



Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



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

DATE: April 13, 2018
(Weeks of March 16 – 31, 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

CPO Jones issued a Mount Carroll woman a citation for damage to property for backing over two signs at Mississippi Palisades State Park.

CPO Shane Teas conducted a fur buyer inspection.

HENRY COUNTY

While CPO Posateri was returning home from CPR training in her marked squad, an SUV passed her on the interstate. Radar confirmed the speed of the SUV. A traffic stop was initiated, and the driver of the SUV was issued a citation for speeding 90 mph in a posted 70-mph zone.

JODAVIESS COUNTY

CPO Jones issued a Warren man a warning for fishing license not in possession at Apple River Canyon State Park.

LEE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MERCER COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

OGLE COUNTY

CPO Shane Teas conducted a taxidermist inspection.

ROCK ISLAND COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

STEPHENSON COUNTY

CPO Jones issued a Lena man a written warning for expired registration.

CPO Fraser assisted CPO Alt with an unlawful take of Canada goose complaint. Witnesses stated a high school age male shot a Canada goose from a roadway, then left the scene. The witnesses knew the male and had photos of the vehicle and dead goose. The CPOs interviewed the mother of the suspect who stated her son would never do such a thing and was an avid outdoorsman. Eventually the CPOs met with the suspect who confessed to shooting the goose from a roadway with a .22 rifle. The rifle was seized, and applicable charges were forwarded to the Stephenson County State's Attorney.

CPO Beltran conducted several commercial inspections for taxidermy. One of the businesses failed to keep proper records, and a written warning was issued.

WHITESIDE COUNTY

CPOs Teas and Palumbo conducted a boat patrol on the Mississippi River focusing on walleye fishermen. One citation and several warnings were issued for fishing and boat related offenses.

CPO Francisko completed the investigation regarding a serious personal injury snowmobile accident near Tampico. The snowmobile operator was determined to be at fault for not yielding the right-of-way to an oncoming truck heading eastbound on Jersey Road, near the Hennepin Canal Parkway. It appears inexperience played a large role in the accident, and alcohol or other drugs were not a factor. The snowmobile operator was issued two citations; one citation for careless operation of a snowmobile and one citation for operation of a snowmobile without proof of mandatory liability insurance. Written warnings were also issued to the operator for operation of an unnumbered snowmobile without registration and failure to notify the Secretary of State's Office of a change of address on the driver's license. The subject will have a mandatory court appearance in Whiteside County court in April. The truck involved in the accident received several thousands of dollars in damage. The owner/driver of the truck was not charged.

District 6 – Sgt. Phil Wire

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

BOONE COUNTY

CPO Alt investigated a complaint of deceased animals dumped on Department property located near the Boone/McHenry County line. The dead animal disposal act violation was found to have occurred off Department property and was referred to the McHenry County Sheriff's Office. CPO Alt did discover a damaged perimeter fence, removal of boundary postings, unlawful dumping of garbage, and unlawful ATV operation on the adjacent Department-owned or managed property. Office of Land Management staff responded the next day and cleaned up the garbage, repaired the perimeter fence, and erected new boundary signage.

BUREAU COUNTY

CPO Kaufman responded to a report of a sick raccoon on the trails at Starved Rock State Park. He located the raccoon and determined, from its behavior, the raccoon had distemper. The raccoon was transported to a remote location and euthanized.

CPO Kaufman assisted the Illinois State Police on Interstate 39 during the last snow storm by checking on several drivers who had gone into the ditch, providing traffic control to the tow trucks pulling vehicles out of the ditch, and handling a vehicle crash.

CPO Kaufman issued citations to three individuals who built a blind at the Starved Rock waterfowl hunting area on the Illinois River. Due to the spring flooding in the area, all blinds at Starved Rock had to be removed ten days after the end of duck season. CPO Kaufman had talked to the individuals numerous times about removing their blind. The blind was finally removed 82 days after the end of duck season. Besides

receiving the citations, the individuals are not allowed to participate in the 2018 Starved Rock waterfowl blind drawing.

While conducting sport fish enforcement along the Illinois River, CPO Alt observed two individuals in a private area. Both were cited for fishing without permission.

DEKALB COUNTY

CPO Murry assisted the DeKalb Police Department with a trapping complaint. An individual walking on a park path observed a fox caught in a leg hold trap. DeKalb Police responded to the area and released the fox from the trap, and the trap was seized as evidence. After speaking with DeKalb Police, CPO Murry interviewed the suspect. The suspect was issued one citation in the case, along with four warnings. He was given information on steps to get a nuisance permit for the animals he was trying to catch.

LASALLE COUNTY

While conducting boat enforcement, CPO Wagner cited individuals for no fire extinguisher and failure to transfer the certificate of number. Multiple written warnings were issued for various boat violations.

While conducting traffic enforcement, CPO Wagner cited individuals for speeding and no proof of mandatory insurance.

CPO Filipiak observed a vehicle parked in a hunting lot next to St. Louis Canyon at Starved Rock State Park. The individual was observed removing a small bag from the trunk of his car before returning to the driver's seat. Upon initial contact, the individual was found to be smoking medical cannabis inside of his vehicle in view of other nearby families. There was also a one-year-old child in the vehicle. The individual was arrested, and revocation of his medical cannabis card is awaiting approval.

PUTNAM COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

WINNEBAGO COUNTY

CPO Fraser patrolled Rock Cut State Park after the posted closing time, and he issued multiple citations and warnings. One subject who was cited had been warned for entering the Park after hours and cited for speeding by CPO Fraser less than two weeks prior.

While en route to a popular fishing location, CPO Fraser observed a vehicle crossing the centerline of the roadway and speeding. A traffic stop was conducted, and field sobriety testing was done. The driver was found not to be intoxicated; however, cannabis and paraphernalia was found in the vehicle after a probable cause search. The subject was issued citations and released.

CPO Fraser cited a driver and impounded his vehicle after discovering his driver's license had expired over six years ago, and he had no proof of insurance for the vehicle.

CPO Alt investigated a complaint of individuals unlawfully taking undersized walleye at the Fordham Dam and Kent Creek in Rockford. During the fishing surveillance and inspections, three individuals were cited for unlawful fishing without a fishing license.

CPO Alt conducted fish enforcement at the Rockton Dam. While dealing with two individuals who were found fishing without fishing licenses, he observed two additional fishermen who were wading in the river and looking very worried. Those fishermen came out of the river in rapid fashion. Once he completed the citations for the first two anglers, he stopped one of the wading fishermen while verbally hailing the other who took off into an adjacent field. The first man was found to be fishing on a fishing license that expired in 2016. After an hour and a half of searching the area, the

second subject came forward advising he fled and hid his fishing pole and tackle in the field because he did not have a fishing license. Appropriate enforcement action was taken.

CPO Alt stopped a motorist who was speeding through Rock Cut State Park.

District 7 – Sgt. Scott Avery

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

FULTON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

HENDERSON COUNTY

CPO Elliott assisted CPO Reid with two deer administrative investigations resulting in two citations and two written warnings for permit violations.

KNOX COUNTY

CPO Elliott conducted sport fish enforcement and recreational boat enforcement at Spoon Lake, Snakeden Hollow State Fish and Wildlife Area, and Lake Storey. One boat safety inspection was conducted at Spoon Lake, and no enforcement action was taken. One written warning was issued at Lake Storey for fishing license not in possession.

CPO Elliott responded to a salvage deer report, and he issued a written warning for removing the antlers from the carcass prior to getting authorization.

MARSHALL COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MCDONOUGH COUNTY

CPO Elliott conducted sport fish enforcement and recreational boat enforcement at Blandinsville Reservoir lakes, Argyle Lake State Park and Spring Lake. Two fishermen were checked at Argyle Lake resulting in a written warning for fishing license not in possession.

PEORIA COUNTY

CPO Lazzell received a case disposition for a Morton man who was arrested for OUI watercraft on the Illinois River near Peoria. The boat operator pled guilty to operating a watercraft while under the influence of alcohol and was fined \$1,122. He also received six months court supervision.

STARK COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

TAZEWELL COUNTY

CPO Gerard completed a deer investigation from the 2017-2018 deer season. It was determined the individual unlawfully harvested three antlered deer. Illinois law allows for a hunter to harvest no more than two antlered deer. The individual knowingly reported the second deer as a doe.

WARREN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

WOODFORD COUNTY

CPO Gerard cited an individual for unlawfully shooting a Canada goose during the closed season. The subject shot the goose with a .22 rifle.

District 9 – Sgt. Eric Myers

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

ADAMS COUNTY

CPO Blazinic responded to a call sent by IDNR’s Division of Wildlife regarding a Quincy woman purchasing a bobcat harvest tag without a bobcat permit. He had spoken with this woman back in December and informed her what the law was regarding salvaging road kill bobcats. CPO Blazinic will obtain the bobcat harvest permit and return it to the IDNR’s Division of Wildlife.

CPO Blazinic responded to an anonymous TIP complaint involving a trapper who might be operating an illegal taxidermy shop out of a storage unit in Quincy. With consent, CPO Blazinic inspected the storage unit and located four otters and eight muskrats. No sign of an illegal taxidermy shop was observed. The trapper recently had an issue with an individual who rented a storage unit in the same storage complex and was not paying the required rent. The TIP complaint may have been retaliation against the trapper.

CPO Blazinic investigated the possible unlawful take of white-tailed deer. An interview was conducted, and the subject confessed to not immediately tagging or reporting the harvest of two white-tailed does. The subject was issued two citations and two written warnings for the offense.

CPO Blazinic gave a presentation at a hunter safety education class at the Twin Oaks Club in Quincy.

CPO Blazinic responded to the Bear Creek boat ramp for a report of a dumped junk boat in the Mississippi River. The boat was examined and found to be a junk boat filled with garbage. The boat’s hull identification number was defaced.

CPO Wheatley responded to a complaint regarding hog waste being spilled into a nearby creek near a hog confinement in Liberty. He surveyed the area along with the creek and found evidence of possible contamination. Multiple photographs were taken, as well as water samples. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency was notified and will handle the case.

BROWN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

CALHOUN COUNTY

CPO Goetten investigated a report of an illegally taken buck. CPO Compton assisted with the interview, and a confession was obtained from the subject. The subject was issued two citations for harvesting a buck without a permit. He pled guilty to one charge, and his total fines/costs were \$672.

GREENE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

HANCOCK COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

JERSEY COUNTY

CPO Goetten received a disposition in a case involving a nonresident hunter who was illegally deer hunting. The hunter also implicated his father. The subject was issued three citations. The information was provided to the Jersey County State's Attorney's Office, and the father was later charged. Per a plea agreement, the illegally taken bucks were surrendered by the two hunters. They both pled guilty in Jersey County and paid total fines/costs of \$4,000.

CPO Goetten stopped a vehicle at Pere Marquette State Park. The passenger was questioned about the odor of burnt cannabis in the vehicle. She admitted she possessed cannabis and drug paraphernalia. A search of the vehicle revealed 10-30 grams of cannabis, drug paraphernalia, a hypodermic needle and prescription medication issued to someone else. The driver, who had a suspended driver's license, admitted the prescription medication was stolen. Both occupants were arrested and transported to the Jersey County Jail.

MACOUPIN COUNTY

CPO Gushleff investigated a coyote hunting complaint on the Macoupin/Greene County line. A subject called to complain that the coyote hunters were driving up their farm lane to round up the coyotes. The complainant said they did not give the coyote hunter's permission to retrieve dogs on their property. A video was taken of the subject on the farm lane. CPO Gushleff collected evidence on the incident, and one subject was cited for hunting without permission.

PIKE COUNTY

CPO Goetten cited a Connecticut hunter for falsely claiming Illinois residency to obtain deer permits, and the subject pled guilty. He surrendered four illegally taken bucks, and his total fines/costs were \$5,251.

SCHUYLER COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

District 10 – Sgt. Chris Stone

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

CASS COUNTY

CPO Blazinic attended defensive tactics training at Jim Edgar Panther Creek State Fish and Wildlife Area.

CHRISTIAN COUNTY

CPO Cochran attended an active shooter training/meeting at Central A & M High School which was organized by Assumption Police Chief, Brian Wade. Officers from Moweaqua, Edinburg, Stonington, and Assumption police departments, sheriffs and deputies from Macon County and Shelby County sheriffs' offices, and faculty from Bond, Gregory, and Central A & M high schools also attended the training.

While on routine patrol at Sangchris Lake State Park, CPO Cochran observed a boat with an expired registration pull into the dock. CPO Cochran conducted a boat safety inspection on the vessel. Both fishermen said they were actively participating in the Springfield Crappie Club fishing tournament. The subjects had two crappie onboard and admitted to catching one each. When asked to see their fishing licenses, one of the two could not produce a fishing license. The subject said he must have left it at home. Upon further investigation, it was discovered the subject had not purchased a license in the past two years. The subject was issued a citation for no valid registration, and a warning was given for fishing without a license.

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 received information about an archery deer hunter from Meredosia taking an eight-point buck last November and failing to report the harvest to the IDNR. After a short interview, it was determined the archery hunter took the eight-point buck in Schuyler County and failed to properly tag the deer with his permit. He also failed to report the harvest to the IDNR using his either sex archery permit. The hunter was cited for both violations, and the eight-point deer rack was seized from his new residence in Beardstown.

SANGAMON COUNTY

CPO Williams travelled to IDNR's Headquarters in Springfield for a new Department photo.

CPO Macias issued separate citations and written warnings to several individuals who did not have any of their respective tree stands marked appropriately and for not removing said tree stands by the required dates.

SCOTT COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

Northeast Zone – Captain Brett Scroggins

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

KANE COUNTY

While conducting fish enforcement, CPO Knop was approached by EMS personnel who were looking for a suicidal subject. CPO Knop remembered seeing a person matching the subject's description while checking fishermen, and the subject was quickly found. The individual left with EMS to undergo evaluation.

LAKE COUNTY

CPO VanWiltburg cited a subject for possession of a ten-inch largemouth bass in a lake with a 15-inch minimum size limit.

CPO VanWiltburg cited two subjects for possession of undersized northern pike; one at 21.5 inches, and one at 23 inches. The minimum size limit is 24 inches statewide. The subjects lied about catching any fish and did not have a tape measure with them.

CPO Semenik arrested a Zion man at Adeline Jay Geo-Karis Illinois Beach State Park for driving while license revoked.

CPO VanWiltburg cited two subjects at Diamond Lake for possession of four undersized largemouth bass. The subjects said they had only caught perch and bluegill. A search of their bucket revealed four bass under nine inches. There is a 15-inch minimum size limit on Diamond Lake.

MCHENRY COUNTY

CPO Semenik observed a SUV pulling a camper speeding as it entered the Chain O'Lakes State Park. The driver was arrested for driving while license revoked, possession of less than ten grams of cannabis, and possession of drug paraphernalia.

CPO Semenik stopped two vehicles as they were leaving together at Chain O'Lakes State Park. Both subjects had a suspended driver's license. One of the vehicles stopped had license plates from another vehicle to attempt and show current registration. Both subjects' vehicles were towed, and the men were arrested for driving while license suspended, operation of an uninsured motor vehicle, improper use of other vehicle's registration, and possession of less than ten grams of cannabis.

CPO Winters assisted the McHenry County Sheriff's Office with a subject who had shot a coyote in his back yard. The subject stated he was walking his dog in his back yard while holding his rifle, and the coyote became aggressive. He stated he "feared for his life" and shot the coyote. CPO Winters assisted a local rehab facility in catching the coyote. It appeared the coyote suffered a broken leg. Two citations and a written warning were issued.

District 2 CPOs administered the IDNR Conservation Police Power Test to potential applicants.

CPO Davis completed an inspection of a fish market. The market was cited for sale of fish without a retail aquatic life dealer's license.

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

GRUNDY COUNTY

CPO Honiotes responded to a call of a suspicious vehicle parked near the Mazon River. Two subjects were contacted as they returned to the vehicle. An investigation was performed on site, and it was determined the subjects were in pursuit of fossils and shed antlers. Upon request of the property owner, the subjects were cited for criminal trespass to real property and unlawful take of shed antlers on property without permission.

KANKAKEE COUNTY

CPO Farber conducted sport fish enforcement along the Kankakee River and checked many walleye fishermen below the Kankakee Dam. He observed many different sized walleye caught and in possession, with the biggest being close to 29 inches. Most anglers have been releasing slot walleye back into the River for future generations to enjoy.

KENDALL COUNTY

While patrolling Silver Springs State Fish and Wildlife Area, CPO Bergland observed a vehicle enter the parking lot of the old Kendall County Outdoor Education Center. It is well posted that entry into the area and the house is prohibited. The Education Center is no longer used, and it has been the victim of vandalism over the course of the past year. CPO Bergland observed the two occupants of the vehicle enter the restricted area. He followed them and observed them in the house. He confronted the subjects as they exited the house, and both admitted that they knew they were not allowed to be in the area. Citations were issued to both teen boys.

WILL COUNTY

While travelling on I-55, CPO Reid observed a reckless driver excessively speeding, tailgating, and making aggressive lane changes, all while texting on the cell phone. A traffic stop was initiated on the vehicle after recording a radar speed of 93 mph in a 65-mph zone. It was also determined the vehicle did not have valid insurance, and the driver was in possession of cannabis and drug paraphernalia. The driver was cited for the multiple offenses.

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

COOK COUNTY

While on patrol at the Des Plaines River, Sgt. Whitchurch observed three small boats on the water with their occupants fishing. He checked their sport fishing licenses and boating safety equipment. One of the subjects did not have any type of personal flotation device onboard, and the operator was issued a citation for unlawful operation of a watercraft without a personal flotation device onboard.

While on patrol Wolf Lake, Sgt. Whitchurch observed a man in a boat fishing; and he conducted a fishing compliance on the subject. It was verified there was no personal flotation device onboard, and the subject was issued a citation for unlawful operation of a watercraft without a personal flotation device on board.

Sgt. Whitchurch observed four individuals fishing from a boat on a lake in Chicago. Upon inspecting the boat, it was learned one of the adults was fishing without license, a child under 13 was not wearing a personal flotation device as required while underway, there were not enough personal flotation devices onboard the boat for every person, and there was a registration violation with the boat. The operator of the boat was issued a citation for unlawful operation of a watercraft with a person under 13 not wearing a personal flotation device. All other violations were documented with written warnings.

Sgt. Whitchurch was on patrol at the Des Plaines River when he observed a subject in a boat intentionally discard trash, which was thought to be drug paraphernalia, into the water. Contact with the boat operator was made, and the subject admitted to tossing stuff into the water. The subject was issued a citation for unlawful pollution of a waterway.

While conducting sport fishing enforcement at Busse Lake Spillway, CPO Ausmus spoke with a subject that he had stopped in February for littering. At that time the subject was advised to pick up the beer cans; however, he failed to do so. CPO Ausmus interviewed him about the incident, and the subject initially said they were on the ground because of the over-flowing trash can. He then later denied they were even his cans. The subject was issued a citation for pollution of a waterway. In a separate enforcement action, a female from Chicago was issued a written warning for fishing without a license.

CPOs Ausmus and Snodgrass conducted sport fishing enforcement at southern Cook County quarries. The CPOs checked two kayakers, and one was issued a written warning for no water usage stamp.

While conducting sport fishing enforcement, CPO Ausmus checked an angler on Northerly Island and noticed a strong odor of cannabis. A consensual search of the angler's tackle bag revealed a mason jar with less than ten grams of cannabis, and the man was issued a civil citation for unlawful possession of less than ten grams of cannabis.

CPO Ausmus conducted sport fishing enforcement at several Chicago harbors. Two Chicago subjects were cited for fishing without a license.

While on routine patrol, CPO Klemme observed a subject throwing garbage out of the window of his moving vehicle. A stop of the vehicle was made, and the driver was issued a citation for unlawful littering from a motor vehicle.

CPO Snodgrass investigated a case regarding two deer harvested on state supported sites. The deer were taken in CWD counties and were required to be sampled for CWD. The two subjects that harvested the deer failed to comply with the site-specific regulations, and both subjects were issued written warnings for this violation.

CPO Sanford observed an individual fishing from a kayak; and he conducted a fishing compliance check, boat registration check, and safety inspection. Upon completion, the individual was found to be fishing without a valid sportfishing license and operating the kayak without a valid water usage stamp. The individual was issued a citation for the fishing license violation and given a written warning for the water usage stamp violation.

CPO Sanford observed an individual fishing with four sportfishing devices at a Cook County lake where a two-device limit exists. The individual was educated as to the regulation, and a written warning was issued for the violation.

CPO Sanford and Intern Baldyga observed multiple individuals fishing a Cook County lake. One of the individuals was in possession of three five-gallon buckets, and the individual was observed dropping fish into the buckets. As CPO Sanford approached to conduct fishing compliance checks, two other individuals ran across a roadway and retrieved two of the buckets from the individual, then ran back across the roadway. Intern Baldyga secured the two buckets while CPO Sanford spoke with the angler originally observed. It was discovered that this individual was in possession of 15 crappie which is the limit at this lake. Intern Baldyga discovered an additional 26 crappie in the other two buckets. In total, the individual was found to be in possession of 41 crappie. The fish were seized as evidence, photographed, and successfully released back into the lake. The individual was issued a citation for the over-limit violation.

CPO Sanford attended court in Cook County regarding the unlawful possession of a dangerous animal (bobcat). The defendant pled guilty to an applicable charge, and the bobcat was awarded by the court to the State of Illinois. The bobcat had been declawed, and it was unable to be reintroduced to the wild. The bobcat was relocated to a permanent home in a prominent animal sanctuary.

A female was issued a civil cannabis citation after CPO Stanbary observed her smoking a cannabis cigarette in plain view at Montrose Harbor. The female tried hiding the cannabis in a cigarette container and was evasive when questioned by the CPO. She eventually complied without further issue.

CPO Stanbary issued a citation to a deer hunter from the 2017 season after an investigation revealed the person failed to submit a sample of a harvested deer head as required at certain DNR sites.

Two written warnings were issued to a motorist after CPO Stanbary observed the driver throw a lit cigarette onto the roadway.

A written warning was issued to a fisherman at Montrose Harbor after CPO Stanbary found live round goby in his bait bucket. The round goby is an invasive/injurious species in Lake Michigan, and retaining them is unlawful.

CPO Stanbary arrested a fisherman during a compliance check near the Des Plaines River. The CPO learned the fisherman had an outstanding DuPage County warrant, and he was placed under arrest. During the arrest, the fisherman was found to be in possession of cannabis. A civil cannabis citation was issued, and the fisherman was transported to the DuPage County Jail.

CPO Thornley conducted sport fish enforcement, and he requested to see a fisherman's fishing license. The subject stated he had it in his phone, but could not find it. The subject was advised that he could look up the license. CPO Thornley checked the database, and it was determined that the subject did not possess a valid license. The subject was issued a citation for no fishing license.

CPO Thornley checked two individuals at a couple of Cook County quarries. One of the subjects did not have his license in his possession. The second individual was using three devices on a two-pole limit lake. Each subject was issued a written warning for their violation.

CPOs Thornley and Mooi responded to a report of a raccoon that had been in a trap for days. CPO Mooi seized the trap and the raccoon. The raccoon was very lethargic, and it was sent to a rehabilitation facility.

CPO Mooi observed two individuals kayaking in Lake Opeka. The two individuals were testing out their kayaks in preparation for the upcoming boating season. They were issued written warnings for water usage stamp violations.

While on patrol, CPO Mooi observed a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed. The vehicle passed him, merged into the same lane as his vehicle, and abruptly slammed on the brakes. CPO Mooi swerved to avoid the vehicle and then

initiated a traffic stop. The driver of the vehicle was issued a citation for expired license and written warnings for no proof of insurance and improper lane usage.

CPO Mooi continues to assist the US Coast Guard Investigative Service with illegal charter investigations.

DUPAGE COUNTY

CPO Mooi assisted in a deer investigation. An Aurora man was issued a written warning for failing to submit his white-tailed deer for CWD sampling as required.

CPO Mooi issued a citation to a Carol Stream man for failure to submit a sample for CWD testing. The man was advised that he must submit a sample if the deer is taken on a site that mandates testing.

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

CPO Graden closed out an OUI case. The incident occurred on Clinton Lake during the summer of 2017. The OUI charges were amended to reckless operation of a watercraft, and the operator pled guilty. She was ordered to pay a fine plus court costs totaling \$505.

CPOs Wright and Viverito conducted a fish detail at Clinton Lake. CPO Wright observed a fisherman return to his vehicle and place a bucket inside of it. The man then returned to the Lake with another bucket. Approximately two hours later, the man returned to his vehicle and began to leave the location. CPOs Wright and Viverito stopped the man and found he possessed 23 white bass (limit of ten). The man was arrested.

CPO Viverito was patrolling Clinton Lake State Recreation Area when he noticed a van backed into a parking space. The van then moved a couple spaces and parked again. Upon seeing CPO Viverito's squad, the driver exited the vehicle and entered the bathroom. CPO Viverito deployed K9 Hank to screen the van. Hank alerted on the van; and a search uncovered contraband, including a crack pipe. Two Decatur men were arrested.

FORD COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

IROQUOIS COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

CPO Graden closed out a case involving an archery deer hunter illegally killing three bucks during the 2016-17 season. The hunter pled guilty to unlawful take of over the legal limit of antlered white-tailed deer. He was ordered to pay a fine plus court costs totaling \$2,952. The deer heads were awarded to the State of Illinois and will be donated to an educational institution for public display.

CPOs Wright, Graden, and Viverito, along with Sgt. Williamson, responded to a snowmobile accident. Both snowmobiles were traveling through a field when they came upon on a waterway. The snowmobilers went airborne in the bank of the waterway. Both operators were taken to the hospital for non-life-threatening injuries.

MACON COUNTY

CPO Wright assisted the Illinois State Police during the winter storm.

MCLEAN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

PIATT COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

VERMILION COUNTY

CPO Cottrell conducted traffic enforcement patrols in Kickapoo State Recreation Area resulting in two written warnings being issued. CPO Cottrell also diverted traffic due to controlled burns at Kickapoo State Recreation Area.

CPO Cottrell conducted a recovered watercraft investigation during high water conditions.

CPO Reeves conducted a traffic stop of a vehicle at Kickapoo State Recreation Area. During the stop, he detected the strong odor of cannabis coming from the vehicle. A search of the vehicle was conducted, and all three occupants of the vehicle were found to be in possession of cannabis. All three were issued a civil citation for the possession of cannabis.

South Zone – Captain Jim Mayes

District 11 – Sgt. Brian McReynolds

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

CLARK COUNTY

CPO Wellum conducted a traffic stop after observing the vehicle crossing the centerline several times. The driver of the vehicle had a suspended license. While completing an inventory search of the vehicle, CPO Wellum located an uncased rifle in the trunk. The driver was issued a written warning for improper lane usage and citations for driving suspended and transportation of an uncased firearm.

CPO Wellum assisted the Illinois State Police with an attempt to locate Amber Alert vehicle reported to be traveling eastbound on I-70.

CPO Wellum conducted a traffic stop after observing the vehicle go off the roadway multiple times. The registration on the vehicle was expired, and the driver was unable to produce proof of insurance. The driver was issued a citation for no proof of insurance, and warnings were issued for the improper lane usage and registration violation.

CPO Wellum conducted a traffic stop after observing a vehicle in Lincoln Trail State Park after the park was closed. The driver was issued a warning for speeding and a warning for being in the Park after hours.

CPO Wellum assisted with traffic control at a rollover accident, and he assisted the Illinois State Police with traffic control on I-70 during the ice storm.

COLES COUNTY

CPO Barnes cited a Mattoon subject on the Embarras River for possession of drug paraphernalia.

CPO Mieure issued one written warning to a Charleston man for violation of a no wake zone on Lake Charleston.

After receiving information from a concerned citizen about three potential missing kayakers on the Embarras River, CPO Mieure began a search. He spoke with one of the kayakers to confirm they were not in any danger.

While checking fishermen at Lake Paradise, CPO Moody cited a Mattoon man for possession of drug paraphernalia and cannabis.

While checking fishermen along the Embarras River, CPOs Moody and Barnes cited a Mattoon man for possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of cannabis.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

CPO Mieure issued a Rankin man a written warning for speeding.

DOUGLAS COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

EDGAR COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MOULTRIE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

SHELBY COUNTY

CPO Greuel issued several written warnings to two Kentucky men on Lake Shelbyville for watercraft equipment violations.

CPO Mieure issued one written warning to an Assumption man for fishing license not in possession.

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

No activity reported for this county.

MONROE COUNTY

CPO Schachner received the court disposition on three subjects from an older case. One subject was found guilty of no fishing license and paid a \$125 fine. The second subject was found guilty of possession of cannabis and fined \$633. The third subject was found guilty of possession of drug paraphernalia and fined \$905.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

RANDOLPH COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

CPO Rolfingsmeier completed a deer investigation on a Louisiana deer hunter who was hunting in Pope County. The investigation resulted in a citation for failure to check in a white-tailed deer and for the unlawful possession of a white-tailed deer.

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 Lay closed out an illegal dumping case from October 2017. The Franklin County resident was given 12 months court supervision and fined \$502 for a dumping on private property.

Defensive Tactics Instructor CPO Lay, along with CPO Schoenhoff, served as instructors in the quarterly training at Wayne Fitzgerald State Recreation Area.

CPO Lay, along with the assistance from the reporting party, recovered an injured red-tailed hawk. The hawk had an injured wing and was taken to the Free Again Rehabilitation facility in Herrin.

CPO Lay issued an Ohio driver a citation for speeding.

CPO Lay investigated a reported dead bald eagle in Wayne Fitzgerald State Recreation Area. The eagle was recovered, and it will be turned over to a US Fish and Wildlife Service agent. It is unknown what caused the eagles death; however, the eagle had signs of decomposition.

CPO Diggins conducted boat safety inspections at Wayne Fitzgerald State Recreation Area and Rend Lake. He also attended quarterly defensive tactics training at Wayne Fitzgerald State Recreation Area.

GALLATIN COUNTY

CPO Williams participated in the annual Spring Wildlife Spotlight Survey with District Wildlife Biologist Adam Phillips.

HAMILTON COUNTY

CPO Schoenhoff assisted CPOs Folden and Williams in an investigation of several deer being poached in Hamilton County. After interviewing the subjects, they admitted to shooting at several deer from the vehicle. Both subjects were issued two citations for hunt by aid/conveyance of motor vehicle and unlawful hunting 30 minutes after sunset. Both subjects also received six written warnings for unlawful hunting from a roadway, wanton waste of protected species, unlawful hunting deer out of season, unlawful transportation of a loaded gun, unlawful take of white-tailed deer, and failure to report deer harvest.

HARDIN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

JEFFERSON COUNTY

CPO Williams closed a case from December 22, 2017 in which five subjects were trespassing on the Rend Lake Waterfowl Refuge during the hunting season. Four of the subjects were hunting waterfowl. The hunters entered a

negotiated plea agreement with Jefferson County stipulating to one charge, dismissing the remainder, and each were fined \$120. Their confiscated firearms were ordered returned.

A Marion County resident was cited for unlawfully hunting deer without a valid deer permit during the 2017 archery deer season.

POPE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

SALINE COUNTY

CPO Diggins issued two written warnings for Illinois Vehicle Code violations and two written warnings for boat safety equipment violations. He also completed the mandated computer based hazmat training, conducted park patrols, and investigated vandalism and off-road complaints.

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

CPO Roper attended a hunter safety education class and gave instruction on proper safe hunting techniques and important hunting laws. He also talked about the job duties of a CPO.

CRAWFORD COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

EDWARDS COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

EFFINGHAM COUNTY

CPO Roper attended a hunter safety education class and gave instruction on proper safe hunting techniques and important hunting laws. He also talked about the job duties of a CPO.

FAYETTE COUNTY

CPO Compton followed up on information he received regarding a subject that may have unlawfully killed a deer in Marion County. After interviewing the subject, he admitted to killing an eight-point buck during firearm deer season and placing a seven-year-old boy's tag on it.

JASPER COUNTY

While working at Newton Lake, CPO Taylor observed a subject operating a watercraft with a 60 HP motor on a 25 HP maximum lake. The subject was issued a citation for unlawful operation of a 60 HP motor on a posted maximum 25 HP lake.

While conducting sport fishing enforcement at Newton Lake, CPO Smith received a complaint of a fisherman on a boat utilizing a motor exceeding the 25 HP limit. CPO Smith waited at the boat launch and observed two boats using motors exceeding the size limit. One citation was issued to each boat operator for the offense. He also issued several written warnings to other boat operators for equipment violations.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MARION COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

RICHLAND COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

WABASH COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

WAYNE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

District 16 – Sgt. Kris Taylor

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

ALEXANDER COUNTY

CPO Vasicek received a disposition in a case involving two nonresident subjects who were arrested for spotlighting with loaded firearms. Both subjects pled guilty in Alexander County court. They each were fined \$1,400 and forfeited a firearm. Their hunting privileges will be revoked for a minimum of two years.

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 another illegal dumping incident at Pyramid State Recreation Area. The investigation led to the arrest of a Pinckneyville resident for illegal dumping of trash on public property. The subject returned and cleaned up the trash at CPO Lewis' request.

PULASKI COUNTY

CPO Vasicek interviewed subjects thought to be involved in the unlawful take of white-tailed deer. One subject, whose wildlife privileges were revoked, requested that another subject shoot deer and give them to him; and that subject killed deer at his request. The revoked subject then had his father buy permits for deer and unlawfully tagged the deer with the tag. The harvest was called in as the father's kill. Appropriate enforcement action was taken.

UNION COUNTY

The Union County Chapter of Whitetails Unlimited presented CPO Vasicek with a donation check for \$500 for the Conservation Police Operations Fund.

CPO Vasicek attended the Mississippi Flyway Council Law Enforcement Committee meeting held at Ducks Unlimited Headquarters in Memphis, Tennessee. Representatives from 14 states and three Canadian provinces reviewed and discussed waterfowl enforcement statistics from each jurisdiction, violations trends, enforcement strategies, and ongoing waterfowl enforcement training techniques for wildlife officers.

CPO Somers assisted the Union County Sheriff's Office in the recovery of a stolen vehicle.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY

CPO Lay issued a salvage deer tag to a landowner for a decomposing skull plate attached to an eight-point rack found on his property.

CPO Johnson worked the crappie classic fishing tournament on Lake of Egypt. Multiple fishermen were checked to ensure compliance. He also established a good relationship with the tournament director and staff. A total of 25 boats were checked, and 12 written warnings were issued for boating violations.