

# Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division

Field Operations

**Weekly Report**  
**January 25-31, 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.

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## **Region I- Calhoun (Northwest)**

### **FULTON COUNTY**

On January 31<sup>st</sup>, Sergeant Rick Dempsey, Ranger First Class Daniel Gray and Ranger Mark Puig checked nine hunters on the last day of the extended archery season.

On February 1<sup>st</sup>, Ranger First Class Daniel Gray and Ranger Mark Puig worked the delayed harvest section of Fulton and Cobb counties and checked four fishing licenses.

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

### **WHITE COUNTY**

On January 31, RFC David Webb was patrolling Chattahoochee WMA on Popular Stump Road when he observed three men trout fishing in the seasonal section of the Chattahoochee River. RFC Webb advised the men that the section of the Chattahoochee River upstream from Alternate Highway 75 Bridge was a seasonal trout stream and did not open until the last Saturday in March. RFC Webb issued a citation and two written warnings to the fishermen for fishing in closed trout waters.

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

### **RICHMOND COUNTY**

On January 25, Cpl. Ben Payne patrolled Richmond County checking duck hunters. Two ponds were checked with no violations detected. While checking the second pond he heard shooting coming from an area owned by Richmond County Water Works. He located the subjects hunting a pond located next to the treatment ponds. The hunters stated that they had permission from the adjacent landowner. One hunter had an expired state waterfowl license. A warning was issued for the license violation. Later in the week Cpl. Payne contacted Richmond County and learned that no one had permission to hunt the pond. The investigation is ongoing.

### **JOHNSON COUNTY**

On January 31, RFC Matherly investigated a complaint of possible poisoning in Johnson County. The complainant reported they had recently lost three dogs from ingestion of poisoned meet, and a neighbor had mentioned trying to get rid of all the coyotes in the area.

### **WASHINGTON COUNTY**

Corporal Micheal Crawley and K9 Storm responded to hunting without permission call in Davisboro Ga on Saturday January 31. Cpl. Crawley met with complainant and interviewed suspects. It was founded that the suspects were in fact hunting hogs with dogs without permission. Cpl. Crawley charged the 3 suspects hunting without permission. Citations were written and suspects were released.

### **LINCOLN COUNTY**

On January 29<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Ryan Swain conducted a concentrated fishing and boating activity patrol in Southern Lincoln County. Two subjects were apprehended for fishing without a license. The subjects were cited and released. One subject was a non-resident.

### **COLUMBIA COUNTY**

On January 31<sup>st</sup>, RFC Robert Timmerman conducted a Boating Safety Class. Seventeen people were certified in Boaters Safety.

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

### **BALDWIN COUNTY**

On the evening of January 31<sup>st</sup>, Cpl. Stanford patrolled the Sinclair Dam tailrace. Approximately 10 fishermen were checked and one warning was documented for fishing without a license.

### **JONES COUNTY**

On the afternoon of January 31<sup>st</sup>, Cpl. Lynn Stanford received information of an illegal deer kill and location of the carcass. Cpl. Stanford was able to locate the deer dumped in a stream bed and could tell that it had been killed within the last week. Cpl. Stanford obtained the names of 2 suspects and met with them. Cpl. Stanford received written confessions from both suspects and the case is still under investigation.

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

### **WORTH COUNTY**

On January 25<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Robbie Griner and Cpl. Greg Wade located and checked several subjects hunting ducks in a small pond. The pond was found baited, the hunters were cited for hunting over bait and their ducks confiscated.

### **THOMAS COUNTY**

On January 25<sup>th</sup>, Cpl. Wade and Ranger White located three hunters roost shooting ducks. The Rangers cited the subjects for hunting ducks after hours as well as several license violations and seized 13 ducks.



On January 25<sup>th</sup>, Sgt. David Ruddell responded to a complaint of an illegal duck shoot on River Creek WMA. Five subjects entered on a “CLOSED” access road to launch their boat in a cypress pond. Ruddell addressed with the subjects hunting ducks after hours and numerous other violations.

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

No activity to report.

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

### **LIBERTY COUNTY**

On Jan.25th, Ranger Jason Miller, RFC Kiel Toney, and Cpl. Jay Morgan were listening for duck shoots when Miller and Toney heard numerous shots in the Midway area. The two rangers located the duck shoot and checked four adults and about seven juveniles shooting. Several of the juveniles were using unplugged shotguns and the adults were warned about allowing them to use the illegal weapons. Everything else seemed legal and the rangers heard other shots nearby so they went to investigate. A little later after talking to Cpl. Morgan, the three rangers decided to recheck the area and discovered evidence of where corn had been poured out in the water of the area of the shoot. The rangers talked to the landowner who they had checked that morning and he admitted to placing the bait so that the juveniles would have some ducks to shoot at. The suspect was cited for unlawful enticement of game and for hunting over bait.

On the afternoon of Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>, Cpl. Jay Morgan conducted a boating patrol from the Medway River area, St. Catherine's Sound, and Sapelo Sound areas, checking for shellfish violations. Two commercial oyster pickers were checked but no violations were found.

### **CAMDEN COUNTY**

On January 28<sup>th</sup> around 2300 hours, Cpl. Chris Ridley responded to an in progress complaint of illegal shrimping in St Andrews Sound. Cpl. Ridley was able to locate the shrimp trawler up Cumberland River on the back side of Cumberland Island. The shrimp trawler was escorted back to the dock and after checking licenses and gear the two individuals were cited for using power-drawn nets in closed waters.