

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
10/31/11 – 11/13/11**

DISTRICT 1

CO Jason Wicklund responded to a late night shooting complaint in Gogebic County. A homeowner was on her way home when she saw a man standing in front of his vehicle with a bow. Several deer were also observed running from the adjacent yard. A check of the yard showed evidence of a deer being shot. The CO responded and located a seven point deer that had been shot and was bedded down near a lake. The deer was dispatched and the CO set up surveillance at the location for several hours, but nobody returned to retrieve the animal. The deer was processed and donated to a needy family.

CO Jason Wicklund received information about a person buying deer hides without a permit. With the help of CO Dave Painter, the COs were able to sell a deer hide to the person and he was then ticketed for buying animal parts without a license.

CO Jason Wicklund assisted the Michigan State Police (MSP) on a traffic stop on a rural Iron County road. The subjects had a grouse in their possession and none of the occupants had a small game license or required hunter orange. A confession was obtained by one of the individuals to hunting without a license and failing to wear hunter orange, and the grouse and shotgun were seized. The hunter was also arrested on three outstanding warrants. Other violations included improper license plates, possession of marijuana, open intoxicants, hunting while intoxicated, and failing to wear seat belts.

CO Mark Leadman and Sgt. Pete Wright responded to a deer hunting complaint and contacted a subject who was in possession of an untagged six point. Further investigation revealed that the subject had shot a small buck a week earlier and tagged it with another's tag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon contacted a hunter fixing up his blind for the upcoming firearm season. The subject had just placed out a large pile of corn and was tending to his illegal blind. Enforcement action was taken on the overlimit of bait.

CO Brian Bacon and Sgt. Marc Pomroy contacted a group of three hunters who were loading up their ORV. The subjects appeared nervous during a conversation about their hunting set ups and the amount of bait they had put out. A check of the first blind the COs checked revealed an overlimit of bait and an illegal blind. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dave Painter responded to the complaint of shots fired near Crystal Falls and canvassed the area for any sign of a deer being taken illegally. CO Painter contacted a subject in his garage where there was fresh blood on the floor. After a brief interview,

the subject confessed to taking a turkey without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 2

CO John Wenzel investigated the illegal taking of a whitetail. The deer in question was hanging in plain view from a woodshed. Upon checking the deer, it was found to have been shot with a .22 cal rifle. CO Wenzel waited for the property owner to return and once she did, she confessed to shooting the deer during closed season with a rifle. She was ticketed.

CO Kevin Postma encountered a subject operating an ORV on a state highway without a headlight. As the CO proceeded to make a stop the subject began to flee. The pursuit lasted almost a mile when the subject drove into the ditch and lost control. Unhurt, the subject stated that it was hard to see when he made turns because he wasn't able to utilize the headlights of the patrol truck to drive. The subject was lodged in the Chippewa County Jail for driving on a state highway and flee and elude. Warnings were given for no headlight, careless driving, no helmet and no ORV license.

CO Kevin Postma contacted a familiar subject in the Brimley area. The subject has received numerous tickets from various COs in the past for his overbaiting habit. Upon contact the subject explained that he knew he was getting a ticket, but was happy to explain to the CO that his bait pile was smaller than in recent years and that he was getting better! Due to the habitual illegal baiting, a report was taken and forwarded to the prosecutor's office for review.

CO Brett Gustafson handled three wolf complaints. All three wolves were found in foot hold traps. Two wolves were collared and released in cooperation with the DNR Wildlife Division. The third was bleeding and succumbed to its injuries, which opened an investigation.

DISTRICT 3

CO Carl VanderWall and Sgt. Mike Borkovich seized three illegal deer and arrested a subject who had been hunting with a centerfire rifle during the month of October. The man was polite and cooperative with the COs and took them to the locations where the deer were shot and provided information on each kill. He stated that he needed the meat but was not a bowhunter.

A complaint of an illegal food plot that someone had planted on state land led CO Carl VanderWall to a subject who had cut trees, cleared brush and further established a blind location, but failed to place his name and address on the structure. He was ticketed for the violation and was further advised that establishing a food plot on public land or creating any type of territory which would create a conflict with other hunters is not allowed.

CO Andrea Erratt and Sgt. Mike Borkovich ticketed a subject for littering on private property. The man had dumped several boxes of spoiled meat and had used the location for a strike bait site for running bears in the area. He was also warned for running bear during the closed season, having a non-resident with him during the closed season and for trespassing on private property.

COs Steve Speigl, Andrea Albert and Sgt. Mike Borkovich ticketed a subject who had trespassed on three different properties and had killed an 11 point buck with a crossbow. The same individual was ticketed for trespassing and having a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle three years ago. The antlers were seized for evidence, and the meat was donated to a local food pantry.

CO Eric Bottorff responded to an incident where a subject had taken two fawns without the benefit of any hunting licenses. CO Bottorff arrived as a subject was busy gutting the second deer. Lighted bait piles in both the front and back yards of the subject's residence were found. After investigating the scene and interviewing the subject, it was determined both deer had been taken at night with a crossbow, over illegal bait piles from the subject's residence. The subject has been charged and the crossbow seized.

CO Jon Sklba contacted a young man and two juveniles small game hunting without any hunter orange clothing. They also hadn't taken a hunter safety course. The adult was ticketed for failing to wear the required orange, and warnings were given for failing to have the hunter safety certification. Instructions were given on how to take the course or how to hunt under the apprentice program.

CO Mike Feagan and Sgt. Greg Drogowski worked an ongoing complaint on a non-motorized rail trail of subjects using an ORV to access their deer camp. The subjects had been ticketed twice in prior years for the same offense. After contact this time the ORV operator was ticketed for operating an ORV in a closed area and for failing to license the ORV, and the quad was impounded.

COs Bill Webster contacted three individuals trapping on a snowmobile trail in Alpena County. The three trappers were riding on one ORV without helmets and the trail is closed to motor vehicles. This was the fourth encounter with this subject this year where a ticket has been issued.

CO Bill Webster and Sgt. Joe Molnar investigated an individual who had bait out at his camp adjoining state land. He was not there at the time of contact but the COs located parts of a recently killed deer, then followed vehicle tracks onto state land where his vehicle was stuck on an illegal trail, and in doing so found the carcass of a spike buck. After shooting hours ended the hunter returned to camp, and while interviewing him he admitted to shooting three bucks in the last couple of weeks with a rifle. His gun and the meat from the deer were seized. Charges are being sought through the county prosecutor's office.

Sgt Joe Molnar investigated a complaint of a deer being dumped on the Lake Huron shoreline that was shot with a rifle. The individual was contacted who shot the deer and he admitted to shooting the deer with a rifle while he was bow hunting with a crossbow. He stated it was a really nice buck so he did not want to miss it. While talking with the CO, he also confessed to shooting two more bucks in the past few years without a license while he was living out of state. Charges are being sought with the prosecutor's office.

Following up from an investigation during the deer season of 2010, Sgt Joe Molnar interviewed a subject who admitted to shooting a bobcat with his bow in October of 2008, then putting it in the freezer. He then had it sealed claiming he trapped it. A mount was seized and charges are being sought with the prosecutor's office.

Sgt Joe Molnar received a call for assistance from local deputies who were attempting to locate a suicidal subject on state land. The subject was located in a climbing tree stand and was attempting to commit suicide by overdosing on prescription medication. Sgt. Molnar started talking with the subject and he agreed to come down but then passed out. With the help of local fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) personnel he was removed from the tree stand and taken to the hospital and treated.

DISTRICT 4

CO Sean Kehoe stopped to check a parked vehicle that contained an empty crossbow case. Because it was well after dark CO Kehoe attempted to locate the hunter. A short time later the light from a flashlight was observed moving through the woods. CO Kehoe contacted two subjects dragging out a field dressed deer. The deer was untagged and one of the subjects was carrying a handgun under a CCW permit and failed to disclose the possession of the handgun. Enforcement action was taken to address the tagging violation.

Acting Sgt. Brian Brosky responded to a complaint of a rifle shot during the archery season. Sgt. Brosky had previously scouted the location on a previous complaint of the same activity. With this information, the CO was able to locate the subject with blood stained hunting clothes and admitted to shooting a small buck with a rifle. The subject was ticketed for the illegally taken deer.

Acting Sgt. Brian Brosky worked a hunter harassment complaint with the assistance of a U.S. Forest Service (USFS) enforcement officer. Acting Sgt. Brosky posed as an archery hunter and took up position in the complainant's ground blind. After a short amount of time, the suspect noticed the bow blind was occupied and drove his pickup toward the blind at a high rate of speed. The subject braked hard, parked the vehicle right at the bow blind and then exited the truck, slammed the door and returned to his residence. The undercover CO yelled to the subject, "Do you always interfere with people legally hunting". The subject shouted obscenities and continued on to his residence. The COs contacted the surprised subject as the complainants were able to watch the events unfold. The complainants stated that the only difference was that the

subject usually stayed in the vehicle and played his radio loudly. The subject was ticketed for interfering with a person lawfully engaged in legal hunting activities.

CO Angie Greenway responded to a complaint of a suspicious deer carcass. Upon arriving at a residence, CO Greenway located a nine point buck that had been gunshot, lying on an oversized bait pile. When CO Greenway went to the residence to find the owner of the property, she was met at the door by a male subject who stated that his mother had shot the buck. CO Greenway asked to speak to the mother who provided very little information as to how or why she had taken the buck out of season. When the CO explained to the mother that the penalties consisted of a mandatory five days in jail and \$1000 restitution, her son spoke up and admitted to the violation. The subject was run through LEIN and it was discovered that he was a convicted felon and was not to be in possession of a firearm. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol, CO Steve Converse stopped to talk with an archery hunter who had just returned to his vehicle. As CO Converse had all of the deer tags issued to the subject, he asked how the deer season had been. The subject stated that he hadn't shot a deer yet this season. While CO Converse continued to talk with the subject, he observed a bloody arrow and blood on the subject's vehicle. When questioned about the arrow, the subject stated that he had just shot a deer and needed to go and retrieve it. CO Converse assisted the hunter with retrieving his deer and asked about the blood already on the vehicle. The subject admitted to already shooting a second buck and tagging it with his son's tag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Ginn received a Report-All-Poaching (RAP) complaint that individuals were shooting multiple deer with firearms. Upon further investigation, CO Ginn located three illegally killed deer semi-buried behind the residence. CO Ginn conducted interviews and obtained confessions from two of the individuals for shooting the deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lebel was conducting surveillance on a suspicious vehicle parked in a wooded area after dark. CO Lebel was able to get close to the vehicle on foot moments before three subjects dragged an untagged deer out of the woods and began quickly loading it into their vehicle and attempted to leave the area. CO Lebel contacted the subjects and ticketed the one responsible for failing to tag the deer.

CO Brian Lebel was on patrol when he located a subject tracking a deer. The excited hunter forgot his deer tags at home and explained that he lived just a short distance away. CO Lebel requested that the subject return to his residence and retrieve his kill tags. Upon returning the subject provided CO Lebel with his deer tags and an expired driver's license. A file check in LEIN revealed the subject had two outstanding warrants for his arrest. His friends agreed to continue tracking his deer as he was lodged in the Mecosta County Jail.

CO Mike Wells was inspecting a deer processing facility when he located a five point buck that was tagged with an antlerless kill tag. The improper kill tag was attached but

not validated. Upon conducting a follow up investigation with the hunter it was determined that he put the antlerless tag on the five point because his buddy stated that he could get away with it. CO Wells seized the five point rack, the antlerless tag and the subject's regular combination license that was still in the subject's wallet. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 5

CO Bobbi Lively contacted a hunter driving slowly in a remote area of state land. The hunter was carrying an uncased, loaded 12 gauge shotgun in the back seat of his vehicle and admitted to road hunting for grouse. The subject had also been drinking alcohol in the vehicle when stopped.

CO Bobbi Lively contacted two subjects slow rolling on a remote two track shining for deer in November. In addition the two subjects each had uncased crossbows in the vehicle while attempting to locate deer. Enforcement action taken.

CO Chris Bowen contacted a hunter in an illegal stand on state land. CO Bowen had been checking the scaffold blind for two seasons trying to find a hunter using the stand. The permanent blind had been left out for two years and been baited for hunting during the baiting ban. The hunter was hunting over excessive bait and had been ticketed for game violations in the past.

CO Mike Hearn responded to a grass fire where a homeowner was burning his house debris on a windy and dry day and the fire escaped. Several acres of the homeowner's property were burned before the fire could be extinguished.

CO Steve Lockwood concluded an illegal bear investigation this week. In October, he received a complaint of a freshly killed bear lying in the woods. CO Lockwood located the bear and gathered all available evidence. He also found a tree stand not far from where the bear died. After three weeks of checking the tree stand, CO Lockwood located an individual using the stand. COs Lockwood and Mark Papineau interviewed the subject, who was using the same type of arrows and broadheads that were recovered from the dead bear. The subject confessed to shooting the bear and warrants are being sought.

CO Steve Lockwood was working a complaint of a subject hunting over a lighted bait pile at night. When the CO checked the location at 3:15 a.m., he found the subject hunting over the lighted bait with a crossbow. Enforcement action taken.

CO Steve Lockwood was checking a hunter who had bragged about the five point buck he had shot with his bow earlier in the bow season. During the check, the CO determined that the hunter still had all his deer tags. When asked what he tagged his five point with, the subject immediately confessed to not tagging the deer. He also turned the five point rack over to CO Lockwood as part of his confession.

COs Steve Lockwood and Jason McCullough were investigating a complaint of hunting after hours when they found three subjects tracking a deer. All three subjects had bow hunted that evening without licenses and were tracking a deer that had been shot without a license. The COs were able to locate a deer back at the cabin that had been shot with a rifle earlier in the day. Enforcement action taken.

COs Steve Lockwood and Jason McCullough caught two individuals dumping a deer carcass in a ditch. Subsequent interviews led to a third subject's residence and two illegally killed deer that had been shot with a .22 rifle.

CO Brian Olsen assisted CO Phil Hudson in the investigation of an overlimit of brown trout in Iosco County. The COs were able to locate the subject and watch him catch two fish. They contacted the violator who had five trout over his limit of the recently planted fish.

DISTRICT 6

Sgt. Ron Kimmerly checked three anglers near the St. Charles Field Office. All three anglers had a five gallon bucket next to them. Each angler told the Sgt. that they had 24 panfish in their bucket. The first bucket contained 25 panfish, the second bucket contained 25 and the third bucket contained 37 panfish. The Sgt. recognized the angler with 37 panfish from a prior contact and a ticket that was issued to him the previous year for the same offense. The Sgt. issued another ticket and gave warnings to the other two for attempting to take an overlimit.

Four days before the firearm deer opener, CO Ken Lowell and Sgt. Ron Kimmerly stopped a vehicle with a buck tied on the back. The COs found that the buck did have a tag attached but was not validated. The passenger advised he just forgot and promised the COs that he was not planning on reusing the tag. A search of the vehicle produced two crossbows and a rifle. The COs then found an empty pistol holster in the vehicle and a pistol under the driver's seat. The driver, who was licensed to carry a concealed pistol failed to advise the COs. Through more interviews it was found that the driver had shot a six point buck earlier in the week and tagged it with his restricted tag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Vicki Goss responded to a RAP complaint of an individual who bragged at work that he had taken three bucks so far in the season. The subject's wife covered for him by stating she shot the deer. She supplied the CO with location, date and time of her kill and was adamant that she shot the deer. Upon further investigation it was noted that the license was purchased after the date and time the shooter indicated she had taken the buck. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Joel Lundberg contacted three individuals in the woods and while talking with one of the subjects it was discovered that he had not tagged and validated three kill tags on the deer he had killed. The other two hunters denied shooting any deer this year. While talking with one of those subjects the CO observed a picture on one of the

subject's phones of a dead buck. After a lengthy interview, the subject admitted he had shot the buck and never bought a hunting license. Tickets were issued and the deer antlers were confiscated.

CO Joel Lundberg received information of a subject who had killed several bucks this year. The CO set up and observed the residence and gathered information on the subject. The CO made contact several days into the investigation and recovered three deer racks and a confession to not tagging three of the four deer the subject had shot this year.

While conducting a taxidermy inspection, CO Dan Lee located a tag where the date purchased had been punched out. The tag had been purchased four days after the deer was shot and two days after it had been dropped off at the taxidermist. The subject was issued a ticket for taking a deer without a license.

While on patrol in Isabella County, CO Larn R. Strawn observed an untagged buck hanging on a tall fence at a hunting camp. The CO pulled into the camp and took a closer look. The CO then observed an untagged nine point rack from a recent kill also on the fence. The CO contacted the two hunters and asked where the tags were for the nine point. Both hunters pulled the unvalidated tags from their wallets. Both were issued tickets for failing to tag the deer.

CO Quincy Gowenlock was on patrol when he observed a field with bright yellow objects spread all over the ground. The CO entered the field and noted that the objects were corn cobs. The CO contacted the farmer who had a tree blind next to all the corn and thought that all the corn in the field was a normal agricultural practice. The CO explained the law and gave the farmer a chance to till it under instead of a ticket. The farmer tilled it under the next day.

CO Seth Rhodea contacted a hunter on state land who was hunting out of a tree stand with no name and address affixed. CO Rhodea had warned the hunter a couple weeks prior about the violation and the hunter advised the CO he would put his name on the stand. This time a ticket was issued.

CO Jason A. Smith reports that a subject who was issued a ticket for illegal deer baiting during the early antlerless season pled guilty and as part of a plea agreement was ordered to surrender his firearm.

CO Nick Atkin received information of deer being poached at a residence. The CO followed up on the information and located evidence at the residence which led to a search warrant being obtained. The search warrant was executed and multiple illegal deer and an illegal grouse were seized. A lighted bait pile with an overlimit of bait was also located. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Nick Atkin and Phil Hudson investigated a complaint of a subject hunting deer under a lighted bait pile after hours. The COs worked the location for weeks and finally caught the subject hunting in the blind at night. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Phil Hudson was fishing on his holiday off and observed a subject take 61 perch. The subject stated that it wasn't right that they received a ticket because of all the other days they fished and were not able to catch their limit. CO Hudson had his ticket book in the trunk of his car and enforcement action was taken.

CO Phil Hudson received a call from a fishing buddy on his day off and was told that a subject might be taking overlimits of brown trout. CO Hudson drove to Tawas to meet his friend and located a subject fishing for browns. CO Hudson hid in the bushes in the pouring rain and observed a subject catching browns. CO Hudson called CO Brian Olsen and notified him off what he witnessed. The subject left and CO Hudson followed and gave direction to CO Olsen. CO Olsen was able to contact the subject and an overlimit of browns was located. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Phil Hudson received a call from a complainant who stated there was a person acting suspicious in the marina. CO Hudson responded to the area and the subject quickly loaded his fishing equipment and attempted to leave. CO Hudson was able to contact the subject and an overlimit of perch was located. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeremy Payne received a call from COs in Wyoming asking for assistance. The Wyoming COs advised that they had information that two hunters from Michigan may have each taken an antelope illegally without a license. CO Payne contacted the hunters for an interview and was able to obtain a confession from both. The antelope was confiscated from the processor and the State of Wyoming will be charging the hunters.

CO Jeremy Payne and a MSP trooper received a complaint of subjects driving around in a truck and shooting deer. The officers stopped the truck and contacted the three subjects. The CO found a rifle in the truck and obtained a confession. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 7

CO Cary Foster observed a subject at the Lyons Dam in Ionia County who was attempting to snag fish for a long period of time. CO Foster contacted and ticketed this person who he witnessed throwing all carcasses and entrails back in to the river after removing fillets from the fish he had taken.

CO Cary Foster and Sgt. Jeff Rabbers were conducting a night patrol in the Hubbardston area when they observed a vehicle shining at about 12:30 a.m. The vehicle stopped, a subject entered the field on foot, then returned to the vehicle and returned to shining. A traffic stop and investigation found four occupants in the vehicle;

one of whom had attempted to run down and capture a fawn. COs found a 30-30 rifle in the trunk of the vehicle. Two occupants were ticketed for using an artificial light while in possession of a firearm.

CO Greg Patten and Sgt. John Jurcich conducted surveillance and contacted a sailing charter being operated without DNR inspection or a Captain's License, out of Muskegon Lake. The operator was ticketed after docking and admitted this was his 11th trip for the year.

CO Greg Patten stopped two ORV operators riding illegally on the road. Both operators were suspended drivers; therefore, CO Patten impounded both vehicles and the drivers were ticketed for operating while suspended and for operation of ORVs on a roadway.

CO Greg Patten located a whole body deer at a processor that was imported from Minnesota in violation of CWD transport regulations. CO Patten ticketed the individual who transported this deer from Minnesota to Michigan.

Sgt. John Jurcich, COs BJ Goulette and Greg Patten, along with DNR Wildlife Division employees and the Michigan Department of Agriculture, conducted an inspection at a captive cervid facility. The inspection was initiated after continued non-compliance by the operator, a report of an ear-tagged deer observed outside the pen, and the discovery of poor fencing and numerous dead deer seen inside the facility. Additional dead deer, animals in very poor condition, and lack of required record keeping by the operator were found within the facility. The investigation continues with possible charges pending.

COs BJ Goulette and Ivan Perez located a small buck at a processing facility in Ottawa County with a tag purchased that morning. An interview of the archer found that he thought he was shooting at a doe but learned the deer was a buck upon locating the animal. The hunter made a quick trip to the store to secure another tag to cover the kill, as all he possessed at the time was an antlerless tag. The hunter was ticketed for the tagging violation.

CO Ivan Perez and Sgt. John Jurcich responded to a complaint of a subject who had recently taken three bucks with a firearm. The COs interviewed the owner of the residence, walked the property, and were granted consent to search the outbuildings. Sgt. Jurcich located the head of a six point hanging in a barn and the remains of a butchered carcass taken several days prior. The COs obtained a confession from the property owner to taking the deer over excess bait with a rifle. The subject was ticketed and the rifle used in the violation was seized.

CO BJ Goulette was conducting processor inspections when he examined tags from two deer brought in by the same hunter. A follow up investigation found that the customer was hunting with a friend who killed two deer but only had one license. CO Goulette ticketed that hunter for taking a deer without a license.

Sgt. John Jurcich and CO Ivan Perez were called to a location in Muskegon County where a buck was taken with a rifle during the bow season. Local police officers arrived to find the deer and obtain the rifle used by the subject. COs conducted their investigation and CO Perez issued a ticket for taking deer during closed season, after the property owner said he took the deer with a rifle in his yard.

CO Ivan Perez was patrolling through Ottawa County when he observed a vehicle headlighting a field. During a traffic stop CO Perez found the operator had three children in the vehicle. He also had an uncased shotgun and a bow in the vehicle and a partially processed untagged deer. CO Perez ticketed the operator for failing to tag his deer, possession of an uncased firearm, and using artificial light during November.

CO Ivan Perez located a truck containing gun cases and hunting gear near a pond at the Bass River Recreation Area. CO Perez approached the pond and could hear waterfowl hunters calling and talking with only ten minutes of legal hunting time remaining. CO Perez continued to observe these hunters as they continued to hunt waterfowl for 50 minutes past legal hunting hours. He found one hunter in possession of an unplugged gun and each hunter in possession of lead shot. Enforcement action was taken.

CO BJ Goulette was patrolling at night when he began to follow a small utility vehicle across an overpass on I-96. Upon investigation, CO Goulette found the operator was returning from a hunting spot, riding on the road with an uncased crossbow and in possession of too many deer tags. The operator was ticketed for operation on the roadway.

While CO Dave Rodgers was returning to his patrol vehicle after checking a baiting complaint for the third time, a hunter pulling a large plastic sled loaded with four kinds of bait passed him and continued toward his stand. CO Rogers had missed this hunter twice after he found the site had been baited after he left on previous visits. The hunter was ticketed for excess bait.

CO Dave Rodgers was called to investigate a carcass dumping complaint and when he arrived at the location, found several subjects dropping off deer remains. One subject was also attempting to quickly validate a tag. Four carcasses were being dumped at the time and lengthy interviews and a phone call were used to dispel claims that the deer were road kills or found while hunting. CO Rodgers determined all deer had been taken by the group and issued tickets for possession of deer without a hunting license, and two tickets for failing to tag deer. CO Rodger noted the subjects encountered were all convicted felons and had lengthy DNR histories.

CO Steve Mooney obtained a warrant for hunter harassment on a subject, who had previously been convicted of the same offense. The subject repeatedly harassed the lawfully hunting neighbor by honking a horn, yelling, and tampering with a bait location. When the subject was arrested on the warrant by a MSP trooper, the subject fought and was also charged with felony resisting arrest.

CO Andy Bauer received a RAP complaint of trespassing, where the complainant used his cell phone to photograph and videotape the trespasser. CO Bauer was able to use the photograph and videotape to identify the subject and obtain a confession to both trespassing and hunting without a small game license. The subject was ticketed for both violations.

CO Jeff Robinette and Sgt. Zach Doss were on patrol when they attempted to stop an ORV on the road. The ORV fled and a chase ensued, with the subject eventually abandoning the ORV in the back of a standing corn field. The ORV was impounded and the investigation continued. The subject was located and a confession obtained two days later for felony flee and elude, drive while license suspended and numerous ORV violations. Warrants will be sought for the violations and the subject was lodged on two outstanding arrest warrants.

CO Mike Mshar reported checking many waterfowl hunters during the managed youth waterfowl hunt at the Fennville Farm Unit in Allegan County. One youth hunter was located whose family had forged his birth date to secure a hunting license illegally. A discussion on ethics and rules was presented to the young hunter and other family members. The license was revoked and the young hunter will be attending hunter safety as requested by the CO.

While patrolling the Allegan SGA, CO Mike Mshar observed a subject throw a firearm into the woods when he saw the CO. When contact was made the subject claimed he wasn't hunting. A squirrel was located in the subject's vehicle and the firearm was located hidden in the woods. The subject claimed he panicked when he saw the CO because his hunting privileges had been revoked. It was determined they had been revoked by the court on a previous ticket issued by CO Mshar, but had been reinstated this year. The subject had not purchased a current hunting license.

CO Patrick McManus and Sgt. Jeff Rabbers assisted the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources with the investigation of four subjects who had taken gross overlimits of smallmouth bass. Confessions were obtained and the subjects were ordered to pay \$3,200 in fines and costs.

CO Patrick McManus investigated an incident of a subject shooting a deer with a rifle with the aid of his vehicle headlights at 11:30 p.m. The subject shot the deer after his shift was done at a large manufacturing business, between one of the company's main buildings and a large employee parking lot. A confession was obtained and the carcass was located. Charges are pending for trespass, safety zone, and numerous hunting violations.

CO Patrick McManus responded to a complaint of two subjects killing a Trumpeter swan. Due to the complainant providing a vehicle license plate, the subjects were located. The subjects thought it was a snow goose, but buried the bird when they realized what they had done.

During the investigation of the illegal killing of an 11 point buck, CO Chris Holmes found that a relative of the subject had killed a six point buck without a license and borrowed a kill tag from another subject. A search warrant was conducted and evidence of the illegal killing of the six point was recovered and multiple charges are being sought for game violations.

DISTRICT 8

CO Rich Nickols received a RAP complaint of a Blue Heron caught in a leghold trap. The complainant recovered the bird from the trap and took it to a local vet. The complainant turned over the trap that was properly tagged. Officer Nickols investigated and found the subject was targeting raccoons in a drainage ditch. Officer Nickols spoke with the trapper and informed him of the violation setting his traps near water prior to November 10. The trapper said he had been trapping for over 30 years and never heard of such a law. The Heron was released with a broken toe and a ticket was issued for the trapping violation.

COs Daniel Prince and Pete Purdy checked a group of waterfowl hunters and found them all hunting without any of the required licenses, hunting with more than one firearm each, an unregistered vessel and no personal flotation devices (PFDs) for their vessel. Enforcement action taken.

CO Shane Webster responded to a trapping complaint of individuals setting body gripping traps along a river before the open season. CO Webster donned his waders and walked the river and located several illegal sets. Name tags were still on the traps and Officer Webster was able to locate the two individuals responsible for setting them. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Thorn investigated a RAP complaint of a man shooting a small buck and not tagging it. During the investigation, CO Thorn found a number of violations at the hunting camp, including illegal tree stands and destruction of state land. The illegal deer was found and a warrant will be sought. Enforcement action on the other violations was taken.

CO Todd Thorn stopped a woman on a golf cart driving down a busy road in the southern portion of Ingham County. The woman acted surprised when she was told that she could not operate the golf cart on the roadway. She stated that she was picking up scrap metal along the road. Officer Thorn found that the woman's driver's license was indefinitely suspended. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rich Nickols, while following up on a trespass complaint, received a phone call that the subject he was looking for was currently hunting at a different location. Officer Nickols responded to the area and located the subject dressed in camo walking down the road but not carrying a bow. Officer Nickols followed the subject back to his hunting location and found that he was also trespassing adjacent to the property where he had

permission to hunt. The subject had shot a deer and was tracking it onto another property where he didn't have permission to hunt. A two count warrant will be submitted to the prosecutor's office.

CO Pete Purdy received a RAP complaint of a subject who had taken an eight point buck without a license. He and CO Dan Prince immediately responded to the subject's residence. The subject led the COs to the deer hanging in his garage and advised the deer was tagged. He also admitted to taking the deer at 5:30 p.m. The COs inspected the tag which showed the license was purchased after 8:00 p.m. The subject admitted that he only had an antlerless tag and that he couldn't resist shooting the eight point buck, then going to the store and purchasing a combination license. The deer and the subject's bow were seized and charges will be submitted to the prosecutor's office. The deer was donated to a needy family.

CO Pete Purdy, while on a foot patrol of state land, could hear a chain saw being used in the distance. Officer Purdy located a subject who had illegally driven his vehicle in a closed area and was cutting up state trees for firewood. Further investigation also revealed an uncased bow in the subject's vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Troy Bahlau responded to a trespass complaint at a residence where a subject had just been ticketed a week earlier for an illegal deer. Sgt. Bahlau located the subject and after a short interview and being advised of the evidence, the subject admitted to the trespass. He led Sgt. Bahlau to a six point buck in a shed at another location. The subject was ticketed for trespass and the second deer within one week was seized from him.

CO Brad Brewer received information of a subject hunting from his pick up truck and that the hunter may have two illegal turkeys. When he arrived at the subject's home, he found the truck backed up to his house and one feather and little blood in the bed. After several minutes of knocking at the door, the subject finally appeared. During the interview, he confessed to shooting one turkey and turned over the skinned and processed carcass. CO Brewer searched his remaining freezers and found nothing, so he had the subject take him to where he dumped the guts and feathers; there was also nothing at that location. CO Brewer drove back down a farm lane that the subject avoided during the tour and found the remains of two turkeys. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Goss was on patrol and had a vehicle pass by him at a high rate of speed. CO Goss turned around, activated his emergency light and siren and attempted to stop the vehicle. The driver disregarded the next stop sign and went through the intersection in excess of 90 mph. At the next intersection, he lost control and crashed into a field. CO Goss took the subject into custody, and the 18 year old said he did not think the CO could catch up to him and he figured he could outrun him. Warrants for flee and elude and reckless driving are pending.

CO Jeff Goss responded to a call of a deer shot with a firearm. He arrived on the scene and observed the subjects still in the swamp using their flashlights. He contacted the subjects and found the large buck under a tarp in the bed of the pickup. Initial observation revealed that the deer had been shot with a crossbow, but further study highlighted the .50 caliber hole in the deer's neck that was from the muzzleloader the deer had been initially shot with. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Derek Miller, Jason J Smith and Rick Villerot checked a deer hanging in a back yard and the subject who was acting nervous. There was a spotlight mounted to the side of the house and was aimed directly at a bait pile. Inside the house, CO Smith located several firearms and a crossbow at the window that overlooked the bait pile. CO Miller observed a second gut pile that the subject said he was unaware of. After more interviewing, the subject admitted to shooting a doe on opening day. They checked his tags, and he had not purchased them until October 3rd. He gave a full written confession to them and was ticketed for the violations.

COs Derek Miller and Jason J Smith were checking duck hunters at a boat launch. After checking licenses and while inspecting their guns and ammo boxes one hunter opened his ammo box and showed them some of the shells he was using. CO Miller pointed out to him that half of them were turkey loads. They did not have any birds and had not fired a shot. Everything else was in line so they were given a warning for possession of toxic shot.

CO Jason J Smith worked a night patrol and contacted several anglers taking advantage of both the warm night and hungry walleye. CO Smith observed a boat navigating the Huron River with no navigation lights. A further check of the angler revealed a nice 26 inch walleye, as well as a felony warrant out of Minnesota. Minnesota determined that Michigan was just out of their range for pick up and the angler was advised and release.

DISTRICT 9

CO Linda Scheidler is seeking a warrant on a subject for purchasing a hunting license while revoked. The subject knew he was revoked for three years and thought that time had expired. He figured when he went to purchase a license, if he was still revoked, the system would not give him one.

CO Todd Szyska is seeking a warrant on a subject who allowed his boat to sink while docked in the Clinton River. After the boat owner did not respond to the marina owner's request to have it removed, the marina owner called the CO. The CO contacted that subject and gave him 24 hours to take action to get the sunken vessel out of the water. The subject stated he already received a letter from the US Coast Guard requesting it be removed. Four days later, the subject still had not taken any action on removing it.

CO Ben Lasher was provided information from Wildlife Division personnel that a couple of subjects may have shot an overlimit of hen mallards. The following morning, CO

Lasher was informed two of the four subjects from the previous evening were back out hunting. Using his kayak, CO Lasher sneaked out and set up to watch the hunting party. After an hour of hunting, the CO observed the foursome shoot five hen mallards. The CO waited until the subjects started loading up and he contacted them individually. The four had five hen mallards. One of the subjects who had a prior violation for hunting after hours admitted to taking the additional duck. Enforcement action taken.

CO Ken Kovach was requested to assist local deputies on a trespassing complaint. CO Kovach had received a similar complaint at the same location a few weeks prior. CO Kovach contacted the subject, who was operating an ORV without a helmet and trespassing. He also had an uncased bow on the ORV. The CO confirmed the location where the subject was hunting and found he was trespassing and had an illegal bait pile. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach received a RAP complaint of a subject hunting deer with a rifle during the archery season. CO Kovach was working his way down a fence row when he observed a subject pitch a firearm in the fence row when the subject saw the CO. Contact was made and the CO recovered a Remington 700 rifle. The subject had no hunting licenses and was hunting over a large, illegal bait pile. An illegally killed buck was recovered as well. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel was not too far away from a complaint in St. Clair County of subjects who had been out hunting and shooting at waterfowl all day. The complainant felt that based on the number of shots, the subjects had to be overlimit. CO Kiel conducted surveillance on the subjects and a few hours later the subjects loaded up and came in to shore. CO Kiel and CO Ben Lasher met the subjects who admitted to shooting at several birds; however, they missed most of them. The crew only had four birds. A check revealed one of the subjects had an unplugged shotgun and had a few prior wildlife violation convictions. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel contacted three subjects at the South River Road access site who were waterfowl hunting. One of the subjects had a scoped rifled shotgun and no camouflage. The other two subjects had normal waterfowl hunting apparel. The CO checked all three subjects. The subject with the scoped shotgun was in full compliance. Neither of the other two subjects had plugged firearms and they both had unsigned federal stamps. Enforcement action was taken.

Following up on two weeks of complaints and calls of hunters at Pointe Mouillee SGA rallying ducks and shooting at them from moving vessels, CO Ennett was finally able to locate a suspect vessel in the area and commenced surveillance. Several violations were noted, and CO Dan Walzak arrived to assist. The COs watched off and on for over five hours, noting the times of the violations from their vantage point. At the end of hunting hours, both COs conducted checks on the group. CO Ennett ticketed the boat owner/operator for reckless operation, and CO Walzak ticketed another hunter for transport/possess a loaded firearm in a moving vessel.

Checking waterfowl hunters at the Pointe Mouillee SGA, CO Dan Walzak encountered three hunters who had bagged three birds. Unfortunately for one of the hunters, one of the birds was incorrectly identified. Thinking that the bird was a black duck, one of the hunters shot a cormorant. Enforcement action was taken.

Responding to a complaint of snagging on the Huron River, CO Dan Walzak contacted two subjects who were leaving the river after observing them fishing for several minutes. When asked for their fishing licenses, one of the subjects stated that he was not fishing he was only watching his friend. The CO explained that the subject had been observed with a fishing rod in his hand casting and reeling and asked him if he had a license. When the subject continued to deny he was fishing CO Walzak reached into his patrol vehicle, showed the subject his binoculars, and told him he had watched him fishing for several minutes. The subject then told the CO he was just using his friend's pole to try it out. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Drexler was on patrol when he observed a large amount of thick black smoke in the distance. Tracking the smoke, the CO contacted a homeowner who was doing a little fall cleaning and burning a large amount of solid waste, including aerosol spray paint cans, plastic, and mattresses. The local fire department responded and CO Drexler issued a ticket for burn solid waste.

CO Brandon Kieft contacted a hunter along a stretch of state land in the Bald Mountain Recreation Area. While checking the hunter's licenses, CO Kieft asked the subject if he "had any luck." The hunter stated that he hadn't shot one yet for the year. After observing blood on the hunter's truck and all licenses in his possession, CO Kieft investigated further. It turned out that the subject had shot an antlerless deer the night before and failed to tag it. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 21

Detective Janet Erlandson of the Environmental Investigation Section reports that on November 10, 2011 a contractor in Cass County was convicted of Inland Lakes and Streams-no permit. He had installed three seawalls in Cass County with out obtaining permits. He was sentenced to pay fines and costs of \$6500.00 in part because he had been previously convicted of the same violation.

Detective Kenneth Montgomery of the Environmental Investigation section reports that on November 8, 2011 a marine contractor was convicted for violation of Inland Lakes and Streams-no permit. The contractor installed a seawall and dredged canal bottom land in St. Clair County without obtaining a permit. He was sentenced to pay a total fine of \$74,000.00. The court noted that the contractor has a violation history of conducting similar unauthorized work without obtaining a permit.