



Winter Highlights

Northern Lower Peninsula Wildlife Division 2015

Mark Knee - Wildlife Technician
1974 - 2015



Mark Knee, wildlife technician at the Baldwin Field Office and exemplary conservationist, passed away March 29th. Mark was a wonderful father, husband, friend and coworker. Mark's interests revolved around the outdoors, and he had recently stated "I'm right where I want to be." He touched hundreds of lives and in return, hundreds of people attended his funeral. Please visit www.themarkkneememorial.com

Snowshoe Hare Work GPS Goal 2



Wildlife staff and the Michigan United Conservation Clubs hosted an [On-the-Ground](#) event in January to hinge-cut close to 200 trees. This project will provide great thermal and escape cover for snowshoe hares in Oscoda County.



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Regional Outreach & Engagement GPS Goal 5



The winter months provided great opportunity to engage with youth, hunters, and resource users about the benefits of wildlife. Outdoor related events and shows are popular in the winter and allow great conversations with thousands of people. Banquets, conventions and planning meetings were also attended and regional staff made it a priority to be involved in their local areas.



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Creating Better Michigan Habitat

GPS Goal 2 & 9 \$

Over 450 acres in Clare County, was raked with anchor chains using a new piece of equipment for the region. The chains provide a soil disturbance which promotes [natural jack pine regeneration](#) for Kirtland's Warbler and other jack pine dependent species. Historically, wildfires provided the needed disturbance to regenerate jack pine naturally.



Managing Invasive Species GPS Goal 2 \$

[Oak wilt](#) is a slow moving fungus which affects and kills predominately red oaks. The fungus travels through root systems and can move above ground from freshly pruned or injured trees. Wildlife and Forest Resources Division staff worked together to cut down and burn infected trees in Grand Traverse and Benzie Counties.

Future Management Direction GPS Goal 2

Regional staff are working to complete a three year habitat planning exercise to ensure goals of the [Regional State Forest Management Plan](#) are being met, in an ever-changing landscape. Openings management represents a significant portion of work time and budget in the region, and staff continues to evaluate effectiveness and efficiencies.

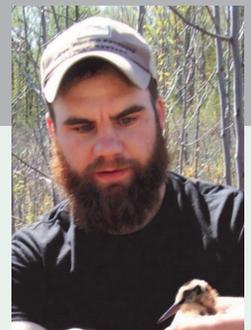


Meet the NL Region GPS Goal 7



Vern Richardson Wildlife Technician
Cadillac Customer Service Center
Joined the DNR in 2010. Duties - wildlife calls, walk-in traffic, waterfowl banding, habitat treatments and invasive species prevention work. Loves shooting his bow both for hunting and fun with wife Amanda.

Tim Riley Wildlife Technician
Graying Field Office - Joined the DNR in 2014. Duties - just finished habitat cut, working on future mast plantings. Enjoys fishing with his daughter and being in the woods with his setter RIO.



To contact NL Wildlife Division staff, call one of the Customer Service Centers

Cadillac (231) 775-9727 ▪ Gaylord (989) 732-3541 ▪ Roscommon (989) 275-5151

For a Wildlife Emergency or Law Violation call (800) 292-7800

For more information, go to www.michigan.gov/dnr

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