

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
2/10/08 – 2/23/08**

DISTRICT 1

While checking anglers on Shakey Lakes, COs Terry Short and Jason Niemi contacted three subjects who were found to be in possession of marijuana. Further investigation revealed an illegally possessed stun gun. Enforcement action was taken.

As CO Doug Hermanson was checking anglers near the mouth of the Huron River, he observed one subject toss a bag into the woods. The bag was retrieved and found to contain eight filleted lake trout. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Holmes stopped to assist a snowmobiler who had gone off the trail and became stuck in deep snow. Further investigation revealed that the driver was operating an unregistered snowmobile and had a suspended driver's license. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 2

CO Reid Roeske assisted the Delta County Sheriff's Department with a situation involving a barricaded gunman. Contact was made with the subject and he was taken into custody without incident.

CO Steve Speigl obtained an arrest warrant for a father who directed his son to illegally shoot a deer during the youth hunt last fall. The father and son team were trespassing when the deer was taken. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Derek Miller, with assistance from local deputies, arrested and lodged a snowmobile operator with a blood alcohol level three times the legal limit.

DISTRICT 3

CO Michael Feagan worked on the West Mullett Lake portion of the snowmobile trail to address complaints received about snowmobiles not stopping prior to crossing roads. Several tickets were issued for careless operation, no helmets, and expired registrations.

COs Michael Feagan, Andrea Erratt, Carl Vanderwall and Sgt. Greg Drogowski served a search warrant on a residence regarding an illegal deer investigation. One subject had four warrants for his arrest and was in possession of marijuana. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 4

While working a snowmobile patrol, CO Troy VanGelderren observed a sled with an expired registration. The subject fled from CO VanGelderren, however was apprehended a short time later. Including the expired registration and fleeing an officer, the subject had a suspended driver's license and a blood alcohol level of .06. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Carla Soper and Steve Converse received a tip that a subject had two illegal deer hanging in a garage in Manistee County. Upon investigation, the COs located the illegal deer in the subject's garage and received a confession that the deer was taken out of season. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Bomay responded to a complaint in Mecosta County of two deer hanging in a barn. Upon arrival, CO Bomay discovered the hides of two bears. Both raw bear hides were improperly sealed. Other taxidermy violations were also found. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Carla Soper responded to a call from Manistee County 911 dispatch regarding a subject who had attempted to cross the Manistee River on his snowmobile. The snowmobile got caught in the current and sank. The operator made it to shore but was suffering from exposure and had to be treated by emergency personnel. The subject was ticketed for reckless operation of a snowmobile.

DISTRICT 5

COs Chris Bowen and Chuck McPherson responded to a complaint of subjects cutting firewood on state land during a time when no firewood permits are issued. CO McPherson located the subjects who had taken three cords of wood and were attempting to leave the area when stopped. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking anglers on the ice, CO Mark Lutz contacted six subjects who were ice fishing. CO Lutz asked to see the subjects' fishing licenses and determined that five of the six had not purchased a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Wood was watching several anglers fishing with tip-ups on a small lake when he observed one subject catch a small pike and buried it in the snow. When CO Wood contacted the group and asked if they had any fish, the group said no. CO Wood then asked the subject who caught and buried the fish if he had anything he wanted to confess and the subject admitted to catching the illegal fish. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Wood responded to a complaint from a landowner regarding illegal traps set on private property. A subject had placed traps on two different parcels of private property without permission from the landowners. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Lowell is working with the local police department on investigations of two separate fatal snowmobile accidents that occurred in Kalkaska County. One victim left the trail and hit a tree. The second victim, a juvenile, crested the top of a hill and collided with another snowmobile.

DISTRICT 6

While working a complaint of illegal hunting activity, CO Tony Soave observed two subjects exit the woods carrying firearms, one of whom was not wearing the required hunter orange. One subject placed his loaded, uncased shotgun in the bed of the pickup truck pointing directly at the driver's seat. As the vehicle drove away, the second subject hopped onto the tailgate with his loaded firearm. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Daniel Lee was called to assist the Saginaw Police Department in the search for two subjects hiding in a residential neighborhood. CO Lee assisted with the apprehension of the two subjects in possession of concealed weapons. Further investigation revealed contraband buried in the snow.

CO Jay Person contacted an off road vehicle (ORV) on Sanford Lake that had three people on board. The ORV was not properly licensed, the occupants were not wearing helmets, and the driver had a suspended driver's license. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 7

CO Jeff Ginn watched a subject catch and keep 15 bluegill before he stopped fishing for the day. When contacted by CO Ginn, the subject showed the CO eight fish he had caught. Further investigation revealed a second bag containing 25 more panfish. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Cerny observed an off road vehicle (ORV) operating illegally on a frozen lake. The single person machine had three occupants and was towing a fourth person on a sled, no helmets were worn by any of the occupants, and the machine had no ORV permit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Cerny contacted a subject fishing in a portable ice shanty and observed an undersized, out of season, largemouth bass lying on the floor of the shanty. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Bob VerBerkmoes was driving past a lake and observed numerous tip-ups set near a lone portable ice fishing shanty. Sgt. VerBerkmoes contacted the two subjects who were both fishing with too many lines. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Zack Doss contacted three different snowmobile operators who had all driven around gates and closure signs to operate their machines in the Allegan State Game

Area. All three were more than one mile into the closed areas when located. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 8

While patrolling Clark Lake, COs Troy Bahlau and Damon Owens observed a jeep driving erratically near anglers and ice shanties. The COs received several complaints from anglers about the harassing behavior. CO Bahlau contacted the operator of the vehicle and found the driver and passenger to be in possession of open intoxicants. Further investigation revealed that the driver was operating while impaired with a blood alcohol content of .24%. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Goss worked a trespass complaint on a lake and located three anglers trespassing who were 134 fish over their legal limit. The following day, CO Goss checked the same lake and located two different people trespassing who were 44 fish over their legal limit. Enforcement action was taken in both instances.

While patrolling state land, CO Jason J. Smith was contacted by two subjects in a pickup truck who had a question. CO Smith observed a dog box and three dead rabbits in the bed of the truck. The subjects insisted they were not hunting but just running dogs. Further investigation revealed marijuana, open intoxicants in the motor vehicle, and neither subject possessed a hunting license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Brewer contacted two non-residents who were fishing without licenses. The non residents suggested CO Brewer check another angler where he discovered two undersize, out of season bass. Enforcement action was taken in both instances.

CO Ben Black was working a railroad trespass complaint when he observed a snowmobile approaching him operating on the railroad tracks. CO Black observed the operator holding an uncased rifle. Further investigation revealed that the firearm was loaded, the snowmobile was unregistered and had no trail permit, and the subject had no valid hunting license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Goss was conducting a minnow dealer inspection when he observed a snowmobile that was not registered. CO Goss contacted the operator and observed that the vehicle identification number was painted over. Further investigation revealed that the snowmobile had been stolen. The snowmobile was impounded and warrants are being sought through the prosecutor's office.

COs Jeff Goss and Gary Raak contacted three subjects who trespassed to access a lake that is closed to fishing. The COs observed the subjects fishing and located a total of 209 panfish that the subjects had caught. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 9

CO Linda Scheidler witnessed a subject set two tip-ups on one side of a lake then drive his snowmobile to the opposite side of the lake and begin fishing with a pole. Enforcement action was taken.

CO John Borkovich observed an ORV operating illegally on the Black River. CO Borkovich contacted the operator, who was operating the unlicensed ORV with a suspended driver's license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pete Purdy contacted two subjects hunting rabbits at the Pointe Mouillee State Game Area who were in possession of loaded and uncased guns in and upon their vehicle. Both subjects were also in possession of toxic shot in a non-toxic shot only area. Enforcement action was taken.

When COs Brandon Kieft and Kris Kiel conducted a foot patrol on Lake St. Clair they found a tip-up with no name or address on it. Further investigation revealed the subject who was fishing with the tip up also had four poles fishing inside his shanty. Enforcement action was taken.