

FWC DIVISION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT FIELD OPERATIONS

**WEEKLY REPORT
August 28 – September 3, 2009**

This report represents some events the FWC handled over the past week; however, it does not include all actions taken by the Division of Law Enforcement.

NORTHWEST REGION

ESCAMBIA COUNTY

Officer Keith Clark checked a commercial vessel as it returned to the dock in Perdido Key. After checking their safety gear, Officer Clark found that one of the individuals on the vessel had an active warrant for trespassing. The individual was transported to the Escambia County Jail.

Officer Andy Maltais checked an individual at the Lexington Pier on the Naval Air Station. The individual was found in possession of an oversize red drum. Officer Maltais issued a notice to appear citation for the violation.

Officer Keith Clark checked a vessel in the Pensacola Pass and asked the vessel operator if he had caught any fish. The subject replied, "No." During the inspection, however, Officer Clark discovered three red snapper. Red snapper season is closed at this time and the bag limit is two. Notice to appear citations were issued for the violations.

Officer Faris Livesay was on patrol at the Galvez boat ramp. He observed a vessel return to the ramp and conducted a fisheries inspection. The operator was in possession of a 15-inch redfish and did not have a saltwater fishing license. The subject was issued a notice to appear for the undersize redfish and a written warning for the license violation.

Officer Keith Clark checked an individual selling shrimp on Saufley Field Road in Escambia County. The individual did not have a retail license to sell the shrimp. A notice to appear citation was issued for the violation.

Officer Keith Clark checked a fishing vessel as it returned through the Pensacola Pass. The vessel operator was found in possession of 24 undersize trigger fish. The individual was issued a notice to appear citation for the violation.

Officers Joe Murphy and Andy Berrey were patrolling in the Old River near Big Lagoon State Park when they observed two subjects fishing from a kayak. During the inspection, the man produced a 10½-inch spotted sea trout. He also did not have any life jackets on board. A notice to appear citation was issued for the undersize trout and a citation was issued for failure to possess the required life jackets.

Lieutenant Dan Hahr was conducting enhanced patrol in the Frank Reeder section of Perdido Wildlife Management Area when he observed a truck stop short of the intersection he was approaching. When Lieutenant Hahr reached the intersection, he stopped the driver and asked a question. After smelling a strong odor of an alcoholic beverage on the driver's breath, Lieutenant Hahr gained consent to search the truck and immediately noticed fine pieces of cannabis and a paper clip with cannabis residue on it. A further search revealed a pill bottle with cannabis residue inside. The operator

of the truck admitted that the items were his. The search failed to produce any alcoholic beverages. Lieutenant Hahr issued the driver a notice to appear for possession of drug paraphernalia. The driver was assessed for possible impairment and then released.

Officers Fred Rondeau and Keith Clark were sitting at a traffic light in Gulf Breeze. When the light turned green, the two vehicles in front of their marked patrol vehicle accelerated to a high speed across the Pensacola Bay Bridge and appeared to be racing. The speed limit on the bridge is 45 miles per hour. Both vehicles were stopped and the drivers were issued notice to appear citations for racing.

Officer Keith Clark received a favorable verdict in a jury trial involving a derelict vessel. The owner of a 25-foot sailboat was found guilty of leaving a vessel in a derelict/junked condition. The penalty phase hearing is scheduled to occur later this month.

SANTA ROSA COUNTY

Officer Joe Murphy was on patrol in the area of the Archie Glover boat ramp when he observed two subjects fishing from the bank. When Officer Murphy asked them if they had caught any fish, one replied that he caught a little flounder and asked how big it was supposed to be. Upon inspection, the fish measured 10½ inches long. The subject was cited for possession of undersize flounder.

SANTA ROSA COUNTY COPS

Officer Joe Murphy taught the laws portion of a Hunter Education class conducted at Avalon Middle School.

OKALOOSA COUNTY

Officer Matt Webb checked vessels for compliance with fishery regulations in Destin Pass. A fishery inspection revealed undersize trigger fish onboard one vessel. The vessel captain had been warned earlier during the summer for possessing illegal size fish. He was cited for the fish violation. Other fishery inspections resulted in citations being issued for possession of undersize red grouper and trigger fish.

WALTON COUNTY

FWC officers assigned to Walton, Okaloosa, and Bay Counties assisted with a fugitive search in southern Walton County. The subject, wanted for armed robbery out of Texas, exchanged gunfire with Walton County deputies during a traffic stop. After leading deputies on a chase, the subject abandoned his vehicle and entered a wooded area between U.S. Highway 98 and the south end of Choctawhatchee Bay. FWC officers assisted with establishing a perimeter of the water area and assisted Walton and Okaloosa County deputies, Florida Highway Patrol (FHP), Department of Transportation (DOT), and Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) officers with maintaining the perimeter on interior roads. FWC Aviation helicopter assisted with a

search of the areas, especially islands and small creeks along the south end of Choctawhatchee Bay. The Northwest Region Special Operations Group (SOG) was activated and provided high risk tracking security for K-9 teams from Department of Corrections and County Sheriff's agencies, with searches of woodlands near residential areas. The NW Region SOG was later joined by members of the Special Response Team from the Bay County Sheriff's Department. Areas were searched and secured for the night. On the next day the fugitive was spotted. When deputies closed in, the subject shot himself.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

Officer Warren Walsingham responded with his patrol vessel to assist the Washington County Sheriff's Office in a search for a runaway child on Holmes Creek near Vernon.

Officer Warren Walsingham investigated and direct filed two misdemeanor charges with the State Attorney's Office against a Washington County resident for the illegal taking of alligator. The charges stemmed from the illegal dumping of two alligator carcasses in a rural area and the resulting investigation.

BAY COUNTY

Officer Joe Chambers was on patrol in the Pine Log Wildlife Management Area when he observed a subject at a campsite smoking the last of his methamphetamine. When confronted, the subject produced a glass pipe and a small amount of cannabis. The subject also was consuming alcohol which is prohibited in the management area. Citations were issued.

GULF COUNTY

While working on St. Joe Bay, Officer Hal Webb stopped a vessel to conduct a marine fisheries inspection. The captain and two occupants had a 5- gallon bucket of whole scallops in plain view. Officer Webb asked them if that was all the scallops they had on board and they replied, "Yes". Officer Webb then asked if they had any shucked scallop meat. After a long pause, one individual answered "Yes" and pulled out a water bottle full of shucked scallop meat out of a cooler and quickly closed the lid. Officer Webb instructed him to re-open the cooler and discovered a second water bottle full of shucked meat. One person took responsibility of the 3.5 gallons of whole scallops over their bag limit and a citation was issued.

Officer Arnie McMillion stopped a vessel on St. Joe Bay to conduct a marine fisheries inspection. He asked the occupants of the vessel if they had any scallops and they advised him they did and showed him a 5-gallon bucket containing approximately four gallons of whole scallops. The captain of the vessel also showed the officer an ice chest containing more scallops. He advised Officer McMillion that the ice chest was half full of ice and only the top half contained scallops. When Officer McMillion searched the ice chest, he found four water bottles frozen underneath the scallops. Officer McMillion

then measured the scallops which totaled eight gallons. This gave them 12 gallons total for the vessel. There were four occupants on board, which put them four gallons over their limit. Officer McMillion issued citations for over-the-bag limit of bay scallops.

Officers Hal Webb and Arnie McMillion were notified of a capsized kayak several hundred yards south of St. Joe Beach with the occupant in the water. Sea conditions were rough on this particular day, placing the occupant in danger. Through contact with the family, the officers were able to pinpoint the location of the distressed boater. As they approached the man, he was clinging to his kayak waving his paddle in the air. Officer Webb positioned his patrol boat next to the subject and hoisted him to safety. The occupant was exhausted and grateful for his rescue. He was not wearing a life jacket and the officers explained to him the importance of having one. The occupant was taken back to shore where he was reunited with his family.

Later on in the day, Officer Hal Webb stopped a vessel to perform a marine fisheries inspection and found the occupant to be in possession of over-the-daily bag limit of bay scallops. The subject had double the daily bag limit and was issued a citation.

Officers Scott Hoffman and Hal Webb stopped a vessel on St. Joe Bay to conduct a safety/fisheries inspection. The two occupants advised the officers they had a limit of scallops onboard. There were four gallons of scallops in plain view in a 5-gallon bucket. Officer Webb asked the occupants several times if there were any more scallops on board the vessel. The operator told the officers there were no more scallops on board. While searching the vessel, Officer Webb found scallops hidden in two different compartments on the vessel. Two gallons of whole scallops were hidden underneath a seat and one pint of scallop meat was hidden in an ice chest. Both were issued citations for over the limit of scallops. Three gallons of bay scallops were returned back to the water alive.

NORTH CENTRAL REGION

ALACHUA COUNTY

Officers Joseph Johnston and Brad Stanley located a vessel in a remote area in south Alachua County. The officers observed that the Florida registration numbers had been partially removed. After running the vessel numbers through FWC dispatch it was determined the vessel had been stolen out of Putnam County. The registered owner and Sheriff's Office were notified, arrangements were made to pick up the vessel.

BAKER COUNTY

Pilot Joe Johnston was conducting an aircraft detail with FWC and the U.S. Forest Service ground units in and around Osceola Wildlife Management Area to include Columbia, Baker, and Union counties. The night was very busy as multiple users were contacted. Some of the after-dark activities included fox hunting, coon hunting, families

looking for deer, and ATV traffic. One contact by Lieutenant Scott Kihei, Reserve Officer Bill Sargent, and U.S. Forest Service Officers Jim Ellis and Chris Cason involved a subject who Pilot Johnston had been watching for some time. Upon contact on the ground, the subject was in possession of a loaded shotgun, an open alcoholic container, and he was also under 21 years of age. Lieutenant Kihei cited the man for being in possession of the firearm and Officer Cason cited him for the alcohol violations. Other cases included littering, open container and ATV violations.

UNION COUNTY

Officer Bret Gill received information that an eight point buck deer had been shot behind a high fenced area within Union County a few days earlier. His investigation led him to a business location where he interviewed one suspect. The suspect gave a written confession and implicated his friend as well. Investigative Lieutenant David Lee arrived to assist Officer Gill with the second interview. The second subject also gave a full written confession. One man shot the deer and went to gain the help from the other man to retrieve the deer from the pen area. The shooter cleaned the animal and gave some of the meat to his assistant. The shooter had caped the deer head out for mounting. Officer Gill cited both men and seized the meat and the frozen cape.

TAYLOR COUNTY

Officers Dale Wilcox and Chad Albritton arrested a subject on felony molestation of blue crab traps and theft of blue crabs. The officers were conducting surveillance in an area of repeated theft of blue crab traps from a commercial fisherman. From a concealed location, the officers watched a subject retrieve four blue crab traps, remove its contents, tie all four traps into a bundle and then dump them into deeper water. The officers arrested the subject and booked him into Taylor County Jail.

SUWANNEE COUNTY

Officers Matt Tyre and Dennis Sharpe were on water patrol in the Santa Fe River around the Sandy Point boat ramp. A vessel was heading up river when they noticed a small child in the vessel with no personal floatation device on. Upon stopping the vessel Officers Tyre and Sharpe noticed the operator of the vessel was impaired. Officer Tyre had the operator attempt field sobriety tasks, which he failed. The subject was placed into custody and transported to the Suwannee County Jail for operating a boat while impaired. At the jail he had a blood alcohol content of 0.14%. He also received a uniform boating citation for operating a vessel with a child under the age of six without wearing a personal floatation device.

NORTHEAST REGION

BREVARD COUNTY

Officer Ryan Smith and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Officer Jane Whaley received Gold Valor Awards from the Brevard Chamber of Commerce for their heroic efforts in saving the life of a 65-year old man who was thrown from his boat into Mosquito Lagoon. The victim was in the water for over five hours during 40 degree conditions with over 30 knot winds in November of 2008. The officers were honored along with other law enforcement officers and fire fighters during this prestigious event.

INDIAN RIVER COUNTY

Officer Chase Platt made two cases for hunting alligator near the Lake Blue Cypress area.

OSCEOLA COUNTY

While on water patrol on West Lake Toho, Officer Paul Mendez and Lieutenant Guy Carpenter II observed a man and woman tend a jug baited for the purpose of taking an alligator which was not attached to a hand held restraining line and then back away several hundred yards. Officer Mendez issued a notice to appear for the violation.

Later, the officers stopped another set of alligator hunters to conduct an inspection of their licenses and permits. During the inspection, Officer Mendez found the hunters in possession of a .22 caliber rifle while displaying a light in a manner capable of disclosing the presence of fish or wildlife. During post Miranda questioning, the officers determined only the operator and one of his passengers, both Orange County men, knew the gun was on board the boat and they had brought it to hunt alligators. Both men were issued a notice to appear for the violation. The operator was also charged with possession of cannabis less than 20 grams. As the officers completed the paperwork, one of the other passengers began to have a seizure. Officer Mendez tended to the man as they transported him to the nearest boat ramp where they had arranged for emergency medical personnel to meet them.

Officer Caitlyn Staskiewicz received information from the Osceola County Sheriff's Office that an Osceola County man was in possession of several caged rattlesnakes. The subject was found with the snakes during an eradication detail they were conducting on the man's property. Officer Staskiewicz and Lieutenant Carpenter responded and found the man had a Canebrake rattlesnake, an Eastern Diamondback rattlesnake, and two Pygmy rattlesnakes all in a small unlocked aquarium. Officer Staskiewicz photographed the caged snakes, seized them from the man, and issued a notice to appear for four counts of possession of venomous reptiles without a permit and four counts of improperly caged venomous reptiles. The Eastern Diamondback and

the Pygmy rattlesnakes were returned to the wild and the Canebrake rattlesnake was turned over to a facility equipped to keep it.

ST JOHNS COUNTY

Officer Jesse Lee observed three individuals displaying a light at night and placing baited free floating jugs in the St Johns River. Upon inspection, it was found that the three St John's County men were not part of the Statewide Alligator Hunt and numerous large harpoons were found in the boat. The men were charged with attempting to take alligator.

VOLUSIA COUNTY

Officer Audrey Zahn coordinated an operational detail with Officers Clay McDonough, Don Meurlot and Pilot Lieutenant George Waldeck. The detail was the end result to rid the coastal waters of abandoned/ghost crab traps. Weeks earlier, Waldeck flew the FWC helo with Officer Zahn and Georgia Zern, who is with Volusia County Environmental Services. Over 60 traps were located and marked for removal. On the 28th (the last day of the 10-day crab trap closure in this county), FWC, Volusia County Sheriff's Office and partners with Volusia County Environmental Services used the FWC helo and several vessels to complete the removal process. Over 100 traps were removed and destroyed. Criminal charges are pending to a commercial crab harvester who apparently ignored the closure.

USCG Station Ponce de Leon Inlet hosted the Northeast Maritime Law Enforcement Alliance meeting. Approximately fifty people from several agencies attended. Several federal, state, county and local departments were represented. This meeting is used to discuss maritime issues where concurrent jurisdictions overlap and it allows law enforcement and non-law enforcement entities to discuss and improve services in areas of mutual concern.

SOUTHWEST REGION

CHARLOTTE COUNTY

Officers Jason Cooke and Adam Resnick were conducting vessel safety inspections at Lasley Park when they observed an individual approach the dock in a vessel, exit the vessel and retrieve a truck and trailer. After the individual backed his trailer down the boat ramp, another occupant onboard maneuvered the vessel onto the trailer. The officers approached the vessel and detected signs of impairment from both operators. The individuals were given field sobriety tasks and were subsequently arrested for boating under the influence (BUI). They were booked into the Charlotte County Jail, where one of the individuals refused a breath test and the other agreed to submit to a breath test, which produced a result of .089 and .091 BAC.

DESOTO COUNTY

Officers Matt Prowant and Clint Thompson observed an individual displaying a spotlight from a vehicle in a manner capable of disclosing deer from a county road. When the officers attempted to conduct a traffic stop, the operator accelerated the engine and fled the area. Officers Prowant and Thompson followed the vehicle and observed the occupants throw a gun and other items from the vehicle. The officers conducted a traffic stop and apprehend the individuals. While searching the operator, officers located several knives, as well as a can of pepper spray and brass knuckles. The operator was charged with possession of a concealed weapon and fleeing to elude. Other possible charges are pending.

From a concealed location, Officer Jordan Hilliard observed two individuals with dogs enter an orange grove near a county road. After Officer Hilliard confronted the subjects, they began running through the grove. Officer Hilliard chased and caught one of the individuals, who was subsequently arrested for trespass, resisting without violence and attempting to take wildlife from the county right-of-way.

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

Officers Ken Thompson and Jacob Ahlers conducted a fishery inspection on an individual in a canoe at Cockroach Bay. The occupant told the officers that he had only caught catfish, but after opening a cooler in the vessel, the officers discovered a 20 inch snook. The subject was issued a notice to appear.

LEE COUNTY

Investigator Larry Gregory charged a father and son from Cape Coral with a combination of 37 misdemeanor charges relating to the unlawful possession of American alligators, reptiles of concern and venomous reptiles. On June 14th, while investigating a domestic violence complaint, Cape Coral Police Department officers were given consent to search a Cape Coral home. During the search for weapons, officers discovered five live alligators, six pythons and an Eastern Diamondback rattlesnake within the home. FWC officers responded to the scene and determined that the subjects were not permitted to possess the reptiles and requested assistance from FWC investigators. FWC Investigators responded and searched the residence, then conducted interviews. Investigators seized a journal documenting 92 alligator captures, numerous photographs of alligators being captured, a laptop computer, and two outboard motors without serial numbers, five alligators and a rattlesnake. The alligators and rattlesnake were relocated and released alive on FWC management property. Investigators secured a search warrant for the laptop and conducted a forensic analysis discovering numerous video recordings depicting one of the individuals capturing alligators. Several videos were also discovered posted on the internet site "YouTube." This was the second time investigators had cited one of the subjects for possession of alligators without a permit.

Officers Justin Koble and Brian Cazalot were on water patrol in Charlotte Harbor, when they observed a commercial netting vessel that had no navigational lights displayed. After the officers stopped the vessel to conduct a safety inspection, they located approximately 700 yards of monofilament gill net and 21 pompano that had been taken with the gill net. The two individuals onboard were arrested for illegal transportation of gill net across state waters and improper marking of nets. The net and fish were seized.

Officers Damian McColgin, Lonnie Sushil, Brian Cazalot, Ronald Perry and Justin Koble participated in a netting enforcement detail. During the detail, the officers observed two vessels operating without navigational lights in Pine Island Sound. The officers watched from a distance as one of the vessel occupants cast a gill net. When the officers approached, the operators of both vessels accelerated the engines, then fled. The officers stopped one of the vessels and found the individuals onboard in possession of commercial quantities of pompano, without having a valid saltwater products license. Citations were issued for the offenses and approximately 300 pounds of pompano were seized and donated.

Officers Adam Resnick and John Hoover conducted panther patrol on Daniels Parkway. The officers issued five citations for excessive speed, with the highest recorded speed being 76 miles-per-hour in a marked 45 mile-per-hour zone.

Officer Gregory Bryson was on land patrol in the Sanibel Bayou area when he observed a motorcycle in the bushes. From a concealed location, he watched the motorcycle for a short time and observed an individual emerge from the bushes, then attempt to leave the area on the motorcycle. Officer Bryson confronted the individual to conduct a fisheries inspection and located two snook in a backpack, measuring 23 and 26 inches. The subject was issued a notice to appear for possession of snook during closed season, undersize snook and over the bag limit of snook. In addition, he was issued a written warning for failing to have a saltwater fishing license. The fish were returned to the water alive.

Officers Lonnie Sushil, Justin Koble and Brian Cazalot were working net limitation in North Pine Island Sound. Officers Sushil and Koble spotted two vessels together on the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) inside Captiva Pass. After the vessels parted, one accelerated toward Safety Harbor. The officers followed the vessel then stopped it near Barnacle Phil's Restaurant. Onboard the vessel the officers found 170 pompano with net marks on them, but no fishing gear. The operator was charged with over the bag limit of pompano. The fish were seized and donated to Care and Rehabilitation of Wildlife facility (C.R.O.W.) due to the unwholesome condition (no ice).

MANATEE COUNTY

Officer Louis Hinds was patrolling the South Skyway Bridge area when he observed a subject harvesting stone crabs. An inspection of the catch revealed that the subject was in possession of 25 whole stone crabs, 12 of which were egg bearing. The subject was cited appropriately.

Officer Louis Hinds was patrolling the South Skyway Bridge and observed a subject harvesting stone crabs. This subject was in possession of 100 claws during the closed season, 65 of the claws were undersize. The appropriate citations were issued.

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY

Officer Matt Ervin was conducting airboat patrol during the early morning hours near Starvation Slough in the Kissimmee River Public Use Area, when he observed several subjects in an airboat kill two alligators. When Officer Ervin made contact with the hunters, one of the individuals, an agent for the permitted hunter, quickly attached a harvest tag to one of the alligators before Officer Ervin could stop him. The permitted hunter received a notice to appear in court for failing to tag the alligator as required by law. The agent was charged for failing to tag the alligator by direct filing charges with the Okeechobee County State's Attorney.

PINELLAS COUNTY

Lieutenant Edward Prouty investigated a single vessel accident which destroyed two docks on Treasure Island and resulted in minor injuries. After interviewing the operator, it was apparent that the individual was impaired. Field sobriety tasks were performed, which the operator unsuccessfully completed. After the individual was arrested for boating under the influence, a subsequent breath test produced a result of .14 BAC. The operator was transported and booked into the Pinellas County Jail.

Officer Richard Schefano arrested a subject for boating under the influence after the U.S. Coast Guard stopped the vessel to conduct a boating safety inspection and observed the operator displaying signs of impairment. The subject was transported to the Coast Guard Station where he unsuccessfully completed the field sobriety tasks. Officer Schefano took the subject into custody and transported him to the Pinellas County Jail where his BAC measured .19. Officer Schefano also issued a notice to appear to one of the passengers for obstruction.

Officers Will Widener, Dieter Iten, Bill Holcomb and Lieutenant Grant Burton patrolled offshore, in the Tampa Fin Cat. The officers ranged 50 miles off the Pinellas County coast and inspected several commercial and recreational fishing vessels. One of the recreational vessels inspected was found in possession of American red snapper during the closed season. The appropriate citations were issued.

POLK COUNTY

Officer Kevin Sweat was checking a vessel at the Port Hatchineha boat ramp on Lake Hatchineha and found the occupant in possession of a live fawn deer. The individual claimed he caught the fawn while it was surrounded by alligators in an airboat trail. Officer Sweat issued the individual a notice to appear in court for possession of a fawn deer. The fawn was taken to a local wildlife rehabilitator.

SOUTH REGION A

BROWARD COUNTY

Officer Robert Kuester observed a subject taking snook out of season. When he approached, the subject ran, picked up the black plastic bag that the fish was in and threw it into the inlet. Officer Kuester recovered the bag and snook from the water. The subject was cited for harvesting the oversize snook and for the closed season violation.

Officer Naujoks assisted a Hollywood police officer who was detaining two beach divers who had been caught spearing lobster and undersize hogfish. Officer Naujoks cited one subject for the violations.

Officer Darral Thomason observed and cited six subjects who were taking palmetto berries inside of the Big Cypress Wildlife Management Area.

OKEECHOBEE COUNTY

Lieutenant Chris Harris was notified by the county sheriff's office that deputies were with three subjects who were in possession of two freshly killed, antlerless deer on Berman Road. Lieutenant Harris, Investigator Scott Van Buren, and K9 Officer Cris Douglas and K9 Boone responded to the location. The subjects provided sworn statements regarding the taking of the deer and were subsequently charged with taking deer during the closed season. Two rifles and other articles were seized as evidence.

PALM BEACH COUNTY

An FWC investigator responded to the escape of a nine-foot albino Burmese python in Pahokee. The incident was originally reported to the local police. The owner's son captured the snake and placed it in a cage. The owner did not have the necessary permit to possess the animal and voluntarily relinquished custody of it to FWC investigators. The subject was cited for no locking device on the cage and the escape, while the snake was transferred to a permitted facility.

Officers Amanda Phillips, David Fowler and Jamie Young were on water patrol offshore of Palm Beach. They observed a vessel with one subject on board, following two divers. The officers stopped, inspected the vessel, and discovered undersize and speared lobster. A large cooler also contained several regulated species of fish. The two divers were cited for the lobster violations. Numerous warnings were issued for other fisheries and boating safety violations.

An investigator performed a recent inspection on a reptile of concern (ROC) permit holder. The subject was housing approximately twenty pythons and all the animals were found to be living in unsanitary conditions. Some animals also had no water or substrate in their cage. Other violations were also observed. The subject was cited for

two of the violations and warned for the others. The facility will be re-inspected at a later date.

A subject who was recently arrested for taking a deer during closed season and displaying photos of it on the Internet was recently sentenced in court. The subject entered a plea of No Contest and was ordered to pay costs and fines of \$1,750. Hunting privileges were also revoked for three years.

Officer A.J. Maynard was on water patrol in Lake Okeechobee near Belle Glade, conducting boating safety and fisheries inspections. One inspected subject was found to be in possession of forty-seven bream, three catfish and two undersize black bass. The subject was cited for the bass violation.

SOUTH REGION B

COLLIER COUNTY

Officer Clinton Bean filed charges directly through the Collier County State's Attorney for violations involving snook. While conducting a fisheries inspection in Clam Pass, the officer encountered three subjects with fourteen fish filets in their cooler. The subjects told the officer that the filets were snook and snapper; however, FWC forensics determined that all the fish filets were snook and each filet was from a fish less than eighteen inches in length.