



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

Frank Panico, Chief
Jason Snellbaker, Deputy Chief
Douglas Applegate, Deputy Chief
Thomas O'Rourke, Lieutenant - Training
Robert Driscoll, Training
Linda Quirk, Captain - Administration
Joseph Soell, Lieutenant - Administration
Tyler Hausamann, Administration

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

Central Region (609) 259-2120
Shannon Martiak, Captain
Bryan Mascio, 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
Vacant, Lieutenant (District 7)
Ryan Harp, Lieutenant (District 8)
Chris Petrucci, Lieutenant (District 9)
Noreen White, Agency Services Representative

Conservation Officers report a total of 7,546.1 hours of duty (7,631.8 - 2022)
These hours are charged to the following categories of duty:

	2023	2022
Law Enforcement	5,023.4	5,229.7
Fishing	2,532.3	2,839.4
Marine Resources	1,434.0	1,961.6
Hunting	89.4	79.2
Deer Hunting	22.4	20.1
Trapping	7.5	24.6
Wildlife Mgt. Areas	339.1	341.4
NG & Endangered Species	98.8	25.7
Court	49.1	58.6
Regional Meetings	0.0	89.0
Pollution Investigation	19.8	35.6
Training	1,182.9	630.1
Other Law Enforcement	398.1	687.0

Administration	2,080.1	1,876.9
Fish Management	18.2	14.8
Wildlife Management	34.0	32.9
Information & Education	31.8	88.3
Bear Control	6.5	5.0
Bear Patrol & Invest	30.3	10.0

During patrols, officers performed 4128 field inspections (3741 - 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	80	78	90	66	0	314	367
Criminal Arrests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Warnings Issued	5	2	0	4	0	11	14
Bear Feeding Warns Issued	3	0	0	0	0	3	0

Field Inspections By Region

Administration	0
Northern Region	537
Central Region	887
Southern Region	993
Marine Region	1711
Total	4128

Field Inspections By Activity

Hunters	18
Freshwater Anglers	1779
Trappers	0
Commercial Fishermen	18
Marine Rec. Anglers	1713
WMA non hunt/fish	324
Other	46

Listed below are the types of summonses issued:

	<u>North</u>	<u>Central</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>Marine</u>	<u>Admin</u>
Fishing	56	30	62	0	0
Hunting	3	0	0	0	0
Waterfowl Hunting	0	0	0	0	0
Deer Hunting	0	2	0	0	0
Trapping	0	0	0	0	0
WMA	4	30	22	0	0
Striped Bass	8	1	0	3	0
Shellfish	9	0	0	4	0
Marine-Commercial	0	0	0	0	0
Marine-Recreational	0	4	0	39	0
Nongame & Exotic	0	0	0	0	0
Title 58	0	0	0	0	0
Title 39	0	8	5	0	0
Other	0	3	1	1	0
Bear Hunting	0	0	0	0	0
Bear Feeding	0	0	0	0	0
Marine Striped Bass	0	0	0	19	0



Title 2C	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	80	78	90	66	0

Penalties collected during this report period by Conservation Police Officers: \$22859.50

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

North	154
Central	87
South	175
Marine	168
Total Calls Recieved	584

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

Administration - 8

1 Chief
2 Deputy Chiefs
1 CO II Training
1 CO I Training
1 CO III Admin
1 CO II Admin
1 CO I Admin

Northern Region - 10

1 CO III
2 CO II
6 CO I
1 ASR

Central Region - 9

1 CO III
2 CO II
5 CO I
1 TA 2

Southern Region - 12

1 CO III
2 CO II
8 CO I
1 ASR

Marine Region - 15

1 CO III
2 CO II
11 CO I
1 ASR

Total Employees: 54

Northern Region Highlights

On Monday, April 10, 2023, CPO C. Sikora and CPO A. Sutton were patrolling in Hardyston Township, Sussex County. They pulled into Silver Lake located on Hamburg Wildlife Management Area and immediately witnessed an individual in a kayak catch a rainbow trout. The individual put the trout on a stringer that already had trout on it. CPOs set up surveillance and watched the individual catch and keep 12 additional trout before coming to shore. Upon inspection, the individual was found to possess 21 trout and was subsequently issued three summonses for possessing five trout over the daily limit.

Central Region Highlights

District 3 officers have been frequently patrolling the Delaware River by boat during this year's spring migratory fish season in Burlington and Mercer Counties. During these patrols, CPO's Garofalo and Riviello have issued multiple summonses for violations including taking of alewife and blueback herring, fishing with more than 3 hooks per line, and fishing without a valid license. Additionally, the officers' presence on the water has been welcomed by the fisherman who also have an opportunity to clarify questions on the current fishing regulations.

Following an extensive investigation led by CPO Bickerton involving the illegal dumping of used tires at Manasquan WMA, Brick Township, charges have been filed against the responsible party. More than sixty tires were dumped during a 3-month period. Utilizing covert surveillance equipment and coordinating evidence gathered by Lt. McManus and Technical Assistant Shari Irick, CPO Bickerton established a paper trail and timeline of the suspect's illegal tire disposal enterprise. The suspect was charged with 3 counts of illegal solid waste dumping, served a Notice of Violation for transporting solid waste without a valid permit, and is facing substantial restitution for recovering the NJFW's cleanup costs.

Southern Region Highlights

Officer Faith and CPO Recruit Chillari responded to an illegal fishing complaint at Union Lake dam fish ladder after dark. Upon arrival, the officers took a position of surveillance and observed multiple individuals leaving the area with buckets, a cooler, and a cast net. As the group began walking down the side of the road the officers initiated a field inspection. They immediately observed river herring in a bucket. A few of the individuals fled from the officers into the woods carrying the second container. Millville Police Department was contacted for backup and found the men with the cooler emerging from the woods at a nearby parking lot. In total, the individuals possessed 114 white perch and 22 river herring. Multiple summonses were issued for fishing without a license, possession of fish over the daily limit, possession of river herring and interference with the duties of a Conservation Police Officer.