



# GEORGIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

# FY2024 FACT SHEET

Walter Rabon  
Commissioner

Colonel Mike England  
Director

### LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION MISSION

The Mission of the Law Enforcement Division is to conserve our natural resources and to protect the people we serve. We maintain public support through fair and vigorous law enforcement, quality education, and community involvement. We commit ourselves to our Vision and Mission by practicing our core beliefs: trust, fairness and professionalism.



### Serving Since 1911—Trust, Fairness, Professionalism

DNR has the oldest state law enforcement unit in Georgia. In 1911, the Georgia General Assembly passed legislation creating Game Wardens. In those days, they patrolled the woods and waterways on foot and horseback, carrying their own firearms, wearing the now collectible “quail badge” pinned to their chests.

The people, equipment, methods, and technologies have drastically changed in the last 110 years but the core beliefs have not. Their roles continue to evolve but they still focus on their core mission of enforcing hunting, fishing, boating and environmental laws, providing public safety on all DNR-controlled properties, and serving outdoor enthusiasts and the public throughout Georgia.

Today, the agency is well-respected as one of the top conservation law enforcement divisions in North America. Utilizing new and reliable equipment, deploying the latest technology, and employing top-tier men and women are the keys to meeting the Division’s mission of conserving natural resources and protecting the people they serve.

Georgia Game Wardens are POST-certified peace officers with statewide authority and full arrest powers. They serve alongside all other local, state and federal agencies in all areas of law enforcement. They are the most versatile law enforcement officers in state government with specialized training in:

- Woodland Operations
- Waterborne Operations
- Aviation
- Critical Incident Reconstruction
- Search-and-rescue
- Disaster response
- K-9
- Urban crime suppression

The Ranger Hotline program, which provides a way for citizens to report anonymously potentially illegal wildlife and other conservation law violations, continues to be successful. If the information leads to an arrest, the tipster receives a cash reward funded by the Georgia Natural Resource Foundation.

### SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Game Warden of the Year	Cpl. Tyler Lewis
Supervisor of the Year	Sgt. Jeremy Bolen
Georgia Boating Officer of the Year	Cpl. Tyler Lewis
Investigative Game Warden of the Year	Cpl. Brock Hoyt
Rocky Wainwright Waterfowl Award	GWFC Drew Beverly
James R. Darnell Award Recipient	GWFC Jared Wood
NWTF Officer of the Year	Sgt. Cody Jones
Hunter Education Instructor of the Year	Cpl. Jason Bennett
Torch Award	GW TR Dooley
Operation Dry Water Officer of the Year	Cpl. Jonathan Segars
Administrative Professional of the Year	Brenda Tanner



## CONSERVATION LAW ENFORCEMENT BY THE NUMBERS

- 200 POST certified officers
- Each Game Warden serves an average of 54,550 Georgia citizens
- 16,000 miles of rivers patrolled
- 500,000 acres of impounded waters patrolled
- Coastal Patrol: 100 linear miles of shoreline and out to 200 miles offshore
- Land Patrol: Over 38 million acres. This includes public and private land, including 163 Wildlife Management Areas, 11 Public Fishing Areas, and 66 State Parks and Historic Sites.
- 1,129,635 Licensed Anglers
- 815,738 Licensed Hunters
- 379,067 Registered Vessels

### Programs

- 1,560 Hunter Education Hours
- 5,310 Information and Education Hours
- 1,165 Boating Safety & Boating Education Hours

### Cases

- 4,865 Land & Water Search and Rescue Hours
- 30 Hunting Incidents
- 120 Boating Incidents

### Licenses Checked

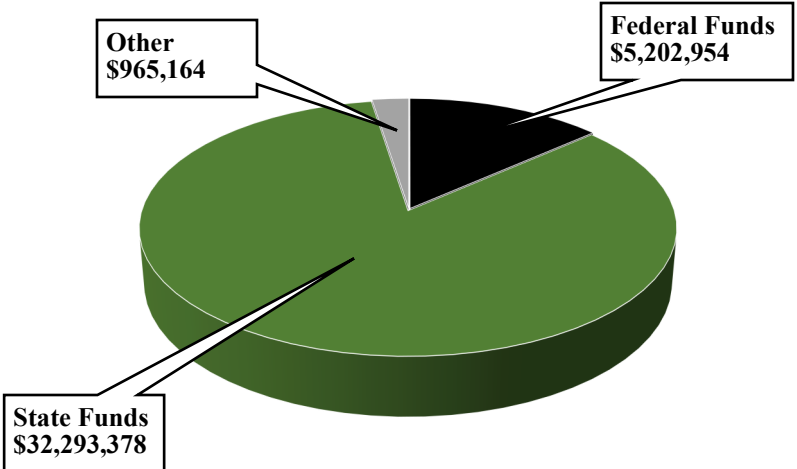
- 21,606 Vessels Checked
- 27,436 Hunting Licenses
- 34,909 Fishing Licenses

### Activity

- 7,939 Boating Contacts
- 6,770 Hunting Contacts
- 4,809 Fishing Contacts
- 458 Environmental Contacts



## FY 2024 Annual Operating Budget

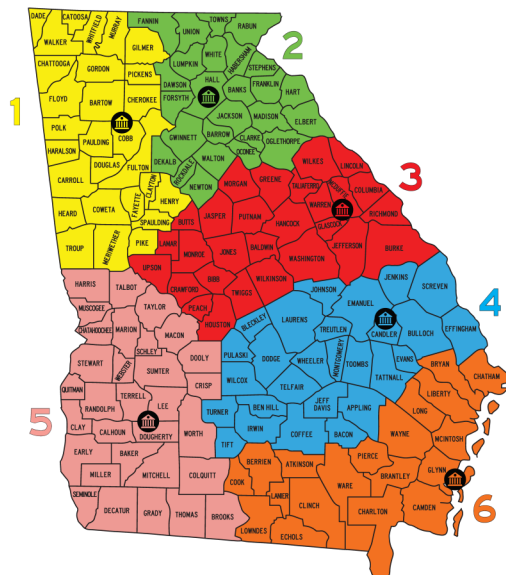


### SPECIALTY UNITS

- Investigative Unit
- K-9
- Aviation
- Side Scan Sonar/ ROV
- Marine Theft
- Region Investigators
- Critical Action Teams
- Special Permits
- Critical Incident Reconstruction Team
- Special Operations Group
- Chaplains

### FY2024 OFFICER TRAINING

- 38th Game Warden Academy
- Firearms Optic Transition
- X2 Taser recertification
- Narcan Refresher
- Succession Training
- SOG—ATV and Mantracking
- FTO Certification
- Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE)
- Remote Operated Vehicle (ROV)
- Firearms and Defensive Tactics
- Legislative Update



Headquarters - (770) 918-6408

Region I - (770) 529-2424  
Capt. Al Greer

Region II - (770) 535-5499  
Capt. Derek Dillard

Region III - (706) 595-4211  
Capt. Sam O'Neal

Region IV - (912) 685-2145  
Capt Bob Lynn

Region V - (229) 430-4252  
Capt. Rick Sellars

Region VI - (912) 264-7234  
Capt. Chris Hodge