

## Central Forest Team Warden Web Report - October 2009

Warden Bill Miller, of Adams, and Deputy Warden Shaun Long, apprehended an Illinois man archery deer hunting without a license after he was caught trespassing during the youth gun deer hunt by a man and his daughter. Miller seized his bow and arrows. The man is now facing over \$2,000 in penalties.

Warden Bill Miller, of Adams, apprehended 2 men hunting over bait that they placed out for archery deer hunting. One of the men had a crossbow and did not have a permit to hunt with it. The other hunter was legally blind and had a Class C permit which requires someone to be with him in the stand, which there was not. Both hunters were cited for the violations.

Wardens Bill Miller, of Adams, and Wade Romberg, of Friendship, worked waterfowl, deer and turkey hunting activities on the first weekend of October. They caught 2 men hunting ducks where bait was placed in a pond by their blind. Three other men harvested 3 geese and 2 turkeys that were not tagged or validated. And a man and his wife hunted deer over bait and shot a turkey from the road. Enforcement action was taken on all.

Warden Wade Romberg, of Friendship, contacted one gun deer hunter that was hunting in full camouflage over illegal bait contained in a trough feeder. The hunter also was not wearing a backtag. Enforcement action was taken.

Wardens Wade Romberg, of Friendship, and Eric Grudzinski, of Mauston, issued citations for hunting within 50 feet of road's center, hunting without blaze orange, and hunting after hours during the antlerless only firearm hunt in October.

Warden Supervisor Korey Trowbridge, of Black River Falls, responded to a deer poaching complaint in Eastern Jackson County. Trowbridge contacted the suspect who was using a 12-gauge shotgun loaded with buckshot when he shot from the roadway. Enforcement action was taken.

Warden Robin Barnhardt, of Osseo, conducted a deer farm fence inspection at a deer farm in Trempealeau County.

Warden Robin Barnhardt, of Osseo, contacted two hunters who were pheasant hunting on state land on the opening day of the pheasant season during the 4-Day October antlerless deer hunt. Neither hunter was wearing blaze orange. Enforcement action was taken.

Warden Eric Grudzinski, of Mauston, received a complaint from a landowner who thought people were hunting illegally on private property adjacent to a public hunting area. The landowner provided Grudzinski with a trail camera photograph that showed a distinguishable person trespassing and carrying a rifle. Grudzinski checked the area during the youth gun deer hunt and Grudzinski saw two squirrel hunters dressed in camouflage. Grudzinski contacted the hunters and saw blaze orange clothing in their backpacks. Grudzinski recognized one of the men as being the person in the trail camera

photo. Grudzinski showed the hunter the picture and asked if the hunter knew the person in the photo. The hunter replied, "That looks like me!" and Grudzinski agreed. Citations were issued for hunting without blaze orange and warnings given for trespassing.

Wardens Eric Grudzinski, of Mauston, Wade Romberg, of Friendship, and John Buss, of Prairie Du Sac, investigated a complaint of a deer that was shot on private land by hunters that were trespassing. The suspects shot a deer, left it lay in the woods and did not tag it. The caller obtained back tag numbers from four suspects and the wardens subsequently issued citations for several violations.

Warden Matt Weber, of Necedah, issued citations for hunting over illegal bait, possession of illegal size fish and using screw in tree steps on state property.

On October 8<sup>th</sup>, Lake Tomah was chemically treated to kill all fish as part of a large-scale lake rehabilitation project. Warden Mark Little, of Tomah, assisted at Winnebago Park by coordinating media coverage and enforcement personnel.

During the October antlerless deer season, Warden Mark Little, of Tomah, found two groups of hunters hunting in unauthorized areas. One group was hunting in the Meadow Valley Wildlife Area in Deer Management Unit (DMU) 56 which was not a Herd Control area open to deer hunting. Three hunters were located nearby who thought they were in DMU 72 but missed the boundary by several miles. Two other hunters were found gun-hunting for deer in the same area the next day. Enforcement action was taken.

Warden Mark Little, of Tomah, checked a cranberry pond where decoys had been left out unattended on the water in violation over the duck opener two weeks prior. No hunters were seen in the area, but Warden Little located a skiff stashed nearby containing the same decoys. He found that the goose decoys had what appeared to be the last name of the owner. The suspect was contacted and cited for the violation.

Warden Mark Little, of Tomah, responded to a Hotline report that an 18-year-old had shot a 10-point buck in a Herd Control Unit. The man shot the deer when it was about 200 yards away in a hayfield using a scoped rifle. The deer was seized and a citation was issued.

While on patrol, Warden Matt Modjeski, of Sparta, observed dark smoke coming from a burn barrel in the driveway of a recently closed auto repair business in Angelo Township. The person who started the fire admitted burning debris including plastic left behind after closing. The fire was extinguished and a citation was issued for burning without a permit.

Warden Matt Modjeski, of Sparta, investigated a shining and shooting complaint near Four Corners in which the person was apprehended for shooting a large 8-point buck. This criminal investigation continues and additional arrests are expected.

At the close of hunting hours on the last day of the October gun season, Warden Matt Modjeski, of Sparta, received a call from a registration station regarding a deer which

appeared to have the antlers shot off. Modjeski found the buck was mistakenly killed and the antlers were intentionally shot off to try to cover up the mistake. Enforcement action was taken.