

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
3/14/2016 – 3/27/2016**

DISTRICT 1

CO David Miller worked a nighttime spring fish run patrol on a local closed stream. CO Miller sat and watched the stream for 5 hours before making contact with a suspect. Upon making contact, CO Miller was able to locate a 28 inch steelhead and a fishing rod that broke down into small segments that could be concealed easily. The subject was cited for possessing a trout on a closed stream and the steelhead was seized.

COs David Miller and Steve Lockwood conducted an interview following a lengthy investigation regarding the illegal taking of furbearing animals. The interview led to a confession by the individual, who admitted to trapping and selling 31 pine marten and 14 fisher in 2015. The season bag limit is one of either animal. In addition to those that had already been sold, COs Miller and Lockwood were able to locate five more untagged pine marten and three more untagged fisher in the suspect's freezer. The case is being turned over to the Marquette County Prosecutor for review.

CO Matt Eberly was finally able to make contact with an individual from last fall that CO Eberly had an outstanding warrant for malicious destruction of property. The individual had tampered with a legally placed net. Law enforcement action was taken.

COs Matt Eberly and Steven Spiegel contacted several individuals during a fur harvester investigation. Two of the individuals they interviewed had warrants for their arrest out of Florida and also Houghton County. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Denny Gast received a complaint of a wolf mortality signal last week. CO Gast and a Wildlife Division biologist responded to the scene and were able to locate the collar which had been slipped off by the wolf from normal wear and tear.

COs Brian Lasanen and Mike Wells conducted several interviews as part of an ongoing fur harvester investigation. Law enforcement was taken for possession of untagged fisher and pine marten, using the kill tag of another and improperly tagged traps.

CO Ethen Mapes stopped a young man on an ORV in the village of Ontonagon for not wearing a helmet and no ORV license. CO Mapes contacted the juvenile's parents at the residence and explained the ORV regulations to both of them on the requirements to operate an ORV legally in Michigan.

CO Ethen Mapes was the closest law enforcement officer to a complaint in which a suspect was reported to be high on narcotics, intoxicated and violent. Before CO Mapes arrived at the residence, the suspect assaulted two individuals, including his girlfriend. CO Mapes was able to locate the suspect before backup arrived. Warrant

requests for assault, domestic assault and assault on a peace officer have been submitted to the Ontonagon County prosecutor for authorization

CO Ethen Mapes received a complaint that there were two young girls riding a four wheeler up and down the highway with no helmets on. CO Mapes was able to locate the young girls and determined they had been left home alone. CO Mapes contacted both parents and informed them that the two juveniles were operating an ORV while violating multiple laws. The juveniles were turned over to their parents.

CO Denny Gast located a "monster" truck on commercial forest land near M-26 tearing up the roadway. The operator had driven past several no trespassing signs and the truck did not have a license plate, no insurance and was not equipped with seatbelts. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO David Miller attended the UP Sport & RV show at the Northern Michigan University Superior Dome in Marquette. He worked the DNR booth and reported having many contacts with attendees and answering numerous questions. He also assisted two individuals with information on becoming a conservation officer.

CO Shannon Kritz and Kelly Ross stopped at a residence to interview a subject regarding trapping information. When the COs walked past the open garage door, two sets of deer antlers were observed with 2015 kill tags attached. While the subject was being interviewed, he mentioned that he shot a seven point buck this past deer season. When the subject and COs approached the garage to address the trapping questions, the subject changed his story and claimed that his daughter was the one that shot the seven point buck and that he shot a fork horn. Further into the interview the subject finally confessed he shot the seven point buck after he used his tag on the fork horn. He called his daughter and got consent to use her tag which happened to be at the camp. A follow up interview with the daughter revealed she was aware that her father was borrowing her tag since she did not have time to hunt. Enforcement action was taken for the sharing of tags.

CO Brett DeLonge participated in a recruiting career fair at Northern Michigan University. He reported a lot of interested applicants and a very good turnout at the event.

CO LeClerc received a complaint of a snowmobile trespassing on private property. The property owner obtained a picture of the snowmobile and rider. After interviewing the property owner, CO LeClerc launched an investigation into the rider's identity. The investigation is ongoing.

COs Brett DeLonge and Kyle Bader were on their way to interview subjects on possible trapping violations in Menominee when they observed an adult individual operating a small sized ORV along US-41. After the COs made contact with the operator he explained that he was looking for a coffee mug he had lost off of the side of his truck

earlier in the day. The individual explained that he could get a better look on the ground driving the ORV versus driving his truck. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brett DeLonge was checking anglers near the Lower Harbor area in Marquette when a "be-on-the-lookout" was sent over the radio about a possible intoxicated driver near his location. Within a minute of receiving the be-on-the-lookout, CO DeLonge observed the suspect vehicle driving erratically through a residential area. CO DeLonge observed the vehicle pull into a residence and hit the side of the house with the vehicle. After CO DeLonge activated the emergency lights on his vehicle the operator in the suspect vehicle continued to attempt to drive forward into the doorway of the house. CO DeLonge was able to get the passenger door of the vehicle open, reach in and pull the keys out of the ignition stopping the vehicle and preventing further damage to the house. The extremely intoxicated driver had difficulty communicating with CO DeLonge and was unaware of what was happening. CO DeLonge requested assistance from the Marquette City Police Department with the situation. No injuries resulted from the driver's operation and enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Leadman and CO Joel Lundberg contacted and conducted interviews with a Marquette county resident who had taken an over limit of pine martin. The subject also used the kill tag of another. The subject who loaned the kill tag was also interviewed. Confessions were obtained and enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Ryan Aho and CO Joel Lundberg contacted and conducted interviews with a Marquette County resident that had taken an over limit of pine martin and an over limit of fisher. The subject who loaned the kill tag was also interviewed. Confessions were obtained and enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 2

CO John Wenzel attended the Northern Michigan University spring job fair. Many soon to be graduates were contacted about employment with the Department of Natural Resources Law Enforcement Division.

CO Brett Gustafson and CO Jason McCullough conducted interviews with several individuals identified as suspects in a fur harvest investigation. During the investigation it was learned that one of the individuals had trapped four pine marten this past season. The individual had convinced his, then girlfriend, to register the fur in her name. Unfortunately for the individual, he had just broken up with his girlfriend, and she was more than willing to explain exactly what occurred.

While on patrol COs Mark Zitnik and Calvin Smith observed a pair of fresh foot tracks alongside a closed trout stream. The COs followed the tracks for over a mile before making contact with a husband and wife that were enjoying the scenery. The wife was amazed that the COs were able to locate them so far from the road.

CO Calvin Smith patrolled the Au Train area for fishing activity. While at a local boat launch CO Smith observed a boat returning. A check of the fisherman's boat was conducted and the fisherman advised the CO they had caught a steelhead, coho and a brown trout. CO Smith advised the fisherman that they had actually caught a very nice splake instead of a brown, and also advised them that their boat registration was going to expire on March 31. The fisherman said he didn't even notice his registration was about to expire and thanked the CO for pointing it out.

CO Jon Busken was on patrol when he conducted a traffic stop of a vehicle for a registration plate violation. It was discovered the plate on the vehicle was actually for a different vehicle. The operator admitted to switching plates between vehicles. An unregistered handgun was also found in the vehicle. Citations were issued for operating a motor vehicle with an expired registration and for failing to register a handgun after purchasing it.

CO Bobby Watson was patrolling a local river when a young individual was encountered fishing in an area known for having quality northern pike, walleye and musky. CO Watson informed the young man that walleye, pike and musky season was closed and if he was to catch one of the named species he would be required to immediately release it. The young man said he was not very proficient at identifying his fish species and was not aware of any size limit regulations. CO Watson took the opportunity to educate the young man on fish identification and provided the fisherman with a current fishing guide to reference in the future.

COs Robert Freeborn and Ben Lasher were interviewing a suspect on an unrelated matter when they were invited into a subject's garage to talk. During the interview the COs noticed a salted spotted fawn hide hanging on the wall. When the COs asked the subject where he had obtained it, the subject became embarrassed and stated he forgot that was in the garage and that it was road kill from several years ago. The COs explained the law on possessing a spotted fawn. Enforcement action was taken and the hide was seized.

While conducting follow-up interviews from a fur harvest investigation, CO Robert Freeborn noticed a fur registration showed the subject had purchased a fur harvester license late in the afternoon last December and registered a fisher the very next day. CO Freeborn was able to locate the subject at his residence and asked how his trapping season was. The subject stated he was able to get a fisher. CO Freeborn then asked how many days it took him to get the fisher after the traps were set out. The subject stated at least a week. CO Freeborn then asked the subject when he had purchased his fur harvester license. The subject stated he didn't know but after further questioning the subject admitted to trapping for several weeks and when he got the fisher he purchased his license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pat Hartsig worked with CO Matt Liestenfeltz investigating several individuals for potential fur harvester violations. During their investigation violations were found through license sale history, along with fur-bearer registration history. Contacts were

made in the area and interviews were performed. Enforcement action was taken on 3 separate subjects for not immediately attaching kill tags to their animal. Several investigations continue.

CO Pat Hartsig attended a meeting in Stephenson with Forest Resource Division to answer questions about laws as they pertain to open burning and permits for burning. While checking for fishermen on Munising Bay, CO Mark Zitnik observed a vehicle with a PWC trailer blocking a boat launch for over an hour. While waiting for the rider to come off the water, the Sheriff's Office deployed their hover craft on the bay for a possible snowmobile stuck on the floating ice. After the Sheriff's Office spoke with the rider of the PWC and realizing it was not a snowmobiler CO Zitnik motioned the rider to come to shore. The CO advised that he could not keep his truck and trailer sitting on the boat launch. While ending his patrol the CO assisted a state trooper with a traffic stop and arrest of the driver of the vehicle for operating under the influence of drugs.

COs Mark Zitnik and Bob Hobkirk conducted a fur investigation and interviewed several trappers in the community about their possible trapping violations. The COs interviewed one subject who confessed to using his wife's marten/fisher tag to trap an extra marten. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking anglers on Munising Bay late one evening, CO Mark Zitnik observed an angler rowing back to shore after fishing without any personal floatation devices on board for him and his partner. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Michael Evink and Forest Service Officer Dave Tembral were patrolling the Haywire Grade trailhead and Manistique River area. The officers observed an elderly male subject crawling along a trail toward the Haywire Grade trail. The trail was coming from the location of the dam. The officers went to the subject to render assistance and recognized the subject as a double amputee disabled veteran from the community. They discovered he had rolled his OHV mobility device in a hole approximately 100 yards further down the trail. The officers recovered the machine and returned it to the individual who was uninjured. The officers assisted the individual back onto the mobility device so he could return home.

COs Michael Evink and Robert Freeborn participated in the annual Pigs vs. Punks basketball game. The game is the primary fundraiser for the Manistique High School senior all-nighter.

CO Kevin Postma checked a snowshoe hare hunter in the Ozark area. CO Postma noticed a very small fire in the snow next to the hunter and thought this to be rather peculiar. While talking with the hunter, CO Postma detected the odor of marijuana. After further investigation with regards to the marijuana, it was determined that the hunter had a significant amount of marijuana. The individual also had an expired medical marijuana card. The small fire was an attempt to cover the smell of the marijuana. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Lynch located a litter pile and launched an investigation to see if he could reveal any potential suspects. After several follow up interviews, CO Lynch was able to develop a suspect, conduct an interview and obtain a confession. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Lynch was on patrol when he observed a large group of ORV operators in a closed area. When making contact with the group, one ORV with two occupants fled the scene. Contact with the rest of the group was made. Upon interviewing the individuals, no one seemed to know the individuals who fled on the ORV. Several tickets were issued and several warnings were given for no ORV licenses, riding with no helmets, riding double, operating in a closed area and no ORV certificates.

CO Chris Lynch was following up on a fur harvester that was believed to have trapped a fisher without a kill tag. After interviewing the individual, enforcement action was taken for taking a fisher without a license.

DISTRICT 3

CO Andrea Albert was patrolling Antrim County and found several large trash piles on state land. After digging through the piles, two suspects were developed. Both were interviewed and took responsibility for the litter. Enforcement action was taken and the subjects are required to clean up their trash.

CO Chad Baldwin attended a father/son weekend at Camp Daggett. He presented wilderness survival scenarios to the group and talked about the job duties of a conservation officer. A total of 56 people were in attendance.

CO Chad Baldwin and CO Steve Speigl responded to a complaint of illegal mud truck activity in the East Jordan area. Upon arrival, the trucks had left, however, the COs were able to track the trucks back to a residence and matched the tire treads. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling a creek with spawning rainbow trout, CO Mark DePew made a traffic stop on a vehicle with a spear in it. Although there were no spearing violations in progress, CO DePew found illegal narcotics in the subject's possession. He was arrested and the vehicle was impounded.

CO Matt Theunick investigated an incident where a subject had taken a Whitetail deer during the closed season. The investigation revealed that the suspect was a Sault Ste. Marie Tribal member. An incident report and evidence was turned over to tribal law enforcement for prosecution.

CO Eric Bottorff attended a career day at Wolverine High School, talking with many students about a career as a Michigan conservation officer.

CO Kelly Ross was investigating an unrelated fur harvester incident and while interviewing a subject he noticed multiple sets of deer antlers with 2015 kill tags. The subject admitted to shooting an over limit of deer and used another person's kill tag on the extra deer. Charges are being sought through the prosecutor's office.

CO Kelly Ross received a complaint that a truck was driving down the road with elk feet sticking out of the bed of the truck. CO Ross and CO Brad Bellville responded to the suspect's house in Onaway and contacted a hunter who had shot a buffalo and two pigs from a hunting enclosure in southern Michigan.

CO Bill Webster received a complaint of feral pigs being spotted in the backyard of a home owner. CO Webster checked the surrounding area and contacted a farmer who had pigs and was in the process of fortifying his pen due to his pigs escaping.

CO Bill Webster, Sgt. Joe Molnar and Michigan state troopers from the Alpena Post responded to a complaint of three missing kayakers. The officers were able to locate the kayakers and helped them retrieve their equipment. The kayakers had overestimated their abilities and had overturned in the cold and fast moving water. One of the subjects was transported to the hospital due to concerns of hypothermia.

DISTRICT 4

CO Brian Brosky was advised of a complaint of a snowmobile trespass from Mason County dispatch. CO Brosky responded and found tracks from the apparent trespass and back-tracked the snowmobiles. CO Brosky found four snowmobiles operating down a railroad right of way. When CO Brosky stopped the group, he found that one operator was currently revoked and all four had registration violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky and CO Kyle Publiski were checking locations along the Pere Marquette River in Lake County for illegal fishing activity. The COs had received numerous complaints of trespassing and use of live bait in flies only section. The COs made contact with several groups of anglers navigating the river in vessels and on shore. While checking a riverboat, they found that the vessel was two life jackets short. They also made contact with two anglers who had trespassed across posted private property. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky witnessed a group of four ORVs that were operating in a closed area in Lake County. After CO Brosky stopped them for their apparent violation, two additional legal operators pulled up and advised they had been operating with the group of four. As CO Brosky was explaining to everyone why he had stopped them, the two legal riders scolded their fellow riders stating, "We told you guys to stay out of there." Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky was patrolling Lake County near Tin Cup when he witnessed four ORVs operating in a closed area, one of which was completely stuck on the hill

climb. CO Brosky stopped the group, and after running the operators through LEIN, he found one rider was suspended and revoked. CO Brosky addressed the operation violations and enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was patrolling on the Pere Marquette River where trespassing has been an issue for local landowners, when he heard an angry subject yelling expletives. CO Killingbeck walked around the front of a riverfront home only to find an angler who had built a campfire underneath a “no trespassing” sign and was yelling at his fly fishing rod. The angler then began beating his rod against “no trespassing” signs and throwing all of his gear at trees in the woods. A second trespassing angler appeared and attempted to calm the angry man down. CO Killingbeck made contact with both of the anglers and discussed the trespass issue with them. The CO ascertained that both men were having a bad day because they had lost \$45 worth of flies and hadn’t caught a fish. Enforcement action was then taken for recreational trespass.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was checking fishing activity along the Pere Marquette River in Lake County when he observed three anglers arrive in a boat and get out in an area marked with “no trespassing” signs. The anglers got out of their boat and walked around the signs to urinate in view of a river front home. CO Killingbeck contacted the anglers and numerous violations were addressed.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was checking the Pere Marquette River for fishing activity when he observed a subject trespassing on private property. CO Killingbeck made contact with the subject and immediately smelled a strong odor of marijuana coming from the subject. CO Killingbeck obtained the marijuana from the angler and asked the subject for a fishing license. After digging through his wallet, the angler stated he “must have forgotten it”. A check through retail sales revealed that no purchases were made since 2013. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck took a complaint of a hunter who was trespassing on private property with his beagle while rabbit hunting. CO Killingbeck talked with the complainant who advised the hunter was carrying a loaded shotgun and had admittedly killed several rabbits on her property. CO Killingbeck was able to locate the hunter who initially stated he was retrieving his dog, but then admitted to trespassing. After further questioning, the hunter also stated he had been told to stay off the complainant’s property before. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck observed a vehicle that failed to stop for a stop sign at a main intersection near Baldwin. While following the vehicle, CO Killingbeck observed the driver cross the yellow line twice and could see that the driver was not wearing a seatbelt. CO Killingbeck stopped the vehicle, and upon contacting the driver, he was told “I didn’t think COs could pull people over”. CO Killingbeck advised the driver that he was a peace officer in Michigan and could definitely stop him for a driving infraction. The driver then told CO Killingbeck that his seatbelt would not latch anymore, hence the reason he does not wear one. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck worked a routine patrol on the Pere Marquette River when he encountered one boat that had no personal floatation devices on it and another boat that was short of personal floatation devices. CO Killingbeck advised both parties of the importance of having lifejackets, especially when water temperatures are still frigid. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was checking private property on the Pere Marquette River for trespass activity when he observed two subjects walking through posted private property. Upon making contact with the subjects, both anglers told CO Killingbeck that they had seen the "no trespassing" signs but were just following a trail through the woods. They both figured that if everyone else does it, they can too. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking fishing sites in Lake County, CO Josiah Killingbeck observed a vehicle drive thru the access site and noticed that the driver was not wearing a seatbelt. CO Killingbeck stopped the vehicle and the driver said that he did not think he was driving fast enough to need a seatbelt. After CO Killingbeck asked for the registration and proof of insurance, the driver admitted he had no insurance for the vehicle and said he had taken the plate off another vehicle that he owned and placed it on this one to make it look legal. The driver said he had been driving it like this since November of 2015. The subject was arrested and lodged in the Lake County Jail.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was checking for illegal fishing activity after dark in Lake County when he observed a slow moving vehicle that made several traffic violations. CO Killingbeck stopped the vehicle and the passenger immediately jumped out and began yelling "what's wrong?" CO Killingbeck ordered the clearly intoxicated subject back into the vehicle only to discover that he was in possession of open intoxicants. CO Killingbeck also discovered the driver was driving with an expired license and was in possession of marijuana. The driver was arrested and lodged in the Lake County Jail. The passenger was cited for open intoxicants in a motor vehicle.

CO Steve Converse noticed a group of vehicles parked on a side road in Manistee County and decided to investigate. Three vehicles were stopped in the middle of the roadway with all occupants outside of the vehicles. When CO Converse made contact, it was apparent that most of the individuals were extremely intoxicated yet only one individual out of seven admitted to driving to that location. CO Converse collected all identifications, and after an investigation he found that one of the vehicles had left the roadway and they were all gathered there to help tow the vehicle from the ditch. CO Converse advised that only one valid driver, who had not been drinking, could leave the scene and told the rest to walk home. As soon as they believed CO Converse was out of sight, one highly intoxicated individual got in his car and sped from the scene. With the assistance of COs Sam Koscinski and Bill Haskin, they located the driver operating down in a two-track roadway. Sobrieties were administered and the driver was lodged at the Manistee County Jail for his third offense of operating while intoxicated.

CO Steve Converse and CO Sam Koscinski were working on the Manistee River when they came across a drift boat with two anglers. They checked the anglers for fishing licenses and when they were asked for life jackets, it was discovered that there were no personal floatation devices onboard. A check of the two anglers in LEIN revealed that one had a misdemeanor warrant for failing to appear on a driving while license suspended charge and the second angler had suspended driving privileges. The COs issued a citation for not having personal floatation devices onboard and advised the two anglers that once they arrived at the boat launch to call for a driver as both were unable to operate a vehicle.

While patrolling the Osceola/Clare County line, CO Ethan Gainforth observed a suspicious vehicle traveling down a seasonal road. CO Gainforth observed the vehicle turn and head eastbound back towards Osceola County. While looking through binoculars, CO Gainforth observed the vehicle stop next to a Kubota side-by-side ORV and make contact with the driver. It appeared that the driver slipped out of the seat of the side-by-side and almost fell to the ground. CO Gainforth observed the very unusual behavior and made haste to get to the Kubota. Upon making contact with the driver of the side-by-side, CO Gainforth asked him if he had any medical issues and the driver mumbled "no." CO Gainforth smelled a strong odor of intoxicants coming from the driver. CO Gainforth ran the subject's file and found that his driver's license was suspended and was on probation with a prior alcohol conviction. CO Gainforth performed sobriety tests on the subject and the subject failed all of them. The subject was found to be over five times the legal limit. CO Troy Mueller assisted CO Gainforth in taking the heavily intoxicated subject into custody and placing him in his patrol truck. CO Mueller contacted the family to return the Kubota while CO Gainforth transported the subject to the Mid- Michigan Medical Center of Clare where a search warrant was obtained for a blood draw and the subject was medically cleared. The subject was lodged at the Clare County Jail for operating while intoxicated with a high blood alcohol content (2nd offense) and driving while license suspended.

CO Angela Greenway was working an area of Mecosta County that is a known ORV trespass area of a county gravel pit and Consumers Energy property. While CO Greenway was contacting one group in the gravel pit another group went by with subjects riding double, no helmets and heading into a closed area. CO Greenway was able to finish the first contact and catch up with the second. After just a couple hours in the area, CO Greenway had numerous contacts and tickets including driving on a suspended driver's license, ORV trespass, operating in a closed area, and no helmets.

CO Angela Greenway was checking the dam in Rogers Heights when she spotted a vehicle parked there. The walleye spawning closure was in affect and this is a known spot for walleye to be at this time of year. CO Greenway made contact with the subject fishing and he stated that he had just got there and had not caught any fish. While talking with the subject, CO Greenway saw a stringer hanging off a branch into the water near the subject. When CO Greenway questioned the subject what was on the stringer, he then admitted that he had caught a walleye and that he was going to let it go. CO Greenway educated the subject on immediate release. The walleye was

measured and discovered it was under the legal limit to keep even if walleye season was open. The walleye was returned to the river and enforcement action was taken.

CO Michael Wells received a complaint that a subject had located two box type body gripping trap sets on a local Newaygo County stream. CO Wells met with the complainant and inspected the box sets and it was obvious that the traps were designed for mink trapping. Due to the fact that mink season was closed two weeks prior, CO Wells proceeded to the location that the complainant had located the traps. CO Wells checked the area and located two more box sets that were not sprung. Inspection of the four traps revealed that two were not properly tagged. CO Wells made contact with the trapper and discovered that he forgot about the traps and he had not checked them since mid-January. A citation was issued to the trapper for untagged traps with a warning issued for the out of season violation. CO Wells explained to the trapper that he was lucky because if a mink had been caught and gone to waste he would also be required to pay restitution for each animal lost. All of the traps were empty when located.

Acting Sgt. Ben Shively responded with Department of Natural Resources fire officer Ray Cole to assist Hesperia Fire Department with a fire that had escaped control and was spreading into a field and wood line in Oceana County. A subject was burning trash and high winds carried the flames into the dry grass which quickly spread. As fire officer Cole dug a line around the fire with the bulldozer, Acting Sgt. Shively worked the back burn of the fire that was headed towards the residence. Once the fire was put out, 6.3 acres had been burned. The subject who had set the trash on fire was cited for allowing fire to escape control.

Acting Sgt. Ben Shively was assisting the Oceana County Sheriff's Office with tracking a stolen ORV from a breaking and entering by following the tracks thru federal land when he observed fresh tracks from an additional ORV that were tearing up the Forest Service roads. Acting Sgt. Shively and a deputy located the two subjects on an ORV who were now stopped at a popular "party spot" on federal land and were drinking beers and throwing the cans into a tree. The operator of the ORV was cited for operating in a closed area and issued verbal warnings for double riding and littering.

DISTRICT 5

CO Hudson and CO Russell received a complaint of an angler keeping walleye during the closed season on the Rifle River. The COs conducted a foot patrol and contacted the suspect and asked if he had caught any fish. At first the angler stated he caught one sucker but threw it back. The COs continued talking with the angler and when asked about a walleye he admitted to keeping it during the closed season. The angler retrieved the walleye from the back seat of his vehicle and handed it to the COs. Enforcement action was taken.

CO John Huspen attended a career fair at the Grayling High School. CO Huspen spoke with approximately 80 students who were interested in a career path of becoming a Michigan conservation officer.

CO John Huspen assisted the Crawford County Sheriff's Office in the search and rescue effort of two subjects lost in a swamp in southern Crawford County. CO Huspen was able to utilize his GPS with information gained by dispatch by tracking the subject's cell phone. CO Huspen was able to locate the subjects and lead them out of the swamp to the waiting EMS. Although cold, both of the subjects were in good health.

CO John Huspen and Sgt. Jeremy Payne assisted the Crawford County Sheriff's Office and the Michigan State Police in locating a suicidal subject who fled his residence. The subject was located on state land and agreed to speak with professional help about his depression.

COs Brian Olsen and Kyle Bader taught a hunter education class held at Surline Middle School in West Branch. There were approximately 50 students in attendance.

CO Kyle Bader responded to a complaint by a landlord who was cleaning out a rental house that a tenant had recently vacated. When they looked inside a chest freezer left in the garage, they were surprised to find nearly the entire carcass of a deer. CO Bader was able to track down the tenant and ask about the deer. During the interview, the man admitted to killing a 5-point buck back in November before purchasing his deer license. The man is being charged with taking a deer without a license through the prosecutor's office.

COs Warren MacNeill, Casey Pullum and Josh Russell assisted the Alcona County Sheriff's Office with a complaint of a suicidal subject in the Glennie area. The subject left a note, removed valuable items of jewelry and walked from his cabin area into the woods. After a number of hours, law enforcement was able to locate the subject alive and well. He was found walking down the road after dark in the pouring rain. Eventually, CO MacNeill transported the subject to the hospital in Alpena where he was petitioned for review by hospital staff.

CO Warren MacNeill was patrolling Alcona County when he noticed a truck near the Pine River and tracks leading off into the woods. CO MacNeill was able to locate and make contact with two subjects fishing a closed trout stream. Further investigation revealed that one of the anglers had a prior conviction with the DNR for the same violation a few years earlier. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 6

While on snowmobile patrol in Gratiot County, CO Jill Berry stopped an ATV in the state game area for not having an ORV license and ORV trail permit. The subject stated he was unaware he needed them for his ATV. The subject was educated on the rules and regulations and a ticket was issued.

While on routine patrol, CO Quincy Gowenlock stopped in at the Patterson state launch checking subjects coming in from fishing. While at the state launch, the CO observed a vehicle parked in a suspicious manner. The driver had to go out of his way to back into this spot. The CO exited his patrol truck and checked the vehicle. As the CO walked around the back of the vehicle, he noticed it did not have a license plate. Upon running a registration check with Station 20, it returned that the vehicle was unregistered and did not have a recreation passport. The CO issued a citation to the registered owner for the expired registration and no recreation passport.

COs Mark Siemen, Robert Hobkirk and Seth Rhodea conducted a joint snowmobile patrol on the MSA trail system in Sanilac County. There were several tickets issued for trail permit violations; however, most snowmobilers were found to be in compliance. CO Mark Siemen investigated a complaint in Watertown Township, Sanilac County, involving a subject who had shot a deer with a handgun. After shooting the deer the suspect fled in a white van pulling a trailer. According to the property owner the suspect pulled to the shoulder of the road, stepped out of his van, and shot a deer that was lying in his field. During the investigation at the scene, it was determined by CO Siemen that the deer was dead before the suspect shot it. With assistance from local law enforcement and CO Matt Zultak from Lapeer County, the suspect was later located driving the white van in Lapeer County. CO Siemen was able to respond into Lapeer County and stop the vehicle. The driver of the van stated he did kill a wounded deer that was lying in the field just off the road. The suspect stated he had a CPL and thought it was a waste of time to call a police officer to shoot the deer. The suspect was advised that he did not have the authority to shoot a wounded deer and did not have permission from the home owner to be on the property. Enforcement action was taken by CO Mark Siemen and the suspect was advised that the deer he shot was already dead before he shot it.

CO Will Brickel was checking anglers for marine safety equipment and for walleye at the Zilwaukee Bridge boat launch. During the patrol, several anglers were found to have walleye under the 13" minimum size limit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Will Brickel was leaving Patterson boat launch after doing marine checks when he noticed an ORV riding along the side of the road. The ORV made an illegal U-turn and it did not appear that he had any trail permit or ORV stickers. CO Brickel initiated a traffic stop and immediately received the finger from the driver who then refused to stop the ORV. CO Brickel pulled up next to the driver and told him to pull over and received the finger again, and was told "wait a minute!" After about a half mile the driver stopped at his residence. When asked why he didn't pull over the driver stated, "I wanted to get home". The driver did not have a license and no ORV stickers were present. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking anglers along the Chippewa River, CO Mike Haas encountered a fisherman who had not purchased a fishing license. After further investigation, it was confirmed that the man also had two outstanding warrants from Muskegon County. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jay Person was called to a complaint of a pheasant wandering in the back yard of a home owner with an object obstructing his face that appeared to be stuck to its beak. Upon arrival, CO Person noticed the bird did not seem to match the coloring of a wild ringneck pheasant. Upon closer inspection, the obstruction seemed to be placed on purpose. After some research into private pheasant rearing, it was determined that the pheasant was a privately owned bird and was wearing "specs". These are put on the birds in the cage to discourage fighting and egg destruction. The bird was eating and moving with no problem and left to find his way back to his pen.

While on patrol on state land in Isabella County, CO Dan Robinson discovered a large pile of household trash that had been freshly dumped the night before. CO Robinson took photographs of the trash, tire tracks, and found mailings. The suspect was contacted and admitted that he dumped the trash there. A citation was issued for litter and the subject agreed to go back and pick up the trash.

While attempting to contact a suspect at his residence, CO Dan Robinson witnessed another adult male riding with a small child on a snowmobile getting ready to enter the roadway from a field. Neither rider was wearing a helmet. The operator stopped at the edge of the roadway and turned off his snowmobile. CO Robinson approached the subject and concluded that they were not on their own property and issued a citation for not wearing helmets.

While on patrol, CO Mike Haas and Dan Robinson were called to an address in Montcalm County where multiple complaints had come in about illegal burning and litter blowing onto the state land nearby. The COs investigated the area and took pictures. It was determined that the subject, who was not home at the time, was in the process of burning a large pile of household trash along with chemical containers, furniture, and other large plastic items. A citation was issued for unlawful disposal of solid waste.

DISTRICT 7

CO Richard Cardenas was patrolling the Barry State Game Area when he encountered a small game hunter who believed that the orange gloves he was wearing met the hunter orange legal requirements. Hunters must wear a hunter orange hat, vest, or coat and it must be the outer most garment and visible from 360 degrees. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Andy Bauer and Jeff Robinette responded to assist Cass County Sheriff's Office when a subject who had fled a narcotics warrant service stole a truck and a vehicle pursuit ensued. The suspect fled the vehicle on foot into a muddy farm field. The COs gave chase across the field with their four-wheel drive patrol trucks which routed the subject to an area behind a residence, where a Cass County deputy was able to apprehend the subject and take him into custody.

CO Steve Mooney checked fishermen at the South Haven pier and observed a good number of trout and salmon being caught. CO Mooney also located a subject fishing without a license and cited the subject.

CO Brad Brewer and Sgt. Zach Doss checked a fisherman at the Mottville dam that had trespassed around the fence that keeps people safe from the spillway. It was observed that the subject had to hang on to the fence and walk sideways with half his feet over the river to reach his desired fishing spot next to the dam. CO Brewer issued the subject a ticket for recreational trespass.

CO Andy Bauer was second on scene of a reported drowning in progress near the Benton Harbor boat launch. Upon arriving on scene, a deceased person was found floating near the shore of the river. Investigation revealed that the subject had been in the river for an extended length of time. Benton Harbor Police Department will be in charge of the death investigation.

CO Chris Simpson made contact with an angler and his three year old son who were coming in from walleye fishing on Muskegon Lake. The two were in possession of eleven walleye. The father indicated that they both caught their limit while trolling and had gotten so excited from their success that they had mistakenly threw an extra walleye in their bucket. Further investigation revealed that they didn't have life jackets on board. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Justin Ulberg assisted the Wisconsin DNR in the investigation of a smallmouth bass that was illegally taken in a lake in Wisconsin. The Wisconsin DNR discovered a YouTube video showing a subject spearing the smallmouth bass and learned the subject lived in Michigan. CO Ulberg was able to locate the subject and obtain a full confession regarding the violation. A report was forwarded to the Wisconsin DNR for further action.

While patrolling the Rouge River State Game Area in Kent County, CO Justin Ulberg located some fresh tire tracks going off road and through some mud bogs. CO Ulberg continued his patrol and located the vehicles operating on a closed logging road. The vehicles were stopped and enforcement action was taken.

While working in Kent County, CO Justin Ulberg checked two anglers fishing along the Flat River. Neither angler had a fishing license. While speaking with the subjects, CO Ulberg noticed the smell of marijuana. CO Ulberg questioned the anglers about the marijuana and one of the anglers confessed as he revealed a small baggy full of dope. Enforcement action was taken for the violations.

While patrolling the Rouge River State Game Area in Kent County, CO Justin Ulberg observed three subjects carrying guns walking along a wood line. Two of the subjects were wearing the proper hunter orange requirement while the third subject was not. Contact was made with the hunters and the violation was addressed.

CO Justin Ulberg was conducting a foot patrol on state lands when he located a 330 conibear trap. CO Ulberg was able to locate the owner of the trap and questioned the trapper about setting too large of body gripping trap on state land. The young trapper stated he went to retrieve the trap after realizing his mistake, but the trap was gone. CO Ulberg educated the young trapper on the rules of trapping on state land and returned the trap.

DISTRICT 8

CO Larn Strawn was contacted by the USDA and was requested to assist them by patrolling areas in Clinton County. CO Strawn was specifically requested to investigate incidents of persons interfering with the hunters attempting to take deer for the CWD sampling efforts in the CWD Zone. While patrolling a field being hunted, CO Strawn observed a person enter the field with an ORV and chase deer from the field. CO Strawn attempted to contact the ORV operator on foot at which time the operator struck CO Strawn with the ORV and fled the area. CO Strawn pursued the ORV operator and was able to catch up to him and arrest him.

CO Larn Strawn received a Report All Poaching complaint of a person shooting a deer during the closed season in Ingham County. CO Strawn patrolled to the complaint location and conducted an investigation. CO Strawn located a dead deer in a field and contacted several persons for interviews. CO Strawn developed information and will patrol the area in future efforts to locate the suspect vehicle.

CO Matthew Neterer received a complaint from Ingham County central dispatch of suspicious men with rifles who parked on the side of a road and walked into the woods. Upon running the license plate CO Neterer recognized the names as individuals he had dealt with on two other occasions during deer season. CO Neterer discovered the subjects were parked on property that was for sale and were hunting on property owned by a development company. CO Neterer followed tracks in the snow and found two individuals sitting in a fence row hunting coyotes. The suspects stated they had been hunting the property for years but couldn't remember who had given them permission. One of the subjects was also found to be hunting with a semi-automatic firearm capable of holding more than 6 rounds. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matthew Neterer, working Ingham County, observed a pickup truck driving too fast for conditions with multiple equipment violations. Upon running the license plate CO Neterer discovered that the plate did not match the vehicle. CO Neterer stopped the truck and found that the operator's driver's license was suspended and he had no proof of insurance or registration. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Jackson County, CO Christopher Maher witnessed a disabled vehicle stopped in the middle of the road. The driver, an elderly woman, needed assistance contacting a towing company. CO Maher contacted a local towing company and stayed with the woman until the vehicle could be moved.

CO Christopher Maher received a complaint through Station 20 of a buffalo carcass on state land. CO Maher has been in contact with several local farmers but was unable to determine where the animal came from.

CO Jason King conducted a check on a fisherman that was actively fishing on Hopkins Lake in Shiawassee County. When the officer asked to see the subject's fishing license he stated he did not have one and that he did not think he needed one. CO King explained the fishing rules and regulations to the subject and enforcement action was taken.

CO Daniel Prince responded to a dumping complaint in the Oak Grove State Game Area in Livingston County. CO Prince was able to locate a possible suspect from items located at the dumping scene. The investigation is continuing.

CO Daniel Prince and the Livingston County Sheriff's Department responded to a target shooting complaint in the Brighton Recreation Area. Two subjects were located target shooting with an AK-47 and pistols. There is no designated shooting range in the Brighton Recreation Area and target shooting is not allowed. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pete Purdy responded with the Livingston County Sheriff's Department to a 911 call of a breaking and entering in progress. Two young children that were home alone locked themselves in an upstairs room when they heard a noise downstairs and observed an unknown vehicle in the driveway. Officers arrived and determined it was a family member.

CO Pete Purdy received a complaint of an abandoned ice shanty in Livingston County. The complainant advised the owner of the ice shanty to remove his shanty from the lake when the ice began to melt. The subject didn't, so people in the neighborhood moved it off the ice to the shoreline. The subject was advised to remove it from the shoreline but still didn't. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brandon Hartleben was on foot patrol in the Sharonville State Game Area when he observed an individual sitting next to a tree with a rifle. After making contact with the hunter CO Hartleben learned that he was out enjoying an afternoon of squirrel hunting. CO Hartleben informed the hunter that squirrel season closed on March 1st and that he needed to wear hunter orange while small game hunting. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brandon Hartleben swore to and submitted a warrant request on a case involving the illegal harvest of a 10-pt white-tailed deer on Washtenaw County Park property.

CO Brandon Hartleben continues to follow-up on numerous tree stands that have been left on state land past the March 1st removal deadline in both the Sharonville State Game Area and the Waterloo State Recreation Area.

CO Brandon Hartleben worked the Huron River from Rawsonville Road to the Mast Road Bridge during a busy Saturday and made contact with over 50 anglers. Nearly every angler checked was in compliance with the law. One verbal warning was issued to an angler fishing in downtown Ann Arbor without a fishing license.

CO Andrew Monnich was patrolling in Lenawee County during a heavy snowfall looking for snowmobile activity when he observed an individual pulling out of a gas station riding on an unregistered snowmobile. CO Monnich attempted to conduct a stop of the snowmobile, and as the driver pulled the machine off the road, he mistakenly confused the gas for the brake and sped down the city street, eventually striking a tree. The operator was ejected off the snowmobile narrowly missing the tree. The snowmobile was heavily damaged but the operator was not injured. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrew Monnich responded to a complaint of snowmobiles and ORVs damaging a local Lenawee County park. Upon arrival CO Monnich noticed a group of snowmobilers on a nearby road. CO Monnich made contact with the group and while talking to them another snowmobile raced by and into the park. CO Monnich observed the operator riding through the park recklessly without a helmet and without a registration. CO Monnich stopped the operator and found it was a 13 year old juvenile. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Reynolds assisted a local Hillsdale County sheriff's deputy on a domestic disturbance call that had turned physical. The deputy will be submitting a report on the incident.

CO Al Mendez received and responded to a 911 complaint in Eaton County related to a subject in a bed of a truck with a rifle. CO Mendez contacted two vehicles with subjects hunting coyotes. As CO Mendez was walking to the first vehicle, he noticed a rifle in a case with the zipper three quarters shut laying in the front seat. CO Mendez continued to the second vehicle where there was a subject standing by a truck talking to another hunter sitting in his vehicle. After advising the subjects why they were being contacted CO Mendez asked for their hunting licenses. The first subject stated he had a license but did not have it with him at this time. The subject admitted that he was hunting coyotes. The second subject readily produced his hunting license, but wanted to take off to help their other hunting buddies track a coyote. CO Mendez advised this subject to stand by and not to leave until he checked the rifle he had observed in the vehicle. CO Mendez walked back to the first vehicle and inspected the rifle and found it was loaded with a round in the chamber and with a 5 round magazine. The subject who owned the firearm stated he had been in a hurry from the previous spot they had been sitting at and forgot to unload the firearm before putting it in the case. CO Mendez explained the rules and regulations of hunting coyotes and enforcement action was taken.

CO Joshua Jackson assisted local Branch County officers in a two-person search. The two suspects had stolen bottles of alcohol and other items from a local convenience store. The two suspects fled the scene and led the local officers on a short pursuit before hiding their vehicle and fleeing on foot. CO Jackson helped search nearby fields,

woodlots, and out-buildings for suspicious activity. The incident is currently under investigation.

CO Al Mendez was patrolling the Windsor State Game Area and observed a single car parked in the parking area. CO Mendez continued to patrol around the game area and observed a subject wearing a bright lime green colored hoodie. The subject had a small beagle on a leash and what appeared to be a shotgun in his right hand. After further observation, CO Mendez confirmed that the subject was in possession of a shotgun without wearing any hunter orange. CO Mendez could not immediately make contact with the subject because of a deep drainage ditch and two fences. CO Mendez was able to get close enough to talk to the subject and confirm he was hunting small game and that the subject owned the only vehicle at the parking area. CO Mendez told the subject to meet him back at the vehicle. Once at the vehicle, CO Mendez confirmed the subject had no hunter orange and no hunting license in possession. The subject also stated he had never taken a hunter safety class. CO Mendez was able to confirm that the subject did purchase a base license, but did not have it on his person. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol CO Isaac Tyson located a canoe in a small local Branch County lake. While observing the canoe, CO Tyson determined that the man was checking traps. Contact was made and the trapper did not have a PFD aboard his canoe. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 9

CO Dan Walzak received a complaint of a subject taking archery equipment out onto public land where hunting was prohibited. CO Walzak responded to the area and found that, in fact, the subject was out on a small parcel of state land that was made into a state game area and managed specifically for hunting. CO Raymond Gardner also responded to the area and the two COs made contact. The COs found that the subject of the complaint was in the area practicing survival skills and looking at the area as a place to hunt next season. The subject had no archery equipment with him as was alleged in the complaint but did have some tools that he was using to achieve his objectives. One of the activities that the subject was involved in was taking downed wood and building a bridge over a creek. CO Gardner explained to the subject that it was unlawful for him to place the wood into the stream and that it would have to be removed.

While checking anglers at Bolles Harbor, CO James Zellinger contacted a boat coming back to the access site after fishing. CO Zellinger discovered multiple pan fish in the live well of the boat. Later it was determined the subject operating the boat did not have a valid fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

COs David Schaumburger and Raymond Gardner were checking anglers in Detroit when they came upon one particular angler who said he did not have his fishing license on him. The angler stated it was at home and he forgot it but he definitely had one. After

contacting Station 20 dispatch for an RSS check, it was discovered that the angler did not have a fishing license since 2009. The angler was then recontacted and finally admitted that the bait store was not open today and he could not buy his license. Enforcement action was taken.

Sergeant Damon Owens spoke to approximately 120 students at Owen Intermediate School. The students were educated about the duties and responsibilities of a conservation officer.

CO Mark Ennett spoke at Wagar Middle School in Carleton for their annual career day. A total of 115 students revolved through five classes learning and asking questions about the career of a Michigan conservation officer.

CO Kris Kiel inspected a suspicious bobcat brought into Wildlife Division at South River Rd. in Harrison Township, Macomb County to get sealed. The bobcat was brought in by the taxidermist for sealing for a client. CO Kiel explained to the taxidermist the legality of the situation, and that you could not bring an animal taken by another in for sealing. CO Kiel obtained the owner information and contacted him to have him come and have the animal personally sealed. The subject did arrive at the DNR office, but it was determined by talking to the subject that he was also not the successful hunter. The subject explained to CO Kiel that it was actually his 14 year old son who had harvested the bobcat. To make matters worse, through the interview CO Kiel found that the kill tag was acquired after the animal was taken. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling in Macomb County for snowmobile activity after a recent snow storm, CO Brad Silorey observed a person at a busy intersection of roadway operating a snowmobile. CO Brad Silorey then activated the emergency lights on the patrol vehicle and performed a traffic stop on the snowmobiler. After talking with the operator of the snowmobile it was discovered that the subject was suspended, and that the snowmobile was unregistered. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher responded to an in progress Report All Poaching complaint of angler harassment on Harsens Island in St. Clair County. When CO Lasher arrived on scene the complainant explained he was upset about another angler fishing too close to him and felt harassed. After talking with both parties involved, CO Lasher found there was not enough evidence to charge the subject over the disagreement. However, when doing LEIN checks through Station 20 the accused subject did have two warrants out of Detroit courts. Both warrants were for failing to appear; one for traffic and one for child support (statewide pick-up). The warrants were valid and confirmed. CO Lasher then transported and lodged the subject at the St Clair County Jail to be picked up by Wayne County.

CO Ken Kovach was patrolling the Port Huron State Game Area, in St. Clair County, when he observed a vehicle track in the snow going back into a closed area. CO Kovach followed the tracks to a location where he was able to observe a pickup truck

parked approximately a half mile into the game area. As CO Kovach watched, the subject began looking around, and began unloading household garbage. CO Kovach made contact with the subject as he was finishing unloading the bed of his truck full of garbage. CO Kovach addressed the violations, and had the subject clean up the area. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling the Lapeer State Game Area, CO Matthew Zultak observed individuals shooting at the 'Pit', a well-known area used by many recreational shooters. From his position in the wood line, CO Zultak observed one individual was wearing rubber gloves and digging around in the back of his SUV. The subject pulled a very large plastic car (like a child's power wheels type) from his vehicle and brought it out onto the impact area. The subject then proceeded to shoot the plastic car. Upon the subject's rounds impacting the toy, the car exploded in a fireball. CO Zultak immediately exited from his place of observation and called the range to a cease fire. The subject who shot the target was confronted by CO Zultak, and immediately admitted to shooting an explosive substance. This substance known by many as "Tannerite" violates the state land use order for the game area. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Kris Kiel and Brad Silorey were conducting surveillance on a large group of anglers at the Hall Road Access Site targeting over limits of pan fish. CO Silorey witnessed three anglers catching and keeping a large number of pan fish. One of the anglers took a heavy bucket back to their vehicle, placed it into the covered truck bed, and then went back to fishing. Hours later, when the anglers packed up to leave, they had an additional two buckets with fish in them. CO Kiel stopped them as they were leaving the access site. The anglers showed CO Kiel their two buckets that had 19 and 27 pan fish in them and said that was all they had. CO Kiel then asked where the third bucket was, the one they had taken back to the truck earlier. The anglers produced the third bucket which contained 61 additional pan fish. One angler stated that the bucket with 19 pan fish in it was his which left the rest to the other two anglers. This put the other two anglers at 38 pan fish over the legal limit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Silorey received a complaint regarding a minor hunting unsupervised. The minor was injured while hunting from being struck in the head by the scope of the gun after a shot was taken. While investigating the incident further, CO Silorey was told that the minor shot two antlerless deer and did not have antlerless deer tags. The incident is still under investigation and determination will be made on whether or not charges will be sought on the minor's legal guardians.

CO Brad Silorey contacted an angler at a very busy fishing spot in Macomb County. Upon request of CO Silorey the angler was unable to produce a valid fishing license. CO Silorey contacted DNR Law Enforcement dispatch to verify whether or not the angler had purchased a 2015 fishing license. The angler had not purchased a license for 2015. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Brad Silorey and Kris Kiel were on patrol checking anglers when they decided to check a local DNR boat access site. CO Silorey pulled into the access site where there

were dozens of people lining the seawall fishing from shore. After parking, one angler in particular stood out of the crowd. The angler packed up his gear in a hurry and headed straight to his vehicle. CO Silorey jumped out of the patrol vehicle to speak with the angler to see if he had any success. CO Silorey checked the angler's fishing license, and asked to see his fish. After counting the fish, CO Silorey told the individual that he was over his daily limit of sunfish. Enforcement action was taken.

While CO Ben Lasher was getting a warrant through the prosecutor's office in St. Clair County, the county building was evacuated due to a threat made toward the judges. CO Lasher stood by to assist, the building was cleared, and CO Lasher was able to finish having his warrants signed at the District Court.

In St. Clair County, CO Ben Lasher assisted with a search for a six year old boy who had walked away from an area elementary school. The boy was found by a St. Clair County Deputy in a pool house down the road from the school.

CO Ken Kovach was patrolling rural St. Clair County when he was approaching an intersection on a gravel road. CO Kovach observed a car travelling toward the intersection. The car sped up and ran a stop sign as CO Kovach was about to enter the intersection. CO Kovach conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle. When CO Kovach approached the vehicle, the driver stated a passenger needed to use the bathroom. The driver had a lengthy driving record, and previous citations for the same violation. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling the shorelines in the Holloway Reservoir, CO Matthew Zultak came upon two men fishing under a bridge. CO Zultak asked if they had caught any fish. They told him a few catfish. Upon further investigation CO Zultak located a hidden stringer, with two catfish and seven undersized walleye. When CO Zultak confronted the anglers, they admitted to each possessing undersized walleye. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling Northern Lapeer County, CO Matthew Zultak located piles of garbage on the side of the road. CO Zultak located articles within the garbage identifying the litterers. CO Zultak went to the residence, and made contact with the suspect's wife who informed him her husband does throw garbage on the side of the road. She also informed CO Zultak that the suspect was currently in jail. CO Zultak went to the jail and talked with the subject. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Genesee County, COs Jeremy Beavers and Justin Muehlhauser checked anglers who were fishing at the Holloway Dam. The officers approached the dam on foot and were able to clearly observe everyone who was actively fishing. After determining who was fishing, the COs began their checks of the anglers on the south side of the dam. The COs checked all individuals and found no violations during the contacts. During the checks, CO Beavers noticed that two subjects who were fishing on the north side of the dam were no longer fishing and made their way to the south side. As the anglers approached, COs Beavers and Muehlhauser made contact with

the subjects and asked for their fishing licenses. Both subjects said they were not fishing and did not have licenses. At that time CO Beavers informed the subjects they have been at the dam for an hour and observed both subjects fishing. At that time they admitted to fishing and lied because they did not have licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

In Genesee County, COs Jeremy Beavers and Justin Muehlhauser were on patrol when they were contacted by a Michigan State Police trooper requesting assistance on recovering an injured red tail hawk. The trooper informed the COs the hawk was found in Thetford Township and appeared to be shot. The people who found the hawk were able to catch the bird and put it in a pen for safe keeping. COs Beavers and Muehlhauser responded by making contact with the individuals that found the red tail hawk. They stated it was found near a wooded part of their property and they believe it was shot in the wing. The COs inspected the bird and found a large wound on the left wing. After obtaining all pertinent information, the COs transported the bird to a wildlife rehabilitator. The rehabilitator inspected the bird and determined that it was likely shot. The rehabilitator went on to say that the wound looked infected and believes the wing was likely broken. The investigation into who shot the hawk is ongoing.

While patrolling in Oakland County, CO Jason Becker was checking an area known for activity for a suspect vehicle from a Report All Poaching complaint. CO Becker noticed a dirt bike operating on the private property near the Report All Poaching complaint area. CO Becker made contact with the ORV operator and asked if he had permission to ride there. The subject stated that he was out riding the road and noticed a trail and wanted to check it out. CO Becker pointed out that even though his dirt bike was licensed through the secretary of state, it did not give him permission to operate on other people's private property. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Justin Muehlhauser assisted Genesee County deputies on a snowmobile crash in Atlas Township. The snowmobile was being operated by a 17 year old male who was on his way home with a passenger. The snowmobile was being operated in a ditch when the operator hit a hidden culvert and lost control of the machine. The young man was pinned underneath and the passenger was tossed from the machine. Both occupants were transported to the hospital to be evaluated for injuries. Fortunately, both were wearing helmets. Upon further investigation, CO Muehlhauser discovered that the machine was not registered and did not have a valid trail permit. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking the area around the Linden County Park, CO Justin Muehlhauser noticed four snowmobiles operating against the flow of traffic along Linden Road. When CO Muehlhauser got closer he observed that at least two of the machines did not have valid registration or trail permits. CO Muehlhauser turned around and attempted to initiate a stop on the snowmobiles. When CO Muehlhauser activated the emergency lights on his patrol truck, the first two snowmobiles fled west bound through a farm field toward Hogan Road. The fourth operator fled on foot into the woods abandoning the snowmobile. One operator remained stopped at CO Muehlhauser's patrol truck.

Genesee and Livingston County deputies assisted in attempting to locate the other operators. After a short search of the area, the deputies located one of the operators and returned him to the scene. CO Muehlhauser questioned the man who stated that he figured he was already in trouble and was going to get a ticket so he just tried to get away. He said that he thought it was illegal to operate on the roadway. CO Muehlhauser explained how fleeing just made the situation worse. CO Muehlhauser was able to get the names of the other operators. The abandoned machine was impounded and warrants will be requested through the prosecutor's office.

BELLE ISLE

CO Ben Lasher assisted Detroit Emergency Medical Service with an eleven year old girl who had fallen off the monkey bars at the playground on Belle Isle and hurt her arm. EMS stabilized the girl and took her to the hospital.

After leaving a night shift on Belle Isle, CO Jill Berry was first on scene when a subject lost control due to a light snow during the night and hit the median of I-75. The subject was uninjured and no citations were given.

While working on Belle Isle, Sgt. Ron Kimmerly observed a van that stopped in the middle of the road and threw something out of the window. The Sgt. then witnessed a large flock of seagulls descend onto the road and about 50 Canada geese run out onto the road and started feeding on all the bread that was tossed from the vehicle. The Sgt. made a traffic stop of the vehicle for the illegal feeding of birds. The driver was suspended and had seven traffic warrants for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken.