CAR VS DEER CRASH STATISTICS

Chief Lori Huntington

Galena Police Department

CAR VS DEER CRASH STATISTICS

The deer statistics have been compiled from 2010 to 2016. These statistics were compiled from accident report log books and entries made by officers during their daily shifts on our activity log.

When responding to a deer call/crash, there could be more than one officer responding and there will be more than one entry on the activity log. We did not record the multiple calls for these statistics. If multiple officers were on a call, it was counted as one call.

We have broken the deer statistics down into three major groups instead of the two you have previously received.

1) Traffic crashes that occur when a vehicle strikes a deer and a traffic crash report is taken.
2) Traffic crashes that occur when a vehicle strikes a deer and a traffic crash report is not taken.
3) Calls for dead or injured deer.

CAR VS DEER CRASH STATISTICS

Traffic crashes that occur when a vehicle strikes a deer and a traffic crash report is taken:

- A person calls to report they have hit a deer. The officer responds and finds the driver at the scene and determine if a traffic crash report is needed.
- The determination if a crash report is needed is based off of 625 ILCS 5/11-402. This basically states if an accident has occurred and the damage is $1500 or more, a person is required to fill out an Illinois Traffic Crash Report. If in doubt as to the amount of damage, a report is completed.
- The traffic crash is recorded in our accident report book and is assigned a number.
- The officer then notates on his/her activity report that he/she was called to a car vs deer and a report was taken.

CAR VS DEER CRASH STATISTICS

Traffic crashes that occur when a vehicle strikes a deer and a traffic crash report is not taken:

- A person calls to report they have hit a deer and remains at the scene.
- The officers respond and determine if a crash report is needed.
- The officer and driver decide there is not enough damage to warrant a report and the person is able to leave the scene with no report
- The officer notates on his/her activity report that he/she was called to a car vs deer and no report was taken.

CAR VS DEER CRASH STATISTICS

Calls of dead or injured deer:

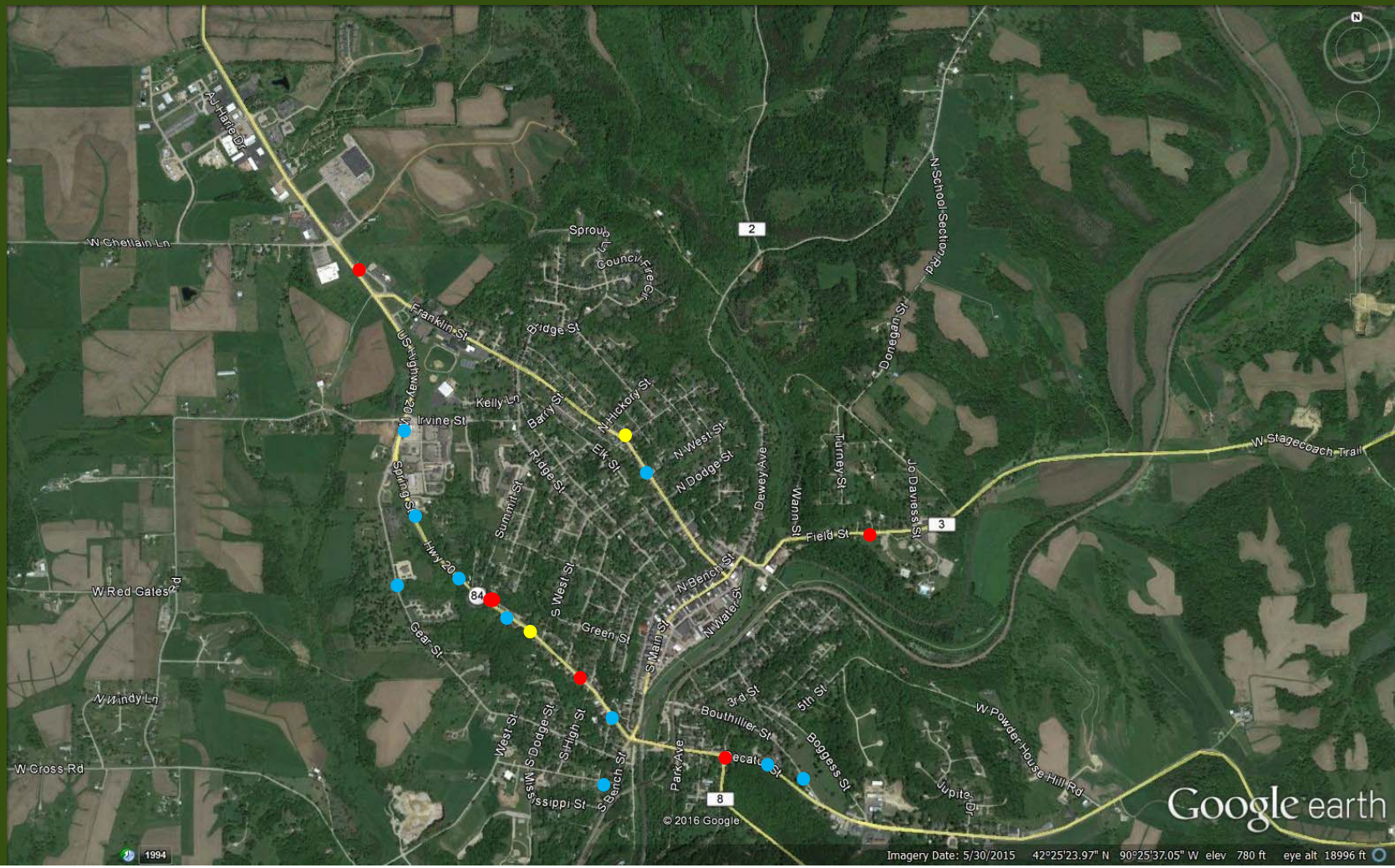
- A person calls to report they have seen a dead or injured deer along or on the roadway. The person does not stay at the scene to meet with an officer.
  - They may have witnessed the deer being hit by a car and the car kept going.
  - They did not witness the deer being injured.
- Once the officer arrives at the scene of the dead/injured deer;
  - If the deer is injured and needs to be put down, the officer will destroy the deer.
  - If the deer is injured but takes off on its own, we let the deer go.
  - If the deer is dead, the officer makes sure it is off the roadway and the appropriate agency is notified to pick-up the deer.
- The officer notates on his/her activity report that he/she was called to a dead/injured deer, if he/she had to destroy it, or if he/she was even able to locate it.
- Most of the calls of dead/injured deer are attributed to vehicles because they are witnessed or by the significant injuries to the deer.
- The areas marked by the cemeteries on Gear Street, Cemetery Park on Dodge Street, and Bouthillier Street are deer that were impaled or caught in the fence.

2010 DEER CRASH INCIDENTS

- Car vs Deer Accident with Report
- Car vs Deer Accidents without Report
- Dead/Injured Deer

2010 Totals:

- 5 Car vs Deer with Report
- 2 Car vs Deer without Report
- 10 Dead/Injured Deer

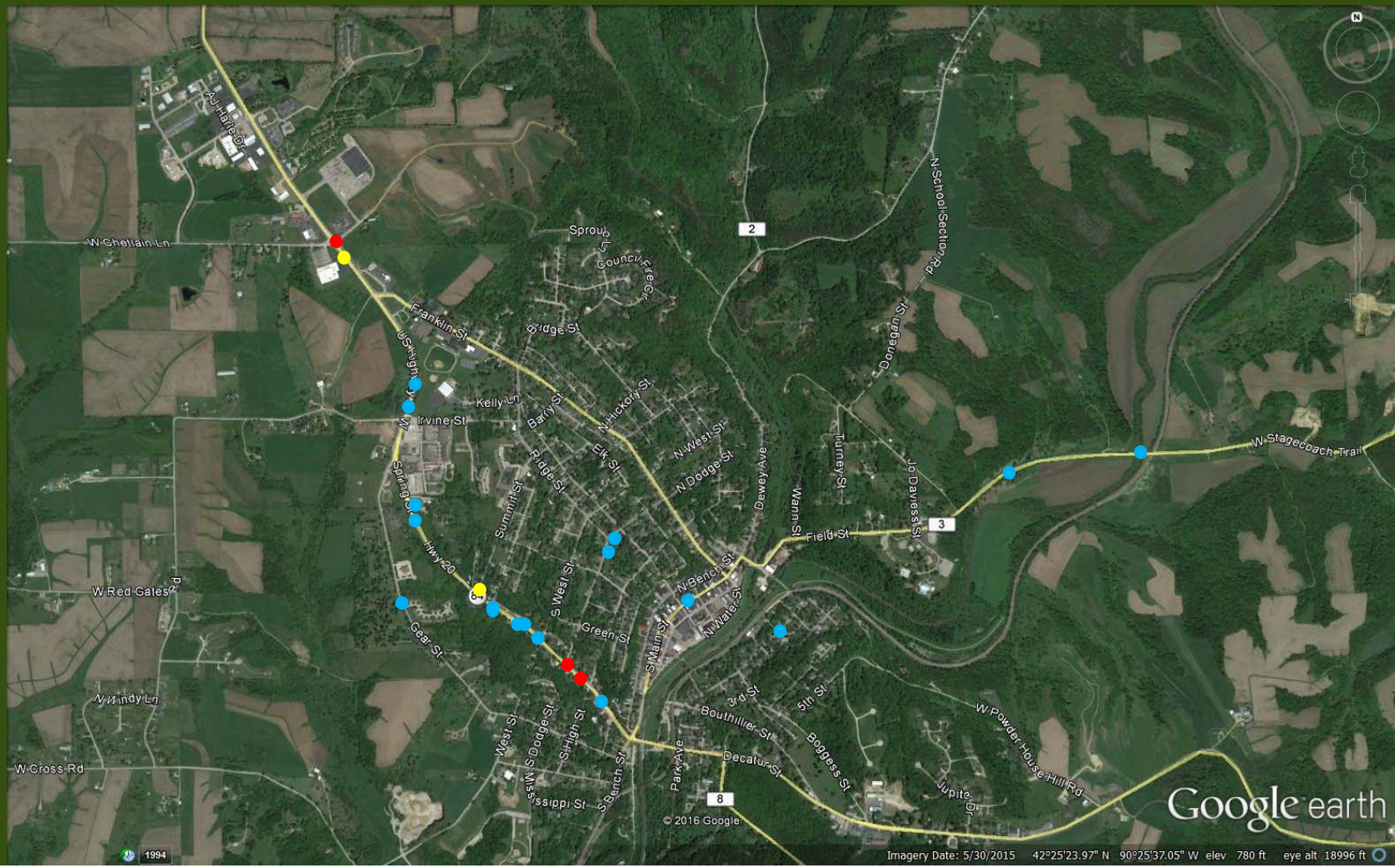


2011 DEER CRASH INCIDENTS

- Car vs Deer Accident with Report
- Car vs Deer Accidents without Report
- Dead/Injured Deer

2011 Totals:

- 3 Car vs Deer with Report
- 2 Car vs Deer without Report
- 15 Dead/Injured Deer

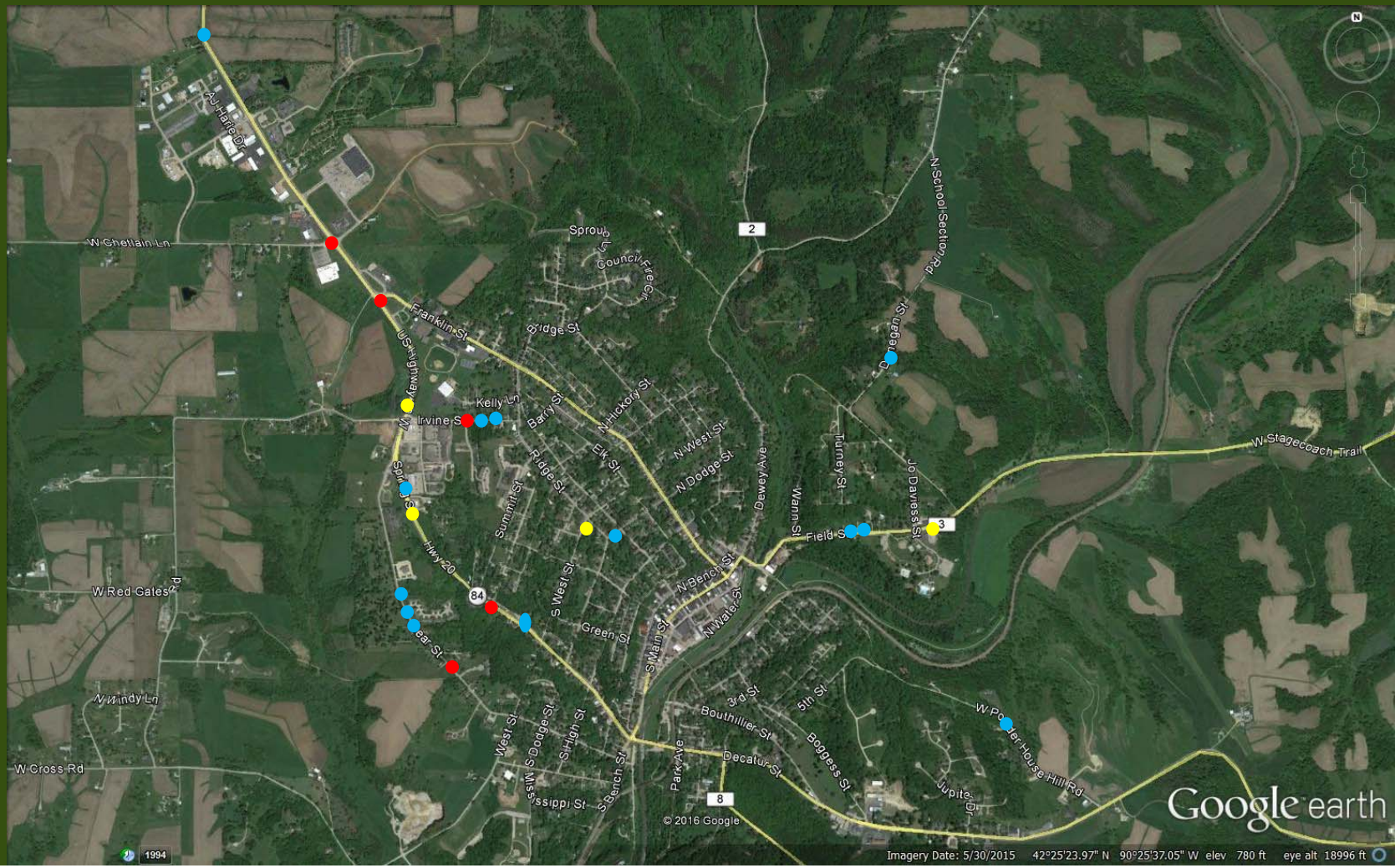


2012 DEER CRASH INCIDENTS

- Car vs Deer Accident with Report
- Car vs Deer Accidents without Report
- Dead/Injured Deer

2012 Totals:

- 5 Car vs Deer with Report
- 4 Car vs Deer without Report
- 13 Dead/Injured Deer

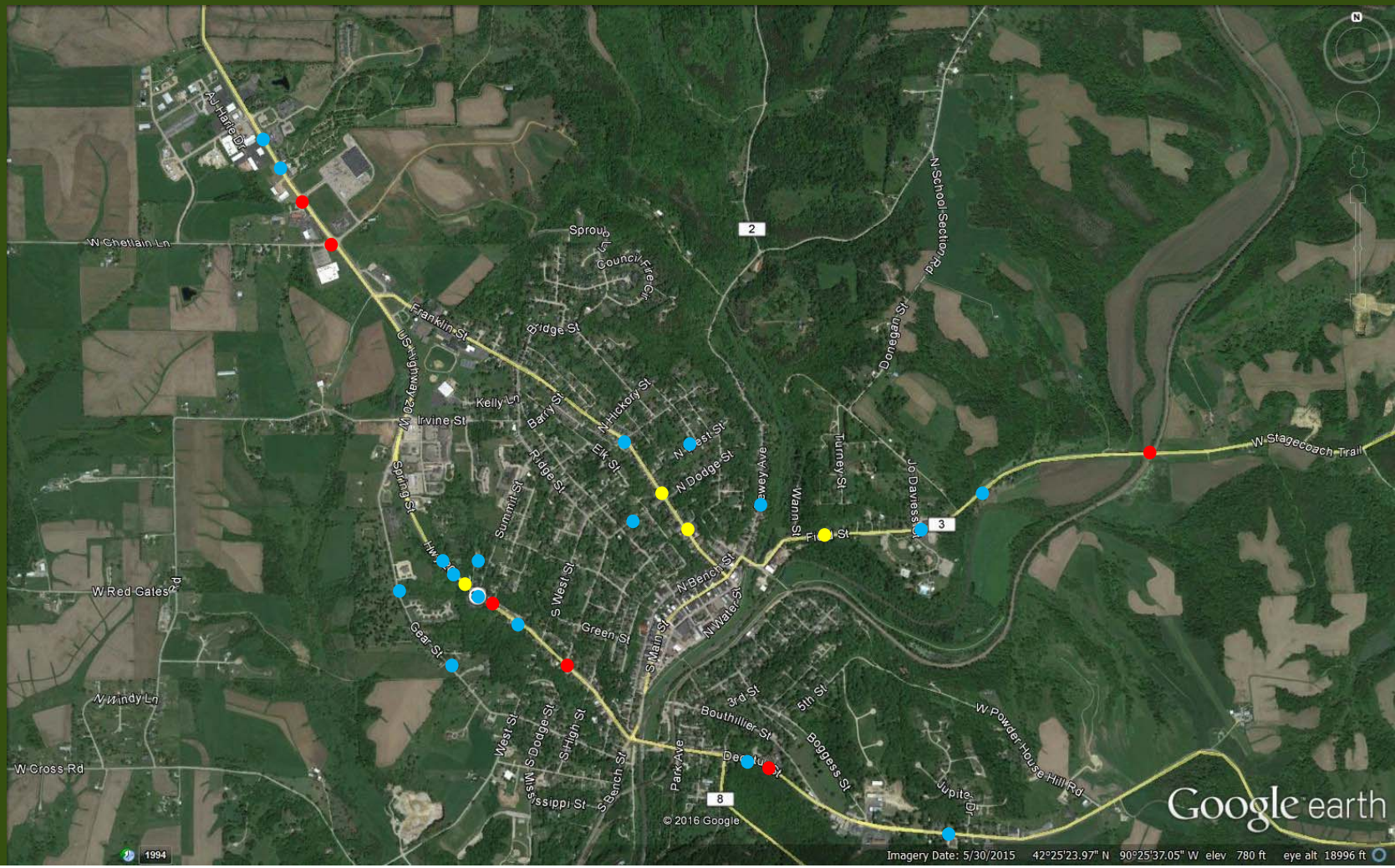


2013 DEER CRASH INCIDENTS

- Car vs Deer Accident with Report
- Car vs Deer Accidents without Report
- Dead/Injured Deer

2013 Totals:

- 6 Car vs Deer with Report
- 4 Car vs Deer without Report
- 17 Dead/Injured Deer

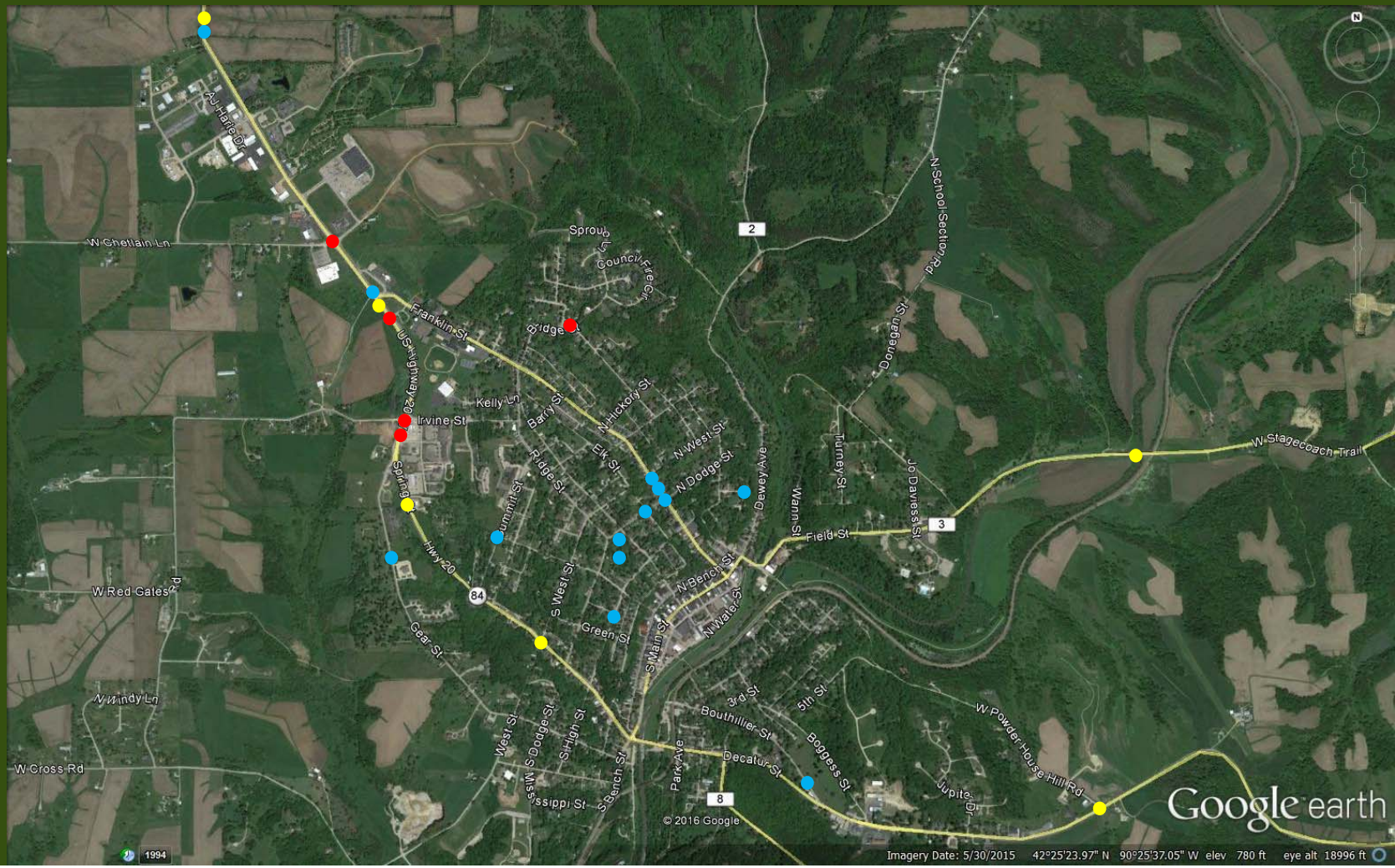


2014 DEER CRASH INCIDENTS

- Car vs Deer Accident with Report
- Car vs Deer Accidents without Report
- Dead/Injured Deer

2014 Totals:

- 5 Car vs Deer with Report
- 6 Car vs Deer without Report
- 13 Dead/Injured Deer

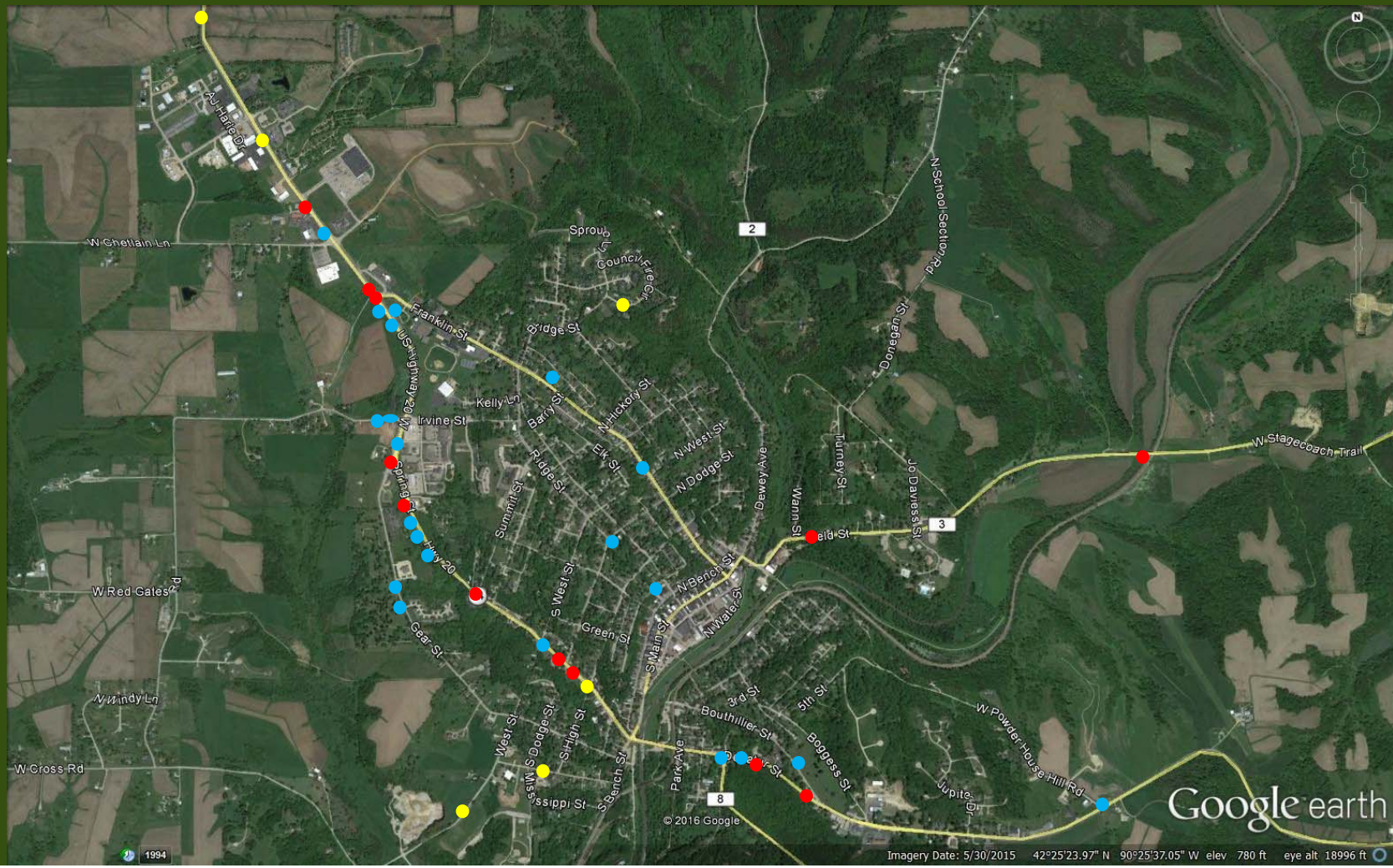


2015 DEER CRASH INCIDENTS

- Car vs Deer Accident with Report
- Car vs Deer Accidents without Report
- Dead/Injured Deer

2015 Totals:

- 12 Car vs Deer with Report
- 6 Car vs Deer without Report
- 21 Dead/Injured Deer



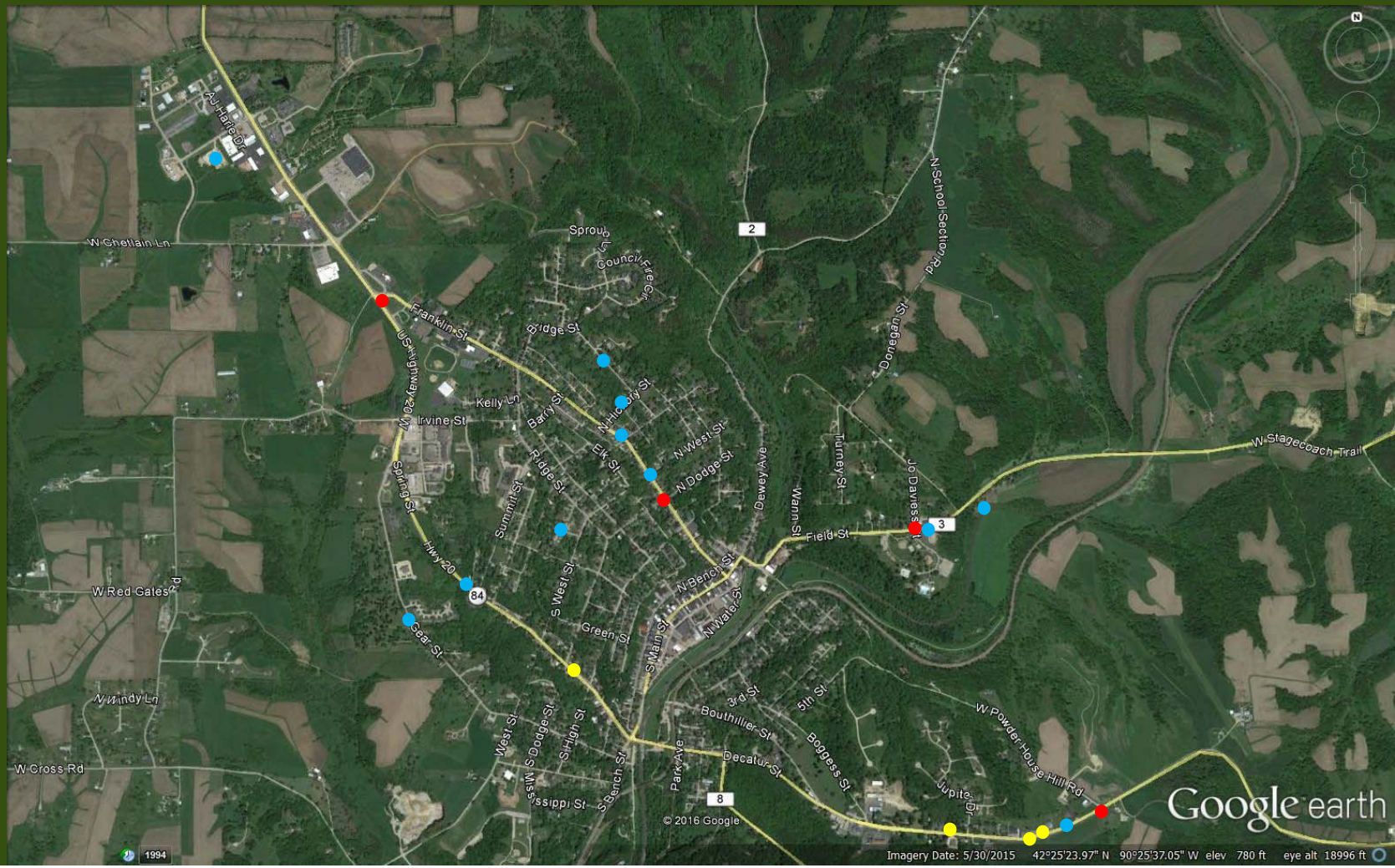
2016 DEER CRASH INCIDENTS

* AS OF 03-15-16

- Car vs Deer Accident with Report
- Car vs Deer Accidents without Report
- Dead/Injured Deer

2016 Totals:

- 4 Car vs Deer with Report
- 4 Car vs Deer without Report
- 11 Dead/Injured Deer

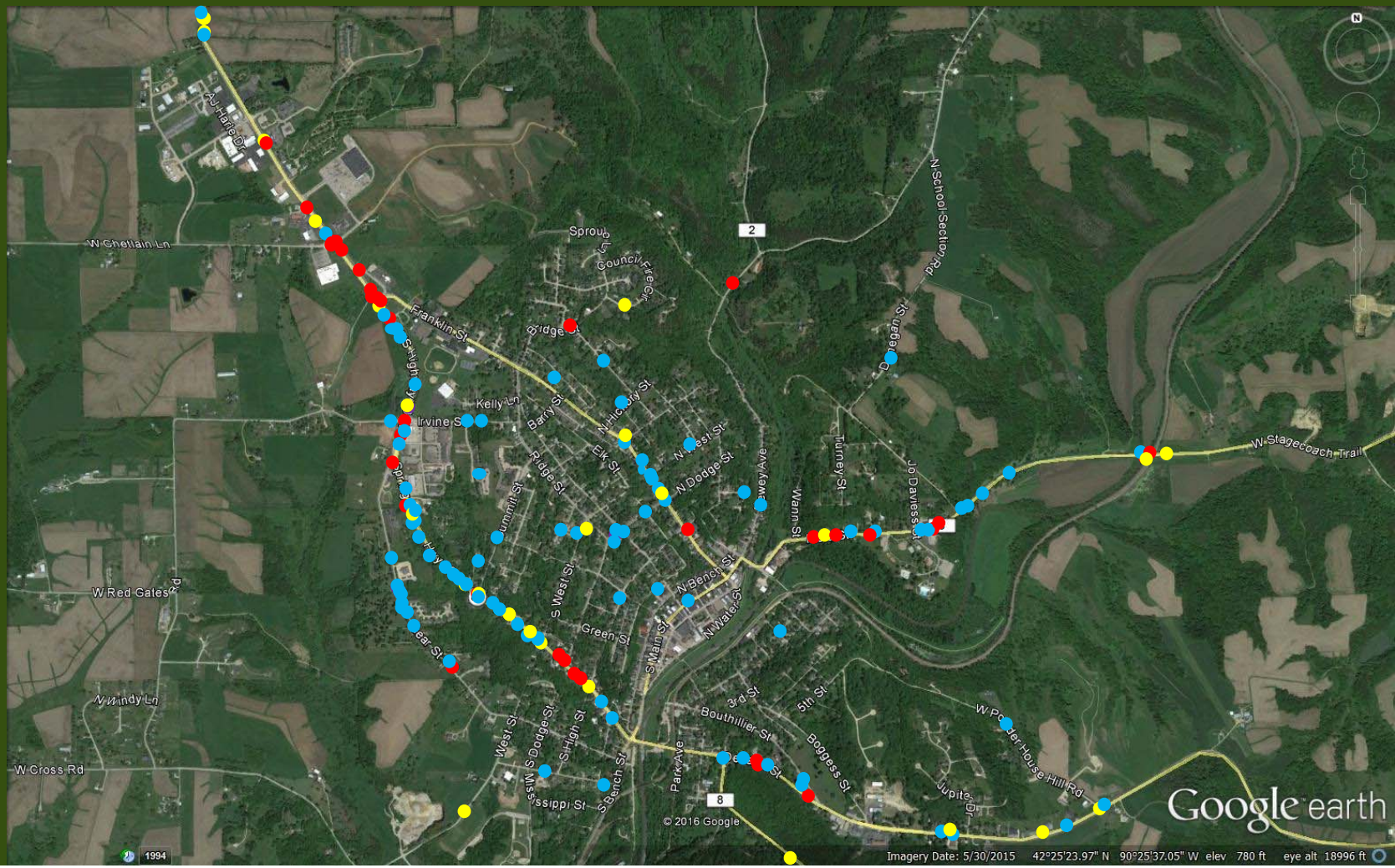


2010 TO 2016 DEER CRASH INCIDENTS

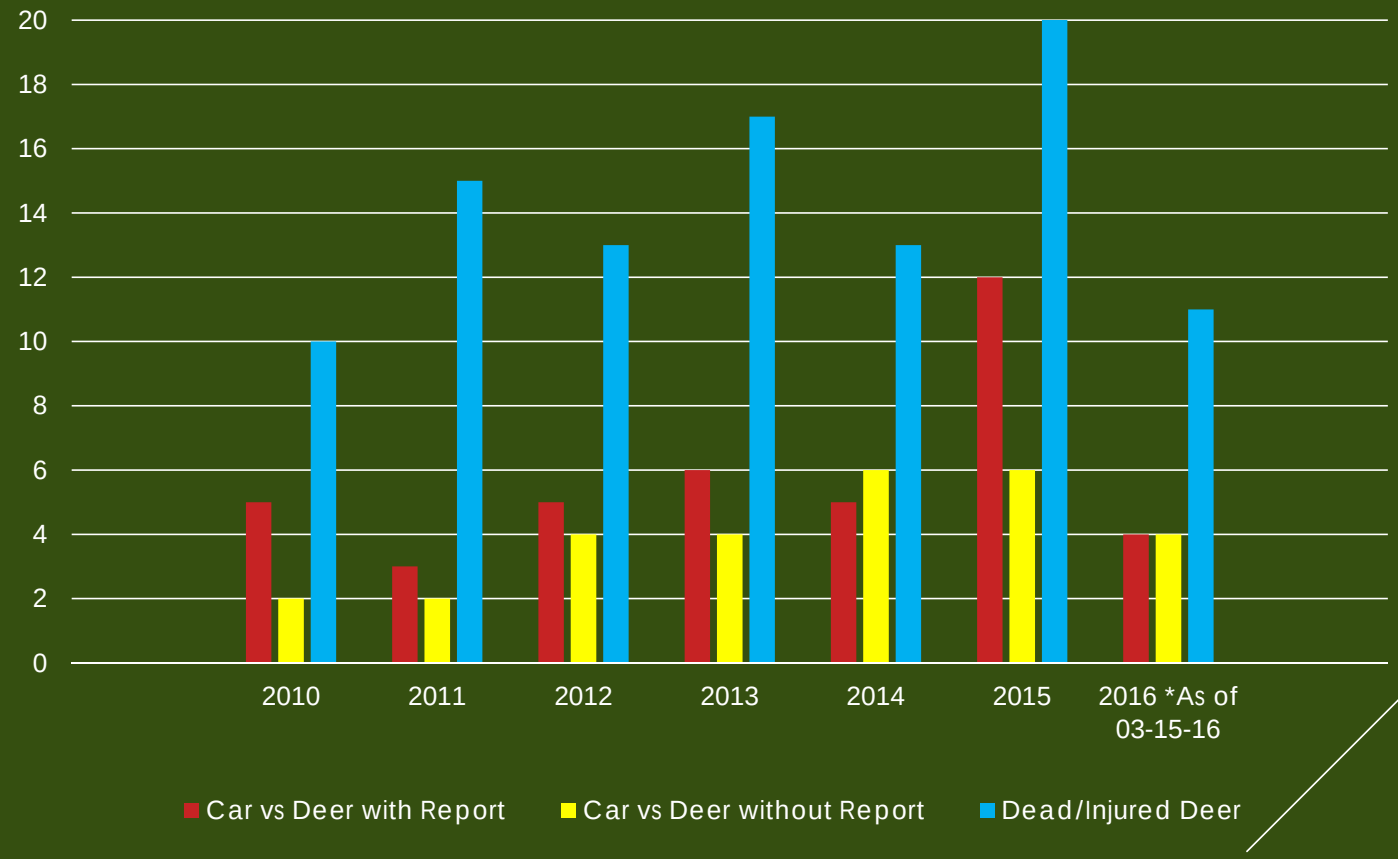
- Car vs Deer Accident with Report
- Car vs Deer Accidents without Report
- Dead/Injured Deer

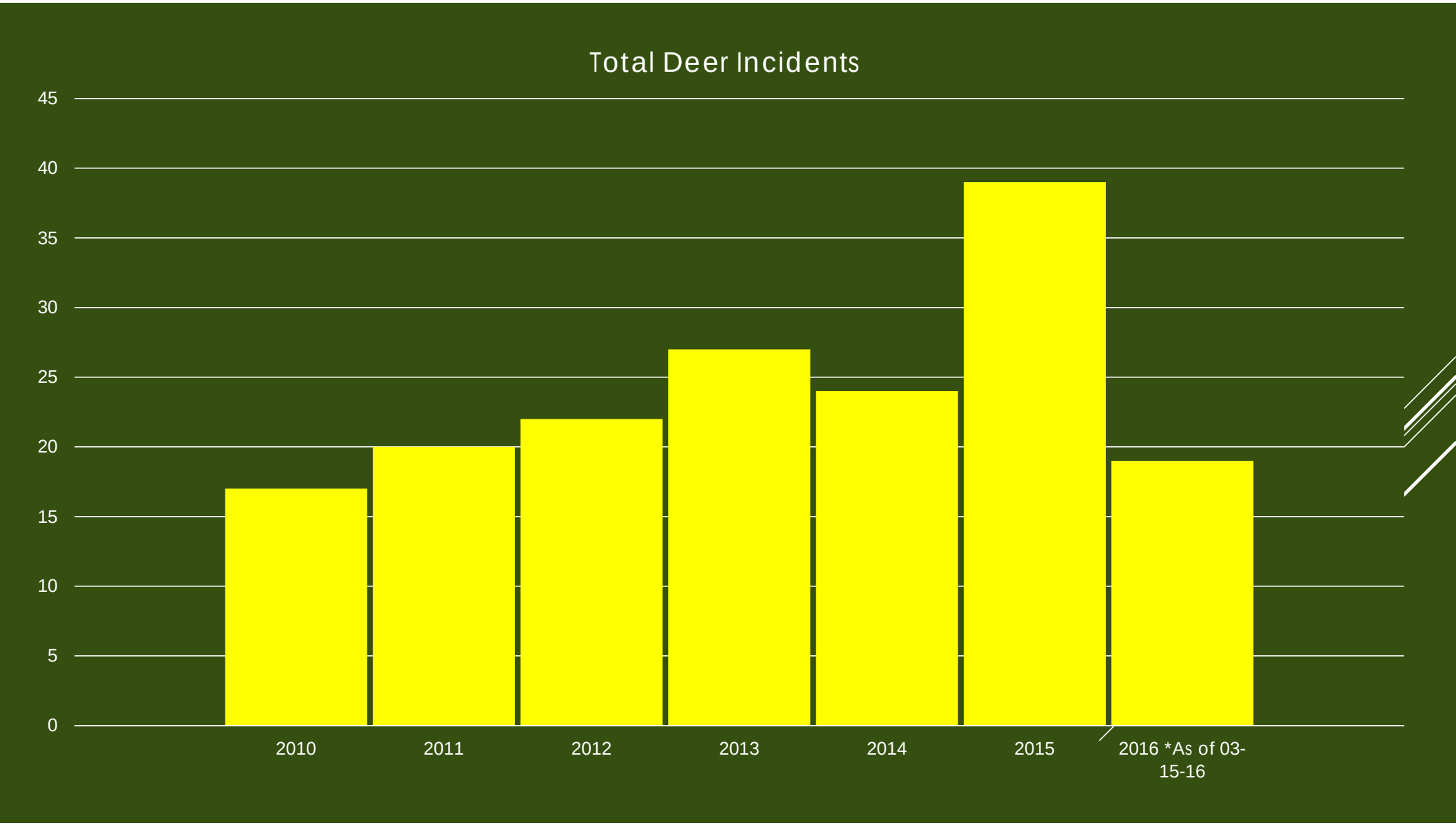
Totals:

- 40 Car vs Deer with Report
- 28 Car vs Deer without Report
- 100 Dead/Injured Deer



Car vs Deer Incidents




Total Deer Incidents
45
40
35
30
25
20
15
10
5
0
2010
2011
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016 *As of 03-15-16

CAR VS DEER CRASH COMPARISON

East Dubuque Police Department from 2013 to Present:

- Highway 20
  - 30 mph and less; No Car vs Deer Crashes
  - 30 mph to 40 mph; 1 Car vs Deer Crash
  - 50+ mph (Non-residential); 16 Car vs Deer Crashes

- Highway 35
  - 35 mph (in the area of East Dubuque Elementary School); 2 Car vs Deer Crashes
  - 40 mph; 1 Car vs Deer Crash

CAR VS DEER CRASH COMPARISON

Warren Police Department from 2013 to Present:

- Highway 78 No Car vs Deer Crashes
- Stagecoach Trail No Car vs Deer Crashes

Elizabeth Police Department from 2013 to Present:

- Highway 20 (20 to 45 Mile per hour) 1 Car vs Deer Crash and 1 injured deer

Stockton Police Department from 2013 to Present:

- Highway 20 or Highway 78 – No car vs deer crashes

DEER ACTIVITY

- Deer activity is USUALLY more prevalent during the dawn and dusk hours of the day.
  - Officers are reporting seeing deer at all hours of the day in the following areas:
    - Franklin Street
    - Indian Ridge Area
    - Field Street/Rec Park
    - Dodge Street
    - Summit Street
    - Highway 20 corridor
- Activity increases during times of fair weather conditions and during a deer's "rutting" phase (Late September through November).
- Deer become adapted to human activity:
  - Losing their fear of humans, vehicles, pets, etc.
  - Learn where food is available
  - "Creatures of habit"

FEEDING DEER:

- The police department has investigated a few instances of people feeding deer.
- Officers speak with the violators and explain the laws regarding the feeding deer and the importance of not feeding deer.
- Of all the instances, one person has been cited for two instances of feeding deer. This person received a citation from the Galena Police Department for the first instance of feeding deer and a citation from the Illinois Conservation Police for the second instance of feeding deer.
- This person pled guilty to both charges. They received a $200.00 fine with six months court supervision on the first charge and fined $120.00 on the second charge.

LAW REGARDING DEER FEEDING:

Section 635.40 Feeding or Baiting of Wildlife

It shall be illegal to make available food, salt, mineral blocks or other products for ingestion by wild deer or other wildlife in areas where wild deer are present.

Exempted from this Section are the following:

a) Elevated bird/squirrel feeders providing seed, grain, fruit, worms, or suet for birds or squirrels located within 100 feet of a dwelling devoted to human occupancy;

b) Incidental feeding of wildlife within active livestock operations;

c) Feeding of wild animals, other than wild deer, by hand as long as a reasonable attempt is made to clean up unconsumed food;

d) Feeders for wildlife other than deer so long as deer are excluded from the feed in and around the feeder by fencing or other barriers;

e) Standing crops planted and left standing as food plots for wildlife;

f) Grain or other feed scattered or distributed solely as a result of normal agricultural, gardening, or soil stabilization practices;

g) Standing, flooded, or manipulated natural vegetation or food/seed deposited by natural vegetation;

h) Grain or other feed distributed or scattered solely as the result of manipulation of an agricultural crop or other feed on the land where grown, for purposes of dove hunting;

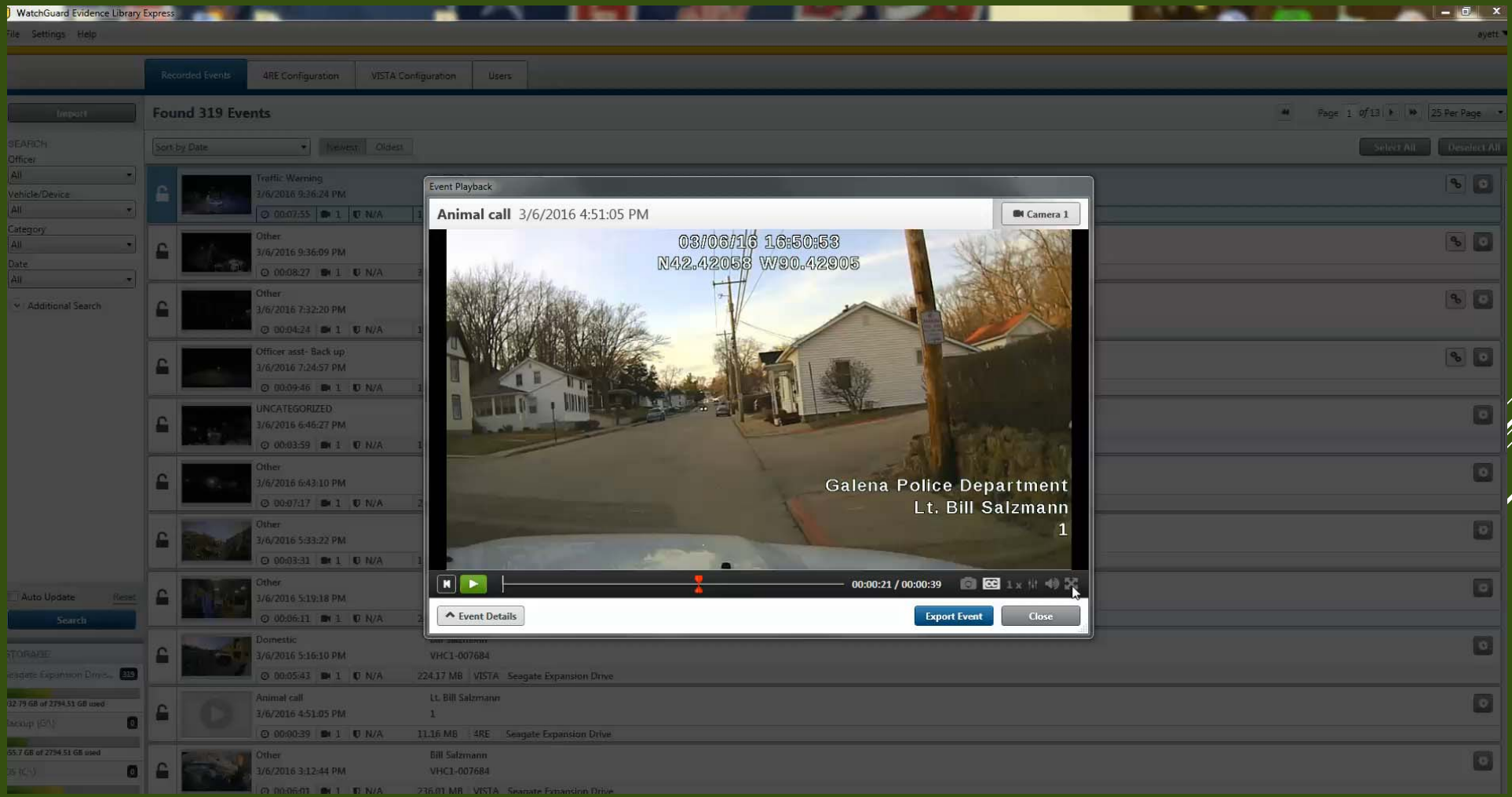
I) Food material placed for capturing or killing wildlife pursuant to 520 ILCS 5/2.37, 2.30, and 1.3;

j) Scientific permits issued pursuant to 17 Ill. Adm. Code 520 that allow food to attract wildlife;

k) Any other permits issued by the Department of Natural Resources that require the attraction of wildlife for purposes of management, research or control.

Section 635.50 Penalties

Violation of the provisions of this Part is a Petty Offense with a maximum fine of $1,000.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4RE Configuration
VISTA Configuration
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Galena Police Department
Lt. Bill Salzmann
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00:00:21 / 00:00:39
Event Details
Export Event
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QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS?