



## Western Upper Peninsula Citizen Advisory Council DNR Division Reports

Date of Production: July 2021 (Information current as of 7/15/2021)

This documentation is provided by Michigan DNR staff as a supplement for Western UPCAC Council members. Please email or call with any questions.

### Upper Peninsula Field Deputy Update – Stacy Haughey

#### *DNR Pocket Park – UP State Fair in Escanaba August 16 through August 22, 2021*

**The DNR Pocket Park is finally able to be open! This includes being open during the UP State fair, and oh my goodness, we have such a short time to plan!**

In less than a month (yikes!), the DNR Pocket Park will open to parents and children, both wanting to learn how to catch a fish or hit the bullseye with a bow or pellet gun. And we have something SUPER SPECIAL this year for the fair.....a Smokey Bear hot air balloon (more on that soon!).



2019 was THE most successful year yet, and all because of the overwhelming help from volunteers. Together, you all certainly make the park one of the top destinations to visit during the UP State Fair each year. *We know this year may take on a little different meaning for some of you, and we very much understand.* If, by chance, you are ready to get back into the swing of things, **we surely hope we can count on you to volunteer this year!**

Please help us NOW by considering a few things below.

1. Look at your calendars and please consider volunteering that week (August 16-22). Your family member(s), friends, and coworkers (16 years and older) are also more than welcome to volunteer. Make it a fun group effort! Remember, there are concerts and over events scheduled at the fair...coordinate your shift with those to get in for free! (<https://www.upstatefair.net/entertainment/grandstand-events/>)
2. If you are available, send us an email or call to let us know you can volunteer. If for some reason you are not able to help us this year, please let us know as well.
3. There are so many slots to fill! (We have reduced some offerings this year knowing that we may not get the number of volunteers needed in our short time frame.) If you have a favorite activity and/or slot you'd like, tell us and we will slot you in. You get first choice as a former volunteer! No prior experience is necessary—we will train you!
4. Call or email Kristi Dahlstrom ([dahlstromk@michigan.gov](mailto:dahlstromk@michigan.gov) / 906-226-1331-Marquette) or Jo Ann Alexander ([alexanderj7@michigan.gov](mailto:alexanderj7@michigan.gov) / 906-786-2351-Escanaba) for volunteer slots, suggestions or any other ideas you might have.

**THANK YOU! We look forward to seeing you all in August!**

#### **Pocket Park Fair Week Open/Volunteer Shift Hours** (\*add 15 minutes to times before and after each shift for training/cleanup)

- Monday, August 16 - 5:00pm-8:00pm
- Tuesday, August 17 - 11:30am-3:30pm & 3:30-7:00pm
- Wednesday, August 18 - 11:30am-3:30pm & 3:30-7:00pm
- Thursday, August 19 - 11:30am-3:30pm & 3:30-7:00pm
- Friday, August 20 - 11:30am-3:30pm & 3:30-7:00pm

- Saturday, August 21 - 11:30am-3:30pm & 3:30-7:00pm
- Sunday, August 22 - 12:00pm-3:00pm

### **Activities/Stations**

- Fishing Pond (7 per shift per day)
- Archery Range (4 per shift per day)
- Pellet Gun Range (4 per shift per day)
- Fire Tower (1-2 per shift per day)
- Greeters (2 per shift per day)
- Hospitality Host (Cook and serve volunteer food items/volunteer assistant – 1 per shift per day)
- Rounder (Make rounds around park, delivering water and tending to volunteer needs, etc. – 1 per shift per day)
- Fish Repair Shack Helper (To repair fishing/archery equipment Wednesday-Saturday – 1 per shift per day)

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 6, 2021

Contact: [Press@michigan.gov](mailto:Press@michigan.gov)

#### **Gov. Whitmer announces historic \$150 million investment in local parks and trails**

*Together with proposed investment in state parks, the plan would provide \$400 million to revitalize communities across Michigan*

**LANSING, Mich.** - Gov. Gretchen Whitmer today announced an historic investment in community parks and recreation facilities, proposing \$150 million in federal relief dollars from President Biden's American Rescue Plan be dedicated to addressing critical needs in local park systems. This investment will create good-paying, blue collar jobs across the state as we jumpstart our economy and get Michigan back to work.

Whitmer announced the proposal at the Idema Explorers Trail in Ottawa County, an example of a recreation property that could benefit from the new funding. The proposed investment would be administered as a grant program by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and would support the economies, health and recovery of communities across the state.

Last month, Whitmer announced [a similar proposal to invest \\$250 million of American Rescue Plan funding in parks and trails managed by the State of Michigan](#).

"These two new investment programs, totaling \$400 million, mark a once-in-a-generation chance to improve quality of life for our residents, support local economies and bring people back to Michigan as the state continues its recovery from the effects of the pandemic," **Whitmer said**. "These investments will ensure our children and grandchildren continue to enjoy the rejuvenating benefits of natural beauty and outdoor spaces so prized by Michiganders. I look forward to working with the Legislature to secure this investment for our communities."

"Local parks are a critical part of the network of recreational opportunities throughout Michigan," said **DNR Director Dan Eichinger**. "People just want good parks, and they don't usually care who manages those parks provided the work is done well. Our local community partners do an outstanding job and we continue to support their work through a variety of means, including our Recreation Passport Grant program, which provides a portion of money generated by state parks to local communities for their park development. This new program would generally be modeled on our Recreation Passport grants to help local communities develop the recreational assets they need for the next generation."

"Infrastructure needs in the state's estimated 4,000 local parks are substantial," said **Emily Stevens, president of mParks Michigan Park and Recreation Association**. "Local parks saw an influx of visitors in the past year as people sought safe, socially distanced outlets for recreation during the pandemic."

"We have been singing about the benefits of our local parks, trails, and greenspaces for years, however the investments have not always matched those benefits," **said Stevens**. "This monumental funding will address the needs at our neighborhood parks and community gathering places to make them safer, more accessible and inclusive."

Tourism to Michigan parks generates value for surrounding communities, creates jobs, and sustains small businesses. Michigan's outdoor recreation industry supports billions in state Gross Domestic Product and sustains 126,000 jobs and over \$4.7 billion in wages and salaries in the state. On average, every \$1 invested in land conservation leads to \$4 in economic benefit.

"Vibrant public parks and trails are essential to healthy communities, and they allow local economies to thrive," said **Jill Martindale, advocacy director for Velocity USA, a bicycle rim manufacturer in Grand Rapids**. "This funding will support companies like ours that rely on these public spaces to help keep people employed. Besides, having access to beautiful parks and trails just makes our work more fun."

One measure of recreational needs in local communities is the number of grant requests received each year by the DNR that go unfunded. Over the last five years, the average of development grant applications to the DNR for three primary grant programs

– the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund, Recreation Passport Grants and Land and Water Conservation Fund – has approached \$40 million annually. Nearly \$20 million of those annual requests could not be met because of lack of available funding.

“As residents recognized during the pandemic when they flocked to our parks, natural spaces should not be considered a luxury, but a necessity for our wellbeing,” said **Jason Shamblin, director of Ottawa County Parks and Recreation**. “The cost of acquiring natural spaces; designing, permitting, and building park infrastructure; and maintaining these facilities is consistently increasing. To keep providing this critical access to the outdoors through parks and trails, additional funding is an urgent need.”

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer also proclaimed July as Parks and Recreation Month to highlight Michigan’s abundance of state, county and location community parks, as well as the many opportunities for outdoor recreation that residents can enjoy in every county across the state.

View full proclamation [here](#).

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 10, 2021

Contact: [Press@Michigan.gov](mailto:Press@Michigan.gov)

**Governor Announces Plan for Historic \$250 Million Investment to Modernize State Parks and Trails to Enhance Tourism, Boost Local Economies**

**ST. IGNACE, Mich.** — Gov. Gretchen Whitmer today, in the shadow of the Mackinac Bridge from Straits State Park in St. Ignace, announced her plan for critical investments in state parks and trails so that public spaces across Michigan become a more attractive destination for tourism and position the state as a recreation leader. The plan calls for a historic investment of \$250 million in federal relief dollars from President Biden’s American Rescue Plan to be used for new investments in parks and trails and to address the backlog of park infrastructure projects, which will help support Michigan businesses and local economies.

“Tourism is vital to Michigan’s economy and to our overall economic health, and COVID disproportionately harmed our tourism and hospitality sectors,” said **Governor Gretchen Whitmer**. “Investments in our public spaces make Michigan a more competitive and attractive destination for tourism, position us as a recreation leader, and are critical components of our seasonal and rural economies. This is a valuable use of our federal funds to help the communities who rely on tourism rebound from the public health crisis. Parks bring us together. They are equally beloved by all Michiganders, regardless of geography or income, race or class or politics.”

Tourism to Michigan parks generates value for surrounding communities, creates jobs, and sustains small businesses. On average, every \$1 invested in land conservation leads to \$4 in economic benefit. Investments in parks uplift communities and this will help Michigan continue to jumpstart the economy as the state emerges from the pandemic.

As people found creative ways to socially distance during the pandemic, the state saw a 30% increase in visitors to state parks and recreation areas. Michigan’s outdoor recreation industry supports billions in state GDP and sustains 126,000 jobs and over \$4.7 billion in wages and salaries in Michigan.

“As the number of visitors to Michigan’s 103 state parks has increased dramatically over the past couple of years, we’ve seen greater demands our park and trail infrastructure,” said **Dan Eichinger**, director of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. “The funding announced by the Governor today will give our state parks a badly needed boost, while also aiding the state’s recovery through our natural resources and outdoor recreation tourism.”

Today’s announcement is a historic investment that will modernize parks and trails, improve access, and preserve them for generations to come. Funding will be used for projects that include upgrading water and sanitary systems, preserving historic structures, and installing and improving vital park infrastructure.

In 2012, a 16-member [Michigan State Parks and Outdoor Recreation Blue Ribbon Panel](#) reported seven core recommendations to then Gov. Rick Snyder, including a recommendation to invest in the safety and maintenance of, and access to, parks and recreation spaces. The panel believed implementing the recommendations would position Michigan to meet the needs of its citizens, visitors and communities throughout the 21st century. Today’s investment announced by Gov. Whitmer will make great gains toward Michigan realizing the vision of the state parks and outdoor recreation panel.

“We’ve seen an increase in men, women and families rediscovering their passion for the outdoors and turning to Carhartt for the gear they need,” said **Linda Hubbard**, President of Carhartt. “Additionally, when you consider that in Michigan alone, the outdoor recreation industry generates 126,000 direct jobs, we have the opportunity to outfit many of these hardworking individuals from head-to-toe in Carhartt, helping them get the job done.”

“Michigan has some of the best state parks in the country that support our outdoor way of life and contribute to our overall economy,” said **Bill Rustem**, former advisor to Governors Snyder and Milliken. “Governor Whitmer’s proposal will help to keep our state parks in pristine condition, while supporting tens of thousands of jobs in communities across the state.”

“Addressing the backlog of infrastructure needs within our State Parks has been a goal of many organizations for a number of years,” said **Clay Summers**, Executive Director of the Michigan Recreation and Park Association. “This investment will not only help Michigan’s State Parks but in the long run, it will truly help all parks in the state. By meeting the needs of the State Parks, your local city, township, county and regional park systems will now be priority recipients of grant funding and other alternative sources. This is a huge win for all Michigan residents and will provide safe, accessible and inclusive park systems for all.”

Read more details on the announcement here: [https://www.michigan.gov/documents/budget/6-10-21\\_State\\_Parks\\_ARP\\_Plan\\_727492\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/budget/6-10-21_State_Parks_ARP_Plan_727492_7.pdf)

## **July NRC Meeting Summary – Ed Golder, Public Information Officer**

The Natural Resources Commission met today (July 15) in Okemos, its first in-person meeting since the advent of COVID-19.

Resource Deputy Shannon Lott, acting for Director Dan Eichinger, approved:

- [A proposed oil and gas lease auction](#), which will offer for lease 24,000 acres of state-managed public lands in 17 counties.
- Four land transactions, details of which can be found [in the NRC agenda](#).

### **Committee of the Whole, Director’s Report**

Copies of the PowerPoint presentation on the following items can be found [linked within the NRC agenda for today’s meeting](#).

Fisheries Chief Jim Dexter gave some general fisheries updates to the commission. Spring 2021 fish stocking went well, with most rearing assignments met or exceeded. Fisheries Division made 258 stocking trips from six hatcheries and stocked 573 sites.

Spring walleye saw good production in west Upper Peninsula ponds and lower production than normal in the southern Lower Peninsula. The division directly stocked almost 9.5 million walleye fry, with 3.2 million spring fingerlings harvested from ponds.

Randy Claramunt from the Fisheries Division gave an update on a new permit system for control of double-crested cormorants -- a protected species under the migratory bird act -- following a rapid increase in the population over the past few decades. One cormorant can eat as much as a pound-and-a-half of fish a day, which is why control of the birds is such an important issue.

Among other things, the new system requires that the state provide a history of cormorant conflicts; a description of the area affected; a description of timeline, seasons of conflict and a time of year when control activities would occur; and for each location where control will occur a description of non-lethal methods used previously and a plan for implementing non-lethal management. The system also requires that the state have a long-term plan to eliminate or significantly reduce the continued killing of double-crested cormorants. The state’s permit for control was issued by the federal government in April. The state was approved to take more than 11,000 birds or nests (up to 1,400 nests) under the permit.

Nicole Hunt of the Parks and Recreation Division provided information on [a proposed director’s order that would allow the Parks and Recreation Division to prohibit access to beaches managed by PRD under certain conditions](#). Some of those conditions include:

- Times of dangerous water conditions
- While a water rescue is occurring
- When bacteria or contaminants are present
- When other issues are identified that would impact safety, such as vessel wreckage washing ashore

Prohibiting access would not be predicated upon flying a red flag alone. The prohibition would be invoked after reviewing criteria to determine whether access should be restricted and the area of the beach to be restricted. The prohibitions would apply only for beaches managed by PRD. The order is intended as a tool to assist with the welfare and safety of visitors. The emphasis would be on trying to gain compliance among visitors, not on issuing citations or fines.

Brian Frawley of the Wildlife Division presented preliminary 2020 deer harvest survey results. Last year saw a 2 percent increase in the number of people who purchased a license over against 2019. The number of hunters who actually went afield increased by 5 percent. In all seasons combined, 410,639 deer were harvested in 2020, an increase in harvest of 13 percent over 2019. Buck harvest was not significantly different year-to-year, but antlerless harvest increased by 26 percent. Harvest increased most significantly (up 19 percent) in the southern Lower Peninsula. The survey found that 19 percent of hunters spent more time afield in 2020 because of COVID-19.

Scott Whitcomb of the Executive Division presented a report on a review of state-managed public land undertaken by the department. The department manages 4.6 million acres of public lands and 6.4 million acres of mineral rights on behalf of Michigan residents. Of that land:

- 3.9 million acres are state forests
- 357,000 acres are state parks and recreation areas
- 364,000 acres are state game and wildlife areas

The land review – which will include a total of 240,000 DNR-managed acres -- sought to identify parcels that might be isolated from other public lands and might be of little conservation and recreational value. Income from sale of such parcels can allow the department to acquire other land that is surrounded by state-managed public land and might have greater value. Evaluation of DNR-managed lands [is occurring 10 counties at a time](#) and involves multi-disciplinary and multi-level review, including public review and comment.

A report on legislation affecting the department is below.

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### ***How to Participate in the NRC Meetings***

- If you're unable to attend the meeting but wish to submit written comments on agenda items, please write to: Natural Resources Commission, P.O. Box 30028, Lansing, MI 48909 or email: [nrc@michigan.gov](mailto:nrc@michigan.gov).
- If you would like further information or would like to address the Commission, please contact the NRC Assistant at **NEW NUMBER! 517-599-1067** or email: [nrc@michigan.gov](mailto:nrc@michigan.gov). Persons registering on or before the Friday preceding the meeting will be allowed up to five (5) minutes for their presentation. Persons registering after the Friday preceding the meeting or at the meeting will be allowed up to three (3) minutes. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations should contact the NRC Assistant.
- Look for the agendas and other Natural Resources Commission items at the NRC webpage ([www.michigan.gov/NRC](http://www.michigan.gov/NRC)).

## ***July 2021 Legislative Updates – Craig Brunet, Legislative & Legal Affairs Office***

**HB 4050 – Exempt Certain Game Location Data from FOIA – Rep. Cherry:** This bill amends the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) to allow for a disclosure exemption of public records revealing the specific location or GPS coordinates of game animals.

- The bill was passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate. The bill has been signed into law by the Governor and is Public Act 33 of 2021.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

**HB 4080 – Allow Pneumatic Guns During Certain Seasons – Rep. LaFave:** This bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to provide the NRC the ability to allow an individual to use a pneumatic gun during any firearm season. The bill would also give the Department the ability to determine whether a pneumatic gun could be allowed during archery season for individual with a disability or physical limitation.

- The bill was passed by the House of Representatives and was referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources.
- The Administration is opposed to this legislation.

**HBs 4205 and 4206 – Provide Free Snowmobile Weekend on Snowmobile Trails – Reps. Roth and S. Johnson:** House Bill 4205 would require that before the start of each snowmobile season, the Department would be required to designate one weekend in the snowmobile season during which a registration would not be required to operate a snowmobile on snowmobile trails. House Bill 4206 would require that before the start of each snow mobile season, the Department would be required to designate one weekend in the snowmobile season during which a trail permit would not be required to operate a snowmobile on snowmobile trails.

- The bills were passed by the House of Representatives and referred to the Senate awaiting referral to committee.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

**HB 4332 (H-1)– Modify Placement of Off-Road Vehicle Stickers – Rep. S. Johnson:** This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to require the license for a 2-wheel vehicle to be attached to either of the following: centered on the exposed surface of the rear fender or located at a visible place on a front suspension fork.

- The bill was passed by the House of Representatives and referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources
- The Administration is neutral on this legislation.

**HB 4363 (H-1) – Modify Time Periods for Certain DNR Land Transactions – Rep. Howell:** The bill would extend the time-period for the DNR to approve or deny an application for a proposed exchange of state land and for a proposed sale of surplus land, from 180 days to 210 days. The bill would also require the DNR to provide public notice at least 30 days before making a decision to dispose of, lease, or develop certain public land of more than 80 acres in size.

- The bill was passed by the House and referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources, where one hearing has been held.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

**HB 4535 and HB 4536 – Prohibit Wheeled Vehicles on Snowmobile Trails – Rep. Borton:** House Bill 4535 would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to prohibit wheeled vehicles from driving on snowmobile trails between December 1 to April 1. House Bill 4536 would allow for civil fines collected under HB 4535 to be deposited in recreational snowmobile trail improvement subaccount instead of being revenue for public libraries.

- These bills were reported with recommendation from the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and awaiting a vote on the house floor.
- The Administration is neutral on this legislation.

**HB 4969 – Require Conservation Officers to Wear Body Cameras While on Patrol– Rep. LaFave:** House Bill 4969 would require conservation officers to wear body cameras while on patrol.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Military, Veterans and Homeland Security.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

**HB 4980 (H-1) – Exempt Drag Racing Prohibition from Statue for Silver Lake State Park – Rep. VanSingel:** The bill would amend the Michigan Motor Vehicle Code to establish an exception for activities relating to speed or acceleration contests or drag racing at Silver Lake State Park.

- The bill was passed by the House of Representatives and referred to the Senate Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.
- The Administration is neutral on this legislation.

**SB 251 (S-2) – Modify Commercial Fishing Regulations – Sen. McBroom:** The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act for the purpose of restricting the DNR’s authority to issue Fisheries Orders for the management of the state-licensed commercial fishery. In addition, the bill would make a number of changes including putting current fisheries orders into statute.

- The bill was passed by the Senate and was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation.
- The Administration is neutral on the S-2 version of this legislation.

**SB 486 – Modify Membership on the Wolf Management Advisory Council– Sen. McBroom:** The bill modifies the membership of the Wolf Management Advisory Council to require all members be residents of the Upper Peninsula unless wolves are found to be present in the Lower Peninsula, if so a majority of the members must be from the Upper Peninsula.

- The bill was passed by the Senate and referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

## *Good Information to Know*

### ***DNR Public Meetings – Future Dates***

For virtual or conference call meeting information, please go to the DNR website at:

[www.michigan.gov/DNRMeetings](http://www.michigan.gov/DNRMeetings) and click on the appropriate meeting and/or agenda for instructions.

July 15	Natural Resources Commission Meeting (call 517-599-1067 for info)
July 21	Equine Trails Subcommittee, 1-4:30pm (call 517-331-6219 for info)
July 22	Western UP Citizens’ Advisory Council (virtual/location TBD)

July 23	Timber & Forest Products Advisory Council, 8:30–9:30am (call 517–284–5876 for info)
July 29	Trails Advisory Council, 9–11am (call 517–331–6219 for info)
August 10	Eastern UP Citizens' Advisory Council Meeting (call 906–226–1330 for virtual info)
August 12	Natural Resources Commission Meeting (call 517–599–1067 for info)
August 16	Forest Management Comment Period–Soo Unit (call 906–875–1039 for info)
August 17	Forest Management Comment Period–Crystal Falls Unit (call 906–875–6622 for info)
August 22	Forest Management Comment Period–Gwinn Unit (call 906–346–9201 for info)
August 25	UP Sportsperson Coalition Meeting–Marquette (TBD)
August 31	Forest Management Comment Period–Shingleton Unit (call 906–420–1645 for info)
August 31	Forest Compartment Review–Escanaba Unit (call 906–789–8231 for info)
August 31	UP Sportsperson Coalition Meeting–Crystal Falls (TBD)

### ***U.P. State Park & State Sponsored Activities***

*\*Please check with the state park before attending activity for any scheduling changes.\**

July 20	Michigan Iron Industry Museum – Empire Mine Cascade Range
July 22	Straits State Park – NWTF Intro to Turkey Hunting Clinic
July 23	Michigan Iron Industry Museum – Iron Ore Heritage Bike Tour
July 23–24	Palms Book State Park – NWTF BB Gun Shoot
July 23–25	Baraga State Park – Christmas in July (Campers Only)
July 27	Michigan Iron Industry Museum – Architecture of NMU
August 3	Michigan Iron Industry Museum – Kawbawgam: The Chief, the Legend, the Man
August 6	Michigan Iron Industry Museum – Iron Ore Heritage Bike Tour
August 10	Michigan Iron Industry Museum – Legacies of Tragedy: Stores of the Barnes–Hecker Families
August 13	Michigan Iron Industry Museum – Iron Ore Heritage Bike Tour
Aug 16–22	<b>DNR Pocket Park Open during UP State Fair (PLEASE CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING!! – Contact Kristi)</b>
Aug 17–18	Tahquamenon Falls State Park – NWTF Intro to Turkey Hunting Clinic
Aug 21–22	Free ORV Weekend

### ***Recent DNR Press Releases***

For full details, go to: [www.michigan.gov/dnrpressroom](http://www.michigan.gov/dnrpressroom)

- DNR shares county–level forest products economic data (7/13/21)
- Backyard hawks, summer fishing, firefighter honors and more (7/12/21)
- Last call for DNR bear and elk hunt waiting list (7/9/21)
- DNR Get Involved: state park volunteer opportunities, input on state forests (7/8/21)
- Conservation officers respond to multiple incidents over holiday weekend (7/7/21)
- Apply for your fall turkey license (7/6/21)
- Ford River Mouth boating site to close July 11 for improvements (7/6/21)
- Showcasing the DNR (Extra): Find your story with upcoming family history seminar (7/2/21)
- Showcasing the DNR: Rangers to the rescue (7/2/21)
- New DNR public land strategy sets priorities, guides actions for 4.6 million acres (7/1/21)
- Explore nature, history, genealogy, hunting and more in July (6/30/21)
- DNR approves nearly \$4 million in grants for recreational boating improvements & development (6/29/21)
- Share your thoughts with the DNR at upcoming meetings (6/25/21)
- Showcasing the DNR: From grizzlies to grouse, tracking the steps of a DNR wildlife conservation pioneer (6/24/21)

- Boating, fishing outreach events to mark Aquatic Invasive Species Awareness Week June 27–July 4 (6/23/21)
- Showcasing the DNR: Reeling in the years (6/17/21)

## *Eastern UPCAC Update*

The **Eastern UP Citizens' Advisory Council** met on June 17<sup>th</sup> virtually with 36 in attendance including Council members, DNR staff, NRC commissioners, legislative representatives, and registered public attendees. The following topics were included on the agenda and discussed:

- DNR Division Reports by staff
- Acknowledgement of DNR Response to April Resolutions re: Comments to Inland walleye Management Plan & Underwater Spearfishing (same as presented to WUPCAC)
- Chronic Wasting Disease Update
- Update on Wolf Management Plan
- Fire Danger 101
- Review of Potential Revisions to EUPCAC Bylaws
- Subcommittee Reports: Fisheries and Policy Impact (no reports)
- Public Comments: Three public comments on wolves/wolf management were heard from Mr. Eric Wallis of Rudyard, Mr. Stephen Dey of Moran, and Mr. Bob Warner.

More information on both the Western and Eastern CACs can be found at [www.michigan.gov/upcac](http://www.michigan.gov/upcac).

## *Division Updates*

### **Public Information: John Pepin, Deputy Public Information Officer**

As the march to return to work in offices begins, I am hoping for a good deal of opportunity to get out to take fresh photos of various activities taking place across all divisions in the Upper Peninsula this summer. Please send me news of any photogenic activities taking place within any division. Please remember that things that might seem like commonplace tasks, like duck banding, responding to nuisance bear complaints, construction at boating access sites or state parks, is often fascinating to the general public. These are also activities that we often have a short supply of photos in our archives. If possible, please give me a week's notice to try to get the activity set up on my calendar and secure enough time in my schedule to get out there. Also, if you have good photos of a particular activity you would like to submit to our archives for DNR use, please send them to me, with information describing the activity taking place in the photo and identification of anyone prominently featured in the photo (see example below). My contact information is [pepinj@michigan.gov](mailto:pepinj@michigan.gov) or 906-250-7260. Thanks very much.

*Example: Joe Smith, a Michigan Department of Natural Resources wildlife technician in Baraga, helps band mallards in the Sturgeon River Slough in Houghton County. The DNR bands thousands of ducks each year to help track their movements to aid in conservation efforts.*

### **Forest Resources Division: Tom Seablom, Western UP District Supervisor**

- Staff have been starting to return to the office starting July 12. It is expected that DNR offices will be open to the public by September 7<sup>th</sup>. For more information on the DNR COVID-19 response go to: [Michigan.Gov/DNR](http://Michigan.Gov/DNR)
- Field work on the 2023 YOE Inventory has been completed. Due to the ongoing pandemic the division will continue to hold public meetings in a virtual format. Open House comment periods for the Escanaba Unit runs from July 11<sup>th</sup> to August 10<sup>th</sup>. Open house Comment Periods and Compartment Review schedules for other units are posted online along with other state forest inventory information at: [Michigan.Gov/Forestry](http://Michigan.Gov/Forestry).



- As of July 12th, 325 timber sale contracts are open WUP Wide. This represents 886,010 cords of timber on 550,638 acres, valued at approximately \$36.3 million. Included in this are 16 GNA sales representing 60,693 cords of timber on 4,094 acres, valued at approximately \$2.8 million
- WUP units report 26 Active Timber Sales in the WUP totaling about 1,427 acres. Units report improving demand especially for hardwood sawlogs with active bidding. Softwood pulp is moving slower at lower prices but is still selling.
- The WUP welcomes several new employees to the division: Ray Niemi - Limited Term Fire Officer and Mike Goriesky - Fire Officer in the Crystal Falls Unit. George Wilson - Forest Technician in Gwinn. Robert Autore - Forest Fire Officer and Jason Vandrese - Limited Term Forest Fire Officer in Escanaba
- Forest protection staff are wrapping up the spring fire season. Fire activity extended into mid-June as drought conditions prolonged the need to staff for fire activity. A normal year would have seen a shift to summer conditions at the end of May. Currently two thirds of the UP has mild drought conditions since rain was finally received in late June. The UP is on track for a near normal fire year if rainfall amounts remain frequent. As of May 1<sup>st</sup>, there have been 28 fires totaling about 97 acres UP-wide. Currently there are 3 people on out of state fire assignments.
- The Commercial Forest Program received all of the new 2021 CF listing application. The number of acres of new enrollment applications is down from past years. About 3,000 acres have been applied for in the WUP with about 1,400 acres in the rest of the state. Commercial Forest Program Staff is busy inspecting these new enrollments. The reduced application for enrollment is likely attributable to landowners choosing to enroll in Qualified Forest Program instead of the Commercial Forest Program. For more information on the Commercial Forest Program go to [Michigan.Gov/Commercialforest](https://Michigan.Gov/Commercialforest).
- Reports of forest health issues have been somewhat limited. New growth on oaks was damaged by frost across a large area of the central and western UP around Memorial Day resulting in lots of brown foliage. The spruce budworm outbreak continues, although damage reports were more limited than last year. Some reports of isolated pockets of heavy gypsy moth defoliation have been received. The annual forest health aerial survey is occurring during July and will provide more extensive data on forest damage occurring this year.

### **Fisheries Division: George Madison, Western Lake Superior Management Unit**

The following are the western Upper Peninsula fisheries division highlights for the period of May-July, 2021, on behalf of the following Western UP Fisheries Division staff:

- *Lake Superior Unit Basin Coordinator: Patrick Hanchin*
- *West Lake Superior Management Unit: George Madison*
- *Northern Lake Michigan Management Unit: Darren Kramer, John Bauman, Jennifer Johnson*
- *Fish Production Unit: Dan Sampson (Thompson/Marquette Supervisor), James Aho (Marquette Hatchery).*
- *Research Unit: Dr. Edward Baker, Dr. Troy Zorn, Shawn Sitar*

### **Fisheries Management Units**

- **Western Lake Superior Management Unit (George Madison, Unit Biologist)**
  - Completed EPA grant paperwork for dam removal at the Ontonagon River estuary located in the Ontonagon River at the Village of Ontonagon. A 1960's era dam is located at the estuary between the Village and offshore Rose Island. Work is expected to commence in September, removing this dam and replacing it with a pedestrian bridge.
  - Group #3 State Lane review has been completed for State land parcels in Houghton and Keweenaw County.
  - Between July 12 and September 7<sup>th</sup>, many DNR staff members will be returning to office staffing work locations.
- **Northern Lake Michigan Management Unit (Darren Kramer, Unit Supervisor)**
  - The PIT tag antenna array installed in the Cedar River (Menominee County) detected a second tagged sturgeon on May 28<sup>th</sup>. This was a fish that was originally stocked from the Cedar River streamside rearing facility in 2010.

- Techs completed walleye pond harvest and stocking of spring fingerling walleye during the weeks of June 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> in various waters around the Upper Peninsula.
- The PIT tag antenna was installed in the Paint River (Iron County) the first week of June to track any tagged muskellunge that may be migrating between the Paint River and South Branch Paint River.
- Staff assisted P&R-trails with a mussel survey and relocation project in the Sturgeon River (Dickinson County) at an ORV trail bridge reconstruction site.

#### **Marquette Fisheries Research Report (Dr. Troy Zorn)**

- Sampling zooplankton in BDN to better understand effects of elevated Lake MI water levels on spring zooplankton densities and associated recruitment of inshore fish such as walleye and yellow perch.
- Assessing synchrony in recruitment of trout using data from SnT fixed sites and writing up findings for publication.
- Working with MTU on Dead River funded study to remediate sedimentation in a coaster spawning area on the Salmon-Trout River.
- Gave talks at Arctic Grayling partnership meeting: 1) Ranking suitability of stream habitats in MI for grayling reintroductions; 2) Predation and stocking model for Arctic grayling in MI; 3) Evaluation of alternate rearing methods for grayling.
- Revise manuscript on long-term changes in BDN for peer-reviewed publication.
- Various other meetings, project proposals and reviews, etc.

#### **Wildlife Division: Ryan McGillviray, Acting Wildlife Biologist-Crystal Falls**

- **2021 Michigan Breeding Waterfowl Population Survey Summary:** The state report is now out. The number of breeding waterfowl in Michigan has been estimated since 1991 using annual fixed-winged aircraft surveys, with one exception. The 2020 survey was cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic and no breeding waterfowl or wetland abundance estimates are available for last year. The 2021 survey began 13 April and ended 06 May which is like previous survey years. Based on the water levels, wetland conditions were considered “excellent” for breeding waterfowl statewide. The 2021 estimate of total ducks was 973,051 (SE = 345,825) birds, 191% above the 2019 estimate and 58% above the LTA. The 2021 estimate for Canada geese was 295,635 (SE = 34,250) birds, which was 21% above the 2019 estimate of 244,208 birds. The estimated number of mute swans in 2021 was 15,810 (SE = 6,926) birds, 100% above the 2019 estimate of 7,894 and 67.7% above the 5-year average of 9,425 (range: 7,894-12,048).
- **Habitat Improvement Grants:** Marquette biologist Brian Roell and Newberry biologist Kristie Sitar were successful in getting a Great Lakes Restoration Grant from the EPA to improve 3 wetland complexes in the western UP and 1 in the eastern UP. The work will focus on Wild Rice Restoration, Invasive Species identification and removal, silt removal from the dam at Lake LeVasseur and a bird inventory survey at Blind Sucker Flooding.
- **Wildlife Habitat:** Habitat plantings and habitat improvement projects are currently going on throughout the UP. These include GEMS trail maintenance and various wildlife openings to benefit deer, turkey, bear, grouse, etc. A particularly interesting project is happening in the Escanaba Unit. It is a 145-acre warm season grass and forbs planting, comprised of 3 different openings units.
- **Upper Peninsula Regional Supervisor:** Currently, Bill Scullon is acting as the Upper Peninsula Regional Supervisor. Bill was previously a Field Operations Manager for the UP and is still filling this role as well. This regional supervisor position has been vacant since Terry Minzey retired in February 2020.
- **Upper Peninsula Field Operations Manager (FOM):** Interviews for the second UP FOM position were held recently with a permanent replacement expected in August. The position has been vacant since Craig Albright’s retirement in June 2020. Four WLD staff members from across Michigan have rotated as the acting FOM roughly every three months.

- **UPR Wildlife Staff Retirements:** Wildlife Biologist Monica Joseph of Crystal Falls retired in June after nearly 34 years of service. Stan Budreau, Wildlife Assistant in Baraga retired mid-June after 22 years of service with the DNR. Both highly valued employees served their communities and resource management faithfully throughout their careers. Ryan McGillviray, currently the Wildlife Technician in Crystal Falls is serving in a six-month acting role as the Wildlife Biologist there. Plans are to fill the many vacancies as soon as possible
  
- **Deer Regulations for 2021 Fall Hunting Seasons: (Hunter Access Permit Application for DMU's 351 and 352 will be open from July 15 – August 15):** During the February 11, 2021 Natural Resources Commission adopted the following regulations:
  - ✓ **Statewide Changes:** Deer Management Unit (DMU) specific antlerless licenses have been replaced with a universal antlerless license that can be used across multiple DMUs.
    1. Universal antlerless licenses may now be purchased without an application in the Lower Peninsula and portions of the **south-central Upper Peninsula** that have DMUs open to antlerless deer hunting. Licenses may be used on public or private land.
    2. The purchase limit for universal antlerless licenses is 10 kill tags.
    3. **In the mid-zone DMUs of the Upper Peninsula** that are open to antlerless deer hunting, a deer hunting access permit must accompany the universal antlerless license. The deer hunting access permit is intended to limit participation where the population can be sensitive to harsh winter weather and will be available through a drawing.
      - The mid-zone DMUs have been split into 2 larger DMUs – DMU 351 and DMU 352. DMU 351 includes DMUs 021, 349, 249, 149, 017 and 117. DMU 352 includes DMUs 027, 036, 152 and 252.
      - There are 1,000 access permits available in each DMU (351 and 352).
      - DMU 351 and 352 deer hunters must have one access permit and one universal antlerless license for each antlerless deer harvested.
      - Deer hunting access permits are free, but there is a cost of \$5 to apply for the drawing.
      - Hunters can apply for one antlerless deer hunting access permit, choosing either DMU 351 or 352 (not both) for \$5 from license agents or online at [Michigan.gov/DNRLicenses](https://Michigan.gov/DNRLicenses) during the July 15 - Aug. 15 application period.
      - Drawing results will be posted Aug. 30.
      - Any leftover antlerless deer hunting access permits will go on sale Sept. 7 at 10 a.m. on a first-come, first-served basis until quotas are met. There is no guarantee that leftover access permits will be available.
    4. **The northernmost DMUs of the Upper Peninsula** are closed to antlerless deer hunting in all seasons. Those closed DMUs are 048, 007, 031, 042, 066, 127 and 131.

✓ **Upper Peninsula**

1. Archers in portions of the Upper Peninsula may pursue antlerless deer on their deer or deer combination licenses. However, DMUs 127, 066, 131, 042, 031, 007, and 048 will be closed to antlerless harvest during the archery seasons.
2. Changes to supplemental and recreational feeding in the Upper Peninsula including:
  - A permit is no longer required for supplemental feeding in the Upper Peninsula.
  - Supplemental feeding can occur Jan. 1 to May 15.
  - Recreational or supplemental feeding is prohibited if a location is deemed to be a safety hazard.
  - All recreational feed must be given in increments of only two gallons per calendar day and only two gallons at any one time.

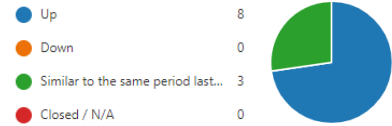
✓ **Additional notable NRC deer regulation decisions**

1. The proposed change to remove the 3- and 4-point restrictions on the combo deer license was **rejected**.
2. The proposal to allow the use of crossbows into late archery season in the Upper Peninsula was **rejected**.

- Crossbows will continue to only be permissible in the UP during the early archery season and firearms season, except in the CWD core surveillance area, where they are still allowed in late archery season or to those who hold a use permit for the crossbow.

**Parks & Recreation Division: Doug Rich, WUP District Supervisor**

**Camping**



**Boating Access Sites**



**Day Use**



**Overnight Lodging**



**Trails**



**Significant changes, projects or notes about CAMPING.**

Baraga Field Office helped with building playground at Porkies Union Bay Campground. This work was completed through an excellent partnership with the Friends of the Porkies.

All units across the district were very busy. Use and revenue are both up.

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend was at 96% occupancy across the State of Michigan.

**Significant changes, projects or notes about OVERNIGHT LODGING.**

Twin Lakes State Park receiving a lot more use.

Baraga State Park's tepee is no longer in use. It was removed from inventory as it was at the end of its reasonable use.

The Mirror Lake 4-bunk cabin at the Porkies was restored as rotting 77-year-old logs were replaced along with foundation repair.

**Significant changes, projects or notes about BOATING.**

Copper Harbor State Dock went slip specific, but we are still retaining the seawall sites as local sale only. Still working out some of the size restrictions for boats making a reservation. The Bin wall project at Copper Harbor is still moving forward as is the site upgrade at Eagle Harbor Marina.

Our boat launch at Bewabic State Park is the busiest we have ever seen it. Parking lot is close to capacity every weekday. Exceeding capacity on weekends.

Escanaba Field Office: A paving project at the Ford River Mouth Boating Access Site is gearing up to begin July 12<sup>th</sup> with the site being closed until Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> for paving.

Baraga Field Office fixed washouts at Arfelin Lake and repaired wooden dock at Copper Harbor lighthouse.

Baraga State Park: All of the area boating access sites had high use with the favorable weather.

**Significant changes, projects or notes about TRAILS.**

Escanaba Field Office completed a parking lot expansion of the Beagle Club and entrance improvement at Harlow Lake Pathway in Marquette County with the assistance of Baraga Field Office and Van Riper

Baraga State Park: We are seeing a high number of UTVs in the campground and locally.

**Significant changes, projects or notes about DAY USE.**

Twin Lakes day-use increased when the Portage Canal was closed because of gas spill in Hancock.

Menominee River Recreation Area: Booth is staffed this year 4 days a week, and seeing heavy use numbers.

McLain State Park's beach was very busy during the hot holiday weekend.

Baraga State Park: The day use parking area has been very busy.

Bond Falls: We keep having to add more recreation passports to our inventory because sales are so high.

### **Special events, volunteer projects, accomplishments, challenges or personnel news**

Menominee River: The mountain bike trail that was built and maintained by the DTN is seeing increased use.
Porkies: Completion of newly installed playground at Union Bay Campground. Porkies is currently at 28 search and rescues for the year.
Van Riper: No special events, however a huge shout out to the Van Riper staff for how quickly they were trained in and hit the ground running within the unit. They did an excellent job for the first holiday weekend and have set the bar high for how the park looks.
Wells State Park: Water rescue involved the local fire department and a CO helped.
McLain State Park had a new water well successfully drilled for Phase 3 in the construction of the park.
Fort Wilkins State Park: On June 8 <sup>th</sup> , the North American Vintage Bentley club met. About 30 vintage Bentley automobiles and their owners arrived with pre-1932 autos from across the U.S.
Governor Whitmer has proposed \$250 million dollars from the American Rescue Plan to address aging legacy infrastructure in Michigan's state parks. This budget proposal needs to be approved by the Michigan Legislature and duly appropriated. If appropriated, these funds will help address the backlog of core infrastructure issues such as sewer, water, roads, and buildings.

### **Law Enforcement Division (LED): Lt. Ryan Aho, District 1 Law Supervisor**

- **Conservation Officer (CO) Zach Painter** was working a marine patrol on Lake Gogebic on the 4th of July. CO Painter observed a boat operating well after sunset without its navigation lights activated. CO Painter stopped the boat and noticed several signs of intoxication with the operator. Standard field sobriety tests (SFSTs) were given to the operator. The subject was placed under arrest for operating a vessel under the influence of an intoxicating liquor.
- **COs Brian Lasanen, Zach Painter, and Dave Miller** worked a marine patrol on the Portage Waterway over the 4th of July weekend. The COs contacted numerous boaters and kayakers and cited one kayaker for failing to provide PFDs. Later in the patrol, the COs contacted a boat that appeared to be overloaded. A marine safety check of the vessel found that the boat was short multiple PFDs. The operator was cited for failing to provide PFDs for all occupants.
- **COs Brian Lasanen, Zach Painter, and Dave Miller** assisted the Lake Linden Fire Department with a marine safety patrol during their fireworks display. The COs patrolled a perimeter area for safety during the fireworks display. During the fireworks display, the COs observed a boat operating without proper navigation lights. The COs approached the boat and activated their emergency lights to stop the vessel. As they activated their emergency lights, they observed the driver of the boat switch positions with a female passenger on the boat. The new female operator could not figure out how to get the boat into neutral to stop the boat. The original operator had to lean over and assist in getting the boat stopped. Contact with the boat found the original operator to be non-compliant and deny operating the boat. The subject refused to come over to the CO's boat and refused SFSTs and a PBT. The suspect boat was towed to an access site nearby where the subject was again told he was under arrest for boating while intoxicated and resisting and obstructing. He eventually came onto the CO's patrol boat where he was handcuffed and transported to a waiting Houghton County Sheriff's Department vehicle. After being transported to jail, the subject registered a .17 alcohol level and was lodged. Multiple charges are being sought with the prosecutor's office.
- **CO Jenni Hanson** patrolled the Cisco Chain of Lakes in Watersmeet. She conducted a stop after observing a vessel operating at a speed greater than idle in a 'slow no wake' channel. CO Hanson educated the out of state boater on the importance of operating at a speed greater than slow no wake in a channel and within 100 feet from shore. CO Hanson issued a verbal warning to the boater.
- **COs Zach Painter and Ethen Mapes** were on patrol in Ontonagon County when a Be on the lookout (BOL) came out for a subject and the vehicle he was driving. The subject was reported to be causing a scene at a local grocery store and appeared to be very intoxicated. The COs located the vehicle a short while later and conducted a traffic stop. Signs of intoxication were observed with the operator and Standard Field Sobrieties Tests (SFSTs) were administered. The subject was placed under arrest for operating while intoxicated (OWI). The COs located open intoxicants and an uncased shotgun in the truck. The subject was charged with violations including OWI with a blood alcohol count (BAC) over 0.17, open intoxicants, operate while license revoked, possession of a firearm while intoxicated, uncased firearm in a motor vehicle, no registration, and no insurance. The subject was lodged at the Ontonagon County Jail.

- **CO Anna Viau** responded to a crash where a pickup truck had hit a bear. Thankfully, damage to the pickup was minimal and the three occupants of the truck were not injured. The bear appeared to be uninjured as well, as it had run off after the collision.
- **CO Anna Viau** was following up on a complaint on a busy Iron County lake when she observed a man pulling two kids on a tube. Upon closer inspection, she could see that the man did not have a spotter in the boat with him. When CO Viau stopped the boat, the operator stated he was just trying to take his kids out for one last ride before they left their cottage. CO Viau described the safety concerns of not having the spotter and issued him a citation for the violation.
- **CO Anna Viau** was on her way to follow up on a complaint when she observed an ORV operating on the shoulder of a state highway. Upon stopping the individual, she noticed the ORV did not have an ORV sticker. CO Viau issued the man a citation for no ORV license and gave him a warning for operating on the highway.
- **CO Jeffrey Dell** checked a boat of anglers on an inland lake. Two of the three anglers were found to be fishing without a valid license. A citation was issued.
- **CO Jeffrey Dell** conducted multiple marine safety patrols. Numerous violations were observed and citations for operating an unregistered watercraft and towing without an observer were issued.
- **CO Jeffrey Dell** checked a boat with two anglers on an inland lake. One of the anglers was found to be fishing with an expired 72-hour fishing license. A citation was issued.
- **CO Jeffrey Dell** encountered numerous ORVs throughout the holiday weekend. Two citations were issued for operating unlicensed ORVs. Warnings were given for operating on a closed highway, operating while suspended, and railroad trespass.
- **CO Josh Boudreaux** conducted follow up on a solid waste complaint in Marquette Township. After receiving reports of illegal dumping in early May, CO Boudreaux set up multiple trail cameras in the problem area and subsequently captured numerous pictures of a group of individuals dumping garbage on top of the existing furniture pile and having an all-night bonfire. Upon locating and contacting the suspects, who were teenagers, CO Boudreaux was able to obtain a confession and issue a citation for littering. The group was warned about the penalties regarding improper disposal of solid waste and advised them to go clean up any remaining debris.
- **CO Josh Boudreaux and Wildlife Technician Caleb Eckloff** responded to a report of a fox trapped in a woman's duck coop. CO Boudreaux entered the coop with a catch pole while Caleb readied the crate to retrieve the fox. After catching and securing the fox, it was transported to a remote section of forested land in Alger County where it was successfully released.
- **CO Josh Boudreaux** was patrolling the Huron Islands on Lake Superior when Marquette County Dispatch contacted him, asking if he could see smoke to the south in the Huron Mountain Club. CO Boudreaux worked the shoreline looking for smoke but was unable to locate any. After learning the fire was located on a high ridge on the backside of a remote inland lake miles from the nearest road, CO Boudreaux coordinated with the local fire department and DNR Fire resources to haul his patrol boat into the area to assist with shuttling firefighters and equipment. After multiple equipment and personnel shuttles the fire, which was caused by a lightning strike, was successfully extinguished and monitored over the next few days. Talking with staff at the club, CO Boudreaux learned that it had been over 50 years since a motorized boat had been on that lake.
- **COs John Kamps and Josh Boudreaux paired with District 2 CO Steve Butzin** to complete an illegal deer investigation. COs Kamps and Boudreau conducted an interview and obtained a full confession for two illegal deer. One 8-point deer from 2019 and one 8-point deer from 2020. Both deer were taken without a license. The subject purchased licenses only after harvesting the deer. CO Butzin was able to later follow up with the suspect and seize evidence. Charges are pending with the prosecutor's office.
- **CO Jeremy Sergey** was patrolling to Presque Isle Marina in Marquette County just before 7:00 AM when he noticed a moped conduct a U-turn and head toward the entrance to the isle. A few moments later as CO Sergey was approaching the closed gate to the isle, he saw the moped crash right into the 'Park Closed' gate at Presque Isle. CO Sergey activated his emergency lights and checked on the operator. The operator seemed shaky but surprisingly not injured. CO Sergey asked the individual how much he had to drink, the individual said he had not been drinking. Field sobriety tests and a PBT were administered with assistance from the Marquette City Police. It was determined that the individual was over twice the legal limit of intoxication for operating a motor vehicle and the subject was lodged for OWI.

- **COs Jeremy Sergey and Cody Smith** conducted a marine patrol on Lake Michigamme with the following citations/warnings: two citations for no life jackets, one warning for no fire extinguisher, one warning for fishing without a license, and one warning for operating a vessel with expired registration.

## **Parks & Recreation Division-UP Trails: Ron Yesney, UP Trails Coordinator**

### ***Region: Central UP Projects / Rob Katona, Trail Specialist***

<b>Project Name: Foster City Bridge</b>
Project Description: Bridge replacement designated ORV/Snowmobile multi-use Rail-Trail, Dickinson County
Anticipated Completion: September 2021
Third Quarter Update: Project is moving forward as scheduled demolition is complete and bridge installation has begun.

<b>Project Name: Sturgeon River Bridge</b>
Project Description: Bridge rehab Snowmobile Trail 2, Dickinson County on state-owned Rail-Trail
Third Quarter Update: Design is at 50%. Railing replacement will be completed prior to snowmobile season. We will have to do mandatory bi-monthly abutment monitoring during the snowmobile season to keep this open if conditions change we may have to close the bridge. Remainder of the construction is scheduled for summer 2022.

<b>Project Name: Nahma Grade Multi-Use Trail</b>
Project Description: Design and construction 3.7-mile multi-use Rail-Trail in Delta County work includes clearing, surfacing and culvert/bridge installation.
Third Quarter Update: Design on water crossings and ELGE permitting is nearing 50%. Will be working on the second phase clearing the grade in August.

<b>Project Name: Clowry Grade</b>
Project Description: Design and rehab/construction of 7 bridges on this designated ORV/snowmobile multi-use Rail-Trail in Marquette County
Third Quarter Update: Design for bridges 2&3 at 50%. Bridge number 6 will now require an expedited repair prior to snowmobile season as insufficient load capacities were found.

<b>Project Name: Cedar River Pathway Improvements</b>
Project Description: Improve 18 low wet areas along pathway with culverts and raised trail construction
Anticipated Completion: September 30, 2021
Third Quarter Update: Advertised twice with no interested bidders; may have an interested contractor now to do the work in August and September.

<b>Project Name: Thunder Valley Trail Development</b>
Project Description: Complete construction on three additional loops and connector
Anticipated Completion: September 30, 2021
Third Quarter Update: Contract was awarded and work will begin in August.

<b>Project Name: Days River Pathway Improvements</b>
Project Description: Remove damaged board walks and construct raised trail with culverts in low areas
Anticipated Completion: September 30, 2021
Third Quarter Update: Contract was awarded and work will begin mid-July.

<b>Project Name: LPI Trail and Parking Improvements</b>
Project Description: Trail repairs and realign entrance to Beagle Club Trailhead
Anticipated Completion: September 30, 2021
Third Quarter Update: Parking improvements complete and contract for pathway work has been awarded with work beginning mid-July.

<b>Project Name: Forest Islands Repairs and Restoration</b>
Project Description: Repair damaged board walks and damage in low wet areas on the Forest Islands ORV Trail/Route in Menominee and Delta Counties
Anticipated Completion: Summer 2021 if contractor is compliant
Third Quarter Update: Contractor continues to be well behind schedule this project may move to a voluntary default path with a new contractor to complete the work we will know more in August.

<b>Project Name: Felch Grade Surface Improvements</b>
Project Description: Gravel, grading and culvert repairs on Felch Grade in Menominee and Dickinson Counties
Anticipated Completion: Summer 2021
Third Quarter Update: Surfacing work is 90% complete and the culvert and bridge repairs have begun.

<b>Project Name: Bill Nicholls Capping Houghton County</b>
Project Description: Gravel capping between Painesdale and Houghton
Anticipated Completion: Summer 2021
Third Quarter Update: Project has been completed this was the final FEMA reimbursement eligible project for the Bill Nicholls from the Houghton County Flood disaster.

<b>Project Name: Bass Lake Restoration</b>
Project Description: Replace decking and perform reroutes around eroded areas
Anticipated Completion: September 30, 2021
Third Quarter Update: Bass Lake Decking has been completed

<b>Project Name: Central UP Dust Control</b>
Project Description: Treat residential areas for controlling dust on ORV routes
Anticipated Completion: September 30, 2021
Third Quarter Update: Dust control was completed for the Central UP sites.

<b>Project Name: Gwinn-Arnold Improvements and Restoration</b>
Project Description: Repair large holes replace culverts and surfacing on this ORV route in Marquette County
Anticipated Completion: September 30, 2021
Third Quarter Update: Contract was awarded, and work is 50% complete.

<b>Project Name: West Marquette County ORV Routes Improvements</b>
Project Description Repair large holes replace culverts and surfacing on multiple ORV routes in western Marquette County
Anticipated Completion: September 30, 2021
Third Quarter Update: Contract was awarded and work is 50% complete.



<b>Project Name: Delta County ORV Routes Improvements</b>
Project Description: Repair large holes replace culverts and surfacing on multiple ORV routes in Delta County
Anticipated Completion: September 30, 2021
Third Quarter Update: Contract was awarded work will begin mid-July

<b>Project Name: Norway Rock Motorcycle Trail Proposal</b>
Project Description: New single-track construction in Dickinson County adjacent to the Norway ORV trail
Third Quarter Update: Proposal is on hold to discuss concerns with WLD.

<b>Project Name: Days River Pathway Expansion</b>
Project Description: 12.7 miles of single-track trail construction for primarily mountain biking and hiking adjacent to the existing Days River Pathway in Delta County
Third Quarter Update: New construction is planned for next FY using non-motorized funds.

**Region: Western UP Projects / Jeff Kakuk, Trail Specialist**

<b>Project Name: Menominee River Bridge</b>	<b>Project Name: Stateline Trail Wakefield Extension</b>	<b>Project Name: Little Carp Trestle</b>	<b>Project Name: Swedetown-Calumet trail capping</b>
Description: Bridge Deck Rehabilitation and abutment repairs on this 392' interstate trail bridge	Description: Bridge and Culvert replacements to extend this multi-use trail 5 miles into Wakefield, MI The stateline trail is nearly 100 miles long along the Wisconsin border.	Description: Phase 3 includes the deck replacement and bank armor of this 230' trestle	Description: Defining trail corridor in town with an ADA trail mix gravel. 1.1 mile project
Trail Use: Multi-use	Trail Use: Multi-use	Trail Use: Multi-use	Trail Use: Multi-use
Anticipated Completion: 2021	Anticipated Completion: 2021	Anticipated Completion: 2021	Anticipated Completion: 7/2021
Q3 Update: The new deck and oak wear course has been installed as well as approach railing.	Q3 Update: Pikka and Koskela box culverts are set and McVichie Bridge abutments were completed.	Q3 Update: Abutment repairs were completed.	Q3 Update: Trail Bond is being crushed and stockpiled in Calumet.

<b>Project Name: Freda Grade – 2018 Flood Repairs</b>	<b>Project Name: Site OHM 18 - Culvert Replacement</b>	<b>Project Name: WUP culvert failure site design</b>	<b>Project Name: Site BD257 – culvert replacement and trail improvements</b>
Description: Repairs to FEMA supported 2018 flood damage. 3 Culverts and 10 surface erosion sites.	Description: Replacement of a failed culvert on the Lake Linden Grade. This site is between Lake Linden and Calumet.	Description: Six culvert sites failing in 2019. 3 – Sidnaw -Bergland grade 1 – Bill Nicholls grade 2 – Ontonagon-Rockland Grade	Description: Raise section of trail and replace failed culvert. Project also includes cleaning of downstream channel.
Trail Use: Multi-use	Trail Use: Multi-use	Trail Use: Multi-use	Trail Use: Multi-use
Anticipated Completion: 2021	Anticipated Completion: 2021	Anticipated Completion: unknown	Anticipated Completion: 7/2021
Q3 Update: Culvert project bid package is being put together	Q3 Update: No Updates	Q3 Update: No updates	Q3 Update: Completed in Q2

<b>Project Name: Ripley</b>	<b>Project Name: Salmon-Trout Bridge Load Rating</b>	<b>Project Name: WUP Bridge Load Rating Assessment</b>	<b>Project Name: BN101 Culvert Replacement</b>
Description: Adjacent property site contamination. Trail use impacted. Temporary trail reroute in place	Description: Wood deck has rotted, and original load rating is below current needs. This project will review structure and provide options for repair	Description: Provide an assessment of 5 large bridges (3 on Bill Nicholls, 2 on Sidnaw Bergland) to provide a load rating to post.	Description: Culvert collapse on Bill Nicholls trail south ast of Toivola due to metal culvert collapse.
Trail Use: Multi-use	Trail Use: Multi-use	Trail Use: Multi-use	Trail Use: Multi-use
Anticipated Completion: Pending EPA cleanup/capping	Anticipated Completion: Summer 2021	Anticipated Completion: Summer 2021	Anticipated Completion: Fall 2021
Q3 Update: EPA work still possible late summer	Q3 Update: UPEA review has begun	Q3 Update: OHM review has begun	Q3 Update: