



# Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



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

**DATE: April 26, 2018**  
(Weeks of April 1 – 15, 2018)

*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**

CPO Posateri received dispositions regarding the following cases: (1) A Prophetstown man pled guilty to the charges of unlawfully taking a deer with a rifle and unlawfully taking a deer out of season. He was assessed a total fine of \$400. (2) A 20-year-old Davenport, Iowa man pled guilty to OUI charges for operating a kayak while under the influence of alcohol. He was fined \$1,376 and given 12 months court supervision. Since this was his first OUI offense, and he provided a breath sample at the time of the arrest, there will be no suspension of his boat privileges. (3) A Colona man pled guilty to the charge of failure to remove wildlife from a trap within 24 hours. He was fined a total of \$351 and given six months court supervision. (4) A Bettendorf, Iowa man pled guilty to the charge of unlawful burning of any refuse, including furniture. He was fined \$636.

#### **JODAVIESS COUNTY**

CPO Jones cited a Wisconsin woman for speeding 71 mph in a 55-mph zone.

CPO Jones responded to a call regarding cows at large. She contacted the owner of the cows and had them removed.

#### **LEE COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

#### **MERCER COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

#### **OGLE COUNTY**

White Pines Forest State Park has a catch and release program for trout fly fishing during late March. CPO Beltran observed a man fly fishing and checked him for his license. He failed to have his fishing license in possession and did

not buy the appropriate trout stamp. He also unlawfully possessed cannabis and drug paraphernalia. The man was issued a civil citation, and he was given a mandatory court date. He was warned for his fishing violations.

#### ROCK ISLAND COUNTY

While on patrol, CPO Francisko received an Illinois State Police Emergency Radio Network message regarding a missing, suicidal female in the Quad Cities. The only information given was a description of the vehicle and that she may be near a river. He initiated an active search along the Quad City waterways, and within approximately 15 minutes, he spotted the vehicle and subject. The subject saw the marked squad and hastily exited the area along the river. He was able to catch up to her vehicle. He activated the squad's emergency lights and conducted a stop of the vehicle to perform a welfare check. The female was extremely distraught, and there were visible signs of self-inflicted cut marks. The woman verbally confirmed she was attempting to kill herself. East Moline police assisted, and an ambulance was called to the scene. The subject was transported to the hospital.

#### STEPHENSON COUNTY

CPO Alt received information from the Stephenson County State's Attorney's Office that charges against the juvenile who admitted to shooting a Canada goose from a highway right-of-way during the closed season will be adjudicated through the juvenile court process.

#### WHITESIDE COUNTY

CPO Posateri received a disposition in a case involving a Sterling man and a Rock Falls man being sexual predators in a state park. Both were found guilty. One of the men was ordered to serve 180 days in jail and fined \$842, and the other man was given 24 months of conditional discharge and fined \$722.

### **District 6 – Sgt. Phil Wire**

**(Counties: Boone, Bureau, DeKalb, LaSalle, Putnam & Winnebago)**

#### BOONE COUNTY

CPO Fraser received a complaint from a landowner about possible deer poaching on his property. After working the area, no evidence was found. The complainant also stated his neighbors were growing drugs on their property at the property line. A check of the area from the complainant's property revealed no signs of growing drugs or any sign of cultivation. The complainant has a long history of unfounded complaints to the Conservation Police; however, the area will continue to be monitored for activity.

CPO Alt inspected over 30 sport fishermen at Mill Race Pond during the 2018 spring trout opening weekend. Two individuals were found to be in violation for trout fishing without an inland trout stamp and trout fishing without an inland trout stamp in possession.

CPO Alt conducted a random commercial inspection of a licensed fur bearer breeder in Belvidere. The Boone County man was found in violation for failing to maintain records of fur bearing mammal possession, acquisition, and/or disposition. Records are required to be maintained for two years; and licensed breeders cannot take fur bearing mammals from the wild to hold, raise, or propagate. Fur bearing mammals acquired must be obtained from captive bred sources.

#### BUREAU COUNTY

While on patrol near Hormel Ponds, CPO Wagner observed a suspicious vehicle try to leave the area as he arrived. He initiated contact with the individual, and the man was found with an open container of beer in the center console. The remaining twelve pack was discovered on the passenger side floorboard. The subject was not driving under the influence; therefore, he was ticketed for illegal transportation and released.

While patrolling near Spring Valley, CPO Wagner observed a vehicle with what appeared to be expired registration. The vehicle made a sudden right turn and continued down a side street. A traffic stop was conducted, and it was confirmed that the registration expired six months ago. The driver had the renewal slip in his truck but failed to register the truck. The driver was cited for expired registration.

While checking fishermen along the Hennepin Canal, CPO Wagner cited an individual for fishing without a valid fishing license.

CPOs Wagner and Finn cited several individuals for possession of cannabis and possession of drug paraphernalia while checking fishermen along the Hennepin Canal. Multiple citations were issued, and the individuals were released.

#### DEKALB COUNTY

While watching trout fishermen, CPO Murry observed an individual catching fish and placing them on different stringers, buckets, and baskets. While speaking with the individual and counting fish, it was discovered he was over his limit of five per day. He was cited for taking an over limit of trout. The fisherman pled guilty on the spot and paid the \$120 fine. Because the trout were deceased, they were given to a boy and his sister who had no luck that day.

#### LASALLE COUNTY

CPO Kaufman checked several fishermen and boats at LaSalle Lake, and only a few fishing and boating violations were found. Citations were written for fishing in a restricted area and being in the area after the posted closing time.

The public flocked to Starved Rock State Park during spring break. CPO Kaufman issued citations for hikers being off trails, climbing, and being on the trails after the posted closing time.

CPO Jansen investigated the sale of an untagged deer skull cap and antlers. While speaking with the subject, he detected the odor of burnt cannabis. The subject was found to be in possession of a hitter pipe, cannabis, and a controlled substance. The subject was arrested and lodged at LaSalle County Jail for possession of a controlled substance. He was also issued two civil citations.

CPO Jansen handled a motorist assist on a vehicle that broke down at the exit of LaSalle Lake. Approximately an hour later, the Site Superintendent reported a vehicle had hit a sign at the Lake and left the scene. The parts left behind matched the vehicle CPO Jansen had assisted earlier. The subject was located at a body shop, and citations were issued for leaving the scene of a property damage accident, failure to report the accident to police, and failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident.

CPOs Finn and Filipiak checked trout fishermen. The check resulted in citations and warnings for fishermen without fishing licenses and trout stamps, as well as fishing with more than two devices.

CPOs Filipiak and Finn were on a boat patrol checking sport fishermen when they came upon a Michigan individual who was in possession of 25 grams of cannabis. The individuals stated it was medical cannabis from Michigan but was unable to provide a medical cannabis card. The individual was arrested for criminal possession of more than ten grams, but less than 30 grams, of cannabis and drug paraphernalia.

While checking sport fishermen along the Illinois River, CPOs Wagner and Finn cited two individuals for unlawfully snagging fish.

#### PUTNAM COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

#### WINNEBAGO COUNTY

CPOs Fraser and Schoonhoven worked a detail in Rock Cut State Park focusing on vehicle code violations which endanger pedestrian/bicycle traffic and disrupt the peaceful atmosphere of the Park. During the detail, multiple people were cited for speeding, cannabis, and other vehicle code violations.

CPO Fraser responded to a call of a wolf carcass located at a forest preserve. After arriving on scene, he identified the carcass as a large, domestic dog. Animal service was contacted to remove the carcass.

CPO Alt inspected anglers at Four Lakes Forest Preserve before the 2018 spring trout season opener. One angler was observed catching and releasing an inland trout without a fishing license and trout stamp. An accompanying angler lied to CPO Alt when he indicated his partner was not fishing. When CPO Alt informed the men what he had observed, both men changed their account and admitted they both were fishing.

CPO Alt inspected over 60 sport anglers at Four Lakes Forest Preserve during the 2018 spring trout season opener which began at 5:00 a.m. on Saturday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. He arrived just after 4:00 a.m. and found approximately 30 anglers already set up in the dark prepared to fish. No anglers were found fishing prior to 5:00 a.m.

CPO Alt investigated a complaint of a man unlawfully training his pit bull terriers to track and kill raccoon during the closed season. An interview of the subject validated the complaint. The subject receiving a mandatory court summons for unlawful hunting fur bearing mammals during the closed season.

### **District 7 – Sgt. Scott Avery**

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

#### **FULTON COUNTY**

During the interview of a Vermont man regarding alleged permit violations, CPO Thompson received a confession to the unlawful loan of a permit to another. The man explained he loaned his deer permit to a Cuba man. The interview of the Cuba man corroborated the Vermont man's story. CPO Thompson received an admission to failure to tag deer immediately upon kill and unlawful use of another's permit. A written warning was issued for loan of permit and fraudulent harvest report, and a citation was issued for failure to tag deer immediately upon kill.

CPO Elliott responded to a complaint regarding a deer. Upon arrival, he discovered that a large doe had fallen into a goose pit. He assisted the hunters in removing the deer from the pit, and it was immediately released.

#### **HENDERSON COUNTY**

CPO Reid cited a Carman resident for unlawfully taking a white-tailed deer.

#### **KNOX COUNTY**

CPO Reid taught a hunter safety education class in Abington.

CPO Elliott completed an administrative deer investigation on a subject who later admitted to shooting a deer without a permit. The subject explained he did not tag the deer and later purchased a permit to report the harvest after he had realized he was without one. Two citations and one written warning were issued.

#### **MARSHALL COUNTY**

CPO Gerard received a court disposition regarding individuals stealing copper and unlawfully burning on State lands. Each subject was fined \$1,215 and ordered to serve 180 days in the Marshall County Jail.

#### **MCDONOUGH COUNTY**

CPO Thompson investigated two Macomb subjects who allegedly committed permit violations during the fall of 2017. During the interview, CPO Thompson found one of the Macomb men had failed to tag a deer immediately upon kill and submitted a fraudulent harvest report. Written warnings were issued for the violations. The interview of the second Macomb man resulted in the admission that he tagged a roadkill deer with a bow permit that he purchased. The man explained he did not know the proper procedure. CPO Thompson explained the proper way to lawfully possess and report a roadkill deer, and the man was issued a written warning as a reminder.

PEORIA COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

STARK COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

TAZEWELL COUNTY

CPO Lazzell received a case disposition regarding a Washington man who was charged with obstructing a peace officer during the investigation of a recreational boating accident on the Illinois River. The man pled guilty to obstruction. He was sentenced to 48 hours in the Tazewell County Jail with fines and fees totaling \$507.

WARREN COUNTY

CPO Elliott conducted sport fish enforcement, and he observed multiple fishermen as they fished. One fisherman began packing up his poles and tackle when he saw CPO Elliott approaching. During the compliance check, that subject explained he did not have a fishing license on his person. He stated that the license was in his truck a short distance away. CPO Elliott followed the subject to his truck to retrieve the license. As soon as the subject opened the truck door, a strong odor of cannabis was detected. CPO Elliott located cannabis and drug paraphernalia inside the truck, and the subject was issued citations for both. The subject was reminded that he needed to have his fishing license on his person while fishing.

WOODFORD COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

**District 9 – Sgt. Eric Myers**

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

ADAMS COUNTY

CPO Blazinic and the District Wildlife Biologist conducted a spring spotlight survey.

CPO Blazinic received a court disposition on a commercial fishing investigation from 2017. The subject pled guilty to unlawfully commercial fishing without a commercial fishing license in 2016 and 2017. The subject was assessed a total fine and court costs of \$1,077, and his commercial licenses/privileges were suspended until July 2019.

BROWN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

CALHOUN COUNTY

CPO Weishaupt completed three deer permit investigations resulting in two citations and the seizure of one deer skull with an eight-point rack. He also issued one deer salvage tag.

GREENE COUNTY

CPOs Weishaupt and Gushleff conducted a coyote hunting detail.

**HANCOCK COUNTY**

CPO Wheatley stopped a timber truck for a routine inspection in the Niota area. After speaking with the driver, it was noted there was no viable proof of ownership, as required by law, for the logs being transported. The driver was informed of this infraction and told a citation would result. After checking the driver's background history, CPO Wheatley was informed the driver's CDL was canceled due to an expired medical card. The driver was questioned about the medical card and asked to provide proof of a current card. The driver was unable to produce a current medical card. After explaining there were approximately three violations that could result from this, in addition to the lack of log ownership record, the driver was given one citation for no valid CDL and was placed out of service until other driving arrangements could be made. The driver has a court date in May for the infractions.

**JERSEY COUNTY**

CPOs Weishaupt and Gushleff conducted a coyote hunting detail.

**MACOUPIN COUNTY**

CPOs Weishaupt and Gushleff conducted a coyote hunting detail.

**PIKE COUNTY**

CPO Weishaupt assisted the Missouri Water Patrol with a search for two commercial fishermen whose boat was swamped on the Mississippi River, north of Louisiana, Missouri.

CPO Weishaupt issued one deer salvage tag. He also recovered a dead bald eagle that was discovered in woods by shed antler hunter. The eagle was turned over to US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the cause of death is unknown.

**SCHUYLER COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**District 10 – Sgt. Chris Stone**

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

**CASS COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**CHRISTIAN COUNTY**

While on routine evening patrol of Sangchris Lake, CPO Wichern observed two fishermen catching crappie on the dam. After a field inspection, it was determined the fishermen possessed two short crappie and a short largemouth bass. One of the fishermen did not have a valid Illinois fishing license. The two fishermen were cited for the violations, and the short fish were successfully released back into the Lake. Later that evening, CPO Wichern observed a boat operating without the proper navigational lights on Sangchris Lake. After a boating equipment safety inspection was performed, it was determined the boat's batteries were not properly covered; and the only fire extinguisher onboard was manufactured in 1976 and non-serviceable. The operator was cited for the fire extinguisher, and he was given written warnings for the navigation lights and the battery covers.

**LOGAN COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**MASON COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

MENARD COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MORGAN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

SANGAMON COUNTY

CPO Macias issued several citations for failure to transfer title for a pair of jet skis. The jet skis had exchanged hands three times from seller to buyer in a span of two months. All purchasing parties did not transfer the titles or pay taxes within the allotted timeframe.

CPO Cochran reported to IDNR headquarters in Springfield to have his new department identification photo taken.

CPO Cochran completed his annual pistol and rifle qualification for 2018.

CPO Blazinic served as an instructor at the spring firearm qualification in Springfield.

SCOTT COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

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

KANE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

LAKE COUNTY

CPO Kelley received a disposition in a case involving an OUI and felony possession of cocaine. The subject was sentenced to two years of probation and fined a total of \$3200.

CPO Semenik attended field training school in East Moline.

CPO Vaughan attended a Ducks Unlimited banquet in Marengo.

MCHENRY COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

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

GRUNDY COUNTY

CPO Anderson gave a wildlife presentation and test to high school student teams from six local counties as part of the statewide Envirothon competition.

KANKAKEE COUNTY

CPO Farber conducted a patrol on the Iroquois River near the IDNR boat launch in Watseka. He observed two individuals actively fishing in a small, 12-foot jon boat. An inspection was conducted on the watercraft's safety equipment. The boat was found to be short one life jacket, without proof of registration, and not in possession of a

sounding device. CPO Farber then inspected a fish basket tied to the port side of the watercraft. The two fishermen were found to be in possession of two 12-inch walleye. Walleye on that stretch of the River must be a minimum of 14 inches to be kept. One of the fishermen also had not renewed his fishing license for the 2018 season. Citations were issued for failure to immediately release short fish, insufficient number of wearable PFDs on a watercraft, and fishing without a license. The operator of the watercraft was also issued written warnings for the watercraft registration and sounding device.

#### KENDALL COUNTY

CPO Bergland stopped a vehicle at Silver Springs State Fish and Wildlife Area for a stop sign and speed violations. When he approached the vehicle, he could smell a strong odor of cannabis coming from the vehicle. A search was conducted, and cannabis was found. A civil law violation was issued for the cannabis.

#### WILL COUNTY

While travelling on I-80, CPO N. Reid observed the smoke from a campfire emitting from forest preserve property near Rockdale. Upon further investigation, he discovered a male subject engaged in a lewd act upon himself. The individual was also discovered to be a child sex offender. The individual was arrested for public indecency. Additional felony charges for prohibited zone violations by a child sex offender are pending the State's Attorney's approval.

### **District 4 – Sgt. Jed Whitchurch** **(Counties: Cook & DuPage)**

#### COOK COUNTY

CPO Ausmus patrolled William H. Powers State Recreation Area, and he issued written warnings for speeding and disobeying a traffic control device.

CPO Ausmus checked two salmon fishermen at 31st Pier at Lake Michigan. Both anglers claimed they had valid fishing licenses but left their wallets at home. When reminded that the 2017 license's expired at the end of March, both anglers admitted they had not yet purchased their 2018 licenses. Both anglers were issued written warnings for no fishing license and no Lake Michigan salmon stamp.

CPOs Snodgrass and Ausmus were on patrol when they observed two subjects fishing and utilizing a cast net at a forest preserve lake. It is unlawful to use a cast net at any Cook County forest preserve lake. Upon seeing the CPOs, one subject began rolling up the cast net and putting it away. The other subject continued to fish. Both subjects appeared to be nervous. They spoke with the two subjects and questioned them on the use of the cast net. The subjects claimed to have no knowledge of it being illegal. The CPOs asked to see their fishing licenses, but neither subject possessed one. Upon further investigation, it was found that the 26-year-old subject had not had a license since 2013. The 23-year-old subject had never applied for a fishing license. Both subjects were cited for fishing without a valid sport fishing license, and they were issued written warnings for unlawful methods.

CPO Ausmus followed up on a complaint about nuisance geese in a business park. It was alleged that an employee from one of the businesses moved some Canada goose eggs in an attempt to remove the geese from the main entrance. CPO Ausmus interviewed several employees, none of which admitted any knowledge of the egg removal. The employees were educated and provided resources to properly combat this issue in the future.

CPO Ausmus conducted a commercial wholesale aquatic dealer inspection in Chicago. The inspection was randomly generated and assigned. He inspected the grocery store's invoices, current inventory, and sales floor. The business was issued two warnings for their expired wholesale aquatic and retail aquatic licenses.

CPOs Ausmus and Thornley conducted sport fishing enforcement along the lakefront. The CPOs located three subject fishing along a stretch of shoreline just south of a harbor. CPO Ausmus located two untagged spinning rods on the

north end with lines in the water and no one around. He located the responsible angler approximately 50 yards down the bank, near his powerline buckets. When asked who owned the poles, the angler said they belonged to his adult son who just left to go to the restroom. The angler was instructed to call his son and have him return. After a phone call, the angler stated his son was at home (20 minutes away). The angler finally admitted that he had been fishing with the two spinning rods and placed them along the north end. The angler had four devices in the water, none of which were labeled with his name/address as required. The Chicago man was educated on the violation and issued a citation for untagged sport fishing devices. A warning was issued for unattended sport fishing devices.

CPO Ausmus was on routine patrol in Chicago when a two-vehicle crash occurred in front of him. He rendered aid and blocked traffic until the arrival of the police and fire departments. All vehicle occupants refused medical treatment, and both vehicles were towed from the scene.

CPOs Ausmus and Thornley conducted fish enforcement at several lakes. CPO Thornley cited a Homewood man for fishing without a license.

CPO Ausmus conducted fish enforcement. He observed a subject bank fishing with three poles. The subject admitted he was unaware of the two-pole only rule, and he was issued a written warning for too many sport fishing devices.

CPO Sanford observed an individual fishing with three sport fishing devices, where a two-device limit exists. After conducting a fishing compliance check, the individual was also found to be fishing without a fishing license in possession. The individual was educated as to the regulation and issued written warnings for the violations.

While conducting a commercial inspection of a fish market, CPO Sanford discovered the fish market was operating with an expired wholesale and retail aquatic life dealer's license. The violations were documented on a written warning. CPO Sanford then worked with the manager of the store to update the required license(s) and gain compliance.

While on patrol, CPO Sanford observed a vehicle driving erratically on the roadway. The vehicle was seen swerving between lanes of traffic, failing to signal lane changes, and eventually attempting to pass another vehicle at a lane merger, forcing that vehicle into another lane. A traffic stop was conducted, and the operator was issued a citation for improper overtaking on the right.

CPO Snodgrass conducted a random commercial retail minnow dealer inspection of a bait and tackle store. After reviewing the store's receiving logs for minnows and other bait, it was discovered the store was unlawfully selling crayfish and other aquatic life without a valid aquatic life dealer's license. CPO Snodgrass provided the store with the application and assisted them in the purchase of the appropriate license. The store was issued a written warning for the violation.

While on patrol, CPOs Snodgrass and Ausmus observed a pickup truck with a deer head in the bed of the truck exceeding the posted speed limit. A traffic stop was conducted, and it was confirmed that there was a severed head of an eight-point buck in the bed of the truck. CPO Snodgrass interviewed the driver about the origin of the deer. The Brookfield man stated he acquired the deer head from someone named "Joe" at the local tavern in Wisconsin, and he was taking it home to make a skull mount for "Joe." The suspect could not provide a last name or contact number for "Joe," and the deer head was untagged. CPO Snodgrass seized the deer head pending further investigation.

CPO Snodgrass conducted trout enforcement at a stocked lake on IDNR property. While doing surveillance, he observed the subject catch seven trout and give them to several other bystanders. State regulations limit anglers to five trout per day. CPO Snodgrass spoke with the subject and questioned him about the trout he caught. He confessed to catching ten trout that day, which is twice the legal limit. CPO Snodgrass issued the subject a citation for the violation.

While on patrol at William W. Powers State Recreation Area, CPO Snodgrass observed a vehicle off trail and in a restricted area. CPO Snodgrass located the subject who was fishing. Upon questioning the subject, it was found that

he was new to the area and was unaware he had entered a restricted area. CPO Snodgrass educated the subject on the park layout, and he was issued a written warning for the violation.

CPO Stanbary issued a written warning to a fisherman for no fishing license or inland trout stamp. The CPO explained to the fisherman that he was probably exempt from needing a license due to a disability, but he had to acquire a state disabled identification card from the Secretary of State to show proof. The CPO also explained to the fisherman how to go about acquiring the identification card.

A fisherman was issued a written warning after CPO Stanbary observed the fisherman using three poles when the body of water had a two-pole limit.

While on patrol of an area at a closed lake, CPO Klemme observed several individuals fishing. The lake was closed to fishing due to stocking for the upcoming spring trout season. The individuals had valid fishing licenses and were issued warnings for fishing in a restricted area.

CPO Thornley conducted a traffic stop of a vehicle that was speeding in William W. Powers State Recreation Area. The vehicle's speed was 27 mph in a 15-mph zone. A written warning was issued for the violation.

CPO Thornley conducted fish enforcement along Lake Michigan. While at a lake harbor, he checked three fishermen. One was found to be in possession of seven coho salmon and still had his powerline in the water. The fisherman was advised that he was over the limit and could not continue to powerline fish for salmon once his limit was reached. A citation was issued for the over limit of salmon, and the fish were seized. At another harbor on the lakefront, two fishermen had not purchased their 2018 fishing license, and a written warning was issued to each fisherman for the violation.

CPO Thornley conducted a boat safety inspection, and no violations were found.

While at Calumet Park, CPO Thornley conducted five boat safety inspections. Three of the vessels inspected were found to have expired visual distress signals. Each operator was issued a written warning for the violation.

CPO Thornley conducted sport fish enforcement at various lakes. He approached a group of three people and asked who had been fishing. Only one of the individuals stated that he was fishing, and he said all three poles were his. When asked for his fishing license, the fisherman handed over an expired license. CPO Thornley advised that the lake had a two-pole limit. The fisherman was issued a citation for too many devices, and he was issued a written warning for no fishing license.

While checking fishermen, CPO Thornley observed two people smoking cannabis on the break wall along Lake Michigan. CPO Thornley approached the individuals and asked what they were smoking. They admitted to smoking cannabis. Two civil citations were issued for possession of cannabis.

## DUPAGE COUNTY

CPO Mooi assisted Bloomingdale Police in a coyote complaint. The injured coyote is still at large.

CPOs Mooi and Klemme are investigating a complaint of trespassing and operation of off-road vehicles.

CPO Mooi conducted two separate logging truck inspections, and no violations were observed.

CPO Mooi is assisting DuPage County Sheriff's Deputies and DuPage County Forest Preserve Police in the investigation of a complaint regarding the take of wild turkeys.

## **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**

Several CPOs attended a Hazardous Materials and CPR/First Aid refresher training at Clinton Lake State Recreation Area. The class was taught by CPOs Wellum and Wright.

CPO Graden closed out an unlawful operation of a watercraft under the influence of alcohol case that occurred on Clinton Lake. The watercraft operator pled guilty and was ordered to pay a fine, plus court costs, totaling \$1,468. Additionally, the subject was directed to undergo drug and alcohol treatment.

CPOs Viverito and Wright focused on park enforcement. They conducted multiple fishing inspections and traffic enforcement for a five-day period at Clinton Lake State Recreation Area and Weldon Springs State Park. The detail resulted in three drug arrests, four fishing citations, four Illinois Vehicle Code citations, and one DUI.

**FORD COUNTY**

CPO Graden completed an investigation involving two firearm deer hunters. A complaint was received about a man hunting deer illegally. It was alleged that the man illegally shot two bucks during the second statewide firearm deer season. The investigation determined that the hunter had been issued one Ford County firearm tag; however, he killed two bucks during the same hunt. One deer was a 13-point buck, and the second deer was an 11-point buck. The hunter used a friend's firearm tag to conceal the harvest of the 11-point buck. The hunter was issued two citations and seven written warnings. The subject who illegally tagged the deer was issued one citation and four written warnings.

**IROQUOIS COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**MACON COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**MCLEAN COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**PIATT COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**VERMILION COUNTY**

CPO Cottrell issued two written warnings at Kickapoo State Recreation Area for various traffic offenses.

CPO Cottrell assisted the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency in investigating the possible dumping of paint into the North Fork River near Alvin. The area was checked, and there was no evidence of contamination.

CPOs Reeves and Viverito initiated a traffic stop inside Kickapoo State Park, and an arrest was made for driving under the influence of alcohol. The man was transported to the Vermilion County Jail in lieu of bond. He will have a court appearance in April.

## **South Zone – Captain Jim Mayes**

### **District 11 – Sgt. Brian McReynolds**

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

#### **CLARK COUNTY**

CPO Wellum assisted the Martinsville Police Department with the apprehension of combative subject during a warrant arrest. The violator was later issued a citation for resisting arrest.

CPOs Wellum and Greuel received a complaint regarding an individual illegally possessing a river otter. They met with the alleged violator, and no violations or river otter were located on the premises.

CPO Wellum conducted a traffic stop on a subject for suspended license plates. The driver had a suspended license, had no insurance, and the plates were not for the vehicle he was driving. The driver was issued citations for driving suspended, no insurance, no valid registration, improper use of registration, and driving with suspended plates.

#### **COLES COUNTY**

CPO Mieuse located a stolen vehicle on a private oil lease road. The vehicle had been stolen out of Decatur; but by the time it was located, the suspect was not with the vehicle. The owner of the car was contacted, and the vehicle was later released to them.

CPO Mieuse assisted the Illinois State Police by re-routing the traffic flow following a vehicle rollover on I-57.

CPO Mieuse issued two written warnings to a Greenup man for improper lane usage and driver's license not in possession.

CPO Greuel received a disposition in a case regarding a subject that was apprehended following a vehicular pursuit. The subject pled guilty to multiple charges including the theft of a motor vehicle, arson, and fleeing and alluding a peace officer. The subject was ordered to serve five years in the Department of Corrections and pay approximately \$35,000 in fines, costs, and restitution.

CPO Moody cited a Mattoon man for possession of drug paraphernalia at Lake Paradise.

Sgt. McReynolds and CPO Greuel were first on scene to assist the Illinois State Police with a rollover traffic crash on I-57 north of Mattoon. The driver was not injured.

#### **CUMBERLAND COUNTY**

CPO Mieuse issued a Springfield man a written warning for improper display of watercraft registration on Lake Mattoon.

CPO Mieuse issued a Toledo man a written warning for no fishing license.

#### **DOUGLAS COUNTY**

CPO Mieuse issued a Kansas woman one written warning for speeding along Route 130.

**EDGAR COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**MOULTRIE COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**SHELBY COUNTY**

CPO Greuel issued an Indiana man a written warning for a vehicle registration violation.

CPO Moody issued citations and warnings for various boating and fishing related violations along the Kaskaskia River.

**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**

CPO Tapley issued two subjects citations for snagging for fish below the dam at Carlyle Lake.

**MADISON COUNTY**

CPO Sievers gave a presentation at a boat safety class held for the firefighters of the Belleville Fire Department who were obtaining their swift water rescue certificates.

CPO Schachner handled a citizen complaint regarding two fishermen who were allegedly keeping two federally endangered pallid sturgeon. Upon arrival along the bank of the Mississippi River, he found the two fishermen matching the witness' description. Both fishermen had valid fishing licenses and possessed several fish on a stringer, including two shovelnose sturgeon. Shovelnose are not endangered and are legal to keep. As CPO Schachner began to educate the fishermen on identification differences between the species of sturgeon, one of the fishermen proved to be very aware and highly educated on how to identify the species of sturgeon. It was a positive check for everyone involved.

**MONROE COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY**

CPO Elliot checked fishermen at Coffeen Lake.

**RANDOLPH COUNTY**

CPO Sievers gave a presentation at the Sparta Elementary School's Family Science Night.

CPO Sievers completed a taxidermy inspection and located an illegally harvested deer. The taxidermist also did not have complete records and was issued a citation for incomplete records. The two deer hunters involved in the illegally taken deer were issued citations and written warnings.

**ST. CLAIR COUNTY**

While working a routine patrol, CPO Rolfingsmeier had a driver pass him on Interstate 255 traveling at 94 mph. A traffic stop was conducted on the vehicle. When asked why he was going so fast, and the driver said he was trying to go see

his girl. The driver was driving on a suspended license, and he was cited for speeding and driving on a suspended license.

CPO Tapley attended an event at the Mid-America Airport and had the education trailer on display. In addition to the Illinois Conservation Police, a St. Louis Police helicopter and an ARCH helicopter were on display. The Illinois State Police SWAT, Illinois State Police Motorcycle Unit, Illinois State Police Air Operations, and Illinois State Police K-9 were also in attendance. Approximately 200 students from St. Jacob and Highland were there.

#### WASHINGTON COUNTY

CPO Rolfingsmeier completed a deer investigation regarding two subjects' violations during the 2017 deer season. During the investigation, he found out that one hunter harvested a deer before he purchased deer permits and a hunting license. He also found out that the hunter let his son use one of his deer permits on a deer his son had harvested. A total of three citations and five written warnings were issued.

### **District 14 – Sgt. Jeff Cariens**

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

#### FRANKLIN COUNTY

CPO Lay issued a citation to an Indiana resident for fishing at Rend Lake without a nonresident fishing license.

CPO Lay is investigating three abandoned boats reported by the Rend Lake Marina manager. The boats have been on the lot for three years without anyone taking ownership.

CPO Lay issued a Chadwick resident a citation for fishing on Rend Lake without a sport fishing license.

CPO Williams responded to a single vehicle crash on Interstate 57. A passenger car struck the guardrail and came to rest between both lanes of traffic. The driver reported they were not injured, and traffic was diverted onto the shoulder until a tow service and Illinois State Police could arrive to handle the incident.

#### GALLATIN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

#### HAMILTON COUNTY

CPO Folden conducted multiple boat safety inspections at Hamilton County State Fish and Wildlife Area's Dolan Lake, and only three violations were noted. One citation was issued to a kayaker for no wearable life vest onboard when required.

#### HARDIN COUNTY

CPOs Diggins and Schoenhoff investigated a complaint at a fish farm. Two suspects and the business owner were interviewed by the CPOs. Five citations and seven written warnings were issued as a result of the investigation. Citations were issued for the unlawful take of a protected species, attempt to take with a rifle, unlawful take of a migratory game bird/waterfowl, and transportation of an uncased firearm on a UTV. Written warnings were issued primarily for hunting licenses and stamps.

#### JEFFERSON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

#### POPE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

**SALINE COUNTY**

CPO Diggins issued six written warnings for Illinois Vehicle Code violations and three written warnings for fishing license not in possession.

CPO Folden is continuing to investigate deer hunting violations involving nonresident hunters using doe tags to tag antlered deer.

**WHITE COUNTY**

CPO Schoenhoff, assisted by another CPO, checked commercial fishermen. During the check, it was determined one of the commercial fishermen falsified information on his fishing license. He was also fishing without a valid fishing license. The subject was cited for both violations.

**District 15 – Sgt. Dave Hyatt**

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

**CLAY COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**CRAWFORD COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**EDWARDS COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**EFFINGHAM COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**FAYETTE COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**JASPER COUNTY**

While working at Newton Lake, CPO Smith observed a fisherman in a boat approaching the west boat launch. A safety equipment compliance check was performed, and it was found that the boat's registration expired on June 30, 2015. The boat was also missing a sounding device, and the trailer registration expired in 2016. One citation was issued to the owner/operator for an unnumbered watercraft. One written warning was issued for not having a sounding device, and one written warning was issued for no valid trailer registration.

**LAWRENCE COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**MARION COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**RICHLAND COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**WABASH COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

WAYNE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

**District 16 – Sgt. Kris Taylor**

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

ALEXANDER COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

JACKSON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

JOHNSON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MASSAC COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

PERRY COUNTY

CPO Lewis investigated multiple complaints of people driving off the roadway in Pyramid State Recreation Area. Several vehicles had gotten stuck in a remote area, and special equipment was needed to get them out. All the incidents occurred over a three-day period. Multiple citations and written warnings were issued for violations, including the operation of a motor vehicle in areas not marked as traffic-ways, mutilation and the defacing of natural property on IDNR lands, being present in the park during closed hours, and abandoning a motor vehicle on public property.

PULASKI COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

UNION COUNTY

CPO Vasicek investigated, interviewed, and determined that a subject with a revoked hunting license was having multiple subjects harvest deer for him. These subjects failed to tag the deer and gifted them, untagged, to the revoked subject. The revoked subject had other people purchase permits to cover the unlawfully taken/possessed deer. Multiple counties in southern Illinois were involved, along with multiple defendants.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY

CPO Somers completed the investigation of the unlawful take of two deer.

CPO Johnson responded to a call about trash being illegally dumped, and he used a receipt to locate the subject. The subject agreed to clean up the trash. The subject was issued a citation for pollution of a waterway, and he was given a warning for littering.

CPO Johnson discovered that a Georgia couple allegedly took two deer illegally, and he is working with the Georgia DNR to complete the investigation.