



**NJDEP Fish and Wildlife**  
**Monthly Highlights**  
**Bureau of Law Enforcement**  
**July 21, 2023 to August 20, 2023**

Frank Panico, Chief  
Jason Snellbaker, Deputy Chief  
Douglas Applegate, Deputy Chief  
Linda Quirk, Captain - Administration  
Joseph Soell, Lieutenant - Administration  
Robert Driscoll, Lieutenant - Training

**Northern Region** (908) 735-8240  
Joseph Kuechler, Captain  
Jordan Holmes, Lieutenant (District 1)  
Brice Paey, Lieutenant (District 2)  
Hannah Koch, Agency Services Representative

**Central Region** (609) 259-2120  
Shannon Martiak, Captain  
Andrew Riviello, Lieutenant (District 3)  
Sean McManus, Lieutenant (District 4)  
Shari Irick, Technical Assistant 2

**Southern Region** (856) 629-0555  
Paul Toppin, Captain  
Zane Batten, Lieutenant (District 5)  
Craig James, Lieutenant (District 6)  
Sue Canale, Agency Services Representative

**Marine Region** (609) 748-2050  
Brian Scott, Captain  
Chris Moscatiello, Lieutenant (District 7)  
Ryan Harp, Lieutenant (District 8)  
Chris Petrucci, Lieutenant (District 9)  
Noreen White, Agency Services Representative

Conservation Officers report a total of 7,132.1 hours of duty (7,128.6 - 2022) These hours are charged to the following categories of duty:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Law Enforcement	4,891.0	4,949.4
Fishing	1,210.1	1,173.9
Marine Resources	1,313.4	1,731.0
Hunting	29.1	34.9
Deer Hunting	19.4	16.0
Trapping	13.2	0.0
Wildlife Mgt. Areas	502.8	487.6
NG & Endangered Species	195.7	123.3
Court	59.1	55.1
Regional Meetings	0.0	0.0
Pollution Investigation	44.0	14.2
Training	1,479.6	1,510.2
Other Law Enforcement	600.8	405.3
Administration	1,883.8	1,761.5
Fish Management	2.0	3.5

Wildlife Management	70.5	57.7
Information & Education	116.5	141.1
Bear Control	14.5	9.0
Bear Patrol & Invest	22.1	15.0

During patrols, officers performed 4280 field inspections (4916 - 2022) of hunters, fishermen or trappers and the resultant caseload is tabulated.

#### Law Enforcement Regions

	<u>North</u>	<u>Central</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>Marine</u>	<u>Admin</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>2022</u>
Summonses Issued	35	30	107	108	0	280	285
Criminal Arrests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Warnings Issued	2	0	0	45	0	47	28
Bear Feeding Warns Issued	0	0	0	0	0	0	3

#### Field Inspections By Region

Administration	0
Northern Region	280
Central Region	277
Southern Region	1706
Marine Region	2017
<b>Total</b>	<b>4280</b>

#### Field Inspections By Activity

Hunters	6
Freshwater Anglers	476
Trappers	3
Commercial Fishermen	40
Marine Rec. Anglers	1750
WMA non hunt/fish	825
Other	460

Listed below are the types of summonses issued:

	<u>North</u>	<u>Central</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>Marine</u>	<u>Admin</u>
Fishing	25	4	4	0	0
Hunting	0	0	0	0	0
Waterfowl Hunting	0	0	0	0	0
Deer Hunting	0	0	0	0	0
Trapping	0	2	4	0	0
WMA	6	19	83	0	0
Striped Bass	0	0	0	0	0
Shellfish	3	0	0	29	0
Marine-Commercial	0	0	0	3	0
Marine-Recreational	0	0	12	75	0
Nongame & Exotic	0	0	1	0	0
Title 58	0	0	0	0	0
Title 39	0	5	2	0	0
Other	1	0	0	1	0
Bear Hunting	0	0	0	0	0
Bear Feeding	0	0	0	0	0
Marine Striped Bass	0	0	0	0	0
Title 2C	0	0	1	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>0</b>



Penalties collected during this report period by Conservation Police Officers: \$33752.00

Call volume (reports of violations, general questions, requests for assistance, etc.) received at region offices:

North	104
Central	224
South	156
Marine	187
<b>Total Calls Received</b>	<b>671</b>

Bureau of Law Enforcement personnel status as of Aug 20, 2023

Administration - 9

- 1 Chief
- 2 Deputy Chiefs
- 1 CPO II Training
- 2 CPO I Training
- 1 CPO III Admin
- 1 CPO II Admin
- 1 CPO I Admin

Northern Region - 12

- 1 CPO III
- 2 CPO II
- 5 CPO I
- 3 RCT
- 1 ASR

Central Region - 11

- 1 CPO III
- 2 CPO II
- 4 CPO I
- 3 RCT
- 1 TA 2

Southern Region - 11

- 1 CPO III
- 2 CPO II
- 7 CPO I
- 1 ASR

Marine Region - 15

- 1 CPO III
- 3 CPO II
- 9 CPO I
- 1 RCT
- 1 ASR

Special Investigations Unit - 2

- 1 CPO III
- 1 CPO II
- 0 CPO I

Total Employees: 60

Northern Region Highlights

Northern Region Officers focused on public outreach in August and made appearances at several events. National Night Out was represented by an officer at five different towns to answer questions about Conservation Law Enforcement and explain our daily responsibilities. The Fish and Wildlife Education Trailer was also set up at the Warren County Fair for three days and CPOs interacted with hundreds of children and their families. The experience was so positive that we have been invited to return for the full week in 2024. While CPOs were at the Warren County Fair, a member of the Hunterdon County Fair board saw the display and requested our presence. Plans are in place to spend four days at the Hunterdon County Fair in late August. CPOs also spent a day at the Kearny Junior Police Academy and Rockaway Day. These events are extremely important to educate the public on what we do and continue to build strong relationships with members of our communities.

### Central Region Highlights

CPO Garofalo attended the Pemberton National Night Out and CPO Riviello attended the Burlington Township event.

CPO Jean Mutone has retired after 25 years of service to the sportsmen of the State of New Jersey.

### Southern Region Highlights

CPOs Chillari and Vazquez encountered several dozen individuals on a restricted portion of Winslow WMA where multiple violations were observed including fires, swimming, camping and ATV - off-road use of vehicles. The officers issued 54 summonses for the various infractions.

CPO's Vazquez and Chillari responded to a call for assistance from Winslow Police Department involving an accident of a single vehicle on Winslow WMA. Not long after the officers arrived, they were notified that the victim of the accident had been assaulted by her boyfriend at the accident scene. After interviews were conducted the officers determined that a Domestic Violence assault had occurred and issued the appropriate criminal summonses to the suspect involved. CPO Lt. James and Officer Kille served the temporary restraining order.

Acting on information received anonymously, CPOs Vazquez and Chillari were able to garner information identifying a person habitually dumping solid waste on Winslow WMA. The investigation determined the person dumped debris several times over the past 2 months. He was issued summonses for dumping on a Wildlife Management Area.

### Marine Region Highlights

In 2018, National Marine Fisheries Service designated 13 NJ artificial reef sites as Special Management Zones under the black sea bass and summer flounder fisheries management plan. This measure made it unlawful to deploy pots and traps on NJ artificial reef sites to help eliminate fouling of rod and reel fishing gear and help maintain the intended socioeconomic benefits of artificial reefs. CPO's received a reliable tip that commercial lobster fishing trap gear was deployed unlawfully on the Shark Reef without buoys or flags to help avoid detection. Over the course of several patrols, CPO's utilized specialized equipment deployed off the P/V Integrity, to locate and retrieve the gear and identify the fisherman it belonged to. The case was referred to National Marine Fisheries Service for Federal enforcement action. CPOs involved in these patrols were Petruccelli, Tomlin, Henderson, Capri and Meyer.