



Western Upper Peninsula Citizen Advisory Council DNR Division Reports

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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

CO Brian Lasanen Nominated

On Sunday January 17, 2021 at approximately 8:15 pm, Conservation Officer Brian Lasanen responded with a Houghton County sheriff deputy to the call of a subject that had fallen into the Portage Canal from the Houghton breakers pier. The dispatch call was directed to the deputy who was at the Houghton Police Department with CO Lasanen. Both officers immediately responded to the site, which was an approximate 10-minute drive. 911 received a call from a subject who witnessed the victim slip on the ice-covered break wall and fall into the water.



The Houghton breakers pier is located on the South side of the North Portage Entry, and directly across the water from McLain State Park. When CO Lasanen arrived on scene at the Stanton Township Park, they met a first responder on scene.

The officers proceeded to the pier and contacted the 19-year-old male subject who had called 911. They then located a 22-year-old male victim in the water hanging onto the side of the break wall. Float ice was packed into the area, making movement for the victim difficult. The two officers and first responder gathered ropes and devised a plan to retrieve the victim from the water. Retrieval proved difficult due to the icy conditions on the pier. The Houghton County deputy and the first responder stayed near the victim with a rope lowered to the victim and secured. CO Lasanen utilized more rope line to stretch to ground that was not covered in ice. CO Lasanen was able to provide leverage to the deputy and the first responder further out on the pier. As a team, they were able to lift the subject back onto the break wall pier. Once out of the water and on the pier, the officers reset their rope system to assist with getting the victim and caller off the ice-covered pier and on to safe ground.

The 22-year-old male from Macomb, MI was transported by Mercy Ambulance to UP Health System-Portage for treatment of hypothermia. The 19-year-old male caller from Almont, MI did not need medical attention.

For their actions taken during the water rescue, Conservation Officer Brian Lasanen has been nominated for a Lifesaving Award, along with the Houghton County deputy and first responder.

March NRC Meeting Summary – Ed Golder, Public Information Officer

The Natural Resources Commission met in an online format this morning. Major actions taken:

Director Dan Eichinger approved:

- Seven land transactions. Details of the transactions [can be found in the NRC agenda](#).
- [Updated regulations on the use of alcoholic beverages at state parks, recreation areas and boating access sites](#). These updates align prohibition dates among PRD-managed properties and provide greater consistency for enforcement purposes. Significant changes in the revised land use order include:

- Removal of the alcohol prohibition at three boating access sites to align with the regulations within the managing unit
- Consolidation of state parks and recreation area alcohol prohibitions to April 1 through Labor Day, except within units where circumstances require a different date range
- Removal of the alcohol prohibition at Ortonville Recreation Area, Waterloo Recreation Area, Silver Lake State Park (except the ORV area), Bay City State Park, and McLain State Park during “K Day,” as this event is no longer held
- [Corrected boundaries for hunting and trapping in state parks and recreation areas](#). The new boundaries resulted from a review undertaken to compare the described open/closed boundaries within the Wildlife Conservation Order to the boundaries identified within the Department’s GIS mapping information to ensure accuracy of the information. The review resulted in a number of corrections, and provides for an expansion of hunting and trapping opportunities at recently acquired lands within Fort Wilkins State Park and at Van Riper State Park.

The NRC approved [regulations for 2021-2022 migratory game bird hunting seasons](#). Generally, the regulations for the 2021-22 seasons are very similar to last year. Among the significant changes, the approved regulations allow for a 107-day Canada goose season with a daily bag limit of five for the entire season. Previously, only three Canada geese were allowed per day after September. The possession limit remains at three times the daily limit for geese.

In other commission business

During the Director’s Report in the Committee of the Whole, Director Eichinger announced the members of the newly reformed Wolf Management Advisory Council, which will make recommendations on wolf management now that the species has been removed from the federal endangered species list. Members of the council are:

- Dan Kennedy, the director’s designee and chair of the body
- Miles Falk, representing tribal governments, who will serve a three-year term
- Beatrice Friedlander, representing animal advocacy organizations, who will serve a two-year term
- Richard Pershinske, representing agricultural interests, who will serve a two-year term
- Mike Thorman, representing hunting and fishing organizations, who will serve a two-year term
- Amy Trotter, representing conservation organizations, who will serve a three-year term

Matt Fry of the Forest Resources Division reviewed [proposed changes to land use orders to consolidate and standardize watercraft restrictions in the Pigeon River Country State Forest](#). Proposed changes in the orders, which are under the authority of Director Dan Eichinger, would allow for the use of non-motorized watercraft at all 10 of the lakes commonly referred to as sinkhole lakes in the Pigeon. Currently, the use of non-motorized vessels is permitted on six of the sinkhole lakes. Restrictions were put in place near the lakes to reduce erosion caused by over-use, but that problem has been addressed through control work performed by the DNR and cooperative organizations. Revisions to the land use order would clarify, consolidate and standardize regulations to avoid confusion.

Cordy Norton of the Wildlife Division reviewed the bear population in the state and [proposed license quotas and regulations for the 2021-2022 season](#). In the Upper Peninsula, where the goal is to grow the bear population at a slower rate, the population was estimated in 2019 to be 9,902 bears. In the northern Lower Peninsula, where the goal is to slow growth and stabilize the population, the bear population was estimated in 2019 to be 2,402. Nuisance complaints have been relatively stable in the U.P. In the Lower Peninsula, nuisance complaints have quadrupled in the last decade.

The proposed harvest allocation for 2021-2022 in the Upper Peninsula would increase by five animals over the previous quota, to 1,185. The tribal allocation of 55 animals in the U.P. would remain the same.

The harvest allocation for the Northern Lower Peninsula would increase by 80 animals to 480 for the 2021-2022 season. The tribal harvest allocation would be 68 animals, up 12 from the previous level.

There is one proposed regulatory change for the 2021-2022 season. That change would establish an archery-only bear season in the Baldwin and Gladwin management units in the Northern Lower Peninsula. This would align with an existing archery-only season in the Red Oak Management Unit in the Northern Lower.

Bear regulations will be before the NRC for action in April.

A report on legislation affecting the department is below.

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.
- If you would like further information or would like to address the Commission, please contact the NRC Assistant at 517-284-6237 or email: 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 Natural Resources Commission webpage (www.michigan.gov/NRC).

March 2021 Legislative Updates – Craig Brunet, Legislative & Legal Affairs Office

HB 4026 – Provide for 2-Year Recreation Passport Renewal – Rep. Eisen: This bill would amend the Motor Vehicle Code to allow for a 2-year renewal of the Recreation Passport when an individual obtains a 2-year vehicle registration.

- The bill was voted out of the House Committee on Transportation and is awaiting a vote on the House floor.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4035 – Provide for Lake Level Assessment Fee Reimbursement Under Certain Circumstances – Rep. VanSingel: This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to specify that PILT paid by the Department of Treasury to each county for Department-managed swamp and tax reverted lands is to be in lieu of all special assessments levied against these state lands under existing law, in addition to all other taxes.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and a hearing has been held.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

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 voted out of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and is awaiting a vote on the House floor.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

HB 4078 – Allow an Individual to Possess a Loaded Firearm in or on a Vehicle when on Private Property – Rep. LaFave: This bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow an individual to possess or transport a loaded firearm in or upon a vehicle, including an ATV or UTV, if the individual owns the private land or is accompanied by or has permission of the owner or lessee of the private land.

- This 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 4079 – Allow Individuals to Hunt from a Vehicle on Private Property – Rep. LaFave: This legislation amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow an individual to carry a loaded firearm, bow, or crossbow in or upon a vehicle and will allow the individual to discharge the weapon to take game from a vehicle if the individual is on private property.

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

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

HB 4088 – Allow Supplemental feeding of Wildlife and Birds – Rep. Borton: This bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow for the feeding of wildlife and birds if both of the following conditions are met: the feed is located within 600 feet from a residence and the quantity of feed placed, scattered, or distributed within 600 feet of that residence does not exceed two gallons.

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

HB 4126 (H-1) – Update Funding Formula for Pheasant Stamp – Rep. Howell: When PA 262 of 2020 created a pheasant hunting license, it required that all the license revenue be deposited into the Pheasant Subaccount of the Game and Fish Protection Account. HB 4126 allows \$0.35 from each pheasant hunting license sale to be distributed to the Wildlife Resource Protection Fund to comply

with PA 451 of 1994, Sec. 43555 and allows for payment of 7.5% commission rate to vendors operating Department license sales terminals to comply with Sec. 43541.

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

HB 4136 – Decriminalize Safety Standards for Snowmobiles – Rep. Markkanen: The bill would decriminalize failure to have safety standards for snowmobile product certification from a misdemeanor to a civil infraction with a fine of up to \$150.00. The bill also decriminalizes operating a snowmobile without a crash helmet from a misdemeanor to a civil infraction with a fine of up to \$150.00.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4137 – Decriminalize Failure to Exhibit Safety Certificate – Rep. LaFave: The bill would decriminalize failure to exhibit safety certificate for a motorboat from a misdemeanor to a civil infraction with a fine of up to \$150.00.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4138 – Decriminalize Improper Display of a Snowmobile Registration Decal or Trail Permit – Rep. Alexander: This bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to decriminalize the improper display of a snowmobile registration decal or trail permit sticker from a misdemeanor to a civil infraction with a fine of up to \$150.00.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4139 – Decriminalize Off-Road Vehicles Improperly Crossing Street – Rep. LaFave: The bill would decriminalize improperly crossing a street or road in an off-road vehicle from misdemeanor to a civil infraction with a fine of up to \$150.00.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4140 – Decriminalize Operation of a Snowmobile Without Safety Certification – Rep. LaFave: The bill would decriminalize failure to present a snowmobile safety certificate to any peace officers upon demand from a misdemeanor to a civil infraction with a fine of up to \$150.00.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4142 – Decriminalize Certain Snowmobile Penalties – Rep. Coleman: The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to decriminalize specific snowmobile penalties in this state such as, failure to display registration, affixing wrong registration, affixing registration improperly, lost or mutilated registration, and snowmobiling along the highway. The bill would reduce the offense to a state civil infraction subject to a civil infraction of up to \$150.00.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4149 – Modify Certain Penalties for Certain Fishing Violations – Rep. Mueller: The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to modify the following fishing violations to a civil infraction with a fine of not more than \$150.00: fails to attach the individual's name and address to tip-ups in violation of section 48703(2); or fishes with more than the authorized number of lines in violation of section 48703(1).

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and one hearing has been held.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4151 – Modify Penalties for Certain Hunting and Fishing Licensing Violations – Rep. S. Johnson: The bill would decriminalize failure to carry your hunting or fishing license to a civil infraction with a fine of up to \$150.00.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and one hearing has been held.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4152 – Modify Penalties for Violations of Certain Hunting Provisions – Rep. Howell: The bill would decriminalize the following hunting provisions from a misdemeanor to a civil infraction with a fine up to \$150.00: failure to attach individual's name, driver license number, or sportcard number to a ground blind; failure to attach individual's name, driver license number, or sportcard number to a tree stand, scaffold, or raised platform; and supplemental feeding of deer.

- The bill was referred to the House Committee on Judiciary and one hearing has been held.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

HB 4187 – Allow Use of Trotlines or Juglines for the Taking of Nongame Fish and Snapping Turtles – Rep. Albert: This bill would require the NRC to establish a three-year pilot program by April 1, 2021, on the use of trotlines or juglines on inland lakes and rivers to take nongame fish and snapping turtles and, within 90 days of completion of the pilot, issue a report to the Legislature on the use of juglines and trotlines. Also, if the NRC determined that the use of juglines or trotlines should be prohibited or restricted on certain inland lakes or rivers, the NRC would be required to provide a legislative report before the start of the pilot program explaining the principles of sound scientific management used to make those decisions.

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

HB 4242 – Allow Export of Live Minnows, Wigglers or Crayfish as Bait – Rep. Alexander: This bill would allow for the export of live minnow, wigglers, or crayfish as bait.

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

HB 4363 (H-1) – Modify Time Periods for Certain Department Land Transactions – Rep. Howell: The bill would extend the time-period for the Department to approve or deny an application for an exchange of state land and for a proposed sale of surplus land, from 180 days to 210 days. The bill would also require the Department 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 voted out of the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation and is awaiting a vote on the House floor.
- The Administration is in support of this legislation.

HR 25 – Resolution Urging Governor to Establish a Statewide Land and Water Conservation Goal – Rep. Lightner: A resolution to urge the Governor to establish a statewide goal of conserving at least 30 percent of land and 30 percent of water in the state by the year 2030, as part of the nationwide 30x30 effort to accelerate conservation efforts, and to update the state land management plan accordingly.

- The resolution referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation. The Administration has not taken a position on this resolution.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this resolution.

SB 106 – Allow the Use of Purple Paint to Designate a No Trespassing Area – Sen. VanderWall: The bill would amend the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to prohibit a person from engaging in recreational activity or trapping on another person's property if, among other things, the property was posted against entry with purple paint marks on trees or posts around the property.

- The bill was reported with recommendation from the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and is awaiting a vote on the Senate floor.
- The Administration is opposed to this legislation.

SB 120 – Modify the Natural Resources Commission Membership – Sen. McBroom: The bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to modify the make-up on the NRC to require that at least three members of the commission must be residents of the Upper Peninsula, if at least 35% of state-owned land is located in the Upper Peninsula.

- The bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

SB 152 – Allow an Individual to Possess a Loaded Firearm in or on a Vehicle when on Private Property – Sen. McBroom: This bill amends the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act to allow an individual to possess or transport a loaded firearm in or upon a vehicle, including an ATV or UTV, if the individual owns the private land or is accompanied by or has permission of the owner or lessee of the private land.

- This bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Government Operations.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this legislation.

SR 15 – Resolution Urging NRC and Department to Allow for Wolf Hunt in 2021 – Sen. McBroom: A resolution to urge the NRC to authorize, and the Department to organize, wolf hunting and trapping as part of the state's wolf management efforts beginning in 2021.

- The resolution was reported from the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and is awaiting action on the Senate floor.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this resolution.

SR 17 – Resolution Urging NRC and Department to End Study on APR in CWD Core Area – Sen. McBroom: A resolution to urge the NRC and the Department to end the research study begun in 2019 concerning the effectiveness of antler point restrictions as a management tool in the chronic wasting disease core area.

- The resolution was referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and a hearing has been held.
- The Administration has not taken a position on this resolution.

SR 20 – Resolution Urging NRC to Add Eastern Sandhill Cranes as Game Species – Sen. McBroom: A resolution to encourage the NRC to add Eastern sandhill cranes to the game species list and seek U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approval to establish an Eastern sandhill crane hunting season.

- The resolution was referred to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and a hearing has been held.
- The Administration has not yet taken a position on this resolution.

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 and click on the appropriate meeting and/or agenda for instructions.

March 19	Timber & Forest Products Advisory Council (virtual) (call 517-284-5876 to attend)
March 24	ORV Advisory Workgroup (virtual) (call 517-331-3790 to attend)
April 8	Michigan Trails Advisory Council (virtual) (call 517-284-6112 to attend)
April 14	Forest Management Advisory Committee (virtual) (call 517-284-5876 to attend)
April 14	State Parks Advisory Committee (virtual) (call 517-284-6135 to attend)
April 15	Natural Resources Commission Meeting (virtual) (call 517-284-6237 to attend)
April 21	Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund Board (virtual) (call 517-284-5954 to attend)
April 22	Eastern UP Citizens' Advisory Council Meeting (virtual) (call 906-226-1331 to attend)
April 23	Timber & Forest Products Advisory Council (virtual) (call 517-284-5876 to attend)
April 29	Snowmobile Advisory Workgroup (virtual) (call 517-331-3790 to attend)
April 29	Non-Motorized Advisory Workgroup (virtual) (call 517-331-3790 to attend)
April 30	Waterways Commission (virtual) (call 517-284-6138 to attend)

U.P. State Park & State Sponsored Activities

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

April 22-30	Run for the Trees/Happy Little Virtual 5K (Michigan.gov/DNRHappyLittleTrees)
May 1	Fort Mackinac on Mackinac Island open for the season
June 12-13	2021 Summer Free Fishing Weekend
June 19	Fayette Historic State Park – Christmas in June

Recent DNR Press Releases

For full details, go to: www.michigan.gov/dnrpressroom

- Invasive zebra mussels found in aquarium moss products (3/10/21)
- Peregrine falcons, secretive marsh birds, firewise landscaping tips (3/9/21)
- Coyotes and what you can do to prevent conflicts (3/9/21)
- DNR hosts virtual meetings on public land review Tuesday, Wednesday (3/8/21)
- DNR seeks public input on final design for Eagle Harbor State Harbor in Keweenaw County (3/5/21)
- DNR Get Involved: state park and habitat help, frog/toad survey, land review, more (3/4/21)
- Showcasing the DNR: The search for Michigan's ghost cat (3/4/21)
- #MiStateParks: diorama challenge, overnight lodging, boat, 100 ways & more (3/4/21)
- Reminder: Forest carbon credits panel discussion Thursday (3/1/21)
- State forest fuelwood permits available now at no charge (3/1/21)
- 2021 spring turkey drawing results available (3/1/21)
- Bears and bird feeders, forest health, new fishing season & more (3/1/21)
- DNR Events: outdoor skills classes, DNR centennial, Women's History Month (2/26/21)
- Showcasing the DNR: Between the pages, a history lies (2/25/21)
- March virtual meetings, land review info and position vacancies (2/25/21)
- DNR says fish kills may be common during spring thaw (2/24/21)
- DNR drafts walleye management plan for inland waters, seeks public input (2/23/21)
- CO academy deadline, responsible forest use, cold-weather pet tips (2/23/21)

Eastern UPCAC Update

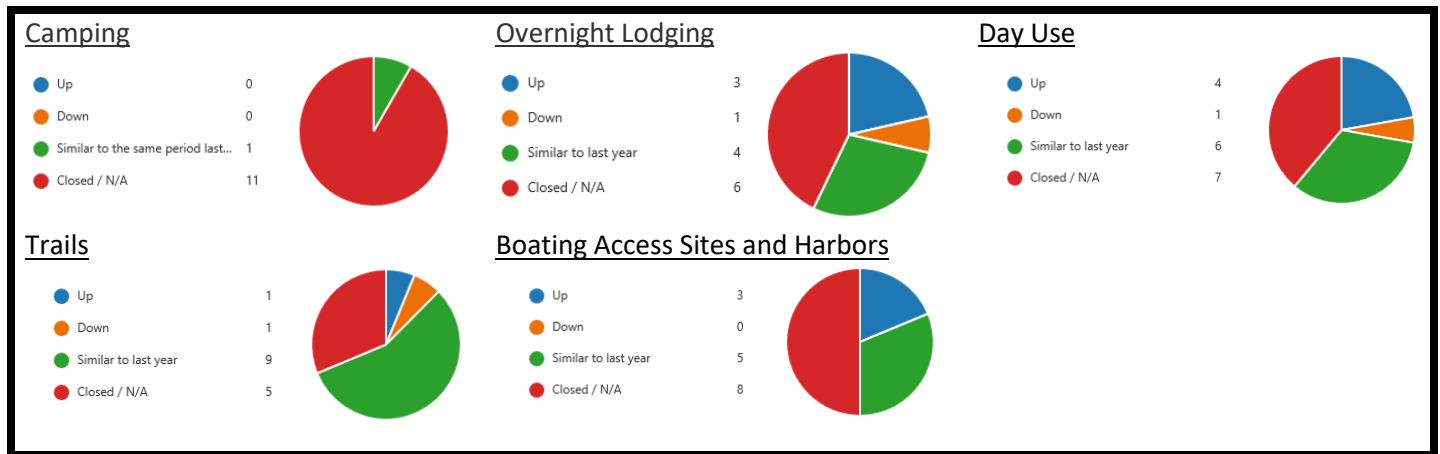
The **Eastern UP Citizen's Advisory Council's February 9th meeting** was held via Zoom with 33 in attendance. The following agenda topics were discussed:

- Division Reports
- Election of Officers: Tom Buckingham and Gary Gorniak were re-elected as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively. Jack Thomas was elected as Secretary, replacing Allan Augustyn who did not renew his council seat at term end.
- Chronic Wasting Disease Updates by Stacy
- Wolf Delisting Status Update by Dan Kennedy
- State Forest Management Plan Presentation by Dan Heckman
- CAC Membership Update by Stacy
- Reports from Committee Meetings Held: None
- Public Comments: One registered participant spoke about deer management/recommendations
- The next meeting will be held April 22, 2021 virtually.

Division Updates

Parks & Recreation Division: Doug Rich, WUP District Supervisor

Western UP Utilization Snapshot



Significant changes, projects or notes about camping

Unit	Responses
Fort Wilkins	Nearing 90% completion of Phase 100 for the new waterline and sewage project. Project construction to begin Aug 1. The East campground will be closed for the season beginning 8/1
Baraga Field Office	Put new LED caution lights on Baraga SP Bobcat and winter skid pier refurbishing and prepping for upcoming construction season.
Craig Lake	Progress for the Craig Lake State Park bridges is moving ahead. Bridge components were delivered 2 weeks ago, and additional supplies and materials are being delivered as they come into the stores.

Significant changes, projects or notes about overnight lodging

Unit	Responses
Twin Lakes	December rentals cancelled because of lack of snow, and Covid 19.
McLain	F.J. McLain lodging up 4.9% for January/February
Lake Gogebic	National Guard is working on the tiny house for the Lake Gogebic State Park at the Gladstone Army.

Unit	Responses
Little Presque Isle	Down only 18 overnight lodging nights even with closing 3 cabins for the winter to maintain Covid-19 cleaning standards.
Craig Lake	January and February numbers from Craig Lake State Park in 2020 were at 69 overnight lodging nights, with both yurts open. January and February 2021 numbers are slightly higher at 71 nights, including the closure of one yurt to maintain Covid-19 cleaning standards.
Van Riper	This time last year at Van Riper brought a total of 17 overnight lodging nights and in 2021, we are currently at 45 nights.
Porcupine Mountains	Overnight lodging and cabin use has been a capacity for the reporting period. The Cotton Cabin is now on the central reservation system, and the new tiny house for Union Bay Campground is being wrapped up.

Significant changes, projects or notes about boating

Unit	Responses
Bewabic	Seeing increased use of BAS at Bewabic and other BAS that are plowed in wintertime for ice access
Baraga Field Office	Fabricated new 50' skid pier for copper harbor, Refurbished skid piers, Re-decked trailer for the Porkies, plowed snow
Twin Lakes	With Lake Superior not frozen, local fishermen were using our local BAS for December, January, and half of February.

Significant changes, projects or notes about state park trails

Unit	Responses
Van Riper	Trail use at Van Riper is down this year due to not hosting our annual Lantern Lit Snowshoe events due to Covid-19.

Significant changes, projects or notes about day use

Name	Responses
Bewabic	Receiving bids for pavilion tuck pointing project.
Menominee River	Stewardship Unit inspected large areas of the Pemenee Falls and Quiver Falls units. Several illegal signs, campsites and trails were found in the units and will be remediated.
Bond Falls	Currently closed to vehicle traffic but interest in winter falls viewing is always high from northern WI area and people snowmobiling in the area, along with locals and others in the area for skiing and photography
McLain	F.J. McLain low snow amounts, and mild temperatures allowed walkers to utilize the park when normally they couldn't.
Lake Gogebic	The Lake Gogebic travel crew is currently working on the Light House at Fort Wilkins. In preparation of opening the Copper Harbor Lighthouse to visitors in 2021.
Little Presque Isle	Van Riper State Park Staff is moving ahead on project planning for the Beagle Club Parking Area entrance drive and is eager for spring to inspect trails for improvement projects as soon as the snow melts.
Porcupine Mountains	Downhill skiing numbers have been above projections even with losing "Ski Week" due to a lack of snow.

Were there any special events, volunteer projects, accomplishments, challenges or personnel news to highlight?

Name	Responses
Bewabic	Interviewed candidates for open ranger position at Bewabic State Park/Menominee River State Recreation Area. Yet to receive permission to offer the position at time of writing this.
Bond Falls	Working with Regional Field Planner on a Michigan Cares for Tourism project that will occur in 2021 to make some repairs / improvements at Bond Falls and also a memorial donation
Baraga	Working on projects for the upcoming season, STW hiring, and a bench donation.
District Staffing	Interviews are being conducted for rangers at Lake Gogebic, Van Riper, J.W. Wells and Bewabic. The Porkies GOA position will be filled by the next CAC meeting. The F.J. McLain unit supervisor position was reposted, due to a lack of candidates. The Porkies Manager 12 position should be posting soon. Both the Porkies and McLain positions are being additionally posted on mParks, The National Association of State Park Directors and The National Recreation and Parks Association web sites.
District Equipment	Funding has been allocated for a new excavator for the Escanaba Field Office. Baraga, Bewabic and Lake Gogebic received funding for new lawnmowers. The Porkies has received funding for a new search and rescue trailer and a steep grade lawnmower for ski hill operations.

Name	Responses
Porcupine Mountains	The state ambassadors visited the Porkies and took outstanding photos of winter viewscapes for future marketing efforts
Fort Wilkins	Sunday in the park (Park concessioner) is exploring adding a food truck (Pasties) to their present store offerings. Also, an interested party has been issued a use permit for 2021 to reopen the Copper Harbor Lighthouse boat taxi service on a pilot basis. If successful it may be turned into a long-term concession contract in the future.

Wildlife Division: Brian Roell, Wildlife Biologist-Marquette

- **Deer Camp Survey:** The deer camp survey is used to monitor deer sightings, deer harvest, and hunter opinions during the 16-day firearm season. In 2020, camp survey forms and postage-paid envelopes were mailed to 566 contact persons. Across the U.P. a total of 420 camps occupied by 1,519 hunters participated in the 2020 survey. Hunters observed 2.6 deer per hunter day, a decrease from 2019 (3.0), which is below the 8-year average (2.9). Twenty-two percent of hunters harvested a buck, which is slightly below 8-year average (24%). Most camps (63%) felt there were fewer deer compared to 2019. *See your local biologist for an electronic or hard copy of the complete survey results.*
- **Deer Habitat Improvement Grants:** This year there a total of \$100,000 in deer habitat improvement grant funds available in the Upper Peninsula. The maximum amount of individual grants is \$15,000 and the minimum is \$2,000. Applications are accepted from January 28 through March 12, and successful applicants will be notified by April 1. This initiative is supported by the state’s Deer Range Improvement Program, which is funded by a portion of deer hunting license revenue. The program has invested over \$750,000 in hunter license dollars on Upper Peninsula deer habitat enhancements.
- **Open Wildlife Positions**
 - Shingleton Biologist: We are pleased to announce interviews have just been completed. This position was scheduled to have been filled last March. However, like many items round the State of Michigan, Covid-19 put this position on hold. This position has been vacant since Cody Norton accepted the Bear and Wolf Specialist position in July 2019.
 - Upper Peninsula Regional Supervisor: Currently, Daniel Kennedy is acting as the Upper Peninsula Regional Supervisor. Dan, who just came off a yearlong acting stint as the Wildlife Division Chief will be guiding the Upper Peninsula wildlife staff until the end of June. This position has been vacant since Terry Minzey retired in February 2020.
- **Deer Regulations for 2021:** During the February 11, 2021 Natural Resources Commission meeting the commission worked their way through multiple proposed deer regulation changes. Below is a brief summary of these changes.
 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 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.
 3. The proposal to remove the need to get a supplemental deer feeding permit was **approved**. All other rules involved with the supplemental feeding of deer still apply and dates for feeding begin on January 1 and end on May 15.
 4. The proposal to add regulations to the recreational feeding of deer were **approved**. Now, two gallons of feed can be used per residence per calendar day for recreational feeding, with no more than two gallons present at any one time.

5. The proposal to change the allocation of antlerless permits in the Upper Peninsula to a 3-tiered approach for the 2021 season was **approved**.

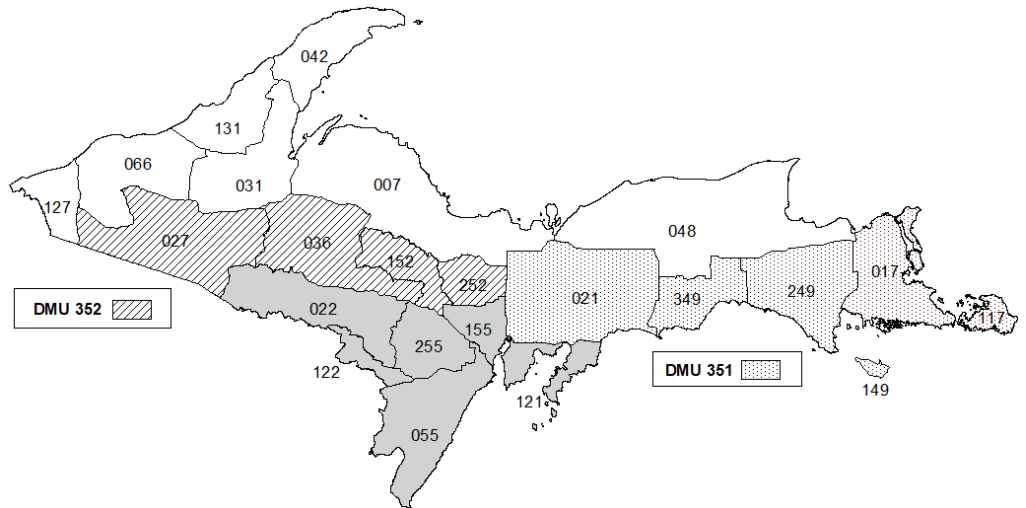
a. Antlerless licenses are now transferrable between units and land ownership. For the units of 022, 122, 055, 255, 155, and 121, hunters simply need to purchase up to 10 antlerless hunting licenses.

b. Hunters hunting in 027, 036, 152, and 252 (West DMU 352), and also 021, 349, 249, 149, 017, and 117 (East

DMU 351) can use an antlerless license if they apply for and successfully receive a free Hunter Access Permit for the respective West and East limited zones. The permit is free if the hunter wants to take the chance there will be leftover permits. If they apply for a tag, then there will be a \$5 application fee. This antlerless tag would only be good for East DMU 351 or West DMU 352. You can buy more if there are unsold tags available (the access permit is not a kill tag).

c. DMU 127, 066, 131, 042, 031, 007, and 048 are closed to antlerless hunting.

d. The take of antlerless deer with archery equipment is prohibited in units where quotas are closed. That includes 127, 066, 131, 042, 031, 007, and 048.



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

- **CO Byron Parks** was patrolling Ontonagon County when a call came over dispatch regarding a snowmobile personal injury accident. CO Parks was the only law enforcement officer currently working in the county. Dispatch advised CO Parks that the snowmobiler had a possible broken leg, and his group was riding off-trail. When CO Parks arrived on scene, the fire department had the Argo and rescue sled ready to locate the injured snowmobiler. CO Parks went with the Argo along with EMS and located the snowmobiler not far from the highway. They were able to load the injured subject into the rescue sled and get him back to the highway where he was transported to Portage Hospital.
- **COs Brian Lasanen and Doug Hermanson** conducted a sound meter patrol in Houghton County on Trial 3. The COs tested four sleds and found two sleds that were well over the legal decibel of 88. The other two were close but not over 88 decibels. The COs cited the two very loud snowmobile operators.
- **CO Ethen Mapes** was patrolling an intersection near the Porcupine Mountains ski hill when he observed a snowmobile fail to stop at a stop sign before crossing a road. CO Mapes attempted to stop the snowmobiler but was unable to get around the subject until after they had run through yet another intersection. Upon contacting the rider, CO Mapes noticed that the subject was visibly intoxicated. After field sobriety tests and a preliminary breath test (PBT) which read .18 blood alcohol content, over twice the legal limit, CO Mapes placed the rider under arrest for operating a snowmobile while intoxicated. The rider was lodged at the Ontonagon County jail.
- **CO Ethen Mapes** helped apprehend a subject after leading a local sheriff's deputy on a high-speed chase. The chase ended after the suspect lost control near Rockland and ran on foot. An MSP (Michigan State Police) K-9 unit assisted in tracking the suspect who was found hiding in the rafters of a woodshed. The vehicle was found to be stolen and the driver was determined to be operating under the influence of drugs.
- **CO Jenni Hanson** observed a group of snowmobiles operating illegally on the highway, so she conducted a traffic stop. The group claimed to have lost the trail. This was the second group within a week to have claimed to lose the trail in this area. CO Hanson discovered that the snowmobilers were using the trail from previous years and must

have missed the turn where the current trail continues. CO Hanson contacted the snowmobile club and requested better signage at this location to prevent illegal operation on the highway as well as accidents that could occur. CO Hanson escorted to the group back to the trail and no citations were issued.

- **CO Zach Painter** responded to a call of three horses loose and running down highway M 28 near Wakefield. CO Painter and a trooper from the MSP Wakefield post were able to guide the horses off the highway and led them back to the barn that they escaped from without incident.
- **CO Josh Boudreaux** responded to a snowmobile accident with injuries in Forsyth Township. The female rider had been riding too fast for conditions and was thrown from her snowmobile after hitting an unexpected dip in the trail. The female was transported to a local hospital for treatment and is expected to make a full recovery.
- **CO Josh Boudreaux** was patrolling Trail 417 in Chocolay Township when a car fire was reported through Marquette Central Dispatch. CO Boudreaux was the closest unit to the incident and responded to the scene where he assisted the local fire department with traffic control and checked on the driver of the vehicle who was fortunately uninjured.
- **CO Jeremy Sergey** was heading out to check Big Trout Lake when he discovered several bags of household trash dumped all over the road heading into the lake access site. After digging through several bags of cigarette butts and old lottery tickets, CO Sergey was able to identify to whom the trash belonged. CO Sergey went to the individual's residence and obtained a confession after a very short interview. A citation was issued to the individual for littering.
- **CO Jeremy Sergey and Sgt. Mark Leadman** conducted a speed enforcement patrol on snowmobile trail 417 in Chocolay Township. Many recent complaints have been received about snowmobilers speeding in the posted 35 mph section of trail. Citations were issued for the following: 55 mph, 61 mph, and 64 mph in a 35-mph speed zone. Numerous warnings were given to the other riders in each group stopped for speeding.

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

CENTRAL UPPER PENINSULA

Project Name: Foster City Bridge	Project Name: Sturgeon River Bridge	Project Name: Nahma Grade Multi-use Trail	Project Name: Clowry Grade
Description: Bridge replacement designated ORV/Snowmobile multi-use Rail-Trail Dickinson County	Description: Bridge rehab snowmobile trail 2 in Dickinson County on State owned Rail-Trail	Description: Design and construction 3.7-mile multi-use Rail-Trail in Delta County work includes clearing, surfacing and culvert/bridge installation.	Description: Design and rehab/construction of 7 bridges on this designated ORV/snowmobile multi-use Rail-Trail in Marquette County
Trail Use: Rail Trails	Trail Use: Rail Trails	Trail Use: Rail Trails	Trail Use: Rail Trails
Anticipated Completion: 2021	Anticipated Completion:	Anticipated Completion:	Anticipated Completion:
Q1 Update: Pre-bid meeting was held with 8 interested contractors we are expecting to award the project soon and begin construction in June of 2021. We were successful in working with the local road agencies and Tri-County Snowmobile and ORV Club on a snowmobile reroute for this season while the bridge is out.	Q1 Update: Design and engineering work on the Sturgeon River Bridge Rehab Project near Loretto in Dickinson County continues. Still no dates for construction have been determined at this time.	Q1 Update: Design and engineering is currently being advertised bids due 2/11/21	Q1 Update: Phase 100 and temp repair on bridge 7 completed so far final design just beginning for bridges #2 & #3

Project Name: Cedar River Pathway Improvements	Project Name: Thunder Valley Trail Development	Project Name: Days River Pathway Improvements	Project Name: LPI Trail and Parking Improvements
Description: Improve 18 low wet areas along pathway with culverts and raised trail construction	Description: Complete construction on three additional loops and connector	Description: Remove damaged board walks and construct raised trail with culverts in low areas	Description: Trail Repairs and realign entrance to Beagle Club Trailhead
Trail Use: Nonmotorized & EQ	Trail Use: Nonmotorized & EQ	Trail Use: Nonmotorized & EQ	Trail Use: Nonmotorized & EQ
Anticipated Completion: 9/2021	Anticipated Completion: 9/2021	Anticipated Completion: 9/2021	Anticipated Completion: 9/2021

Q1 Update: Complete work scope for minor construction project advertising this spring	Q1 Update: Complete work scope for minor construction project advertising this spring	Q1 Update: Work scope is complete will advertise this spring as minor construction project	Q1 Update: New funding just received need to enter PR once we get account coding and develop work scope for minor construction this summer
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Project Name: Forest Islands Repairs and Restoration	Project Name: Felch Grade Surface Improvements	Project Name: Bass Lake Restoration	Project Name: Gwinn-Arnold Improvements and Restoration
Description: Repair damaged board walks and damage in low wet areas on the Forest Islands ORV Trail/Route in Menominee and Delta Counties	Description: Gravel, grading and fill on Felch Grade in Menominee and Dickinson Counties	Description: Replace decking and perform reroutes around eroded areas	Description: Gwinn-Arnold Improvements and Restoration
Trail Use: ORV	Trail Use: ORV	Trail Use: ORV	Trail Use: ORV
Anticipated Completion: Summer 2021	Anticipated Completion: Summer 2021	Anticipated Completion: 9/2021	Anticipated Completion: 9/2021
Q1 Update: Some work has begun however the contractor is behind schedule we have been having a difficult time keeping the contractor on schedule even after corrective action and weekly meetings.	Q1 Update: Need to enter PR and finalize work scope for minor construction this summer	Q1 Update: Complete PR and work scope for summer minor construction project	Q1 Update: Complete PR and work scope for summer minor construction project

Project Name: West Marquette County ORV Routes Improvements	Project Name: Escanaba-Felch ORV A Route Improvements	Project Name: Days River ORV Culvert & Route Repairs	PROPOSAL: Norway Rock Motorcycle Trail Proposal	PROPOSAL: Days River Pathway Expansion
Description: Repair large holes replace culverts and surfacing on multiple ORV routes in western Marquette County	Description: Minor bridge railing and decking repairs replace culverts and surfacing	Description: Replace culvert, grade, shape and fill Days River ORV Route in Delta County	Description: New single-track construction in Dickinson County adjacent to the Norway ORV trail	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
Trail Use: ORV	Trail Use: ORV	Trail Use: ORV	Trail Use: ORV	Trail Use: nonmotorized
Anticipated Completion: 9/2021	Anticipated Completion: 9/2021	Anticipated Completion: 9/2021	Anticipated Completion:	Anticipated Completion:
Q1 Update: Complete PR and work scope for summer minor construction project	Q1 Update: Complete PR and work scope for summer minor construction project	Q1 Update:	Q1 Update: Continuing to evaluate areas suitable for this trail. This trail has been modified several times due to WLD denying new trail near hunter walking trails, WLD purchased lands and other wildlife areas. FRD has concerns as well, we are trying to work through.	Q1 Update: Approximately 3 miles was constructed by Delta County NMT group fall of 2020. Seeking additional funding for 2021 and beyond to complete construction.

WESTERN UPPER PENINSULA

Project Name: Menominee River Bridge	Project Name: Stateline Trail Wakefield Extension	Project Name: Little Carp Trestle	Project Name: Swedetown-Calumet trail capping
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

Q1 Update: Project was bid and awarded Q4 last year. Zenith Tech awarded project	Q1 Update: Contractor plans to begin work in March	Q1 Update: All site clearing is complete. Sheet pile installed on NE side.	Q1 Update: Site photos and project bid packet developed prior to snowfall.
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Project Name: Freda Grade – 2018 Flood Repairs	Project Name: Site OHM 18 - Culvert Replacement	Project Name: WUP culvert failure site design	Project Name: Site BD257 – culvert replacement and trail improvements	Project Name: Ripley
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.	Description: Adjacent property site contamination. Trail use impacted. Temporary trail reroute
Trail Use: Multi-use	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	Anticipated Completion: Pending EPA cleanup/ capping
Q1 Update: Culvert sites are designed and permitted	Q1 Update: Site design and permitting complete. DNR Baraga Construction Crew will complete project.	Q1 Update: Final site has received permit. Construction funding requested.	Q1 Update: Site photos and project bid packet developed prior to snowfall.	Q1 Update: No updates

Fisheries Division: George Madison, Western Lake Superior Management Unit

The following are the western Upper Peninsula fisheries division highlights for the period of January 8, 2021 through March 17, 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 (who is replacing the retired Jan VanAmberg, see note below), James Aho (Marquette Hatchery).*
- *Research Unit: Dr. Edward Baker, Dr. Troy Zorn, Shawn Sitar*

Fisheries Management Units (George Madison)

- **Staff Report:** Staff have been busy wrapping up winter data report writing duties as well as preparing equipment and gear for the upcoming spring/summer field season. There has been a misunderstanding that all staff are working from home and that field work was not being conducted, which indeed is a broad misconception. Fisheries staff have been conducting all field projects since last June, working in a safe manner by following work-safe precautionary procedures. Staff from the divisions of Parks, Forestry, and Wildlife have also been conducting normal work operations. The “working from home” designation means that staff are leaving from home to go to the job site, rather than reporting to the DNR offices as their start or end of their work day.
- **Hatchery Report:** Lower Peninsula crews are already conducting lake netting projects and have implemented the spring walleye egg take process. Upper Peninsula crews have been given approval to conduct the 2021 Little Bay de Noc walleye egg take, which will likely occur within the next four weeks. The Thompson State Fish Hatchery ponds are ready for full walleye rearing operations and fry stage fish will be introduced into these ponds during early May. Other egg take operations for steelhead, lake sturgeon, and muskellunge will also occur within the April time frame. Truck driving crews from the Thompson and Marquette hatcheries are now transporting brook trout and lake trout to lower Michigan waters. One unique fish stocking project occurs every late winter at Mirror Lake, located within the Porcupine Mountain State Park. This remote lake was stocked with splake on March 9th with both Park staff and Fisheries staff shuttling fish from a DNR hatchery truck to the lake via a snowmobile fish transport sled.
- **State Land Review Report:** Reviews of State lands, for consolidation, retention, trade, or disposal, has occurred on northern and Upper Peninsula lands (Alpena, Berrien, Branch, Cass, Charlevoix, Chippewa, Dickinson, Leelanau,

Gogebic, St. Joseph, Iron, Luce, and Ontonagon Counties) and a public information session was held on March 9th and 10th. Reviews of further Upper Peninsula counties will occur during the upcoming months.

- **New Hatchery Manager:** Mr. Dan Sampson has accepted the Northern Area Hatchery Manager position. In this new role, Dan will be responsible for managing all operations at Oden, Thompson, and Marquette Hatcheries, as well as managing the electronics program. Dan's resumé includes a wealth of coldwater rearing experience, including over 20 years overseeing the rearing of production fish and captive brood and several years rearing Pacific salmon in Alaska. Since coming to Michigan DNR in 2003, Dan has managed cultural operations at Oden, including instituting several innovative rearing practices (photoperiod manipulation, size grading of rainbow trout, etc.) designed to improve the size and quality of the fish and eggs coming from Oden. He coordinated the founding of the Sturgeon River strain of brown trout and led the Oden team as they successfully reared the first-year class of arctic grayling through quarantine.
- **2021 Fishing License Auto Renewal Program:** With the implementation of the new Retail Sales License System, a new feature is now offered to customers who wish to purchase their fishing license on eLicense. This feature will allow customers to voluntarily sign up to have their next year's 2022 fishing license automatically renewed and emailed to them. To sign up for auto renewal, you can sign in at Michigan.gov/DNRLicenses, then click on Auto Renewals in the menu.

Forest Resources Division: Tom Seablom, Western UP District Supervisor

- Staff continue to telework. Staff have been informed that this will continue in to 2021. For more information on the DNR COVID- 19 response go to: Michigan.Gov/DNR
- Field work on the 2023 YOE Inventory is starting. Open House and Compartment Review schedules will be posted online when finalized posted, along with other state forest inventory information at: Michigan.Gov/Forestry.
- As of March 8th, 308 timber sale contracts are open WUP Wide. This represents 831,604 cords of timber on 476,644 acres, valued at approximately \$35.6 million. Included in this are 11 GNA sales representing 41,933 cords of timber on 3015 acres, valued at approximately \$2.3 million
- WUP units report 38 Active Timber Sales in the WUP totaling about 2,532 acres. Most units report slow demand for pulpwood with several offerings going no bid. The Baraga unit reports stranger demand for quality hardwood sawtimber and Red Pine.
- The Forest Management staff is currently training and implementing a new timber cruise protocol. For more information about the new Timber Cruise Protocol go to Michigan.gov/Timber
- Forest protection staff has been busy with equipment maintenance and training for the upcoming spring fire season.
- Open enrollment for the Commercial Forest Program will continue until April 1st. For more information on the Commercial Forest Program go to Michigan.Gov/Commercialforest

Public Information: John Pepin, Deputy Public Information Officer (pepinj@michigan.gov)

- DNR staffers have been given clearance to conduct in-person interviews with media, as long as coronavirus protocols are followed. If any of you would like a copy of those measures, please contact me. These are simple, commonsense actions to take which will again allow for on-camera interviews.
- "Ask the DNR" will return to the air April 1 at 8 p.m. on WNMU-TV13 in Marquette. Scheduled guests include Michigan Natural Resources Commissioner J.R. Richardson, wildlife biologist Karen Sexton, fisheries biologist George Madison and district law supervisor Marc Pomroy. The 2020-2021 season of the program concludes May 6.

- Thanks to several great contributions from DNR staffers across the state, the department's Showcasing the DNR weekly feature story series is enjoying a great year and continues to increase in readership. The series currently has more than 28,000 subscribers. The stories are reprinted by numerous media outlets across Michigan. If you would like to contribute a story to the series, or a story idea, please contact me. The weekly "Outdoors North" column continues to be a popular feature, published in daily newspapers in the Upper Peninsula, including the the Mining Journal, Houghton Daily Mining Gazette and the Escanaba Daily Press.