



GEORGIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

Field Operations

Weekly Report
May 20 – May 26, 2018

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



Region I- Acworth (Northwest)

CARROLL COUNTY

May 27th, Sgt. Eric Brown, Cpl. Brooks Varnell, and GWFC Daniel Gray patrolled on Lake Seaton for fishing and boating activity. During the patrol, five violations were detected. Citations and warnings were issued for fishing w/o license, fishing w/o permission, and operating vessel w/o PFD's.

DOUGLAS COUNTY

May 27th, Cpl. Brooks Varnell and GWFC Daniel Gray patrolled on Sweetwater Creek State Park. During the patrol, four individuals were cited for fishing w/o a license.

FULTON COUNTY

May 22nd, Cpl. Chad Cox and Cadet Garrett Pownall attended a tabletop exercise with several surrounding county personnel and Georgia Power employees about how to respond to a flood or dam failure from Morgan Falls Dam on the Chattahoochee River.

May 26th, Cpl. Chad Cox and Cadet Garrett Pownall patrolled the Chattahoochee River by boat from Jones Bridge to McGinnis Ferry Road. The game wardens issued citations and warnings for fishing violations.

Region II- Gainesville (Northeast)

STEPHENS COUNTY

On Saturday May 26th, GWFC Shane Sartor patrolled Lake Russell WMA and Panther Creek for trout fishing activity. During his patrol one subject was issued a citation for fishing without a license and another for driving on unimproved road on a WMA.

On Saturday May 26th, Sergeant Derek Dillard and Corporal Tim Vickery patrolled Lake Yonah in Stephens and Habersham Counties and Lake Hartwell in Stephens and Franklin Counties. Citations and warnings were issued to boaters including allowing underage child to ride in a moving vessel without wearing a PFD, operating a vessel with improper registration, violation of Georgia's 100 foot law and fishing without a license.

On Saturday May 26th, at approximately 21:30 hours, Sergeant Derek Dillard and Corporal Tim Vickery were patrolling Lake Hartwell near Holcomb Access when they noticed a vessel with no stern light headed into Eastanollee Creek. The officers stopped the vessel to address the stern light issue and noticed that the operator seemed impaired. They also noticed a large liquor bottle in the boat. After speaking with the operator and administering field sobriety tests, he was arrested and taken to the Stephens County Jail. His wife, who was also on the boat, was escorted back to her dock. The operator was charged with Operating a Vessel with Improper Lights and Operating a Vessel under the Influence.

HART COUNTY

On Saturday May 26th, Cpl. Craig Fulghum and a Hart County deputy patrolled Lake Hartwell for boating safety violations. During their patrol 7 violations were documented. The violations consisted of failure to obey regulatory marker, allowing underage children to ride in moving vessel without wearing a PFD, and towing a skier without mirror or observer.

Region III- Thomson (East Central)

HANCOCK

On Friday, May 18th and Saturday, May 20th CPL Allen patrolled in the area of Wallace Dam in Hancock County. During these patrols, several violations of entering hazard area without wearing PFD, fishing without a license, and operating a vessel without lights, were documented.

LAKE OCONEE

Between May 23rd and May 24th, Game Warden Schay patrolled in the area of Lake Oconee for fishing and boating activity. During this patrol violations for operating PWC without PFDs and fishing without a license were documented.

Between May 25th and May 28th, Sgt Garthright, Cpl. Allen, Cpl. Worth, Game Warden Boles, Game Warden Rhodes, and Game Warden Schay patrolled Lake Oconee for boating activity. Multiple violations of allowing underage children to ride in a moving vessel without wearing PFDs, operating a vessel with insufficient PFDs, operating a vessel with improper lights, failure to meet boater education requirements, operating a PWC within 100' of object in the water above idle speed, failure to obey regulatory marker, and operating a vessel while under the influence were documented.

Region IV- Macon (West Central)

No activity to report.

Region V- Albany (Southwest)

GRADY COUNTY

On May 26th, Game Warden Steve Thomas and SGT. Bob Holley were patrolling Tired Creek Reservoir when they encountered a subject with over the limit of fish. The subject had 34 crappie and 22 bream totaling 56 fish all together. The fish were confiscated and then donated to a needy family.

Region VI- Metter (Southeast)

DODGE COUNTY

On May 25th, Corporal Dan Stiles patrolled the Dodge County Public Fishing Area (DCPFA) for night fishing activity. Eight PFA visitors were checked for fishing licenses or GA Lands Pass. Several violations were documented; two violations for fishing without a license, one violation for illegal consumption of alcohol on a PFA, two violations for entering into a designated Wildlife Resources Division (WRD) area without a WRD lands pass, and one violation for fishing without license on person.

TELFAIR COUNTY

On May 26th, Sergeant James McLaughlin and Game Wardens Dan Stiles, Rodney Horne, and Chris Thompson performed vessel patrols on the Ocmulgee River. Several vessels were checked for safety equipment and registration and anglers were checked for fishing licenses and creel limit compliance. Violations documented by the officers included three for operating a vessel without registration, one for operating a vessel without personal floatation devices (life jackets), and one for operating a vessel without a type IV throwable floatation device.

ECHOLS COUNTY

On May 25th, Game Warden Joseph Cowart was patrolling the Alapaha River Landing at Statenville. GW Cowart observed a group of people walking towards parked vehicles near the river. One of the persons was carrying a fishing pole. When asked if he had caught anything he replied, "Three or four, but I just let them go". GW Cowart then asked if he had a fishing license to which he replied "no." A violation was documented for fishing without a license.

WARE COUNTY

On May 26th, Corporal Jason Shipes and Sergeant Patrick Dupree were conducting patrols along the Satilla River at Jamestown Landing. While checking three subjects, Cpl. Shipes found that none of the individuals possessed a valid fishing license. While speaking with them further, Cpl. Shipes smelled the odor of marijuana coming from their vehicle. During this time, a Ware County deputy arrived on the scene. After the owner of the vehicle gave officers consent to search, a very small amount of marijuana was located. Cpl. Shipes documented the fishing without a license violations while the Ware County deputy handled the narcotics violations.

On May 26th, Captain Scott Klingel and Corporal Mark Pool were patrolling by vessel on the Satilla River upstream from Jamestown Landing. The officers encountered a fisherman that did not possess a fishing license. The subject was issued a written warning for the violation.

On May 25th, Game Warden First Class Sam Williams, Game Warden Joseph Cowart, and Corporal Mark Pool checked the Jamestown Landing for activity. While at the landing the wardens talked to three individuals that were in the parking area. While talking to the individuals it was determined that one of the individuals was consuming alcohol and was under the age of 21. The wardens also noticed a strong odor of marijuana. Corporal Pool located a hand-rolled marijuana cigarette that the underage drinker was in possession of. The subject was arrested and booked into the Ware County jail.

CHARLTON COUNTY

On, May 17th, Corporal Mark Pool and Game Warden First Class Sam Williams responded to a call about a vehicle in the St. Mary's River at Camp Pinkney Boat Landing. Upon arriving, the officers learned that the driver of the vehicle was attempting to remove his boat from the river after it began to take on water. After trailering his boat and pulling up the ramp, the vehicle lost traction and slid backwards down the boat ramp into the river. After several hours, the vehicle, trailer, and boat were recovered. The driver suffered no injuries.

APPLING COUNTY

On May 19th Game Warden First Class Clint Jarriel and Game Warden Cameron Dyal patrolled the Altamaha River for fishing and boating activity. Many vessels were checked resulting in numerous citations and warnings given for fishing without a license, operating without lifejackets, and operating a vessel without registration.

Region VII- Brunswick (Coastal)

BRYAN COUNTY

On May 23rd, Cpl. Jay Morgan responded to a call of young boy who had gotten his foot caught in the crevice of a large fallen oak tree at Ft. McAllister State Park. Upon arrival at the scene, he found that the boy had been climbed up on the trunk of the tree and caught his foot in the crevice as he was trying to climb down. Bryan County Fire/Rescue and EMS responded and helped remove the boy by using the jaws-of-life unit. The boy only suffered some soreness afterwards.

On the evening of May 25th, Cpl. Bill Bryson patrolled Ft. McAllister State Park checking for late-night noise violations. Three campers were cited for possession of alcohol in unauthorized areas on the park. Alcohol is only allowed at the campers' campsites.

LIBERTY COUNTY

On May 25th, Game Wardens Jack Thain and Tim Morris conducted a Wild Animal Permit inspection at the Tree of Life Petting Zoo inspecting the facility and the permitted camel at the location.