

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
6/15/08 – 6/28/08**

DISTRICT 1

CO Jason Wicklund and Sgt. Marc Pomroy received a complaint of anglers taking short bass. The COs contacted the anglers and discovered six undersized bass. Enforcement action was taken.

While COs Chris Holmes and Ryan Aho were on marine patrol, CO Holmes observed a fishing line in the water near a dock. There was a subject sitting near his house watching the COs, and when contacted, he denied fishing. Upon further investigation it was found that the subject was fishing without a license and had several panfish in his possession. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon worked the Sylvania area and contacted one motor boat in a closed area with a gas motor and numerous other marine violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Eberly responded to the scene of an illegal burn and assault on fire personnel. The assault was turned over to MSP.

CO Mark Leadman checked anglers along the shore of Deer Lake near Ishpeming. He discovered two subjects fishing without licenses and in possession of live bait where prohibited. One of the subjects had driven an ORV to the area on an illegal trail and was suspended/revoked. Tickets were issued.

DISTRICT 2

CO Reid Roeske assisted at the scene of a fire caused by a lightning strike. The fire was small and easily contained.

CO Trey Luce responded to a complaint of recreational trespass on a private lake. The lake association had received several complaints of trespassers accessing the lake to fish. CO Luce responded and contacted the subject, who confessed to trespassing. A ticket was issued.

COs Steve Speigl and Reid Roeske seized three fawns and several raccoons from an individual in the Garden Peninsula. Warrants are being sought through the local prosecutor's office.

CO Kyle Publiski issued a ticket to a subject for failing to have the required personal flotation devices (PFDs) on a small rowboat. The young family of four was on the waves in the rowboat with only three lifejackets.

DISTRICT 3

CO Eric Bottorff investigated a complaint of littering on state land. A subject was interviewed and a confession was obtained. CO Bottorff issued a ticket and arranged for clean up of the site.

CO Carl Vanderwall received a complaint from an off duty police officer that a dog had just killed a fawn behind his house. CO Vanderwall responded and found the dog's owner. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling the snowmobile trail from Tower to Cheboygan, CO Eric Bottorff encountered a vehicle with two young subjects operating on the trail. The subjects advised they had seen signs prohibiting the use of motorized wheeled vehicles, but proceeded anyway. Tickets were issued.

DISTRICT 4

While patrolling in Mason County, CO Jim Espinoza encountered two persons operating dirt bikes on the roadway. One subject was not wearing a helmet and both bikes were unregistered. One of the subjects fled and the other stopped after first accelerating away from the patrol vehicle. CO Espinoza received identification of the person who fled and proceeded to his residence where the subject was found.

CO Troy VanGelderren was called to assist an Oceana County Sheriff's Department Deputy who had stopped a vehicle. The driver was in possession of twelve bass, nine of which were undersized. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Wells responded to a complaint in Newaygo County of a deer being held in captivity. The subject had the buck in captivity for a year and was ticketed for unlawful possession of the animal.

COs Jair Kollasch and Sam Koscinski responded to a complaint in Manistee County of a rattlesnake caught in a garden fence. The snake had eaten something and had become too big to fit through the fence. While CO Koscinski pinned the snake's head down, CO Kollasch was able to free the snake from the fence.

DISTRICT 5

CO Chris Bowen investigated a personal injury accident where a 16 year old ORV operator lost control and the ORV rolled on top of the operator. The subject was transported to a local hospital.

CO William Cherry contacted several anglers, a few of whom did not have fishing licenses. One of the subjects admitted to fishing without a license and stated he had never purchased one. Another angler fishing without a license also had a bass in a

bucket. When CO Cherry asked the angler what the minimum length was for bass, his response was 18 inches. The fish measured 11 inches.

CO John Huspen checked a litter pile on state land and found a receipt from a home improvement store. The store assisted with identifying the purchaser, and an interview with the subject revealed he had paid two individuals to haul the debris to the landfill. The two subjects were located and admitted they had dumped the debris on state land and pocketed the money for the landfill fee.

CO Jason McCullough was contacted by a DNR forester who had observed a vehicle driving into state land loaded with junk. CO McCullough went to the area and located a fresh junk pile where the suspicious vehicle had been seen. CO McCullough contacted the vehicle's owner, who said he had loaned the vehicle to his cousin. CO McCullough then contacted the cousin who confessed to dumping the junk on state land. A ticket was issued.

COs Joel Lundberg and Steve Lockwood were on patrol in the House Lake State Forest Campground and watched two subjects throw empty beer bottles into the woods before leaving in a car. The COs caught up with them and stopped the car. The driver of the vehicle was intoxicated and COs also found illegal drugs in the car. The driver admitted to having just purchased the drugs on the campsite. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tami Pullen and Sgt. Glenn Gutierrez were checking an angler who admitted to having a good day of fishing. CO Pullen checked the live well and found a nice catch of bluegill along with two undersized smallmouth bass. A ticket was issued.

CO Warren MacNeill responded to a complaint regarding a subject who had gotten his jeep stuck in a creek on the complainant's property. The subject had gotten to the property through public access, and then proceeded into the creek where he got stuck on private property. CO MacNeill issued a ticket and arranged for a towing company to remove the jeep.

DISTRICT 6

COs Phil Hudson and Nick Atkin were on marine patrol on personal watercraft (PWC) when they contacted two anglers on the Saginaw River. Both anglers were fishing without licenses, and one subject was arrested and lodged on an outstanding warrant.

CO Vicki Goss was checking anglers on a lake in Montcalm County when a PWC operator began operating in a careless manner between the anchored fishing boats. The operator was within 50 feet from the other boats and was ticketed for violating the 100 foot law.

COs Ken Lowell and Jeremy Payne handled a boating accident on Rainbow Lake. Three young boaters drove over another boat, causing minor injuries. The father of the

operator was issued a ticket for allowing his son to operate the boat unsupervised and without a boater safety certificate.

CO Dan Lee and Sgt. Ron Kimmerly were patrolling on the Bad River in the Shiawassee River State Game Area when they came across a camp site beside the river. The COs observed several beer cans in the boat and along shore. The COs advised the campers that it was illegal to camp in the game area. The campers were also advised it was illegal to possess alcohol, have a fire, and possess glass containers in the game area. The COs checked the area further and found a basket full of white bass and undersized smallmouth bass. Tickets for the illegal camp and short bass were issued.

DISTRICT 7

CO Gary Raak, while conducting a marine patrol, located a subject with two undersized bass. CO Raak ticketed the subject for the violation and found he was wanted on four outstanding arrest warrants. The subject was turned over to the sheriff's department.

COs Chuck Towns, Mike Mshar and Patrick McManus received a complaint of subjects snagging walleye at the Allegan Dam. Two subjects were contacted and ticketed for snagging three large walleye and another was ticketed for fishing with a cast net.

CO Andy Bauer and Sgt. Bob Torres conducted a boat patrol on the St Joseph River in Berrien County. Five tickets were issued for fishing violations and one subject was arrested on outstanding warrants and transported to the Berrien County jail.

CO Jeff Ginn had been working a Report-All-Poaching (RAP) complaint of shots fired from a vehicle when he located a vehicle in the area. CO Ginn approached the vehicle on foot and observed a gun barrel pointed toward the field from the driver's window. The occupant was in possession of two loaded rifles and open intoxicants. The subject had been shooting at woodchucks from the vehicle and driving the local sections searching for a target.

CO Ken Cerny observed a vehicle being driven while one of the occupants was hanging out the window of the vehicle. After CO Cerny made a traffic stop on the vehicle, the passenger advised that he was attempting to look at a tire that was causing the driver some concern. While talking with the occupants, CO Cerny observed fish in the vehicle. Upon checking the fish, he found an undersized bass. No one in the vehicle had fishing licenses and a ticket was issued for the violations.

COs Mike McGee and Andy Bauer responded to a RAP complaint of subjects using a cast net at the Berrien Springs Dam. The COs contacted the subjects as they arrived at the parking lot and found they were in possession of an illegal size cast net and 29 fresh water mussels. Tickets were issued for the gear and possession of mussels.

CO Steve Mooney and Sgt. Bob Torres conducted a patrol on a local Van Buren County lake during a bass tournament. One subject, who had the current largest bass taken in the tournament, did not have a fishing license. A ticket was issued.

DISTRICT 8

No report.

DISTRICT 9

CO John Borkovich located two PWC operators who had violated the slow, no-wake zone in a local river. Both operators drove approximately seven miles at high speeds through the zone. Enforcement action taken.

CO Gerard Goulette received a RAP complaint of a person with a baby swan in their possession. CO Goulette responded to the address and was given permission to search the house. While searching, he did not find a swan, but found a whitetail fawn in the bathroom. The subject stated he had a captivity permit and the fawn was from other deer on his permit. No other deer were found to be on the property.

CO Lacelle Rabon responded to a RAP complaint of people catching and keeping bass out of season. The complainant provided CO Rabon with the subject's license plate number. CO Rabon went to the subject's home and spoke to his wife who stated they were fishing and had caught some fish. She went to a freezer and pulled out a package with two smallmouth bass in it. CO Rabon returned later and met with the subject. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Lacelle Rabon stopped a PWC on the Detroit River 2½ hours after the legal time for the PWC to be on the water. The subject had launched at a ramp and traveled approximately ten miles up river to watch the fireworks display. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Ennett checked an angler standing near two fishing poles who stated he was not fishing. CO Ennett left the area and observed the group from a different angle. After a short time, the angler had reeled in, baited, and cast two different poles. CO Ennett contacted the angler again and advised he had been watching and what he saw. The subject stated that the child he was with could not bait, cast or reel in the fish, so he was doing it for him. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Shively was checking a lake when he observed two anglers who found where the bluegills were biting. CO Shively watched the anglers for a period of time, and when the subjects docked their boat, CO Shively approached and asked if they had their limit. Both anglers advised they had their limit. CO Shively removed the two buckets from the boat and counted 80 small bluegills and two undersized bass. Enforcement action was taken.