



# Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



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

**DATE: May 21, 2019**  
(Weeks of May 1 – 15, 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 Francisko conducted a commercial fishing investigation. Commercial fishermen are required by law to submit an annual report to the IDNR showing what type and amount of fish they caught. It was determined the man under reported the amount of fish he caught in 2018. Other reporting irregularities were also discovered. Appropriate enforcement action was taken.

CPO Teas cited two commercial fishermen for harvest record violations.

CPO Palumbo conducted 22 boat checks during an IHSA Bass Tournament.

CPOs Hoftender, Palumbo, and Francisko, along with Sgt. Petreikis, participated in a fish truck detail. One fish truck was stopped; and the driver was cited for expired registration, unlawful importation of viral hemorrhagic septicemia susceptible species, and failure to provide receipts. The driver was also issued written warnings for no proof of valid insurance and failure to label aquatic life being transported.

#### **HENRY COUNTY**

CPO Posateri cited an Atkinson man for unlawfully taking a turkey without a permit. The hunter killed two turkeys with one shot.

#### **JODAVIESS COUNTY**

CPO Hoftender cited two mushroom hunters for entering a restricted area.

#### **LEE COUNTY**

CPO Palumbo investigated the unlawful pumping of water from a farmer's flooded field onto IDNR-owned property. A remediation agreement was reached between the farmer and the site superintendent.

#### **MERCER COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**OGLE COUNTY**

While checking for license compliance, CPOs Beltran and Teas discovered drugs and paraphernalia in plain view in a fisherman's vehicle. The unlawful items were seized, and appropriate enforcement action was taken.

CPO Teas attended sonar training at Clinton Lake.

CPO Teas cited a fisherman for possession of cannabis.

**ROCK ISLAND COUNTY**

While conducting fishing compliance checks, CPO Francisko observed a man illegally fishing with a cast net. Appropriate enforcement action was taken.

**STEPHENSON COUNTY**

CPO Alt received a disposition in a case involving a Stephenson County man who was caught unlawfully hunting white-tailed deer by aid or use of bait, not wearing sufficient blaze orange clothing, hunting too close to surrounding residences, and using an unplugged shotgun. The man was convicted.

CPO Beltran conducted several fall harvest interviews and discovered violations for failing to properly check deer. Citations were issued.

CPO Palumbo attended the Stephenson County Keepers of the Land Outdoor Stewardship Days with the Conservation Police Lodge trailer. Several third-grade classes got to tour the trailer, and the students were educated on Illinois' natural resources.

CPO Palumbo issued a citation and multiple written warnings to a Lena man for unlawfully taking and transporting an eastern wild turkey with no turkey permit. The turkey was seized.

**WHITESIDE COUNTY**

CPO Palumbo is investigating the unlawful take of coyote pups from the wild. Charges are pending.

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

**BOONE COUNTY**

CPO Alt cited a Belvidere man for unlawful fishing without a valid sport fishing license during the spring trout opener. He also checked over 30 sport fishermen.

CPO Alt observed a Caledonia man unlawfully riding his off-highway motorcycle upon the highway right-of-way, and appropriate enforcement action was taken.

CPO Alt cited four Chicago men who were caught unlawfully fishing without fishing licenses.

CPO Alt received a disposition in a case involving a Boone County man who unlawfully harvested a white-tailed deer prior to purchasing his firearm deer permit. The man was convicted.

CPO Alt received a disposition in a case involving two Chicago men who were caught during the 2018 firearm deer hunting season unlawfully hunting on property without permission, using unplugged shotguns, not wearing any blaze orange clothing, using dogs to unlawfully drive deer, in possession of and using buckshot, and hunting without firearm deer permits. Convictions were obtained, and a forfeiture hearing is pending. Hunting privilege suspensions were also assigned to these men.

**BUREAU COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**DEKALB COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**LASALLE COUNTY**

CPO Kaufman received a report of a missing, suicidal individual who was possibly at Starved Rock State Park. He located the individual in his vehicle in a parking lot. The individual was highly intoxicated and had a knife in his possession. He was able to calm the man down and get the knife out of the man's immediate reach. He also convinced the man to be transported a local hospital for an evaluation.

CPO Kaufman found two individuals that had driven their vehicles around a "Road Closed" barricade and onto a flooded road. Both individuals received citations for disobeying a traffic control device.

While checking fishermen at Starved Rock State Park, CPO Murry checked one individual who smelled of freshly burnt cannabis. The fisherman admitted to smoking the cannabis just before the CPO walked up to him. The fisherman had a small amount of cannabis on him and another small amount in his vehicle. The man granted consent to search his vehicle which was parked in the parking lot. Two open and cold to the touch beer cans were found in the truck, as well as items of drug paraphernalia. When asked about the beer, the fisherman said he drank them on his way to Starved Rock. The fisherman, who was under the influence of cannabis and alcohol, told CPO Murry that his wife was on her way to pick him up; and he assured him that he was not going to drive. Approximately three minutes later, CPO Murry saw the individual load his fishing gear into his truck and drive off. After seeing traffic violations, CPO Murry conducted a traffic stop. After a brief investigation, the man was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. He was also cited for multiple traffic violations, driving under the influence of combination of alcohol and cannabis, and driving under the influence of alcohol with a blood alcohol limit over .08. His blood alcohol content was .128.

**PUTNAM COUNTY**

CPO Finn investigated the theft of two fox kits. He was able to determine the kits were taken by a known acquaintance who was also a fox breeder. The kits were sold without record of their sale. The violator was written citations for not maintaining records and theft of property. The investigation into the whereabouts of the kits is ongoing.

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY**

CPO Alt received a disposition in a case involving a Winnebago County man who harvested a nine-point white-tailed deer during the 2018 archery season without a hunting license. The man also unlawfully hunted on private property without permission from the owner. The man was convicted.

CPO Alt received a disposition in a case involving two white-tailed deer hunters who harvested deer prior to purchasing their firearm deer permits during the 2018 firearm deer season. The men were convicted, and the processed venison from the unlawful harvests was seized.

CPO Alt inspected 28 boats during the annual IHSA Youth Sectional Bass Fishing Tournament held at Pierce Lake in Rock Cut State Park. High schools from four counties were represented in this year's event.

**District 7 – Sgt. Scott Avery**

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

**FULTON COUNTY**

CPOs Thompson and Elliott found a vehicle parked on coal mine property, and they located two subjects trespassing on private property without consent of the landowner. Written warnings were issued.

CPO Thompson cited a commercial fisherman for a commercial fishing harvest record violation. The fisherman had failed to report the catch of over 10,000 pounds of fish.

CPO Thompson received information regarding a suspicious vehicle parked on incorporated property. He interviewed the witness, and two men were found trespassing on the property without consent of the landowner. Two citations were issued.

**HENDERSON COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**KNOX COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**MARSHALL COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**MCDONOUGH COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**PEORIA COUNTY**

CPO Gerard cited three subjects for unlawfully fishing without consent of the landowner.

**STARK COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**TAZEWELL COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**WARREN COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**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 conducted turkey hunting enforcement. He also monitored the Mississippi River in the Quincy area and stayed in touch with county/local emergency services.

**BROWN COUNTY**

CPO Gushleff put together a wild turkey enforcement detail based on a tip from a Georgia game warden. CPOs Blakeley and Wheatley also participated in the detail. The team found a baited turkey blind, and several citations and warnings were issued to the subject hunting over the bait.

CALHOUN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

GREENE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

HANCOCK COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

JERSEY COUNTY

CPOs Goetten, Tapley, and Schachner conducted several patrols of flooded areas. Two watercrafts were stopped in restricted waters in reference to a criminal trespass complaint. Other violations were also discovered, and enforcement action was taken. One subject was located and provided transportation out of the flooded area after being stranded in his home for a week.

CPO Goetten attended sonar operator training.

CPO Goetten received a complaint of a suspicious vehicle parked in the roadway at Pere Marquette State Park. After inspecting the scene, he discovered evidence of possible criminal activity; and two suspects were located. One subject was on parole and had been arrested days earlier by a Jerseyville police officer for retail theft. The subject on parole was in possession of bolt cutters and a lock/chain stolen from the State Park. The other subject was in the possession of a controlled substance. Both were arrested on felony charges.

MACOUPIN COUNTY

CPO Gushleff cited three different fishermen at Beaver Dam State Park for keeping crappies that were under the nine-inch regulation.

CPO Gushleff investigated two wild turkey hunting incidents where the subjects either did not have a hunting license or habitat stamp, or used the wrong season permit on a turkey harvest. Two written warnings and one citation were issued for the infractions.

PIKE COUNTY

While conducting sport fishing enforcement along the Mississippi River, CPO Blazinic issued a citation to a fisherman for fishing without a sport fishing license.

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 Macias responded to a complaint from a Sangchris Lake State Park employee. A subject drove his truck through a grassy area that was off limits to off road use. Recent rains softened the grass, and the weight of the truck caused a

deep rut that ran 40 feet long. Park employees took down the license plate of the truck. He found the subject, and a citation was issued.

While on patrol of Sangchris Lake State Park, CPO Wichern issued citations and warnings for possession of short crappie, no fishing license, no fire extinguisher on a watercraft, and operation of a watercraft after sunset with no navigation lights.

**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**

CPO Wichern observed a bow fisherman shooting fish from the bridge over Willow Creek on the east side of the Meredosia Federal Refuge. The bow fisherman shot three fish before CPO Wichern stopped the activity. The potential hazards associated with shooting from the public right of way were explained. The fisherman did possess a valid Illinois fishing license, and he agreed that shooting a bow from, across, or along a public roadway/bridge was unsafe. The subject was issued a citation, and he was directed to areas along the Illinois River where it would be safer to bow fish.

**SANGAMON COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**SCOTT COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**Northeast Zone – Captain Jed Whitchurch**

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

**KANE COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**LAKE COUNTY**

While on patrol, CPOs Knop and Semenik conducted a boating safety check on two boats. Neither boat had registration, life jackets, covers for the battery terminals, or sounding devices. In addition, two of the fishermen did not have fishing licenses. Appropriate enforcement action was taken.

**MCHENRY COUNTY**

CPOs Kelley and VanWiltenburg responded to a call from McHenry County Animal Control regarding nuisance trapping of groundhogs. The groundhog in question was digging under a resident's house. The officers informed the individuals of the proper procedures to obtain a nuisance removal permit should they need one in the future.

CPO Knop received information about someone shooting at geese on the Chain O'Lakes. Further investigation revealed a dead goose at the location described. A landowner admitted that he shot at the geese because they were eating his newly planted grass. Appropriate enforcement action was taken.

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

**GRUNDY COUNTY**

CPO Farber conducted vessel inspections and sport fish enforcement. No violations were found. Several watercraft safety inspections were also conducted, and written warnings were issued.

**KANKAKEE COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**KENDALL COUNTY**

Sgt. Wollgast responded to a canoe accident on the Fox River. The Fox River was swollen from heavy rains and in near flood stage. Four canoes were caught up in the heavy current and carried to the north bank where they capsized. The occupants were able to walk to shore. Another canoe carrying two individuals capsized in the middle of the River. Only one of the individuals was able to make it to shore, and the other was swept downstream with the half-submerged canoe. A rescue diver from the Oswego Fire Department went into the water and was able to grab onto the individual just as he was being pulled into a strainer on an island. Both the rescue swimmer and individual had to be picked up by the Oswego Fire Department's jet boat. The individual was taken to hospital for evaluation.

**WILL COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

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

**COOK COUNTY**

CPO Sanford conducted a traffic stop on a speeding vehicle, and the driver was issued a written warning for the violation. In a separate incident, CPO Sanford conducted a traffic stop on a motorcycle. The operator was unlawfully passing vehicles on the right shoulder of I-294, and a written warning was issued for the violation.

CPO Sanford assisted CPO Beltran with promotional photographs.

CPO Sanford assisted University of Chicago personnel with the relocation of a goose family from atop a building on campus.

While conducting fishing compliance checks, CPO Stanbary looked inside a minnow bucket and discovered a live round goby inside the bucket. This fish is an invasive species and cannot be retained alive. The fisherman was issued a citation for the violation. In a separate incident, a fisherman was issued a warning after his fishing gear was found unattended.

CPO Stanbary spoke at a hunter safety course in Bartlett. He shared information and resources about the laws pertaining to hunting within the state.

CPOs Stanbary and Klemme conducted a joint patrol focusing on sport fish enforcement. During the patrol, one citation was issued to a fisherman for no valid sport fishing license. A warning was issued to a 16-year-old for no sport fishing license. The young fisherman was advised that he was now of age to purchase a license. Warnings were issued

to multiple fishermen for no license in possession. Another fisherman was issued a citation after the CPO found that the man had been throwing beer cans into the weeds.

CPO Stanbary assisted with an IHSA Bass Tournament. He helped with boat inspections for teams participating in the event. In a separate incident, he cited a fisherman on the Calumet River for no valid sport fishing license.

CPO Stanbary issued a citation to a driver on Lake Shore Drive after he observed an infant being held by a front seat passenger. The driver is due in court for the child safety seat violation.

While conducting boat safety inspections, CPO Stanbary issued a written warning to a boat operator for an equipment violation and an unnumbered watercraft. He also warned the boat operator about running over the lines of people fishing in the area.

CPO Stanbary issued a fisherman a warning for no license in possession.

DUPAGE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

**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

Clinton Lake State Recreation Area hosted a week-long sonar training for CPOs across the state. The first two days were for recertification, and the last three days were for the new operators. Sgt. Williamson, CPOs Viverito, Reeves, Viverito, and Wright attended.

CPO Viverito and K-9 Hank had a total of six arrests.

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 completed his assignment at the IDNR Academy.

MCLEAN COUNTY

CPO Graden completed his assignment at the IDNR academy, and he is preparing for the recruit class that begins at the end of the month.

PIATT COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

VERMILION COUNTY

CPO Wright received a call regarding an elderly woman who had been reported missing the night before. The woman was located the next morning in Clear Pond at Kickapoo State Recreation Area. She was rescued from the water, and rescue crews transported her to Carle Hospital for treatment.

**South Zone – Captain Jim Mayes**

**District 11 – Sgt. Brian McReynolds**

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

CLARK COUNTY

CPO Wellum attended an Eagle Court of Honor for a Boy Scout who had achieved the rank of Eagle Scout.

CPO Wellum arrested a Clark County resident on an Indiana no bond warrant for methamphetamine violations.

CPO Wellum handled a two-car traffic accident. There were no injuries from the accident, and no citations were issued.

COLES COUNTY

CPO Moody cited multiple individuals for fishing violations at various lakes.

While checking fishermen, CPO Moody cited a Humboldt man for possession of cannabis.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

CPO Wellum conducted a timber truck inspection, and no violations were found.

DOUGLAS COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

EDGAR COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MOULTRIE COUNTY

CPO Moody and Sgt. McReynolds were called to search for a missing kayaker on the Okaw River. The kayaker was later found safe.

SHELBY COUNTY

CPOs Moody and Barnes conducted a timber theft investigation, and a Neoga man was arrested for felony wrongful tree cutting. During the arrest, the man was found to be in the possession of methamphetamine. Another man at the property was arrested on two outstanding warrants for drug possession and driving while revoked.

**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 stopped a vehicle and found the driver had a revoked driver's license and no insurance. The vehicle was towed, and the driver was issued two citations.

CPO Tapley assisted with teaching defensive tactics to officers in Region 4.

MADISON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MONROE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

RANDOLPH COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

While conducting fishing compliance checks, CPO Schachner observed several subjects fishing. Two of them did not have fishing licenses, and one had taken an over-limit of 12 trout. The subject with the over-limit repeatedly provided a false name and date of birth. His actual identity was eventually determined, and it was discovered he was wanted on warrant. He was transported to jail and cited for no valid fishing license and over-limit of trout. He also received written warnings for obstructing a conservation police officer, no valid trout stamp, and driving on an expired driver's license. The second subject was cited for no valid fishing license.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

**District 14 – Sgt. Jeff Cariens**

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

FRANKLIN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

GALLATIN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

HAMILTON COUNTY

CPOs Folden, Buhnerkempe, and Johnson conducted firearms qualifications for 20 retired CPOs.

CPOs Haggerty and Williams investigated information on nonresident turkey hunters. Two hunters were located without habitat stamps, and written warnings were issued.

HARDIN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

JEFFERSON COUNTY

CPOs Haggerty and Williams gathered information on a fatal vehicle accident which occurred within the Eads Unit of Ten Mile Creek State Fish and Wildlife Area.

**POPE COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**SALINE COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**WHITE COUNTY**

CPO Haggerty received a complaint that two turkeys were shot with rifles, from the roadway, after legal hunting hours. The complainant provided a vehicle description and name of the subject driving. After arriving in the area, an investigatory stop was conducted on a vehicle matching the description; and violations were found. The two subjects were issued five citations each for unlawful take of wild turkeys, unlawful hunting by aid of a motor vehicle, unlawful hunting from a roadway, unlawful transportation of loaded firearms, and unlawful shooting from a roadway. The wild turkey breast was seized as evidence.

**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**

No activity reported for this county.

**LAWRENCE COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**MARION COUNTY**

CPO Buhnerkempe cited a hunter for turkey hunting with no valid hunting license. The hunter was also issued a written warning for failure to report the harvest of a turkey.

CPO Buhnerkempe responded to a call from a farmer about a juvenile bald eagle stuck in a fence. Upon arriving at the scene, the farmer drove the CPO to the location in his ATV. CPO Buhnerkempe released the eagle from the fence but discovered it had broken its leg. The farmer assisted CPO Buhnerkempe in capturing the eagle and putting it in a crate

for transport. The eagle was relayed to the University of Illinois where it will be rehabilitated and later released back to its home area.

**RICHLAND COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**WABASH COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**WAYNE COUNTY**

CPO Buhnerkempe cited a man for failure to submit commercial fishing harvest records in 2018.

**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 a hunting without permission complaint. The complainant advised he was turkey hunting on his land when he walked up on two hunters. The landowner was concerned about safety because he did not know they were hunting the same area until he walked up on them. At the request of the complainant, both hunters were cited for hunting without permission.

CPO Lewis responded to a report of a submerged vehicle at the Super Lake boat launch in Pyramid State Recreation Area. A fisherman was preparing to load his boat at the ramp when he looked down in the water and saw the truck in approximately 13 feet of water. The Franklin County Dive Team assisted with getting the truck out of the Lake. The truck was reported stolen in September 2018.

**PULASKI COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**UNION COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.

**WILLIAMSON COUNTY**

No activity reported for this county.