



# GEORGIA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

# 2018 FACT SHEET

Mark Williams  
Commissioner

Colonel Eddie Henderson  
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. Over the years, their roles have continued to evolve but they still focus on their core mission of enforcing hunting, fishing, boating and environmental laws. They also provide public safety on all DNR-controlled properties and serve outdoor enthusiasts and the public throughout Georgia.

On August 1, 2018, the Division completed the five-year transition consolidating all Law Enforcement functions under the umbrella of the Law Enforcement Division, to include State Parks enforcement. In 2013, the Board of Natural Resources approved the internal reorganization of its operational Divisions elevating the Law Enforcement Section to Division status, removing it as a sub-program in the Wildlife Resources Division. The changes to were made to more accurately reflect the working structure of the department, streamline operations, clarify chain of command, standardize training, equipment and operational guidance for law enforcement services and to reduce liability.

In September 2017, Game Wardens responded to Hurricane Irma on the Georgia Coast and provided first responder operations, debris clearing, damage assessment, search and rescue and security roles. Due to the path of the storm, Game Wardens in all areas of the state were called into action and the Division logged 10,188 man hours during the week-long event.

Law Enforcement *Off the Pavement*—Georgia Game Wardens are POST certified, well-trained, Georgia Peace Officers, serving alongside all other local, state and federal agencies in all areas of law enforcement. They are often called upon to go *Off the Pavement* to get the job done with their specialized training in:

- Woodland Operations
- Waterborne Operations
- Aviation
- Critical Incident Reconstruction
- Counter-terrorism
- Search-and-rescue
- Disaster response
- K-9

In March of 2018, at the North American Wildlife and Natural Resources Conference, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) presented Georgia DNR Law Enforcement Colonel Eddie Henderson with the prestigious Guy Bradley Award for his lifetime contributions to wildlife law enforcement. The award is only presented to one state and one federal recipient each year.

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. Last year, 172 tips were received by email for various violations.

Whether in the woods, on the lakes or rivers, or in the air enforcing the laws of the state; or in the classroom or community, educating young and old and encouraging safety and conserving our natural resources, DNR Law Enforcement Game Wardens are up to the task.

### SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Game Warden of the Year	Cpl. Cody Jones
Supervisor of the Year	Sgt. Doyte Chaffin
Georgia Boating Officer of the Year	GWFC Mark Puig
Investigative Game Warden of the Year	Cpl. Bart Hendrix
Rocky Wainwright Waterfowl Award	Cpl. Tony Cox
James R. Darnell Award Recipient	GWFC Quinn Fogle
NWTF Officer of the Year	Cpl. Jeffrey Billips
Hunter Education Instructor of the Year	GWFC Eric White
Torch Award	GWFC Bobby Sanders

## CONSERVATION LAW ENFORCEMENT BY THE NUMBERS

- 213 POST certified officers
- Each Game Warden serves 49,508 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 37 million acres. This includes public and private land, including 138 Wildlife Management Areas, 10 Public Fishing Areas, and 64 State Parks and Historic Sites.
- 1,401,101 Licensed Anglers
- 630,017 Licensed Hunters
- 335,723 Registered Vessels

### Programs

- 130 Hunter Education
- 1,541 Information and Education
- 254 Boating Safety
- 177 Hunter Development

### Cases

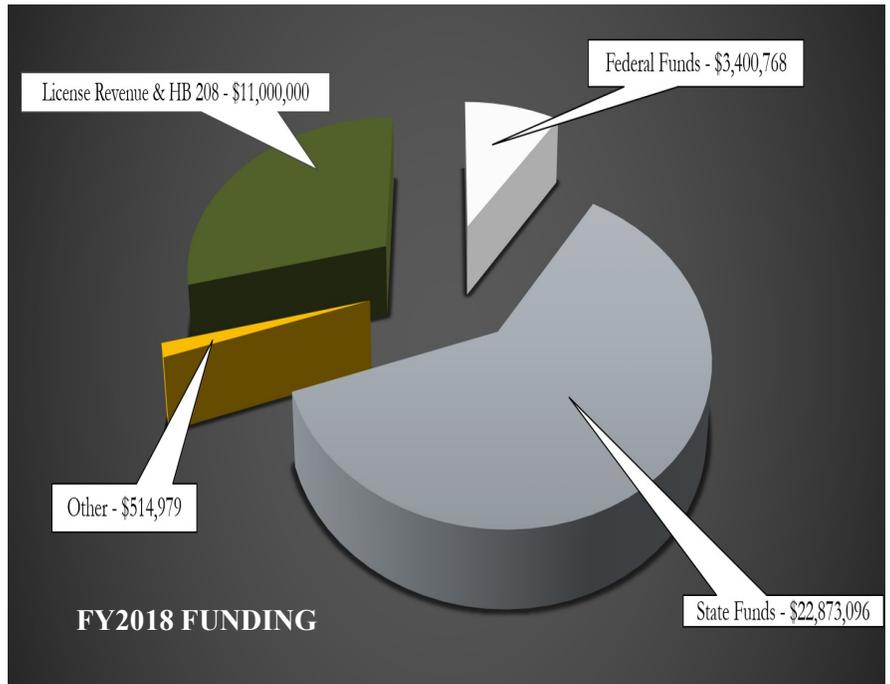
- 212 Water Search and Rescue
- 163 Land Search and Rescue
- 36 Hunting Incidents
- 143 Boating Incidents

### Licenses Checked

- 26,279 Vessels Checked
- 20,817 Hunting Licenses
- 29,031 Fishing Licenses
- 409 Commercial Licenses

### Activity

- 5,085 Boating Contacts
- 5,914 Hunting Contacts
- 3,080 Fishing Contacts

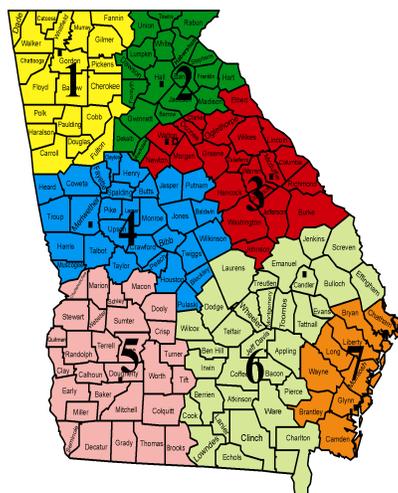


### SPECIALTY UNITS

- Special Permits
- K-9
- Chaplains
- Aviation
- Marine Theft
- Investigative
- Region Investigators
- Critical Action Teams
- Body Recovery Team
- Critical Incident Reconstruction Team
- Counter Terrorism Task Force
- Side Scan Sonar/ Remote Oper-

### 2018 OFFICER TRAINING

- 32nd Game Warden Academy
- NASBLA Seated Battery Standardized Field Sobriety Refresher
- Alzheimer's Response
- De-escalation
- Use-of-Force
- Firearms
- Dynamics of Citizen/Police Encounters
- Domestic Violence Awareness
- Cultural Awareness Training



Headquarters (770) 918-6408

Region I - Northwest (770) 529-2424  
Capt. Jeff Galloway

Region II - Northeast (770) 535-5499  
Capt. Johnny Johnson

Region III - East Central (706) 595-4211  
Capt. Stan Elrod

Region IV - West Central (478) 751-6415  
Capt. Chris Hodge

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

Region VI - Southeast (912) 685-2145  
Capt. Scott Klingel

Region VII - Coastal (912) 264-7234  
Capt. Bob Lynn