



Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



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

DATE: May 24, 2018
(Weeks of May 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

While patrolling at the Hennepin Canal, CPO Posateri found a car blocking the gate. The car was filled with food and other household items. The owner of the car and another subject were located, and they were camping in a restricted area. Both subjects had active warrants for their arrest, and they were taken into custody.

CPO Posateri followed up on a complaint of someone camping along the Hennepin Canal without paying the appropriate fees. She spoke with one of the subjects at the campsite, and he was found to be in possession of a controlled substance. The psilocybin mushrooms were seized, and subject was released with a mandatory court date.

CPO Francisko heard Illinois State Police (ISP) radio traffic regarding a crash involving two semis pulling trailers westbound on Interstate 80, just to the west of Route 78. The information stated one semi was on fire, and an explosion had occurred. When he arrived at the scene, one of the semi cabs was fully engulfed in fire; and diesel fuel covered the interstate. Local fire crews responded and put the fire out. ISP arrived on the scene a short time after and handled the rest of the accident.

JODAVIESS COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

LEE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MERCER COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

OGLE COUNTY

CPOs Beltran and Teas conducted a traffic stop at White Pines Forest State Park after observing a violation. The driver was found to have cannabis and open beer in the vehicle. Arrests were made for the violations.

CPO Beltran patrolled Lowden-Miller State Forest during turkey season, and he found many people out in the park that were just looking for mushrooms. He cited those individuals and advised them it was illegal and dangerous to enter a closed hunting area for fear of getting shot.

Sgt. Wire was traveling south on Interstate 39 when he noticed a car in his rearview mirror weaving through traffic at a high rate of speed. The car passed him, but he was able to catch up to the car. He activated his emergency lights, and the car pulled over on the shoulder. The driver had no proof of insurance, and the VIN did not match the registration. Further investigation showed that a different VIN had been riveted to the dash. The driver purchased insurance during the stop; however, he was cited. The Secretary of State Police were notified of the VIN violation.

ROCK ISLAND COUNTY

CPO Francisko observed an unregistered motorcycle being driven at Beacon Harbor. The subject was stopped, and it was determined the motorcycle was for off-road use only. The subject was issued a citation for driving it on a roadway, and a written warning was issued for not providing proof of mandatory liability insurance.

CPO Francisko has received reports/complaints for several years about a person(s) poaching deer and turkey from several corporate properties. Many attempts were made to arrest the poacher(s). While on patrol of the area, CPO Francisko heard a shotgun blast. He contacted a company representative and confirmed no one should be hunting that area. When he arrived at the location, he observed a wounded wild turkey in a clearing. He then observed an illegal electronic turkey decoy and a camouflaged turkey hunter crouched in the tree line. He stepped into the clearing and spoke to the hunter. The hunter took off his facemask, and CPO Francisko immediately recognized the local man. When questioned, the hunter knew he was hunting on private property without the permission of the landowner. He also reported that someone dropped him off in the area. The wild turkey, the turkey decoy, and the shotgun were seized as evidence. The man was given a "Nuisance Forfeiture Complaint" requesting that the court order these items be turned over to IDNR due to the severity of the violations. The man was also issued citations for hunting without permission of owner, unlawful taking of a protected species, and assessed a \$250 civil penalty on one of the citations for poaching the turkey. Several written warnings were also issued. The hunter has an upcoming mandatory court appearance. The court is considering accessory charges for the person who used his motor vehicle to drop the poacher of at that property.

STEPHENSON COUNTY

The Stephenson County State's Attorney's Office authorized CPO Alt to arrest a 17-year-old subject for unlawful taking of migratory game birds from a highway right-of-way with a rifle during the closed season. Also, the subject did not have a Firearm Owner's Identification Card.

WHITESIDE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

District 6 – Sgt. Phil Wire

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

BOONE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

BUREAU COUNTY

While checking individuals at the Hennepin Canal, CPO Wagner cited one individual for fishing without a valid fishing license, one individual for failure to release short bass, and four individuals for life jacket violations.

While checking fishermen along the Illinois River, CPO Wagner cited two individuals for fishing without permission.

CPO Finn was patrolling the Hennepin Canal when he observed three people fishing. It was discovered that all three did not have a fishing license. In the process of identifying the three fishermen, cannabis and paraphernalia was found on two of them. The two fishermen with cannabis and paraphernalia each received two citations. All three received written warnings for no fishing license.

DEKALB COUNTY

While exiting Shabbona Lake State Recreation Area campground, CPO Murry observed a car entering the park traveling at a rate higher than 65 mph in a 25-mph speed zone. CPO Murry caught up to the vehicle as it slowed to turn towards the boat ramp; and after getting a radar reading on the vehicle of more than 26 mph over the posted speed limit, a stop was made of the vehicle. The driver was cited for speeding, possession of cannabis, possession of drug paraphernalia, and no valid registration.

LASALLE COUNTY

While working the Starved Rock area, CPO Wagner cited several individuals for entering a restricted area and possession of alcohol in restricted area. One individual was arrested for possession of alcohol in restricted area and obstruction of identification.

While conducting boat enforcement on the Illinois River, CPO Wagner cited one individual for a child under 13 not wearing a PFD. He also cited an individual for fishing without a fishing license. Multiple warnings were issued for minor boat violations.

CPOs Alt and Kaufman, along with Ottawa Fire and Rescue personnel, completed side scan sonar training and practice on the Fox River.

While on patrol at Starved Rock Nature Preserve, CPO Filipiak discovered three individuals who were illegally removing morel mushrooms from the Nature Preserve. A citation and written warnings were issued to the individuals for destruction of plant life in a nature preserve and entering a closed area for turkey hunting.

CPOs Jansen, Finn, and Filipiak responded to a call for a swamped boat on the Illinois River at Starved Rock. The occupants were recovered from shore, and the boat was towed back to the Starved Rock Ramp. The operator was found to be in possession of cannabis and was issued a civil citation. A citation was issued for no lanyard cutoff switch, along with written warnings for unsecured battery and PFD requirement.

While checking fishermen at LaSalle Lake, CPO Kaufman found a group of individuals with alcohol. A citation was issued for possession of alcohol in a prohibited area, and a written warning was given for no valid fishing license.

PUTNAM COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

WINNEBAGO COUNTY

CPO Fraser received multiple complaints about a fluffle of wild rabbits that were killed, and the pictures were posted online. The photos and video showed six dead rabbit kits. He met with the suspect who admitted she killed the rabbits. The suspect stated the kits were killed humanely, and they would not have survived anyway since their mother had been killed by her dog. The suspect also stated she raises rabbits, and wild rabbits are not welcome in her yard. The suspect was cited and warned for multiple violations of the Wildlife Code.

CPOs Fraser and Schoonhoven completed traffic details in Rock Cut State Park and issued multiple citations and warnings.

CPO Fraser arrested a suspect who was wanted on two identity theft and forgery warrants out of Tennessee totaling a \$50,000 bond. After the suspect was placed in custody, the originating agency for the warrants advised there was an error made in their records entry. Due to the new information, the suspect had to be released.

CPO Alt stopped a female subject who was talking on her cellular phone while driving and speeding through Rock Cut State Park. The vehicle did not have a front license plate displayed. The traffic stop revealed the driver had a suspended driving privilege out of North Carolina.

CPO Alt was inspecting shore fishermen along the Rock River at Fordham Dam when he encountered two subjects fishing. A compliance check was initiated, and one of the subjects was fishing without a license. During the inspection, the subject in violation provided a false name and date of birth prior to fleeing the scene. Once the correct information was obtained, CPO Alt learned the subject was wanted on an armed and dangerous warrant from the Rockford Police Department. Additional warrants for arrest were sought by CPO Alt for unlawful fishing without a fishing license, obstructing identification, and resisting/obstructing a peace officer.

CPOs Alt and Murry, along with Rockford Fire Department personnel, completed side scan sonar training and practice on the Rock River.

CPO Schoonhoven initiated an investigation regarding the illegal taking of a migratory waterfowl.

District 7 – Sgt. Scott Avery

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

FULTON COUNTY

CPOs Thompson and Elliott conducted turkey hunting enforcement. On consecutive days, the CPOs observed the same group of hunters and found that the group was hunting on the property without permission. An investigation of the locations that each hunter had been hunting was conducted, and evidence was gathered. The hunters had unlawfully harvested three turkeys on property without permission. Interviews of the suspects were conducted, and confessions to the violations were received. Two suspects were cited for four counts of hunting without permission, one count of turkey hunting without a valid permit, one count failure to tag a turkey immediately upon kill, one count failure to report turkey harvest, and unlawful possession of an illegally taken wild turkey. Written warnings were issued for the remaining violations.

CPO Thompson was notified of a big gobbler harvested by an eight-year-old. This was the young man's first turkey. With help from local contributors, he gifted the successful turkey hunter with an IDNR First Turkey Certificate, a turkey harvest pin, a National Wild Turkey Federation hat, and a Knight and Hale turkey call. While visiting the young man at his residence, CPO Thompson found out he was also an avid fisherman. He gave the young man a new Zebco 33 fishing pole and told the young man he had used the same rod and reel combo when he was introduced to fishing. CPO Thompson would like to thank the local contributors for assisting with the gifts.

CPO Thompson taught a hunter safety education course at Farmington High School.

CPOs Thompson and Elliott located a male subject who was trespassing on Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway property. While talking with the subject, the CPOs located a small container of a green leafy substance suspected to be cannabis. The man was cited for trespassing and unlawful possession of cannabis, less than ten grams.

CPOs Thompson and Elliott conducted sport fishing enforcement at Canton Lake. Two individuals were cited for fishing without a valid fishing license.

HENDERSON COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

KNOX COUNTY

CPOs Elliott and Gerard responded to a complaint referencing illegal hunting activities. After collecting evidence and conducting a short interview, one subject was arrested for unlawful turkey hunting by use or aid of a conveyance. The subject admitted to chasing multiple wild turkeys through fields before coming to an abrupt stop and shooting at them from the vehicle with a .22 caliber rifle. The subject received multiple citations, and the rifle was seized as evidence.

CPO Elliott conducted sport fish and recreational boat enforcement Lake Storey. One boat was observed resting near the bank, and he spoke with the operator. The operator explained he had just purchased the boat and had not realized there was a motor restriction on the Lake. A boat safety inspection was completed, and the operator was found to have children under 13 without lifejackets, no registration, no sounding device, no fire extinguisher, and no battery cover. The subject was cited for the PFD violation, and other written warnings were issued.

MARSHALL COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

MCDONOUGH COUNTY

CPOs Thompson and Elliott conducted checks of fishermen and boaters at Spring Lake Park and Blandinsville Reservoir. One subject was cited for fishing without a fishing license.

PEORIA COUNTY

CPO Thompson taught a trapper safety course.

STARK COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

TAZEWELL COUNTY

CPOs Lazzell and Gerard conducted a sport fishing detail at Powerton Lake and along the Illinois River. Seven fishermen were issued citations for fishing without a license.

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 background investigations on CPO Trainee applicants.

BROWN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

CALHOUN COUNTY

CPO Gushleff assisted CPO Weishaupt on a turkey case. CPO Weishaupt cited a subject for shooting two turkeys while only having one permit. CPO Gushleff relayed the evidence to the evidence locker and assisted with the paperwork.

CPO Weishaupt participated in an opening day turkey hunting airplane detail on Pool 25 along the Mississippi River. The detail included Missouri Game Wardens and a US Fish and Wildlife Refuge Officer. No violations were detected.

CPO Weishaupt conducted turkey hunting enforcement and sport fishing enforcement.

GREENE COUNTY

CPO Weishaupt conducted turkey hunting enforcement.

HANCOCK COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

JERSEY COUNTY

CPOs Gushleff and Goetten investigated tire tracks that were on a maintenance lane at Mississippi River State Fish and Wildlife Area. After walking the lane, damage to the trail due to the muddy conditions was found. The lane was posted as "Authorized Vehicles Only." As the CPOs left the area, they observed a mud-covered SUV parked approximately a mile from the State site. The CPOs interviewed the residents, and they admitted to driving on the lane and getting stuck. They also admitted to taking another vehicle back there to pull the first one out. A citation was issued to one subject, and a written warning was issued to a second subject.

CPO Weishaupt conducted turkey hunting enforcement. He also assisted CPO Goetten with a timber truck inspection, and he patrolled Pere Marquette State Park.

MACOUPIN COUNTY

CPO Weishaupt conducted sport fishing enforcement at Gillespie Lake and Bunker Hill Lake.

PIKE COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

SCHUYLER COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

District 10 – Sgt. Chris Stone

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

CASS COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

CHRISTIAN COUNTY

CPO Cochran gave a presentation about the protection of the State's resources to approximately 150 students at an Earth Day event at Bond Elementary School.

CPO Cochran received a disposition on a case from 2016 involving a Taylorville resident hunting from a roadway during the firearm deer season while in possession of methamphetamine and a stolen firearm. The hunter was charged with

multiple violations by the Christian County State's Attorney's Office, and the subject pled guilty to the charge of possession of methamphetamine. The other charges were dismissed in a plea deal. The subject was sentenced to two years' probation and eight days in the county jail. Several guns, ammunition, and a ten-point white-tailed deer European mount were forfeited. Over \$1,000 in cash was also declared contraband and forfeited to the Department. The stolen firearm was returned to its rightful owner.

CPOs Cochran and Wichern completed a boat detail at Sangchris Lake. A total of ten vessels were checked which revealed uncovered batteries, no type IV throwables, and no lights on after sunset. In addition to checking boats, several fishermen were checked. One bank fisherman was warned for fishing on railroad property without permission, and another was given a warning for wading. One citation and six warnings were given.

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 Macias went to Passavant Area Hospital to check on a hunter who was involved in an accident. The hunter was chasing a tom turkey and unknowingly crossed into another person's property during the chase. As the hunter was stalking the bird, a separate hunter thought he was a turkey and shot him in the face, neck, and arms. He is expected to make a full recovery. Violations are pending.

While investigating a hunting without permission complaint, CPO Wichern located a turkey hunter on an adjacent property. A field inspection of the hunter's equipment and licenses showed that the hunter failed to purchase a 2018 hunting license and habitat stamp prior to hunting that morning. The hunter was cited for the violations and was instructed to purchase the proper licenses before going turkey hunting the next day.

CPO Wichern cited three fishermen for possession of largemouth bass inside the restricted 14 to 18-inch slot limit at Lake Jacksonville.

SANGAMON COUNTY

CPO Macias continues to work on a timber case. Two individuals have been located, and a bench warrant is pending.

CPOs Macias and Cochran worked with search and rescue teams to locate a missing person who was kayaking the Sangamon River.

While on patrol at an inner-city pond, CPO Macias noticed a subject fishing. The pond has a posted no fishing sign. When the subject saw the CPO looking at him, he quickly began to pack up his tackle and left the area. A short time later CPO Macias spoke to him, and he admitted he did not know that he could not fish there. He was issued a citation for no permission.

CPO Macias received several phone calls concerning a roadkill bobcat. He went to the location described by the complainant, and he found a dead female bobcat. It was determined the bobcat was struck by a vehicle earlier that same day.

SCOTT COUNTY

CPO Wichern investigated a hunting accident involving a turkey hunter. The turkey hunter did not realize that he had been accidentally shot by another turkey hunter on adjacent property until two days after the fact. The hunter had his wife examine the spots on his neck and scalp that he believed to be from black locust thorns. His wife thought the spots were pellets, and he was taken to the hospital. Three copper-plated #4 shotgun pellets were removed from just under his skin. The hunter stated he had only heard one other shot the day he was hunting, and that shot came from an adjacent property. He admitted to hen calling approximately 15 minutes prior to the shot, but he did not see a hunter or any turkeys the rest of the day. Due to the thick cover and high ravines in the area, the incident has been deemed an accident.

Northeast Zone – Captain Brett Scroggins

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

KANE COUNTY

CPOs Semenik and Knop patrolled the Fox River via boat. The CPOs issued seven written warnings for various boat registration/safety and sport fishing violations, six sport fishing citations, three boat registration/safety citations, and two drug arrests.

LAKE COUNTY

CPO VanWiltburg cited a subject for possession of a ten-inch largemouth bass on Nippersink Lake. This lake has a 14-inch minimum size limit.

CPO Knop received a call from some young fishermen he had checked earlier in the day. The fishermen were concerned about a heavily intoxicated subject who was threatening them, and they believed he had a short walleye. CPO Knop arrived on scene and confirmed the subject had a short walleye and was heavily intoxicated. He was issued a citation and received a cab ride home.

CPO Semenik gave a presentation at a hunter safety education class at the Countryside Fire Department.

After finding a large live trap on IDNR property, CPO Kelley discovered the trap was being used by a local resident to capture a runaway rescue dog. The trap was returned to the owners.

CPO Davis observed a group of fishermen on Nippersink Lake. A compliance check was conducted, and it was confirmed that two of the subjects were in possession of undersized largemouth bass. One subject was not in possession of a license. Citations were issued for the illegal fish.

CPOs Davis and Winters checked a fishing boat on Petite Lake. When the operator retrieved his fishing license, the CPO observed a Wisconsin driver's license. The fisherman presented an Illinois resident license. After requesting identification, the operator's residency claim was disproved via issuance dates, and he was cited.

CPO Davis stopped a boat on the Fox River that he recognized from past interaction. The subject admitted to accepting payment to guide but had not yet received his passenger for hire license. He was issued written warnings and advised he could not engage as a guide until all licenses were returned.

MCHENRY COUNTY

While patrolling at the McHenry Dam, CPO Winters observed a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed. He conducted a vehicle stop, and it was determined the subject had a suspended driver's license. The subject was issued appropriate citations, and the vehicle was released to a valid driver.

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

GRUNDY COUNTY

CPO Reid conducted numerous patrols along the bank fishing area and boat ramp at Heidecke Lake. Several warnings and citations were issued for: fishing with too many devices, possession of under-sized walleye, and over limits of stiped bass.

KANKAKEE COUNTY

CPO Farber patrolled the Indiana/Illinois state line near Momence. While conducting fish enforcement, he observed a female subject from Indiana carelessly discharging a .22 rifle over and into the Kankakee River. CPO Farber located the camp of individuals, and he addressed basic firearms safety rules. He also explained that what they were doing was extremely unsafe. The Indiana resident was issued a citation for discharging a rifle over a waterway.

KENDALL COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

WILL COUNTY

CPO Reid issued multiple citations for persons unlawfully in possession of smallmouth bass during a closed season along the DuPage, Kankakee, and Des Plaines rivers.

While on patrol at I&M Canal State Trail, CPO Reid observed several individuals unlawfully bow fishing in an area restricted to a two pole and line fishing. He conducted a compliance check, and it was determined only one of them had a valid fishing license. CPO Reid inspected a garbage bag full of rough fish. The bag also contained smallmouth bass which had been shot with a bow and arrow device. The individuals were arrested for unlawful take of smallmouth bass with a bow and arrow device, unlawful possession of smallmouth bass, and fishing without a license.

While conducting surveillance along local bodies of water, CPO Reid observed multiple fishermen throw their empty beer cans in the water while fishing. Contact was made, and multiple citations for pollution of a waterway and fishing without a license were issued.

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

COOK COUNTY

Sgt. Wollgast and CPO Honiotes took part in the Cook County Forest Preserve “mini academy.” They taught provisions of the Wildlife Code to officers from various local agencies. To further reinforce the officers’ new training, CPOs Honiotes and Stanbary took part in putting on training scenarios the following day for the officers to get hands-on experience in dealing with typical deer hunting violations they will likely encounter in the field.

CPO Snodgrass was patrolling Papoose Lake when he observed three males fishing. One subject had just caught a small bass when he observed CPO Snodgrass approaching. The subject immediately returned the fish to the water. A compliance check was performed, and none of them possessed valid fishing licenses. Two of the subjects were nonresidents, and one was a resident of Illinois. When questioning the individuals, they stated they were just catching and releasing the fish. Upon further investigation, CPO Snodgrass spotted a stringer in the water which contained a bass that appeared to be short. CPO Snodgrass bumped the fish and found it to be 12 inches. Cook County Forest Preserve lakes have a minimum of 14-inch length limit. One subject was issued a citation for short bass, and all three subjects were issued warnings for no valid fishing license.

While on patrol in William W. Powers State Recreation Area, CPO Ausmus noticed two subjects with open alcohol on the hood of their vehicle. When he spoke with the subjects, he found that they had poured out the beers. The subjects were issued written warnings for possession of alcohol in a restricted area.

CPO Ausmus was on patrol in William W. Powers State Recreation Area after hours and found a vehicle parked at the K Channel access. He located the occupants who were fishing several hundred yards down the bank. The subjects admitted they did not know what time the park closed and were just out on a date. They were escorted back to their vehicle, and two written warnings were issued.

CPO Ausmus checked a pleasure craft at the Calumet Park boat launch. The boat had just launched and was tied up to the dock. There were eight adult passengers and one toddler. A boat safety inspection was conducted, and it was found that they did not have enough adult PFDs, no child PFD, no type 4 PFD, and the visual distress signals (flares) expired eight years ago. CPO Ausmus explained the violations to the occupants and told them that they could not leave the dock until they got more life jackets and an appropriate child life jacket. Two occupants left to go buy more PFDs. CPO Ausmus left the operator with a written warning for the violations. Later that evening, CPO Ausmus was contacted by the US Coast Guard and advised that this same boat took on water and nearly sank near Jackson Harbor. All the occupants were safely recovered, and they had their required PFDs.

CPOs Ausmus and Thornley conducted sport fishing enforcement at several Cook County lakes. Multiple violations were discovered for fishing without a license and too many sport fishing devices. Appropriate enforcement action was taken.

CPO Ausmus conducted a random commercial inspection of a resident minnow dealer. The business was found to be in violation of the record keeping requirement. The business was only able to produce purchase records from 2018, not for the past two years as required. The business was issued a written warning and provided with guidance for future compliance.

CPO Ausmus taught the ATV section and ran practical scenarios at the training academy for the Cook and DuPage County Forest Preserve officers. The academy helps enhance local law enforcement in boating, fish, and wildlife laws.

CPO Ausmus is investigating a boat accident that occurred on the Chicago River. A 62-foot yacht caught fire while underway. Chicago Police and Fire departments put out the fire.

CPO Ausmus responded to a TIP complaint about unlawful take of bullfrogs out of season. The suspect posted on social media about catching a bullfrog by hand. The subject was contacted; and the rules, regulations, and penalties for this were explained. The subject claimed he was not aware of a season, and he only caught the frog to show his young son.

CPO Ausmus and Sgt. Whitchurch received a TIP complaint about fishing without permission from the Palos Hills Police Department. The subjects parked at a private business and walked through a hole in the fence, directly beside a "No Trespassing" sign. The private business continues to have issues with trespassers parking in their lot without patronizing their business, and they typically contact their local law enforcement. The subjects were interviewed, and both admitted to fishing and catching bass. Neither of them had a valid fishing license. The subjects were issued citations for fishing without permission of the landowner and fishing without a valid fishing license. A Palos Hills Police Officer issued the driver citations for parking without permission and an equipment violation. After the CPOs left, a third subject was observed fishing in the same pond. The CPOs returned and spoke with the subject. A citation was issued for fishing without permission of the landowner.

While on patrol at William W. Powers State Recreation Area, CPO Thornley spotted a vehicle in a restricted area. The subject was issued a written warning for parking in a restricted area. In a separate incident, CPO Thornley noticed a vehicle parked along the curb at William W. Powers State Recreation Area. As he drove past the vehicle, he noticed two people working on their fishing poles. He returned to the area and watched the subjects enter the park after

hours. The adult was issued a citation for entering a restricted area after the posted closing time, and the teen was issued a written warning.

CPO Stanbary patrolled Wolf Lake. Three vessel inspections were completed which resulted in the issuance of two written warnings for equipment violations.

CPO Stanbary conducted a traffic stop after he observed a vehicle traveling twice the posted speed limit inside William W. Powers State Recreation Area. The driver was found to be driving on a revoked license. He was arrested and bonded for driving while license revoked and speeding. The driver will appear in court on a later date.

A civil cannabis violation was issued to a park visitor after CPO Stanbary observed the man rolling a cannabis blunt inside his vehicle.

A fisherman was issued a citation for no valid sport fishing license after he was found fishing behind a business on the Calumet River. The man stated he was unable to buy a license because of back child support.

A fisherman was issued a written warning by CPO Stanbary at Wolf Lake for fishing with three poles in a two-pole line only lake. He was additionally warned for having an expired fishing license.

CPO Stanbary issued a citation to an individual for possessing alcohol in an area where prohibited.

CPO Stanbary assisted Cook County Forest Preserve staff with an IHSA Bass Tournament at the Skokie Lagoons. The CPO inspected boats involved in the tournament to ensure they were equipped with all the required equipment.

While patrolling William W. Powers State Recreation Area, CPO Stanbary came upon an unoccupied vehicle with a flat tire. After running the plate, he learned that the registered owner of the vehicle had a suspended license. Later that morning, the CPO observed the same vehicle driving slowly through the park on the flattened tire. The male driver stopped to talk to CPO Stanbary about his flat tire situation. When the driver introduced himself, the CPO recognized him as the suspended driver. The driver was subsequently issued two traffic citations, and he has an upcoming mandatory court appearance.

CPOs Sanford and Stanbary conducted a boat patrol on a Chicago waterway. During the patrol, CPO Sanford noticed a young boy riding on the bow of a watercraft. The child was not wearing a life jacket and did not appear to be over the age of 13. The CPOs conducted a safety inspection on the vessel. After a brief investigation, the child was found to be 12 years of age. The operator of the watercraft was educated as to the regulation and issued a citation for the violation.

While on patrol at an IDNR lake, CPO Sanford observed two individuals fishing from the bank. After conducting a fishing compliance check, the individuals, who were both nonresidents, were found to be fishing without a valid Illinois sport fishing license. Both individuals were issued a citation for the violation.

CPO Sanford and Sgt. Whitchurch conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle speeding along a roadway on IDNR property. It was discovered the driver did not have a valid driver's license or insurance on the vehicle. After conducting a consent search, open alcohol was discovered, along with fishing equipment and a live common carp. The vehicle was towed due to lack of valid insurance, and the driver was issued three citations for operation of motor vehicle with no valid driver's license, operation of uninsured motor vehicle, and possession of open alcohol where prohibited. The driver was also issued written warnings for speeding (34 mph in 15-mph zone) and fishing without a valid sport fishing license.

CPO Sanford investigated a complaint regarding the unlawful possession of a raptor at a residence. A prairie falcon was found tethered to a stake in the ground of the backyard of the residence. The owner was located, interviewed, and subsequently arrested for the unlawful possession of a raptor without a permit. The individual was also cited for

unlawful import of live wildlife from another state, as the bird was captured and transported from outside of Illinois. The falcon was seized as evidence and transported to a licensed rehabilitation facility for evaluation and care.

CPO Klemme completed an investigation on the commercial vessel "Sophisticated Lady." The owner was charged with operating a business without a passenger for hire license and no state registration.

CPO Mooi was patrolling William W. Powers State Recreation Area when he observed a vehicle traveling above the posted speed limit. A traffic stop was conducted, and he observed the front and rear seat passengers were not wearing seatbelts. CPO Mooi spoke with the driver and discovered his driver's license was expired. The driver was issued a citation for driving with an expired license and speeding. The two passengers were each issued a written warning for failure to wear a seatbelt.

While on patrol, CPO Mooi observed a vehicle darting in and out of lanes on Interstate 294. A traffic stop was conducted, and the driver admitted to swerving because he was "rolling a joint." CPO Mooi searched the vehicle and found an open beer, as well as one cannabis cigarette. A civil citation for possession of cannabis under ten grams was issued, along with a written warning for illegal transportation of alcohol.

CPO Mooi conducted a boat patrol on the Chicago River. No violations were observed. He also conducted a patrol of the boat launches along the Cal-Sag Channel, and written warnings were issued for various violations.

DUPAGE COUNTY

CPOs Ausmus and Thornley checked anglers along the Des Plaines River. CPO Thornley checked a truck with a boat that had recently come off the water. The backseat passenger presented CPO Thornley with a live gosling. The fishing party stated they almost struck the gosling when they were pulling up on the bank, so they picked it up and moved it. The gosling then began following the boat. The anglers felt sorry for the lonely gosling, so they picked it up and brought it back to the boat launch with hopes of releasing to safety. The CPOs interviewed the subjects and seized the gosling. The anglers were issued written warnings for unlawfully retaining wildlife alive and educated them on what to do when orphaned wildlife is found. The boat owner was also issued a warning for an equipment violation.

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 Viverito conducted fish enforcement on Clinton Lake which resulted in three short fish citations, two over limit citations, and two warnings for fishing without a license.

CPO Viverito and K-9 Hank patrolled Clinton Lake for narcotics, and four vehicles were screened. Three of the vehicles contained contraband, and four individuals were arrested.

FORD COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

IROQUOIS COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

While on patrol on the Vermilion River, CPO Graden issued three written warnings and one citation to various sport fishermen. The citation was for fishing without a license.

MACON COUNTY

CPO Wright conducted compliance checks of fishermen on Lake Decatur after receiving complaints of over limits and short crappie being taken. Several short crappie citations were issued, along with several fish license written warnings and citations.

MCLEAN COUNTY

CPO Graden cited a fisherman at Evergreen Lake for unlawful take of over the legal limit of crappie. The Lake limit is 15 crappie, and the subject had 19 crappie in his possession.

CPO Graden conducted sport fishing checks at multiple lakes. He issued three written warnings and two citations for aquatic life code violations.

PIATT COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

VERMILION COUNTY

CPO Cottrell cited a Danville resident for unlawfully entering a posted turkey hunting site before 1:00 p.m.

CPO Cottrell assisted a family of campers in Kickapoo State Recreation Area when their vehicle was destroyed by fire due to a mechanical issue. No injuries were sustained, and all personal items were saved.

South Zone – Captain Jim Mayes

District 11 – Sgt. Brian McReynolds

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

CLARK COUNTY

While conducting watercraft safety inspections at Mill Creek, CPO Mieure issued three written warnings to a Paris man for minor boat violations.

CPOs Mieure and Wellum attended a two-day Illinois Vehicle Code refresher class at the Danville Police Department.

CPO Wellum assisted a Clark County Deputy with a domestic dispute involving a weapon (pipe). The female subject was arrested due to the obvious injuries inflicted on the male subject. It was later found that the female subject had stabbed the male subject with a pen knife the previous night. The male subject was given a domestic violence pamphlet.

CPO Wellum assisted a Clark County Deputy with a report of a neighbor shooting another neighbor's dog. Subjects were interviewed, but the offending subject was not located.

CPO Wellum completed a boat title and registration investigation.

CPO Wellum handled a trespass complaint involving two subjects from Indiana. Both subjects were mushroom hunting on property they did not have permission to be on. The property was not marked with a no trespassing sign or purple paint. Both subjects were advised they were not allowed on the property and informed they would be arrested if they returned.

CPO Wellum attended a Tactical Casualty Care class at the ILEAS Training Center in Urbana.

COLES COUNTY

CPO Greuel and Sgt. McReynolds cited two Mattoon men for civil cannabis violations at Lake Paradise.

CPO Mieure issued a Charleston man one citation for over limit of bluegill, along with one written warning for no fishing license.

CPO Mieure issued a Mattoon man a written warning for watercraft batteries not covered/secured.

CPO Mieure issued written warnings to a woman from Oakland, a man from Mattoon, and another man from Charleston for fishing without a license.

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

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

DOUGLAS COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

EDGAR COUNTY

CPO Greuel and Sgt. McReynolds cited a Paris man and woman at Twin Lakes for civil cannabis violations and fishing without a valid License.

CPO Greuel cited a Paris woman who was in possession of three litters of raccoons and a squirrel.

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

MOULTRIE COUNTY

Sgt. McReynolds conducted a boat title and registration investigation regarding a Bethany man's watercraft application.

CPO Moody cited a Sullivan man for hunting turkey with no valid permit. He was given written warnings for no hunting license or habitat stamp.

SHELBY COUNTY

CPO Greuel cited two Mattoon men on the Little Wabash River for fishing without a valid license.

CPO Barnes cited a Tower Hill subject at Lake Pana for fishing without a license.

District 13 – Sgt. Eric Manker

(Counties: Bond, Clinton, Madison, Monroe, Montgomery, Randolph, St. Clair & Washington)

BOND COUNTY

CPO Tapley attended the Bond County Conservation Day in Greenville. Approximately 200 students got to enjoy the Illinois Conservation Police Education Trailer.

CLINTON COUNTY

While checking fishermen below the Carlyle Lake Dam, CPO Tapley saw two different groups of fishermen snagging for fish. Four subjects were issued citations for unlawfully snagging for fish.

CPOs Tapley and Lentz conducted a detail at Carlyle Lake regarding a complaint about a subject taking an over limit of crappie the day before. The CPOs observed the fisherman catch more than his limit of crappie. The subject had the fish separated into two buckets, one of which he had tried to hide in the riprap. He was found to be in possession of 27 crappie, and he was issued two citations.

CPO Tapley received a tip about two fishermen who were reported to have an over limit of crappie at Carlyle Lake. The fishermen were checked. It was found they did not have an over limit, but they did have three crappie under the legal length limit.

CPOs Tapley and Wheatley travelled to Starved Rock State Park to teach a ground fighting class to other CPOs.

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

CPO Sievers gave a conservation law update presentation to local law enforcement officers.

CPO Sievers received a complaint regarding a large number of dead turtles on Kaskaskia Island. He located approximately 100 dead red-eared sliders and three dead bullfrogs along the shoreline of a slough. Natural Heritage biologist Scott Ballard was contacted, and he suspected the cause of death was the rhinovirus. Further investigation will be conducted to verify the cause of death.

CPO Sievers received a complaint about a subject posing as a police officer and attempting to check turkey hunters' identification at a boat ramp along the Kaskaskia River State Fish and Wildlife Area. The CPO arrived at the ramp in the early morning hours and located a truck that matched the description of the suspect's vehicle. A Red Bud Police Department Officer and a Randolph County Sheriff's Deputy also arrived on scene. Two individuals were found. The female subject was a suspect in a vehicle theft, and she confessed. The investigation into the impersonation of a police officer by the male subject continues.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

CPO Schachner checked four subjects fishing at a local lake. Two subjects were found to be fishing without licenses, one subject was illegally taking sport fish with a cast net, and the fourth subject possessed an undersized bass.

While conducting sport fishing enforcement along the Mississippi River, CPO Rolfingsmeier found three fishermen from Missouri fishing on Terminal Railroad property. Terminal Railroad does not allow fishing on their property. All three fishermen were issued citations for fishing without permission.

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 issued a citation to a fisherman for fishing without a license. In a separate incident, CPO Lay issued a citation to a fisherman for the unlawful possession of a short bass caught at Rend Lake. The fish was returned to the Lake.

CPOs Lay and Williams conducted a boat patrol, and five written warnings for boat equipment violations were issued.

CPO Lay conducted the required compliance boat inspections at Rend Lake prior to the IHSA bass fishing tournament.

CPO Lay issued a citation to a fisherman for fishing without a license on the Big Muddy River.

CPO Williams received a confession in a case that began in March. Construction debris was found dumped along a rural road, and there was enough information found in the debris to lead him to multiple local businesses where security video was reviewed. Photos of a suspect vehicle were retrieved. With the help of the Franklin County Sheriff's Department, the suspect's vehicle was located, and the driver was identified. An admission to dumping the construction debris was obtained, and the suspect was cited.

GALLATIN COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

HAMILTON COUNTY

CPO Schoenhoff received information of an abandoned vehicle on Ten Mile Creek State Fish and Wildlife Area. The vehicle was located and towed. Extensive damage had been done to the vehicle which caused it to be a hazard. The vehicle was not reported stolen, and further investigation is being conducted.

CPO Folden attended the Midwest Wildlife Investigators Conference in Fall River, Kansas. Several states were in attendance, and information was shared on major cases within the region. Presenters from many technology companies relating to law enforcement duties demonstrated their newest products.

CPOs Folden, Buhnerkempe, and Johnson served as instructors for the retired officers' firearm qualification at the range at Ten Mile Creek State Fish and Wildlife Area.

HARDIN COUNTY

CPO Diggins completed one boat registration inspection.

JEFFERSON COUNTY

CPO Lay and Sgt. Cariens gave a presentation at a Scouts of America event. The scouts were camped inside Wayne Fitzgerald State Recreation Area. The group was given instruction on fishing, why we have rules for fishing, and the basic laws for hunting.

CPO Jourdan is investigating the dumping of a large amount of trash at the visitor parking access lot at Rend Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area. Items dumped included a television, chest of drawers, sink, carpet, mirrors, chairs, and a burn barrel full of trash debris.

CPO Jourdan issued a fishing license citation to a subject at JC Lake.

CPO Jourdan encountered a sinking boat near a ramp at Rend Lake. He assisted in removing the boat from the water before it sank.

POPE COUNTY

CPO Diggins issued a written warning to a turkey hunter for having a loaded firearm on a public road.

SALINE COUNTY

CPO Diggins issued nine written warnings for no fishing license violations, four written warnings for boating related violations, and completed one boat registration inspection.

The Final Descent Outdoors group asked CPO Johnson to interview a young hunter to discuss hunter ethics. The interview was conducted, and a discussion was had about why ethics are important. He also discussed the role of teaching youth to use good ethics while hunting. The interview is set to air in August 2018. This group is very supportive of the Department.

A 9-year-old boy was turkey hunting during the youth season when he shot at a turkey and accidentally killed two turkeys. CPO Johnson was immediately called, and they arranged a time to meet. The father was issued a written warning for the parental responsibility, unlawful take of turkey. The father is a local preacher who agreed to transport the turkey breasts to a local shelter for homeless.

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 Smith conducted a random commercial inspection on a taxidermist, and no violations were found.

CPO Smith was asked by the Clay County Sheriff's Office to assist in the search for a missing 15-year-old boy. He used his ATV to search an area at the Clay and Marion county line. After a few hours of searching, a tip was received by a deputy that the missing person was spotted. CPOs Smith and Roper drove to the area where the missing boy was spotted. CPO Smith observed a person who matched the description of the missing boy walking in a wooded area. He exited the squad and ran out to the individual who was identified as the missing person. The boy was led out to the roadway where he was handed over to the Clay County Sheriff.

While traveling on Route 50, CPO Roper observed a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed and swerving in and out of traffic. A traffic stop was conducted, and the driver was issued a citation for speeding.

CRAWFORD COUNTY

CPO Roper conducted a taxidermy inspection, and it was discovered the subject had committed minor record keeping violations. The subject was issued a written warning for failure to maintain department required records.

EDWARDS COUNTY

CPO Roper received a complaint of illegal trapping activity. Upon investigation of the complaint, CPO Roper determined an Albion resident had been unlawfully placing cage traps near their residence. The subject was issued a citation for unlawful placement of traps out of season.

EFFINGHAM COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

FAYETTE COUNTY

CPO Smith conducted a random commercial inspection on a taxidermist, and he found two minor tagging infractions. A written warning was issued to the taxidermist.

JASPER COUNTY

CPO Smith was given information from Sgt. Hyatt referencing a complaint he received involving a resident who witnessed another person kill a raccoon. The complainant noticed a light shine into his bedroom window, and he had heard a dog barking prior to seeing the light. The resident heard a gunshot and decided to walk out to the area where the lights were coming from to ask what they were doing. The individual said he was in a raccoon hunting competition and was retrieving his coonhound. The hunter had a .22 caliber rifle in his possession. The hunter went ahead and shot the raccoon out of the tree and let the dog finish it off. The landowner asked him if he was going to take the raccoon carcass with him, and the hunter replied, "No." The landowner was unaware of game laws and did not know if the hunter was in violation of anything. CPO Smith met with the suspect the following morning and issued him four citations for hunting furbearers out of season, possession of .22 caliber rifle during field trial, discharge of a rifle less than 300 yards from an inhabited dwelling, and hunting without permission. CPO Smith seized the rifle and I-bonded the subject.

While on patrol at Sam Parr State Fish and Wildlife Area, CPO Roper observed a subject hunting mushrooms at the site before 1 p.m. Mushroom hunting is prohibited on state park property before 1 p.m. due to safety concerns with turkey hunters. The subject was issued a citation for violating a posted state park regulation.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

CPOs Roper and D. Taylor conducted a commercial fishing enforcement detail on the Wabash River.

MARION COUNTY

CPOs Smith and Roper attended Conservation Field Days at Stephen A. Forbes State Recreation Area where they taught fifth graders about wildlife identification, wildlife laws, environmental safety, fish laws, boating laws, and how to stay safe while recreating in the woods.

CPO Smith was on patrol at Stephen A. Forbes State Recreation Area when he encountered two men fishing without a valid sport fish license. Both fishermen were issued citations for the violation. He also issued several written warnings for boating and minor fishing violations.

RICHLAND COUNTY

CPO Roper attended a career day at Richland County Middle School and spoke to students about the duties of a CPO and the requirements of the job.

While on patrol, CPO Roper observed four individuals fishing at the Miller's Grove Park; and he conducted a fishing license compliance check. One subject did not possess a valid fishing license and was issued a citation for fishing without a fishing license.

While conducting a recreational boating enforcement patrol at the boat launch at East Fork Lake, CPO Roper conducted several boater safety compliance checks. While checking safety equipment on one of the boats, the individual was found to have an over limit of bluegill. The subject was issued a citation for keeping more bluegill than legally permitted on East Fork Lake. In a separate incident, he observed two individuals fishing along a road at East Fork Lake. He conducted a fishing license compliance check, and one subject did not possess a valid fishing license. The subject was issued a citation for fishing without a fishing license.

WABASH COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

WAYNE COUNTY

CPO Smith checked several fishermen at Sam Dale Lake State Fish and Wildlife Area trout pond. One of the fishermen did not have a valid sport fish license and was issued a citation for the offense.

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 Johnson cited a subject for possession of three short bass on Kinkaid Lake.

JOHNSON COUNTY

CPO Somers conducted an investigation regarding a death at Ferne Clyffe State Park.

MASSAC COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

PERRY COUNTY

CPO Vasicek spoke to hundreds of grade school children about outdoor safety and ethics at the Perry County Safety Days event.

CPO Lewis investigated a complaint of fishing without permission. The three violators drove past multiple signs and across restricted mine property to access the location. In the process, they made large ruts on the property and ultimately got stuck. A tow was needed to get them out. The driver of the truck advised he thought they were at Pyramid State Recreation Area. The driver of the vehicle was charged with damage to private property while attempting to take aquatic life. The other two fishermen received citations for fishing without permission.

CPO Lewis located two subjects fishing on mine property. There has been an ongoing complaint of trespass on the property, and the two fishermen had trespassed on railroad property to access their location. Both fishermen were cited for fishing without permission, along with warnings for fishing without a license.

CPO Lewis investigated a third complaint of people fishing without permission on mine property. He located three subjects fishing without permission. One of the fishermen was in possession of seven largemouth bass. Knowing the statewide limit is six, the fisherman pointed out one dead bass and advised he caught that fish at Pyramid State Recreation Area. The bass was 16 inches long, and there is a 14 to 18-inch protected slot in the park. CPO Lewis also discovered that two of the fishermen did not have fishing licenses and were cited in 2017 for fishing without permission in Perry County. CPO Lewis cited all three fishermen for fishing without permission. He also issued one citation for failure to release the 16-inch largemouth bass. Warnings were issued for fishing without a license and taking over the limit of largemouth bass.

PULASKI COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

UNION COUNTY

No activity reported for this county.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY

CPO Johnson conducted a compliance check of a subject at the Lake of Egypt. The subject hurriedly grabbed a bass out of his boat's live well and walked toward him. CPO Johnson walked the subject back to the boat and observed five bass in the live well. The bass were not in compliance with the Lake ordinance. Also, the subject had not purchased a fishing license. The subject released the bass back into the Lake, and he was issued a citation for no fishing license.

CPO Johnson conducted another compliance check of a subject at the Lake of Egypt. The subject was in possession of ten bass; the State legal limit is six. Four of the bass were not in compliance with the Lake ordinance. The subject also had not purchased a fishing license. The subject released the bass back into the Lake, and he was issued a citation for over limit of bass and a written warning for no fishing license.