hunting big game over bait and failure to record deer harvest. A warning was also issued for hunting without license on person.

On October 12th, Cpl. James Keeners issued a citation to a hunter for hunting deer over bait.

GILMER COUNTY

On October 2nd, Sgt. John VanLandingham and Cpl. James Keener attended a career day at Clear Creek Middle School. The officers set up a career display, a slideshow of DNR pictures, gave out literature, and answered questions about DNR as a career to two large groups of students.

On October 6th, Cpl. Casey Jones ended a week long investigation that resulted in two Gilmer County teenagers being charged for killing two deer illegally. Cpl. Jones picked up the investigation after RFC Joe Hill received information from a landowner that the two suspects had been seen on his property and that two dead deer had been located in the span of a week. The complainant obtained a vehicle description and tag number. After collecting evidence, interviewing several witnesses and interviewing the suspects they were charged with hunting from a public road, hunting without permission, and hunting from a motor vehicle.

FANNIN COUNTY

On October 12th, Sgt. John VanLandingham issued a citation to a hunter for hunting deer over bait. A warning was given to the same hunter for hunting deer without fluorescent orange.

MURRAY COUNTY

On October 10-13th, DNR Rangers patrolled Cohutta WMA during the firearms hunt. The officers issued citations for camping in unauthorized area, driving on closed roads, and killing undersize bear.

Region II- Gainesville (Northeast)

DAWSON COUNTY

On October 6th, Sgt. Lee Brown and Ranger Shane Brown were patrolling Dawson Forest WMA. The rangers issued a written warning for driving in an unauthorized area.

On October 10th, RFC Mitchell Crump received a complaint of hunting without permission on property that has an affidavit on file with the Region II Office. RFC Crump responded to the property and caught one person hunting. A citation was issued for hunting without permission.

DEKALB COUNTY

On October 6th, Cpl. Sanders was on patrol when he came upon a car accident with injuries. Cpl. Sanders called for an ambulance and assisted the injured person until the ambulance arrived.

FORSYTH COUNTY

On October 6th, Sgt. Lee Brown and Ranger Shane Brown responded to bear complaint. The rangers found three bears up a tree (a sow with two cubs.) The rangers met with the home owner and advised them to remove any food sources and to go inside and the bears will leave. After several hours the bears came down and went back into the woods.



GWINNETT COUNTY

On October 7th, Sgt. Lee Brown and RFC Barry Britt conducted a HIN inspection at Bass Pro Shop in Lawrenceville. A total of 24 boats were inspected.

On October 12th, Cpl. Sanders investigated a deer that had been killed over bait. The baited site had been worked since the opening day of archery season by Cpl. Sanders and other rangers his work unit without any success. Cpl. Sanders was notified on October 11th, that someone had killed a deer out of the baited stand. Utilizing his MDT and information he had received he was able to track the hunter down. The hunter was charged with hunting big game over bait and possession of illegally taken wildlife. The eight point buck was seized as evidence.



On October 12th, Cpl. Sanders received a complaint of hunting over bait. Cpl. Sanders investigated the complaint and was able to locate two subjects hunting. Citations and warnings were issued for hunting big game over bait, hunting without permission, hunting without fluorescent orange and hunting with an illegal weapon.

HALL COUNTY

On October 7, 2013 and Tuesday October 8, 2013 Ranger Kevin Goss taught two hour hunter safety classes. He certified fifty hunters.

On October 9, 2013 Cpl. Jason Roberson responded to a complaint that involved hunting without permission from the previous day. His investigation revealed that the suspect had killed two deer over bait and had hunted the property on several occasions. He was charged with hunting big game over bait, possession of illegally taken wildlife, and was issued warnings for other game and fish violations.

On October 12, 2013 Cpl. Jason Roberson and Sgt. Mike Burgamy located one subject hunting deer over bait. The subject was issued a warning for the violation.

RABUN COUNTY

On October 8th, Cpl. Derek Dillard and Sergeant Steve Seitz interviewed a subject that was reported to be hunting deer over bait and without permission in the Dillard area. The subject was interviewed, evidence was gathered and photographs were taken. As an outcome to the investigation it was determined that a deer had also been killed in North Carolina and not reported as well. Corporal Dillard charged the subject with non-resident hunting without a license, non-resident hunting without a big-game license, hunting without permission, and unlawful enticement of game. North Carolina DNR was also notified concerning the unlawful game violations in their state. The transportation of illegally killed wildlife across states lines could result in charges under the Lacey Act.

On October 12th, Cpl. Jesse Cook and Asst. Park Manager John Hubbarth conducted a late afternoon foot patrol to the floor of Tallulah Gorge. Due to extremely dangerous conditions at the gorge floor only 100 free permits are offered in one day for park visitors to actually go onto the floor.

While in the gorge, the two officers encountered several groups of park visitors that had illegally entered onto the gorge floor without permits.

One group was issued citations for violation of park rules while another group which was from out of state was escorted out of the gorge and was required to post a cash bond of \$116.00 by Tallulah Falls Police.

All subjects were advised on the proper method for obtaining the free permit. The information is also provided as visitors enter the park on pamphlets provided by the park staff.

UNION COUNTY

On October 7th, Cpl. Jesse Cook and RFC David Webb responded to a complaint of Hunting on lands of another without permission and hunting big game over bait.

Rangers met with the landowner who showed them a ladder stand that he had removed from his property. He then took the Rangers and showed them the location where the stand was in the woods and several large piles of corn and apples. There was a fresh blood on the ground just a few yards from where the stand had been. A sample of the blood was collected for evidence and the area was photographed.

Rangers were able to speak with a neighbor of the complainants and that neighbor advised that his tenant had gotten over onto the complainants property with his deer stand and he was going to get his stand off as we spoke.

Cpl. Cook went to the location where the stand had been in an attempt to catch the subject in the woods. The subject had already been to the stand location and had gone.

A vehicle could be heard cranking up at a residence and RFC Webb made it to the location before the vehicle could leave. A subsequent interview was done with the subject and he admitted to having his stand on the complainant's property and killing a small buck while hunting over the bait. Subject was charged with Hunting Big Game over bait, Possession of illegally taken wildlife and was written a warning at the landowners request for Hunting without permission. The deer meat was confiscated and was offered to the landowner who refused to take it stating, "I had rather that it be given to a needy family". The deer meat was given to a needy family that was provided to the officers by a local law enforcement supervisor.

WHITE COUNTY

On October 11th, while working the Chattahoochee WMA quota hog hunt, RFC Dyer located a lost hunting dog. RFC Dyer loaded the dog into his truck and made contact with the owner of the dog. While checking the subjects hunting license, RFC Dyer observed that the hunter subject had not been drawn for the hunt. The hunter had checked in but was not a legal participant in the quota hog hunt. RFC Dyer explained the regulations concerning the quota hunt and issued a warning to the subject for violation of quota hunt permit.

HART COUNTY

On October 11th, RFC Brandon Pierce patrolled the county for any hunting/illegal activity, as well as, known illegal activity. As a result, a total of one hunting license was checked. One violation was found consisting of hunting big game over bait. The subject was issued a citation for the violation.

On October 12th, Sgt. Stan Elrod patrolled the Hart County Wildlife Management Area for hunting activity. An area was found earlier in the week that had been baited with corn. Sgt. Elrod checked the area and caught a subject hunting about 20 yards from the bait. He was charged with hunting big game over bait.

Region III- Thomson (East Central)

CLARKE COUNTY

On October 12th RFC Tim Butler worked hunting without permission complaint in Athens. Three hunters were deer hunting without permission on three bordering properties. After talking with the property owners the decision was made to issue warnings to all three hunters for hunting without permission.

WALTON/NEWTON COUNTY

On October 11, RFC Niki Spencer issued a warning to one individual for hunting without a WMA stamp on the Walton Dove Field. The hunter possessed an Annual GORP license but did not realize it did not cover hunting on the WMA.

On October 12, Sgt. John Harwell and RFC Niki Spencer cited one individual for illegal use of an ATV on a WMA.

GREENE COUNTY

On October 12, Sgt. John Harwell and Cpl. David Allen cited two individuals for hunting big game over bait and hunting without wearing fluorescent orange.

HANCOCK COUNTY

On October 13, Sgt. John Harwell cited one subject for failure to record deer harvest.

LINCOLN COUNTY

On October 12th, Cpl. Ryan Swain responded to an in progress complaint off of Pleasant View Circle. Several witnesses stated that they had heard modern firearm gunshots behind their residences. Upon arrival at the scene, Cpl. Swain located two subjects in a wooded area off of West Lake Drive. It was a father- daughter team who were taking advantage of the early modern firearms dates for children under 16. The 11 year old female had harvested a nice 10 point whitetail buck. The father's license was inspected and Cpl. Swain cleared and went back in service.

BURKE COUNTY

The Di-Lane Plantation WMA quota hunt was patrolled by Wildlife technicians Steve Kyles, Howard Pope, Bobby Lord and Nick Holbrook. Law Enforcement Division Rangers Jeff Billips, Grant Matherly and Ben Payne also patrolled and checked WMA hunters. Violations encountered included: hunting from vehicle, hunting from WMA road, hunting big game over bait, placing bait on WMA, driving in unauthorized areas, violation of quality buck regulation on WMA hunt and littering.

RFC Jeff Billips instructed a hunter education class at Di-Lane Plantation WMA with 13 hunters earning their Hunter Safety certification.

Region IV- Macon (West Central)

BALDWIN COUNTY

On the evening of October 12th, Ranger Matt Johnson and Cpl. Lynn Stanford checked numerous baited deer stands in the southern part of the county. A total of 3 hunters were located hunting over the baited areas and three citations were issued for hunting big game over bait. One warning was issued for hunting without wearing fluorescent orange.

BIBB COUNTY

On October 11th, Ranger David Fisher received a landowner complaint regarding hunting without permission. After foot patrolling the property, the ranger discovered a deer stand.

On October 12th, Fisher located one individual hunting the stand that was previously discovered. It was also determined that the stand was baited with corn. The individual received citations for hunting without permission, hunting deer without fluorescent orange and hunting big game over bait.

On October 12th, Ranger David Fisher was patrolling Echeconee Creek WMA when he located a suspicious vehicle parked at an area not generally used for hunting. After foot patrolling the area, Fisher discovered a deer stand that was baited with corn. The ranger located the individual and after interviewing the suspect it was determined that the hunter put the stand and the corn out the previous day. One citation was issued for placing bait on a WMA.

BLECKLEY COUNTY

On October 11th, RFC Ronnie Beard along with Georgia Dept. of Juvenile Justice, Jessie Mincie and others from his organization, as well as the Cochran Police Chief Key McGuire, held a clean-up day at the Bleckley County Boat Landing (Dykes Landing). Approximately 13 juveniles, staff members of the Dept. of Juvenile Justice and Captain Bob Lynn of Region IV DNR LE assisted in the clean-up. The silt fence was removed, the grass was cut, all of the debris was cleaned up, and the pavilion was painted. After clean-up was completed, the staff gave out door prizes from a list of questions asked. The questions pertained to the environment, state records, and the river.

CRAWFORD COUNTY

On October 12th, Ranger David Fisher participated in a kids fishing event held at Camp Grace.



HARRIS COUNTY

On October 12th, Cpl. Mitch Oliver was working the adult/child deer hunt at Blanton Creek WMA. Cpl. Oliver checked a hunter that had not signed in for the hunt and was not being accompanied by a child. After talking with the hunter, Cpl. Oliver discovered that the subject had not been deer hunting but had been squirrel hunting. Cpl. Oliver explained how dangerous this was to the hunter since there was an early firearm deer hunt taking place on the area. The hunter was also not in possession of fluorescent orange. The hunter admitted to killing 2 squirrels and a copperhead snake which were in his cooler. Cpl. Oliver discovered that the subject had not killed a copperhead but had killed a non-poisonous grey rat snake. The hunter was charged with hunting on a closed WMA and given a verbal warning on the killing of the snake.

On October 12th, Cpl. Oliver spoke to a hunter as he and his 13 year old daughter were coming from their evening hunt. During the conversation, Cpl. Oliver could smell a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage coming from the subject's breath. After further investigation, the subject admitted to drinking heavy well into the early morning hours of the 12th. He said that he hadn't had anything to drink during the day or evening. The hunter consented to field sobriety exercises and was subsequently arrested for hunting under the influence after he failed these exercises. Wildlife Technician Mike Crumbley transported the juvenile to her residence, while Cpl. Oliver transported the subject to jail. At the jail, the subject consented to the state administered breath test and produced results of .222 and .218. Due to the circumstance, the subject was also charged with reckless conduct.

JONES COUNTY

On the morning of October 6th, Ranger Jeremy Reese responded to the area of the Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge in reference to a missing person. After several hours of searching, along with the Jones County Sheriff's Office and Piedmont NWR officers, the female subject was located safe and unharmed.

LAKE SINCLAIR

On the morning of October 9th, Corporals Lynn Stanford and Josh Copelan assisted Georgia Power with the annual Lake Sinclair clean up. Over 50 bags of trash were retrieved from the many islands and beaches on the lake.



LAMAR COUNTY

On the evening of October 12th, RFC Keith Page, K9 Drake, and Sgt. Tim Kendrick were checking several baited areas and located a man hunting a baited stand on McKenzie Road. He was also found to be hunting without wearing an orange vest. The man received citations for both offenses.

Page and Kendrick then went to another location nearby, on Yancey Road and located another man who was hunting over bait and not wearing an orange vest. This hunter had also been drinking. RFC Page ran the man through several field sobriety exercises. The man registered just under the legal limit, but still received citations for hunting big game over bait and hunting without wearing an orange vest. The man also received warnings for hunting without a license and hunting without a big game license.



MONROE COUNTY

On Saturday morning, October 12th, Cpl. Tony Wynne checked a baited area in north Monroe County and caught two men not wearing fluorescent orange vests while hunting deer during the Primitive Weapons (muzzle-loader) season. Additionally, Wynne caught one of the men hunting over a feeder containing corn. Later that same day, Wynne was on routine patrol on Rum Creek Wildlife Management Area during the Ladies' deer hunt when he stopped and checked two people fishing in Lake Juliette at Holly Grove Road. Neither of them had fishing licenses and a third person who was with them, but not fishing, was charged with illegally consuming alcohol on a WMA.

PUTNAM COUNTY

On the afternoon of October 6th, Ranger Jeremy Reese and Cpl. Josh Copelan operated the DNR fishing simulator for children at the annual Pumpkin Festival at Crooked Pines Farm. Both children and adults alike were entertained by the program.



UPSON COUNTY

On October 12th, RFC Keith Page and Sgt. Tim Kendrick rode into a large group of hunting camps on John B. Gordon School Road on an ATV to check four baited deer stands that Page had located several days before. The rangers were able to locate four men who were all hunting illegally. All four men were from Florida and only one of them had purchased a non-resident hunting license. Two of the men were found to be hunting over bait and only one was found to be wearing an orange vest while hunting. RFC Page issued citations for hunting big game over bait, non-residents hunting without license, non-residence hunting without big game license, and hunting deer without wearing an orange vest during firearms (muzzleloader) deer season. After issuing all the citations, Page and Kendrick left the club and met another hunter coming down the road on an ATV that was not wearing an orange vest. RFC Page talked to the hunter who admitted that he had been hunting and had not been wearing an orange vest. After noticing that the man was extremely nervous, RFC Page asked the man to take him and Sgt. Kendrick to the location where he'd been hunting. Once at the hunting location,

Page and Kendrick discovered a large bait pile consisting of peanuts and apples. This hunter was also charged with hunting big game over bait and warned for hunting without wearing an orange vest.



WILKINSON COUNTY

On the afternoon of October 12th, Ranger Matt Johnson and Cpl. Lynn Stanford taught a hunter safety class at the Wilkinson County High School. A total of 7 students were certified in hunter safety.

Region V- Albany (Southwest)

MACON COUNTY

On October 8th, Ranger Jesse Harrison and RFC Clint Martin were working a night hunting complaint when they observed someone hunting agricultural fields from a public road. The vehicle was stopped and the driver was found to be in possession of 2 loaded 30-06 rifles and two spotlights. The subject was cited for hunting deer at night, hunting from a public road, hunting from a motor vehicle and hunting without permission.

TIFT COUNTY

On the morning of October 13th, Cpl. Greg Wade was patrolling Tift County for hunting activity. The officer located a small dove shoot and approached the three hunters to check their licenses and equipment. While checking one of the hunters, the subject

commented that he did not have a license due to being 16 years of age. The subject stated that he didn't think that he needed a license until the age of 17. Cpl. Wade advised him of the law and asked for his name and date of birth since he appeared to be older. As Cpl. Wade and the hunter approached his patrol vehicle to check the subjects' information, the subject admitted that he was not being truthful concerning his age. He stated he was 18 years old and did not possess a valid hunting license or hunter education. Cpl. Wade issued the subject citations for hunting without a license, and hunting with an unplugged shotgun. He was warned for hunting without hunter safety and failure to participate in HIP program.

STEWART COUNTY

On October 12th, Sgt. Butch Potter patrolled the south part of Stewart County for deer hunting activity. During the patrol he issued two citations for non-resident hunting without a license and one warning for hunting deer without fluorescent orange clothing.

TERRELL COUNTY

On Friday October 11th, while patrolling a large tract of private property Cpl. Scott Carroll and Ranger Quinn Fogle located a non-resident deer hunter who was suspected of hunting over bait without landowner permission. Cpl. Carroll and Ranger Fogle located the bait after the hunter exited the hunting site and the landowner was notified. The hunter was cited for hunting over bait along with hunting without license and hunting without big game license.

Region VI- Metter (Southeast)

DODGE COUNTY

On October 9th, RFC Allen Mills responded to a littering complaint he received from the Dodge County S.O. RFC Mills arrived on scene and discovered clothing, foot ware, and hair products along with maggot infested baby diapers and rotten food. RFC Mills was able to locate an EMC power bill as well as other items with an individual's name and address on them. RFC Mills drove to the address discovered that the individual had already moved. RFC Mills then conducted a knock and talk in the neighborhood until he located someone who knew the suspect. RFC Mills was able to locate the suspect's new landlord and set up a meeting time and place. The Landlord was able to provide a new address for the suspect and the officer drove to that site. RFC Mills interviewed the suspect and a violation for littering was documented and the site was cleaned up of all trash.

JEFF DAVIS COUNTY

On October 5th, Cpl. Chase Altman received information of a baited hook possibly set to target alligators. He responded to the area and located the hook. Cpl. Altman and Cpl. Kevin Joyce returned to the location later that evening and discovered an alligator on the line. Altman and Joyce, with the help of RFC Clint Jarriel, and RFC Debbie Brannen set up around the clock surveillance. On Oct. 6th, at about 3:30 p.m. four subjects arrived at the location. Three shots were fired into the alligator and it was removed from the water. RFC Brannen then left her place of concealment and placed the subjects under arrest. The

subjects were charged with: hunting with unlawful device, hunting without an alligator license, hunting with illegal weapon, and possession of illegally taken wildlife. The gator was seized and held as evidence.



COOK COUNTY

On October 11th, Cpl. Tommy Daughtrey responded to an illegal burn call in the Sparks area. This was the second time over the past year that Cpl. Daughtrey had responded to this residence for an illegal burn call. A subject was cited for the illegal burning of egregious litter (less than 500 pounds).

On October 12th, Cpl. Daughtrey caught a subject fishing in a pond that the subject did not have permission to fish in. A violation of fishing without permission was documented.

LOWNDES COUNTY

On October 12th, Sgt. Damon Winters and RFC Keith McDonald assisted Lowndes County S.O. with the Luke Bryan concert. The Rangers worked road checks along with the Georgia State Patrol, Valdosta P.D., and Lowndes County S.O. It was estimated that over 35,000 people attended the event that ended without incident and everyone returning home safely.

On October 12th, Cpl. Daughtrey checked several deer hunters in North Lowndes County. Violations of hunting without a license and hunting without fluorescent orange were documented.

On October 13th, Cpl. Daughtrey also checked several of the river landings around Lowndes County. Two fishing without license violations were documented.

ECHOLS COUNTY

On October 9th, while off-duty and dressed in plain clothes, Sgt. Patrick Dupree spoke briefly with a hunter at a local convenience store. The hunter showed Sgt. Dupree a cell phone picture of a bear he had seen while bow-hunting deer. The hunter stated that he was going to kill the bear the following Friday or Saturday evening. He also said that he had been placing bait, such as Little Debby honeybuns, for the bear near his stand. Unsure if the hunter was serious or not, Sgt. Dupree asked where his hunting property was located and the hunter stated the location. Still unsure if this was legitimate information and whether the hunter realized he was speaking with a game warden, Sgt. Dupree decided to advise the hunter that hunting bears over bait was illegal. The hunter acknowledged that he knew that and terminated the conversation. On October 11th, Sgt. Dupree, RFC Mark Pool, and RGR Sam Williams checked the property the hunter said he would be hunting. The hunter was located sitting in a stand overlooking a five-gallon bucket that contained pastries, doughnuts, and honeybuns and attached to a tree (see picture of bucket containing the bear bait.) The hunter possessed a cross-bow and a .243 rifle in his stand. He was issued a citation for hunting big game over bait.



On October 12th, Sgt. Patrick Dupree, RFC Mark Pool, and RGR Sam Williams encountered several bear hunters west of Tom's Creek Road in pursuit of a bear with hounds. The officers observed one of the hunters exit a heavily wooded area dressed in full camouflage and carrying a shotgun. The hunter was not wearing any of the required fluorescent orange. He was issued a citation for hunting bears without fluorescent orange.

CHARLTON COUNTY

On October 10th, RFC Mark Pool and CPL Jason Shipes responded to a report that a hunter had fallen from a tree-stand while hunting. The officers learned that the victim had already been transported to a hospital in Jacksonville, Florida. CPL Shipes and RFC Pool traveled to the hospital and spoke with the subject that had fallen from a 12' ladder-type deer stand. The hunter said he believed he had tied the rope incorrectly on his safety harness and when pulled tight it released and he fell to the ground. The following day, RFC Pool and Ranger Sam Williams located the deer stand to complete the incident investigation (see picture of RFC Pool taking measurements at the base of the stand.) Based on the evidence at the scene, the officers determined that the incident likely occurred as the victim described. The officers learned the hunter was released from the hospital the following day.



Region VII- Brunswick (Coastal)

MCINTOSH COUNTY

On October 12th While checking a complaint in McIntosh County, Cpl Bobby White checked two deer hunters using illegal weapons during primitive weapons season and not wearing fluorescent orange vest.

On October 12th Cpl Bobby White and Tech III Hal Wiggins setup and ran the Laser Shot for the Long County Wildlife festival with several hundred in attendance.

On October 12th Cpl Bobby White answered a call from 911 stating two hunters were lost on Sansavilla WMA in Wayne County. Cpl White responded to the area, found the hunters vehicle and helped the two hunters find their way out of the woods.

CHATHAM COUNTY

October 9th, 2013 Corporal Chris Moore and Ranger Jordan Crawford responded to a complaint of commercial crabbing within 100' of a private dock in Savannah, GA. Upon arrival it was determined that traps were placed within 100' of docks, within the channel of marked waterways, and many of the traps did not have escape rings. The traps were not being used for peeler fishing but for all sizes of blue crab. Following up the following day, Corporal Moore, Corporal Bill Bryson, and Ranger Crawford made contact with the strikers who fished the lines at the Skidaway Narrows public boat ramp. It was determined that they had committed several violations. Corporal Moore met with the commercial crab license holder in the evening of October 10th, 2013. 10 violations were documented including citations for commercially fishing with unlawful gear, placing commercial crab traps within 100' of a dock, placing commercial traps within the channel of a marked waterway, and commercial fishing without a commercial fishing license.

On October Sgt. Cindy Miller was checking recreational inshore and offshore fishermen at Lazaretto Creek boat ramp. Sgt. Miller checked approximately 11 boats that day. A couple of the boats had illegal size fish. Some were undersized and one was too big. Sgt. Miller confiscated a 38 inch red drum. Two individuals were cited for possession of illegal size salt water fish.



BRYAN COUNTY

On Oct. 7th, RFC Jack Thain and Ranger Jason Miller patrolled the St. Catherine's Sound area. One boater was cited for not having enough life jackets on board.

On Oct. 3rd and 11th, Cpl. Phillip Scott obtained and served warrants and issued citations resulting from completed investigations on three separate hunting accidents from last hunting season in Bryan and Liberty Counties. One person was cited for a felony of giving false information to an officer. Three persons were cited for misuse of a firearm while hunting. And 11 other citations were issued for wildlife violations such as hunting out of season, hunting without a Hunter Education certificate, hunting without a license, and trapping out of season.

LIBERTY/McINTOSH COUNTY

On Oct. 10th, Ranger Jason Miller and Cpl. Jay Morgan patrolled Sapelo Sound and found a commercial shrimping boat dragging its nets in closed waters inside the sound before daylight. The shrimp boat was escorted to their seafood dock where Ranger Jay Bright assisted the other rangers in checking licenses and measuring the boat's Turtle Excluder Devices and By-catch Reduction Devices. All three persons on board were cited for using power drawn nets in closed waters. The captain was also cited for operating a vessel without any navigation lights during hours of darkness.

GLYNN COUNTY

On October 10th, RFC David Brady was checking fishing activity along Academy Creek when he noticed a vehicle parked on the side of the marsh. As Brady approached the vehicle the driver seemed uneasy and was complaining about vehicle problems. Brady

noticed a female subject and another male subject sitting in the van and asked for identification, which the female was not able to produce. After checking the subjects, RFC Brady determined that the female had active warrants from Glynn County. The female was arrested and turned over to the Glynn County Sheriff's Office.

On October 11th, RFC David Brady and Corporal Craig Smith apprehended a male subject deer hunting with a .270 rifle and without permission. The male subject was cited with Hunting out of season and Hunting without permission.

On October 11th, Corporal Craig Smith was patrolling Paulks Pasture WMA when he noticed that a hunter had not returned to his truck. RFC David Brady responded to the location and watched the truck as Cpl. Smith walked into the area to check on the hunter. As he was walking on the trail he noticed 2 piles of bait on the ground. He also found two subjects hunting within 25 yards of the bait and was still in the tree 30 minutes after dark. The subjects were cited for Hunting Big Game over Bait and Hunting W/O a WMA Stamp.