



GEORGIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Field Operations

Weekly Report
July 22 – July 28, 2018

This report is a broad sampling of events that have taken place in the past week, but does not include all actions taken by the Law Enforcement Division.



Region I- Acworth (Northwest)

FULTON COUNTY

On July 26th, GWFC Daniel Gray completed an investigation in reference to illegal dumping at the HWY 166 DNR boat ramp. One individual was charged with illegal dumping of litter less than 500 lbs.

On July 28 CPLs Byron Young and Bart Hendrix and GWFC Mark Puig responded to a search and rescue for an overdue tuber on the Chattahoochee River. The friends of the missing tuber reported they had not seen their friend in over an hour. Atlanta Fire Department, Cobb County Fire Department, and National Park Service officers had already begun a search for this missing tuber. The mother of the missing tuber received a call that her son was at a gas station some 15 miles from his friends. His tube went flat and he got out of the water and walked to the gas station.

BARTOW COUNTY

On July 22 GWFC Zack Hardy and SGT Jason Roberson were on patrol near Webster's Ferry boat ramp at Red Top Mountain State Park. The Game Wardens stopped a PWC without a registration being displayed. GWFC Hardy noticed the smell of alcohol coming from the operator. After completing field sobriety tests the operator was arrested for operating vessel under the influence.

CHEROKEE COUNTY

On July 23 CPL Bart Hendrix was passed by motorcycle on a double yellow line in a congested area on Bells Ferry Rd. CPL Hendrix stopped the motorcycle a short distance later. The rider said he was on his way to a job interview. CPL Hendrix checked the rider's driver's license and discovered the rider to be wanted in Forest Park. The rider was cited for passing in a no passing zone and taken to the Cherokee County Jail for the warrant.

Region II- Gainesville (Northeast)

HALL COUNTY

On July 28th, GWFC Chris Kernahan patrolled Hall Co. for fishing and boating activity. During the patrol, he made contact with multiple suspicious subjects on the banks of Lake Lanier. GWFC Kernahan found the subjects to be illegally in possession of marijuana less than one ounce. The violations were addressed. Later that date, GWFC Kernahan conducted a State Park Patrol at Mossy Creek. During that patrol, he made contact with multiple subjects who were found to be illegally in possession of alcohol on a State Park, as well as operating vessels without life jackets. Those violations were also addressed.

Region III- Thomson (East Central)

NEWTON COUNTY

On July 18th, Game Warden Schay patrolled Newton County for fishing activity. Violations of fishing without a license were documented.

LAKE OCONEE

Between July 16-22, SGT Garthright, CPL Allen, CPL Worth, and Game Warden Schay, patrolled Lake Oconee for boating activity. During these patrols, multiple violations of allowing an underage child to ride in a moving vessel without wearing a PFD, towing without an observer onboard, operating a PWC within 100' of an object in the water above idle speed, failure to obey regulatory marker, operating a vessel with improper lights, fishing without a license, failure to meet boater education requirements, and operating a vessel with insufficient PFDs were documented.

On Tuesday, July 17th, CPL Worth worked a boating incident investigation.

BARROW COUNTY

On July 28th GWFC Tim Butler and GWFC Phillip Nelson patrolled Fort Yargo State Park. Several violations of operating a vessel without personal flotation devices and fishing without a license were documented.

Region IV- Macon (West Central)

No activity to report.

Region V- Albany (Southwest)

DECATUR COUNTY

On July 28th, Sgt. Bob Holley, Sgt. Jim Atchley, Cpl. Tony Cox, and Quinn Fogle conducted boating patrols on Lake Seminole during a poker run. Three subjects were arrested for BUI and numerous other operators cited for overloaded vessels, no PFDs, failure to obey regulatory markers, no registration, and under age consumption of alcohol.

Region VI- Metter (Southeast)

LAURENS COUNTY

On July 28th, Corporal Dan Stiles assisted by Ranger First Class Allen Mills completed an investigation of a complaint of illegal dumping of household trash on private property. Cpl. Stiles interviewed several persons during the investigation in three different counties. One suspect was charged with illegal dumping of egregious litter (less than 500 lbs. / 100 cu. ft.).

DODGE COUNTY

On July 28th, Corporal Dan Stiles and Game Warden Allen Mills patrolled several boat landings in Dodge and Wilcox counties. Three vessels and a jet ski were checked for safety equipment. No violations were detected. The officers also patrolled Little Ocmulgee State Park for activity. One vessel was checked for boating safety and registration compliance and three anglers were checked for fishing license and creel limit compliance. A complaint was also responded to on the park in reference to reckless operation of a vehicle. The driver was given verbal guidance on vehicle operations on a state park. Later that evening, the officers conducted a night patrol at Dodge County Public Fishing Area. One vessel and five anglers were checked for license compliance. No violations were detected.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

On July 26th Game Warden First Class Bobby Sanders was called to assist with an investigation of burning egregious litter, one violation was documented.

TOOMBS COUNTY

On July 28th Game Warden First Class Bobby Sanders completed an investigation of hunting without permission with one violation being documented.

EVANS COUNTY

On July 27 Game Warden Patrick Gibbs responded to an in progress call around midnight in reference to shooting deer at night from a public road. Gibbs was able to locate the vehicle and subjects involved. The deer was shot under a crop damage permit. There were two violations addressed for hunting from a public road and failure to record harvest on a deer kill permit.

BULLOCH COUNTY

On July 28th GWFC Jordan Crawford conducted a concentrated patrol of Oliver Bridge Wildlife Management area. During the patrol several fisherman and boaters were checked with verbal guidance given on several infractions.

SCREVEN COUNTY

On July 28th Corporal Shaymus McNeely, Corporal Mike Wilcox and, Sergeant Brian Hobbins responded to a request for assistance from the Screven County Sheriff's Department on the Savannah River at Blue Springs landing. A boater attempting to launch at the landing lost his truck in the river. Game Wardens were able to locate the truck with the patrol boats sonar approximately 200 yards down river. There were no injuries and a tow service has been contracted to remove the truck from the river. While patrolling the Blue Springs area on the river Game Wardens checked several boats and addressed boating violations including citations written for riding on the bow of a boat.

LANIER COUNTY

On July 25th, Cpl. Jon Penuel and Sgt. Morty Wood responded to a boat accident involving a PWC that took place on the Alapaha River near Lakeland. Witnesses advised that the operator of the PWC crashed into the bank and the PWC landed in the bushes along the river bank. The operator sustained significant injuries to the face, arms and legs, and alcohol is believed to be a contributing factor in the accident. This accident remains under investigation at this time.

Region VII- Brunswick (Coastal)

GLYNN COUNTY

On July 25th and July 26th, Game Wardens Colte Shaske and John Evans boarded commercial shrimping vessels offshore of Jekyll and St Simons Islands. They measured the TEDs (Turtle Excluder Device) and nets and checked fish on board. All boats were in compliance both days.



On July 27th, Cpl. John Evans and Wildlife Technician Hal Wiggins were patrolling the Clayhole Swamp WMA. They encountered a SUV at the pond next to the campground. The female was still behind the wheel and the male was at the back of the vehicle. Cpl. Evans began talking with the female and noticed that she was acting very nervous. He could smell the odor of marijuana and soon noticed a large marijuana blunt on the console that she was trying to hide. Further investigation yielded a bag of marijuana from the man's pocket and several drug paraphernalia items from the vehicle. Both people were arrested and charged with Violation of the GA Controlled Substance Act and Entering WRD property without a Lands Pass.

CAMDEN COUNTY

On 7/28/018, Sergeant Chris Ridley, Corporals John Evans and Kate Hargrove assisted St. Mary's Police Department with kids fishing event "Cops and Bobbers".

