



SOUTH DAKOTA GAME, FISH AND PARKS



**LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM
2017 ANNUAL REPORT**

GAME, FISH AND PARKS ADMINISTRATION

KELLY HEPLER | Department Secretary | Pierre
TONY LEIF | Wildlife Division Director | Pierre
MIKE KINTIGH | Regional Supervisor | Rapid City
MARK OHM | Regional Supervisor | Chamberlain
EMMETT KEYSER | Regional Supervisor | Sioux Falls
MIKE KLOSOWSKI | Regional Supervisor | Watertown

LAW ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

ANDY ALBAN | Law Enforcement Program Administrator | Pierre
JANELLE BLAHA | Shooting Preserve/Permits Coordinator | Pierre
BRANDON GUST | Law Enforcement Training Supervisor | Madison
JOY JOHNSON | Law Enforcement Program Secretary | Pierre
JOE KEETON | Law Enforcement Specialist | Rapid City
BOB LOSCO | Wildlife Investigator Supervisor | Webster
BRUCE NACHTIGALL | Law Enforcement Specialist | Rapid City
NATE STUKEL | Wildlife Investigator | Winner

REGIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION

MIKE APLAND | District CO Supervisor | Spearfish
JOSH CARR | District CO Supervisor | Ft. Pierre
CORY FLOR | District CO Supervisor | Miller
JOE GALBRAITH | District CO Supervisor | Ipswich
DALE GATES | Regional CO Supervisor | Ft. Pierre
ADAM GEIGLE | District CO Supervisor | Rapid City
KRAIG HAASE | Regional CO Supervisor | Watertown
JIM McCORMICK | Regional CO Supervisor | Rapid City
TIM McCURDY | District CO Supervisor | Aberdeen
BRIAN MEIERS | District CO Supervisor | Spearfish
JAMIE PEKELDER | District CO Supervisor | Milbank
MARTY PENNOCK | Regional CO Supervisor | Sioux Falls
JEREMY RAKOWICZ | District CO Supervisor | Sioux Falls
JEREMY ROE | District CO Supervisor | Sioux Falls
STEVE ROSSOW | District CO Supervisor | Chamberlain
SAM SCHELHAAS | District CO Supervisor | Yankton
STEVE VANDERBEEK | Regional Program Manager-Habitat | Sioux Falls



CONSERVATION OFFICERS

DAN ALTMAN | Yankton
TOM BECK | Martin
ADAM BEHNKE | Clear Lake
JENNA CAPPER | Aberdeen
NICK COCHRAN | Aberdeen
TODD CROWNOVER | Tyndall
CHRIS DEKKER | Rapid City
CASEY DOWLER | Britton
SPENCER DOWNEY | Presho
JON DUNLAP | Miller
BILL EASTMAN | Belle Fourche
JEFF EDWARDS | Hill City
ROSS FEES | Faith
LYNN GEUKE | Plankinton
JEFF GRENDLER | Brookings
JAKE HASZ | Rapid City
JARED HILL | Sioux Falls
BRIAN HUMPHREY | Olivet
TYLER KREKELBERG | Ft. Pierre
CHRIS KUNTZ | Sioux Falls
TREVOR LAINE | Mobridge
DIANA LANDEGENT | Chamberlain
KYLE LENZNER | Clark
TRAVIS MARCH | Chamberlain
JEFF MARTIN | Platte
BRYCE McVICKER | Watertown
EVAN MEYER | Howard
JOHN MURPHY | Ft. Pierre
KEITH MUTSCHLER | Lemmon
AUSTIN NORTON | Webster
RYAN PEARSON | Sturgis
SHANE PEDERSEN | Redfield
ANDY PETERSEN | Mitchell
BRAD SALTSMAN | Gettysburg
DARREN SCHROEDER | Hot Springs
DEAN SHULTZ | Sisseton
DAN STERNHAGEN | Estelline
TONY STOKELY | Vermillion
BLAKE SWANSON | Milbank
CODY SYMENS | Madison
MATT TALBERT | Salem
JOSH THOMPSON | Spearfish
ZACH THOMSEN | Philip
RON TIETSORT | Custer
MICHAEL UNDLIN | Webster
SHANE VANBOCKERN | Lake Preston
JOSH VANDENBOSCH | Canton
ERIC VOIGT | Ipswich
HANS WALLESER | Burke
CHAD WILLIAMS | Flandreau

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NEW CONSERVATION OFFICERS



JENNA CAPPER joined the Conservation Officer Training Program in February 2017. Jenna grew up in Waverly, Iowa. She graduated from the University of Northern Iowa with a Bachelor's degree in Criminology and an Associate's degree in Criminal Justice from Hawkeye Community College. Prior to becoming a Conservation Officer, Jenna worked for the Iowa DNR as a naturalist, ATV Patrol Officer, and Water Patrol Officer. After completing the training program, Jenna was assigned to the Aberdeen duty station.



TRAVIS MARCH joined the Conservation Officer Training Program in February 2017. Travis grew up in Custer, South Dakota. He graduated from the University of Wyoming with a Bachelor's degree in Wildlife Biology and Fisheries Management. Prior to becoming a Conservation Officer, Travis worked for Colorado Parks and Wildlife as a Seasonal Boat Ranger and Assistant Fisheries Biologist, Wyoming Game and Fish Department as a Fisheries Intern, and South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks as a Fisheries Intern. After completing the training program, Travis was assigned to the Chamberlain duty station.



SHANE PEDERSEN joined the Conservation Officer Training Program in February 2017. Shane grew up in Hayti, South Dakota. He graduated from South Dakota State University with a Bachelor's degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences. Prior to becoming a Conservation Officer, Shane worked as a Wildlife Damage Intern and a Habitat Intern for the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks. He also worked for Pheasants Forever. After completing the training program, Shane was assigned to the Redfield duty station.

CASE FEATURE: IOWA POACHERS

In August of 2017, Wildlife Conservation Officers from southeast South Dakota finished a case that began in 2014. The case involved six Iowa residents and originated from information received from a Conservation Officer with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. The information involved a trophy class non-typical mule deer unlawfully taken during the 2012 West River deer season. While investigating the original tip, Conservation Officers were able to link several additional members of the hunting party to deer unlawfully taken during the 2011, 2012 and 2015 West River deer seasons in South Dakota.

In March of 2016, Conservation Officers from South Dakota and Iowa worked jointly with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to interview multiple subjects in the state of Iowa. Conservation Officers were able to locate and seize the original trophy class non-typical mule deer along with five other deer unlawfully taken from western South Dakota.

With the assistance of special prosecutor, Paul Bachand, six individuals were charged with offenses ranging from hunting big game without a license, license lending, and unlawful possession of big game. Six deer were forfeited to the State of South Dakota by the defendants along with a criminal fine of \$10,840, \$10,500 in civil damages, and twelve years of hunting revocation.



CASE FEATURE: GRANT COUNTY DEER

On November 6, 2017, District Conservation Officer Supervisor Jamie Pekelder received a call from a Milbank area landowner who had found a whitetail deer with its head cut off in a field. The initial investigation revealed the deer had been shot with a small caliber rifle the night before. The only other evidence at the scene was a set of tire impressions. The tire impressions had a distinct “aggressive” tread pattern.

Pekelder visited with the landowner at his residence near the location of the deer carcass. While at the residence, Pekelder learned the landowner had experienced some vandalism at his farm and the Grant County Sheriff’s office had placed a trail camera near the end of his driveway.

Pekelder contacted the Grant County Sheriff’s office and made arrangements to look at the memory card in the camera, which contained photos of a red Ford F250 pickup with large tires with an “aggressive” tread pattern. Pekelder was able to obtain the brand of tire, and it matched the tread marks left in the field where the deer carcass was located.

The owner of the red Ford F250 pickup was identified and actually lived approximately 3 miles north of the site of the headless carcass. He also kept beehives at the landowner’s property where the deer carcass was found, which indicated he frequently visited the property.

On November 15, 2017, Pekelder and Conservation Officer Blake Swanson went to the suspect’s residence. Upon arrival, the suspect showed the officers the trophy-size 4X4 whitetail buck head and antlers he claimed he shot earlier that day with his bow. While at the residence, the officers noticed several trophy sized deer racks in the suspect’s shop including a large set of 5X5 antlers attached to a skull plate sitting on a tool box. While questioning the suspect about inconsistencies with his story about the large 4X4 deer head behind the garage, he said, “You got me,” and admitted that he had actually shot the whitetail buck with a .223 rifle that morning and cut the head off.

The suspect took Pekelder and Swanson to the site of the kill. At the site was a freshly killed whitetail buck with its head cut off; this was a different deer from the one that the officers were initially talking to him about.

While at the site of the kill, the suspect was asked about the other deer. He admitted that he cut the head off a buck at the site of the first kill from November 6, but claimed he found it dead and said it was a road kill. He told the officers he had the antlers back at his shop sitting on his toolbox. The officers went back to the shop to retrieve the antlers, only to find that they were now broken in half at the skull plate. He later told Pekelder that he had called his wife on the way back to his residence and told her to get rid of the deer rack. She instead broke it in half and left it sitting on the toolbox. She wasn’t too happy with her husband at that time.





At this point, the suspect was done talking to the officers and was sticking to his story about the 5X5 being a road kill. He made a comment that since he found it, he didn't think anything was wrong with taking it, and stated, "Finders keepers."

Pekelder and Swanson collected additional evidence including an AR15 .223 rifle, a whitetail buck deer head with 4X4 antlers, 5X5 antlers attached to a broken skull plate, a partial carcass of a fawn whitetail deer with a mentor turkey tag attached to it and an unused mentor deer tag. The carcass from that morning's kill was also collected along with a knife sheath that was left at the scene.

The officers left the suspect's residence and told him to contact them if he wanted to talk more.

The next day, November 16, he left a voice mail on Pekelder's cell phone indicating he wanted to visit.

He came into Pekelder's office and confessed to killing the 5X5 whitetail buck on November 5, with the same .223 rifle at night using the headlights of his truck. He stated that he shot the whitetail buck and got out of the area quickly. He came back the next day; drove out in the field where the deer laid dead and cut the head off. The landowner noticed the carcass later that afternoon and contacted Pekelder.

The suspect was charged with six Class 1 misdemeanors:

- » 2 counts of closed season big game.
- » 2 counts of no license for big game.
- » 2 counts of illegal possession of big game.

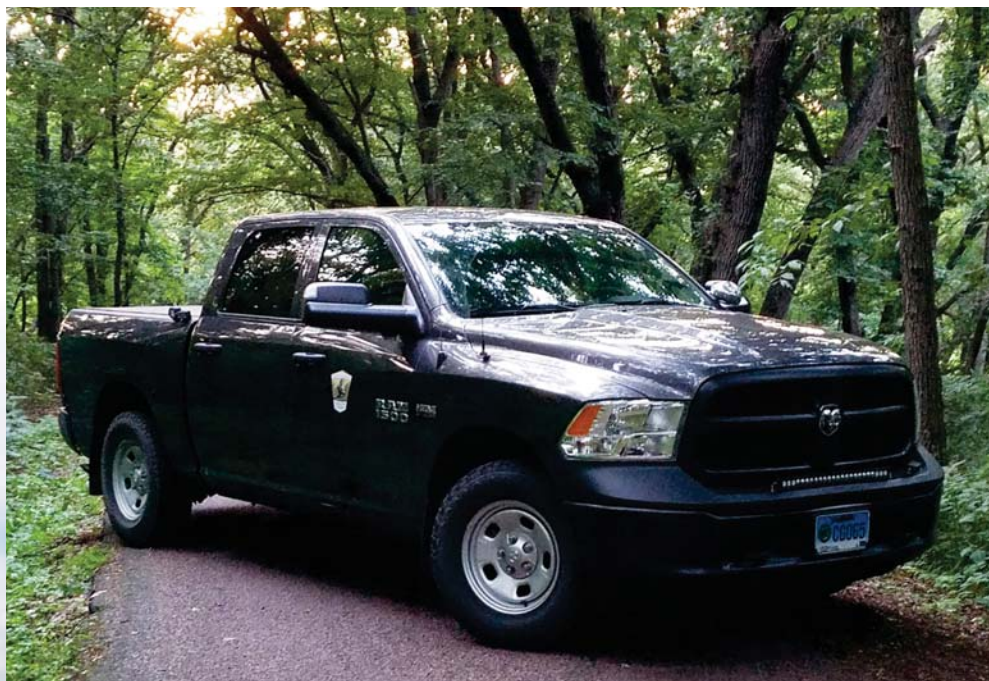
In court, a plea was offered and he pled guilty to three Class 1 misdemeanors.

- » 1 count of closed season big game.
- » 1 count of no license for big game.
- » 1 count of illegal possession of big game.
- » Fines and costs totaled \$1,152
- » Loss of hunting privileges for 3 years
- » Jail: 90 days sentenced, 75 of which were suspended. He had to serve 15 days.
- » Assessed \$6,500 liquidated civil damages by the State of South Dakota.
- » Forfeiture of all accumulated preference points in South Dakota.

The deer antlers involved in the cases were later measured using the Boone and Crockett scoring system. The 4X4 whitetail antlers measured 151 2/8" gross. The 5X5 whitetail deer antlers measured 159 4/8" gross.

GFP PATROL VEHICLE MARKINGS

Conservation Officer patrol vehicles were outfitted with a new design in late 2017. Law enforcement vehicles now display the Conservation Officer badge centered on the doors, instead of the GFP pheasant logo that other agency vehicles display. This is a benefit from an officer safety standpoint. The badge ensures quicker recognition that an officer is operating that particular vehicle. Conversely, this also benefits other law enforcement officers and the general public. The ability to recognize who is approaching, especially under stressful or emergency situations is very important and our previous decals did not distinguish our officers from other agency employees. A smaller GFP pheasant logo is also affixed to patrol vehicles.



Left: Old Conservation Officer vehicle decals.

Below: New vehicle decals



ROAD CHECKS

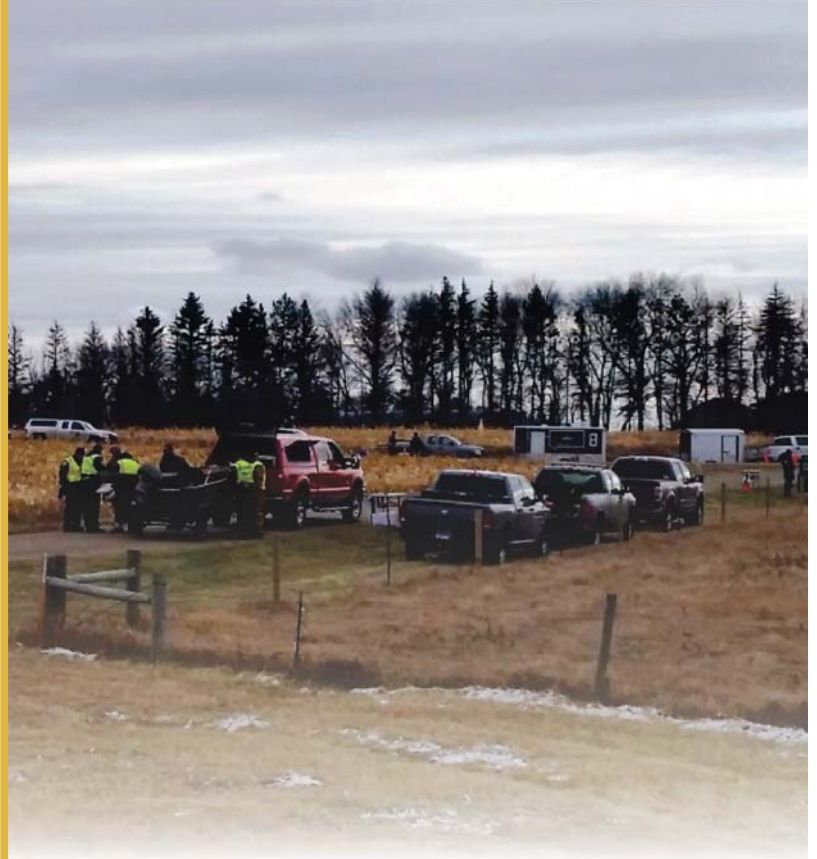
AN IMPORTANT TOOL IN CONSERVATION LAW ENFORCEMENT

Outdoor enthusiasts who have spent considerable time hunting and fishing in South Dakota have likely gone through a game or fish road check at some point in their travels. Road checks are authorized by law and play an important role in the management and protection of our wildlife and fisheries resources. Generally speaking, conservation officers inspect and count any game or fish in possession at a road check to determine compliance with applicable laws and regulations. These operations ensure folks are not taking more than their fair share of a public resource.

In 2017, Game, Fish and Parks conducted five road checks – one for fish, two for small game/waterfowl and two for big game. These were held in each of the four administrative regions. Approximately 271 of the vehicles screened were inspected and 67 violations were detected.

A breakdown of the violations included:

- » Big Game Violation27
- » Small Game/Waterfowl Violation10
- » Fish Violation..... 2
- » Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) Violation23
- » Drug/Alcohol Violation..... 5



TURN IN POACHERS (TIPS) PROGRAM



The Turn-In-Poachers (TIPs) program is a partnership between South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks (GFP) and the non-profit organization, Wildlife Protection, Inc. This joint venture was born out of a desire for South Dakota's sportsmen and women to "police" their own. With approximately 81 conservation officers called upon to cover about 75,000 square miles of land and 1,200 square miles of water in South Dakota it is evident that they can't be everywhere at once. Oftentimes, the best witnesses are the landowners and resource users themselves. In an effort to provide easy and convenient ways to report violations, TIPs is a core component of GFP's law enforcement efforts.

Through TIPs, a 24 hour, seven day a week toll free number, 1.888.OVERBAG (683.7224), has been set up to field reports from the public regarding hunting, fishing and trapping



DAY COUNTY

TIPs investigation leading to a deer shot by a non-resident without a deer license and a license fraud.

FINES \$718 | CIVIL DAMAGE \$1,000 | HUNTING REVOCATION 2 years

violations. Information may also be submitted through a link to the GFP's website. Just like those calling in on the telephone, the information entered in this form may be reported by those who wish to remain anonymous.

This partnership between government and the private sector allows those who provide information to be compensated for their information. Since the inception of the program in 1984, over \$169,000 in rewards has been paid out to people who observe and report violations. The funding for this program comes from a variety of areas; however, one of the most popular is by sportsmen themselves. During this fiscal year, almost \$40,000 was donated at the time of license purchases.

In the 2016 TIPs year (which began in July 1, 2016 and ended on June 30, 2017) 364 investigations and 227 arrests could be directly attributed to information provided through the program. From this information, violators were fined \$32,315 and required to pay \$17,600 in civil damages. Judges sentenced violators to 563 days in jail for their crimes (all but

Spike bull elk shot and left to waste.



LINCOLN COUNTY

This TIPs investigation utilized technology (snap chat) to apprehend four individuals that had shot two deer and small game out of season on a Game Production Area in Lincoln County.

FINES \$900 | CIVIL DAMAGES \$2,000 | One year REVOCATION per individual

ten days were suspended). TIPs paid out \$7,770 in rewards. Social media has proved to be an efficient way to quickly broadcast violations to a large group of people. Some of our Facebook TIPs have received over 200,000 views, which increases the odds of that information reaching an informant. Most of our Facebook violations are posted as a last resort due to a lack of evidence. The goal of publicizing these violations is to make the public aware of the wildlife crimes that happen in their backyard, and hopefully prompt citizens to make the call to TIPs. One of the violations posted on the TIPs Facebook page was solved within hours of it being posted.

South Dakota was awarded a wildlife decoy grant from International Wildlife Crimestoppers (IWC) this past year. Decoys are a valuable tool. This particular decoy will be used in high complaint areas for violations such as shooting from the motor vehicle, trespassing and shooting too close to dwellings.

For over 30 years, the South Dakota Turn In Poachers program has been a shining example of what can be done to protect a public trust resource when government, private industry, sportsmen and the general public come together to address a common problem.



MCCOOK COUNTY

TIPs investigation led to three individuals who shot three deer at night using artificial light. By the time officers had arrived, the deer had already been processed.

FINES \$1,752

CIVIL DAMAGES \$6,000

9 Counts CLOSED SEASON

3 Counts UNLAWFUL POSSESSION

3 Counts ARTIFICIAL LIGHT

BOATING ENFORCEMENT

During the 2017 boating season, South Dakota Wildlife Conservation Officers continued to aggressively pursue those violating the state's Boating Under the Influence (BUI) laws and enforcing aquatic invasive species violations across the state. Our officers are consistently called upon to lead and assist in Search and Rescue and Recovery efforts across the state. In preparation for this, we have been equipping our new vessels with side scan sonar equipment which often leads to a more timely recovery of victims. We have also trained staff in the operation of Marine Sonic side scan sonar, which is a more precise unit.

At full staff, 55 conservation officers patrol South Dakota's public waters to promote boating safety. An additional 26 supervisory officers assist with boating safety patrol as needed across the state.

A total of 7,910 boats were checked for required safety equipment during the 2017 boating season, resulting in 597 written warnings and 454 citations. A total of 36 arrests were made for BUI, 12 of which were made during 2017 Operation Dry Water (ODW) patrol which is the most BUIs in an ODW operation to date.





**ON THE ROAD OR THE WATER,
YOU'RE HEADED NOWHERE FAST**

WHILE IMPAIRED.

OPERATION DRY WATER

Operation Dry Water (ODW) is a year-round boating under the influence awareness and enforcement campaign. The mission of ODW is to reduce the number of alcohol- and drug-related accidents and fatalities through increased recreational boater awareness and by fostering a stronger and more visible deterrent to alcohol use on the water.

Every year since 2009 South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks Conservation Officers (COs) have participated in this nation-wide effort in an attempt to rid our South Dakota waters of intoxicated boat operators. Every summer a three-day weekend is chosen where COs will heighten their enforcement efforts on random waterbodies throughout the state. During this year's three-day event, 58 COs saturated 12 waterbodies across the state in an attempt to make our water safe. Operation Dry Water's heightened awareness and

enforcement three-day weekend takes place annually around July fourth, a holiday unfortunately known for drinking and boating and deadly accidents.

The purpose of the heightened enforcement component of the Operation Dry Water campaign is to deter boaters from boating under the influence of drugs or alcohol. When boaters choose to boat impaired, they are endangering not only themselves but the many other boaters on the water as well.

With alcohol use remaining the leading contributing factor in recreational boater deaths, the primary focus of the ODW campaign is to change the cultural acceptance of drinking and boating and help boaters have safe and fun recreational boating experiences. South Dakota COs contact as many boaters as possible to spread this message of safe, sober, boat operation.

2017 OPERATION DRY WATER STATS

Region	Officers	Vessels	Boaters	Citations	Warning	BUI	Non-Boat Violations	Lakes
1	17	43	140	4	7	3	2	Orman Reservoir, Sheridan Lake
2	10	68	224	4	16	3	1	Oahe (Near Spring & Cow Creek)
3	20	164	702	17	45	5	0	Hanson, Vermillion, Mitchell, Lower Missouri, Madison, Brant, McCook
4	11	78	266	6	9	1	2	Big Stone, Mina
Total	58	353	1332	31	77	12	5	13 Operations/Patrols in 2017

CONSERVATION OFFICER AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Every year GFP conservation officers, supervisors and administrative staff receive awards in recognition of their efforts toward wildlife law enforcement and management.

CONSERVATION OFFICER OF THE YEAR

AWARD PRESENTED ANNUALLY BY: SHIKAR-SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL



Each year, Shikar-Safari Club International selects an outstanding Conservation Officer in each of the 50 states based on their exemplary performance in the areas of Wildlife Protection, Wildlife Law Enforcement, and Implementation of important wildlife conservation programs.

South Dakota's 2017 Recipient is Belle Fourche Conservation Officer Bill Eastman.

Bill was recognized for bringing a common-sense approach to his law enforcement contacts, for being one of the best at fostering positive landowner relationships and for his passion for recruiting/teaching youth and new hunters.

GFP DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT



Brown County Conservation Officer Nick Cochran was awarded the South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks' (GFP) Distinguished Achievement Award at the GFP Commission's November meeting.

Cochran, who is a 15 year veteran with GFP, was awarded the Department's highest honor in part for his excellent service to hunters, anglers, GFP and his community.

Cochran serves on the local Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation board, recruits mentors for youth looking to become active in the outdoors and is instrumental in Aberdeen's successful Youth Sportfest.



DAN ALTMAN

Conservation Officer in Yankton, received the Officer of the Year Award from the

Association of Midwest Fish and Game Law Enforcement Officers for his outstanding efforts in law enforcement.



CHAD WILLIAMS

Conservation Officer in Flandreau, received the Brook Brown Boating Safety Officer of the Year Award from

the National Association of Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA) for his efforts with boating safety.

JOHN MURPHY Conservation Officer in Fort Pierre, received the Officer of the Year Award from the National Wild Turkey Federation for protecting wildlife and providing a safe hunting environment.

2017 WILLIAM JANKLOW LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR



DAN ALTMAN

Conservation Officer Dan Altman was named the 2017 William Janklow Law Enforcement Officer of the Year during the Law Enforcement Appreciation and Children's Charities Dinner in Sioux Falls on November 8.

Altman began his career as a Conservation Officer for South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) in 2009 and has served the Presho and Yankton communities.

In his young career, Altman was a 2010 recipient of the South Dakota Conservation Officers Association (SDCOA) Patton Torch Award, the 2015 recipient of the Brook Brown Boating Officer of the Year Award, the 2016 SDCOA Officer of the Year, the recipient of the 2016 National Wild Turkey Federation Officer of the Year for South Dakota, and the 2017 South Dakota recipient of the Officer of the Year Award from the Association of Midwest Fish and Game Law Enforcement Officers.

"Dan has shown superior leadership, initiative and professional dedication in protecting the wildlife and fisheries resources in the State of South Dakota," said GFP law enforcement administrator Andy Alban. "He is precise in his investigative tactics and leaves no stone unturned."

The William Janklow Law Enforcement Officer of the Year began in 2012. The winner, selected by the Janklow family, must demonstrate outstanding service in law enforcement.

2017 STATEWIDE VIOLATION STATISTICS

HUNTING VIOLATIONS = 743

96 | TRESPASS - HUNTING (UNKNOWING)
 74 | ARTIFICIAL LIGHT/NIGHT VISION
 48 | TRESPASS - HUNTING (KNOWING)
 41 | BIG GAME - WRONG UNIT
 31 | BIG GAME - HUNTING ON HIGHWAY
 31 | BIG GAME - NO LICENSE
 31 | BIG GAME - UNLAWFUL POSSESSION
 28 | WATERFOWL - CLOSED SEASON
 24 | PROTECTED BIRD - HUNT OR POSSESS
 24 | SMALL GAME - CLOSED SEASON
 24 | SMALL GAME - RIGHT OF WAY RESTRICTION
 22 | WATERFOWL - UNPLUGGED SHOTGUN
 19 | BIG GAME - CLOSED SEASON
 17 | SHOOTING FROM A MOTOR VEHICLE
 14 | PROTECTED GAME - UNLAWFUL POSSESSION
 14 | WATERFOWL - NO FEDERAL STAMP
 13 | BIG GAME - TRANSPORT WITHOUT SEX/SPECIES ID
 11 | HUNT WITHIN 660 FEET OF DWELLING/LIVESTOCK
 11 | WATERFOWL - NO LICENSE (NON-RESIDENT)
 10 | BIG GAME - FAILURE TO TAG
 9 | ARTIFICIAL LIGHT PROHIBITED AFTER 10PM
 9 | BIG GAME - IMPROPER TAGGING
 9 | BIG GAME - USE OF SALT LICK TO ATTRACT
 8 | BIG GAME - INELIGIBLE APPLICATION FOR LICENSE
 8 | SMALL GAME - HUNT BEFORE/AFTER LEGAL HOURS
 8 | SMALL GAME - WRONG UNIT
 7 | BIG GAME - IMPROPER TAGGING
 7 | GAME BIRD TRANSPORTATION/PACKAGING REQUIREMENTS
 7 | WATERFOWL - NO LICENSE
 6 | BIG GAME - BAIT STATION/ELECTRONIC CALL PROHIBITED
 6 | MINOR HUNTING WITHOUT ADULT SUPERVISION
 6 | SMALL GAME - UNLAWFUL POSSESSION
 4 | BIG GAME - VIOLATE CONDITIONS OF LICENSE
 4 | DOVE HUNTING WITHIN 50 YDS OF HIGHWAY
 4 | INTERFERENCE WITH LAWFUL HUNTING
 4 | LICENSE - NO MIGRATORY BIRD CERTIFICATION
 4 | SMALL GAME - NO LICENSE
 4 | SMALL GAME - NO LICENSE (NON-RESIDENT)
 4 | WATERFOWL - IMPROPER TAGGING
 4 | WATERFOWL - OVERLIMIT
 3 | BIG GAME - UNLICENSED ARMED ACCOMPANIMENT
 3 | USE OF VEHICLE/BOAT TO DISTURB OR CHASE
 3 | WATERFOWL - LEAD SHOT
 3 | WATERFOWL - RIGHT OF WAY RESTRICTION
 2 | DISTURBING WILDLIFE PROHIBITED
 2 | GUN PROTRUDING FROM VEHICLE
 2 | SHOOTING PRESERVE - RECORDS VIOLATION
 2 | TURKEY - NO LICENSE

1 | BIG GAME - TRANSPORT WITHOUT TAG (TAKEN OUTSIDE SD/TRIBAL)
 1 | BIG GAME - USE OF TRAP, DOGS OR BAIT (LION)
 1 | SMALL GAME - OVERLIMIT
 1 | SMALL GAME - UNPLUGGED SHOTGUN
 1 | UNPROTECTED GAME - NO LICENSE (NON-RESIDENT)
 1 | WATERFOWL - UNLAWFUL POSSESSION

MISC VIOLATIONS = 542

121 | DRUGS - USE OR POSSESSION OF PARAPHERNALIA
 75 | DRUGS - POSSESSION OF MARIJUANA - 2 OUNCE OR LESS
 52 | ALCOHOL - POSSESSION BY MINOR
 33 | DRUGS - INGEST INTOXICANT OTHER THAN ALCOHOL
 31 | LITTERING PROHIBITED
 25 | DRUGS - POSSESSION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE
 25 | DRIVING UNDER INFLUENCE - MISDEMEANOR
 22 | LICENSE - FRAUD TO OBTAIN - HUNTING LICENSE
 19 | LICENSE - LENDING
 11 | ALCOHOL - OPEN CONTAINER
 11 | CARRY UNCASSED OR LOADED FIREARM ON ATV
 9 | DRUGS - INGESTION OF A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE
 9 | WANTON WASTE OF GAME
 8 | POSSESS LOADED FIREARM WHILE INTOXICATED
 7 | IMPERSONATION TO DECEIVE OFFICER
 7 | LICENSE - NOT IN POSSESSION
 7 | LITTERING FROM VEHICLE
 7 | UNLAWFUL PUBLIC STORAGE OF GAME
 6 | LICENSE - MINIMUM RESIDENCY REQUIRED
 5 | LICENSE - PURCHASE/APPLY UNDER REVOCATION - HUNTING
 5 | OBSTRUCTING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER
 4 | SNOWMOBILE - NO VALID LICENSE
 3 | FIREWORKS - SELL/DISCHARGE
 3 | LICENSE - FISH UNDER REVOCATION
 3 | TRAFFIC - RECKLESS DRIVING
 3 | TRESPASS - CRIMINAL
 2 | BURGLARY-3RD DEGREE
 2 | DRIVING UNDER INFLUENCE - FELONY
 2 | DRIVING WITH SUSPENDED DRIVERS LICENSE
 2 | HABITUAL OFFENDER - PRIOR FELONY
 2 | MANUFACTURE, DISTRIBUTE, OR POSSESS CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE
 2 | POSSESSION OF CONCEALED WEAPON WITHOUT PERMIT
 2 | RESISTING ARREST
 2 | VANDALISM-\$400 LESS-3RD DEGREE
 1 | COMMIT FELONY CARRYING FIREARM - FIRST CONVICTION
 1 | DISORDERLY CONDUCT

- 1 | DRUG FREE ZONE – FELONY
- 1 | DRUGS - POSSESSION WITH INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE MARIJUANA
- 1 | DRUGS - POSSESSION, SALE, OR DISTRIBUTION FOR INTOXICATION
- 1 | FALSE REPORTING
- 1 | GRAND THEFT
- 1 | LICENSE - FRAUD TO OBTAIN - COMBINATION LICENSE
- 1 | LICENSE - PURCHASE/APPLY UNDER REVOCATION – FISHING
- 1 | NO DRIVERS LICENSE
- 1 | PETTY THEFT 2ND DEGREE-\$400 OR LESS
- 1 | RECKLESS DISCHARGE OF A FIREARM/BOW
- 1 | TRAFFIC - CARELESS DRIVING
- 1 | VIOLATION OF A VALID COURT ORDER
- 1 | WANTON WASTE OF FISH

FISHING VIOLATIONS = 566

- 289 | FISHING WITHOUT LICENSE
- 101 | LENGTH LIMIT VIOLATION
- 81 | OVER LIMIT OF FISH
- 32 | TOO MANY LINES
- 24 | UNATTENDED LINES
- 11 | ILLEGAL FISHING METHOD
- 4 | AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES - ILLEGAL POSSESSION/SALE/TRANSPORT
- 4 | FAILURE TO EMPTY BAIT TRAPS
- 4 | ORGANIC BAIT
- 3 | UNLAWFUL POSSESSION OF FISH ON THE WATER
- 2 | FISHING IN RESTRICTED AREA/CLOSED SEASON
- 2 | ILLEGAL TRANSPORT AND STORAGE OF FISH
- 2 | PROHIBITED BAIT
- 1 | AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES - FISH AND BAIT TRANSPORTATION RESTRICTIONS
- 1 | BAIT DEALER - RECORDS REQUIRED
- 1 | FAILURE TO CHECK HOOP NETS/SET LINES
- 1 | HIGHGRADING OF FISH PROHIBITED
- 1 | LABELING/ACCESS TO ICE HOUSE
- 1 | POSSESSION/USE OF NETS SEINES
- 1 | WATERS OPEN TO TAKING OF BAIT

PUBLIC LAND VIOLATIONS = 141

- 28 | DRIVING OFF ROADS PROHIBITED
- 24 | NONTOXIC SHOT AREAS FOR SMALL GAME
- 21 | FAILURE TO HAVE PARK ENTRANCE LICENSE
- 15 | LIMITATION ON TREE STANDS/PLATFORMS/BLINDS
- 8 | UNAUTHORIZED LAND USE ON POSTED GFP
- 7 | HUNTING WITHIN A FEDERAL REFUGE, PARK, OR MONUMENT
- 5 | DESTRUCTION OR REMOVAL OF NATURAL FEATURES
- 4 | TRAFFIC - EXHIBITION DRIVING IN PARKS
- 3 | RESTRICTIONS ON FIREARMS AND BOWS
- 2 | JUMPING/DIVING PROHIBITED
- 2 | LEAVING PROPERTY ON DEPARTMENT LAND
- 2 | MISC. PARK VIOLATIONS
- 2 | NO CAMPING PERMIT
- 2 | RESTRICTIONS ON USE OF FIREARMS

- 2 | UNAUTHORIZED FIRE/PUBLIC LAND
- 1 | BAIT STATION PROHIBITED ON DEPARTMENT LAND
- 1 | CAMPING OUTSIDE DESIGNATED CAMPGROUND/EXCEED 15 DAY LIMIT
- 1 | HUNTING GUIDE ACTIVITIES BARRED FROM CERTAIN STATE LANDS
- 1 | LIMITATION ON TRAIL CAMERAS
- 1 | OPERATING VEHICLES ON SCHOOL & PUBLIC LAND
- 1 | PET PROHIBITIONS
- 1 | START OPEN FIRE IN BLACK HILLS
- 1 | TIME RESTRICTION - USE OF PUBLIC HUNTING/LAKE ACCESS AREA

FURBEARER VIOLATIONS = 19

- 6 | FURBEARER - NO LICENSE
- 6 | TRAPPING IN MUSKRAT HOUSES PROHIBITED
- 2 | TRAP CHECKING REQUIRED
- 2 | UNLAWFUL POSSESSION – BOBCAT
- 1 | POSSESS WILD ANIMAL - FAILURE TO NOTIFY
- 1 | TRAP FURBEARER DURING CLOSED SEASON (BOBCAT)
- 1 | TRAP ROBBING OR INJURY

WATERCRAFT VIOLATIONS = 454

- 141 | AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES - WATERCRAFT RESTRICTIONS
- 133 | PFD - INSUFFICIENT NUMBER
- 37 | CARELESS OPERATION
- 36 | OPERATE VESSEL UNDER INFLUENCE
- 28 | OPERATE WITHOUT LICENSE/NUMBER
- 16 | OPERATE VESSEL WITHOUT LIGHTS
- 13 | RECKLESS/NEGLIGENT OPERATION OF VESSEL
- 8 | AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES - WATERCRAFT INSPECTIONS
- 8 | OPERATE VESSEL IN VIOLATION OF POSTED WATERS
- 7 | PWC - GREATER THAN NO WAKE WITHIN 150 FEET
- 6 | PFD - NOT WEARING ON PERSONAL WATERCRAFT
- 4 | PFD - NO THROWABLE
- 3 | WATER SKIING - NO OBSERVER OR MIRROR
- 2 | BOAT ACCIDENT - FAILURE TO REPORT
- 2 | OVERLOADING BOAT
- 2 | WATER SKIING - AFTER HOURS
- 1 | BOAT OPERATOR UNDER AGE OF 12 WITHOUT ADULT
- 1 | IMPROPER DISPLAY OF BOAT NUMBERS
- 1 | MISC. OTHER BOAT SAFETY EQUIPMENT
- 1 | NO DIVER DOWN FLAG
- 1 | PFD - USE REQUIRED (CHILD UNDER 7)
- 1 | PWC - OPERATE WITHOUT LIGHTS
- 1 | PWC - UNDERAGE OPERATION
- 1 | WATER SKIING - OPERATE WATERCRAFT IN A WAY THAT CAUSES COLLISION

PFD = Personal Floatation Device

PWC = Personal Watercraft

2017 STATEWIDE VIOLATION STATISTICS

VIOLATION TOTALS BY ACTIVITY

Hunting	743
Fishing	566
Furbearer	19
Watercraft	454
Public Land	141
Miscellaneous	542
TOTAL	2,465

WRITTEN WARNINGS BY ACTIVITY

Boating	597
Fishing	253
Hunting	348
Parks	24
Snowmobile	2
Shooting Preserve	3
Taxidermist	5
Furbearer	9
Bait Dealer	4
Miscellaneous	399
TOTAL	1,644

SUSPENSIONS

Hunting	305
Fishing	293
Trapping	11
TOTAL	609

FINES AND COSTS

Fines assessed	\$174,294
Fines suspended	\$767
Actual fines assessed	\$173,527
Costs assessed	\$122,768
Costs suspended	\$0
Actual costs assessed	\$122,768
ACTUAL FINES & COSTS ASSESSED	\$296,295

JAIL TIME - IN DAYS

Jail time assessed	14,400
Jail time suspended	10,212
ACTUAL JAIL TIME SERVED	4,188

PROBATION - IN MONTHS

Probation	666
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CIVIL DAMAGES ASSESSED

Big Game	\$24,400
Fish	\$14,800
Furbearer	\$0
Small Game/Waterfowl	\$3,000
TOTAL	\$42,200

2017 STATEWIDE CONTACT STATISTICS

FIELD CONTACT TOTALS

Anglers – nonresident	6,847
Anglers – resident	21,586
Hunters – nonresident	4,397
Hunters – resident	9,410
Parks – nonresident	64
Parks – resident	336
Trappers – nonresident	0
Trappers – resident	138
TOTAL	42,778

LAW ENFORCEMENT EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

Presentations to groups	260
School programs	334
HuntSAFE classes	184
CrimeNtel Entries	38
Radio	452
TV	49
Newspaper articles	198
TOTAL	1,515

LANDOWNER ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE

Trespass	195
Shooting too close to dwellings/ livestock (660')	66
Spotlighting	98
Miscellaneous	139
TOTAL	498

INSPECTION TOTALS

Watercraft	7,910
Private Shooting Preserve	284
Taxidermist	97
Bait Dealers	67
Public Storage	22
Snowmobile	24
Captive Game Bird	9
Fur Dealers	12
Private Fish Hatchery	2
TOTAL	8,427

IN MEMORIAM



DARRELL BRADY

JUNE 10, 1917 – SEPT. 23, 2017

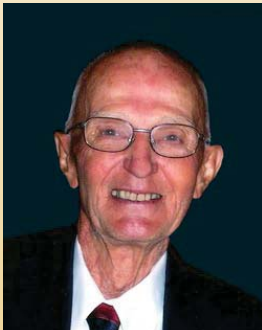
- 1944 | Drafted U.S. Army – earned Purple Heart during Normandy Invasion during WWII
- 1946 | GFP Game Warden in Philip
- 1954 | GFP Game Warden in Sturgis
- 1960 | GFP Assistant Chief Game Warden in Rapid City
- 1974 | GFP West River Trapper Supervisor in Rapid City
- 1982 | Retired



DAVE GRAY

NOV. 2, 1946 – FEB. 3, 2017

- 1967 | Joined SD Army National Guard - Operation Desert Storm veteran and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in 2002
- 1968 | GFP Game Warden – Philip
- 1970 | GFP Game Warden – Custer
- 1977 | GFP Assistant Regional Supervisor – Law in Huron
- 1983 | GFP Assistant Regional Supervisor – Law in Hill City
- 1998 | Retired



JACK OPITZ

MAR. 7, 1928 – FEB. 16, 2017

- 1951 | GFP Game Warden – Presho
- 1954 | GFP Game Warden – Chamberlain
- 1961 | GFP Game Warden – Mitchell
- 1964 | GFP Game Warden – Watertown
- 1970 | GFP Regional Supervisor – Watertown
- 1995 | Retired



CHUCK WEBSTER

MAR. 2, 1940 – OCT. 23, 2017

- 1958 | Lead High School
- 1963 | GFP Game Warden – Yankton
- 1965 | GFP Game Warden – Belle Fourche
- 1967 | GFP Game Warden – Deadwood
- 1988 | Retired



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