



# Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



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

**DATE: March 11, 2019**  
(Weeks of February 16 – 28, 2019)

*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 Hoftender checked 20 ice fishermen at Miller’s Hollow. A Freeport man was cited for fishing without a license.

#### **HENRY COUNTY**

CPO Posateri gave a presentation at a Blackhawk East animal science class. Topics covered were CWD, EHD, and duties of a CPO. There were approximately 70 students in attendance.

#### **JODAVIESS COUNTY**

CPO Hoftender gave a presentation at the Galena Police Department.

CPO Hoftender cited a Galena man for hunting deer without valid permits.

#### **LEE COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

#### **MERCER COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

#### **OGLE COUNTY**

CPO Beltran responded to a complaint of illegal hunting in a subdivision. A Byron man fired a rifle at a coyote in his backyard. The man was issued a ticket and a written warning, and he was educated on lawful coyote hunting.

CPO Teas attended a hunter safety class.

#### **ROCK ISLAND COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

STEPHENSON COUNTY

CPOs Alt and Hoftender responded to a complaint of coyote hunters hunting from the road. The investigation and subsequent inspection of nine hunters revealed that one hunter was hunting without a habitat stamp, one hunter did not have his rifle completely cased in his truck, and one hunter did not have their license in possession. The road hunting portion of the investigation is ongoing.

WHITESIDE COUNTY

CPO Palumbo issued a citation and written warnings to a Sterling man for discharging a firearm from a public roadway, hunting from a roadway, and hunting too close to an occupied dwelling.

**District 6 – Sgt. Phil Wire**

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

BOONE COUNTY

CPO Alt investigated a complaint from the 2018 deer season involving a man that unlawfully harvested a white-tailed deer before purchasing a hunting license, habitat stamp, and firearm deer permit(s). The subject was issued citations for unlawful taking and/or possession of white-tailed deer and unlawful taking or attempting to take white-tailed deer without a deer permit. Warnings were issued for unlawful hunting white-tail deer without a hunting license, unlawful hunting white-tailed deer without a habitat stamp, unlawful hunting white-tailed deer without a license, stamp, and permit in possession.

BUREAU COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

DEKALB COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

LASALLE COUNTY

CPO Murry completed his investigation into the eight snowmobiles that failed to stop when directed. He was able to identify all eight of the snowmobile operators involved. CPO Murry, along with CPO Jansen and Sgt. Wire, interviewed several the suspects and got numerous confessions. The violations cited or warnings issued were: nine counts of resistance to officers – fleeing; eight counts of operation on property without permission; five counts of operation of unnumbered snowmobiles; four counts of failure to transfer registration within 15 days of purchase; four counts of operation of a snowmobile without mandatory insurance; three counts of failure to stop before crossing a roadway; two counts of failure to display a valid registration sticker; two counts of operation of a snowmobile without a headlamp; two counts of operation on a highway; two counts of operation of a snowmobile without 16 inches of reflective material; operation of snowmobile without tail lamp; unlawful operation of a snowmobile with a revoked driver's license; and failure to notify Department of transfer of a snowmobile within 15 days.

PUTNAM COUNTY

CPO Finn reviewed and updated the commercial fishing information sheet to aid his fellow officers with enforcing commercial fishing regulations.

WINNEBAGO COUNTY

CPO Alt is investigating deer harvest record complaints from the 2018 deer hunting season.

CPO Alt found two individuals in Rock Cut State Park after the posted closed hours. The subjects were issued written warnings and escorted out of the Park.

While inspecting ice fishermen on Pierce Lake in Rock Cut State Park, CPOs Alt and Wagner found a man fishing without a fishing license. Two other ice fishermen were found to be unlawfully consuming alcohol in a state park where posted prohibited.

**District 7 – Sgt. Scott Avery**

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

**FULTON COUNTY**

CPO Thompson conducted a traffic stop on a truck hauling logs. Upon completion of a timber truck inspection, a citation was issued for failure to provide bill of lading paperwork; and the vehicle was placed out of service pending corrections.

CPO Thompson received a case disposition from a November occurrence of hunting without permission and trespass to private property. The offenders pled guilty and each ordered to pay a \$500 fine and court costs, along with \$1,200 restitution to the IDNR.

**HENDERSON COUNTY**

CPOs Elliott and Thompson completed an investigation involving the unlawful take of several white-tailed deer at night by use of lights from a vehicle. This investigation resulted in the seizure of the following items: two shotguns; two rifles; one revolver; one 14-point buck rack; two ten-point buck racks; an eight-point buck rack; two six-point buck racks; a four-point buck rack; and four other deer carcasses. All subjects have been charged and face a future court date.

**KNOX COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**MARSHALL COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**MCDONOUGH COUNTY**

CPO Elliott received a complaint regarding illegal dumping of trash on private property. He was able to locate the subjects responsible, and the violations were addressed.

**PEORIA COUNTY**

CPOs Thompson and Elliott conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for disobeying a stop sign and driving on the rim of the vehicle. The driver appeared to be excessively nervous and anxious to get going. Upon receiving differing stories from the passenger and the driver on where they were going, along with their odd demeanor, the CPOs called for a K-9 for a free air sniff of the vehicle. After a positive K-9 alert, the vehicle was searched; and items of drug paraphernalia were found. The driver was issued two citations.

**STARK COUNTY**

CPO Lazzell cited a Wyoming man for damage to state property.

**TAZEWELL COUNTY**

CPO Lazzell cited a Washington man for unlawfully feeding deer.

**WARREN COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

WOODFORD COUNTY

CPO Gerard cited an individual for unlawfully harvesting a 12-point buck without a valid deer permit.

**District 9 – Sgt. Eric Myers**

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

ADAMS COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

BROWN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

CALHOUN COUNTY

CPO Goetten arrested a subject for OUI one week after the subject was arrested for OUI by the Missouri Water Patrol. The Calhoun County State's Attorney charged the subject with reckless conduct, and the subject pled guilty. His total fines and costs were \$1,702.

GREENE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

HANCOCK COUNTY

CPO Wheatley checked snow goose hunters throughout the county.

CPO Wheatley continues to follow up on and close deer cases from the recently closed season.

JERSEY COUNTY

CPOs Lentz and Goetten cited two commercial fishermen with illegally set and unattended trammel nets.

MACOUPIN COUNTY

CPO Goetten investigated two cases of illegally taken deer.

PIKE COUNTY

CPO Blakeley taught a hunter safety class at Griggsville-Perry High School.

SCHUYLER COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

**District 10 – Captain Laura Petreikis**

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

CASS COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

CHRISTIAN COUNTY

CPO Fraser gave a presentation to local law enforcement about the basics of conservation law, their authority for inspections and enforcement, and how the Conservation Police and local law enforcement can help each other.

While patrolling Sangchris Lake State Park on foot, CPO Fraser observed a fisherman unlawfully wading in the Lake. A fishing compliance check was conducted, and the fisherman held a valid license. A check of his stringer revealed he had six crappie in his possession. CPO Fraser recalled seeing the angler at a different location with a stringer full of crappie earlier in the day. The angler admitted that he had caught his limit earlier, taken them home, and returned to catch more crappie. The angler was cited, and the fish in his possession were released alive.

CPO Fraser investigated an unlawful take of deer complaint. The suspect admitted he made a mistake and appeared remorseful for his actions. Due to the poacher's compliance and attitude, he was only issued one citation; and none of his equipment was seized.

CPO Fraser assisted other law enforcement agencies with several incidents which included criminal trespass to a residence, a felony warrant arrest, and a felon who fled from a traffic stop on foot.

CPO Gilmer received a case disposition where the offender pled guilty to multiple violations. A 12-point deer rack was involved in the case, and it went to the state as contraband.

#### LOGAN COUNTY

CPO Gilmer received a case disposition where the offender pled guilty to hunting deer over bait, and the ten-point deer went to the state as contraband.

#### MASON COUNTY

CPO Gilmer executed a search warrant at a residence which turned up three additional illegal deer. The case is ongoing.

#### MENARD COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

#### MORGAN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

#### SANGAMON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

#### SCOTT COUNTY

CPOs Wichern and Macias investigated a hunting without permission complaint along the Illinois River. Two Sangamon County hunters were charged with trespassing while jump shooting a group of snow geese.

### **Northeast Zone – Captain Jed Whitchurch**

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

#### KANE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

#### LAKE COUNTY

A court case involving a nonresident hunter who was illegally purchasing Illinois resident licenses over the last three years was finalized. The judgement included a \$10,000 donation to the Illinois Conservation Police Operations Assistance Fund, \$512 in court costs, and a one-year conditional discharge. The case started with a TIP complaint in 2016 involving seven dead bucks found on a property in the Volo area. The skull caps/antlers had been removed.

CPO Winters received a call of a snowmobiler in the water at the Grass Lake bridge. When he arrived on scene, the subject was already out of the water and was being evaluated by rescue. The subject refused treatment and was released. A recovery service was called to retrieve the snowmobile. He met with the subject a few days later, and the subject was cited for careless operation of a snowmobile, pollution of waterway, expired registration, and no proof of insurance.

CPO Winters followed up on a TIP complaint that came in regarding a subject shooting squirrels in his backyard. The subject admitted to shooting the squirrels because they were getting into his bird feeders. He was cited for unlawfully hunting squirrels out of season, and written warnings were issued for no hunting license or habitat stamp.

#### MCHENRY COUNTY

CPO Kelley issued a salvage deer permit to an individual for a button buck that was dispatched by Island Lake police because it had become entangled in a fence.

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

#### GRUNDY COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

#### KANKAKEE COUNTY

CPO Farber received a complaint regarding an illegal timber cut in Pembroke Township. A land manager observed two subjects loading a vehicle with cut white oak trees. An IDNR forester was contacted to determine the value of the timber, and the investigation is ongoing.

CPO Anderson gave a presentation on hunting laws and safety to a hunter safety class sponsored by the South Wilmington Sportsmen's Club.

#### KENDALL COUNTY

CPO Bergland gave a presentation about the duties of a CPO to the Millbrook Methodist Church Men's Group.

#### WILL COUNTY

CPO Reid received several complaints from a property owner regarding trespass to hunt for shed antlers. The property was marked with signs prohibiting trespassing. He conducted numerous patrols, and he issued multiple citations for shed hunting on private property without permission. Additional enforcement action was taken for trespassing.

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

#### COOK COUNTY

CPO Mooi followed up on a deer feeding and baiting complaint received by CPO Stanbary, and he issued seven written warnings to people who were illegally feeding deer in and around a Cook County forest preserve.

While on patrol, CPO Mooi stopped a vehicle for speeding. Upon further inspection, the plate on the vehicle did not belong to the vehicle. Appropriate enforcement action was taken.

CPO Mooi conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle for improper lane usage. The driver was found to be driving on a suspended license and had an outstanding warrant out of Will County. The driver was arrested on the outstanding

warrant, and she was transported to the Will County Jail. The woman also cited for driving on a suspended license and improper lane usage.

While checking ice fishermen, CPO Mooi observed an individual using two poles and a tip-up on a two pole and line only lake. The man was questioned about the devices, and he stated he forgot about the tip-up when he moved to another hole. A written warning was issued for the violation. In a separate incident, CPO Mooi observed a man utilizing two poles and an automatic fisherman while on a two pole and line only lake. A written warning was issued for the violation.

CPO Mooi assisted with a poaching investigation involving an Illinois resident suspected of poaching in Arizona. Arizona Fish and Game officers suspect the man of illegally taking a deer with a rifle during closed season. The man reported the deer as being killed with an archery device.

CPO Mooi assisted the Secretary of State Police with an investigation into a possible fraudulent dealership.

While on patrol at William W. Powers State Recreational Area, CPO Stanbary issued a written warning to an ice fisherman who had parked his vehicle in a prohibited area and was blocking the roadway.

Following up on a 2018 archery deer hunting investigation, CPO Stanbary seized a 12-point buck skull and antlers taken illegally taken in Grundy County. The hunter was issued multiple citations and warnings and has a court date in Grundy County Court.

CPO Stanbary issued a written warning to a fisherman at Busse Woods after he was found fishing with no valid sport fishing license in possession.

While patrolling Schiller Woods, CPO Stanbary observed two separate individuals feeding deer in the preserve. Both were issued written warnings and educated on the unintended consequences of feeding wildlife.

While on patrol, CPO Sanford located a vehicle unlawfully parked on the grass. He located the owner of the vehicle, and the individual had been previously warned about parking the vehicle on the grass. A fishing compliance check was conducted; and it was discovered that the ice fishing shelter was not properly tagged with the owner's name and address, as required by law. The individual was issued a citation for unlawful parking on the grass, and enforcement action was taken for the untagged ice fishing shelter.

#### DUPAGE COUNTY

While checking ice fishermen, CPO Stanbary issued warnings for untagged shelters and no sport fishing license in possession.

### **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

No activity reported for this county.

#### FORD COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

**IROQUOIS COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**LIVINGSTON COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**MACON COUNTY**

CPO Wright assisted with the IDNR portion of the academy.

CPO Viverito received a call regarding a deer trapped in an egress window, seven feet below the surface. He responded to the scene and met with Macon County Animal Control. After tranquilizing the young buck, CPO Viverito and the Macon County Animal Control officer removed the deer from the egress window using a rope as leverage. The deer was uninjured, and it was released.

**MCLEAN COUNTY**

CPO Graden assisted with the IDNR portion of the academy.

**PIATT COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**VERMILION COUNTY**

CPO Reeves conducted several deer hunting investigations. Several violations were discovered, including hunting without a hunting license and the unlawful take of a white-tailed deer without a valid permit. Citations and warnings were issued in each case.

**South Zone – Captain Jim Mayes**

**District 11 – Sgt. Brian McReynolds**

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

**CLARK COUNTY**

CPO Wellum attended integrated force options instructor training in Effingham.

CPO Wellum taught HAZMAT, CPR and first aid to IDNR Lands personnel at the Clinton Lake Office.

CPO Wellum received information regarding a houseboat that sunk at Mill Creek Lake, and he responded to the Lake. He located a 58-foot houseboat which had sunk at the docks, and it was leaking oil and fuel. The EPA was contacted. The clean-up process and removal of the watercraft is underway.

**COLES COUNTY**

CPO Mieure issued a Charleston woman a written warning for speeding.

CPO Mieure issued salvage tags to individuals from Coles and Jasper counties.

**CUMBERLAND COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**DOUGLAS COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

EDGAR COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MOULTRIE COUNTY

CPO Moody responded to a vehicle that had been driving off-road on department property. He found two men next to a truck that was buried in mud next to a pond. The truck had been stolen out of Shelby County. Both men were arrested for criminal damage to state-supported property and driving off the roadway. The driver was also charged with possession of a stolen vehicle and driving with no valid license. The passenger was also arrested for an outstanding warrant for retail theft out of Moultrie County.

SHELBY COUNTY

Sgt. McReynolds attended a one-day tactical leadership class at the ILEAS training center in Urbana.

**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 received a call regarding a subject with over the daily limit of paddlefish. After watching the subject catch a paddlefish and take it to his truck, he conducted a compliance check at the subject's truck. The subject was in possession of three paddlefish, when the daily limit is two. The third fish was returned to the water, and the subject was issued a citation.

CPO Tapley finished three deer investigations in which each subject was issued a citation for their violation.

CPO Tapley spent a week at a defensive tactics instructors course, and he spent another week at the Macon County Law Enforcement Training Center serving as a defensive tactics instructor to the Conservation Police trainees.

After receiving a complaint of illegal hunting at Eldon Hazlet State Recreation Area, CPO Tapley checked two groups of pheasant hunters. The complainant reported that the hunters were driving around shooting at pheasants from their vehicles. Three hunters in two vehicles were found to have guns that were not in a case, and citations were issued.

MADISON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MONROE COUNTY

CPO Schachner taught the conservation law section of a hunter safety course in Waterloo to approximately 40 students. A short time later, he presented a two hour talk and PowerPoint presentation on Hunting for Conservation to approximately 35 members of CLIFFTOP (local non-profit which preserves/protects bluff land). The talk covered the North American Model of Wildlife Management (unique in the world) and the factual basis that hunters provide the vast majority of funding for all conservation efforts for all species of wildlife in the United States.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

## RANDOLPH COUNTY

CPO Sievers was notified by IDNR staff that there was an abandoned vehicle that was stuck off the roadway at the Baldwin day use area. He had the vehicle towed, and he located the subjects who had left the vehicle. The person responsible for the vehicle was issued a citation for the unlawful abandonment of a vehicle, and the driver was issued a citation for the unlawful driving off the roadway on IDNR property.

While on patrol at the Fort Kaskaskia Historic Site, CPO Sievers checked the registration of a truck that was parked in a parking spot. The truck's registration was suspended for no insurance. The driver had a suspended driver's license, and the truck did not have insurance. He also smelled an odor of cannabis coming from the vehicle. Drug paraphernalia and a small amount of cannabis were in the vehicle. The driver was taken to the Randolph County Jail, and the truck was towed.

CPO Sievers responded to a call of an injured eagle, and the eagle was captured. There were no obvious injuries to the eagle, but it could not fly. The eagle was transferred to the Treehouse Wildlife Rehabilitation Center.

CPO Sievers assisted the Sparta Police Department with a vehicle that was submerged at the East City Lake. He had a boat on scene while the divers secured the car to the tow truck.

CPO Schachner staffed the CPO Wildlife Trailer for six hours at Kaskaskia Lock and Dam for Eagle Fest Days. This event was attended by over 500 people. Just prior to the end of the event, a sick eagle was observed near the river. He captured the bird and transferred it to the World Bird Sanctuary for possible rehabilitation.

## ST. CLAIR COUNTY

CPO Schachner checked three rabbit hunters at a local fish and wildlife conservation area. One of the hunters did not have his hunting license in possession, did not have a habitat stamp, and was hunting with an unplugged shotgun. In addition, he possessed three rabbits in his truck which were gifted to him from another hunter but were not tagged with the gifting hunter's information. The hunter was relatively new to hunting, and the three rabbits were the sum total between all three hunters. Accordingly, the rabbit hunter received one citation, multiple written warnings, and given a hunting digest.

CPO Ray is currently investigating several complaints of ATVs being ridden on state property. He has also removed over 12 deer stands left on Peabody River King property over the past hunting season.

## WASHINGTON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

## **District 14 – Sgt. Jeff Cariens (Counties: Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jefferson, Pope, Saline & White)**

## FRANKLIN COUNTY

CPO Williams completed two investigations regarding permitting issues relating to the harvest of deer during the 2018 season.

## GALLATIN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

## HAMILTON COUNTY

CPOs Folden and Farber are investigating illegal coyote hunting activity in which the hunter accidentally killed a dog. Conversation violations identified in this investigation were hunting too close to a residence with a rifle without

permission, hunting without permission, unlawful possession of a white-tailed deer, and causing damage to someone's property while hunting.

**HARDIN COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**JEFFERSON COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**POPE COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**SALINE COUNTY**

CPO Haggerty is investigating the report of a subject using another's firearm deer permits to report the harvest of a buck during the firearm deer season.

**WHITE COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**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**

CPO Taylor investigated a hunter and issued a citation for deer hunting without a deer permit.

**EDWARDS COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**EFFINGHAM COUNTY**

CPO Roper gave a presentation at a hunter safety course in Beecher City. He discussed basic hunting safety, hunting laws, and the roles and job requirements of a CPO.

**FAYETTE COUNTY**

CPO Roper received information about a nine-point buck that may have been unlawfully harvested, and he investigated the complaint. It was determined that a nonresident archery hunter had killed a nine-point buck in November 2018, and the suspect was issued two citations and three written warnings.

CPO Roper received information about an unlawfully placed coyote trap after the coyote trapping season had closed, and he is investigating the complaint.

**JASPER COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**LAWRENCE COUNTY**

CPO Taylor investigated a vehicle that drove off the roadway causing ruts at Red Hills State Park. The driver of the vehicle was identified, and it was determined that he had a revoked driver's license. The subject was arrested for driving with revoked driver's license.

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

CPO Somers concluded the following investigations: 1) A deer hunter cited for unlawfully harvesting a deer with no hunting license, habitat stamp, or archery deer permit. 2) A deer hunter cited for unlawfully harvesting two bucks during the 2018 firearm deer season. 3) A deer hunter cited for unlawfully harvesting two deer during firearm deer season and for unlawful use of another's permits. 4) A hunter cited for unlawfully possessing and tagging a deer harvested unlawfully by another hunter.

JOHNSON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MASSAC COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

PERRY COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

PULASKI COUNTY

CPO Vasicek received a call for service regarding a mature bald eagle hanging upside down by one foot approximately 60 feet up in a tree. CPO Vasicek contacted a friend with expertise in rope rescue. The two responded to the call and located the eagle. The rope rescue operator scaled the tree with a series of rope configurations and was able to release the bird. The bird flew away upon release.

UNION COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.