



Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



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

DATE: May 19, 2020
(Weeks of April 16-30, 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

CPO Peecher has issued 3 citations and 2 WW for unlawful access to Carroll County IDNR Sites during COVID-19 Pandemic

HENRY COUNTY

CPO Posateri patrolled the Hennepin Canal and Johnson Sauk Trail during the COVID19 State Park Closures.

JODAVIESS COUNTY

CPO Hoftender issued a citation to an Oklahoma man for fishing without a non-resident license at Apple River Canyon State Park, after the man and his friend walked around a barricade to fish. Both the Oklahoma man and his friend were issued written warnings for entering the closed park.

LEE COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

MERCER COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

OGLE COUNTY

An Oregon man called and reported he had mis read that dates for the turkey season and accidentally killed a bird during the closed season. CPO Beltran made contact with the man, safely during the pandemic, and issued him a written warning. He was thanked for his honesty.

CPO Beltran asked several people to exit the park after it was marked and posted as closed.

ROCK ISLAND COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

STEPHENSON COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

WHITESIDE COUNTY

CPO Peecher has issued 1 WW for unlawful access to Morrison Rockwood State Park

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

BOONE COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

BUREAU COUNTY

CPO Wagner patrolled state parks, recreational areas and nature preserves was conducted to enforce the provisions of the Governors Executive Order.

CPO Kiprono responded to a structure fire to a DNR outbuilding on the Hennepin Canal. The outbuilding was completely unsalvageable. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

CPO Stanbary and CPO Kiprono conducted a sport fish enforcement detail on a boat on the Illinois River. Two fishermen from Florida were fishing at Barto Landing without fishing licenses. One of the individuals became uncooperative and refused to provide identification or provide his name. He was arrested for obstructing a peace officer and fishing without a fishing license.

DEKALB COUNTY

CP Murry along with DeKalb Sheriff's Department searched for two suspects that ran from deputies in the closed Shabbona Lake State Park. The individuals were located in the woods as they were attempting to get back to their vehicle. They were arrested for resisting and entering a restricted area. Charges are also pending at the State's Attorney for unlawful possession of Cocaine.

LASALLE COUNTY

CPO Workman patrolled Lasalle County and IDNR properties. CPO Workman performed a fishing compliance and boat check on a subject. The subject was issued a written warning for operating a kayak with no personal flotation device.

CPO Kaufman was contacted by Starved Rock State Park site security. Security had located a vehicle and tent in a remote area of the park. CPO Kaufman arrived and found a couple from Chicago trying to camp in the park. CPO Kaufman had the couple break down their camp and go back to Chicago.

While conducting a boat patrol on the Illinois River, CPO Stanbary stopped to talk to a family who was fishing near the Starved Rock Dam in their boat. The CPO noticed a child in the boat who wasn't wearing a life jacket. The CPO learned the youth was under 13. During the vessel inspection, two minor equipment violations were noted and a female passenger who was fishing had no current license. The boater received a citation for the child under 13 not wearing a PFD. Written warnings were issued for the other noted violations. The CPO expressed the importance of everyone wearing a life jacket to be safe in the heavy current, especially the young fisherman.

CPO Wagner and CPOT Williams while checking fisherman along the Illinois River cited 6 fishermen for fishing without fishing license, 1 individual for short walleye and 1 individual for dressing fish along a prohibited area.

CPO Wagner and CPOT Williams cited 3 individuals for entering restricted area. (Found walking trails at Starved Rock).

CPO Kiprono patrolled the I & M Canal Lock 14 to enforce the COVID-19 closure for state property when a runner was discovered unlawfully exercising on the closed canal. Upon initial contact, the runner was uncooperative, disregarded a lawful order to stop and proceeded to continue running. The individual was cited.

PUTNAM COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

WINNEBAGO COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

District 7 – Sgt. Scott Avery

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

FULTON COUNTY

CPO Thompson patrolled state parks in Fulton County to ensure compliance with the recent closures.

HENDERSON COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

KNOX COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

MARSHALL COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

MCDONOUGH COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

PEORIA COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

STARK COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

TAZEWELL COUNTY

CPO Finn patrolled Mackinaw River State Park for unlawfully entry and continued property damage to the park. Several hikers and walkers were removed, however no unlawful hunting was discovered. The damage to gates and parking lots are still under investigation.

WARREN COUNTY

CPO Thompson conducted an investigation into an alleged report of unlawful take of a wild turkey during the closed season. CPO Thompson interviewed the suspect at his residence and gained a confession to the violation. The man admitted to having shot a wild turkey the weekend before the opening day of turkey season. As a result of the case, CPO

Thompson and CPO Elliott seized a wild turkey and a semi-automatic shotgun. The man was issued several citations and warnings and has a future court date.

WOODFORD COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

Northeast Zone – Captain Jed Whitchurch

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

KANE COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

LAKE COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

MCHENRY COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

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

GRUNDY COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

KANKAKEE COUNTY

CPO's Farber and Elliot investigated a dumping complaint near River Isle in Momence, IL. CPL Littrell and Deputy Luft from the Kankakee County Sheriff's Dept assisted with the investigation. Approximately 30 black garbage bags filled with household garbage were dumped into a waterway, which ran along a public road. The CPO's entered the water utilizing waders and retrieved several bags. The bags were relayed to the deputies on shore who sorted through them in an attempt to locate evidence that would identify the violators. Several pieces of evidence were located and three Indiana residents were identified as potential suspects. The Jasper County, IN Sheriff's Dept assisted CPO's by locating and conducting interviews with the suspects. Sgt Whaley from Jasper County ended up obtaining a confession from the violators. The subjects who unlawfully dumped the trash agreed to return to Illinois to receive their citations and remove the trash from the waterway. The two Indiana men retrieved all thirty bags, and loaded the wet/waterlogged garbage into the back of their conversion van. Both violators were issued citations for unlawful dumping of trash along the roadway and pollution of waterway.

CPO's Farber and Elliot conducted a warrant arrest at the Gar Creek Forest Preserve in Kankakee County. CPO Farber negotiated the surrender of the subject who was wanted for indecent exposure by telephone. CPO Elliot placed the violator into handcuffs and the warrant was confirmed. Due to COVID-19 concerns the subject posted \$500.00 cash bond on scene and was given a mandatory court date.

KENDALL COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

WILL COUNTY

CPO Prasun investigated a complaint in reference to a western Will County resident who was illegally trapping at his residence. It was determined the resident had trapped a skunk out of season and without proper licensing. Enforcement action was taken and the resident was educated on Illinois' trapping laws.

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

COOK COUNTY

CPO Gates patrolled James Phillip state Park. He issued numerous verbal warnings to people out running or biking on the trails.

CPO Gates assisted CCFPD with an overturned sailboat on Busse Lake. There were no injuries reported.

CPO Gates Investigated a commercial mushroom hunting operation occurring in Cook County. Investigation is on going

CPO Roesch gave verbal warnings to several individuals walking and riding bikes in the state park.

This week, while patrolling William Powers State Park, CPO Swindle observed two vehicles enter the back side of the park on the count line road. This occurred at approximately 8:00 PM. As CPO Swindle approached he saw two males fishing in the Wolf Lake. After verifying their identity and confirming they knew the area was closed to pedestrians and fishing, CPO Swindle issued one citation and one warning for unlawfully fishing in an area closed to fishing.

CPO Roesch patrolled William Powers State Park closure due to COVID-19 issuing verbal warnings to individuals walking and riding bikes in the closed state park.

CPO Roesch issued citations to three individuals at William Powers State Park for fishing without a sport fishing license.

CPO Roesch placed a site entry notice on a van parked at the south parking lot of William Powers State Park with no occupants in the van. CPO Roesch located a stringer tied to a bridge across the north side of Wolf lake with a live 16.5" walleye tied to it. Walleye was photographed and released.

CPO Roesch issued a nuisance trapping permit to an individual to use a live trap in order to catch raccoons that were damaging his porch and siding.

While patrolling William Powers State Park(Closed), CPO Williams, CPO McClenning, and CPO Roundcount observed several ATVs speeding down a road. The ATV riders failed to obey a direct order to stop. The ATV riders drove away at a high rate of speed to escape. One ATV rider crashed into small trees while the other riders continued speeding away. The ATV rider was unharmed by the crash. The ATV was towed and enforcement action was taken

CPO Gates issued 2 citations to individuals harvesting wild chives and leeks from Meacham Grove Nature Preserve. Both were given a mandatory court date and their plant material was confiscated.

CPO Ausmus received a court disposition from a 2018 OUI. The operator, an Orland Park man, was observed operating on plane in front of a public boat launch. Upon contacting the operator, CPO Ausmus noticed several indications of impairment and conducted SFST. The operator refused to provide a breath sample and was arrested for OUI and the wake zone violation. In 2020, the court found the operator guilty of OUI, he was sentenced to 120 days conditional discharge and ordered to pay \$939 dollars in fines and court fees.

DUPAGE COUNTY

CPO Gates investigated a squirrel that was brought to Willowbrook Wildlife Center from a gunshot wound. After speaking with the rescuers of that squirrel, no information was uncovered as to who may have shot the squirrel.

Central Zone – Acting Captain John Williamson

District 9 – Sgt. Eric Myers

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

ADAMS COUNTY

CPO Blazinic is on reactive patrol due to the COVID – 19 pandemics.

CPO Blazinic has left numerous site entry notices on vehicles in Siloam Springs State Park and Fall Creek Rest Area advising individuals that the state sites are still closed due to Covid – 19.

BROWN COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

CALHOUN COUNTY

CPO Gushleff investigated a TIPS complaint from a group of landowners in Calhoun County. The landowners reported a subject hunting turkey on their properties without permission. As CPO Gushleff investigated the incident, it was learned that the suspect gave one landowner a false name when he confronted him. The suspect told the landowner that he was hunting there with his friend from Iowa, and had permission from an adjacent landowner. The suspect was never seen hunting on the adjacent landowner’s property though. CPO Gushleff found out the suspect’s true identity from the turkey permit list and the Point of Sale system. After interviewing the suspect at his residence, CPO Gushleff learned he shot 2 turkeys in 2 years and never put the leg tags on them or called in the harvest. The suspect was issued 4 citations and 2 written warnings for the Wildlife Violations he committed.

GREENE COUNTY

CPO Olroyd continues to patrol for violations regarding turkey season and boating laws as warm weather approaches.

CPO Olroyd continues to enforce laws regarding the unlawful harvesting of timber in the area.

HANCOCK COUNTY

CPO Wheatley has been checking Turkey hunters, and noticing small infractions, such as leaving a tag at home, resulting in Written Warnings. CPO Wheatley has also noted some violations related to the closures of the State Parks due to COVID 19. These people have been escorted out and asked to leave without any citations or written warning issued, all people were understanding and left without incident. CPO Wheatley will continue to check turkey hunters and patrol the county.

JERSEY COUNTY

CPO Olroyd continues to patrol State Sites due to COVID-19 closure.

MACOUPIN COUNTY

CPO Olroyd conducted a timber inspection on individuals from Montgomery County harvesting timber in Jersey County.

PIKE COUNTY

CPO Aaron Jansen and CPO Michael Goetten were on a foot patrol during the turkey season. They encountered two subjects driving out of a field on ATVs. Both had uncased bows. One had a loaded crossbow as well as illegal drugs. Three citations were issued.

CPO Jansen issued a citation for to a Turkey hunter for an uncased bow on an ATV.

SCHUYLER COUNTY

A Beardstown resident notified authorities when he discovered an injured bald eagle on his property. CPO Wahlbrink responded and captured the eagle who suffered a broken wing. The eagle was transported to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator for evaluation.

District 10 – Sgt. William Gilmer

(Counties: Cass, Christian, Logan, Mason, Menard, Morgan, Sangamon & Scott)

CASS COUNTY

CPO Wahlbrink performed a hunting compliance check on a non-resident turkey hunter that revealed multiple violations. The appropriate enforcement action was taken.

In another incident, CPO Wahlbrink issued a written warning to man who was fishing without a license.

CPO Snodgrass and CPO Wahlbrink were on patrol near Jim Edger Panther Creek State Park when they observed a truck parked in a field lane and turkey decoys in the nearby field. Upon conducting a hunter compliance check on the hunter, it was found he was not in possession of his turkey tag or hunting licenses. The CPO's escorted the subject back to his vehicle where they determined the subject was hunting first season but only possessed a third season turkey permit. The subject also failed to purchase a non-resident hunting license or habitat stamp. The subject was issued 4 citation for the violations and given a mandatory court date.

CHRISTIAN COUNTY

CPO Wright was checking fishermen at the Taylorville Lake dam, when he noticed two guys, that were cast netting, immediately began to pack their gear up when they saw CPO Wright. They two Taylorville men hurried back to their vehicle. CPO Wright returned to his vehicle and was able to get to the parking lot before they had left. The two men were leaving because neither had a fishing license and they had also taken sport fish with their cast net. One citation was issued for the sport fish caught with a cast net and two written warning were issued for the no valid fishing license.

LOGAN COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

MASON COUNTY

CPO Thornley conducted timber enforcement in Mason County. No violations found.

CPO Thornley spotted a truck along a ditch near Oakford and located three individuals walking along the road. CPO Thornley asked them what they were doing. They stated they were mushroom hunting. When asked who owned the property, they stated they did not know. CPO Thornley advised them not to go on property without permission.

CPO Thornley checked fishermen along Sangamon River. Two written warnings were issued for no valid fishing license.

MENARD COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

MORGAN COUNTY

While patrolling Jacksonville Lake, CPO Wahlbrink issued one individual a written warning for fishing without a license. Another individual was also issued a written warning for fishing with too many devices.

CPO Thornley traveled to Nichols Park in Jacksonville regarding an injured owl. CPO Thornley located a young great horned owl that had fallen out of the nest. CPO Thornley transported the owl to the Illinois Raptor Center for rehab.

SANGAMON COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

SCOTT COUNTY

CPO Wichern cited a turkey hunter for failing to report his turkey harvest to the DNR by 10pm on the same day has harvest, and for hunting turkey after 1pm.

CPO Wichern cited a turkey hunter for harvesting a turkey prior to obtaining an IL hunting license & Habitat Stamp.

**District 11 – Sgt. John Williamson
(Counties: Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, Moultrie & Shelby)**

CLARK COUNTY

CPO Hyatt patrolled Lincoln Trail State Park after receiving a call regarding people were being dropped off and entering the park illegally.

CPO Wellum issued a Clark County resident a written warning for being in a restricted area (Lincoln Trail State Park). The subject had parked at the main office for the park and walked around the closed front gates.

CPO Wellum issued a Clark County resident a written warning for being in a restricted area (Lincoln Trail State Park). The subject had parked on a remote back road, on park property, and walked into the park to hunt for mushrooms.

CPO Wellum issued an Indiana resident a citation for hunting turkey without a permit and a written warning for hunting turkey with an unplugged shotgun.

CPO Wellum assisted a Clark County Deputy with a fight in rural Clark County. Multiple Clark County residents were associated with the incident, one Clark County resident was issued a citation for battery.

CPO Wellum made a traffic stop on a Texas resident on I-70 in Clark County. The driver was speeding 100 mph in a 70-mph zone. CPO Wellum issued the driver a citation for speeding.

COLES COUNTY

CPO Hyatt performed a boat inspection for a Charleston resident who recently purchased a boat from a garage sell.

CPO Mieure patrolled Fox Ridge state park and Paul C. Burriss state habitat area for COVID-19 closure, patrolled Coles county waterways and for turkey hunters county wide.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

DOUGLAS COUNTY

CPO Hyatt responded to a call at Walnut Point State Park from a neighbor who had people trespassing onto her property from the State Park.

CPO Miller conducted security Patrol at the Walnut Point State Park due to COVID-19 state park closures.

CPO Mieure patrolled Walnut Point state park for COVID-19 closure.

EDGAR COUNTY

CPO Hyatt issued a salvage tag to a resident of Chrisman who found a deceased 12pt buck while turkey hunting.

CPO Wellum issued two Edgar County resident’s warnings for no fishing licenses while fishing at Twin Lakes in Paris

MOULTRIE COUNTY

CPO Moody took care of a trespassing complaint in rural Moultrie County

SHELBY COUNTY

CPO Barnes assisted with an involuntary hospital admittance for a suicidal subject in Coles county.

A Mt Zion man who was cited by CPO Moody for hunting with a rifle and no blaze orange pled guilty and was fined \$400.

CPO Greuel cited a Mattoon man for the unlawful removal of a watercraft hull identification number, unlawful abandonment of a watercraft and dumping on public or private property in Shelby county.

CPO Mieure responded to an ISP District 10 dispatch of suicidal person threatening to drive the wrong direction down the interstate. After making contact with the individual via phone CPO Mieure was able to convince the person to meet me at a location in rural Shelby county. I eventually was able to transport the subject to a local hospital for mental health evaluation. CPO Mieure was assisted by two Shelby county deputies and CPO’s Jason Moody and Brandon Barnes.

District 19 – Sgt. John Williamson

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

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

CPO Miller spoke with multiple Champaign County residents about how to deal with nesting Canada Geese.

DEWITT COUNTY

CPO Miller issued a Clinton resident a warning for dumping trash on state property

In DeWitt County, CPOs Ausmus and Viverito were patrolled Clinton Lake SRA due to the COVID closures when the CPOs observed three subjects kayaking in the Northfork basin. The CPOs were able to hail the kayakers and inform them of the park closure. A boat safety inspection revealed that none of the kayakers had lifejackets. The kayakers were issued citations for the PFD violation and written warnings for entering a closed area. They were also educated on the requirements to obtain permission from all landowners when launching and paddling non-navigable waters.

In DeWitt County, CPO Ausmus was patrolling Clinton Lake SRA due to the COVID closure when he encountered a vehicle parked at trailhead, which was clearly marked “closed.” CPO Ausmus made contact with the mushroom hunter, who

admitted he walked pasted the “Area Closed, No Trespassing” sign because he didn’t think it was that big of a deal and he later admitted he didn’t think anyone was around. The Cisco man was made to dump out his harvest and was issued a citation for entering a closed area.

FORD COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

IROQUOIS COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

CPO Ausmus investigated a deceased juvenile bald eagle found under power lines, along a county roadway. The eagle had no overt signs of trauma or electrocution, conferring with USFWS it appears the eagle was struck by a vehicle. The eagle will be turned over to USFWS and sent to their repository.

MACON COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

MCLEAN COUNTY

CPOs Reeves, Graden and G. Anderson were asked to assist the McLean County Sheriff's Department with a missing persons investigation that had been ongoing since 04/11/2020. IDNR officers were asked to run department issued sonar equipment on a pond behind a residence in Downs Illinois. After a short sonar search, an image of an object of interest was found. The McLean County Sheriff's Department called out the Hudson Fire Department dive team. Divers dove on the marked object and recovered the body of the missing person.

Due to recent closures of state parks, as a result of COVID-19, CPO Graden has been conducting site-security patrols on DNR Lands.

CPO Graden investigated a complaint of illegally dumped whitetail deer remains. It was determined the remains were the result of a deer hit by a motor vehicle and the subsequent processing by the teenage daughters of the lady who struck the deer. The teenagers were directed to clean-up the deer remains and lawfully dispose of them.

PIATT COUNTY

CPO Miller issued a warning to a Monticello resident for killing squirrels in his backyard without first obtaining a nuisance wildlife permit.

VERMILION COUNTY

While on patrol in Vermilion County, CPO Sanford heard two shotgun blasts from a patch of timber adjacent to Kickapoo State Park at 1:16 PM. Legal turkey hunting hours end at 1:00 PM exactly. CPO Sanford located the source of the gunshots and observed an adult female and youth male walking up a driveway on private property. The youth was dressed in camouflage and carrying a shotgun. CPO Sanford made contact with the individuals at approximately 1:32 PM. CPO Sanford inquired about the timing of the shots and the adult female stated they shot “around 1:00 PM”. CPO Sanford informed them the shots occurred at 1:16 PM and proceeded to conduct a hunting compliance check on the pair. When the youth handed CPO Sanford the firearm, CPO Sanford discovered a live round still chambered in the shotgun. Furthermore, the youth did not have a hunting license or habitat stamp on their person. The adult female stated she told the youth to take the shot and didn’t realize it was sixteen after. The adult female took full responsibility for the incident and error in judgement and was issued one citation for accessory to unlawful turkey hunting after legal hunting hours. She was also issued three written warnings for the other violations to the IL Wildlife Code.

CPO Miller escorted multiple people out of the Kickapoo State Park and the Middle Fork SFWA due to COVID-19.

South Zone – Acting Captain Eric Manker

District 13 – Sgt. Eric Manker

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

BOND COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

CLINTON COUNTY

CPO Macias patrolled Eldon Hazlet State Park and Washington County Recreation Area during the COVID-19 lockdown. Nothing to report

CPO Ray Patrol Eldon Hazlet State Park Covid-19

MADISON COUNTY

CPO Ray Covid-19 patrol Horseshoe Lake S.P.

CPO Liebl is investigating a hunting accident where one turkey hunter shot another turkey hunter with a crossbow.

MONROE COUNTY

CPO Schachner received a pollution complaint for a small stream flowing under a highway and into Prairie Du Long Creek. The stream water was black; smelled strongly of hog manure and was unquestionably polluted. CPO Schachner waded the full length of the small stream and performed the disheartening task of collecting/documenting nearly 300 dead fish and aquatic life. CPO Schachner collected water samples and foot-patrolled secondary feeder rivulets/waterways/farm fields as well as about a mile of Prairie Du Long Creek to conclusively determine the origin and extent of pollution. It was determined the pollution source was heavy run-off of liquid hog waste which was incorrectly applied to a farm field at the head of the stream and along the stream. The liquid hog waste essentially killed the entire 3000-foot length of the stream and flowed into Prairie Du Long Creek, polluting it also. A culpable subject was identified and enforcement action is pending.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

RANDOLPH COUNTY

CPO Sievers patrolled the 7 department lands that have been shut down due to COVID-19.

CPO Ralph Sievers received complaints of people possibly hunting without permission from two different landowners. The suspects were on both occasions were mushroom hunting. The suspects were issued written warnings for criminal trespass.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

CPO Ray Covid-19 patrol Frank Holton S.P., Cahokia Mounds, Kaskaskia River Fish Wildlife Area, Peabody River King

WASHINGTON COUNTY

CPO Ray Washington County State Park Covid-19 Patrol

CPO Schachner covertly worked the Kaskaskia River over a two-week period assisted by CPO Lentz and CPO Liebl. As a result, a commercial fisherman was caught taking/keeping sportfish with commercial nets, keeping undersized catfish and cleaning the illegal fish on the river and disposing of the carcasses in the river. In addition, the commercial fisherman used an illegal 196 hook snag line in a creek (waters closed to commercial fishing). He also failed to have commercial gear tag and name/address on device and failed to check hoop nets every 72 hours. CPO Schachner was able to covertly video the subject committing some of the violations. The illegal gear and fish were seized. The commercial fisherman received 5 citations and 7 warnings (including a verbal warning for contributing to the delinquency of a minor by showing/teaching a youth the violations). The fisherman has mandatory court appearance in Washington and Clinton Counties.

District 14 – Sgt. Eric Manker
(Counties: Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jefferson, Pope, Saline & White)

FRANKLIN COUNTY

CPO Folden investigated an illegal sale of sportfish case. No enforcement action was taken.

CPO Williams is investigating a Timber Theft Complaint in Franklin County.

With closures of Department Lands, CPO Williams is conducting Patrols of Department Sites within the District.

CPO Haggerty patrolled closed areas of Wayne Fitzgerald State Park for individuals obtaining access to restricted areas.

GALLATIN COUNTY

CPO Knop was working an area on Shawnee NF where he believed a person was using landowner turkey permits when he encountered a Male and Female on a four-wheeler with an uncased 22cal rifle. Watching the subjects CPO Knop observed the male load the rifle and begin walking the edge of the water looking for things to shoot at. When CPO Knop made contact with the individuals, they said they were just coming down to do some plinking and hang out. Enforcement action was taken.

HAMILTON COUNTY

CPO Folden patrolled IDNR Lands to educate the public about the closures due to COVID 19.

CPO Haggerty patrolled closed areas of Ten Mile Creek and Hamilton County Fish and Wildlife Area.

HARDIN COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

JEFFERSON COUNTY

CPO Jourdan assisted an Illinois State Trooper on a felony traffic stop in Mount Vernon. The driver of the vehicle was wanted out of Kentucky for homicide. The man was pulled over at a gas station and was taken into custody without incident.

POPE COUNTY

CPO Wilkinson patrolled state-owned sites in Pope county to ensure safety regarding the provisions of the COVID-19 executive order and is currently investigating baited turkey hunting locations in Pope and Hardin Counties. Enforcement action is pending.

CPO Wilkinson responded to a complaint of nuisance beavers and muskrats. Large amounts of constructive damage were discovered and the land owner was issued a nuisance permit.

SALINE COUNTY

CPO Wilkinson patrolled Sahara Woods to ensure public safety outlined in the COVID-19 executive order.

WHITE COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

District 15 – Sgt. Eric Manker

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

CLAY COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

CRAWFORD COUNTY

CPO Willand performed a traffic stop on a truck/tractor hauling cut timber. Upon inspection the driver of the vehicle did not have the proof of ownership correctly filled out. A written warning was issued to said driver.

EDWARDS COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

EFFINGHAM COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

FAYETTE COUNTY

CPO Roper received a dumping complaint on Ramsey Lake State Park. A pickup truck bed size load was found to be dumped onto state park property. Upon investigating the complaint CPO Roper was able to determine the address the trash came from. CPO Roper spoke with the individuals living at the address, and was able to determine who had dumped the trash. CPO Roper issued the individual two citations and a mandatory court date in Fayette County Court.

CPO Skelton patrolled state managed property to ensure no vandalism or other crimes have occurred during the COVID-19 Shelter in place order.

JASPER COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

MARION COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

RICHLAND COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

WABASH COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

WAYNE COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county

District 16 – Sgt. Kris Taylor

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

ALEXANDER COUNTY

CPO Spinka patrolled state areas per COVID 19 procedures. Patrolled for turkey hunting related violations.

JACKSON COUNTY

CPO Somers conducted security patrols for closed department owned sites.

JOHNSON COUNTY

CPO Teas responded to a complaint where a landowner caught three subjects trespassing on his property and later discovered two trail cameras stolen. The subjects were later located and the trail cameras were recovered. All three subjects were cited for Criminal Trespass and the cameras were returned to the landowner.

CPO Teas completed a deer investigation with the assistance from Georgia DNR. A hunter from Georgia killed a 9-point buck without any permits or license during archery season. The deer rack was seized and the hunter received multiple citations.

CPO Wilkinson responded to a complaint of a subject shooting a rifle over the water at Lake of Egypt in the direction of people on kayaks. CPO Wilkinson arrived to the location when he was met by CPO Wolf and CPO Johnson. After a short conversation with people in the area, the subject was discovered and questioned. The subject admitted to shooting an air rifle at turtles on the lake. Enforcement action was taken and CPO Wilkinson explained the legality of shooting turtles and the dangers of shooting over the water.

MASSAC COUNTY

CPO Wolf patrolled department lands to prevent trespassing and vandalism.

CPO Wolf cited an Alabama man for possessing an uncased 12-gauge shotgun in his vehicle.

PERRY COUNTY

CPO Ralph Sievers received a complaint of hunting without permission on the Washington/Perry County Line. The two turkey hunters were issued citations for hunting without permission.

PULASKI COUNTY

CPO Spinka patrolled for turkey hunting related violations.

UNION COUNTY

CPO Teas cited a non-resident turkey hunter for hunting with an unplugged shotgun in Union County.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY

Nothing to report for this county