

**Law Enforcement Division  
Bi-Weekly Field Report  
4/18/11 – 5/1/11**

**DISTRICT 1**

CO Marv Gerlach is working a recreation trespass complaint in which a subject allegedly shot a turkey near another's residence. The investigation is ongoing.

CO Brian Bacon observed two individuals cleaning out a vehicle in a gravel pit. The CO watched as the subjects emptied their ashtray full of cigarette butts along with other trash from the vehicle. As they left the gravel pit, CO Bacon contacted the subjects, who denied throwing out any trash, but soon changed their stories after being informed that they were being watched. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Doug Hermanson and Sgt. Steven Burton issued a ticket to an angler who was smelt fishing on Umbrella Tree Creek. He was trespassing, catching fish with his hands, and fishing without a license.

CO Ryan Aho observed a vehicle slowly rolling along a pipeline commonly used by turkey hunters and contacted the driver as he was about to exit the pipeline. An uncased shotgun was found on the front seat of the truck. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon contacted a landowner after he allowed a fire to escape. The subject was burning illegal materials on a windy day and was unable to control his fire. Enforcement action was taken.

**DISTRICT 2**

While working surveillance for fish spawning violations, CO John Wenzel observed two subjects in a boat begin to chase cormorants. As they neared the birds, the older of the two went to the front of the boat and began shooting at the birds. The subjects did this several times. CO Wenzel contacted CO Mike Evink, who arrived at the scene with a patrol boat. Contact was made with the subject who stated he was a "deputy". When questioned, it was found that the subject firing the gun possibly was going to be listed on a shooters list for volunteers who were tasked with controlling cormorants. He was at that time not on the list. However, he had been trained recently and in the training it was pointed out that shooting from a boat under full power was prohibited. The subject was written a ticket for a much lesser charge of transporting a loaded firearm in a motor boat and warned for the other violations.

CO Mike Evink made a traffic stop on a female subject who began driving erratically and tried to hide from him after he observed the expired license plate on her truck. Once stopped, he found she not only had plates from another vehicle but there was no insurance on the truck, her license was suspended and she was in possession of

heroin. She was turned over to a trooper with the Michigan State Police (MSP) who arrested her for operating while intoxicated along with the other charges.

CO John Wenzel was assisted by Search & Rescue in locating two kayakers who had attempted a run down the west branch of the Whitefish River. One kayaker had tipped over and lost his kayak. The other had stopped and neither knew how to get out from where they were. Both were recovered with no injuries. Their cell phone was used to locate them.

COs Kyle Publiski and Kevin Postma encountered a subject operating an ORV in a prohibited area. The subject gave the COs false information as to who he was and continued to lie. Upon further investigation the true identity was obtained and the subject was found to be driving on a suspended license. The subject was arrested.

CO Kellie Nightlinger conducted a foot patrol on a local trout stream and observed three subjects catching steelhead by hand. She escorted the trio back to their vehicle where she discovered open alcoholic beverages and marijuana. Tickets were issued and one subject was lodged for the drug violation.

CO Derek Miller backed up MSP troopers on a domestic complaint in which a female subject was trying to stab her spouse with a knife. Upon arrival, the CO and troopers were able to secure the knife and make an arrest without any further injuries. The male subject was treated for minor injuries and released.

### **DISTRICT 3**

CO Andrea Erratt was able to catch up with seven “mudder” trucks and jeeps that were going over the prohibitive berms on state land. Tickets were issued for illegal operation of an ORV in a wetland, operating a motor vehicle while license suspended, operating an ORV without registration, operating a motor vehicle without insurance and operation of a motor vehicle without license plates. Several of the vehicles were also towed and impounded pending an investigation into damages which occurred.

CO Carl VanderWall reports the arrest of a subject for a second offense in two years on the Bear River while fishing without a license. The subject appears to be somewhat of a slow learner when it comes to fishing activity, as his attempting to snag steelhead continues to attract the attention of the Emmet County COs.

CO Michael Feagan conducted surveillance on two subjects fishing for walleye during the closed season, but not having any success. After awhile, both subjects went up to their cabin, and then took a walk for 20 minutes – leaving their lines fishing in the water. Upon their return, two tickets for fishing with unattended lines were issued.

CO Richard Stowe received a complaint and dug through a pile of garbage bags that had been dumped on state land along with a couch. Evidence in the trash led to an 85 year old man who had paid two young men for clean up and to take his trash to the

dump. Interviews with the two young men resulted in confessions, two littering tickets and a clean up of the site.

COs Eric Bottorff and Matt Theunick both checked subjects fishing for walleye during the closed season, based on the gear they were using. Neither subject had bothered to purchase a fishing license. Tickets were issued for fishing without licenses.

CO Matt Theunick caught two young men spearing suckers with hot dog roasters on a designated trout stream. Neither subject had a fishing license, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Richard Stowe had a condemnation hearing on a mounted trophy buck head which was taken during the closed season. The judge ordered the buck condemned and the defendant to pay the taxidermist the amount due.

CO Matt Theunick handled a litter complaint on state land that involved a couple of juveniles. One brother had dumped trash that had his brother's name on it. The site was cleaned up by the duo.

COs Nick Torsky and Mark DePew responded to a complaint of anglers using boats on a lake in the Pigeon River Country, which prohibits the use of boats due to high banks and the concern of erosion. The lake is also restricted to "artificial lures only". CO Torsky watched the four anglers fish with corn and catch a couple of trout. When the subjects came to shore, COs Nick Torsky and Mark DePew contacted them and also found they had no life jackets. Tickets were issued for the numerous violations.

CO Mark DePew was leaving the Pigeon River area when he came across a car driving erratically. When he contacted the driver, he noted the strong odor of marijuana. The driver admitted to smoking marijuana and having some in the vehicle. He was then arrested for driving under the influence of marijuana and the possession of drugs.

CO Mark Depew, along with a local deputy, located a party on state land. When they arrived, one individual quickly hid a backpack behind a tree. CO DePew retrieved the backpack and found a large amount of marijuana. The subject was arrested for intent to deliver marijuana and others were ticketed for littering.

#### **DISTRICT 4**

Sgt. Bob Torres, with the assistance of local deputies, investigated a recreational trespass complaint concerning road hunting activity. A subject observed a turkey along the road and got out to shoot at the bird. The first attempt to fire the shotgun failed, and the second attempt went off with the gun's barrel pointed onto private property and two occupied ground blinds. The complainants from the blinds obtained the vehicle's plate number; and Sgt. Torres was able to track down the subject and found that the three inch shell was still jammed in the two and three-quarter inch chambered shotgun. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Converse was checking one of the smaller closed trout streams in Manistee County where steelhead are known to congregate. When the CO approached the stream, he observed a large net on the bank with the water in the stream cloudy and stirred up. CO Converse conducted a search of the area and located a subject hiding several hundred yards downstream. The subject admitted that the net was his and that he was attempting to illegally land a steelhead. A ticket was issued for the fishing violation.

CO Steve Converse was patrolling along a closed section of the Betsie River when he located a vehicle parked along the river. The vehicle was frosted up indicating it had been there overnight. CO Converse took up a surveillance position on the vehicle and observed several subjects return a few hours later. The subjects claimed they had started canoeing the river at 12:30 a.m. Further investigation turned up illegal fishing equipment. One subject was ticketed for the illegal gear and another subject was lodged in jail on an outstanding arrest warrant.

CO Steve Converse checked a subject as he was leaving hunting property. The routine check found that the turkey hunter had illegal shot-sized shells in his possession. The subject was advised about the proper shot size to be legal. A check of the area after the subject drove away turned up two sites baited with shell corn. After working the location for several days, CO Converse was able to again check the subject as he left the hunting property. After the two walked to the hunting blinds that were freshly baited with shell corn, a ticket was issued for illegally baiting wild turkey while hunting.

CO Brian Brosky was working a closed section of a stream in Oceana County when he encountered three subjects fishing. None of the subjects possessed a fishing license and one of the subjects possessed a live brown trout. The fish was able to be released and tickets were issued for fishing a closed stream and the license violations.

COs Brian Brosky and Troy VanGelderren were teamed up working a turkey complaint when they observed a subject crouch down and attempt to hide in a ditch as they passed. The COs contacted the subject and noticed he had something in his hand that he quickly pitched as the COs made their approach. While one CO interviewed the subject, the other searched the area where the subject had hidden. The COs recovered a section of copper tubing the subject had discarded. Further investigation determined the subject had been stealing the copper tubing from a nearby cabin when the COs spooked him from the scene. Warrants will be sought from the prosecutor's office for the theft.

Acting Sgt. Angela Greenway was patrolling along the Little Manistee River ORV trail in the Lincoln Hills area. The CO checked several ORVs in an area containing an illegal hill climb. Several more ORVs were observed coming down the back side of the illegal hill climb as the CO approached. One of the ORV operators had a can cooler tied around her neck that contained an open beer. The operator registered nearly double the legal blood alcohol limit and was arrested for operation of an ORV while intoxicated.

On the opening day of the spring turkey season, CO Brian Lebel observed a vehicle parked in the same location all day. CO Lebel became curious to the extremely patient hunters sitting in one spot all day. After the subjects left the area, CO Lebel inspected the hunting location and located a large amount of bird seed spread at the hunting site. The following morning CO Lebel contacted two subjects hunting turkey over the bait. One of the subjects did not possess a hunting license. Tickets were issued for the license violation and the illegal baiting.

CO Jeff Ginn was first to respond to a capsized vessel in the Muskegon River. With assistance of a volunteer fireman, CO Ginn was able to launch his patrol boat into the highest water levels in 50 years. CO Ginn maneuvered his vessel upstream in time to save one subject clinging to his capsized vessel. The second angler was barely holding on to the tree that had capsized their vessel. CO Ginn was able to save both anglers and provide them with personal flotation devices (PFDs) and recover their overturned vessel. The anglers were transported to shore where an ambulance was waiting to evaluate their conditions for hypothermia. It was estimated the two anglers were in the cold waters of the Muskegon River for nearly an hour before they were rescued.

CO Mike Wells responded to a complaint of red fox kits being held in captivity. Upon questioning, the subject holding the young fox stated that he killed the adult due to experiencing some losses to his chickens. After killing the adult fox, the subject flooded the den to recover the kits as pets. A verbal warning was issued for the killing of the adult and a ticket was issued for the illegal possession. The young fox litter was turned over to a licensed wildlife rehabilitator.

## **DISTRICT 5**

CO Mike Hearn responded to a single vehicle property damage accident where the occupants of the vehicle attempted to hide their open intoxicants in an adjacent wood lot. One occupant was lodged for outstanding warrants.

While checking anglers along the Rapid River, CO Mike Hearn contacted three occupants in a vehicle where he discovered open intoxicants and marijuana. Warrants are pending.

CO Jon Warner contacted two subjects at the Mio Dam on the trout opener who were fishing without licenses. Both subjects stated they thought they wouldn't need licenses as they were accompanied by a parishioner from their church.

CO John Huspen contacted an angler who was fishing the closed waters of the mainstream of the Au Sable River. The subject admitted he knew he was not supposed to be fishing that section of the river and was ticketed for fishing closed waters.

CO Brian Olsen investigated a complaint of a litter pile on state land. He located the site and found some prescription bottles among the litter. CO Olsen then located the

individual whose name was on the bottles. The individual confessed to dumping his garbage on state land.

COs Steve Lockwood and Jason McCullough investigated a complaint of a subject road hunting for turkeys from a vehicle. The complainant saw the truck stop and the driver shoot from his window. The COs found the empty shell casings lying on the side of the road from where the subject had reportedly shot. The license plate number obtained by the complainant led the COs to the subject at his residence, where he confessed to shooting a turkey from his pick-up truck.

## **DISTRICT 6**

After receiving a complaint about a large pile of trash dumped alongside a road, CO Seth Rhodea checked the location and gathered information from the litter and contacted the person named on several pieces of paper. The subject advised CO Rhodea that his son-in-law had taken the garbage from his house and was supposed to take it to a dumpster. CO Rhodea then contacted the son-in-law, who confessed to dumping the trash in the ditch. A ticket was issued for littering and the subject was instructed to clean up the trash.

While working a fish and marine patrol on Lake Huron, COs Josh Wright and Seth Rhodea contacted several anglers who were unable to produce life jackets for every angler onboard their boat. The owner of the boat was ticketed for insufficient PFDs and given warnings for several other marine violations.

A local outdoor club was sponsoring an ORV poker run in Huron County. CO Robert Hobkirk worked the area for compliance of state ORV laws. While driving down the road, CO Hobkirk observed an ORV in his rear view mirror approaching his patrol vehicle at a high rate of speed. CO Hobkirk stopped the ORV and found that the owner had not transferred the title, nor did he have a current ORV license. His explanation for speeding was that he was trying to catch up to the poker run group of ORVs that left without him. He was ticketed for no ORV license and given a warning on his speed violation.

CO Jason A. Smith received a complaint of hunters who had possibly taken a turkey during the spring turkey season and were still hunting. After checking the area, CO Smith located the hunters, who were both currently hunting turkeys and both had valid unused turkey licenses in their possession. After interviewing both subjects, it was determined that one of the hunters had killed a turkey on the opener and failed to tag the bird. The second hunter had killed two turkeys on the opener and failed to tag either of the birds. Charges include failing to tag turkey, take overlimit of turkeys and attempt to take overlimit of turkeys.

While watching a group of subjects using spears on a local stream one night, CO Jason A. Smith noticed that after one of the fish was speared, the whole group came together to look at what was speared. The group then began looking around in all directions for

a few moments before the fish was placed in a bag. Once the group returned to their vehicle, contact was made and a ticket was issued for possessing an illegally taken pike.

While patrolling toward Caseville, CO Scott Brown observed a large amount of smoke. CO Brown located the plume of smoke and tracked it back to a yard that had two sofas burning in an open fire at a house. Officer Brown contacted the homeowner who was still out tending the fire and explained the violation to him. CO Brown issued the subject a ticket for illegal disposal of solid waste.

While patrolling the Tittabawassee River during the walleye spawning closure, CO Dan Lee observed lights in a backyard where the river had flooded up to near the houses. The CO could see the subjects casting lures. He made contact with the anglers who couldn't, when asked, remember what they were fishing for. The CO seized their equipment and issued tickets for fishing with illegal gear during the spawning closure.

COs Ken Lowell and Vicki Goss were patrolling Montcalm County when they located a turkey hunter walking along a private drive. When the hunter saw the COs he began to run toward his house. The COs made it to the porch at the same time as the hunter. CO Lowell took the hunter's gun while CO Goss took his information. The hunter had two warrants out of Montcalm County and was hunting turkeys without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chad Foerster was working Arenac County prior to the walleye season opener when he located a vehicle parked a good distance off the roadway near the Rifle River. When the angler spotted the CO he attempted to hide a walleye by dumping it onto the ground and kicking it under his vehicle. When the CO located the live walleye and questioned him about it, he stated that he was unaware of the walleye and pondered as to how it could have gotten there. He eventually told the truth and enforcement action was taken.

COs Jeremy Payne and Dan Lee were working on the Tittabawassee River in Freeland at 11:00 p.m. on Friday night, an hour before the walleye opener. Despite the heavy flood waters, the COs still found anglers attempting to take walleye before the season opened. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jeremy Payne and Jason McCullough have been working a complaint involving a subject hunting turkey over bait for the last two years. This year, while CO Payne worked the turkey opener again, he took another walk on the suspected property. The CO found the subject using a bow and hunting over a quarter acre of loose oats and sunflower seeds. The hunter told the CO that it was a recently planted food plot. The CO explained the difference and then issued a ticket.

## **DISTRICT 7**

CO Patrick McManus reported an increase in illegal ORV activity in the Allegan State Game Area (SGA) due to the large amount of rain and warmer weather. Five subjects were operating large trucks off road tearing up state forest lands and wetland areas.

COs Mike Mshar and Chuck Towns responded to a complaint of subjects shooting stuffed animals and bottles at the Eco Point gun range in the Allegan SGA. The COs met with the two subjects and located broken glass and toys that they had destroyed and left all over the range. The subjects were ticketed for littering.

COs Mike Mshar and Chuck Towns observed a subject driving erratically with his lights flashing. Contact was made and it was discovered that the driver had a severe laceration to his wrist from an earlier accident while working with a saw at his residence. CO Mshar assisted the subject by applying pressure to the wound that was bleeding profusely. The COs drove him to the hospital for medical treatment.

CO Mike Mshar assisted local deputies with a report of larceny from an outdoor store. CO Mshar assisted with a traffic stop on the suspect vehicle, and securing a perimeter where the main suspect had fled on foot. The K-9 unit was called in and the subject was apprehended in an adjacent agricultural field.

CO Chris Holmes contacted a subject who was hunting turkey after legal hunting hours. The subject stated he was waiting to catch them going to their roosting tree.

CO Carey Foster has been patrolling the Portland SGA attempting to locate ORVs that have been entering a gated trail on a regular basis. On a recent patrol he went to the location and noted inbound tracks from cycles that had entered the area illegally. After a brief wait, CO Foster was able to contact the riders as they left the area and issued tickets for the illegal operation.

CO Greg Patten located a subject operating an ORV illegally on the Musketawa Trail in Muskegon County. It was determined that the driver was also suspended and CO Patten ticketed the operator for this violation and for illegal operation along the trail.

CO Dave Rodgers continues to patrol spring fish runs in Kent County in spite of the rivers being at flood stage. CO Rodgers reported observing fish moving up the Sixth Street ladder on the Grand River freely due to the high water. One subject was ticketed for netting brown trout in the ladder, including one 23" fish.

CO Dave Rodgers, while working the Rouge River, observed several anglers wading and fishing shortly after a fish stocking at that location. One angler continued to empty the contents of a mason jar into the river, which was eventually identified as fish roe. When the jar was empty, the angler threw the jar and lid into the river. Another angler in the group emptied all of the trash in the pockets of his fishing vest into the waters to create room for a small trout he caught and concealed in his vest pocket. When contacted by CO Rodgers each angler denied throwing the items into the river and the angler continued to argue that he had no fish hidden in his pocket. When the fish was

located the angler stated he was not sure if the season was open or what the size limit was for trout. Tickets were issued for littering and retaining undersized trout.

CO Steve Mooney spent a large amount of time before turkey season locating a number of baited hunting sites and a group patrol for the opening day was organized. Sgt. Zach Doss and CO Andy Bauer were keeping surveillance at one of the sites in five inches of new snow. After daybreak, a vehicle drove by the baited site on a two track that led through the woods. A short time later, a shot was heard by Sgt. Doss and CO Bauer. After some investigating, two subjects were contacted. The subject who was carrying a shotgun did not have a turkey hunting license and the firearm was loaded with illegal shot. The other subject admitted to placing an active spin feeder on the property. COs Steve Mooney and Jeff Robinette were called to assist and further investigation located another hunter, who was hunting over a hundred pounds of cracked corn, using illegal shot, and did not have a turkey hunting license. An illegally taken turkey was discovered and a video tape of the illegal taking of the turkey was recovered. It was finally determined that one subject had a valid turkey hunting license, was going to provide his wife's turkey license to tag any illegally taken bird by the other two unlicensed subjects, and that the two subjects did not buy turkey hunting licenses because they planned on hunting the last season and taking an overlimit of turkeys. Other minor violations were found and enforcement action was taken.

CO Andy Bauer ticketed a subject in Boyle Lake SGA who had attempted to save a turkey hunting spot by leaving an illegal blind for multiple days at a prime turkey hunting location.

CO Andy Bauer was on patrol near the snowmobile trail when he observed the dome light of a vehicle which had illegally driven down the snowmobile trail and parked. CO Bauer approached on foot and observed a girl in the back seat of the vehicle with a marijuana cigarette and then observed the driver hold up a very small amount of marijuana in a baggie to see how much was left. At that time, CO Bauer reached through the open window and snatched the baggie from the subject's hand announcing his presence, much to the surprise of the screaming occupants. CO Bauer took enforcement action for the violations observed.

## **DISTRICT 8**

CO Damon Owens responded to a complaint of a subject operating a snowmobile on a highway with less than one-quarter inch of snow on the ground. CO Owens located the operator who was operating the snowmobile with an expired registration, no helmet, and no trail permit. The investigation revealed that the operator was suspected of operating the snowmobile under the influence of liquor. The subject's blood alcohol content was determined to be well over the legal limit, and enforcement action was taken.

COs Shane Webster and Damon Owens received a complaint from a sporting goods store that a subject was in the store trying to purchase a turkey license while bragging that they had already killed a turkey. The store owner contacted CO Webster and gave

him the subject's information. The COs' investigation found that the subject had killed a turkey without first obtaining the proper hunting license. The turkey was seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Shane Webster observed an ORV operating illegally on a county road. CO Webster contacted the operator who was allowing three people on a vehicle designed for one. The operator had not purchased an ORV license and allowed all persons on the ORV to ride without wearing helmets or eye protection. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Thorn and Sgt. Troy Bahlau contacted a subject who was hunting turkey without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Thorn and Sgt. Troy Bahlau encountered two different subjects who were riding ORVs on county roads without helmets, eye protection or ORV licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rich Nickols located several new garbage dump sites on state land. At one site CO Nickols was able to obtain information as to who illegally dumped the garbage. CO Nickols obtained a full confession and the subject will be cleaning up the site. Enforcement action was taken and the investigations continue at the other sites.

CO Damon Owens contacted two subjects on a remote lake who stated that they had just purchased new fishing poles, tackle, and bait and were enjoying their day on the water fishing. However, they forgot to purchase their fishing licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

In separate instances, COs Dan Prince and Todd Thorn both investigated the illegal killing of Canada Geese. In one incident, the subject confessed to CO Thorn that he killed two geese but didn't think it was against the law. When CO Thorn recovered the geese they were hidden behind a large tree at the opposite end of the subject's property. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dan Bigger received a complaint of a subject illegally shooting at and possibly killing squirrels. CO Bigger interviewed the subject who told CO Bigger that he had been shooting at squirrels but they all ran away. CO Bigger's investigation led him to a freshly killed squirrel and a confession from the subject. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pete Purdy assisted local deputies with a public disturbance at a local trailer park. One of the main subjects causing the disturbance fled into a field to try and hide from law enforcement. CO Purdy, along with the deputies, was able to locate the subject and restore order to the facility. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pete Purdy was the first on the scene of a vehicle fire on a major highway. When CO Purdy arrived the vehicle was fully engulfed in flames. Fortunately the occupants escaped the vehicle uninjured. CO Purdy stopped traffic until the fire department was able to put out the fire and local law enforcement arrived on scene.

## **DISTRICT 9**

CO Mark Papineau completed an investigation in which four deer carcasses were dumped in Genesee County. The deer carcasses appeared to have been taken during the deer season, hung in a garage, spoiled, and were dumped behind an abandoned residence. CO Papineau located drag marks and a trail of deer hair that led to another abandoned residence. Evidence recovered from the second residence led the CO to a different residence in the City of Davison. Contact was made with the suspect and a confession was obtained. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Papineau assisted local law enforcement in investigating a complaint of a narcotics deal in progress. CO Papineau arrived first on scene and was able to secure one of the vehicles and occupants. During a search of the vehicle and its driver, the CO and local police located narcotics and drug paraphernalia. Local law enforcement is handling the investigation.

CO Linda Scheidler observed three anglers fishing on the opposite side of the Flint River. She wrote down the time of day after witnessing each cast a line. She approached on foot and asked to see fishing licenses. One of the anglers said she was just watching her daughter fish, although she had a pole on the ground immediately in front of her. She stuck with her story until the CO read to her the times that each angler handled their poles. The other two anglers were wanted on outstanding warrants, and enforcement action was taken.

While checking anglers at Holloway Dam, CO Mark Papineau observed several dead walleye lying on the shoreline. During a discussion with a nearby angler, CO Papineau was informed that a subject and his son were fishing there the day before and keeping walleye. CO Papineau was informed that the subject was hiding the out-of-season walleye on a stringer in a nearby feeder creek. The subject also informed the CO that he had written down the license plate number of the subject's vehicle. CO Papineau responded to the subject's house and obtained a confession.

CO Mark Papineau completed a private land timber theft investigation in Atlas Township. A neighbor had reportedly trespassed on the victim's land and harvested numerous trees, all after being told not to. CO Papineau was able to calculate a monetary value for the illegally harvested timber, which was in excess of \$1,000. Warrants are being sought for felony larceny of timber and trespassing.

While patrolling in the Port Huron SGA, CO John Borkovich observed a parked vehicle that was still there the following morning. The CO got out on foot and located an illegal campsite and several small trees that were cut down or damaged. CO Borkovich contacted a couple of the campers and interviewed them, and found out the subject who cut the trees had already left. The CO plans on tracking the subject down and taking enforcement action.

CO Ken Kovach conducted surveillance of three subjects fishing on a small lake in the Lapeer SGA, and watched the subjects for over an hour before they packed up and started to leave. CO Kovach contacted the subjects, none of whom had a fishing license and all of whom denied fishing. One of the subjects was wanted on a warrant and was lodged. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Sklba contacted a subject operating his ORV on the roadway, without a helmet, and with a passenger who wasn't wearing a helmet on an ORV designed for a single rider. Upon contacting the subject, the subject stated "Just the person that I wanted to see". CO Sklba explained that he highly doubted that, as he was in violation of the law. Upon further inspection of the ORV it was discovered that his ORV license had expired in 2008. The subject was issued a ticket, and responded that he did not think it was right that he was getting a ticket. Upon covering all of the violations the subject decided to keep quiet.

While checking four subjects fishing at Pointe Mouillee SGA, CO Dan Walzak inquired about the contents of a large cooler that was brought in by the anglers. When CO Walzak looked inside the cooler he found it to contain alcoholic beverages which are prohibited in the game area. CO Walzak asked the subject if he had ever received a ticket from the DNR. The subject stated that he may have received a ticket last year at the same location for the same offense. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking anglers at Belleville Lake, CO Mike Drexler checked two anglers that became very nervous when the CO approached them. It became apparent to the CO very quickly why, with the strong odor of marijuana coming from the subjects. CO Drexler was able to locate a small amount of marijuana on one of the subjects. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Drexler and CO Kris Kiel finalized two separate court cases, one from ice fishing season where a subject took a largemouth bass out of season and was fishing without a license. The second case involved a subject who failed to remove his ice shanty prior to the deadline. Both subjects pled guilty.

CO Mike Drexler received a complaint of a juvenile subject torturing and killing baby and adult ducks. CO Drexler contacted the juvenile subject and the subject's stepfather, and with information from the complainant, was able to locate one deceased adult duck in a trash can. CO Drexler spoke to the juvenile about the seriousness of the offense and turned the issue over to the parents due to the juvenile's young age.

CO Brandon Kieft responded to a complaint involving two anglers catching and keeping bass during the closed season. CO Kieft located the experienced anglers in a bass boat working areas near the shore. He watched as the anglers caught a number of bass and eventually headed for the access site. The boat was checked at the access site and 11 bass were located onboard. Some of the fish were undersized and one of the anglers did not have a valid fishing license. The anglers claimed to be fishing for

northern pike until CO Kieft informed them that pike season was also closed. The two anglers were ticketed for the violations and the fish were released back into the lake.

CO Brandon Kieft responded to a complaint of a goose that was shot out of season. CO Kieft spoke to a homeowner who stated that he had been in Kentucky when the goose was killed. The homeowner also stated that his house had been broken into and one of his firearms was missing. CO Kieft collected evidence at the scene and contacted the Michigan State Police (MSP) to assist with follow up. Since the facts provided by the complainant in the goose shooting appeared too detailed, he was identified as a possible suspect in both cases. He agreed to meet with CO Kieft to go over details pertaining to the goose complaint. At that time, CO Kieft and MSP troopers provided physical evidence and questioned him about his involvement in the home invasion and goose killing. The subject eventually provided written statements indicating that he had broken into the house and also shot the goose in the backyard. However, he denied taking any firearm and a search of the vehicle produced nothing. The following day, CO Kieft was contacted by the subject and he agreed to turn over the stolen gun. CO Kieft met with the subject and recovered the firearm. Warrants are being sought for the violations.

CO Ben Shively assisted MSP with a trespassing complaint in northern Oakland County. The complainant was guiding two hunters on private property and was attempting to call in a large turkey when the turkey went over a hill and then a shot was heard. The complainant went over the hill to find two subjects standing over the turkey 100 yards onto the complainant's property from their property. The subjects stated they did not know who owned the property but figured it was ok to hunt because they thought no one else was hunting it. Both subjects were ticketed for recreational trespass and restitution will be sought for the turkey.

CO Ben Shively contacted a subject fishing along a closed section of the Huron River. The subject failed to read the signs stating that the river was closed and felt he did not need to have a fishing license because he was not going to keep any of the fish. The subject was ticketed for fishing without a license and warned for fishing on a closed trout stream.

CO Ben Shively responded to a complaint from Proud Lake Recreation Area of a 4x4 truck stuck in a wetlands area on a foot trail near Norton Creek. After running the plate it was discovered that the truck was reported stolen that morning. CO Shively went direct with Milford Police Department and the vehicle was recovered after using two 4x4 wreckers to remove the truck which was stuck on the frame in the wetlands. CO Shively and Milford PD are following up on leads.