



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

Frank Panico, Chief  
Jason Snellbaker, Deputy Chief  
Douglas Applegate, Deputy Chief  
Thomas O'Rourke, Lieutenant - Training  
Robert Driscoll -Training  
Alison Sloan -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  
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 7,567.7 hours of duty (7,206.7 - 2022 )  
These hours are charged to the following categories of duty:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
Law Enforcement	5,052.1	4,516.4
Fishing	1,787.3	1,432.1
Marine Resources	1,478.3	1,237.9
Hunting	866.3	770.5
Deer Hunting	2.3	13.9
Trapping	8.5	12.5
Wildlife Mgt. Areas	324.9	213.1
NG & Endangered Species	249.0	40.9
Court	46.8	41.1
Regional Meetings	0.0	41.3
Pollution Investigation	23.0	46.3



Training	465.0	385.8
Other Law Enforcement	687.6	1,031.5
Administration	2,088.5	2,331.2
Fish Management	0.5	8.0
Wildlife Management	74.8	60.8
Information & Education	56.0	35.1
Bear Control	8.0	22.1
Bear Patrol & Invest	53.8	43.7

During patrols, officers performed 3722 field inspections (3407 - 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	50	79	70	55	0	254	242
Criminal Arrests	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Warnings Issued	10	0	4	3	0	17	7
Bear Feeding Warns Issued	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

#### Field Inspections By Region

Administration	0
Northern Region	499
Central Region	569
Southern Region	721
Marine Region	1933
<b>Total</b>	<b>3722</b>

#### Field Inspections By Activity

Hunters	180
Freshwater Anglers	1060
Trappers	1
Commercial Fishermen	24
Marine Rec. Anglers	1677
WMA non hunt/fish	350
Other	115

Listed below are the types of summonses issued:

	<u>North</u>	<u>Central</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>Marine</u>	<u>Admin</u>
Fishing	35	19	45	0	0
Hunting	7	0	7	0	0
Waterfowl Hunting	0	2	0	0	0
Deer Hunting	0	0	0	0	0
Trapping	3	0	0	0	0
WMA	0	54	10	0	0
Striped Bass	2	0	0	0	0
Shellfish	3	0	0	2	0
Marine-Commercial	0	0	0	1	0
Marine-Recreational	0	0	0	50	0
Nongame & Exotic	0	0	1	0	0
Title 58	0	0	0	0	0
Title 39	0	0	0	0	0
Other	0	4	7	0	0
Bear Hunting	0	0	0	0	0



Bear Feeding	0	0	0	0	0
Marine Striped Bass	0	0	0	2	0
Title 2C	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>0</b>

Penalties collected during this report period by Conservation Police Officers: \$17,383.00

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

North	152
Central	395
South	174
Marine	131
<b>Total Calls Received</b>	<b>852</b>

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

Administration - 9

- 1 Chief
- 2 Deputy Chiefs
- 1 CO II Training
- 2 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 - 14

- 1 CO III
- 3 CO II
- 9 CO I
- 1 ASR

Total Employees: 54

Central Region Highlights

On the weekend of May 13 and 14 the Central Region officers were busy on the WMA's. During the two days, they made over 150 contacts with WMA visitors. A total of 43 summons were issued. They included operating a vehicle off the established roadway, unregistered vehicles, alcoholic beverages, and entering a WMA after legal hours. During one encounter, the officers apprehended approximately 30 illegal campers who were concluding an all-night party in one of the fields. This group consisted of residents from MA, NY, PA, CT, and NJ.

### Southern Region Highlights

In November of 2022 CPO Malinski received a description of a vehicle involved in the illegal dumping of trash on the Great Egg Harbor River WMA in Weymouth Township. In May of 2023, CPO Malinski discovered a vehicle matching the description parked within 1 mile of the location where the trash was dumped. Upon interviewing the owner, he gave a full confession. The owner was issued summonses for dumping trash under NJSA Title 13 and Title 23.

CPO Kille conducted a targeted enforcement effort to address the rising number of freshwater fishing complaints. The patrols were primarily performed on the weekends focusing on the tidal tributaries of the Delaware River in Gloucester and Camden counties. Over 200 inspections were completed with 56 summonses issued; 53 issued for fishing without a license, 1 issued for possessing largemouth bass closed season, 1 issued for possessing trout without a trout stamp and 1 issued for trespass for the purpose of fishing.

### Marine Region Highlights

In early May, CPO Capri and Lt. Harp conducted an overnight boat patrol and observed a vessel traveling across Barnegat Bay in the dark without using navigational lights. CPO Capri and Lt. Harp were able to follow the trail of bubbles left by the vessel and establish the general direction of travel. CPO Capri and Lt. Harp began searching the area and found three gillnets, each 300-feet in length, which were set and actively fishing in the bay. Before dawn, the suspect returned to the nets and began hauling them onto his vessel. CPO Capri and Lt. Harp, who had been waiting in the dark for several hours at this point, apprehended the individual. The three nets, containing white perch, striped bass, bluefish, horseshoe crabs, menhaden, gizzard shad, and blue crabs, were seized. The individual responsible is facing multiple counts of unauthorized use of a gillnet, failure to properly mark gillnet, failure to mark nets with identification, failure to mark gillnet stake, taking of striped bass with net, possession of horseshoe crab with gillnet, and failure to utilize navigational lights at night.