



KDWPT

2019 State of Kansas

Statewide Flooding Response

KDWPT

LE DIVISION

KANSAS GAME WARDENS

Kansas Game Wardens Responsibilities

- ▶ Game Wardens have statewide law enforcement jurisdiction
- ▶ Game Wardens can and do enforce all laws of the State of Kansas
 - ▶ Main focus will always be on natural resource crimes and protection
- ▶ Game Wardens patrol public and private lands statewide
- ▶ Game Wardens coordinate work with other KDWPT divisions, state and local agencies
- ▶ Emergency Management is handled for KDWPT by the LE Division and coordination is through the Kansas Dept. of Emergency Management for statewide and national response and deployments

2019 KDWPT LE Division Flooding Response

- ▶ KDEM Official Deployments
 - ▶ March 21-24, 2019 Elwood and Atchison affected areas
 - ▶ Monitored levees, provided watercraft and personnel for support and rescue operations
 - ▶ 24/7 coverage
 - ▶ Provided close support for local Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
 - ▶ Atchison
 - ▶ Deployed watercraft several times to search flooded homes, cars and businesses
 - ▶ Elwood
 - ▶ Water never breached levee, but was very close
- ▶ Game Wardens remained in alert status throughout entire flooding event statewide

2019 KDWPT LE Division Flooding Response

- ▶ Regional and Local Deployments
 - ▶ Many statewide throughout the duration of the flooding event
 - ▶ Local game wardens teaming with other wardens, local and state officials
 - ▶ Game wardens worked in every county in the state of Kansas that experienced flooding
 - ▶ Many rescues made and countless welfare checks were made on flooded homes, vehicles and businesses
 - ▶ Many requiring use of specialized watercraft, equipment and training

Personnel and Equipment



Rescue Airboat on Missouri River



Lyon County Neosho Rapids Medical Evacuation

GW Ryan Smidt



Montgomery County Water Rescue Game Warden Uhrmacher working with the Neodesha Fire Dept.

- ▶ Kansas Game Warden Ross Uhrmacher
 - ▶ Worked with Neodesha Firemen Brennan Tilley and Caleb Berger
- ▶ 88 year old man with dementia had been missing for 10 hours.
 - ▶ Discovered that he had driven into Verdigris river flood waters at the Montgomery/Wilson county line and was swept downstream approximately 2000 feet
 - ▶ Was trapped in his vehicle for over 9 hours
 - ▶ Drone footage taken by Neodesha Fire Dept personnel

Montgomery County Rescue Video Game Warden Uhrmacher working with the Neodesha Fire Dept.

