



# Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



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

**DATE: May 1, 2016**  
(Weeks of April 13 – April 28)

*This report represents some events the OLE handled over the last couple of weeks; however, it does not include all actions taken by the Office of Law Enforcement.*

## **REGION 1 – Captain Laura Petreikis**

### **District 1 – Sgt. T. Petreikis**

**(Counties: Carroll, Henry, JoDaviess, Lee, Mercer, Ogle, Rock Island, Stephenson & Whiteside)**

#### **CARROLL COUNTY**

CPO Jones stopped a Mount Carroll man for no rear registration light and improper lane usage. Upon further contact with the subject, he was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of cannabis less than 2.5 grams.

CPO Jones cited a Clinton man and a Fulton man for entry into a restricted area. The men were mushroom hunting before 1:00 p.m. at French Bluff Natural area while three turkey hunters were hunting.

#### **HENRY COUNTY**

CPO Posateri is working an illegal dumping case where three deer hides were dumped along a road in Galva. Each hide was labeled with a name. The investigation is ongoing.

#### **JO DAVIESS COUNTY**

CPO Hoogerwerf patrolled public and private waterways. Two citations were issued for fishing without a valid sport fishing license.

CPO Hoogerwerf closed a case involving Three River Ridge High School students charged in connection to the beating of four raccoons in a dumpster. Subject #1 pleaded guilty to one count, paid \$500 and received 1 year supervision. Subject # 2 pleaded guilty to one count, paid \$300 and received 6 months supervision. Charges against subject #3 were dismissed.

CPO Hoogerwerf patrolled Apple River Canyon State Park. Two citations were issued for violating the speed limit

#### **LEE COUNTY**

CPO Posateri assisted the IDNR Biologist with a wildlife survey in Lee County. A very high number of deer were counted this year. The route is a predetermined route and it is done at the same exact times on a yearly basis. This allows the

biologists to gather details for their annual wildlife reports.

#### OGLE COUNTY

CPO Posateri, CPO Teas, and CPOT Cox worked a detail at Pine Creek in White Pines State Park on opening weekend of trout season. CPO Posateri and CPOT Cox were in plain clothes fishing along the creek. They observed a group of fishermen catching numerous trout, keeping some on a stringer, some in a bucket, and some in a cooler. As the group was leaving, CPO Teas checked them as they were returning to their truck. Each fisherman claimed to have only caught and kept the daily limit of 5 trout. CPO Posateri then identified herself as an undercover CPO and one fisherman admitted to taking over the daily limit, whereas he caught more than the daily limit but kept 9 trout in his possession. The men were advised it is an individual daily limit and not a group effort to fill the limits.

CPO Teas completed a lengthy investigation involving a poached deer in Ogle County which occurred in late March. The investigation originated from a TIPS complaint and a photograph of a dead deer lying on a garage floor. CPO Teas and CPOT Cox initially spoke with the homeowner who told them the deer was a roadkill hit by his brother. CPO Teas and CPOT Cox later located the deer which had been dumped in a creek and found to have been shot twice and the throat had been cut. Despite the involved parties being uncooperative and providing a large amount of false information, the investigation continued until the facts of the incident were found. Three subjects had been drinking beer and decided to go find a deer to shoot. They drove around shining from the vehicle until they located a small buck. Two subjects shined the deer, while the driver shot the deer with a .45 caliber pistol. The deer was taken from the scene and some of the meat was removed. The deer was then dumped in the creek where the CPOs later located it. In all, 22 charges were filed including obstruction to officer, hunting by use/aid of motor vehicle, hunting at night, shining from vehicle, unlawful take of white tail deer, possession of species during closed season, discharge of firearm from highway, wanton waste, and pollution of waterway.

#### ROCK ISLAND COUNTY

On opening day of trout season, CPO Posateri checked fishermen at Prospect Park in Moline. This year the IDNR stocked trout in the Spring since there was a problem with the fish truck during the previous Fall stocking. The weather was cold and very windy which deterred many of the fishermen from fishing for very long, although they were catching several trout. There were no violations detected at the time CPO Posateri was there.

CPO Francisko taught Illinois Boating Laws at a Boating Safety Class sponsored by the U.S. Army Corps. Of Engineers / Lock and Dam # 14.

CPO Francisko checked multiple fishermen and boaters on the Mississippi River in the Quad City area. Multiple written warnings were issued. One boater having boat problems was assisted.

#### STEPHENSON COUNTY

CPO Hoogerwerf patrolled the Pecatonica River and Lake Le-Aqua-Na State Park. Three citations were issued for fishing without a valid sport fishing license.

CPO Hoogerwerf issued three unlawful possession of deer citations and a mandatory court appearance to a Lena man after a deer harvest investigation revealed he unlawfully used his wife's permits.

CPO Hoogerwerf closed a case involving a Lena man charged with driving while suspended at Lake Le-Aqua-Na State Park. The subject entered a plea of guilty, paid \$732 and received 1 year supervision.

#### WHITESIDE COUNTY

While checking fishermen along the Hennepin Canal in Whiteside County, CPO Teas observed two subjects fishing off a point. CPO Teas approached the subjects and observed a partially burned cannabis cigar lying on top of one of the fishermen's backpack. When the CPO asked the fisherman what the cigar was, he replied "Doobie." An additional bag

of cannabis was located in the backpack. The subject was charged for possession of cannabis.

CPO Palumbo investigated a boat accident that occurred on the Rock River at the Sterling/Rock Falls lower, low head dam. The boat operator attempted to anchor his vessel too close to the dam and was drawn into it by the low head dam currents. The 16 foot fishing boat began taking on water from the dam, became swamped, and ultimately capsized. The operator, his passenger, and their dog, were all rescued by the Sterling and Rock Falls Fire Departments without injuries. The operator was issued a citation for failing to secure his boat battery as required and a written warning for careless operation of a watercraft. The boat's battery was lost in the river as a result of it not being secured.

## **District 6 – Sgt. Phil Wire**

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

### **BOONE COUNTY**

While checking spring fishermen at Candlewick Lake Association, CPO Alt encountered a man fishing without a license at the main boat launch pier. The violation was addressed and the subject was given an Illinois Fishing Digest.

### **BUREAU COUNTY**

CPO Finn and CPOT Stanbary were on a uniformed patrol of Rte. 29 in Bureau County near Bureau Junctions when they observed an ATV driving down Rte. 29. CPO Finn pulled the ATV over and observed the driver to have a bucket of fish on the back. After further investigation CPOT Stanbary found the driver to be in possession of 7 large-mouth bass. The driver was issued a citation for having over-the-limit of large-mouth bass and given a warning for operating an ATV on the roadway.

### **LASALLE COUNTY**

CPO Jansen conducted several patrols on the Starved Rock trails resulting in three subjects charged with possession of drug paraphernalia, four subjects charged with possession of cannabis < 2.5 gm, one subject arrested on a no bond warrant, and pending charges for possession of a controlled substance.

CPO Kaufman responded to a call of a very small fishing boat on LaSalle Lake. Due to the size of the lake all boats must have a gas powered motor. With the help of park staff CPO Kaufman found two individuals on a 9 foot by 3 foot "Basshunter" powered by a trolling motor in the middle of the lake. They had brought the boat to the lake in the back of their pickup truck. There were no wearable PFD's on board the boat. CPO Kaufman escorted the boat to shore. After the boat was put back in the pickup truck, a citation was issued for the PFD violation and several written warnings were issued.

While on foot patrol in Starved Rock State Park CPO Kaufman located two individuals off the marked trails. Besides having cannabis and drug paraphernalia with them, one individual was found in possession of ecstasy and cocaine.

CPO Filipiak was on numerous foot patrols at Starved Rock, Buffalo Rock and Matthiessen State Parks :

2 individuals were issued a citation for possession of alcohol on the trails at the state parks

15 individuals were arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia

17 individuals were arrested for possession of cannabis

27 Individuals were issued citations for climbing the sides of the canyon walls and or entry to a restricted area

CPO Filipiak was on numerous sport fishing checks which led to:

2 individuals were issued citations for fishing with no valid fishing license

14 Individuals were fishing without permission on private land

2 Individuals were issued citations for being in possession of short small mouth bass

1 Individual was issued a citation for snagging in waters closed to snagging

CPO Filipiak was checking a turkey hunter and uncovered the individual did not purchase a hunting license or habitat stamp. The individual also did not have his permit in his possession nor was it signed.

CPO Filipiak was on a foot patrol at Pecumsaugum Creek Nature Preserve and observed two individuals enter the closed Nature Preserve. The individuals were attempting to locate mushrooms. The individuals were issued citations for entry to a closed nature preserve and criminal trespassing.

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#### PUTNAM COUNTY

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CPO Finn and CPOT Stanbary were checking turkey hunters during first season. They observed a car parked in a place where no hunters had first season permits. No hunter could be found but a follow-up inspection at the car owner's residence showed the hunter to have three violations and his wife had two violations. The Princeton man was given one citation and two warnings and his wife was given two warnings as well. All violations were permit related.

CPO Wright had a subject from Buffalo Grove who was hunting deer over bait and with a rifle. He pleaded guilty in Putnam County Court to different charges. He paid \$1700.00 in fines and forfeited the Browning ABolt Rifle and Scope.

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#### WINNEBAGO COUNTY

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While conducting a foot patrol on the trails near West Lake Picnic Area within Rock Cut State Park CPO Alt came upon a group of individuals; two of whom had unlawfully climbed onto the West bluff of Lone Rock which is posted restricted for climbing due to the various falls and injuries that have occurred. CPO Alt addressed the Administrative Rule violation with both individuals for violation of a posted restricted area.

CPO Alt stopped a car in Rock Cut State Park after clocking the vehicle for speeding and obstructed windshield. While approaching the driver's side of the automobile, CPO Alt observed an air freshener hanging from the ceiling over the driver's head. Once reaching the open driver's side window, the location of the air freshener became apparent as CPO Alt smelled a strong odor of cannabis emanating from within the passenger compartment. After sharing his observation with the 20 year old driver, a glass drug paraphernalia pipe with freshly packed cannabis and a plastic container with approximately eight (8) additional grams of cannabis were handed over to CPO Alt by the driver. After field sobriety testing was conducted to ensure the driver was not under the influence, he was issued a Notice To Appear in court for unlawful possession of cannabis >2.5 grams <10grams and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia.

CPO Alt conducted a two month long residency investigation originating from an information tip received from CPO Goetten. This investigation resulted in CPO Alt arresting a Montana resident and former Illinois resident for falsification or misrepresentation of information in order to continue to obtain and unlawfully use Illinois Resident Hunting Licenses and Illinois Resident Deer Permits. These unlawfully obtained licenses and deer permits have been used by this non-resident during the past four hunting seasons resulting in multiple unlawful deer harvests. Four whitetail deer; three bucks and a fawn were unlawfully taken in the past two years alone. Seized as evidence in this case were a nine (9) point whitetail deer head and antlers, an eight (8) point whitetail deer antler rack, two (2) point spike Whitetail deer antlers, and approximately 20 lbs. of deer meat. The hunter was charged with sixteen (16) counts of falsification or misrepresentation to obtain resident hunting licenses and permits, unlawful taking of whitetail deer without valid hunting licenses and deer permits, and unlawful possession of wildlife and parts thereof taken illegally.

### **District 7, Sgt. Scott Avery**

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

HENDERSON COUNTY

CPO Reid was contacted by a concerned citizen that possible human remains had been located in a state area. A check of the area revealed that the remains were from an animal.

KNOX COUNTY

While on patrol at Spoon River Forest, CPO Lazzell and CPOT Rumfelt located three subjects who were mushroom hunting in an area that was only open to hunters with a valid Spoon River Forest turkey permit. Enforcement action was taken for unlawfully entering the closed area during posted turkey hunting hours.

PEORIA COUNTY

CPO Lazzell and CPOT Rumfelt cited two subjects for fishing without a license at Lake Camelot in Mapleton.

TAZEWELL COUNTY

While conducting sport fish compliance, CPO Gerard arrested a subject on an outstanding warrant. The subject was transported to the Tazewell County jail.

**REGION 2 – Captain Brett Scroggins**

**District 2 – Sgt. Rich Riedel**  
**(Counties: Kane, Lake & McHenry)**

LAKE COUNTY

While conducting sport fish enforcement and recreational boat enforcement on the Chain O’ Lakes over the past few weekends, CPO Winters and Davis issued 17 citations and 42 written warnings for various boating and fishing violations

McHENRY COUNTY

CPO Davis observed two subjects illegally fishing on private property that is posted “no trespassing.” Both subjects were issued citations for fishing without permission, one of which received a written warning for fishing license not in possession.

CPOs Schreiber and Wagner cited a Barrington man on the Fox River for pulling a water skier without a competent observer. The subject stated he knew the laws but indicated that due to cold weather he was unable to find anyone else to go out with him and his son.

CPO Davis cited a subject for fishing without permission in a gravel pit in Lakemoor.

Cook County ISP Detail:

CPO Semenik continued participating in an Illinois State Police District Chicago Interdiction Detail in an attempt to reduce gun violence in the area. He has been patrolling on and around the Dan Ryan Expressway. CPO Semenik has issued 52 warnings for various IVC violations and 13 citations for offenses including, speeding, illegal transportation of alcohol, and driving while suspended. These violations have led to numerous vehicle searches resulting in seizure of open containers of alcohol, cannabis, and drug paraphernalia.

NOTE: It was a slow two weeks in the district for significant activity. The guys wrote a lot of fish and boating citations. We conducted boat operator training on the Workskiff. The guys also worked on taking leave time to bring their comp time levels down in anticipation of the summer work load.

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

**GRUNDY COUNTY**

CPO Anderson attended a hunter safety class.

**KANKAKEE COUNTY**

CPO Mieure assisted ISP, Kankakee County Deputies and the Limestone Fire Department with the recovery of a body from the Kankakee River. ISP is investigating the incident.

CPO Mieure checked fishermen in Kankakee County and Grundy Counties during the weekend of April 16 and 17. He issued 3 warnings for license violations and 7 warnings for boat violations.

CPO Vadbunker set up surveillance on two fishermen and observed them each smoking cannabis. Each was charged with unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia and for < 2.5 grams of cannabis.

CPO Mieure instructed at a hunter safety class.

CPO Mieure checked a private property pond and cited two subjects for fishing without a fishing license.

CPO Mieure checked fishermen at the Wilmington Dam. He issued a written warning to a subject for fishing license not in possession, a citation to a subject for fishing without a non-resident fishing license, and a citation to a subject in possession of a 19 inch walleye (slot limit no possession 18-26 inches)

**KENDALL COUNTY**

CPO Bergland sought and acquired an arrest warrant for disorderly conduct for a subject that harassed a CWD sharpshooter. The warrant was served without incident.

**WILL COUNTY**

CPO Reid approached a fisherman and the subject tossed several things into the water after seeing him approach. The subject had tossed some plastic bags that had previously held cannabis into the Kankakee River and also tossed a gas mask that had been converted for illegal drug usage into the river. The subject was cited for pollution of the waterway.

**District 4 – Sgt. Bill Shannon**  
**(Counties: Cook & DuPage)**

**COOK COUNTY**

CPO Whitchurch received a complaint of individuals fishing on private property without permission in southern Cook County. CPO Whitchurch was able to locate the subjects. Both subjects were advised of fishing without permission laws. Both subjects did not possess valid sport fishing licenses. Citations and written warnings were issued.

CPO Whitchurch clocked a vehicle speeding on a roadway in IDNR property. A traffic stop was conducted when it was learned the driver of the vehicle did not possess a valid driver's license. The passenger in the vehicle was the owner of the vehicle and informed CPO Whitchurch he was teaching his friend to drive. Citations and warnings were issued for speeding, no valid driver's license, and permitting an unauthorized person to drive.

CPO Whitchurch and CPOT Poffenbeger were on patrol at a Cook County lake when they observed a subject place and leave garbage on the bank of the lake. The subject was contacted and issued a citation for unlawful pollution of a waterway. The garbage was picked up and placed in a trash can nearby.

CPO Whitchurch was on patrol at Lake Michigan when he observed a boat driving into a boat launch area. CPO Whitchurch inspected the boat and it was learned there were three watercraft violations. A citation and written warnings were issued.

CPO Whitchurch and CPOT Poffenberger were on patrol when they observed a subject harassing a nesting Canada goose by throwing water and bottles at the goose. Contact with the subject was made. Enforcement action was taken against the subject for unlawfully littering on state property and for unlawful pollutions of a waterway.

CPO Whitchurch was on patrol at a Cook County lake checking anglers on one side of the lake. When two other subjects who were fishing on the other side of the lake saw CPO Whitchurch, one of the subjects immediately placed his fishing pole on the ground and pointed at CPO Whitchurch. The aforementioned subject then hurriedly attempted to leave the area. CPO Whitchurch was able to cut the subject off on a remote trail. The subject did not have a valid sport fishing license and was cited.

CPO Whitchurch and CPOT Poffenberger were on patrol at Lake Michigan enforcing sport fishing regulations when they observed a subject fishing. When the fisherman was asked for his license, he informed CPO Whitchurch he did not have his fishing license on him. CPO Whitchurch requested identification from the subject who provided an out of state driver's license. When the subject was checked for a fishing license, it was learned he had purchased resident fishing licenses in previous years rather than nonresident licenses. The subject was issued a citation.

CPO Whitchurch and CPOT Poffenberger were on patrol at a Cook County lake when they observed a subject fishing from the bank. They observed the subject move from one location possessing a fish and then move to another area without the fish. Closer observations revealed the subject possessed 2 largemouth bass and 1 smallmouth bass on a stringer. The fish were measured to insure they were the required 14 inch minimum length limit. The smallmouth bass measured less than 14 inches in length. The subject was issued a citation for possessing an undersized smallmouth bass. The smallmouth bass was released alive back into the water.

CPO Whitchurch was on patrol in Cook County when he heard and observed an off highway motorcycle and two ATV's. The ATV's and the off highway motorcycle were observed unlawfully being operated on the tracks and right-of-way of an operating railroad, unlawfully being operated on private property without the consent of the landowner, and unlawfully being operated on the roadway. When the subject saw CPO Whitchurch they turned and went in the opposite direction. With the assistance of the Forest Preserves of Cook County police, CPO Whitchurch was able to stop the subjects. Citations and written warnings were issued for the above mentioned violations. The ATV's and off highway motorcycle were transported from the scene by way of pickup trucks.

CPO Whitchurch and CPOT Poffenberger were on patrol in Cook County enforcing sport fishing regulations at a stocked trout fishing lake. They observed a subject get nervous as soon as he realized the CPOs were in the area. The subject and his friend immediately packed up and tried to leave the area. CPO Whitchurch and CPOT Poffenberger checked the subject's fishing license. It was learned he was an out-of- state resident and did not have a valid trout stamp and possessed 3 trout. The subject was issued a citation for an inland trout stamp violation.

CPO Mooi conducted sport fishing enforcement on Montrose Harbor. Three written warnings were issued for fishing licenses not being in possession.

CPO Mooi is participating in a State Police, District Chicago Interdiction Detail. CPO Mooi has issued multiple warnings and citations for offenses including, traffic, drug, and weapon offenses.

CPO Mooi and CPO Macias were flagged down by a woman in the Pullman neighborhood of Chicago. The woman said a man just tried to rape her and kicked her out of his vehicle. While CPO Mooi was speaking with the woman an ISP Dispatch, a vehicle matching the description given by the victim drove through the area. The woman pointed out the vehicle and an attempt was made to stop the vehicle. CPOs Mooi and Macias were unable to catch up to and stop the vehicle, but were able to provide license plate information to the Chicago Police Department. The woman was given medical attention and the Chicago Police Department is handling the case.

CPO Mooi attempted to stop a vehicle on I-94 in Chicago. The vehicle exited the freeway and entered a neighborhood. CPO Mooi was able to locate the vehicle in the neighborhood and the driver fled the vehicle and ran down the alley, disappearing into the neighborhood. The vehicle was reported stolen earlier that morning in Chicago. The vehicle was recovered and Chicago Police are looking for the suspect.

#### LAKE COUNTY

CPO Vaughan and CPO Farber followed up on a call from Winthrop Harbor Police Department for subjects fishing in Kellogg Creek on property owned by Commonwealth Edison. Two subjects were spearing rough fish, when one of the subjects harvested a Rainbow Trout with his spear. Several fish with fresh gouge marks were also left surrounding the bank of the creek. Citations were issued for illegal take of sport fish and wanton waste of rough fish. Warnings were issued for fishing without land owner consent.

CPO Vaughan issued several written warnings for various boating equipment and registration violations at Waukegan Harbor. Most violations are due to equipment not being placed back into the boat after winter storage. As a reminder to boaters: All watercraft being operated on Lake Michigan must have U.S. Coast Guard approved visual distress signal AND they must be in serviceable condition (not expired).

### **REGION 3 – Captain Jim Mayes**

#### **District 11 – Sgt. Brian McReynolds**

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

#### CLARK COUNTY

CPO Wellum attended and presented at an Earth Day Event at Lincoln Trail State Park attended by 100 Clark County sixth grade students.

#### COLES COUNTY

CPO Greuel, Wellum and Viverito taught rifle and pistol instruction at the Charleston PD Range. Attending were: Sgt. McReynolds, CPOs Barnes, Moody and Wright CPOTs Ausmus and Sanford.

CPO's Moody and Barnes cited a Charleston man and the Lake Charleston Dam while checking fishermen for possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of less than 2.5 grams of cannabis.

CPO Greuel issued several no fishing license citations at Lake Mattoon and Lake Paradise in Coles County.

CPO Moody cited multiple individuals for various fishing related violations.

CPO Greuel responded to an injured deer complaint in Charleston.

CPO Barnes cited a Lerna subject for pollution of a waterway at the Embarras River in Coles County. The subject threw several beer cans along the river.

CPO Barnes arrested a Humboldt subject for possession of drug paraphernalia, possession of cannabis less than 2.5 grams and fishing without a valid fishing license at the Embarras River in Coles County.

CPO Barnes arrested a Mattoon subject at the Embarras River in Coles County for possession of cannabis less than 2.5 grams.

#### MOULTRIE COUNTY

CPO Moody cited a Mattoon man on the Kaskaskia River for fishing with no license, possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of less than 2.5 grams of cannabis.

#### SHELBY COUNTY

CPO Barnes and Moody responded to a landowner complaint in rural Findlay of unlawful cutting of timber. They located several cut walnut and hickory trees. Investigation is pending.

### **District 19 – Sgt. John Williamson**

**(Counties: Champaign, DeWitt, Ford, Iroquois, Livingston, Macon, McLean, Piatt & Vermilion)**

#### DEWITT COUNTY

CPO Reeves received a call from Champaign Police Department of a possible body dumping in Clinton Lake. Champaign Police Department Investigators received information during a missing person complaint that the person they were looking for was deceased and her body was dumped in Clinton Lake. District 19 officers searched for 5 days while being assisted by Cornbelt Fire Department Dive Team and the Hudson Fire Department Dive Team. On the 5th day a body was located in the North Fork section of the lake. Body markings suggest that the body was of the missing person, but an autopsy will be used for positive identification and cause of death.

Sgt. Williamson and CPO Wright were working boat and fish enforcement at the Weldon Boat ramp on Clinton Lake when they noticed the smell of cannabis coming from one of the watercrafts. After a short interview with the Mahomet man he admitted to having cannabis and a glass pipe on his person. He was given two NTAs (notices to appear) and released on scene.

CPO Reeves and CPOT Ausmus were conducting sport fishing enforcement at Clinton Lake. The CPOs found three subjects fishing from a point near the Dewitt Bridge. Upon further investigation only two subjects were fishing, neither of which had valid sport fishing licenses. One subject had a green leafy substance that later field tested positive for cannabis and all three subjects had drug paraphernalia on their person. The three Champaign men were cited for possession of drug paraphernalia, one subject was cited for possession of cannabis, less than 2.5 grams, and two written warnings for fishing without a sport fishing license.

Sgt. Williamson, CPO Reeves, and CPOT Ausmus were conducting wildlife enforcement on the North Fork Trails at Clinton Lake. CPO Reeves and CPOT Ausmus noticed several vehicles parked at the trailhead that did not appear to be turkey hunters. This area is closed until 1:00 p.m. during the Spring Turkey Seasons. CPO Reeves and CPOT Ausmus walked the trail system and directed several hikers and runners off the trails. SGT Williamson was waiting in the parking lot and helped educate them. Several written warnings were issued for unlawful entry into a posted restricted area.

#### LASALLE COUNTY

Two District 19 CPOs and an IDNR canine assisted District 6 CPOs in a detail targeting drug use at Starved Rock State Park. CPOs Graden and Viverito along with K9 Hank worked the parking lots and roads of Starved Rock. Although park attendance was down dramatically due to poor weather. The CPOs managed to arrest 6 individuals for drug charges and

wrote a total of 10 tickets for possession of cannabis and possession of drug paraphernalia. One individual was charged with possession of a controlled substance.

#### McLEAN COUNTY

CPO Graden issued a citation to a Bloomington man for failure to immediately release an undersized sauger while fishing at Dawson Lake.

#### SHELBY COUNTY

CPO Reeves responded to District 11 for a break-in at Eagle Creek Resort. CPO Reeves observed that entry had been made through a sliding glass door. The only damage found was to the door frame and to a cabinet under the sink. Investigation is pending.

#### VERMILION COUNTY

CPO Cottrell and CPOT Sanford located four Vermilion County subjects mushroom hunting in posted closed areas that are only open to permitted turkey hunters. Two of the subjects were cited at the Harry Babe Woodyard State Natural Area and two subjects were cited at the Middlefork State Wildlife Area in Vermilion County.

### **REGION 4 – Captain Jamie Maul**

#### **District 9 – Sgt. Mark Wagner**

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

#### ADAMS COUNTY

CPO Blazinic obtained a search warrant on a Quincy business that was in possession of and selling reptiles without a license. They were also in possession of endangered species. Sgt. Wagner, CPO Myers, and Scott Ballard assisted CPO Blazinic in executing the warrant. The business had several violations which included possession of turtles over possession limit (Red Eared Sliders), possession of turtles over possession limit (Common Snapping Turtles), possession of tree frogs over possession limit (Green Tree Frogs), selling aquatic life without an aquatic life dealer's license, possession of turtles and frogs valued over \$480 (Red Eared Sliders, Common Snapping Turtles & Green Tree Frogs), possession of turtles valued over \$750 (River Cooters), possession of endangered / threatened species (River Cooters), and failure to maintain a snake in an escape proof container.

#### BROWN COUNTY

CPO Wichern, CPO Blakeley and CPOT Snodgrass were working from a boat in the backwaters of the Illinois River in Brown and Cass Counties. Three hunters in a boat were observed pulling away from shore. A subsequent inspection of the boat and hunters lead to multiple violations. The hunters attempted to conceal the harvest of a turkey. One of the subjects was found to be hunting without a permit and responsible for the illegal harvest of the turkey. The operator of the Jon boat did not have a PFD on board for every passenger. He was also an accessory to the illegal harvest of the turkey. The turkey was donated to a local food bank.

CPO Blakeley was working turkey hunters in rural Brown County when he observed an ATV parked near a tree line. Upon inspection of the area, multiple "trophy rocks" were located. CPO Blakeley located the subject, who had just placed the bait. The hunter admitted knowing it was illegal to place the bait. He made the comment "I just didn't think I would ever be caught."

## HANCOCK COUNTY

CPO Myers followed up on comments made by a timber buyer at an earlier inspection. With CPO Wheatley's assistance, CPO Myers was able to track down the landowners, timber receipts and transportation logs pertaining to the case. After interviews and research, CPO Myers obtained an arrest warrant for four felony counts of failure to pay the landowner for timber, and four Class A Misdemeanors counts for failure to pay 4%. CPO Blazinic and Wheatley served the arrest warrant on the timber buyer at his home. He was transported to Hancock County jail.

CPO Wheatley was looking for turkey hunters when he noticed a vehicle parked on the roadside in Niota. After sitting on the vehicle, two subjects appeared and proceeded to leave. The vehicle made an illegal lane change and he stopped the vehicle. The driver was issued a written warning for the lane violation and cited for driving suspended, no valid insurance, and illegal transportation of alcohol. The passenger was cited for illegal transportation of alcohol as well.

## JERSEY COUNTY

CPOT Brian Snodgrass and CPO Michael Goetten stopped three male subjects at Pere Marquette State Park. Two had cannabis and drug paraphernalia. The third had drug paraphernalia and hashish oil. They were arrested and transported to the Jersey County Sheriff's Department.

CPOT Brian Snodgrass and CPO Michael Goetten stopped a high performance motorcycle preparing to leave Pere Marquette State Park. No registration was visible on the motorcycle, which is a common practice used to drive at high speeds and elude police. The driver was a registered juvenile sex offender and known to be involved in gang crime activity. He did not have insurance and did not have the proper classification to drive a motorcycle. He was charged with the unlawful concealment of motorcycle registration, violation of classification and operation of an uninsured motor vehicle.

CPO Michael Goetten stopped a vehicle for a traffic offense in Jersey County. The driver was wanted on an arrest warrant for failure to appear in Madison County court for a traffic offense. His bond was \$1000 (10%).

CPO Michael Goetten checked two fishermen for compliance in Calhoun County. One lied, claiming she was not fishing. While speaking to her, CPO Goetten observed the strong odor of burnt cannabis. A search of her vehicle revealed a pill container with several cannabis joints. She was arrested for possession of cannabis. She was also cited for fishing without a license.

CPO Goetten attended Jerseyville High School for a presentation. He talked to students about duties and responsibilities of CPOs.

## MACOUPIN COUNTY

CPOT Brian Snodgrass and CPO Goetten were checking turkey hunters when they encountered a hunter at his vehicle. The hunter told them he was the only one hunting the property. A second vehicle was parked next to the subject they were checking. Upon looking in the vehicle they observed an open gun case. CPOT Brian Snodgrass and CPO Goetten located a second hunter who did not have a turkey permit.

CPO Gushleff was checking fisherman at Beaver Dam State Park when he checked a fisherman with several fish. The fisherman was in possession of 6 Largemouth Bass. The possession limit for bass at Beaver Dam State Park is 3. When CPO Gushleff measured the 6 Largemouth Bass, every fish was short of 15inch limit.

## **District 10 – Sgt. Chris Stone**

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

## SANGAMON COUNTY

CPO Swance investigated a subject selling baby raccoons on the Internet. The persons selling, and who took possession, along with the baby raccoons were located. Both subjects were cited and the baby raccoons, that did not have their eyes open yet, were placed with a licensed rehabber.

### **District 13 – Sgt. Eric Manker**

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

## MADISON COUNTY

CPO Liebl was patrolling Horseshoe Lake State Park when he observed two vehicles parked along the lake near a fishing spot. Two people with a small child were observed fishing, while two other people were sitting at the back of one of the vehicles. One of the women behind the vehicle was observed smoking a cannabis cigarette. The woman had brought her grandson to the lake and asked two fishermen, who she had never met, to fish with her grandson. She then went back to her vehicle, out of sight of the newly found friends, and began smoking cannabis. Additional amounts of cannabis were found in the vehicle after the woman tried to hide it. The woman was charged with possession of 2.5 – 10 grams cannabis.

CPO Liebl assisted Madison County Sheriff's Police in the search of an area where human remains were found. A human skull was found in The Nature Institute near Godfrey. Madison County is handling the investigation.

CPOs Ray, Rolfingsmeier and French responded to a gas explosion in Maryville. They provided response support and directed traffic out of the area.

CPO French was checking fishermen on the Chain O' Rocks Canal. One fisherman did not have a license and subsequently had an active warrant of St Clair County. The subject was arrested and transported to St Clair County Jail.

CPO French stopped a vehicle that was being driven by an individual CPO French knew did not have a license. During the stop CPO French confiscated drug paraphernalia on the passenger. CPO French arrested the driver and passenger and had the vehicle turned over to a valid driver.

## RANDOLPH COUNTY

CPO Charles assisted Randolph County Sheriff's Department and State Police in traffic stop that involved a subject that was armed with a knife that was making threats against the passengers of the vehicle. The subject was safely taken into custody.

CPO Ralph Sievers received a call from the Randolph County Animal Control about a subject who was bitten by a caged raccoon. CPO Sievers met with the victim about the incident. The victim had a cage trap set to trap raccoons and opossums that were eating the feed that was stored in a barn and the eggs of the barnyard geese. The victim captured a raccoon in the cage trap. He turned the cage onto its end and put his fingers through the end of the cage to carry it. The raccoon jumped up and bit his finger. The victim was going to have the raccoon tested for rabies but the raccoon escaped from the cage at the vet's office. CPO Sievers issued the victim a written warning for unlawfully trapping and informed the victim that he needed a Wildlife Nuisance Removal Permit before trapping out of season. CPO Sievers documented the area and relayed the information to the Wildlife Biologist for a Nuisance Wildlife Removal Permit review. The Wildlife Biologist agreed to issue the Nuisance Wildlife Removal Permit. The victim is receiving shots for rabies.

During an evening patrol, the afternoon rain had quit and the evening sun was shining. CPO Ralph Sievers was driving the country roads near Schuline. On the edge of town, CPO Sievers observed a boy about 10 years of age wearing a t-

shirt, shorts, and boots and standing along the edge of a ditch. The boy gripped an airsoft pistol in his left hand and an airsoft shotgun in his right hand with both guns resting on his hips. CPO Sievers pulled up to talk with the boy and a boy about 7 years of age climbed out of the watery ditch. This boy was wearing a t-shirt, shorts and boots and was holding a beer bottle. The bottle's label was riddled with small holes. CPO Sievers asked the boys what they were doing. The younger boy proudly stated that they were shooting frogs. The older boy began shaking his head no and stated that they were not shooting frogs. CPO Sievers enthusiastically asked the boys how many frogs had they shot. The oldest boy pointed down the ditch and stated that there was a big frog over there. The oldest boy then stated that he shot the frog but he got away. CPO Sievers smiled at the boys and told them to be careful and have fun before he drove off.

## ST. CLAIR COUNTY

CPO Rolfingsmeier was working Frank Holten State Park. When he was approached by a site worker who was concerned about two individuals who looked like they were lying very still in a parked car. CPO Rolfingsmeier completed a wellness check on the individuals and one individual was wanted on a warrant out of Venice. The subject was arrested and taken to jail.

CPO Schachner received a complaint of possible hunting without permission on a property with numerous turkeys. The day before turkey season opened, a bag of turkey decoys, a hunting seat and shooting rest were found stashed in the timber along a remote field edge. CPO Schachner returned early the next morning and concealed himself nearby. The trespassing hunter and his "videographer" arrived and set up the decoys and began calling to the numerous turkeys gobbling in the immediate area. CPO Schachner introduced himself and verified the hunter did not have permission and was also illegally using his free landowner tag on his neighbor's property. The hunter admitted hunting deer and turkey the last 8-10 years with his landowner's tags on his neighbor's property. He was cited for hunting without permission and hunting without a valid permit.

CPO Schachner and CPOT Knop received a complaint call of a subject illegally shooting a turkey off the roost. They arrived on-scene and spoke with three hunters in a ground blind in an open field with turkey decoys set up. The hunters stated they roused two gobblers the previous evening and set up early that morning about 100 yards from turkeys. Just prior to legal shooting light, a subject they recognized (who did not have permission to be on/hunt the property) intentionally walked across the field directly past them. He ignored them when they asked what he was doing, and he went to the edge of the woods. Upon hearing the turkeys gobble, he stepped into the woods and shot twice at exactly 6:00 am. The hunters stated he did not return from the woods and they saw his truck leaving about a ½ hour later. CPOT Knop and CPO Schachner carefully scoured the timber and surrounding area and located sufficient evidence to corroborate the complaint. Unfortunately, the lengthy search and subsequent statements essentially ruined what might have remained of the hunt for the hunters who witnessed the violation. However they remained patient, polite and helpful. CPO Ray joined the officers and after obtaining written witness statements, the officers located the poacher at his residence. Additional evidence in the poacher's yard and in the brush behind his next door neighbors back fence (discovered by CPO Ray) revealed he disposed of the turkey before the officers arrived. The poacher initially denied hunting at all and throughout the entire interview was stubbornly deceptive and dishonest with nearly every aspect of his poaching. However, the evidence and witness statements were overwhelming and CPOT Knop obtained a confession from the poacher who admitted that one of the reasons he poached the turkey was out of greediness/selfishness to prevent the other hunters from having an opportunity at the turkey. CPO Schachner was able to recover the mature tom turkey several miles away in the backyard of a friend of the poacher. The turkey and the poacher's shotgun were seized as evidence and the poacher received four citations: unlawful take/possession of a wild turkey; no valid turkey permit; shooting a turkey off the roost before 7 am; and hunting without landowner's permission. He also received a written warning for obstructing Conservation Police Officers in the course of duty. The following day, CPO Schachner received a grateful text and successful hunt photo from the witness hunters who were able to harvest a turkey the next day.

CPO Ray arrested a subject operating a 50 hp motor on a 10 hp only lake at Peabody River King. The subject thought it was approved for him to operate his 50 hp motor at a low speed. The subject was informed of his error in judgement.

CPO Schachner and CPOT Knop received a complaint of possible illegal turkey hunters along the riverfront. Upon checking the hunters, they discovered numerous violations; which for one hunter could be attributed to inexperience but for the other, it was more likely due to a casual regard for game laws. One of the hunters was cited for unlawfully possessing deer slugs while turkey hunting and the other hunter was cited for failure to tag a turkey which he killed several days earlier. Each of them also received multiple warnings for littering, failure to have hunting license/stamps and crossbow authorization in possession, turkey hunting without a valid permit, uncased gun and entering private property to retrieve game without landowner's permission.

#### WASHINGTON COUNTY

CPO Charles spoke to multiple groups of students at the Okawville Grade School. The school was educating their students about different topics for earth day. CPO Charles talked about resource protection and the role of a Conservation Police Officer in the protection of our natural resources.

CPO Charles was on boat patrol at the Washington County State Recreation Area checking fishermen. Upon checking a pair of fishermen in a boat, CPO Charles detected a strong smell of cannabis from the boat. CPO Charles found a small amount of cannabis on one of the fishermen and a glass pipe that was used to smoke the cannabis.

### **REGION 5 – Captain Tim Daiber**

#### **District 14 – Sgt. Jeff Cariens**

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

#### FRANKLIN COUNTY

CPO Marc Folden and Sgt. Cariens were on a work boat at Rend Lake checking boaters. Six boaters were issued written warnings for miscellaneous boating violations. Sgt. Cariens cited a fisherman for failure to release a short largemouth bass and no sport fishing license. He was also issued two written warnings for minor boat violations.

CPO Lay assisted several agencies after the pursuit of a subject wanted for burglary, vehicle theft, car-jacking, and fleeing from police.

CPO Lay completed a requested boat inspection. A Franklin County boat owner requested the inspection on a 1960's model Jon boat (which had no make or hull identification number), in order to attempt to register the boat for us on public waters.

CPO Lay checked two anglers at the West Frankfort "New Lake". One subject was found to be wanted on a felony probation violation warrant out of Missouri. The Missouri man was arrested without incident on the warrant, as well as being issued a citation for fishing without a non-resident fishing license.

CPO Lay issued 6 citations this reporting period to anglers fishing Rend Lake, and public waters in Franklin County for fishing without a license.

#### GALLATIN COUNTY

CPO Schoenhoff assisted a wildlife biologist with the annual spotlight survey.

CPOs Johnson, Jourdan and Schoenhoff continued working on timber buyer inspections.

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Sgt. Cariens cited a man for driving off-road at the Ten Mile Creek Eads Unit in a truck. One of the groups stopped on ATVs was a family with a young operator on the ATV. They were given written warnings and followed home. About 10 minutes later he saw them operating on the road and on an operating railroad track right of way. The older man was cited for operating on the railroad.

CPO Jourdan issued two citations for operating an ATV on Department Lands at the Rend Lake SW&W area after turkey hunters at Ryder Bottoms complained about 4-wheelers riding up to their set-up.

**District 15 – Sgt. Dave Hyatt**

**(Counties: Clay, Crawford, Edwards, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Lawrence, Marion, Richland, Wabash & Wayne)**

CRAWFORD COUNTY

CPO Smith was working Crawford County Conservation Area and found a vehicle sitting in a parking lot with expired registration and a cracked windshield. The driver was not in the vehicle. CPO Smith waited for the individual to return. The individual was walking dogs that were not leashed. CPO Smith issued a written warning for unleashed dogs, expired registration, and cracked windshield.

CPO Smith issued a citation to a subject for mushroom hunting before 1 p.m. at the Crawford County Conservation Area.

Sgt. Hyatt reports the disposition on a lifetime license fraud case. An Alabama subject falsified applications for himself and two sons in 2002. They have been buying resident deer and turkey permits since then. The father pleaded guilty and paid \$5,000.00 dollars to the Conservation Police Operations Assistance fund.

EFFINGHAM COUNTY

CPO Smith was enforcing sport fish regulations and observed a fisherman fishing an Interstate pond. The fisherman did not have a valid sport fish license. CPO Smith issued him a written warning.

CPO Smith issued a citation to a ginseng hunter for hunting ginseng out of season, and a citation for hunting ginseng without a license.

JASPER COUNTY

CPO Taylor issued citations to two subjects for hunting mushrooms prior to 1 p.m. at Newton Lake State Fish and Wildlife area during turkey season.

CPO Smith and CPOT Roper conducted a random inspection on a timber buyer. All records for 2014-15 were inspected. CPO Smith did not find any discrepancies with their records.

CPO Smith and CPOT Roper were working Newton Lake State Park and observed a vehicle sitting in a parking lot. The vehicle did not have a hunter's windshield card displayed. CPO Smith figured the person(s) were in the woods mushroom hunting prior to 1:00 p.m. CPO Smith and CPOT Roper eventually found the individual. The individual admitted to mushroom hunting when asked. CPO Smith issued a citation for violating the park law.

CPO Smith issued a written warning to a person for failing to keep records on hand as a wild game and bird breeder permit holder. The individual's brother actually kept the records at his residence. He is a licensed game breeder as well.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

CPO Taylor issued a citation to a subject hunting mushrooms in Red Hill State Park prior to 1 p.m. during turkey season.

## MARION COUNTY

CPO Smith and CPOT Roper were working at Forbes Lake State Park. The officers observed two vehicles sitting in a parking lot. The vehicles did not have a windshield card displayed. CPO Smith waited for the individuals to return. All four individual were hunting mushrooms prior to 1:00 p.m. CPO Smith issued written warnings to each for violating this law. There were no signs displayed telling people they could not mushroom hunt prior to 1:00 p.m... CPO Smith issued a citation to the driver of one of the vehicles for expired registration and written warning for failing to show proof of insurance.

CPO Holland and CPOT Roper taught at a hunter safety course in Marion County. Topics discussed were hunter safety, the duties of a game warden in the state of Illinois, and hunting regulations.

CPO Holland and CPOT Roper conducted a boat patrol on Raccoon Lake in Centralia. They issued 1 citation and 5 written warnings for boating violations. While trailering the boat patrol CPO Holland observed a vehicle traveling down Country Club Road in Centralia and park in the Raccoon Lake Boat Launch Parking Lot. The vehicle had no front license plate. CPO Holland spoke with the driver of the vehicle and found the driver to have revoked driving privileges and no valid insurance on the vehicle. The driver of the vehicle was arrested and taken to Marion County jail.

While checking boaters at Sam Dale Conservation Area in Wayne County CPO Holland and CPOT Roper observed a boat with two young children not wearing life jackets. One citation was issued.

While conducting routine fishing license checks at Forbes Lake State Park CPO Holland and CPOT Roper encountered an individual with an active warrant. The individual was placed under arrest and taken to Marion County jail.

### **District 16 – Sgt. Kris Taylor**

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

Nothing reported.