



Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



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

DATE: December 20, 2018

(Weeks of December 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 responded to a complaint of an unauthorized pop-up deer blind too close to a residence. A hunter from Kewanee was cited for the violation since he was less than 300 yards as required.

CPOs Posateri and Lazzell, along with Sgts. Avery, T. Petreikis, and Wire, went to Henry and Knox counties for an emergency response due to the winter storm and blizzard conditions. Numerous motorists were stranded overnight in their vehicles on county roads because of snow drifts. A gracious farmer in the area provided gasoline to the CPOs, and they were able to use their snowmobiles take the fuel to the stranded vehicles to keep them running for heat.

While conducting deer enforcement during firearm deer season, CPOs Wagner and Finn found a truck parked alongside the road. After finding an uncased bow in the backseat, the CPOs walked the property looking for the hunter. While walking the property, a baited area was discovered. The hunter was found and questioned about the crossbow and who was hunting the baited area. After a short investigation, the following citations were issued: unlawful attempt to take white-tailed deer, hunting by use or aid of bait, transporting an uncased crossbow, failure to report harvest, and failure to immediately tag deer upon kill.

JODAVIESS COUNTY

During an archery deer hunting compliance check, CPO Hoftender found that an Elgin man had used his wife's landowner permits to take two deer. The man was issued citations for possession of the illegally taken deer and warned for falsification of records – use of another's deer permit.

CPOs Hoftender and Alt conducted a field compliance check on three muzzleloader hunters. One of the hunters was hunting from his parked ATV. A citation was issued for an uncased gun, and a warning was issued for unsigned deer permits.

LEE COUNTY

CPOs Hoftender and Posateri interviewed a subject and found him to be in possession of unreported roadkill deer. He was also in possession of deer racks without tags. The subject was issued a warning for the deer racks and was cited for possession of the deer without reporting them.

MERCER COUNTY

CPO Posateri conducted deer enforcement during the firearm deer season. A hunter was observed walking very slowly out of the field. A compliance check was conducted, and the hunter stated that he was just walking slowly because of the snow on the ground and the bright moon overhead. The Moline hunter was cited for having his weapon loaded nearly 30 minutes after hunting hours were closed.

CPO Posateri was contacted by a hunter who was calling to “turn himself in for a mistake he made.” He had two antlerless only permits, but he had shot a doe and a buck. The CPO met with the hunter, and he was issued a citation for the spike buck.

OGLE COUNTY

CPO Beltran investigated a report of trespassers on private property. Several trail camera photographs were taken of two men walking in a posted area. One of the men had an arrow in his hand, and it appeared they were tracking wounded game. The landowner was determined to have the hunters prosecuted. After a short investigation, the two subjects were identified and interviewed. It was determined that they did have permission from the very same landowner that wanted them arrested. No violation occurred, and they were not charged.

ROCK ISLAND COUNTY

CPO Francisko was contacted by a hunter regarding a neighbor’s four dogs chasing deer. The complainant witnessed this activity from a tree stand on several occasions when he was deer hunting, and he observed the dogs on several trail cameras. The complainant had asked the neighbor to maintain control of his dogs and explained it was ruining his deer hunting. The talk seemed to have no effect. The complainant gave a detailed statement which included times, dates, and pictures of the dogs. The CPO gave the neighbor a copy of the hunting digest, and a citation was issued for the violation. The CPO advised the subject that the dogs need to be kept on his own property and under control, or he could also be cited under a county ordinance.

STEPHENSON COUNTY

CPO Alt responded to a complaint of suspected unlawful hunting within the Freeport city limits during the second firearm deer season. He found that the subject was hunting out of a ground blind that was just outside of the city limits; however, the hunter was deer hunting too close to the residences. The hunter was also found to be hunting by the aid or use of bait, hunting with an unplugged shotgun, and not wearing the required blaze orange clothing.

CPO Alt conducted a compliance check of a firearm deer hunter during the second firearm deer season and found him with a loaded shotgun and hunting out of a ground blind over 30 minutes past legal shooting time.

CPO Alt conducted compliance checks of three firearm deer hunters during the second firearm deer season and discovered one of them had placed a mineral salt block in front of his tree stand. The bait was removed, and the hunter was cited for hunting by aid or use of bait.

CPO Alt is currently investigating a complaint of unlawful hunting white-tailed deer by aid or use of bait.

A 38-year-old man was hunting deer with his brother-in-law when he decided to go past a no trespassing sign and push deer out of the farmer’s field. Several cameras captured him driving his truck in the field. CPO Beltran issued him citations for trespassing and hunting without permission.

WHITESIDE COUNTY

During a snowmobile detail with CPO Francisko, CPO Hoftender issued a citation to a Sterling man for operation of an unnumbered snowmobile. A warning was also issued for no insurance.

While en route to a detail, CPO Hoftender observed a New Windsor man disobey a train signal. The man was issued a citation for disobeying a train signal, and a warning was issued for expired registration.

District 6 – Sgt. Phil Wire

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

BOONE COUNTY

CPO Alt responded to a call from the Boone County Sheriff's Department regarding a hunting without permission complaint. The investigation revealed two firearm deer hunters were hunting deer on property without permission from the owner and unlawfully using dogs to drive deer. One of the men was hunting deer with an unplugged shotgun, and neither hunter was wearing the required solid blaze orange clothing. They were not in possession of firearm deer permits, and both men were using buckshot in addition to deer slug rounds. Appropriate enforcement action was taken.

BUREAU COUNTY

While investigating an illegal hunting complaint, CPO Wagner found an individual to have multiple violations. The individual was cited for unlawful take of migratory waterfowl, hunting waterfowl without a hunting license, and hunting waterfowl without a HIP certification.

After investigating a complaint of individuals crossing property lines to retrieve deer, CPO Wagner issued a citation for failure to tag deer immediately upon kill. Written warnings were also issued to the two men for trespassing.

DEKALB COUNTY

While on patrol during second firearm season, CPO Murry observed two individuals that were waterfowl hunting. While waiting on them to come out of the field, he observed them shoot. He spoke to them as they were coming out of the field, and the hunters denied shooting while they were hunting. CPO Murry also observed an uncased compound bow in the backseat of their truck. One hunter eventually admitted to shooting a dove, and he was given citations for unlawful take of species out of season and an uncased bow. He was given written warnings for unlawful possession of a freshly killed species during closed season.

LASALLE COUNTY

CPO Filipiak was on patrol when he made an arrest of three individuals who were firearm deer hunting over a baited area. The individuals admitted to using salt blocks and deer cane as an attractant. Three citations were given to each subject for hunting by the use or aid of bait, unlawful take of white-tailed deer, and feeding of wildlife where restricted.

CPO Kaufman conducted a snowmobile compliance check. The snowmobile's registration expired in 2011, and there was no valid insurance. The operator was issued one citation and one written warning.

Sgt. Wire investigated a TIP complaint regarding an illegally shot deer. The complaint stated that a truck stopped on the road, and an individual got out and shot at the deer with a rifle. The deer ran off, leaving a blood trail. Sgt. Wire took pictures of the distinct tire tracks, footprints, and blood trail in the snow. Two days later, the individual was located and charged with shooting the deer with a rifle at night and no valid deer permit. The individual has a mandatory court appearance.

CPO Jansen completed an investigation on a Wisconsin resident who unlawfully harvested an 11-point buck in 2017. The resident admitted harvesting the deer without a license, permits, or habitat stamp. He also admitted to using an Illinois relative's permit to tag the deer. With the assistance of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, the deer mount was seized; and three citations and three written warnings were issued.

PUTNAM COUNTY

CPO Finn checked two hunters near Hennepin, and the hunters were found to be hunting with unplugged shotguns. One was hunting by use or aid of bait, and the other did not have a valid FOID card. Both hunters received citations for hunting with unplugged guns. One hunter received additional citations for unlawful take of deer, hunting by use of bait, and feeding deer. The other hunter received additional citations for possession of a firearm without a valid FOID card and failure to wear blaze orange. Both subjects have mandatory court dates.

WINNEBAGO COUNTY

CPO Alt conducted deer hunting compliance checks during the muzzleloader firearm deer season and found four individuals hunting with their archery devices without wearing the required solid blaze orange clothing. Appropriate enforcement action was taken.

CPO Alt inspected migratory waterfowl hunters along the Rock River and found two hunters unlawfully transporting uncased shotguns in their boat. Further inspection revealed additional violations: expired boat registration; one hunter had failed to sign his federal waterfowl stamp; and both men were unlawfully hunting waterfowl without having purchased the required Illinois state waterfowl stamp.

Sgt. Wire was patrolling Rock Cut State Park after closing time when a truck came driving through. A vehicle was stopped and searched, and the two male and two female occupants were under the age of 21. Sgt. Wire detected an odor of an alcoholic beverage, and approximately 40 cans/bottles of alcohol were seized. Three of the subjects were cited for consumption of alcohol by a minor.

District 7 – Sgt. Scott Avery

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

FULTON COUNTY

CPOs Thompson and Elliott investigated the illegal take of four trumpeter swans, and three men were cited for the violation.

While on patrol during the second firearm season, CPOs Thompson and Elliott located a blood trail in the snow between a pair of ATV tracks. The CPOs followed the trail and located an untagged deer in a shed near a farm house. The ATV was tracked to a hunting cabin, and the hunter was interviewed. The man admitted to the unlawful take and possession of the untagged deer. Citations were issued for failure to report harvest and failure to tag immediately upon kill. Written warnings were issued for additional violations.

CPO Thompson cited two hunters for unlawful transport of uncased firearms on a UTV. Three written warnings were also issued.

CPO Thompson issued a written warning to a man for unlawful possession of an untagged deer.

HENDERSON COUNTY

CPOs Elliott and Thompson responded to a complaint of poaching that allegedly took place in Henderson and McDonough counties. The CPOs interviewed the suspect and received a confession. The suspect admitted to unlawfully taking several deer at night by use and aid of a motor vehicle and shining. The following deer were seized:

two does; a 14-point buck; a nine-point buck; a four-point buck; and another unidentified buck. In addition to the deer, a 20-gauge shotgun and a 357 revolver were seized. Enforcement action is pending.

KNOX COUNTY

No activity reported in that county.

MARSHALL COUNTY

While patrolling during the second firearm season, CPO Stanbary cited a hunter after he was found walking down a roadway with a loaded firearm. During a compliance check, the hunter was found to have no blaze orange cap, unsigned deer permits, and no habitat stamp. He was issued two citations and two written warnings. The hunter is due in court in December. In a separate incident, two other hunters were issued written warnings for unsigned deer permits.

CPO Stanbary conducted a compliance check on a hunter, and he noted cracked corn in different areas of a property that was being hunted. The homeowner was cited for feeding deer and was warned that it could not be hunted for ten days after the corn was removed.

A firearm deer hunter was cited by CPO Stanbary after he was found to be hunting over a salt lick. During the compliance check, he noticed a large depression in the ground where a salt or mineral block had been placed directly in front of the hunter's stand. The hunter was cited for unlawful attempt to take a white-tailed deer and hunting by use or aid of bait.

MCDONOUGH COUNTY

CPOs Elliott and Thompson cited a man for failure to report harvest by 10 p.m. A written warning was also issued for failure to tag a deer immediately upon kill.

CPO Elliott was on patrol when he observed a man hunting on a no hunting area at Spring Lake. The man was carrying a bow and not wearing blaze orange as required during muzzleloader season. A compliance check revealed the man did not have a hunting license or habitat stamp, and he was in possession of another's permits. Further investigation revealed the man was a nonresident who possessed resident landowner permits for property he did not own. CPOs Elliott and Thompson interviewed the man again the next day and more violations were found. Those violations included a long history of permit violations, unlawful harvests, and illegal dumping of deer on city property. Enforcement action is pending.

PEORIA COUNTY

CPO Lazzell cited a Tennessee deer hunter for providing fraudulent information to obtain Illinois resident firearm deer permits. The subject used his previous Illinois address to falsely claim he was still an Illinois resident.

CPO Gerard issued citations to a firearm deer hunter from Tennessee for hunting deer without a valid permit and unlawful take of deer.

STARK COUNTY

While on patrol during the second firearm season, CPO Stanbary conducted a compliance check on a deer hunter that was walking back to his vehicle. The CPO learned that the hunter had harvested a doe earlier in the morning, but the hunter had not tagged the deer. The hunter was also found to have unsigned firearm deer permits and no habitat stamp. While walking with the hunter to the harvested doe, the CPO came across a salt lick with a trail camera placed over it. Upon further inspection of the property, the CPO discovered three other areas baited with corn and soybeans. The bait had been placed near deer stands. The hunter was issued citations for hunting by use or aid of bait, unlawful take of a white-tailed deer, and failure to tag his deer upon harvest. He was issued written warnings for no habitat

stamp, unsigned deer permits, feeding deer, and no license in possession. The hunter has an upcoming mandatory court date. In a separate incident, CPO Stanbary issued a hunter a written warning for unsigned deer tags.

TAZEWELL COUNTY

CPOs Gerard and Lazzell cited five individuals for waterfowl hunting on property without consent.

WARREN COUNTY

CPO Thompson issued a written warning to a man for a permit violation.

CPO Elliott issued written warning to a man for a license violation.

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

No activity reported for this county.

BROWN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

CALHOUN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

GREENE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

HANCOCK COUNTY

CPO Wheatley received a call from a landowner regarding an untagged nine-point buck hanging in his barn, and he did not know who it belonged to or where it came from. The investigation revealed that the deer was shot the evening prior by a Plymouth man. That man left the deer in the barn and planned picked it up the next morning. The man said he shot it, recovered it, and hung it in the barn because there was not enough room in his truck to bring it home. He said he forgot to put the tag on it, and he did not call it in. Citations were issued for possession of an untagged deer and failure to tag immediately upon harvest. A written warning was also issued for not calling it in by 10 p.m.

JERSEY COUNTY

CPO Goetten spoke to a subject regarding an unprocessed deer carcass that had been hanging in his yard for approximately two weeks. While speaking with the man, it was apparent that he was under the influence of drugs. CPO Goetten located methamphetamine, drug paraphernalia, and hypodermic needles inside the residence. The subject and his female acquaintance were arrested and transported to the Jersey County Jail. The subject was also cited for wanton waste.

CPO Goetten issued a citation to a waterfowl hunter for an unplugged shotgun. The subject had four shells in his shotgun.

MACOUPIN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

PIKE COUNTY

While conducting deer enforcement during the archery deer season, CPO Jansen discovered a father and son hunting without licenses and permits. The father was revoked from hunting for back child support and was in possession of a .22 caliber rifle as a felon. The man was issued six citations and eight written warnings, including the possession of a firearm by a felon which will be reviewed for felony charges.

SCHUYLER COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

District 10 – Capt. Laura Petreikis (Counties: Cass, Christian, Logan, Mason, Menard, Morgan, Sangamon & Scott)

CASS COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

CHRISTIAN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

LOGAN COUNTY

CPO Gilmer cited a deer hunter for hunting at Edward R. Madigan State Fish and Wildlife Area. There is no deer hunting allowed at this site.

MASON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MENARD COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MORGAN COUNTY

CPO Wichern charged a coyote hunter with possession of a 22-250 rifle in the field during the second firearm deer season. The hunter was also given written warnings for failing to wear the required amount of blaze orange clothing during a firearm deer season and hunting furbearers during closed season.

CPO Wichern charged two Michigan deer hunters for placement of minerals where deer are present.

SANGAMON COUNTY

While conducting deer enforcement during the second firearm season, CPO Macias came across three hunters on private land who were in the process of field dressing two does. A compliance check was conducted, and no violations were found with their permit and license information. A check of their shotguns revealed that one of the shotguns did not have the required plug, and citation was issued for the unplugged shotgun.

SCOTT COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

Northeast Zone – Captain Brett Scroggins

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

KANE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

LAKE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MCHENRY COUNTY

CPO Kelley assisted a firearm deer hunter with checking in his deer. The man had reported the harvest but was unable to get the doe to the check station on time.

Sgt. Schreiber cited two subjects who were archery hunting during the firearm deer season and not wearing the appropriate blaze orange.

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

GRUNDY COUNTY

CPO Anderson gave a presentation on conservation law enforcement to students in a Grundy Area Vocational Center law enforcement class.

KANKAKEE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

KENDALL COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

WILL COUNTY

While conducting waterfowl enforcement, CPO Bergland observed a group hunting. The group failed to maintain separate bag limits of the birds they harvested, and appropriate enforcement action was taken. One of the subjects was arrested for waterfowl hunting with a revoked FOID card.

CPO Reid responded to a complaint from staff at the Des Plaines State Fish and Wildlife Area. It was reported that an individual was shooting at pheasants from the window of their vehicle as they drove along the roadway. The offender and vehicle were identified, and the subject was interviewed. The subject was arrested for hunting with the aid of a vehicle, shooting from a roadway, and transportation of an uncased weapon.

While investigating an anonymous complaint of hunting without permission on private property during the second firearm season, CPO Honiotes spoke with an archery deer hunter who was not wearing blaze orange. Multiple types of bait were located at various locations within shooting distance of the tree stand. The investigation also revealed that the hunter had harvested a deer during the first firearm deer season and failed to bring it to a manned check station as required in CWD positive counties. Multiple citations were issued to the hunter.

CPO Honiotes received a complaint from an individual who witnessed a subject shoot a hawk as it sat perched on the top of an electric utility pole. The shooter was interviewed, and they described details of the incident. After acquiring written statements from the complainant and the subject, appropriate enforcement action was taken.

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

COOK COUNTY

While conducting waterfowl enforcement, CPO Stanbary issued a citation to a goose hunter after he was found hunting with an unplugged shotgun. A second hunter was issued a written warning for an unsigned and unaffixed federal migratory bird stamp.

CPO Stanbary investigated a complaint from a Tinley Park resident who reported gunshots too close to his residence. When the CPO arrived, he saw two hunters in a field; and he conducted a compliance check. They had shot two geese and were properly licensed. It was determined that the hunters were a safe distance from the residential neighborhood. The CPO advised the complainant that there was no violation.

While conducting fish enforcement, CPO Stanbary checked two fishermen near the Chicago River. One fisherman's bucket contained 16 yellow perch when the daily limit is 15. A citation was issued to the fisherman for an over-limit. The second fisherman had 12 perch in his possession, and no violation was found.

CPO Ausmus conducted deer enforcement at a sportsman club. Several of the club members were processing deer in the basement of the club, and there were four deer capes outside of the building. One doe was found to be untagged. The Hillside subject was issued a citation for failure to immediately tag deer upon harvest, and a warning was issued for failure to report harvest by 10 p.m.

CPO Ausmus investigated a complaint of a Palos Park resident housing wild ducks overnight. The complainant believed the resident was luring ducks off the subdivision's pond every evening and allowing them to roost in her garage. He contacted the homeowner, and it was discovered she was in possession of two wild mallards. The resident claimed she got them as orphans four years ago and has raised them since they were ducklings. The resident was educated on her violations, and the ducks were transferred to a licensed rehabilitation facility. A written warning for unlawful taking and retaining wildlife alive was issued.

While conducting sport fishing enforcement on Lake Michigan, CPO Ausmus encountered an angler taking his boat out of the water. A fishing and boating compliance check was conducted. The angler was found to be in possession of an over-limit of lake trout, and a citation was issued.

CPO Ausmus conducted an administrative deer permit investigation. The deer hunter was interviewed about his season and harvest, and violations were discovered. Appropriate enforcement action was taken.

CPO Sanford completed an investigation regarding the unlawful deer hunting of a property within Cook County. Four individuals had hunted the property unlawfully from December 2017 to November 2018. Numerous interviews were conducted, and multiple violations to the Illinois Wildlife Code were discovered. The violations included falsification, unlawful hunting by use/aid of bait, and unlawful take of white-tailed deer. A total of 14 citations and seven written warnings were issued for deer hunting violations. The skull cap and antlers of four separate white-tailed bucks unlawfully taken on the property were seized.

CPO Mooi conducted a random commercial inspection of a wholesale aquatic life dealer. The dealer was found to have been operating for large portions of 2017 and 2018 without the proper licensing. Citations and warnings were issued for the violations.

CPO Mooi is investigating an illegal trapping case.

CPO Mooi is also investigating possible illegal deer hunting on multiple properties located in southern Cook County.

DUPAGE COUNTY

CPO Mooi received a tip regarding a possible illegally taken deer in Jo Daviess County. Since the hunter lived in DuPage County, he conducted the follow-up interview. The hunter stated that he shot a doe. When he went to tag the deer, he could not find his permits. The hunter purchased another set of permits and tagged and harvested the deer later that day. The hunter was found to have purchased deer archery permits which would have been valid during the time of his hunt. The individual was issued a written warning for failure to tag deer immediately upon kill.

CPO Mooi received a complaint about a man possibly in possession of a state endangered species. The resident stated that he was attempting to obtain a permit for the snake; however, the permit must be issued before possession of the species can begin. The man finally admitted to possessing the snake. A citation was issued for unlawful possession of an endangered species without a permit, and the man will appear in court in late December.

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

CPOs Wright and Viverito conducted a fish enforcement detail at Clinton Lake. They issued four citations and one written warning during the detail.

While patrolling Clinton Lake, CPO Viverito found a pickup truck parked in a common hunting location, and he observed blood and hair in the bed of the truck. When the man returned from the woods, a compliance check was conducted. Several hunting violations were confirmed, and appropriate enforcement action was taken.

FORD COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

IROQUOIS COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

While on patrol, CPO Kaufman saw a field dressed deer hanging in a tree in front of a house; and from the road, he could not see a tag on the deer. He parked his squad and walked up to take a closer look. The deer was not tagged. The homeowner/hunter was asked why the deer was not tagged, and the hunter said he forgot. A citation was issued, and the deer was tagged.

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 attended a felony jury trial in Vermilion County that resulted in a Kankakee County resident being convicted of unlawful use of weapons. The defendant is awaiting sentencing.

CPO Cottrell is investigating several cases of criminal damage in Kickapoo State Recreation Area caused by vehicles driving through maintained areas.

South Zone – Captain Jim Mayes

District 11 – Sgt. Brian McReynolds

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

CLARK COUNTY

CPO Wellum conducted an inspection of a log truck's transportation paperwork, and a written warning was issued for incomplete paperwork. In a separate incident, CPO Wellum conducted a second log truck inspection; and no discrepancies were noted.

CPO Wellum handled a traffic accident involving a city dump truck and privately-owned vehicle. The driver of the dump truck was issued a written warning for failure to yield right of way.

While conducting deer enforcement during the second firearm weekend, CPO Wellum issued an Illinois resident a citation for transportation of an uncased firearm on a four-wheeler. In a separate incident, CPO Wellum issued two Michigan residents citations for not wearing blaze orange/pink when required. He also issued another Michigan resident a citation for failure to wear blaze orange during muzzleloader weekend.

CPO Wellum received a call regarding a deer stuck in the ice on Mill Creek Lake. The deer was too far away from the shore to be safely removed from the ice, and it was dispatched.

CPO Wellum worked with an investigator from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. After interviewing the Indiana resident, CPO Wellum issued him a citation for failure to call in harvested deer, and a written warning was issued for no valid deer permit during second firearm season. In a separate incident, CPO Wellum worked with an investigator from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources and interviewed an Illinois resident. Several discrepancies were noted during the interview which will result in multiple citations issued by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. A deer head was seized from a taxidermist in Illinois.

While on patrol, CPO Wellum conducted a traffic stop. The driver was issued a citation for speeding and no proof of insurance.

COLES COUNTY

CPO Moody cited a Mattoon man for hunting without permission. The landowner found the man sitting in a tree stand on his property.

CPO Barnes cited a Mattoon hunter for not wearing blaze orange during the firearm season.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

DOUGLAS COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

EDGAR COUNTY

CPO Wellum issued a hunter a citation for not wearing blaze orange/pink and a warning for hunting after hours during muzzleloader weekend.

MOULTRIE COUNTY

CPO Moody cited a Monticello man for violating his fishing suspension by operating a fishing guide service on Lake Shelbyville.

While conducting a deer hunting compliance check, CPO Moody arrested a Mattoon man on a warrant. The man was also issued written warnings for hunting violations.

CPO Moody received a complaint of a truck shining fields and someone possibly shooting out of the truck's window. He located the truck and recovered an uncased rifle that was between the driver and the passenger. A spotlight was also found in the truck. There were four men in the truck, and they received citations and warnings for the various hunting violations.

SHELBY COUNTY

CPO Wellum assisted CPO Greuel with a hunting complaint. CPO Greuel issued three citations to a Shelby County resident, and CPO Wellum issued two citations to the same subject for illegal feeding of deer and hunting over a baited area.

CPOs Greuel and Wellum cited a Pana resident for possession of an unlawfully taken white-tailed deer, no valid firearm deer permit, failure to register the harvest of white-tailed deer, unlawful hunting with the use of bait, and unlawful feeding of white-tailed deer.

CPO Barnes cited a Park Ridge subject for deer hunting without a license. In a separate incident, CPO Barnes cited a Palatine subject for not tagging his deer harvest.

CPO Barnes cited a Teutopolis subject for deer hunting without a valid deer permit.

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

No activity reported for this county.

MADISON COUNTY

CPO Ray investigated two hunting complaints during archery deer season.

CPO Ray requested a warrant from the Madison County State's Attorney for theft of cut timber from private property.

MONROE COUNTY

CPO Schachner issued seven separate violations for deer baiting during the firearm deer seasons.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

RANDOLPH COUNTY

While on patrol during the second firearm deer season, CPO Sievers and Sgt. Manker observed a large buck and doe standing in a field. As they stopped to look at the deer, they heard a gunshot. The deer ran to opposite side of the tree line. A hunter in full camouflage and carrying a gun stood up from the base of a power pole. As they were speaking with the subject, they observed a man driving down the county road on an ATV. The hunter's friend had pushed the deer from the cedar thicket on state property. Both hunters had been waterfowl hunting when they observed the large buck and doe bed down. They borrowed a shotgun and slugs to shoot the deer. The hunter stated that he was attempting to shoot the doe, but the blood trail proved he had hit the buck. The hunter was issued citations for unlawfully hunting without valid permits and no blaze orange. He was also issued a written warning for attempting to take a third buck. The hunter's friend was issued a citation for accessory to hunting without a valid deer permit.

CPO Sievers located several archery deer hunters who were not wearing the required blaze orange clothing during the muzzleloader deer season. Appropriate enforcement action was taken for each situation.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

While conducting deer enforcement, CPO Schachner observed a pickup truck driving through fields and spotlighting. Due to terrain and distance, he was unable to reach the poachers prior to their departure; however, he was able to obtain identifiers from the truck. Nearly six hours later, CPO Schachner stopped the same truck as it spotlighted fields at the same location. The Florida subjects possessed spotlights and a loaded, uncased rifle with an infrared scope. The CPO was able to determine that a third subject (the truck's owner) was driving/spotlighting during the first spotlighting episode. The rifle and spotlights were seized, and the three subjects were issued a total of eight tickets for spotlighting, no hunting licenses, and uncased firearm.

CPO Ray is investigating the possible possession of a wild bobcat. He is also investigating a complaint for hunting with a bow during firearm season without a firearm permit.

During second firearm deer season, CPO Schachner checked a firearm deer hunter who failed to tag a small doe he killed. The poacher butchered the deer and concealed the meat in a small shed. During first firearm deer season the same subject also failed to tag a doe deer and record the harvest. The subject received two citations and multiple written warnings. The deer meat was seized and donated to a local family.

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 cited a hunter for transporting a loaded shotgun in a UTV.

GALLATIN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

HAMILTON COUNTY

CPO Folden issued a citation to a deer hunter for unlawfully transporting an uncased firearm in a vehicle.

HARDIN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

JEFFERSON COUNTY

CPO Folden issued a citation to a deer hunter for unlawfully transporting an uncased, loaded firearm on an ATV.

CPOs Folden and Williams conducted a compliance check on a hunter. The hunter was cited for not wearing the required blaze orange.

POPE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

SALINE COUNTY

CPO Haggerty received a hunting without permission complaint and contacted the suspected violators. The first subject admitted to shooting a doe while hunting on the property without permission. A citation was issued for hunting without permission, and written warnings were issued for the unlawful take of white-tailed deer. The doe had already been processed and consumed. The second violator admitted to hunting on the property prior to obtaining an archery deer permit. A citation was issued for hunting without permission, and a written warning was issued for unlawful hunting without an archery deer permit.

CPO Williams located a trapper who had recently trapped a bobcat. The trapper stated they released the bobcat; but further investigation revealed the trapper had only released the bobcat after dispatching it. The carcass was found on the trail. A citation was issued for unlawful take, and the bobcat was seized.

CPO Johnson received information about a subject killing bucks and not tagging them. After walking the area, he discovered deer carcasses in a ditch. He continued to walk the area and found a deer blind. The area around the blind was baited with salt and sweet potatoes. The subject was located hunting from another blind that was also baited. The subject admitted killing multiple bucks. CPO Johnson had the subject take him to the deer heads. A nine-point buck was found to be tagged with a landowner permit, but it was killed on another's property. The subject admitted to killing the deer over bait. A ten-point buck was found without a permit attached. The deer were seized, and the subject was issued five citations.

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

While on patrol, CPO Smith saw a person wearing blaze orange standing near a home. When asked if he had any luck hunting, the person said his brother did. CPO Smith asked to see the deer, and the person opened the garage. He looked at the leg tag attached to the deer and asked the person to go get his brother. It was determined that the son had been using his father's address for several years to illegally obtain landowner deer permits. Both the father and son were cited for various wildlife violations.

CRAWFORD COUNTY

While on patrol, CPO Roper observed a hunter walking out of the timber and begin get into a vehicle. The man tossed the uncased shotgun he was carrying into the backseat. A hunter compliance check was initiated, and the hunter stated he did not case the firearm because he was only going up the road to his house. His driveway was approximately 300 yards from where the vehicle was parked. The hunter was issued a written warning for transportation of an uncased firearm.

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

CPO Smith issued a written warning to an upland game hunter for not wearing his blaze orange hat while hunting.

CPO Taylor received a report of a subject hunting during firearm season without a deer permit. He found the subject hunting; and a total of four citations were issued for no hunting license, no deer permits, hunting over bait, and no blaze orange. Two written warnings were also issued.

CPO Taylor observed two trucks stopped on a road with the occupants talking to each other. He stopped to talk with the subjects and found a loaded shotgun inside one of the trucks. The subject was issued a citation.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MARION COUNTY

CPO Smith received a complaint regarding people illegally hunting too close to a residence. The investigation revealed that the adjoining landowner did not allow anyone to hunt his property. A truck was found sitting at the gate of the adjoining landowner's property. When the subject returned to their truck, a compliance check was conducted. The subject was wearing camouflage orange, had an unplugged firearm, and was walking across property he did not have permission to be on. Appropriate enforcement action was taken.

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 Vasicek arrested a subject on a warrant.

JOHNSON COUNTY

CPO Vasicek, with assistance from US Forest Service Officer Harris, arrested three Georgia subjects on multiple wildlife violations. These violations included unlawful hunting white-tailed deer without permits, no hunting licenses, operation of UTVs with uncased, loaded shotguns and crossbow, hunting with aid of a motor vehicle, and unlawful take and possession of a white-tailed buck. Two firearms, one crossbow, a UTV, and a buck were seized.

MASSAC COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

PERRY COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

PULASKI COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

UNION COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY

CPO Johnson found an ATV parked in a field, and he heard a shot. He waited for the hunter to return to the ATV. The hunter was not wearing a blaze orange hat, and there was deer blood on the ATV. The hunter admitted to illegally killing a deer the week prior. They walked down to the deer the hunter shot, and CPO Johnson observed the hunter's muzzleloader sitting on top of the deer. No permit was attached to the deer. The subject was cited for unlawful take of a deer and failure to tag. Multiple warnings were also issued for the other miscellaneous violations.