

Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division

Field Operations

Weekly Report
September 14-20, 2014

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 September 13, Cpl. Byron Young and Intern Matt Agee responded to an illegal hunting call on I-75 near Cartersville. Two subjects were seen dragging a buck from the woods to a white truck parked along I-75. Bartow County Deputy Ryan Tucker was able to make contact with the hunters as they were loading an 8 point buck into the back of the truck. Cpl. Young arrived and determined that the hunters had tracked the deer to the fence on I-75 where it expired. Cpl. Young saw evidence of corn in the immediate area. RFC Bart Hendrix arrived and the officers back tracked the blood trail to a ground blind. Less than 15 yards from the blind was approximately 50 lbs of corn on the ground. This was the hunter's second offense for hunting big game over bait in the last several years. The 8 point buck was confiscated and donated to a needy family. The hunter was issued a citation for hunting big game over bait.



8 Point Buck Killed over corn in Bartow County

CHEROKEE COUNTY

On September 15th, RFC Bart Hendrix received information that a large 11 point buck was killed along the shore of Allatoona Lake on September 14th. The information RFC Hendrix received was that two hunters and a trailing dog ran the buck into Allatoona Lake. The two hunters then jumped in and drowned the buck. The area the deer entered the water was on US Army Corps of Engineers property closed to hunting. Cpl. Byron Young, RFC Bart Hendrix, and Intern Matt Agee patrolled the lake shore by boat to locate the area the deer was killed. The officers were able to locate blood and backtrack to a baited ladder stand just off the Corps property line. After several interviews the officer located the hunter's residence. The hunter admitted to making a bad shot and trailing the deer to the lake. When asked about the corn, the hunter stated that he thought that baiting was now legal. The hunter left to go out of town after killing the buck, the officers contacted the hunter and are waiting for his return to make charges in the case.

On September 20th, RFC Zack Hardy and Intern Matt Agee worked a kid's sailing event on Allatoona Lake at the Atlanta Yacht Club. 150+ youth participated in this southeastern qualifying race event.



On September 20th, Cpl. Lee Burns located 3 adult hunters and 1 juvenile hunting doves near Hancock Mountain Trail. Cpl. Burns located wild bird seed, wheat, and cracked corn scattered in a cow pasture. The hunters had killed 12 doves when Cpl. Burns arrived. Cpl. Burns issued 1 citation and 2 warnings for the violations of hunting doves over bait.

PICKENS COUNTY

On September 13th, Cpl. James Keener issued a citation to an individual for hunting big game over bait. Another subject was issued a written warning for hunting big game over bait later that day.

On September 14th, Cpl. James Keener issued a written warning for unlawful dumping (illegally burning litter).

GILMER COUNTY

On September 13th, Cpl. James Keener issued citations to an individual for hunting big game over bait, hunting without license, and hunting without big game license. The subject was also given a written warning for hunting without permission.

FANNIN COUNTY

On September 13th, Sgt. John Vanlandingham and RFC Cody Jones were checking an area that was baited with corn near Maple Grove Rd. The Officers observed a hunter in the blind approximately 10 yards from the bait site. The Officers investigated and found that the hunter was hunting deer over bait. The Officers questioned the hunter about some violations from the 2013 hunting season that the suspect was involved in. The suspect admitted to killing two small bucks that had less than 4 points on one side of the antlers. He also admitted to killing the two bucks and two does over bait that year. The suspect was issued a citation for hunting big game over bait for a November 2013 incident, taking over the season bag limit of bucks for 2013, and hunting big game over bait on September 13, 2014.



On August 12th, RFC Cody Jones started investigating a hunting out of season case. Evidence suggested that the suspect shot and killed a bobcat on June 10th in the McCaysville area. On September 1st, RFC Cody Jones and RFC Joe Hill interviewed the suspect who, when presented with the evidence, confessed to shooting the bobcat out of season and on property he didn't have permission to be on. The suspect was issued a citation for hunting out of season and a warning for hunting without permission.

POLK COUNTY

On September 13th, RFC Chad Cox was checking several baited location sites in Polk County and located a subject hunting over a fresh pile of whole corn. The subject was charged with hunting big game over bait.

Region II- Gainesville (Northeast)

STEPHENS COUNTY

On Friday September 12th, RFC Tim Vickery received a complaint in Stephens County about someone having a feeder out in a field with a stand nearby on the wood line. RFC Vickery investigated the complaint that day and found that the feeder had been removed. However, there was still a lot of corn on the ground in front of the stand where the feeder had been. On Sunday morning, September 14, RFC Vickery checked the stand and found an individual hunting in it. The subject stated that he had put the feeder out. RFC Vickery told the individual that even though the feeder was gone, the corn on the ground was still considered bait and could not be hunted over. The subject was cited for hunting big game over bait.

On September 19th, Cpl. Craig Fulghum and Sgt. Stan Elrod was patrolling the Spring Branch area of Lake Hartwell. During their patrol the Rangers checked goose hunters hunting the Lake that evening. One subject was cited for hunting without a hunting license and one subject was cited for hunting without a Georgia Waterfowl License. Two warnings were also issued for failure to sign their Federal Duck Stamp.

MADISON COUNTY

On September 17th, RFC Shane Sartor heard a small dove shoot taking place. The field was baited and the owner admitted to putting the bait out. Two citations and two warnings were issued.

On September 20th, RFC Shane Sartor was patrolling Watson Mill State Park. During his patrol one subject was observed drinking alcohol in the day use area. The subject was issued a citation for violation of state park rules.

HART COUNTY

On September 20th, RFC Brandon Pierce patrolled the county for any hunting activity. During his patrol five dove hunters were checked on the Hart County WMA. A total of two warnings were issued. The violations consisted of hunting with an unplugged shotgun and failure to participate in the HIP program. Later that evening RFC Pierce and Cpl. Craig Fulghum patrolled local fishing areas around Hartwell Lake. One boat was checked for proper safety equipment and fishing licenses. One subject was issued a citation for non-resident fishing without a license.

BARROW COUNTY

On September 20th, RFC Mark Stephens responded to a call in reference to two individuals fishing without permission in Barrow County. At approximately 1200 hours Officer Stephens observed two men fishing in a private pond located off Patrick Mill Rd. Officer Stephens cited the two individuals for fishing without permission.

HALL COUNTY

On September 20th, Cpl. Jason Roberson and Corporal Adam Loudermilk taught a hunter safety class. Thirty two students were certified.

Region III- Thomson (East Central)

OCONEE COUNTY

On September 6th SGT Brian Carter and RFC Tim Butler notified a group of hunters their dove field was baited. It was explained to the field preparer that the bait had to be removed for 10 days prior to hunting. On September 14th, RFC Butler caught the field preparer and two other men hunting the baited field. Bait was still present on the field. All three hunters were issued citations for hunting over bait and 19 dove were confiscated.

WALTON COUNTY

On September 14th RFC Tim Butler issued an archery hunter a citation for hunting big game over bait.

WILKES COUNTY

On September 14th Cpl. Mark Patterson responded to an in progress fishing without permission complaint. Three subjects were cited for fishing without permission.

GREENE COUNTY

On September 14, 2014 Cpl. Derrell Worth cited two hunters for hunting doves with an unplugged shotgun. Cpl. Worth also cited four hunters for hunting doves on a WMA (Wildlife Management Area) on a closed field. One hunter received a citation for having a loaded weapon in his vehicle while on a WMA.

COLUMBIA COUNTY

On September 20th, RFC Brian Adams apprehended and cited three subjects for hunting wood ducks out of season. The subjects were shooting wood ducks on the Savannah River below the Clarks Hill Dam. Two wood ducks were seized by Adams. A tip on the matter was given by South Carolina DNR Officer Michael Davis who observed the subjects from the bank on the South Carolina side of the river.

Region IV- Macon (West Central)

BALDWIN COUNTY

On the morning of September 20th, Cpl. Lynn Stanford and RFC Jeremy Reese assisted with the annual Oconee River Rat Race at the Oconee River Greenway. The event is hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Milledgeville and had over 40 participants. The officers provided marine support in case one of the participants became distressed.



MUSCOGEE COUNTY

On September 14th, Cpl. Jeremy Bolen was notified about an in progress hunting without permission complaint. Cpl. Bolen arrived at the scene and located the individual's truck. Cpl. Bolen utilized K-9 Ruger to track the hunter from the truck into the woods. Ruger located the individual sitting in a deer stand. After speaking with the landowner, Cpl. Bolen was informed that they wanted the individual warned for hunting without permission. The hunter was issued a written warning for the violation at the discretion of the landowner.

Region V- Albany (Southwest)

No activity to report

Region VI- Metter (Southeast)

COFFEE COUNTY

On September 20th, RFC Joe Hilton was on patrol for hunting activity when he encountered several individuals bow hunting. RFC Hilton performed license checks on the individuals and discovered that one was hunting without a license. RFC Hilton issued citations for a non-resident hunting without a license and a non-resident hunting without a big game license. Also, while on this patrol, RFC Hilton encountered several people fishing. RFC Hilton performed a license check on the individuals and discovered none of them possessed a fishing license. RFC Hilton issued citations for fishing without a license to all.

WARE COUNTY

On September 5th, RFC Mark Pool and Ranger Daniel North received information concerning a large pile of garbage that had been dumped on Dixon Memorial WMA property. Using several different items found within the trash, DNR Rangers were able to determine the address from where the trash originated and where the owner worked. The owner was interviewed and a brief investigation followed. The investigation concluded on September 8th and a violation of unlawful dumping of egregious litter was documented on the violator.

On September 14th, while working in the area of Laura S. Walker State Park, Cpl. Jason Shipes observed someone carrying a small child next to the boat landing. The child was crying and seemed to be in a great deal of pain. Cpl. Shipes made contact with the two and learned the juvenile was playing in the swimming area when she twisted her ankle. Her ankle was beginning to swell and was becoming discolored. Ware County EMS was contacted at the request of the parents to respond while Cpl. Shipes placed an ice pack on the injury. The juvenile was transported by EMS for treatment at the request of her parent.

CLINCH COUNTY

On September 22nd, Cpl. Jason Shipes attended the Clinch County Sheriff's Department's annual fishing rodeo. The event was attended by approximately 65 anglers under the age of 13. All in attendance enjoyed a morning of catching fish and winning prizes.

Region VII- Brunswick (Coastal)

GLYNN COUNTY

On September 19, RFC David Brady was awarded the South Atlantic Fisheries Management Council Officer of the Year in Charleston, South Carolina. RFC Brady was chosen by the council from a pool of officers from North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida.

