



Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



Vision Statement: As vigilant guardians we will protect the citizens and natural resources of Illinois.

DATE: January 24, 2020
(Weeks of January 1-15 , 2020)

This report represents some events the Office of Law Enforcement (OLE) handled over the last couple of weeks; however, it does not include all actions taken by the OLE.

Northwest Zone – Captain Laura Petreikis

District 1 – Sgt. Tony Petreikis

(Counties: Carroll, Henry, JoDaviess, Lee, Mercer, Ogle, Rock Island, Stephenson & Whiteside)

CARROLL COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

HENRY COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

JODAVIESS COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

LEE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

MERCER COUNTY

CPO Posateri issued a citation for taking an antlered deer during the antlerless season after the hunter called to turn himself in for the violation. The antlers were seized, and the meat was processed for the local food pantry.

OGLE COUNTY

CPO Beltran continues the search for missing boaters on the Rock River.

CPO Beltran conducted an investigation of deer hunters in Byron. It was discovered a man from Rockford was hunting without permission and had been doing so for many years. CPO Beltran discovered several unlawfully taken deer and seized meat and antlers. Citations were issued.

ROCK ISLAND COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

STEPHENSON COUNTY

A Pearl City man was interviewed by CPO Beltran during an investigation about coyote hunting. A loaded gun was discovered in the man's vehicle. Citations were issued.

WHITESIDE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

District 6 – Sgt. Phil Wire
(Counties: Boone, Bureau, DeKalb, LaSalle, Putnam & Winnebago)

BOONE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

BUREAU COUNTY

During a compliance check in Bureau County, CPO Stanbary located a deer hunter at Miller Anderson Nature Preserve who had successfully harvested a deer but failed to tag it. The hunter was back at his vehicle and had already moved the deer from the harvest location without tagging it immediately upon harvest as required. The hunter was issued a citation and non-mandatory Bureau Co. court date.

CPOT Swindle and CPO Wagner responded to trapping w/out permission complaint in rural Bureau County. After short investigation CPOT Swindle was able to determine a neighbor was trapping the property. The neighbor admitted knowing he was on the neighbor's property but didn't think it was any big deal. A citation for trapping w/out permission and a written warning for trap tagging violation were issued.

DEKALB COUNTY

CPO Murry received a phone call from an individual who had shot a deer with a shotgun, during a weekend that was not a firearm season. The individual called after realizing he had hunted during the wrong season. CPO Murry went to the hunter's residence who wanted to relinquish the deer if needed, and was ready to accept a citation. After speaking to the individual CPO Murry issued a written warning for the violations and the hunter was allowed to keep the harvested doe.

LASALLE COUNTY

CPO Filipiak and CPOT Leannah were called to a possible theft to Starved Rock Lodge. An individual was suspected of stealing the hitches off the back of multiple vehicles in the lodge parking lot. The parking lot was under camera surveillance. CPO Filipiak reviewed the tape and identified the vehicle belonging to the suspected individual. Upon driving through the parking lot the vehicle was identified. CPOT Leannah observed the suspect returning to his vehicle where contact was made and started an investigation. After multiple attempts to lie about the situation a full written confession was obtain and the hitches were recovered. The individual was arrested for theft of property less than \$500.00.

CPO Kaufman and CPOT Leannah conducted a boat patrol on the Illinois River focusing on walleye and sauger fishermen. Several boats and fish were checked; 2 fish that were measured were right at the legal limit of 14 inches. Written warnings were issued for no fire extinguisher, failure to secure battery, no sounding device, and overloading of watercraft.

CPOT Swindle and CPOT Wagner were checking fisherman at Starved Rock boat ramp. During the checks an individual was found to have two short walleye. When asked for his license the individual was found to be driving in violation of restriction. Citations were issued for the short walleye and violation of restriction.

PUTNAM COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

WINNEBAGO COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

District 7 – Sgt. Scott Avery

(Counties: Fulton, Henderson, Knox, Marshall, McDonough, Peoria, Stark, Tazewell, Warren & Woodford)

FULTON COUNTY

CPO Thompson received information about potential night hunting activity near Fairview, IL. CPO Thompson was able to identify the suspects and conducted interviews. Upon interview, the men admitted to unlawfully shining deer with a handheld spotlight from the roadway. Citations were issued.

CPO Thompson and CPOT McClenning investigated a vehicle parked in a restricted area. CPOs interviewed a man in reference to his vehicle parked in a restricted area. CPOs explained how operating a motor vehicle on the levy system severely deteriorates its functionality and is costly to repair. CPOs showed the man where the parking area is located and the signage designated the area. During the compliance check, CPOs identified some baiting issues near the pit being hunted by the man. CPOs explained the laws pertaining to the violations and issued written warnings.

CPOT McClenning and CPO Thompson investigated a criminal damage complaint at Rice Lake SFWA, investigation is pending.

HENDERSON COUNTY

CPO Elliott responded to complaint of trespassing in Henderson County. Approximately 40-50 hunters were checked in reference to this complaint. The leader of the group explained he had planned a large coyote drive on a few specific properties but did not explain the boundaries as well as he could have to his participants. Some Violations were identified and addressed while others are pending further investigation.

KNOX COUNTY

CPO McCarter conducted several waterfowl hunter compliance checks at Snakeden Hollow Fish and Wildlife Area. Only minor violations were found. The hunters were educated about IL hunting laws and where to find correct information in the Hunting/Trapping Digest. These violations were documented with written warnings.

CPO McCarter performed equipment maintenance in preparation for the upcoming winter weather.

MARSHALL COUNTY

Two Marshall County residents were issued civil cannabis violations after they were found smoking cannabis in a motor vehicle in a public place and under the age of 18. The occupants of the vehicle were observed smoking cannabis by CPO Stanbary. Upon approach, the passenger threw the cannabis outside the passenger window. A strong odor of burnt cannabis was detected inside the vehicle.

MCDONOUGH COUNTY

CPO Elliott responded to a complaint of illegal hunting activities near Blandinsville. Further investigation revealed subjects were unlawfully rabbit hunting on the railroad tracks. The subjects were later identified and proper enforcement action was taken.

CPO Elliott was on patrol near Argyle Lake State Park. After completing a compliance check on a hunter nearly an hour after shooting light, the hunter was found to have a loaded crossbow in the field and after hours and on the roadway. The hunter was addressed with proper enforcement. Additionally, the hunter was not completing his windshield card hunting log as required.

PEORIA COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

STARK COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

TAZEWELL COUNTY

CPO Finn Region 1 District 7 completed online training in preparation for the upcoming trainee class.

WARREN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

WOODFORD COUNTY

CPOT McClenning and CPO Gerard cited a subject for unlawfully hunting on property without consent of the landowner.

Northeast Zone – Captain Jed Whitchurch

**District 2 – Sgt. Eric Schreiber
(Counties: Kane, Lake & McHenry)**

KANE COUNTY

CPO Siedsma conducted an investigation into the alleged unlawful possession of an American alligator at a local business in the St. Charles area. Several endangered species were also supposed to be on site. CPO's Winters and Davis assisted in the inspection along with Rob Carmichael from the Lake Forest Wildlife Discovery Center. The inspection resulted in seizure of 2 spotted turtles and an American alligator. The alligator was relayed to an alligator sanctuary in Michigan. Citations were issued for possession of endangered species and written warnings issued for having over the limit of native turtles and possession of an American alligator.

LAKE COUNTY

CPO Kelley was able to track down a Fox Lake resident whose backpack and purse had been stolen. The items were recovered at Illinois Beach State Park. The owner of the items was grateful for their return.

CPO Kelley found an individual hunting over bait in Ingleside, IL. The man was reluctant at first, but eventually admitted he had baited the area with corn. A citation was issued.

CPO Kelley cited a Zion man for unlawful take of White-tailed deer for hunting in Will County and taking a buck without an "either-sex" deer permit.

CPO Kelley assisted Dawn Keller of Flint Creek Wildlife Rehabilitation in the recovery of an injured Bald Eagle near Lake Marie in Antioch. The bird was able to fly a short distance, but was clearly injured. A complete examination of the bird will be done and it will be released when possible.

MCHENRY COUNTY

CPO Davis and CPO Reid were patrolling McHenry County and observed 5 deer hunters in blaze orange on a deer drive. Hunter safety checks were completed and one hunter was cited for hunting with a loaded and unplugged shotgun.

District 3 – Sgt. Dave Wollgast
(Counties: Grundy, Kankakee, Kendall & Will)

GRUNDY COUNTY

CPO Anderson is investigating a complaint of illegal deer hunting in Grundy County.

KANKAKEE COUNTY

CPO Farber received a hunting without permission complaint. CPO Farber responded to the area and observed a waterfowl hunter set up in a field with goose decoys. CPO Farber made contact with the waterfowl hunter and conducted a field interview. After the interview CPO Farber determined that the young waterfowl hunter had obtained permission to hunt from a neighboring landowner. The young goose hunter ended up unintentionally setting up in the wrong field. CPO Farber explained the importance of doing “homework” before hunting and using proper County GIS maps to determine exact locations. A written warning was issued.

CPO Farber checked two Chicago men pheasant hunting at KRSP. Both men were found to be in possession of unplugged shotguns. CPO Farber discovered that both guns were loaded with more than three shells. Appropriate enforcement action was taken.

KENDALL COUNTY

CPO Bergland received a trapping complainant about an opossum caught in a leg hold trap and taken to the Willowbrook Wildlife Center. CPO Bergland spoke to the complainant. He said that his kids found the opossum in the trap in a large vacant lot near the fox river. The complainant removed the trap and the opossum and took it to the wildlife center. The complainant gave me the trap that had the opossum and showed me the area where the trap was. He told me that it was an 8th grader who had set the traps and that he had spoken to the boy’s grandfather. I advised the complainant that it was possible that the traps had been set legally. CPO Bergland later spoke to the boy and his mom. The boy had taken the online trapper class and had his trapping license. His mom also said that the boy was allowed to trap on that property as the family knows the owner of the vacant lot. CPO Bergland answered many questions that the boy and his mom had about hunting trapping and how to become a CPO when the boy grows up. CPO Bergland left his contact info for the boy to contact him should he have further questions. CPO Bergland later spoke with the complainant and advised him that the traps were set legally and that actually he had committed an illegal act when he removed the legally set trap.

WILL COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

District 4 – Sgt. Mooi
(Counties: Cook & DuPage)

COOK COUNTY

CPO Prasun assisted the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Bureau of Law Enforcement in reference to an investigation into a permit violation. A Wisconsin Conservation Warden requested CPO Prasun to interview an Illinois resident who harvested an antlered deer during the Wisconsin antlerless only 'Holiday Hunt'. The southern Cook County resident was cited for the violation and the illegally taken deer was subsequently confiscated.

CPO Prasun responded to southern Cook County in reference to a complaint of a subject deer hunting from the roadway. The incident is currently under investigation.

CPO Prasun responded to a complaint of a coyote that had bitten a six year old child near a Chicago harbor. The child was transported to a nearby hospital and was in stable condition. Officers and animal control stayed in the area in an attempt to locate the animal.

CPO Kusta inspected and maintained the District 4 snowmobile to ensure it was properly running and ready for patrol when needed.

CPO Kusta attended a Hunter Safety Course at the Region 2 office in Bartlett. CPO Kusta educated the class on important hunting laws. CPO Kusta fielded questions from participants of all ages.

CPO Kusta received a call regarding a raccoon stuck in a grate in Aurora. Upon CPO Kusta's arrival, he observed the raccoon stuck in a storm drain. The raccoon's body was halfway out of the drain and the other half stuck inside. The visibly healthy raccoon was struggling to free his midsection from the drains grasp. CPO Kusta with the assistance of a concerned citizen was able to pull the raccoon to safety and free him in a nearby park.

CPO Kusta received a call regarding a deer lingering in the backyards of a residential neighborhood in DuPage County. CPO Kusta arrived and observed the doe in the backyard of the caller. The doe appeared healthy and uninjured. CPO Kusta advised the homeowner to not feed the deer and eventually the deer will move along. CPO Kusta advised the homeowner if he has anymore concerns to not hesitate to call IDNR.

CPO Kusta was traveling from Chicago on the interstate and observed a traffic crash involving two vehicles on the left shoulder. CPO Kusta stopped and notified Illinois State Police Dispatch. CPO Kusta ensured there were no injuries to the occupants of the vehicles involved. Illinois State Police arrived on scene to conduct their traffic crash investigation.

CPO Kusta was conducting sport fish enforcement along the Lake Michigan shoreline. CPO Kusta requested two fishermen's fishing licenses. Both fishermen were unable to provide CPO Kusta with their fishing license. CPO Kusta conducted a check in the Point of Sale System and confirmed both fishermen had valid Illinois Fishing Licenses. CPO Kusta educated both fishermen and issued a written warning for not having their fishing licenses in possession.

CPO Kusta was conducting sport fish enforcement along the Lake Michigan shoreline. CPO Kusta requested to see a fisherman's fishing license. The fisherman was unable to provide a fishing license and immediately advised CPO Kusta he did not have one. CPO Kusta educated the fisherman and issued a written warning for no fishing license.

CPO Kusta was conducting sport fishing enforcement along a south Chicago River. CPO Kusta observed several yellow perch in a parked vehicle. CPO Kusta observed the fisherman/owner of the vehicle returning to his vehicle with a bag of yellow perch. CPO Kusta counted 14 yellow perch in the bag upon the fisherman returning to his vehicle. CPO Kusta conducted a search of the vehicle with the owners consent. CPO Kusta located a backpack containing 2 more bags of yellow perch. The fisherman admitted to catching all the fish. CPO Kusta conducted a count of the fish in the fisherman's possession. CPO Kusta counted 44 yellow perch, the daily limit is 15. CPO Kusta took enforcement action and seized all 44 yellow perch. The fisherman was issued 2 citations and given a mandatory court date.

CPO Prasun checked several perch fishermen near the Lake Michigan shoreline and located a fisherman who had no fishing license and had caught over the daily possession limit of perch. He was cited for the offense of being over the daily possession limit. Enforcement action was also taken and the fisherman was educated on the law in reference to the requirement of having a Resident Fishing License.

CPO Prasun and CPO Kusta responded to a complaint of a fisherman near a Lake Michigan shoreline who had caught over his daily limit of perch. After a brief investigation, CPO Kusta located two fishermen, one matching the description given by the complainant. One of the fishermen were found to be in possession of forty-four perch which was twenty-nine perch over the daily possession limit. The fisherman was cited for the offense.

DUPAGE COUNTY

Central Zone – Captain Laura Petreikis and Captain Jed Whitchurch

District 9 – Sgt. Eric Myers

(Counties: Adams, Brown, Calhoun, Greene, Hancock, Jersey, Macoupin, Pike & Schuyler)

ADAMS COUNTY

CPO Blazinic closed several cases in Adams County. Unlawful use of weapons by a felon, shining wildlife and shooting from a roadway. The subject plead guilty and was assessed a several hundred dollar fine on the conservation violations. The subject was sentenced to 6 years Department of Corrections on an unrelated charge.

CPO Blazinic conducted archery deer and late winter firearm deer enforcement.

BROWN COUNTY

CPO Blakeley located a nonresident deer hunter in the field with a loaded crossbow after legal hours. Upon further inspection two loaded handguns were located in the subjects vehicle. The hunter was also without a case to transport the crossbow legally.

CALHOUN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

GREENE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

HANCOCK COUNTY

CPO Wheatley followed up on information he received from an undisclosed source regarding a Dallas City man killing a 6 point buck without a valid deer permit in October of 2019. CPO Wheatley met with the man and conducted an interview. Based off the man’s story concerning the deer hunt, CPO Wheatley was able to see the time line of events did not add up regarding the prior intel received that lead to the encounter. CPO Wheatley asked the man if he was sure he had a permit prior to harvesting the deer. The man responded that he thought he did, but based on what CPO Wheatley presented, he must have been mistaken. CPO Wheatley issued him a citation for hunting without a permit and a written warning for not having a permit in possession.

JERSEY COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

MACOUPIN COUNTY

CPO Gushleff cited a subject who dumped a deer on a country road in the ditch. The farmer who owned the property called CPO Gushleff to inform him of the dumped deer carcass. The farmer told CPO Gushleff that the subject left his tag on the deer. CPO Gushleff then began to investigate the incident, and found out it was the son of the person on the tag who actually dumped the deer. He was cited for Illegal Dumping of Wildlife and informed of the legal procedure of disposing of wildlife carcasses.

PIKE COUNTY

CPO’s Jansen received information stating an untagged buck was in the yard of a residence. CPO’s Jansen and Blazinic arrived and discovered 2 subjects at the residence were wanted on warrants. They were taken to Pike County Jail. The deer head was found to be lawfully obtained.

CPO Jansen discovered a goose hunter floating a 4th shell. The subject was issued a citation.

CPO Blazinic closed a case in Pike County concerning a feral pig infestation. An individual was cited for allowing a feral pig population to propagate due to substandard fencing. The individual was issued a citation, served 6 days in the pike county jail and paid several thousand dollars in fines.

CPO Blazinic and CPO Jansen arrested 2 subjects who were wanted on warrants. Both were arrested and incarcerated in the Pike County Jail.

SCHUYLER COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

**District 10 – Sgt. William Gilmer
(Counties: Cass, Christian, Logan, Mason, Menard, Morgan, Sangamon & Scott)**

CASS COUNTY

CPO Wahlbrink observed a fisherman fishing from the bank at Gridley Lake at Jim Edgar Panther Creek SFWA. Shortly after spotting CPO Wahlbrink, he stopped fishing and began walking to the parking lot. CPO Wahlbrink discovered the fisherman was 16 years old and did not have a fishing license. He was educated on the fishing license requirements and issued a written warning.

CPO Wahlbrink investigated a complaint of a deceased bald eagle near Beardstown with the assistance of Illinois State Police. Upon evaluation, it was believed the eagle had been hit by a car while feeding on roadkill. The eagle was delivered to the USFWS in Springfield.

CPO Wahlbrink noticed a man hunting in a restricted area outside of his house on state property. The man walked past a “restricted area” sign shortly before shooting at a pheasant. The man was cited for the offense.

While on patrol at Jim Edgar Panther Creek, CPO Wahlbrink issued a man a written warning for failing to obtain a habitat stamp prior to archery deer hunting. Another man was issued a written warning for failing to obtain a windshield card prior to archery deer hunting.

CPO Wahlbrink issued a man a citation for having an uncased air rifle in his vehicle and written warnings for operating a vehicle with expired registration and failing to display his windshield card while hunting at Jim Edgar Panther Creek.

CHRISTIAN COUNTY

While on routine patrol CPO Snodgrass observed a male walking across a corn field dressed in full camouflage. Upon stopping and observing the subject he noticed the subject to possess a long gun. The subject was walking toward a residence where CPO Snodgrass relocated and intercepted the hunter. The hunter was very nervous and was reluctant to answer CPO Snodgrass questions on whose property he was hunting on and what he was hunting. The hunter confessed to hunting a pond on the property without permission. He was also found to be hunting without a valid hunting license, HIP, or waterfowl stamps. The subject was issued a citation and several warnings for the violations.

CPO Wichern cited a coyote hunter for improperly casing his rifle in a convenience, during the 2019 Christian county three-day coyote tournament.

LOGAN COUNTY

CPO Thornley received a complaint regarding someone possibly feeding deer. Upon investigation, it was determined a homeowner across the street was attempting to feed squirrels corn. CPO Thornley met with the homeowner and explained the regulations for feeding wildlife. The homeowner was given a digest and issued a written warning for the violation.

MASON COUNTY

Sgt. Gilmer and CPO Wahlbrink performed a watercraft registration inspection on an unclaimed boat. Sgt. Gilmer identified a Hull Identification Number (HIN) on the watercraft. Based on the HIN, Law Enforcement records indicated the boat was registered to an individual who lived in Sangamon County. Sgt. Gilmer and CPO Wahlbrink seized the boat and drove to the registered owner's residence to talk with him about the boat. He stated he had lost the boat years ago. Upon investigation, it was discovered he had an outstanding warrant for his arrest. The man was apprehended and taken to the Sangamon County Jail. An insurance investigation was completed which did not reveal any claims on the watercraft. A few days later the watercraft was returned to the registered owner.

MENARD COUNTY

CPO Thornley received a call regarding a trespassing complaint. After investigating the complaint, it was determined to be a real estate agent showing the property.

CPO Thornley assisted Menard County Sheriff's Office and the Illinois State Police with a subject who was arrested for DUI.

MORGAN COUNTY

CPO Wahlbrink received a disposition on a case from the opening day of waterfowl season where an individual was hunting with an unplugged shotgun. After a trial by judge, the violator was found guilty.

SANGAMON COUNTY

I CPO Snodgrass was dispatched to I55 MP 105 at Sherman for a Bald Eagle that had been struck by a vehicle. The Eagle was laying flat on the inside shoulder of I55 southbound. The Eagle appeared to have head, wing, and foot trauma. CPO Snodgrass assisted the Eagle to its feet. With assistance from Sherman Pd and ISP they were able to place the Eagle in a cage. The eagle was transported to The Illinois Raptor Center in Decatur, IL for rehabilitation.

SCOTT COUNTY

CPO Wichern cited a Scott county archery hunting for taking (2) deer prior to purchasing a 2019 Illinois Habitat Stamp.

CPO Wichern & CPO Blakeley cited an archery hunter for failing to make his bow inoperable prior to transporting it in a conveyance, during a night patrol in southern Scott county.

District 11 – Sgt. John Williamson

(Counties: Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, Moultrie & Shelby)

CLARK COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

COLES COUNTY

CPO Hyatt issued a salvage tag to a hunter at Fox Ridge State Park.

Working on a social media complaint regarding an illegal outfitter CPO's Mieure, Hyatt and CPOT Workman interviewed an Oakland man and issued the following: Advertise outfitting services at time outfitter does not have a license, Advertise in a false or misleading manner for outfitting., Operating as an outfitter with no outfitters license, Deceptive Advertising., Failure to submit reports and records., Providing outfitting services without insurance, Failure to notify SOS of change of address.

CPO Mieure and CPOT Workman while patrolling near Lake Paradise issued two Mattoon teens written warnings for possession of cannabis.

CPO Mieure and CPOT Workman issued a Tower Hill woman one written warning for fishing license not in possession.

CPO Mieure and CPOT Workman completed administrative investigations and issued a Charleston man and a Mattoon man each one written warning for failure to tag deer immediately upon kill.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

DOUGLAS COUNTY

CPO Hyatt assisted CPO Mieure with an outfitter case involving a subject acting as an outfitter and guide with no license. The subject was issued 3 citations and 4 warnings.

EDGAR COUNTY

CPO Hyatt responded to a call in Paris involving a farmer that was having issues with dogs chasing his livestock.

MOULTRIE COUNTY

CPO Moody cited a Mattoon man in rural Moultrie county for hunting without permission and failure to report an archery killed deer. The man received multiple written warnings for other violations as well.

CPO Moody cited a Pana man in rural Moultrie County for hunting without permission and hunting with no valid deer permits. Than man received multiple written warnings as well.

SHELBY COUNTY

CPO Hyatt performed a security check at the Eagle Creek Golf Resort on New Years Day. Golf Course and club house were checked.

CPO Mieure and CPOT Workman issued a Mt. Zion man two written warnings on Lake Shelbyville for fishing license not in possession and no Type IV throwable.

District 19 – Sgt. John Williamson

(Counties: Champaign, DeWitt, Ford, Iroquois, Livingston, Macon, McLean, Piatt & Vermilion)

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

DEWITT COUNTY

CPO Ausmus and CPOT Gates enforced Clinton Lake site specific rules and removed several tree stands that were not removed daily as required. Some stands were found by the CPOs and others were found thanks to tips from sportsman.

CPO Ausmus and CPOT Gates checked fishermen at Clinton lake. Two Peoria anglers were issued written warnings for fishing in a closed area. A Champaign angler was issued a written warning for fishing without a license.

CPO Ausmus assisted Dewitt County Sheriff's office with a report of a suicidal female who was safely located at a Clinton Lake boat launch.

CPO Ausmus checked anglers at Clinton Lake, a De Land subject was issued a written warning for fishing in a closed area and for having an unlawful ground fire where prohibited. A Champaign man was issued warnings for unlawful ground fire where prohibited and unlawfully filleting/dressing a fish on waters where a creel limit exist.

FORD COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

IROQUOIS COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

CPO G. Anderson received a call from a complainant who claimed to dispatch an injured deer. CPO Anderson did meet with the complainant and inspected the deer. The complainant was educated on the proper way to handle this situation in the future. The complainant was issued a written warning and granted a salvage tag for the deer.

CPO G. Anderson is currently investigating a boat that was illegally dumped in private property agriculture field.

MACON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

MCLEAN COUNTY

CPO G. Anderson is currently investigating an incident of criminal trespass and unlawful operation of an ATV on private property.

From late-December through mid-January, CPO Graden has been serving as FTO for CPOT Gates as he completes the field training program. While on patrol, they have issued multiple written warnings for assorted wildlife violations. Most recently, CPOT Gates completed an investigation into a Bloomington, IL resident who illegally killed a whitetail doe in McDonough County. The hunter did not have a hunting license, or habitat stamp, and failed to tag the doe immediately after he killed it. He was issued one citation and two written warnings.

PIATT COUNTY

In Piatt County, CPOs Ausmus issued a Mahomet man a written warning for speeding.

VERMILION COUNTY

CPO Sanford and CPOT K. Williams conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle traveling 97 MPH in a 70 MPH zone. The vehicle was also discovered to be operating with no valid insurance and suspended registration, due to mandatory insurance violations. The driver of the vehicle was issued three citations for the violations and the vehicle was towed.

South Zone – Acting Captain Eric Manker

District 13 – Sgt. Eric Manker

(Counties: Bond, Clinton, Madison, Monroe, Montgomery, Randolph, St. Clair & Washington)

BOND COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

CLINTON COUNTY

During the controlled pheasant hunt in Eldon Hazlet State Park near Carlyle lake, a hunter was out with several friends on a hunt. There are several very well marked areas where shooting is allowed and areas where it is not, hunters are encouraged to stay well within these boundaries when hunting. This particular hunter decided to hunt the edges of the legal hunt area and shot at a bird. He missed and his shot carried a long way and hit the wall and windows of a general store. The manager called CPO Macias and he arrived to find damage to the exterior of the doorway and several shot BB's in the floor of the entrance of the store. The shot was collected and contact was made with the hunter. He admitted to shooting in the direction of the store but not thinking the shot would reach in case of a miss. The store was across a roadway so a citation for shooting across a roadway was issued to the hunter.

MADISON COUNTY

CPO Ray attended the Collinsville Let's Go Fishing show with IDNR Fish Biologist to inform public on state fishing areas and laws.

CPO Liebl taught the Law Enforcement portion of a hunter safety class to students in Collinsville

CPO Liebl was working a State area when he saw two pick up trucks spinning in circles on the roadway and in the parking lot at the site. Several teens from MO thought it would be fun to take part in the dangerous activity on top of the levy. Both drivers of the vehicles were cited.

MONROE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

RANDOLPH COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

CPO Schachner received a complaint in Jan 2017 of excessively late shooting of geese (essentially after dark) which continued to occur sporadically since the original complaint. Due to the roost location and the infrequent occurrence, CPO Schachner worked the complaint about 25 times before finally catching the goose poachers in the act. During several years of working the case, CPO Schachner developed suspects; observed/collected evidence and learned they

were also hunting without permission. Upon being caught, the poachers were cited for shooting 21 minutes after hours, possession of lead shot and for shooting 38 minutes after hours in 2019. In addition one subject received two citations for illegally shooting/possessing a large buck and falsifying the harvest record. Two shotguns were seized, a Canada goose was seized and a large mounted 9pt buck was seized.

The poachers were warned for failure to possess license and stamps, unplugged shotgun, hunting without permission (multiple occasions), criminal trespass and no hunting license in 2018. They were not cited for hunting without permission as the property recently changed ownership.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

District 14 – Sgt. Eric Manker

(Counties: Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jefferson, Pope, Saline & White)

FRANKLIN COUNTY

CPO Johnson concluded a deer investigation. CPO Johnson received information of untagged deer in Franklin County.

The investigation was initiated and involved the use of covert operations and speaking with additional sources.

Simultaneous interviews were conducted by 3 CPO's and the investigation resulted in the arrest of 3 individuals for the unlawful take of 6 deer, which were taken by motor vehicle, at night, and poached with a 30-06 rifle. The subjects were issued 16 citations to include the following. Unlawful take of 3 bucks and 3 does, unlawful use of motor vehicle to take deer, unlawful spotlighting, Unlawful use of rifle, hunting without a license and unlawful possession of deer.

CPO Jourdan charged a Benton man with shooting 2 deer at night from a vehicle. The deer were shot with a rifle with use of lights from a pickup truck. The man failed to butcher the deer and dumped them in a road ditch to rot. Charges included unlawful take of 2 deer, use of lights to hunt deer, wanton waste of game, and hunting without licenses or permits.

CPO Williams prepared watercraft for response to flooding from significant rainfall in the area.

GALLATIN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

HAMILTON COUNTY

CPO Williams assisted CPO Folden with Deer harvest related investigations.

CPOs Folden, Williams, Haggerty, and CPOT Iaffaldano conducted an investigation in Hamilton County into the falsification of a harvest record. Five subjects were identified in this investigation including 4 Illinois residents and 1 Tennessee resident. The Tennessee resident only purchased an antlerless only deer permit and harvested a 7 point buck. They then unlawfully used an Illinois Resident permit belonging to another person. 2 citations were issued for unlawful use of another person's permit, 2 written warnings for unlawful loaning of a deer permit to another person, 1 citation for unlawful harvesting an antlered deer while only possessing an antlerless only permit, and 1 citation for hunting without a habitat stamp.

HARDIN COUNTY

CPO Wilkinson patrolled Hardin County. While on patrol, a hunting blind was discovered near a roadway, inside a nature preserve. CPO Wilkinson made entry into the preserve and determined the blind was empty. No contact information was found with the blind. The blind was confiscated from the preserve and a seizure tag was left at the location.

CPO Wilkinson was contacted by a landowner referencing his horse that was shot by an archery device. CPO Wilkinson is assisting Hardin County with the investigation.

JEFFERSON COUNTY

CPO Williams investigated a complaint of wanton waste at the Rend Lake WMA. It was determined the group of waterfowl hunters were unaware of crippling a goose and thus failed to retrieve it. However, none of the hunters had signed in as required to hunt the waterfowl area. Four citations and 6 written warnings were issued to the group.

POPE COUNTY

CPO Wilkinson is conducting deer hunting investigations. Enforcement action is pending.

SALINE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

WHITE COUNTY

CPO Haggerty is investigating a report of unlawful hunting without a valid deer permit.

District 15 – Sgt. Eric Manker

(Counties: Clay, Crawford, Edwards, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Lawrence, Marion Richland, Wabash & Wayne)

CLAY COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

CRAWFORD COUNTY

CPO's Cory Skelton, Paul Smith, Tim Buhnerkempe, and AJ Hyatt got a call from Crawford County Sheriff's Office in regards to a missing Sullivan, IN man. The missing man was last spotted on the Embarrasse River. The man apparently got into a disagreement with his family and ran off. His truck was discovered at the Hutonsville, IL boat launch. A witness near by saw the missing man going down river in a canoe. CPO's, Crawford County Sheriff's Office and Indiana DNR all set off down the Embarrasse to try and locate him. CPO's Skelton and Hyatt put a boat on the river at St. Francisville, while CPO's Smith and Buhnerkempe put on at Mt. Carmel. Shortly into the search it was discovered Indiana DNR had located the missing man's campsite a couple miles north of Russellville, IL . An hour later Indiana DNR found the man alive and well in nearby Oaktown, IN.

CPO Skelton Assisted Crawford County in the search of a missing person on the Wabash river. The subject's camp was located on the river's edge, and the subject was later found by Indiana DNR alive and well.

EDWARDS COUNTY

CPO Skelton worked waterfowl hunters, and investigated possible falsification of records charges on individuals who used others deer tags.

EFFINGHAM COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

FAYETTE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

JASPER COUNTY

CPO AJ Hyatt received a call about an individual who shot himself in the leg while checking a trap line. CPO Hyatt made contact with the subject to gather information of what happened. The individual told CPO Hyatt he was loading his Heritage Rough Rider .22 revolver and to load the gun you have to slightly pull the hammer back. When the subject went to lower the hammer back down on the pistol his finger slipped off the hammer and went off shooting him in the leg above the knee cap. He was taken to St. Anthony Memorial Hospital for treatment and released later that night. A field report was made and the subject was given a hunter accident form to fill out to send to the state.

CPO Skelton worked Waterfowl hunters, and Crappie fisherman at Newton Lake.

CPO Roper observed four individuals exiting a field from Waterfowl hunting. The hunters possessed several ducks and geese all together in one pile. The hunters failed to keep their birds separated by hunter as required. CPO Roper issued all four hunters citations for failure to maintain separate bags.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

CPO Dusty Taylor received a call about an individual who had fell into the Embarrass River. Three individuals were parked on the bridge near 1250 N and 1000 E in Lawrence county when one fell off the bridge into the river. CPO Taylor, Smith, Sgt. Hyatt and CPO AJ Hyatt were called to locate Latch. CPO Taylor was able to find the victim via sonar. A dive team was called and the body was recovered, deceased at 11:40 am. The body was turned over to the Lawrence County Coroner.

CPO Taylor issued a citation to deer hunter for unlawful hunting deer without a permit

MARION COUNTY

CPOT Alvarez- Gerbino and CPO Buhnerkempe were investigating multiple subjects who could have possibly harvested deer with no permits. 3 citations were issued as well as 3 written warnings for unlawful take of whitetail deer without valid permit. An 8- point deer skull was seized.

RICHLAND COUNTY

CPO Skelton worked waterfowl hunters, and investigated possible falsification of records charges on individuals who used others deer tags.

WABASH COUNTY

CPO Skelton Issued one individual a citation for falsification of records. The said individual was using another's landowners tags to report deer that he had harvested.

WAYNE COUNTY

CPO Folden, Knop, and CPOTs Iaffaldano and Leannah conducted a waterfowl detail in Southern Wayne County. Two hunters were issued citations for unlawfully hunting waterfowl with lead shot. In a second blind, one hunter was arrested and transported to Wayne Co Jail for unlawfully possessing a firearm and ammunition while having a REVOKED FOID card. The subject was also cited for not having a hunting license in his possession and not having a Federal waterfowl stamp in his possession.

CPO Skelton worked waterfowl hunters, and investigated possible falsification of records charges on individuals who used others deer tags.

District 16 – Sgt. Kris Taylor

(Counties: Alexander, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Perry, Pulaski, Union & Williamson)

ALEXANDER COUNTY

CPO Vasicek charged subjects with hunting closed area of Horseshoe Lake SFWA. Hunters also had multiple licensing violations.

CPO Spinka checked multiple duck hunters on the Cash river and on private property. Made contact with several groups and checked for compliance and did not observe any violations.

JACKSON COUNTY

CPO Tapley investigated the unlawful taking of a deer case.

CPO Tapley continued an investigation of an unlawful timber cutting.

JOHNSON COUNTY

CPO Vasicek charged a subject with purchasing an archery deer tag at the request of a hunter who unlawfully killed 2 bucks within 10 minutes of each other. The straw tag was placed on the deer unlawfully. The unlawful take, possession, and falsification section of the IL Wildlife Code were charged.

CPO Teas along with US Forest Service responded to a complaint of a truck which had been parked near the Shawnee National Forest in Johnson County for an extended period. It was determined the truck belonged to a hunter which had ridden his ATV into the Shawnee. Contact was made with the hunter and he was cited for the ATV violation.

CPO Wolf arrested an individual for damage to state property, off roading, and damaging agriculture crops on Cache River State Natural Area.

MASSAC COUNTY

CPO Wolf arrested two Missouri hunters for trespassing, hunting without permission, and hunting with no valid non resident hunting license.

PERRY COUNTY

No activity reported for this county

PULASKI COUNTY

CPO Spinka is currently investigating multiple deer hunting related cases that took place during the firearm deer season and during archery season.

UNION COUNTY

CPO Vasicek charged a subject with unlawfully killing a white tailed deer that he failed to tag, or check in. The subject unlawfully transferred possession of the deer to an additional subject who works at a meat processing facility. That subject used a previously used tag from a customer to “cover” the untagged deer at the facility. Multiple citations issued.

CPO Vasicek, Illinois State Police, and Union County Sheriff’s Department worked a fugitive manhunt for a subject wanted on felony warrants out of 2 different states for Methamphetamine, burglary, and other criminal warrants.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county