

# Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division

Field Operations

**Weekly Report**  
**November 22 – November 28, 2015**

**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 November 28<sup>th</sup>, Sgt. Derek Dillard and Cpl. Byron Young responded to Pine Log WMA in reference to subjects target shooting on the area. The officers located 6 people shooting shotguns and .22 rifles at clay targets. Citations and warnings were issued for unlawful target shooting on a WMA and driving on an unimproved road.

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, Sgt. Derek Dillard and Cpl. Brooks Varnell responded to a night hunting complaint off Folsom Rd. The officer located 3 subjects walking down the road shining a spotlight and shooting rabbits. Violations for illegal night hunting and hunting from a public road were addressed.

### **CHEROKEE COUNTY**

On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, RFC Hendrix responded to a hunting without permission call near Canton. RFC Hendrix spoke with a landowner that located a hunter on his property that had killed a 10 point buck. RFC Hendrix tracked down the hunter and confirmed that the hunter was hunting without permission and also did not have the proper license to hunt big game. The hunter was issued citations and warnings for hunting without permission, hunting without a big game license and failure to record deer harvest.

On November 25<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Brooks Varnell and Cpl. Byron Young responded to a call of illegal hunting on Corps of Engineers property on Allatoona Lake. The officers located a hunter that had killed a doe on the property. The officers also located whole corn under the hunter's stand. Citations and warnings were issued for hunting without permission and hunting big game over bait.

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, RFC Bart Hendrix and RFC Mark Puig patrolled Allatoona Lake Corps Property. The officers located two archery hunters in a closed area along the shore of Allatoona Lake. The hunters were also hunting over corn. The hunters were issued citations for hunting big game over bait, hunting without permission and issued warnings for hunting without fluorescent orange.

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, RFC Bart Hendrix responded to 911 call from Cherokee County Sheriff's office in reference to possible illegal hunting. RFC Hendrix located a hunter near Woodstock that had harvested a 6 point buck. The hunter had not obtained a deer harvest record. The hunter was issued a citation for failing to record deer harvest.

### **COBB COUNTY**

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Brooks Varnell responded to a call of subjects illegally hunting on Legacy Park Property in Kennesaw. Cpl. Varnell located two subjects hunting on the property. Citations were issued for hunting without permission and hunting without a license.

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Brooks Varnell and RFC Micheal Crawley checked a baited area in south Cobb County. The officers located one hunter in the area. The hunter was issued a warning for hunting big game over bait.

### **POLK COUNTY**

On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Sgt. Ricky Dempsey and RFC Chad Cox were checking an area that was baited for deer. While checking the area the rangers located two hunters on the same property who were not wearing an orange vest. One of these hunters did not have a license. Both hunters were cited for not having a fluorescent orange vest and one of them was cited for not having a hunting license and warned for not having a big game license.

On the night of November 27<sup>th</sup>, RFC Chad Cox organized a detail with DNR Aviation to aid in the detection of illegal night deer hunting in Polk County. During the detail two subjects were cited with hunting deer at night, hunting from a motor vehicle, hunting from a public road. Another subject was cited for blinding wildlife and the rangers also arrested a subject for an active arrest warrant from another county.

## **CARROLL COUNTY**

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Eric Brown was patrolling the north end of the county for after-hours waterfowl hunting. Four subjects were cited for hunting waterfowl after hours and hunting without a federal waterfowl stamp.

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

### **HART COUNTY**

On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, RFC Brandon Pierce ended an investigation that started on November 14<sup>th</sup>. During the investigation enough evidence was gathered to interview the subject. During the interview RFC Pierce was assisted by RFC Tim Vickery and Sgt. Stan Elrod. The subject admitted to killing 11 deer total, ten of which were bucks. All racks were confiscated as evidence. RFC Pierce issued a total of sixteen citations to the subject. The violations consisted of hunting with illegal weapon/ammo, killing an antlerless deer, eight counts of taking over the bag limit, two counts of failure to record deer harvest, and four counts of taking over the season limit of antlered deer.



On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, RFC Brandon Pierce was working a complaint area when he observed a vehicle coming down the road shining a spotlight on both sides of the road. The vehicle was stopped and loaded firearms were found inside the vehicle, as well as, several spotlights. Cpl. Craig Fulghum was called to assist in the matter. A total of two subjects were arrested and both were issued citations. The violations consisted of hunting deer at night, hunting from a vehicle, and hunting from a public road.

On November 25<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Craig Fulghum patrolled the Lake Hartwell area for waterfowl hunters. During his patrol Cpl. Fulghum caught two subjects hunting ducks after legal hours. The subjects were issued citations for hunting waterfowl after hours and issued warnings for failure to sign duck stamps.

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Craig Fulghum patrolled the Lake Hartwell area for violations. During his patrol seven violations were documented throughout the day. The violations consisted of hunting waterfowl after hours, hunting without a license, two subjects hunting deer without wearing fluorescent orange vest, and failure to sign duck stamp, operating vessel without PFD's and operating vessel with expired registration.

### **FRANKLIN COUNTY**

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, RFC Tim Vickery and Sergeant Greg Colson were patrolling Franklin County when they received a call through dispatch about someone shooting a deer after legal shooting hours. The Rangers arrived at the complaint location just as the subjects who shot the deer were leaving. The Rangers stopped the truck and two subjects got out. The Rangers noticed a dead doe in the bed of the truck. The driver stated that he had shot it but had not tagged it. The passenger was a Florida resident. He admitted to hunting but had no licenses. The driver was issued a warning for failure to record deer harvest. The passenger was issued a citation for non-resident hunting without a license and issued a warning for non-resident hunting big game without non-resident big game license.

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, RFC Tim Vickery and Sergeant Stan Elrod checked three duck hunters off Hwy 198 in Franklin County. One of the hunters had an expired hunting license and an expired Georgia waterfowl license. The subject was issued a citation for hunting without a license and issued a warning for hunting without a Georgia waterfowl license.

### **MADISON COUNTY**

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, RFC Shane Sartor heard an after legal hours duck shoot. One subject was located and issued citations for hunting waterfowl after legal hours, hunting without Georgia waterfowl license, and hunting without federal duck stamp. The subject was also issued two warnings for hunting without license and unplugged shotgun.

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, RFC Shane Sartor while patrolling for hunting activity in the morning checked several individuals' deer hunting. One subject was issued a citation for nonresident hunting without license and a warning for nonresident hunting without big game. A second subject was issued a citation for hunting without license. In the evening while patrolling RFC Sartor saw a large fire and stopped to investigate. During his investigation RFC Sartor determined the subject were burning tires and other illegal debris. One subject was issued a citation for illegal burning greater than 500 lbs.

On the night of November 28<sup>th</sup>, RFC Shane Sartor observed a truck shine a field. After stopping the vehicle two subjects were found and both issued citations for hunting deer at night, hunting from a public road, and hunting from a vehicle.

### **STEPHENS COUNTY**

On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Cpl. Josh Chambers was patrolling in northeastern Stephens County for waterfowl and deer hunters. During Cpl. Chambers patrol he documented violations of hunting waterfowl without a duck stamp and operating a vessel without P.F.D.'s

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Josh Chambers encountered multiple violations while on patrol in Eastern Stephens County. Violations that were noted were hunting without a duck stamp, hunting without permission, operating a vessel without registration, and hunting with a unplugged shotgun.

## **BARROW COUNTY**

On November 24<sup>th</sup>, Ranger Chris Kernahan was patrolling Fort Yargo State Park, when he made contact with two subjects who were boating after legal hours on Marbury Creek Watershed. Ranger Kernahan found that the boat was being operated without navigation lights, and had no registration. Ranger Kernahan also found each subject to be in possession of alcohol in a prohibited area of the State Park. Additionally, each adult subject was found to have a suspended driver's license. A third party licensed driver arrived on scene to remove the subject's vehicle, boat, and trailer from the State Park. Ranger Kernahan issued each subject a citation for the alcohol violations, and warnings for the other violations.

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, Ranger Chris Kernahan conducted an investigation reference a subject hunting without permission. Upon completing his investigation, Ranger Kernahan issued one subject a citation for Hunting without Permission, and a warning for Hunting without a License.

## **BANKS COUNTY**

On November 25<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Adam Loudermilk and RFC Mark Stephens patrolled Wilson Shoals WMA. During the patrol they located two individuals who had killed an 8 point buck. The WMA was closed to deer hunting. Both individuals were charged for hunting on a closed WMA.

On November 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Adam Loudermilk along with Nails Creek Baptist Church held the annual youth deer hunt in Banks County. A total of 27 youths hunted and harvested 15 deer.

On November 29<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Adam Loudermilk patrolled Wilson Shoals WMA. During the patrol he located 4 individuals hunting deer on a closed WMA. Citations were issued to the subjects for the violations.

## **JACKSON COUNTY**

On November 23<sup>rd</sup>, RFC Eric Isom and his K9 partner Colt located two subjects from Florida hunting near Redstone. The non-residence hunters received a citation and warnings for non-resident hunting without a license and non-resident hunting big game without a big game license.

On November 25<sup>th</sup>, RFC Isom and Colt responded to a hunting without permission complaint near Commerce. The subject was located hunting deer without permission. He received a warning for hunting without permission.

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, RFC Isom and Colt responded to a hunting without permission complaint near Bear Creek Reservoir. Three duck hunters were located on the complainant's property. The three subjects received hunting without permission violation documentation.

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, RFC Isom and Colt located a subject's vehicle near Athens. RFC Isom could see the subject wearing fluorescent orange and carrying a rifle near the woodline in a large pasture through his binoculars. The subject saw RFC Isom's vehicle and went into the woods. RFC Isom determined the subject did not have a hunting license and a big game license through his computer aided dispatch system. Colt tracked the subject through the woods and RFC Isom could tell the subject was attempting to make it back to his truck. RFC Isom took Colt off the track and took the shortest route back to the vehicle. The subject exited the woods carrying a large stick and claimed he was just walking around. RFC Isom utilized Colt to locate the subject's firearm buried under leaves in the woods. The subject received documentation for his violations.

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, RFC Isom and Ranger Chris Kernahan utilized Colt to locate two subjects near Pendergrass. Colt found the first subject, a fifteen-year-old male, deer hunting without fluorescent orange and without a hunter education certificate. The second subject was found on the same property but in a different location. He was found to be hunting big game over bait. The subjects' violations were documented and they were educated on the law pertaining to their violations.

## **HALL COUNTY**

On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Corporal Jason Roberson, Sgt. Mike Burgamy, and RFC Kevin Goss served a search warrant on a taxidermist who was operating illegally in Hall County. Over one hundred violations were documented. Corporal Roberson will meet with the Hall County Solicitors office to see which charges to pursue.

On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Corporal Roberson patrolled Wilson Shoals WMA, he documented several violations including failure to record deer harvest, hunting without a WMA license, and transporting a loaded firearm on a WMA.

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, Corporal Jason Roberson and Sgt. Mike Burgamy located three subjects hunting without permission. Roberson later located another subject hunting without permission off of HWY 53.

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, Corporal Jason Roberson and RFC Kevin Goss responded to a night hunting complaint off of Oconee Circle in Gainesville. They located two subjects hiding in the wood line and a third subject turned himself in the following day. The subjects did not admit to shooting at a deer but advised that they were shooting at a coyote. They were charged with hunting from a vehicle.

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, Corporal Jason Roberson located a subject who was in possession of marijuana and methamphetamine at Cedar Creek Reservoir. The charges were turned over to the Hall County Multi Agency Narcotics Squad who later seized the man's truck as well.

On November 29<sup>th</sup>, Corporal Jason Roberson located three hunters hunting deer without orange. They also had numerous license violations. Citations and warnings were written for the violations.

## **HABERSHAM COUNTY**

RFC Chad Chambers responded to a shots fired call in the early morning hours of November 22<sup>nd</sup> in southern Habersham County. He along with deputies from the Habersham Sheriff's Office spoke with an individual at a residence on Mud Creek Road where a neighbor had reported the shooting. RFC Chambers interviewed the subject who admitted to spotlighting deer in the field behind his residence along with three juveniles. After a search of the area and a determination that no deer were killed or injured, RFC Chambers charged the man with Hunting Deer at Night and verbally warned the juveniles for the same offense.

## **RABUN COUNTY**

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, Sgt. Steve Seitz and RFC Joe Hill were patrolling for hunting activity in Rabun County. While on patrol, the Rangers checked several hunters and found one not wearing fluorescent orange while hunting deer. The subject was issued a citation for the violation.

## **WHITE COUNTY**

On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Ranger Beth Gilbert, RFC Joe Hill and RFC Anne Britt interviewed a suspect that was involved in a night hunting complaint that occurred on November 5<sup>th</sup> off Hwy 255 North in Sautee, GA. During the investigation, the Rangers' were able to collect information from witnesses and evidence leading to the arrest of the suspect. During the interview the adult male confessed to killing two deer on property that he did not have permission to hunt. One deer was killed at night with the aid of the vehicle headlights. Another deer was killed during legal hours, but the adult male did not have a license and was not wearing fluorescent orange. The adult male was charged for hunting at night, hunting from a vehicle and hunting without a license. He was warned for failure to record deer harvest record, hunting without a big game license and hunting without fluorescent orange.

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, RFC Anne Britt checked three hunters off Jenny's Cove Rd. on private property in Cleveland, GA. One hunter did not have a harvest record and was given a written warning. Another hunter came out of the woods without enough fluorescent orange on his person and was given a warning. The third hunter did not have any orange on and did not have a hunting license or a big game license. The hunter was cited for hunting without wearing fluorescent orange and was warned on the hunting licenses.

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, Sgt. Steve Seitz and RFC Anne Britt received information about an overdue hunter on Martin Branch Rd. on the Chattahoochee Wildlife Management Area. The incident involved a hunting outfitter whose guide assisted a paid client to pursue killing a bear. The guide separated from the client and became lost at approximately 4:30 pm. The client came out of the woods and notified the hunting guide outfitter. At approximately 7:30 pm, Sgt. Seitz and RFC Britt responded along with the White County Fire Department. GSP Aviation responded and used night vision and flir to locate the lost guide. DNR and Fire Rescue left the Wildlife Management Area and accessed private property off Hwy 75. At approximately 11:30 pm, Sgt. Seitz, RFC Britt and White County Fire personnel retrieved the lost guide about a quarter of a mile, straight up a mountain in the woods. The guide only complained of a sprained ankle and was able to walk out on his own.

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, RFC Anne Britt received a call from White County dispatch advising there were Deputies out on a traffic stop with a vehicle at the White/Lumpkin County line who had been involved with shooting a deer in a field off of Town Creek Rd. after legal hunting hours. The call came in from a passerby who had seen the incident take place. RFC Britt responded and met with the two suspects who admitted to killing a doe deer in a field off Town Creek Rd., near the intersection of Blackburn Rd. One adult male was driving when they located the deer and pulled into the field which they had permission to hunt. The adult male passenger admitted to shooting the deer from the headlights of the vehicle and thinking that it was legal if the deer were damaging the crops on the property. RFC Britt asked if he was listed on a crop damage permit issued to the landowner by the DNR and he said no. Both males were charged with hunting deer at night and hunting from a vehicle. The doe deer was confiscated and given to a person in need.

## **UNION COUNTY**

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, SGT Steve Seitz and CPL Kevin Dyer were checking deer hunters in the north part of Union County. While the rangers were checking a group of hunters they observed a subject trying to hide from the rangers. SGT Seitz made contact with the subject while CPL Dyer finished checking the group of hunters. SGT Seitz and CPL Dyer checked the subject was not wearing any orange and said he was hunting squirrels but had not harvested any. The hunter was using a .22 magnum rifle that was equipped with a suppressor. After checking the hunter's equipment, documentation and hunting license. CPL Dyer issued a citation for hunting with a suppressor without the permission from the land owner.

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, CPL Kevin Dyer answered a complaint in reference to possible illegal hunting. The complainant stated that a vehicle was parked in a subdivision and they had heard two gun shots. CPL Dyer located the vehicle and walked into the woods where he encountered a hunter dragging a doe deer. CPL Dyer checked the hunter's hunting license, permission to hunt on the property and deer harvest form. The hunter had not recorded the doe on the deer harvest form. CPL Dyer back tracked the hunter and located a tree stand and bait. CPL Dyer issued citations for hunting big game over bait and failure to record a harvested deer. A warning was issued for deer hunting without florescent orange. The hunter had removed his orange vest while in the tree stand and had put it back on inside out while dragging the deer. The way the vest was constructed only a very small amount of florescent orange was visible.

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

### **BURKE COUNTY**

On November 25, RFC Matherly responded to Quaker Road in Burke County in reference to a complaint of Deer Dogs off their permitted property. When RFC Matherly arrived he observed approximately 10 hunters sitting on the shoulder of the road next to the end of the complainant's driveway. RFC Matherly proceeded up the driveway to speak with the complainant to see what was going on. He was advised that the hunters had wounded a big buck and it was in his yard next to his house still alive. The landowner stated he wanted the deer removed from his property by RFC Matherly and to ask the hunters not to come onto his property anymore. When RFC Matherly located the buck he saw it was still alive but severely injured from the gun shot so he put the animal down to end its suffering. After loading the buck into his vehicle RFC Matherly returned to the road way to speak with the hunters. They were advised to stay off the complainant's property. RFC Matherly was showed where the buck had been originally shot. RFC Matherly gave the deer to the 16-year-old which had originally shot the deer. One citation was issued for hunting deer with dogs on unpermitted property.

On November 25, RFC Matherly and Cpl. Adams responded to boating accident on the Ogeechee River near Millen. Two subjects went into the river when their boat capsized but only one made it to the shore. After an hour long search the other subject was found down river on the Emanuel County side alive and well.

On November 26, Ranger First Class Jeffrey Billips and Sgt. Matt Garthright investigated a suspicious vehicle in Burke County. The suspects were in possession of a suppressed rifle with a light mounted to the scope. The suspects were also under the influence of alcohol. Georgia State Patrol Trooper Hunter Oglesby arrived to assist and arrested the driver for driving under the influence. RFC Billips and Sgt. Garthright found that the suspects had been trapping out of season and documented several traps. One trap was found with a possum that the suspects had dispatched and another had a bobcat. The bobcat was released and the suspects were charged with trapping out of season and non-resident trapping without license.

On November 28, RFC Billips and Corporal Ben Payne were conducting night hunting surveillance when Corporal Shaymus McNeely attempted to stop a vehicle for night hunting. A high speed pursuit ensued and RFC Billips raced to cut off the fleeing poachers. RFC Billips performed a traffic stop on a vehicle matching the description of the fleeing poachers' vehicle. Inside the vehicle were two females, a loaded shotgun, a rifle with a spent cartridge case in the chamber and alcohol. RFC Billips discovered that the females had just let their boyfriends out in a field to retrieve a poached deer. Corporal McNeely arrived and determined that these were not the same poachers he had been pursuing. Corporal Mike Wilcox, Ranger Randall Meeks and GSP Trooper Hunter Oglesby arrived and began a search for the two male poachers in a nearby field. The poachers were quickly apprehended and all four suspects were arrested and taken to the Screven County jail.

### **JEFFERSON COUNTY**

On the morning of November 26, RFC Matherly and RFC Billips checked a group of Dog Deer hunters in South Jefferson County. After locating the hunters it was found one hunter did not possess a license and two of the vehicles being used were not numbered. Both drivers of the vehicles were cited for operating a motor vehicle without permit number displayed, and a citation was issued for hunting deer with dogs without deer dog license.

On the evening of November 26, Sgt. Garthright and RFC Matherly were listening for duck roost shoots in Jefferson County. At approximately 5:30 PM Sgt. Garthright heard a group of hunters begin to shoot just west of the Ogeechee River outside of Louisville. The Rangers converged on where they thought the shooting was coming from. Two subjects were located leaving the swamp. When they were checked by the Rangers it was found the two men were in possession of 12 wood ducks, which have a daily bag limit of three. The subjects were charged with hunting waterfowl after hours and possession of over the daily bag limit. The ducks were confiscated and donated to a needy family in Jefferson County.



## **JOHNSON COUNTY**

On the evening of November 28, Cpl. Payne and RFC Matherly received a complaint of a possible baited dove shoot in Johnson County. When the Rangers arrived they saw approximately 8 hunters leaving the field they had been hunting. After checking their license RFC Matherly walked the field to look for any signs of it being baited. Nothing was found wrong with the field and all hunters were in compliance to all applicable regulations for hunting doves.

On November 24, Cpl. Adams responded to deer dogging complaint in South Johnson County. When Cpl. Adams arrived in the area the hunters had left.

On the night of November 27, Sgt. Matt Garthright responded to assist the Johnson County Sheriff's Office search for a missing 42 year old female whom had become lost in the woods around dark. The female was located and returned home.

## **WASHINGTON COUNTY**

On November 26, Cpl. Adams and Cpl. Payne were patrolling East Washington County for duck hunters. One warning was given for hunting without a Federal Duck Stamp.

On November 28, Cpl. Adams was working a baited duck swamp he found earlier in the week. Seven subjects were observed hunting ducks in the baited area that morning. All seven hunters were given citations for hunting waterfowl over bait, three were cited for Hunting without a Federal Duck Stamp, one for hunting without Ga waterfowl license and one for hunting without a hunting license.

## **OGLETHORPE COUNTY**

On Sunday, November 22, SGT. Brian Carter, Cpl. Julian Wilkins, and RFC Phillip Nelson checked two duck hunters coming off the Broad River by boat. Violations documented were hunting without federal duck stamp, hunting without license, hunting with illegal ammo, operating a vessel without lights and without personal flotation devices.

On Friday, November 27, RFC Phillip Nelson checked two subjects coming out of the woods on ATV's along Hwy 77 Elberton Road. Violations documented were hunting without big game license, hunting without a license and hunting without wearing fluorescent orange.

## **ELBERT COUNTY**

On Saturday November 28, CPL. Wilkins worked a night hunting complaint in which three subjects were charged with hunting from a public road, hunting deer at night and hunting from a motor vehicle.

## **CLARKE COUNTY**

On November 26, RFC Tim Butler located two waterfowl hunters who were hunting without permission. Violations were documented.

On November 27, SGT Brian Carter and RFC Tim Butler located a deer hunter who was hunting deer over bait and was not wearing fluorescent orange. Both violations were documented.

## **WARREN COUNTY**

On November 26<sup>th</sup> shortly before midnight Cpl. Mark Patterson came upon a vehicle stopped in the road on a state highway. The still running vehicle was occupied by an elderly female who was lost, very confused, and no longer had the ability to safely operate her vehicle. The woman was not injured in any way and was safely returned to her family.

## **NEWTON COUNTY**

On November 28, Cpl. Derrell Worth and Ranger Dan Schay responded to a baiting complaint. A subject was found hunting over bait in the area. Charges for hunting big game over bait, hunting without fluorescent orange, and failure to record deer harvest were made.

## **GREENE COUNTY**

Cpl. Derrell Worth cited two subjects for hunting deer without fluorescent orange, one without permission, one without a Georgia water fowl license, one subject hunting waterfowl with an unplugged shotgun, one subject operating a vessel with insufficient PFD's, and a non-residence hunting without a license and big game license.

## **HANCOCK COUNTY**

On Sunday November 29, Cpl. David Allen was patrolling McGee Road in Hancock County. Cpl. Allen spotted a subject in a stand near the road. The subject was cited for not wearing fluorescent orange vest while deer hunting.

On Sunday November 29, Sgt. John Harwell was patrolling Hancock near Anna Poole Road. Sgt. Harwell made contact with two different individuals, one hunting w/out fluorescent orange and the other subject was cited for trapping without a licenses.

## **WALTON COUNTY**

On November 23, Ranger Jason Harrison and Ranger Tim Butler were working the Alcovy River near 78 Hwy in Monroe. Three subjects were observed hunting water fowl after hours. Three citations were written for Hunting Waterfowl after Hours.

On November 26, RFC Ricky Boles checked a baited deer stand. RFC Boles found a subject hunting over bait. RFC Boles cited the hunter for hunting big game over bait and hunting without a fluorescent orange vest.

## **LAKE OCONEE**

RFC Ricky Boles patrolled boat ramps on Lake Oconee for duck hunters. RFC Boles checked several vessels and issued a citation for operating a vessel with insufficient PFD's.

## **LINCOLN COUNTY**

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Ryan Swain apprehended two subjects who were hunting deer over bait. The subjects also were not wearing orange clothing. They were cited and released.

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Ryan Swain apprehended two subjects who were hunting on county property without permission. The subjects were cited and released.

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Ryan Swain and Ranger Michael Madden apprehended seven subjects who were hunting waterfowl after hours. The Rangers detected 13 total violations. The subjects were cited and released.

## **WARREN COUNTY**

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, RFC Robert Timmerman apprehended one subject who was hunting deer over bait. The subject also had no orange clothing and no hunting license. The subject was cited and released.

## **COLUMBIA COUNTY**

On November 29<sup>th</sup>, Sgt. Doyte Chaffin and RFC Robert Timmerman apprehended three subjects for hunting waterfowl over bait. This is a case that Timmerman has been working since last waterfowl season. The subjects were cited and released.

## **TALIAFERRO COUNTY**

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, Sgt. Doyte Chaffin, Cpl. Brian Hobbins, and Ranger Michael Madden apprehended two subjects hunting deer over bait. The subjects were cited and released.

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

### **HARRIS COUNTY**

On November 25<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Jeremy Bolen was patrolling for deer hunting activity when he located a truck parked in a wooded area. After running the truck tag, Cpl. Bolen discovered that the hunter was from Alabama and did not possess a valid non-resident hunting license. K-9 Ruger was utilized to locate the hunter. The hunter was issued a citation for non-resident hunting without a license and a written warning for non-resident hunting without a big game license.

### **JONES COUNTY**

On November 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, RFC Jeremy Reese, Sgt. Bo Kelly and Cpl. Lynn Stanford checked numerous hunting clubs and deer hunters. Several citations and warnings were issued to include hunting deer over bait and hunting deer without fluorescent orange. Two deer were also confiscated and donated to needy families in the area.

### **TAYLOR COUNTY**

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Joshua R. Swain and Sgt. Jim Bradfield were listening for duck hunting activity in Taylor County. Cpl. Swain was listening near the East side of Taylor County, while Sgt. Bradfield covered the North Side. Cpl. Swain was able to locate a shoot near the Flint River area. The officers encountered six duck hunters two of which had license violations. One subject was charged with hunting without a license, hunting ducks w/o a federal migratory bird stamp, and given a warning for hunting waterfowl w/o a GA waterfowl license. The other subject was charged with hunting ducks without a federal migratory bird stamp. Cpl. Swain also encountered various deer hunters over the weekend addressing orange vest violations.

### **TWIGGS COUNTY**

On Thursday, November 26<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Stillwell and RFC Beard were investigating a report of possible hunting without permission, when they located two individuals hunting without orange. After talking to the individuals, it was discovered that one of them was a convicted felon. He was arrested for possessing a firearm and being a convicted felon, as well as license violations. The other individuals were also issued citations for license violations and orange vest violation.

### **WILKINSON COUNTY**

On the afternoon of November 28<sup>th</sup>, RFC Jeremy Reese responded to an unlawful dumping complaint. Several wild hog remains were dumped at the entrance to a hunting club. After a short investigation, RFC Reese charged 2 subjects with unlawful dumping and hunting deer without wearing fluorescent orange.

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

### **WEBSTER COUNTY**

On November 29<sup>th</sup>, while acting on an anonymous tip, Cpl. Steve Robinson and Ranger Quinn Fogle responded to a deer processor business in the county. The complainant had informed the rangers that a convicted felon was in possession of a firearm and had just shot a big buck. The subject was then located at the deer processor with the deer, interviewed and arrested and charged with possession of a firearm by convicted

During the Holiday period Ranger Quinn Fogle issued twelve warnings and twenty five citations. The violations included hunting without license, hunting deer without fluorescent orange, hunting on a closed WMA, and taking an undersized buck in a QDM county. Ranger Fogle confiscated an undersized buck and 5 wooducks.

### **TURNER COUNTY**

On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Sgt. Al Greer was working a night deer hunting complaint when he observed the occupants of a vehicle hunting a field. Sgt. Greer followed the subjects and initiated a traffic stop. The vehicle was occupied by an adult male and juvenile male. The adult subject was interviewed and issued citations for hunting deer at night, hunting big game from a public road, and hunting from a vehicle.

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, Sgt. Al Greer received a call from a landowner in reference to someone night deer hunting from a public road. Sgt. Greer went to the subject's residence to conduct interviews. After interviewing the adult female and adult male it was determined the adult male had shot at a deer from a public road. The female subject in the vehicle was also a convicted felon. Both subjects were charged with hunting deer at night, hunting big game from a public road, and hunting from a vehicle. The female subject was arrested and charged with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

### **THOMAS COUNTY**

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, RFC Jon Penuel and Sgt. David Ruddell tracked down a volley of shots they heard at daylight and located two subjects hunting ducks in a small beaver pond. After inspecting the area, the officers located peanuts that had been scattered in the pond. Both subjects were charged for hunting ducks over bait and hunting without Federal Duck Stamps.

### **WORTH COUNTY**

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, Ranger Eric White located three subjects hunting ducks in a small pond in the southern area of the county. During an inspection of the pond, Ranger White determined the pond was baited with corn. The subjects were charged with hunting ducks over bait and various license violations.

This same morning in northern Worth County, Cpl. Greg Wade located seven subjects hunting ducks in a beaver pond. After checking their licenses and ammo, Cpl. Wade located corn scattered in the pond. The subjects were charged with hunting ducks over bait.

On the afternoon of November 26<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Greg Wade located four subjects hunting dove on a peanut field. While checking the hunters, Cpl. Wade located several areas on the field where additional peanuts had been broadcast. All four subjects were charged with hunting over bait.

### **COLQUITT COUNTY**

On November 28, Cpl. Greg Wade and Ranger Eric White checked a dove shoot that was determined to have been baited with peanuts. The subjects hunting the area were charged with hunting over bait and one subject was charged with hunting with an unplugged shotgun.

### **BROOKS COUNTY**

On November 23<sup>rd</sup>, RFC Jon Penuel checked an area where he had received a complaint of hunting without permission. The subjects had built a wooden bridge across a large creek in order to access the complainant's property. During RFC Penuel's check of the property, he located an adult sitting in a climbing stand and a juvenile sitting in a ladder stand, both of which were baited. Neither of the subjects were wearing fluorescent orange and the juvenile had never taken a hunter safety course. The adult was charged with hunting without permission, hunting without a license, hunting deer without wearing fluorescent orange and allowing a juvenile to hunt unsupervised.

## **THOMAS COUNTY**

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, RFC Jon Penuel and Sgt. David Ruddell checked a morning duck hunt that was taking place in a beaver swamp, and found it to be baited with peanuts. The two hunters were charged with hunting ducks over bait and hunting without a federal duck stamp.

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

### **ECHOLS COUNTY**

On November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Ranger Judd Sears patrolled hunting clubs west of Fargo for deer dogging activity. Ranger Sears checked many hunters for hunting license requirements. One individual was found to be hunting without a deer-dog license, which is required to run deer with dogs. One violation of hunting deer with dogs without a deer-dog license was documented.

On October 26<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant Patrick Dupree received information about illegal duck hunting activity. Many hours were spent looking for the location of the illegal duck hunting activity. Eventually two baited duck blinds were found in the area. Sgt. Dupree, Ranger Judd Sears and Ranger Daniel North spent multiple days listening for the baited locations to be hunted. On November 28<sup>th</sup>, Ranger North and Ranger Sears heard the shoot begin at dawn and made their way to the location on the edge of a large swamp. Four poachers were observed hunting in the midst of where shelled corn and molasses had been poured on stumps and on nearby shore lines. Violations of hunting ducks over bait and hunting ducks without a federal duck stamp were documented. The illegally harvested ducks were confiscated and donated to a needy family.



*Ranger Sears and Ranger North with illegally-taken ducks in Echols County.*

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, Sgt. Patrick Dupree was near Howell when he encountered a vehicle parked on the side of the county road. Some hunting equipment and a fluorescent vest was seen inside of the truck. Ranger Daniel North and Ranger Judd Sears arrived in the area and boot-prints were located on the road and entering the woods. The hunter was observed by the officers from the county road sitting in his stand without any fluorescent orange on. Contact was made with the violator and it was found that his hunting licenses had expired. Violations of hunting deer without fluorescent orange, hunting without license, and hunting without a big game license were documented.

## **CLINCH COUNTY**

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, Corporal Jason Shipes encountered a hunter walking out of the woods after hunting. Cpl. Shipes noticed that the hunter was only wearing a bright orange hat. Cpl. Shipes met with the hunter, determined that he was in fact hunting deer and checked the required licenses needed. Cpl. Shipes then explained to the subject the importance of wearing the required 500 square inches of daylight fluorescent orange and documented the violation.

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, Corporal Jason Shipes received a complaint related to hunting from a public road and failure to keep deer dogs on permitted property. While speaking with the complainant by phone, Cpl. Shipes could hear that the conversation between the complainant and members of the deer dogging club became elevated to the point the complainant told Cpl. Shipes that he believed that a fight was about to occur. Cpl. Shipes responded to the area along with Corporal Josh Taylor of the Georgia State Patrol. Cpl. Shipes separated everyone involved and calmed the situation. Cpl. Shipes was able to determine someone in the hunting party did in fact shoot from the public roadway, however, he was unable to determine who was responsible. Cpl. Shipes did issue citations for failure to keep deer dogs on permitted property and hunting deer without fluorescent orange.



*GSP Trooper assists DNR Ranger in Clinch County with hunter conflict.*

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, Ranger Judd Sears and Ranger Daniel North patrolled deer dogging clubs near the Thelma area. Upon checking for hunting license requirements, Ranger Sears found one hunter that did not possess any license. Violations of hunting without license, hunting without big game license and hunting deer with dogs without a deer-dog license were documented.

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, Sgt. Patrick Dupree and Ranger Daniel North were patrolling the southwest portion of the county for deer dogging activity when they encountered a large group of individuals hunting deer with dogs. While checking the group, one individual was found to only possess a hunting license. Violations of hunting without a big game license and hunting without a deer-dog license were documented. The violator was able to purchase a license using his phone in order to continue his hunt.

## **WARE COUNTY**

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, Ranger Judd Sears patrolled the area of Suwannee Chapel Road for deer dogging activity. Ranger Sears encountered hunters on the public road attempting to catch their dogs. One individual was discovered that did not have his deer-dog permit displayed on his vehicle. One violation was documented for operating a motor vehicle without permit number displayed.

## **PIERCE COUNTY**

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, while patrolling local dog-deer hunting clubs Corporal Mark Pool checked several dog hunters actively pursuing deer. Cpl. Pool checked several licenses and documented a violation for hunting big game from a public road.



*Deer meat seized from poachers in Bacon County.*

## **BACON COUNTY**

On the night of November 28<sup>th</sup>, Corporal Mark Pool received a call from Bacon County 911 dispatch center. The call information was very vague, only stating that gun shots were heard in the area of two public roads. Cpl. Pool responded to the area and located an individual washing blood out the bed of a pickup truck. After interviewing the suspected poacher, he admitted that his step-dad and he had killed two deer in the field behind their house. Violations for hunting from a vehicle and hunting deer at night were documented. The meat from the two doe deer was seized and donated to a family in need.

On November 29<sup>th</sup>, Corporal Mark Pool received an anonymous tip that someone was running deer with dogs in a closed portion of the county. Cpl. Pool responded to the area and located four hunters that admitted they were running deer with dogs. Violations for hunting deer with dogs in a closed area/county, hunting without a license, and hunting big game without a big game license were documented.

## **CHARLTON COUNTY**

On Nov. 27<sup>th</sup>, Ranger First Class Sam Williams was patrolling for dog-deer hunting in southern portions of the county when a group of hunters were located. During a check of the hunters' licenses, it was discovered that one of the hunters was not in possession of a hunting license. The violations were documented by the officer.

On Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>, Ranger First Class Sam Williams was patrolling for hunting activity near Folkston when a group of dog-deer hunters were encountered in an active hunt. RFC Williams noticed that one of the hunters was standing on the side of the woods road, participating in the hunt but not wearing any fluorescent orange. The violation was documented.

## **JEFF DAVIS COUNTY**

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, Corporal Chase Altman conducted a night flight detail for Jeff Davis County for illegal night hunting. With the assistance of eight Rangers on the ground, two vehicles were stopped, which resulted in 12 citations for illegal night deer hunting.

## **TATTNALL COUNTY**

On November 25<sup>th</sup>, Ranger First Class Debbie Brannen worked a complaint area for night deer hunting. One vehicle was observed shining a pecan orchard. A vehicle stop was initiated and the driver was charged for hunting raccoons from a public road, hunting from a motor vehicle and hunting without permission.

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, RFC Clint Jarriel and SGT Jon Barnard patrolled Tattnall County Landing near the Ohoopie River for hunting activity. One deer hunter was checked and citations written for non-resident hunting w/o big game license, hunting deer w/o fluorescent orange, and non-resident hunting w/o a license.

## **EVANS COUNTY**

On November 26, 2015, Ranger Brannen checked a deer dog club. Several licenses were checked and one citation was written for hunting from a public road.

## **TOOMBS COUNTY**

On November 26<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Altman, Cpl. Joyce, Sgt. Barnard, RFC Jarriel, and RFC Brannen conducted a river patrol on the Altamaha for illegal duck hunting. In all 6 vessels were checked, resulting in 13 citations for charges ranging from hunting waterfowl after hours, operating a vessel w/o CGA PFD's, operating a vessel during hours of darkness w/o lights, and operating a vessel w/o registration.

## **MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

On the night of November 28<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Joyce set up a night hunting detail for Montgomery County, and was assisted by Sgt. Barnard, and Cpl. Altman. Two separate vehicles were stopped that night, resulting in 18 citations being issued to poachers for Hunting Deer at Night, Hunting from a Public Road, and Hunting from a Vehicle.

## **BERRIEN COUNTY**

On Nov.22<sup>nd</sup>, Corporal Tommy Daughtrey checked a subject who had been deer hunting. The subject did not have a big game license. The violation was documented.

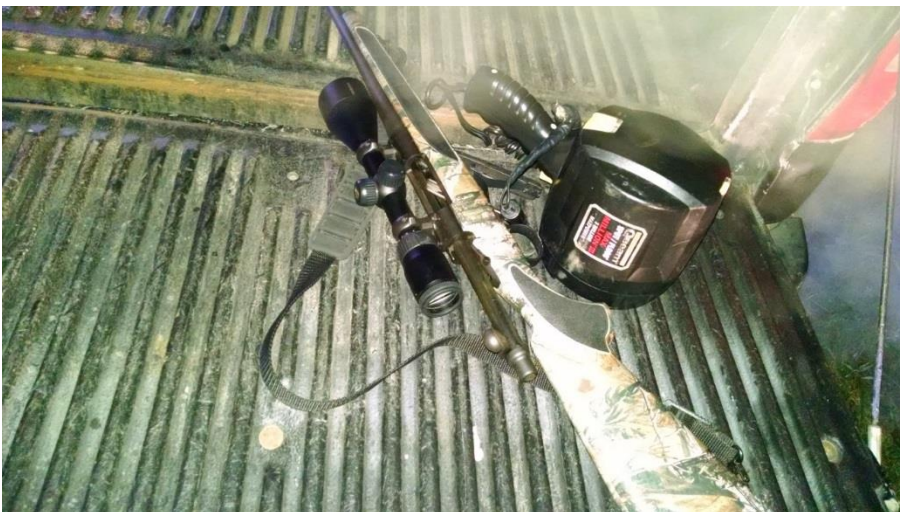
## **COOK COUNTY**

On Nov.27<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Tommy Daughtrey was working a night deer hunting complaint when he noticed a fire burning in a wooded area near his location. The local fire dept. was called and the fire was extinguished. A cotton module was also set on fire near this location. The fire is being investigated by the Cook Co. Sheriff's Dept.





On Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>, at approximately 12:25 A.M., while working a night deer hunting complaint, Cpl. Daughtrey observed a vehicle coming down the road toward his location travelling at a very slow rate of speed. As Cpl. Daughtrey watched the vehicle, he could see a light being shined out of the vehicle into a wooded area near his location. The vehicle then drove into the field Cpl. Daughtrey was sitting in and began to shine the field for deer. The vehicle was stopped as it tried to exit the field. Four subjects were in the vehicle. All of the poachers were charged with hunting deer at night, hunting big game from the road and hunting from a vehicle. With the assistance of the Cook County Sheriff's Dept., the subjects were transported to the Cook County jail.



### **IRWIN COUNTY**

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, Corporal Tim Hutto received a call from GBI Agent Joe Hilton about someone night deer hunting on Holt Road in Lax. The officers set up surveillance on a field where a deer was believed to be shot at. Around 10:00 p.m. a vehicle approached the field and attempted to stop but didn't due to oncoming traffic. Cpl. Hutto initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle and interviewed three male occupants which were dressed in full camouflage and had skinning knives and flash lights in their possession. After a brief interview it was

determined that the subjects were not going to admit to the night deer hunting incident. During the interview though, Cpl. Hutto and Agent Hilton noticed a strong odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle. A search of the vehicle was performed which resulted in all three subjects being charged with possession of marijuana less than one ounce.

## **COFFEE COUNTY**

On November 27<sup>th</sup> Corporal Tim Hutto worked a night hunting complaint in the Broxton area. At around 11:30 p.m., Cpl. Hutto noticed a vehicle approach his location. The driver of the vehicle shined a spotlight into the field Cpl. Hutto was observing and then the vehicle sped off. Cpl. Hutto followed the vehicle and observed the passenger shine another field in the area. Cpl. Hutto and Sgt. James McLaughlin initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle and began searching for clues to what the two subjects were hunting. The officers seized one spotlight, three high powered rifles, one shotgun, and one set of night vision. The two poachers were arrested and charged with hunting deer at night, hunting from a vehicle, and hunting big game from a public road.

## **CANDLER COUNTY**

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, Corporal Shaymus McNeely was working a night hunting complaint off Haddon road. Cpl. McNeely observed the occupants of a vehicle shining a light into a field as they passed his location. A traffic stop was conducted on the suspect vehicle. A light and a shotgun loaded with buckshot were found in the suspect vehicle. Citations were issued to the poachers for hunting deer at night, hunting from a vehicle, and hunting big game from a public road.

## **SCREVEN COUNTY**

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, Corporal Shaymus McNeely, Corporal Mike Wilcox, Ranger Randell Meeks, and Rangers from Region III Corporal Ben Payne and Ranger First Class Jeff Billips worked a night hunting detail in Northern Screven and Southern Burke Counties. Rangers stopped a suspect vehicle on US highway 301 after observing a field being shined with a spotlight off Plantation Rd. Rangers located a shotgun and a rifle in the suspect vehicle. The rifle had a spent round in the chamber. The Rangers determined that the female suspects had dropped off two male suspects to locate a deer they had just shot off the highway. The two male suspects were located hiding in a wooded area about a mile down the road from the traffic stop. Citations were issued for hunting deer at night, hunting from a vehicle, hunting big game from a public road, and hunting without permission.

## **EMANUEL COUNTY**

On November 25<sup>th</sup>, Corporal Mike Wilcox and Ranger Randell Meeks responded to a boat incident in the Coleman Lake Area of the Ogeechee River, in reference to two capsized kayaks. The Rangers along with volunteers conducted a search of the river and located both victims.

## **EFFINGHAM COUNTY**

On November 28<sup>th</sup> Ranger Jordan Crawford and Sergeant Don Dasher patrolled Effingham County for hunting activity during the patrol several hunters were checked with no violations documented.

Later that night Ranger Crawford and Sgt. Dasher observed a vehicle stop along a field edge that they were watching and began shining a light. The light searched the field and then the vehicle began to drive away. Ranger Crawford and Sgt. Dasher conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle. One violation for blinding wildlife with lights was documented.

## **DODGE COUNTY**

On November 24<sup>th</sup>, Ranger First Class Allen Mills patrolled creeks and bridges for fishing and waterfowl hunting activity. One angler was checked and a violation for a non-resident fishing without a license was documented.

On November 25<sup>th</sup>, RFC Mills was conducting a patrol at the Dodge County Public Fishing Area (PFA). Verbal guidance was given to two individuals for Georgia Outdoor Recreational Pass (GORP) requirements while using the archery range located on the PFA.

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, RFC Mills was conducting an early morning patrol listening for water fowl and dove hunting activity. Two waterfowl hunters were located and checked for license and regulation compliance. Four violations for non-resident hunting without a hunting license and non-resident hunting waterfowl without Georgia water fowl license were documented.

Later that day, RFC Mills conducted a patrol at the Dodge County Public Fishing Area. Nine anglers and one vessel were checked for license and regulation compliance. Violations for resident fishing without Wildlife Management Area license on PFA/WMA and non-resident fishing without Wildlife Management Area license on PFA/WMA were documented.

### **LAURENS COUNTY**

On November 26<sup>th</sup> Corporal Dan Stiles checked six duck hunters for license and regulation compliance. One subject was found to be hunting with an un-plugged shotgun.

Later in the morning, Cpl. Stiles encountered two deer hunters. Two violations were documented for hunting big game without a big game license. Verbal guidance was given to the two hunters for three other violations.

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, Ranger First Class Rodney Horne conducted a waterfowl detail on the Oconee River. RFC Horne arrested one waterfowl hunter for hunting under the influence of alcohol. RFC Horne also issued 11 citations to 5 other hunters for operating a vessel without Coast Guard Approved Personal Flotation Devices in a vessel, hunting without a license, hunting without a Georgia waterfowl license, hunting without a federal waterfowl stamp, and hunting without a license on person. A violation was also issued to one hunter for hunting big game (deer) without a license.

On November 29<sup>th</sup>, Ranger First Class Rodney Horne conducted a waterfowl detail on the Oconee River. Four hunters were checked and 6 citations were issued for hunting without a license, hunting without a Georgia waterfowl license, and hunting without a federal waterfowl stamp.

### **TELFAIR COUNTY**

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, Sergeant James McLaughlin encountered several individuals jump shooting Wood Ducks with their vessel under power on the Ocmulgee River. Violations were documented for hunting from a vessel and operating a vessel without personal flotation devices.

Later that day, Sgt. McLaughlin encountered a group of duck hunters. A compliance check identified one individual that did not have a Federal Duck Stamp. The violation was documented and the hunter was on his way.

### **BEN HILL COUNTY**

On Nov 12<sup>th</sup>, Corporal John A Stokes worked a littering complaint on McCrimmon Road. Five bags of trash, three tires and a pile of shingles were thrown out. In the investigation a person's name and address was found. Cpl. Stokes met with the person and he admitted to doing the violation. The person was charged with littering and illegal dumping of shingles.

### **IRWIN COUNTY**

On Nov 12<sup>th</sup>, Corporal John A Stokes patrolled for dove shoots. One person was found and documented for hunting with unplugged shotgun.

### **WHEELER COUNTY**

On November 26<sup>th</sup>, Ranger First Class Rodney Horne patrolled for waterfowl hunters when he encountered a hunter hunting deer without wearing a fluorescent orange vest. A violation for hunting deer without a fluorescent orange vest was documented.

On November 28<sup>th</sup>, Ranger First Class Rodney Horne encountered a hunter returning from hunting. The hunter was turned over to the Georgia State Patrol and arrested for Driving Under the influence or alcohol and drugs and possession of a controlled substance (Marijuana).

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

### **BRANTLEY COUNTY**

On November 27, RFC David Brady was working waterfowl activity when he encountered a truck that was parked in an odd place on a dead end road. Upon further investigation, Brady was able to locate two hunters, one of which was hunting without a license and hunting without a big game license. The subject was charged for both violations.

### **CAMDEN COUNTY**

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, Ranger Colte Shaske received a call from Camden County Sheriff's Office stating that a deputy spotted a vehicle shining a clear-cut. When Ranger Shaske arrived on scene the deputy had the vehicle stopped and 2 male subjects outside the vehicle. Ranger Shaske interviewed the 2 subjects and determined they were shining the clear cut looking for deer. Inside the vehicle was a shotgun and multiple handheld spot lights. Ranger Shaske cited the individuals for Hunting from a Public Road, Hunting Deer at Night, and Hunting from a Vehicle.

### **WAYNE COUNTY**

On November 27<sup>th</sup>, Ranger Colte Shaske and CPL Chris Ridley was working a night hunting detail in Wayne County. At approximately 10:00 P.M. a vehicle approached the area and shined the field out of the driver side window. Ranger Shaske initiated a traffic stop and found 2 individuals inside the vehicle. The driver stated that he was shining the field to see what was in it. In the back seat Ranger Shaske found a loaded rifle and multiple handheld spot lights. Both individuals were cited for Hunting Deer at Night, Hunting from a Vehicle and Hunting from a Public Road.

### **BRYAN COUNTY**

On Sunday morning November the 22<sup>nd</sup>, Cpl. Bryson checked waterfowl hunters at Morgan's Bridge and King's Ferry landing which access the Ogeechee River. Four boats of waterfowl hunters were checked with several hunters. Only one boat of hunters managed to harvest any waterfowl and there were no violations.



On Sunday November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Cpl. Bryson and RFC Miller responded to a request for assistance from a Deputy with the Bryan County Sheriff's Office. The Deputy and Rangers were responding to a shots fired call at a residence. Upon arrival the officers found one person at the residence seriously injured by a gunshot. Rangers blocked Hwy 17 for the Life Flight helicopter to respond. The person was then taken by helicopter to the Memorial Medical Center in Savannah.

On Sunday November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Cpl. Bryson and RFC Miller conducted patrols of the Richmond Hill Wildlife Management Area. During the patrols several hunters were checked. The Rangers also cited three hunters for not wearing fluorescent orange while deer hunting and two were cited for hunting from a WMA road.

On Friday November 27<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Bryson and RFC Toney were patrolling South Bryan County areas for waterfowl hunters. The Rangers heard shots approximately twenty minutes after legal waterfowl hours. Cpl. Bryson and RFC Toney stopped the hunters leaving the area after their hunt and discovered that all of the hunters were juveniles. The hunters did not manage to bag any waterfowl. The shooting hours of the young hunters were discussed with an adult in charge of the group who assured the Rangers that it would not happen again.