

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Report
1/28/2018 – 2/11/2018**

DISTRICT 1

Conservation Officers (COs) Brian Lasanen, Doug Hermanson, Ethen Mapes and Sgt. Emery along with USFS LEO Josh Lopac conducted a sound meter patrol in the Greenland area. Officers contacted about 75 sleds. Three snowmobiles were tested and all three were over the legal decibel reading of 88. Officers issued two tickets for exceed sound noise emission and three tickets for failure to display registrations. 25 warnings were issued for failure to attach trail permit, trail permit improper display, failure to display registration and failure to transfer title,

CO Brian Lasanen responded to a snowmobile personal injury accident. CO Lasanen was first on scene and administered first aid until paramedics arrived. The rider was transported to the local hospital and treated for his injuries.

COs Brian Lasanen and Ethen Mapes worked a snowmobile patrol in the Porcupine Mountain State Park area. The COs contacted numerous snowmobilers and addressed the following violations: careless operation of snowmobile, unregistered snowmobile, and fail to obtain snowmobile trail permit.

CO Ethen Mapes responded to a car vs. snowmobile accident west of Bergland. The operator of a snowmobile tried to cross the highway to keep up with his group when both he and his passenger were struck by a vehicle. The snowmobilers were treated on scene for minor injuries. Both the vehicle and snowmobile were not drivable after the accident. The operator of the snowmobile was cited for failing to yield for oncoming traffic.

CO Ethen Mapes ticketed a group of ice fishermen on Lake Gogebic who were in possession of several short northern pike.

CO Ethen Mapes responded to a two snowmobile personal injury accident in Silver City. A snowmobiler was struck from the rear at a high rate of speed by another member of his party when he attempted to stop at a road crossing. One was airlifted out due to his injuries and the other was lodged in the Ontonagon County Jail for operating while under the influence. The case is ongoing with the Michigan State Police leading the investigation.

Sgt. Grant Emery responded to a minor personal injury snowmobile accident where a driver lost control of his snowmobile, left the trail, traveled off the end of a culvert, hit nose-first into a river and broke through the ice. A local tow company, which had a side-by-side with tracks set up like a mini wrecker, was able to travel down the trail to the location of the accident and remove the snowmobile from the water.

Sgt. Emery responded to a two-car personnel injury accident in the village of Bergland. A driver of a full size pickup truck lost control on the icy roads and slid sideways into the path of a small SUV. Both vehicles were a total loss.

CO Brian Lasanen was watching a trail intersection on his snowmobile when he observed a group of eight snowmobilers disregard a stop sign and continue down the trail. CO Lasanen was able to catch up and contact the group about a mile down the trail and take enforcement action

Sgt. Grant Emery, CO Brian Lasanen and CO Ethen Mapes conducted a snowmobile sound enforcement patrol over the weekend in Twin Lakes. Several complaints had been received from businesses and residents near the trail over the past two weeks. Approximately 75 snowmobiles were contacted in three hours resulting in three individuals being cited for excessive noise and four other individuals being cited for no snowmobile trail permit and snowmobile registration violations. 14 other warnings were issued for various other snowmobile violations.

Sgt. Emery was working a snowmobile patrol in the Porcupine Mountains State Park when he was nearly hit by a snowmobiler who had blown a stop sign and shot across the trail intersection. Upon making contact, it was determined the driver was also operating an unregistered snowmobile and had failed to obtain a snowmobile trail permit. Law enforcement action was taken for these violations along with careless operation of a snowmobile.

CO Ethen Mapes stopped a group of 15 snowmobiles after most of them failed to stop at a stop sign along the snowmobile trail east of Bergland. CO Mapes addressed several issues and law enforcement action was taken for careless driving.

CO Ethen Mapes was called to assist Michigan State Police troopers out of the Wakefield Post when a call came in about two lost and broken-down snowmobilers north of Bergland. CO Mapes and the troopers were able to locate the two subjects around 1:30 am. The two young men stated that they had been walking since 10:00 that night trying to get cell phone reception. One of the men had minor frost bite on his face and was going to seek his own medical treatment. Both individuals were transported out of the woods to safety.

CO Ethen Mapes had contacted three snowmobilers who had failed to stop at a stop sign at a road crossing. While explaining to them how to take care of their citations for careless operation of a snowmobile, another group came down the trail. The three snowmobilers put their hands up to help stop the approaching snowmobilers, but they raced right past the group and through the stop sign as well. CO Mapes was able to catch up with the second group and address the violations.

CO Jared Ferguson and Probationary CO Adam Beuthin conducted a snowmobile patrol in Gogebic County. The COs addressed numerous snowmobile infractions including careless operation, failure to register a snowmobile, and operating without trail permits.

CO Jared Ferguson and Probationary CO Adam Beuthin were sitting at a snowmobile trailhead when they observed a snowmobile approaching the roadway at a high rate of speed. Probationary CO Adam Beuthin and CO Jared Ferguson watched as the operator was unable to stop and slid onto the county roadway. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Shannon Kritz was working a busy snowmobile intersection in Iron County. A group of snowmobiles approached the stop sign and the lead snowmobile came to a complete stop and proceeded. A second snowmobile was traveling at a high rate of speed and was not able to stop safely. The snowmobile operator ended up narrowly avoiding crashing into the lead snowmobile and flipped his sled onto its side. The driver was not injured, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Shannon Kritz followed up on two delinquent minnow dealers. Both businesses failed to submit their reports to the DNR for the 2017 calendar year. These reports document times and locations of minnows that are harvested for sale. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jared Ferguson patrolled Dickinson County snowmobile trails during the annual ski jump weekend. CO Ferguson addressed violations including failure to purchase trail permits, improper placement of registration and excessive noise.

CO Jared Ferguson was contacted by Sgt. Mike Hammill regarding an injured/sick deer near the Menominee-Dickinson county line. CO Ferguson located the animal which appeared to be struck by a motor vehicle. While approaching the animal, the deer stood up and ran off into the woods. The passerby who called was happy to see it run away.

Sgt. Ryan Aho and COs Mark Leadman, Jeremy Sergey, Jeffrey Dell and Probationary CO Jessica Curtis conducted a group snowmobile sound meter patrol near in Marquette County. During the patrol, the COs conducted several snowmobile checks and took enforcement on violations that included exceeding the legal sound decibel limits on a snowmobile.

COs Jeremy Sergey and Jeff Dell had just checked into a hotel in Marquette before they began a night patrol when an individual was observed driving carelessly in the parking lot. The individual came within inches of hitting CO Sergey's patrol truck when it impacted the vehicle parked next to CO Sergey. The individual stated to CO Sergey that it wasn't his fault that he hit a parked car because he didn't mean to. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Brett DeLonge conducted a presentation for an Introduction to Criminal Justice class at Northern Michigan University on the responsibilities and functions of a Michigan CO. The two hour presentation had 80 plus students in attendance, several of which were extremely interested in applying for a CO position with the department.

CO Mark Leadman and Probationary CO Jessica Curtis contacted a vehicle parked in the middle of M-35 late at night. The operator of the vehicle attempted to drive away when CO Leadman knocked on the driver's side window of the vehicle. The operator stopped about 100 yards down the road. CO Leadman attempted to make contact again. The operator then pulled away attempting to flee a second time. The operator was arrested and lodged in Marquette County jail for operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated.

DISTRICT 2

CO Mark Zitnik was checking fishermen on Munising Bay when he checked two anglers who were trying to catch splake. When asked if they had caught anything, the fishermen said, "Yeah my buddy caught a nice splake around 12 inches." The limit in Munising is 15. A check revealed a 12-inch splake in the angler's shack. Enforcement action was taken for undersized fish.

CO Mark Zitnik was approaching an ice shack on Munising Bay when he noticed two short splake lying next to it. CO Zitnik asked the angler if he had caught anything. The angler said, "Yeah I have two lake trout next to the shack." CO Zitnik picked up the splake and advised what they were and that they were undersize, even if they were lake trout. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Zitnik was on snowmobile patrol when he checked a group of snowmobilers riding down a county road. The last rider did not have a trail permit or registration visible. A stop of the snowmobiler revealed he had failed to register his snowmobile and purchase a trail permit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Zitnik and Captain Detective Matt Waldron of the Alger County Sheriff's Department were on snowmobile patrol during a busy Saturday. In total, over 400 snowmobilers were contacted. Seven verbal warnings were given and eight citations were issued for careless operation of a snowmobile, no helmet, failure to attach trail permit, unregistered snowmobile, and failure to display snowmobile registration. In all, the majority of the snowmobilers were happy to see law enforcement on the trails.

COs Bobby Watson, Rob Freeborn, and USFS Officer Dave Tembreull conducted a snowmobile patrol at a busy trail intersection recently. Many contacts were made; violations written for the day's patrol included failing to register snowmobile, failing to obtain/attach trail permit, and careless operation of a snowmobile. Many warnings were also given. In total for all officers on the day's patrol, approximately 600 snowmobilers were contacted.

CO Bobby Watson was conducting an ice fishing patrol on Little Bay de Noc when he contacted a fisherman outside of his camper on the ice. The fisherman stated there were three others in his group. Two had gone somewhere else to perch fish, and one other fisherman was sleeping in the camper. CO Watson discovered multiple lines had been left by the absent fishermen. As CO Watson was attempting to sort out the situation, the two friends returned to the camper. CO Watson addressed the fact that the two men had left multiple lines out and unattended while they went elsewhere to fish. Many of the tip-ups that had been left out had been completely drifted in by snow and were difficult to find. One of the men admitted to CO Watson that he had arrived two days prior and once they put them out, he had only checked and broke the ice on one single tip-up. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Bobby Watson took part and assisted USFS Officer Dave Tembreull in a backcountry snowmobiling and winter survival class. The class taught students who would be exposed to backcountry riding, proper riding and extraction techniques. The class also covered basic winter survival techniques.

COs Christopher Lynch and Michael Evink conducted a patrol of Little Bay de Noc. Activity levels were high due to favorable weather. The COs issued citations for too many lines, short pike and possession of a smallmouth bass out of season.

CO Michael Evink and USFS Officer Dave Tembreull were working snowmobiles when they received a call about a snowmobile accident where it was believed that the individual broke his leg. The officers were able to take the patrol sleds two plus miles to the accident scene. As the first responders on scene, the officers updated EMS personnel of the patient's condition. They also directed dispatch to a logical landing zone for the helicopter. The officer's equipment and knowledge of the area allowed for a quicker route out of the woods for the patient. He was air lifted for his injuries .

COs Chris Lynch and Bobby Watson successfully served an illegal deer warrant on a hunter from Wisconsin. The hunter came to Michigan this past fall and shot a doe but failed to purchase a license.

CO Chris Lynch received a complaint of a hunter who shot an 8-point buck without a license. Sgt. Jerry Fitzgibbon and CO Lynch interviewed the hunter and received consent to search the subject's phone for pictures of the illegally taken deer. While searching the hunter's phone, a turkey was observed. The subject was questioned about the turkey as well as the deer and ultimately confessed to shooting both the deer and turkey without a license. Enforcement was taken for the violations.

Sgt. Jerry Fitzgibbon checked the fishermen off of Sand Point in Munising Bay this past weekend. Fishing has been good; however, the 15" size limit on splake means that a lot of short fish are being caught. Two tickets were issued for keeping undersize splake.

CO Brett Gustafson participated in snowmobile patrols on I-500 weekend in the Soo area. After chasing down an operator for not displaying a registration, it was found that

the operator had improperly placed the registration stickers up in the foot wells of his snowmobile where they could not be seen. Enforcement action was taken.

Lt. Skip Hagy, Sgt. Mike Hammill, COs Kevin Postma, Tom Oberg, Calvin Smith, Brett Gustafson, Colton Gelinias, Mark Zitnik, PCO Josh Boudreaux along with District 5 CO Jeff Panich and PCO Kevin Luther patrolled the busy 50th anniversary I-500 race weekend. From sound meter enforcement and snowmobile patrol, to directing traffic during the city's attempt to break the record for the world's largest snowmobile parade, the COs stayed incredibly busy. Numerous citations were issued for violations ranging from excessively loud snowmobiles, which have been a factor in the loss of snowmobile trails which run through private property, to careless operation and registration/trail sticker violations. Warnings were issued when appropriate and nearly all riders contacted were happy to see the large presence of COs working the area. Officers put on over 650 miles on area trails during the weekend and made contact with more than 1,075 snowmobilers.

CO Kevin Postma and Probationary CO Josh Boudreaux patrolled the snowmobile trails around the Paradise area. There were many riders out enjoying the beautiful weather and nearly all riders contacted were in compliance and happy to see the DNR out working the trails.

CO Kevin Postma and PCO Josh Boudreaux responded to a complaint from a homeowner who stated that a group of snowmobilers coming off the lake cut right through his yard and his wife's rose bushes. The COs responded to the scene, took statements, and photographed the area. The complainant was upset because now that there were tracks leading into his yard he feared others would follow them. Unfortunately, our complainant's fears were confirmed a short while later when another group rode onto his property, "following tracks", and fled when he attempted to approach them. The group of snowmobilers from the initial incident contacted 911 to report what they had done and later explained that when the ice they were riding on started giving way, they quickly rode onto the shoreline to avoid falling through the unstable ice.

CO Kevin Postma and PCO Josh Boudreaux responded to take a report of a snowmobile crash without injuries that occurred earlier in the day. Upon contacting the rider, they learned that while traveling east on Trail 474, he hit a bump in the trail which caused him to go airborne. When the rider landed, he lost control of his snowmobile and ran off the left side of the trail, striking a tree which caused him to be thrown from the machine. Fortunately, the rider was uninjured.

CO Calvin Smith received information from staff at the Customer Service Center in Newberry that an individual was trying to register a bobcat. Unfortunately, the hunter had purchased his fur harvester license after the required date to receive harvest tags. CO Smith interviewed the hunter who confessed to shooting the cat even though he knew he did not have his required harvest tags. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Calvin Smith was working a snowmobile stop sign intersection in Grand Marais when a snowmobiler traveled through the intersection at near 60 mph. CO Smith was able to make a stop and the operator said "I know I didn't even attempt to stop." Law enforcement action was taken.

COs Mark Zitnik and Calvin Smith received a snowmobile complaint from a concerned citizen who was having issues with snowmobilers crossing a private driveway in a carless manner. The COs issued seven citations for carless operation.

COs Mark Zitnik and Calvin Smith came across a pair of snowmobilers who had broken down and were attempting to tow the disabled sled back. Unfortunately, the tow sled was starting to overheat. The COs assisted with helping remove the drive belt off the broken down snowmobile and gave them directions to the nearest road.

CO Tom Oberg attended a Sportsman's Club meeting with DNR Biologist Dave Jentoft at the Bruce Township Hall. Several topics were discussed regarding the results of the 2017 deer season and the statistics, as well as the deer numbers compared to previous years.

CO Tom Oberg responded to a fatal snowmobile accident near Raco to assist the Chippewa County Sheriff's Department. The operator of the snowmobile was found to be travelling too fast for the poor conditions and lost control of the snowmobile. The operator fell off the snowmobile and was struck by another rider that was behind him, who was unable to stop in time resulting in fatal injuries to the rider that was struck.

COs Tom Oberg and Colton Gelinis worked patrols during the 50th Annual I-500 snowmobile race weekend. Throughout the weekend, the COs patrolled the trails enforcing the busy traffic. A vast amount of contacts were made and several citations were issued throughout the weekend for, careless operation, trail permit violations, and registration violations.

COs Tom Oberg, Colton Gelinis, Chris Lynch, and Bobby Watson attended a winter survival and off-trail snowmobile training course in Munising. The course was put on by U.S. Forest Service Law Enforcement Officer David Tembreull. The course focused on operating snowmobiles in deep snow and maneuvering through wooded areas and steep hills, as well as survival situations.

DISTRICT 3

CO Nick Torsky and PCO Jeremy Cantrell were monitoring snowmobile activity on the Emmet County trail system when they observed snowmobiles that did not stop at a stop sign. When they were finally able to stop the group of 13 snowmobilers, various problems were addressed; including careless operation and registration violations.

CO Duane Budreau and PCO Jeremy Cantrell were working a stationary snowmobile patrol near a busy intersection in northern Emmet County when they observed a group

of five snowmobilers proceed through the stop sign at about 30 miles per hour. COs were able to stop the individuals just prior to them entering onto private property. The lead operator stated he was a local. When asked if he had permission to enter onto the private property, he adjusted his statement and told that he only had a seasonal cottage nearby and that his group would proceed around the private parcel. Enforcement action was taken for failing to stop before crossing a roadway.

COs Andrea Erratt, Nick Torsky, and PCO Jeremy Cantrell checked ice fishermen on Burt Lake during the Black Lake sturgeon season. Several fishermen told the officers they thought they would all be on Black Lake. After CO Torsky and PCO Cantrell located two unattended tip ups, CO Erratt called the phone numbers for both of the fishermen. One fisherman called back and said they went to Petoskey to visit a friend and his buddy had to go to the bathroom. CO Erratt explained that they needed to return so she could check their fishing licenses. When the fishermen returned after leaving their lines unattended for over two hours, CO Torsky and PCO Cantrell ticketed both of the fishermen for unattended fishing lines.

CO Andrea Erratt checked a mom and her adult son and daughter as they finished fishing on Thumb Lake. The mom said she caught some splake, but she did not know how many or how long they were. The son claimed he did not catch any fish and the daughter did not have a fishing license. CO Erratt followed them to the access site with the son driving their snowmobile. The mom showed CO Erratt a bucket containing 15 splake, of which only 4 were the legal size of at least 12-inches long. CO Erratt seized 11 splake ranging from 9½ to 11½ inches long. CO Erratt ticketed the mom for possessing undersized splake and over limit of splake. CO Erratt warned the son for driving the snowmobile while his driver's license was suspended and for placing the registration decal on the tunnel and not on the forward half.

While CO Andrea Erratt was talking to the family with the over limit of undersized splake, two fishermen drove off Thumb Lake in a side-by-side ORV with a 2005 trail permit. The fisherman said he used the ORV for farming. CO Erratt said she did not think he was farming on the lake. As CO Erratt ticketed him for his unlicensed ORV, he told his friend he would rather have the ticket for his ORV sticker than the one the family would be getting for having the undersized splake.

CO Steve Speigl worked a snowmobile patrol in conjunction with the Antrim County Sheriff's Department in the Jordan Valley area. CO Speigl contacted several snowmobiles operating in a closed area. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrea Albert and PCO Stephen Butzin assisted with a call of a highly intoxicated suicidal subject shooting off a rifle inside and outside of his residence and threatening to kill himself. Two women were in the residence at the time. The officers assisted the Antrim County Sheriff's Department deputies with the use of night vision to observe the subject, who was actively shooting while officers were on scene and trying to communicate with him. After a lengthy negotiation, CO Albert was eventually able to talk

the very unstable subject into giving up. The subject continued to be combative and was transported to the hospital for medical evaluation.

While patrolling the area trails during the Black Lake sturgeon season, CO Tim Rosochacki and Sgt. Mark DePew encountered two snowmobilers from Ohio with expired registrations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tim Rosochacki met with a large group of novice ice fishermen who were partaking in the Mark Martin Ice Fishing School. The group braved the cold while enjoying success and comradery on Cheboygan's Burt Lake.

CO Tim Rosochacki responded to the scene of a pickup truck which had broken through the ice on Mullet Lake near Dodge Point. The driver and passenger were able to get out before the vehicle broke through the ice in about 10 feet of water. The area is known for underwater springs causing areas of thin ice. The vehicle was removed from the lake bottom the following day.

District 3 COs assisted Fisheries Division personnel with the annual Black Lake sturgeon spearing season. The season lasted for just over three hours and was subsequently closed after the seventh fish was speared. Over 400 contacts were made by the COs while on patrol in and around Black Lake. The COs were happy to report the sturgeon quota was met and no major incidents were reported.

COs Matt Theunick and Eric Bottorff and PCO Sydney Collins responded to an EMS call for an unresponsive student at Inland Lakes High School. The teacher was unable to wake the young man after an extended period of time, but he later came to with the help of first responders. It was determined that the student had been playing video games all night and "forgot to go to sleep". He was checked by EMS and released after contacting his mother.

CO Eric Bottorff patrolled the Inspiration Point area of the Pigeon River State Forest by snowmobile after receiving several prior complaints of subjects operating snowmobiles in a prohibited area near the elk viewing area. A group of four snowmobilers was contacted in the closed area and the leader of the family group was cited for operating snowmobiles in the prohibited area.

COs Nathan Sink and Kyle Cherry conducted an interview on an individual who they believed may have bought too many kill tags during the 2017 deer hunt. After an interview with the individual, the COs were able to get a confession. The individual admitted to shooting a deer without a license and buying the license after the fact. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nathan Sink received a complaint of a truck driving through the McDonald's drive thru in the City of Gaylord with two elk in the bed of the truck. CO Sink was able to review the McDonald's surveillance camera and look at receipts to determine who was driving the truck. Sgt. DePew and CO Sink visited the individual's house to conduct an

interview. It was determined the individual was picking up his elk rack from a local taxidermy. No issues were discovered.

CO Adam LeClerc and Sgt. Mike Mshar patrolled the Lewiston area in Montmorency County for weekend snowmobile enforcement. Multiple violations were encountered during the patrol including; failure to purchase trail stickers, expired registrations, and improper display of registrations to name a few. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Sklba contacted a subject in Presque Isle County who was feeding turkey and deer in a county closed to feeding. The subject was previously warned for the same violation years prior by CO Sklba. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Sklba contacted two separate individuals as follow up to deer feed complaints. CO Sklba responded to the area where the deer feed was out and the property owners were contacted. Enforcement action was taken

CO William Webster obtained a 3-count warrant stemming from an investigation in Alpena county. Charges included larceny of trail cameras, trespassing, hunter harassment, and baiting deer in a closed area. The subject was lodged at the county jail and is awaiting trial.

Sgt. Michael Mshar and COs Jon Sklba, Paul Fox, and Adam Leclerc assisted with the 2018 sturgeon season on Black Lake.

DISTRICT 4

CO Rebecca Hubers and PCO Nick Ingersoll were patrolling state land in Benzie County when they observed several trees that had been cut down. After a few weeks of patrolling, the COs were able to follow vehicle tracks that led down the road and to a residence. After the COs questioned the individuals about the downed trees at the residence, they confessed to being the ones who cut down the trees. They also stated they did not have a permit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rebecca Hubers and PCO Nick Ingersoll patrolled Lake Cadillac Snow Fest. While checking one of the ice shanties on the lake, the COs approached an angler in his shanty who had two tip-ups out. After contacting the angler, the COs observed two more lines in his shanty, along with a pile of crappie he had caught. The COs questioned the angler about why he had more than three lines in the water. He said that the fish were biting and he could not pass up the opportunity. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling the Lake Cadillac Snow Fest, CO Rebecca Hubers and PCO Nick Ingersoll checked one of the ice shanties on the lake, contacting two anglers who were spearing. After asking the anglers if they had any success, they said they speared a 24" northern pike. After the COs measured the northern pike, it was undersized. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rebecca Hubers and PCO Nick Ingersoll were driving to the Traverse City Customer Service Center for training when they came upon a rollover accident. The driver of the vehicle was not injured, and the COs were able to render assistance.

CO William Kinney and PCO James Garrett patrolled Lake Cadillac and Lake Mitchell for the North American Snow Festival and AMA motorcycle ice race. The officers made numerous contacts throughout the course of the weekend and issued several citations for ORV and snowmobile violations.

CO William Kinney and USFS Officer J.P. Taylor were on snowmobile patrol in Wexford County. The officers had received a complaint from dispatch of a vehicle that had gotten stuck on the snowmobile trail. The officers responded to the area on snowmobiles and located the stuck vehicle. The officers made contact with one of the occupants in the vehicle. The individual stated they had gotten the car stuck the night before at 2:00 am. The driver had left in the morning for assistance and the passenger was going to stay with the car until his friend returned. The officers discovered the passenger was in possession of marijuana and also had an outstanding warrant for his arrest. The passenger was arrested and the vehicle was towed from the snowmobile trail.

CO William Kinney and USFS Officer J.P. Taylor were on snowmobile patrol in Wexford County on a busy Saturday afternoon. Numerous contacts were made during the course of the patrol. Several citations were issued to snowmobilers for failing to purchase their trail permits prior to riding. The officers even made a stop on two snowmobiles displaying trail permits from 1997.

CO Richard Stowe responded to an untagged trap complaint in Grand Traverse County. Upon locating the trap location, CO Stowe found that the trap was indeed untagged and other traps were located in the vicinity. After further investigation, CO Stowe was able to make contact with a subject trapping in the area. Education and enforcement action was taken.

CO Richard Stowe and CO Sean Kehoe participated in an annual two night outdoor show and banquet in Grand Traverse County. The COs held a question and answer session on stage in front of 1300 attendees over the two nights.

CO Richard Stowe and PCO Charles Jones attended a National Wild Turkey Federation event in Grand Traverse County. The COs made multiple contacts and answered questions during the event with approximately 100 people in attendance.

While inspecting processor forms from the 2017 season, CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Micah Hintze identified a number of possible violations in need of follow up. One in need of follow up involved a gentleman who had taken a 6-point on November 16, 2017 and subsequently did not purchase an antlered tag until after legal shooting hours on the same day. A check of the retail license system revealed that the subject had been doing the same thing for the past 10 years. With this information, the COs located and

interviewed the individual about the violation. The subject admitted to the violation and was charged with taking a deer without a license.

While checking a local lake in Mason County, CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Micah Hintze made contact with two fishermen in a shanty for a simple license check. When asked to produce their fishing license and identification, they were very hesitant and pretended that the COs weren't even there. The COs explained they were not leaving until licenses were produced. The subjects finally admitted they did not possess fishing licenses. A check of their prior history confirmed neither possessed a valid fishing license and one of the individuals had been cited for the same violation last year. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling, CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Micah Hintze located some subjects in a spot on Hamlin Lake which is noted to have bad ice conditions. The subjects had pushed a flat bottom boat onto the ice in order to retrieve their snowmobile that had gone through the ice earlier that day, The COs assisted with making sure the scene was safe and helped the subjects remove their snowmobile from the bottom of Hamlin Lake.

CO Brian Brosky was patrolling an area in Mason County after a recent snowfall checking for snowmobiling activity. While on a seasonal road, CO Brosky noticed a fresh set of tracks on the roadway and, while following the tracks, he was met head-on by the operator of the snowmobile who had an expired registration and trail permit and the sled did not have an operational headlight. CO Brosky activated his emergency lights and attempted to stop the sled, but it continued southbound. After catching up to the operator of the snowmobile and stopping the sled in a residential area, the operator stated he did not see CO Brosky activate his emergency lights. The operator, who was also driving the snowmobile while his operator's license was suspended, admitted that he bought the snowmobile from a person over Christmas and never registered it. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ryan Andrews was patrolling area lakes for ice anglers and snowmobile activity when he saw a pair of anglers packing gear onto an ORV and a sled. CO Andrews watched from a distance as they finished loading their gear and then both anglers climbed on the ORV that was designed for the operator only. The anglers were also both drinking from what appeared to be open beer cans as they drove away. In addition, neither person was wearing a helmet. The CO followed the individuals from shore, back to a house along the lake shore. As CO Andrews approached the men, they were still holding open beers. The anglers were evaluated for operating while intoxicated, educated on the infractions, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Ryan Andrews and CO Josiah Killingbeck patrolled snowmobile trails in Wexford County during the Cadillac Snow Festival. During their patrol, the COs contacted about 75 riders and witnessed numerous violations. Some of the violations included operating without trail permits, unregistered snowmobiles, ownership not transferred, improper registration, careless operation and others. In many cases, education and warnings were given; however, the COs also took additional enforcement action numerous times.

While patrolling in Lake County, CO Ryan Andrews witnessed a snowmobile disregard a stop sign at a road crossing and nearly miss hitting a pickup truck traveling down the roadway. The snowmobile operator was stopped shortly down the trail by the CO. The operator of the snowmobile stated he did not see the sign or the truck as he was approaching the road crossing. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck and a Lake County Sheriff's deputy were on snowmobile patrol in the Irons area when they observed a vehicle being operated against the flow of traffic. CO Killingbeck was able to determine that the operator was not wearing a seatbelt either. CO Killingbeck stopped the vehicle using his snowmobile that is equipped with emergency lights and DNR Law Enforcement logos. CO Killingbeck made contact with the driver who immediately told CO Killingbeck that he had warrants. CO Killingbeck smelled the odor of intoxicants coming from the vehicle and driver. CO Killingbeck discovered that the subject was over twice the legal limit and was driving suspended, was in possession of open intoxicants, and had an expired license plate. The driver also had two warrants from Manistee County. CO Killingbeck also discovered that the subject had been convicted of four OWI violations in the past. The driver was arrested and lodged in the Lake County Jail.

CO Josiah Killingbeck, while on snowmobile patrol in the Baldwin Area of Lake County, observed two snowmobiles disregard a stop sign coming onto a roadway where CO Killingbeck has been taking complaints of careless snowmobile operation. CO Killingbeck stopped the snowmobiles and made contact with the operators. One subject told CO Killingbeck that he did not see what the big deal was with running stop signs. He told CO Killingbeck that because they were riding in what he believed to be a low traffic area, it was no big deal. CO Killingbeck educated both subjects on snowmobile regulations and the safety aspect of stopping at stop signs. CO Killingbeck told both subjects he was going to issue a citation but would issue only one instead of writing both subjects. The male subject said, "Write my wife." The wife seemed to be in disbelief, but said, "I guess I can take it." Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck assisted the Lake County Sheriff's Department with a semi vs. car crash in Lake County. CO Killingbeck assisted in first aid along with determining what had happened. Both drivers were seriously injured and taken to downstate trauma centers.

CO Sam Koscinski and PCO Charles Jones were on patrol near the Manistee River when the local dispatch had a BOL for littering. The vehicle was spotted and a traffic stop conducted, A Manistee County deputy conducted an interview for the littering issue with the driver. After some investigation, it was determined that two of the three vehicle occupants had multiple valid warrants. Two of the three occupants were taken to the Manistee County Jail.

COs Scott MacNeill and Steve Converse had a snowmobile flee from them in Manistee County after attempting to make a traffic stop on the sled for no trail permit. COs

tracked the snowmobile to a nearby residence where the individual was arrested for flee and elude, and multiple other snowmobile related charges.

CO Steve Converse and PCO James Garrett served a warrant on a subject for taking a bear out-of-season. The COs had received information that the subject had possibly shot the bear two days after his season had ended in 2017. The COs interviewed the subject and received a full confession. The subject explained that it had taken him fifteen years to draw a tag and didn't want to end empty handed.

COs Mike Bomay and Casey Varriale were patrolling on the white pine snowmobile trail and cited two snowmobile operators for no trail permits. The first snowmobile operator said he just got it running and was displaying a 2012 trail permit, which was the same green color as the current 2018 permit. Later in the patrol, a second snowmobile operator was contacted stating that he just got it running and was displaying a 2014 trail permit.

CO Mike Bomay conducted surveillance on the only angler on a small lake and observed the angler catching multiple pan fish. Upon making contact with the angler, it was discovered that he was only keeping the large fish and tossing the smaller ones on the ice or leaving them in the hole. The angler had multiple holes in close proximity and admitted to catching all the fish himself, claiming the lake is full of small ones. A citation was issued for take over-limit and the fish were seized as evidence.

CO Mike Bomay was on snowmobile patrol checking area lakes and made contact with a permanent shanty. Upon approaching the shanty, the odor of propane was strong. CO Bomay contacted the occupants and advised them of the propane leak. The angler and his small child could not smell the fuel leak from inside, but CO Bomay insisted they vacate the shanty. Once outside, the adult angler agreed there was a leak and upon inspecting the propane tank it was discovered the rubber hose had a hole in it and was leaking into the shanty heavily before it reached the heater.

DISTRICT 5

CO Mike Hearn and PCO Johnathan Kamps investigated a snowmobile injury accident in Blue Lake Township of Kalkaska County. The injured operator was airlifted from the scene with life-threatening injuries after striking a tree. The investigation determined the operator had lost control due to a combination of speed and lack of adequate base snow on the snowmobile trail. Kalkaska Sheriff's Department, Blue Lake Township Fire Department, and Frederick EMS assisted in the response efforts.

CO Matt Liestenfeltz investigated a complaint from a local taxidermist in Missaukee County. A potential client attempted to drop off two untagged whitetail deer and a mule deer that were taken in South Dakota. CO Liestenfeltz interviewed the subject and determined he failed to meet the processing requirement on one of the whitetail deer. Michigan has strict processing guidelines to help control the spread of CWD. Charges are being sought for illegal importation.

CO Kyle Bader attended an outdoor show in Ogemaw County featuring Mike Avery. Over 1000 people attended and CO Bader answered numerous questions related to hunting and fishing.

CO Steve Lockwood and PCO Amanda McCurdy received a tip about a subject who had sealed a bobcat that he had possibly not harvested. After looking through license purchase history, the COs contacted the first suspect. During the interview, he admitted that he did not harvest the bobcat and was only trying to help a "friend" seal an extra bobcat. When the COs interviewed the "friend," a confession was obtained for killing too many bobcats. The illegally harvested bobcat was seized and a citation was issued for taking an over limit of bobcats.

CO Steve Lockwood, PCO Amanda McCurdy, PCO Tyler Sabuba and Sgt. Jon Wood worked a group patrol in Gladwin County during the Countywide Fishing Tournament. The officers issued numerous citations throughout the day for several violations including: fishing with too many lines, leaving lines unattended, fishing without licenses, as well as ORV and snowmobile registration violations.

While patrolling in rural Gladwin County after dark, CO Steve Lockwood and PCO Amanda McCurdy located several vehicles parked on the side of a county road. There were also several subjects outside the vehicles walking and milling around. As the patrol truck got closer, the COs observed an item being thrown from one of the vehicles. Contact was made with the subjects. Several beverage cans were located in the nearby tree line. One of the subjects admitted to throwing the cans out of the vehicle. A citation was issued for littering on state land.

CO Mark Papineau received a complaint from area houndsmen regarding a subject who had "kidnapped" their hunting dogs. According to the complainants, they were running coyotes all morning and were attempting to retrieve their dogs before they approached a busy highway. As they began closing in on the coordinates of their hunting dogs, the GPS signal from the dog collars disappeared. Upon arrival at the last known location, the houndsmen quickly located a subject attempting to flee the area with three of the missing dogs. One of the houndsmen was able to corner the subject's vehicle at a nearby intersection where a verbal altercation ensued. CO Papineau responded to the area and was able to recover the three GPS collars that were intentionally removed from the dogs by the angry property owner. It was explained that the property owner was upset with the hunters continually trespassing on his land. The landowner explained he decided to remove the tracking collars and take the dogs to the local animal control shelter. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Wright gave a presentation at the Farwell Mid-Michigan Community Action Center. CO Wright talked on several subjects including: CO job duties, ice safety, and Michigan's diverse natural resources. The presentation was well received by those in attendance.

PCO Tyler Sabuda checked an angler fishing in a shanty on one of Gladwin County's inland lakes. During the contact, PCO Sabuda discovered the angler did not have a fishing license. It was also discovered that the angler had an outstanding warrant for the same offense in Monroe County. After confirming the warrant, PCO Sabuda issued the angler a citation for fishing without a license and followed him back to shore where the man was able to post bond on the warrant. PCO Sabuda was assisted by Sgt. Jon Wood, CO Steve Lockwood and PCO Amanda McCurdy.

DISTRICT 6

CO John Byars was checking ice fishermen on Crystal Lake in Montcalm County when he noticed a shanty with two anglers standing in front of it. One angler was eating lunch and the other was holding a fishing pole. The CO asked to see their fishing licenses. The angler holding the pole with the line in the water stated he didn't have a fishing license. The CO issued a citation and gave verbal warnings for unlabeled tip-ups.

CO John Byars was on ORV patrol when he noticed an ORV pass him with last year's ORV licenses. The CO conducted a stop and the operator admitted that he had not purchased this year's license and knew better. The CO issued a citation for no ORV license.

COs Joe Myers and Quincy Gowenlock conducted a snowmobile patrol in the Shiawassee State Game Area when they noticed many snowmobile tracks in an area closed to snowmobile operation. The COs then located two snowmobiles operating in the closed area. Citations were issued for operating in a closed area and not displaying proper trail permits.

CO Josh Russell was patrolling Bass Lake when he noticed six tip-ups on the ice and no one around. The CO approached the tip ups and an individual came out of a house and approached him. The tip ups did not have name and address and only one subject in the house had a fishing license. Tickets were issued.

COs Josh Russell, Dan Robinson and John Byars were patrolling Duck Lake when they noticed black smoke coming from a nearby residence. The COs located the smoke and a subject who was burning a couch and other furniture. The wind shifted, and the fire started going towards the house. The fire department was called, and a ticket was issued for the illegal burn.

COs Josh Russell, Ken Lowell, Dan Robinson, Michael Haas, and Cary Foster conducted a group patrol on Crystal Lake for the annual Crystal Festival. Ten citations were issued for snowmobile and ORV violations. Numerous warnings were given as well.

CO Kyle Bucholtz was on patrol when he observed a snowmobile operating with two riders. The two subjects appeared to be returning from ice fishing and were pulling into a launch site. Upon closer inspection, CO Bucholtz noted the passenger was holding a

helmet on top of his head. The rider was observed with a hat and sweater hood on his head with the helmet simply balancing on the top of his covered head. When CO Bucholtz spoke with the subject, he stated the helmet did not fit properly so he decided to simply hold it on top of his head as they drove back to the parking lot. CO Bucholtz explained the need for a helmet. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Bucholtz responded to the Saginaw Bay to assist with locating two ice fishermen who had fallen into the water. CO Bucholtz assisted the Huron County Sheriff's Department with speaking to witnesses and searching a residence for the subjects. Unfortunately, the two subjects were later found deceased. Information gathered on scene led the officers to believe the subjects had broken through the ice while operating their ORV. It appeared the subjects were able to climb out of the open water and continue walking back to shore. It is further believed the subjects encountered white-out conditions before falling through the ice once again and succumbing to the conditions.

While checking ice fishermen near Sebewaing, CO Robert Hobkirk observed three subjects in camouflage carrying firearms walking the shoreline. When contacted, the hunters informed the officer that they had been hunting coyotes. The hunters were properly licensed, but neither of them was wearing hunter orange clothing. The hunters were cited for the safety violation.

COs Jason Smith, Robert Hobkirk, Seth Rhodea, and Mark Siemen used an unmarked patrol vehicle to check coyote hunters in Sanilac and Tuscola Counties. A total of three hunting groups were located and checked. During the patrol COs issued citations for the following: hunt from a motor vehicle, loaded firearms in a motor vehicle times two, uncased firearm in a vehicle, careless driving, and hunter orange violation. After the patrol was over, CO Hobkirk had received information that a group of coyote hunters in northern Huron County were talking on their radios warning that the COs were going to be out pretending to be rabbit hunters and that they should all be careful. This group was 35 miles from where the group patrol had taken place.

CO Seth Rhodea stopped a vehicle after observing the operator run a stop sign. Upon contacting the operator, he was found to be using an invalid plate on the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Siemen received information about some deer carcasses being dumped in a Sanilac County ditch. Information was that a deer tag was still attached to one of the deer carcasses. CO Siemen responded and located the carcasses, along with the deer tag and multiple pairs of blue latex gloves. CO Siemen checked the tag and located the subject who killed the deer in November. He stated he donated the deer to a subject and had no idea what happened to the deer after that. CO Siemen located the second subject and stated he did get the deer and did process the deer. He stated he told his son to throw the carcass out in the dumpster. He advised that his son must have thrown it in the ditch. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Siemen received information from Sanilac County animal control that several goats had been killed at a residence in Sanilac County. Animal control advised that he was not sure what killed the goat. He stated all the goats had been bitten in the neck and some of the faces had been eaten off. CO Siemen was able to get one of the goats and work with wildlife to help determine the cause of death. This complaint is still pending.

CO Mark Siemen received information about a subject in Croswell who hit an owl with his vehicle. The subject advised the owl was still alive and that he had it at his home for three days and wanted it picked-up. CO Siemen responded and got the owl, which had a minor injury to its leg. CO Siemen contacted a wildlife rehabber in Bay City and the owl was dropped off.

COs Mark Siemen and Jason Smith worked the bay area and contacted multiple fishermen. Many checks were made, and anglers reported the fishing has been great. Anglers advised that a large crack in the ice had stopped them from going too far out on the ice.

CO Jason A. Smith worked an early shift to check on morning activity on the bay. One group was watched as they headed out onto the bay at about 4:30 in the morning. They returned to their vehicle about 30 minutes later and began to load up their equipment. Contact was made with the fishermen. They had driven out about three miles, ran into open water, and decided to drive back to Ohio rather than risk it.

CO Jason A. Smith received a complaint of dogs bringing home random deer parts. After checking the area, it appears the complainant's dogs have been running loose throughout the whole section. The complainant was spoken to about keeping their dogs on their property.

CO Jason A. Smith received a complaint of untagged traps set on state land from someone out walking their dog. The area was checked and several traps were located. They were legally set and properly tagged.

CO Josh Wright and PCO Cody Smith made a trip to Tuscola Tech Center to talk to their law enforcement class. The COs were able to talk to the class about their job and the process of becoming a CO. The students were involved and had many questions for the COs.

On the way to training in Bay City, CO Josh Wright and PCO Smith were passed by an individual exceeding the speed limit. After passing two patrol trucks, a trailer and a box truck that were already traveling at the posted speed a stop was made. Upon receiving ID, it was noticed that the occupant's license was suspended, and that he had open intoxicants in the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

Just after checking in to service, there was a complaint of snowmobiles riding on private property that was received by Michigan State Police. Since CO Josh Wright and PCO

Cody Smith were in the area, they responded to the scene contacting the two young riders. It was determined they were riding in their neighbor's field and were told they did not have permission to ride there. After talking to the property owner and parent of the kids, they were let off with a warning and sent home for the day. They were informed that with trespass on an ORV or snowmobile the property does not need to be posted to be considered recreational trespass and that the operator takes responsibility for where they are riding.

CO Josh Wright and PCO Cody Smith attempted to stop three snowmobiles that were operating on the roadway. One stopped and the other two decided to flee. Pursuit was made until visual was lost on the snowmobiles. PCO Smith and CO Wright were able to follow the tracks to a residence where one of the snowmobiles sat out back. Contact was made with the residence with its occupants denying they were riding. After many different stories, the snowmobile was impounded, and enforcement action was taken.

COs Chad Foerster and Nick Atkin conducted several patrols on the Saginaw Bay. Numerous individuals were contacted enjoying a vast array of outdoor activities ranging from ice fishing to snowmobile riding. Most followed the law with a few exceptions. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in western Midland County, CO Mike Haas witnessed a 4-wheeler operating on a roadway at a high rate of speed. The ORV had two people riding on it and one individual did not have a helmet on. CO Haas stopped the ORV and discovered that the individuals on the machine were 12 years old. The juveniles were warned for operating on the roadway, operating over 25 MPH, operating without a helmet or ORV license, not having ORV safety certificates, and riding double. CO Haas escorted the boys home and issued a citation to their father for allowing the minors to operate the ORV on public property without supervision or safety certificates.

During an evening patrol in western Isabella County, CO Mike Haas witnessed a truck driving down a road in the dark with no headlights. CO Haas initiated a traffic stop and contacted the driver. The gentleman driving the truck stated he was using his girlfriend's vehicle and did not know the lights weren't automatic. CO Haas warned the man for the equipment violation and arrested him for driving with a suspended license.

CO Mike Haas stopped a snowmobile traveling along a lake in central Isabella County for having an expired trail permit. The operator of the snowmobile stated he was just testing the sled and was planning on buying a permit if the sled was working properly. After checking the man's driver's license and seeing his address, CO Haas pointed out that the man had traveled halfway across the county. The man then admitted that he "screwed up and got caught." A citation was issued for failing to obtain a trail permit.

Sgt. Tony Soave and Lt. Jeremy Payne organized a large-scale group patrol on Saginaw Bay in coordination with the "Wardens" TV show, focusing attention on the taking of over limits of walleye, keeping undersized walleye and safety violations

involving snowmobiles and ATVs. The patrol utilized 12 COs from the Bay City District on snowmobiles and Can-Am ATVs. The patrol included the Saginaw Bay and the Saginaw and Kawkawlin Rivers. During the patrol, 466 contacts were made with 25 citations being issued for snowmobile and ORV registration and trail permit violations, 100' safety rule violations and fishing without a license. 41 warnings were given for various violations and several hand shakes and thank yous were received from anglers happy to see such a large law enforcement presence out protecting the resource. A large amount of video was shot by the two camera crews from the "Wardens" TV show, and the "Saginaw Bay Winter Blitz 2018" episode will air sometime late 2018 or spring of 2019.

DISTRICT 7

COs Jeff Robinette and Zach Bauer were conducting a nighttime patrol for coyote hunters as well as snowmobile activity in Cass County. The COs observed a snowmobile being operated against the flow of traffic along the edge of a county road. CO Robinette conducted a traffic stop on the snowmobile and immediately noticed the operator was not wearing a helmet. CO Robinette and CO Bauer then observed the snowmobile had no registration and had a trail permit from 2008. Upon obtaining the operator's identification, it was discovered that the operator had an identification card and not a driver's license. A subsequent LEIN/SOS check revealed that the operator was currently suspended in Michigan. The operator was issued a ticket for not wearing a helmet as well as not having a current registration on the snowmobile. Warnings were given for operating the snowmobile with a suspended driver's license and not having a trail permit for the snowmobile.

COs Zach Bauer, Travis Dragomer and Matt Page conducted a group snowmobile patrol in VanBuren County on state snowmobile trails. The COs issued 7 tickets for registration and trail permits and 21 warnings were issued for other minor violations.

COs Travis Dragomer and Zach Bauer conducted a snowmobile patrol through Berrien and Cass Counties on snowmobile trails 59 and 590. The COs issued 7 citations, over 15 warnings, and made over 80 contacts.

CO Tyler Cole received a Report all Poaching complaint of an individual who had allegedly set an antler trap for deer. The picture showed the trap being baited out of season and with what appeared to be more than two gallons of corn. Contact was made with the suspect, who admitted to setting and baiting the trap. The suspect was instructed to remove the bait and was issued a citation for baiting deer out of season.

COs Richard Cardenas and James Zellinger responded to a call from Barry County central dispatch of a subject on a snowmobile who had fallen through the ice on Gun Lake. By the time COs Cardenas and Zellinger arrived on scene, multiple state police troopers and the Yankee Springs Fire Ice Rescue Team had already arrived. The ice rescue team was able to recover the subject and she was transported to the hospital for further treatment.

COs Richard Cardenas and James Zellinger conducted a snowmobile patrol in Barry and Allegan Counties. During the patrol approximately 40 contacts were made. One subject was observed operating an unregistered snowmobile, another was observed operating a snowmobile without a valid trail permit, and two others were observed operating snowmobiles which were unregistered and without trail permits. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Greg Patten and Jeff Ginn, along with PCOs Katie Stawara and Jennifer Hanson, conducted a group snowmobile patrol on trail 19 in Muskegon and Newaygo Counties. COs BJ Goulette and Ivan Perez provided support in their truck. The PCOs located one snowmobile with improper registration and no trail permit and enforcement action was taken. PCO Stawara and CO Patten also assisted a subject in a truck stuck in the Muskegon Game Area.

While on patrol, CO Greg Patten encountered two snowmobiles operating along a back road. One sled passed CO Patten at a high rate of speed and fled. As the second sled went by, CO Patten noted violations and proceeded to initiate a stop. Upon contact it was also found that the owner had failed to transfer the registration into his name after he purchased it. Enforcement action was taken.

CO BJ Goulette and PCO Katie Stawara were checking ice anglers at Bass River recreation area when they came across two subjects fishing with an excessive amount of lines. When asked how many lines they were using, the two anglers hesitated and waivered back and forth on admitting exactly how many were in the water. Both the COs and anglers recognized each other from previous contacts. PCO Stawara confronted them on being experienced enough to know they should only have three lines each. The anglers admitted to knowing this, but chose to use too many lines anyway. Enforcement action was taken.

CO BJ Goulette and PCO Katie Stawara were on snowmobile patrol when they observed two snowmobiles crossing a privately-owned field. The snowmobiles exited the field and proceeded to drive along the shoulder of the road, against the flow of traffic. A stop was conducted. Both snowmobiles lacked the required trail permit and were registered in the name of previous owners. When confronted on the violations, the riders admitted to not knowing whose property the field was and not registering the sleds in their name after purchase. Enforcement action was taken.

COs David Rodgers and Justin Ulberg, along with PCO Justin Vinson worked the Land of Lakes Ice Fishing Derby on Lincoln Lake over the weekend. Over 150 contacts were made with anglers. Numerous warnings were given for ORV equipment and licensing violations as well as fishing licenses. Enforcement action was taken for two ORVs that were not registered and one subject fishing without a license.

While on patrol, CO David Rodgers and PCO Justin Vinson made contact with a lone ice fisherman on Lake Bella Vista as he attempted to remove an extra tip-up he had set

up. The contact with the angler revealed he was also in possession of marijuana. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 8

COs Andrew Monnich, Eric Smither, Chris Reynolds, Mike Drexler, Matt Neterer, Troy Ludwig, Sam Schluckbier, and PCO Nick Wellman worked a weekend group patrol for the Devils Lake Tip-Up Festival in Lenawee County. The COs patrolled while hundreds of patrons enjoyed the festival on ORVs and Snowmobiles. 37 ORV and snowmobile citations were issued over the weekend.

COs Andrew Monnich and Matt Neterer were checking the Onsted State Game Area late at night and located a vehicle parked in a boat launch area. The COs made contact with the individuals in the vehicle who stated they were just hanging out. One of the individuals had a warrant out of Kalkaska County and was placed under arrest and lodged in the Lenawee County Jail for transport to Kalkaska County.

CO Andrew Monnich received a call from a landowner about snowmobiles going through his property and tearing up his fields. The next morning, CO Monnich drove past the farm and observed two sleds riding all over in the farmer's CRP fields. CO Monnich ended up cutting the sleds off as they were going through a small wood lot and made contact with the riders. Each machine was unregistered as well as not having trail permits. Both individuals admitted they knew it was private property and shouldn't have been there. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brandon Hartleben worked the Michigan Pond Hockey Classic at Whitmore Lake over the weekend with the assistance of CO Matt Neterer. This was the first time in three years that the charity event was able to occur because of poor ice-conditions. While overall attendance was somewhat impacted by the severe winter weather, over 100 teams still showed up to participate. COs Hartleben and Neterer made numerous contacts throughout the event and addressed a variety of ORV and snowmobile violations to include: no ORV registration, transporting passengers in a non-seating area, riding double on a single, no ORV helmet, careless operation of an ORV, no snowmobile trail sticker, no snowmobile helmet, operate snowmobile on the roadway, operate snowmobile with no safety certificate, and unattended tip-ups.

CO Daniel Prince and Sgt. Jason Smith assisted the Island Recreation Area with an on-going property trespass issue. An adjacent property owner had numerous items stored on state land. CO Prince and Sgt. Smith met with the property owners and are working with them to resolve the issue by moving their personal items back onto their own property.

CO Pete Purdy and PCO Nick Wellman came upon a vehicle that had gone off the road at the Spencer Road exit off eastbound I-96 due to icy road conditions. The driver was uninjured and was sitting in her mother's vehicle on the shoulder of the road. They explained they had called a tow truck over thirty minutes ago. Due to the increasingly

icy roads the COs had Livingston County 911 expedite the tow truck. Upon arrival the tow truck driver advised he would need the freeway exit temporarily closed while he positioned his tow truck. The COs successfully positioned their patrol trucks and closed the freeway exit, and the vehicle was safely removed.

CO Pete Purdy and PCO Nick Wellman attended a wild game dinner at the Pinckney Masonic Temple. PCO Wellman gave a speech on the many duties COs perform. He also spoke about his experience at Recruit School 8. His speech was well received. There were 50 total in attendance.

CO Eric Smither spoke to a class of approximately 25 students and teachers at Onsted High School about what a CO does and what training officers go through. CO Smither answered questions on hunting and fishing regulations and other laws.

While patrolling southern Lenawee County, CO Eric Smither came across a modular home that was on fire. The fire truck on scene only had three firefighters and CO Eric Smither assisted in helping to roll out hoses and filling water bladders until other fire departments arrived. CO Smither then assisted in blocking traffic along with Lenawee County Sheriff's deputies and other fire departments.

COs Sam Schluckbier and CO Troy Ludwig were patrolling the Devils Lake Tip-Up Festival when they observed two individuals riding an ORV designed only for one passenger. The ORV was observed operating at high speeds, cornering sharply, and performing donuts. When the COs were able to contact the riders, they had just flipped the machine onto its side and were attempting to push it back to shore. The female passenger stated she had injured her leg in the wreck. The male driver was unable to provide a valid explanation for his erratic driving behavior and why he had two people on the machine. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Sam Schluckbier and Troy Ludwig conducted a taxidermy inspection in Eaton County. Several illegal deer cases have been generated and are pending further investigation.

While patrolling several inland lakes, CO Sam Schluckbier issued multiple citations for operating an ORV without wearing a helmet. Most operators claimed they didn't know the law required them to wear a helmet. The majority were riding to and from their fishing sites while transporting riders and failing to license their ORVs. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sam Schluckbier observed an ORV operating without a license on a public roadway in Eaton County. Once he activated his emergency lights in an attempt to stop the subject, the operator sped off. CO Schluckbier watched as the ORV travelled through several backyards eventually disappearing. Within minutes the ORV was located in a nearby parking lot. While being assisted by Michigan State Police, CO Schluckbier followed the subject's footprints in the snow for over a mile. Eventually the subject was picked up by another vehicle. Further investigation found the ORV was stolen in 2016

but was never reported to law enforcement. The ORV was towed and secured. The investigation is ongoing.

CO Carter Woodwyk was patrolling Hillsdale County when he observed an ORV doing wheelies in the middle of the roadway. The CO also observed the operator not wearing a helmet. A stop was conducted and the operator was a 13-year-old who just got the ORV running that day. The CO escorted the juvenile home and educated him and his guardians on ORV laws.

CO Chris Reynolds, while patrolling Hillsdale County, observed a vehicle in the distance stopping with what appeared to be coyote hunters getting in and out of the vehicle. A stop was conducted at the location. As CO Reynolds approached the vehicle he observed two uncased guns which, upon checking, were found to be loaded. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Troy Ludwig was patrolling Eaton County when he observed a man operating his ORV on the road and sidewalk with a small child sitting behind him. Neither of the riders were wearing helmets. CO Ludwig conducted a stop and explained to the operator that ORVs were not allowed to operate on the road in Eaton County. He further explained that a helmet had to be worn to operate the ORV and that the machine was not designed to carry more than one rider. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rich Nickols responded to a Report All Poaching complaint where coyote hunters appeared to be cutting a fence to gain access to private property. CO Nickols located the hunters and also located fresh tracks in the snow leading to a chain link fence. No tracks were seen going onto the property. CO Nickols contacted the hunters and learned that one of their dogs had gone onto the property and had become stuck in the fence when coming out. The hunter was able to free the dog without cutting the fence. No violations were found.

CO Todd Thorn followed up on some suspicious information found while conducting a fur buyer's inspection. CO Thorn contacted one of the individuals, thought to have been hunting coyotes without a license, and found that the man had seven warrants for his arrest. The man was located, arrested, and lodged in the Ingham County jail.

While on routine patrol in northern Jackson County, CO Todd Thorn observed a man operating an ORV without a helmet and with an uncased rifle slung over his shoulder. CO Thorn contacted the man and found that he was hunting coyotes. Further investigation revealed that the man had left his ID and hunting license at his residence. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Thorn found an unoccupied pickup truck parked in the Dansville State Game Area and noticed a cased firearm on the passenger seat, as well as some untagged traps in the bed of the truck. After several minutes of waiting around in the dark, a pickup truck pulled into the parking area with three men inside. One of the men was the

owner of the truck and a check of the firearm revealed that it was loaded in the chamber as well as the magazine. Enforcement action was taken.

During a patrol through the Dansville State Game Area, CO Todd Thorn observed an unoccupied pickup truck near a popular ice fishing location. CO Thorn looked inside through a window and saw marijuana on the center console. CO Thorn continued on foot following tracks in the snow and located three men as they were attempting to sneak back to their truck without being caught. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Thorn located a group of coyote hunters hunting south of Lansing. One of the vehicles was parked well off the road in a field at the edge of a woodlot. CO Thorn saw that the vehicle was unoccupied and continued on foot into the woods. CO Thorn found a man walking in the woods with a rifle with no visible orange. When the hunter finally saw CO Thorn, he flipped his coat hood down revealing a partially orange hat. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Maher was working snowmobile patrol in Jackson County after a fresh snowfall when he witnessed a subject riding on the side of a busy road not wearing a helmet. After CO Maher stopped the subject he discovered the snowmobile was not registered. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Chris Maher and Andy Monnich were on patrol in Lenawee County when they witnessed a snowmobile without a registration drive past them at a high rate of speed. The COs activated their emergency lights, but the snowmobile did not stop. About a mile down the road the COs found the man with his snowmobile in a ditch. They contacted the subject to make sure he was okay. After determining the snowmobiler had no injuries, CO Maher asked if he was running from them. The man shook his head no and said he did not even know they were there. Enforcement action was taken for the lack of registration.

CO Chris Maher stopped to fuel his patrol truck when a pair of snowmobilers pulled up to the fuel pump. CO Maher made contact to see how the ride was going. During their conversation, CO Maher noticed that one of the snowmobiles did not have a trail permit or proper registration. CO Maher explained the law and enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 9

While on ORV patrol along Lake St. Clair, CO Joseph Deppen came across multiple violations including an unregistered ORV, ORV operator wearing no helmet, riding double, and careless operation. The operators were educated on current Michigan laws and enforcement action was taken.

While on fisheries patrol on Lake St. Clair, CO Joseph Deppen was using his ORV to check ice anglers. CO Deppen approached a shanty down wind and immediately smelled marijuana coming from the shanty. CO Deppen approached the shanty and the angler immediately attempted to open the zipper and "air out" the shanty. CO Deppen

had all the anglers step out and they each produced various amounts of marijuana. While verifying identification, CO Deppen noticed a northern pike on the ice near the adjacent shanty. CO Deppen opened the shanty and observed two lines in the water without any anglers in the shanty. The group of anglers' violations included: unlabeled tip-ups, unattended lines, no fishing license, and possession of marijuana. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking anglers at a local marina in Macomb County, CO Joseph Deppen noticed an ORV riding down the road. CO Deppen used his loud speaker and ordered the rider to stop and come towards his patrol vehicle. The ORV proceeded to drive around the patrol vehicle and drove off down the road. CO Deppen noticed the ORV turn into a local marina and attempted to hide among winterized vessels. With only one way in and out, CO Deppen got out of his patrol vehicle and confronted the operator. The operator was guilty of operating an ORV at speeds greater than reasonable, unregistered ORV, no ORV trail permit, operating on a roadway, failure to stop at the signal of a CO, and careless operation of an ORV. The ORV was impounded and further enforcement action was taken.

After finishing a patrol on Lake St. Clair, COs Joseph Deppen and Ray Gardner observed three snowmobiles racing across the lake and continually crossing an open stretch of open water at a local river mouth. The COs split up and attempted to contact the riders. CO Gardner was able to stop one snowmobiler on foot on the south side of the river and CO Deppen was able to stop another snowmobiler on the north side of the river. The third snowmobiler noticed the COs and when signaled to come over, the rider decided to flee the scene. COs Deppen and Gardner were able to interview each rider for a positive identification of the third rider and also verified the registration of the all the snowmobiles. All the snowmobiles came back to the third rider who fled the scene. COs Deppen and Gardner obtained identification of the two riders and drove to the location of the registered owner. The owner of the snowmobiles and also the third rider attempted to deny his involvement and fleeing the scene. COs Deppen and Gardner interviewed the third rider and eventually obtained a confession about seeing the COs and fleeing the scene. Violations included careless operation of a snowmobile, active warrants, and flee and elude. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Raymond Gardner and Joseph Deppen were on patrol on Lake St. Clair and checked multiple anglers, ORVs and snowmobiles. During these checks, COs Gardner and Deppen made contact with a group that included two people on ORVs and snowmobiles. Both ORVs did not have ORV permits and both the snowmobiles were unregistered and missing the snowmobile trail permits. The owner of the snowmobiles explained to COs Gardner and Deppen that he just bought them that morning and was unaware that he also needed the snowmobile trail permit. The owner of the ORVs also stated that he didn't know he needed an ORV permit to be on the ice. Enforcement action was taken.

While on fisheries patrol in Macomb County, CO Joseph Deppen was following up on a complaint where anglers were trespassing in a local marina. CO Deppen went to the

location and noticed a vehicle had entered an area prohibited to fishing. CO Deppen observed two ice shanties and footprints from the vehicle to the shanties and back. CO Deppen contacted the anglers and informed them they were trespassing, and they could not continue to fish. Both anglers said they walked in from the ice and were not trespassing. CO Deppen pointed out their footprints and vehicle and both anglers confessed. License verification showed that one angler did not have a fishing license and had multiple warrants for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken.

While on fisheries patrol in Macomb County, COs Brad Silorey and Joseph Deppen were checking anglers ice fishing on Lake St. Clair. The COs noticed an unregistered ORV next to the ice shanties and stopped to check licenses. One of the three anglers had a fishing license on them, and the other two anglers did not purchase fishing licenses and failed to disclose to officers they were carrying a concealed firearm. There were also active warrants out for their arrest. Enforcement action was taken.

While on a group snowmobile patrol in St. Clair and Macomb Counties, COs Ben Lasher, Pat Hartsig, Brad Silorey, Ray Gardner, and Joseph Deppen stopped multiple snowmobiles and ORVs throughout the day. Violations included unregistered snowmobiles, unregistered ORVs, no helmets, expired trail permits, careless operation, flee and elude on a snowmobile, and operating in a wildlife refuge. Snowmobilers were educated on the current laws and regulations and enforcement action was taken.

COs Raymond Gardner and Joe Deppen contacted two individuals who were operating an ORV while riding double, without helmets on Lake St. Clair. When asked why the men weren't wearing helmets and riding double, they both said they didn't know that they needed helmets and the owner of the ORV said he was unaware that the ORV was only made to carry one passenger. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel and PCO Danielle Zubek checked an ice angler in a shanty that was catching yellow perch one after another. While checking her fishing license, she stated that she never bought one this year. She was fishing behind her house and thought she would never get checked. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel and PCO Danielle Zubek checked an ORV coming into an access site with three passengers. The owner of the machine failed to license the ORV and all three passengers failed to wear a helmet. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach conducted several snowmobile patrols this past week with the recent snowfall in St. Clair County. CO Kovach encountered numerous snowmobilers enjoying the snow, but multiple violations were discovered. Violations included, operating on the roadway, expired registration, no trail permit and unlicensed ORV. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Pat Hartsig, Brad Silorey, Joe Deppen and Ben Lasher conducted a group snowmobile patrol working a problem area where snowmobilers were operating around gates through a game refuge that was closed to traffic. While patrolling the refuge,

numerous snowmobilers were contacted, and enforcement action was taken on issues such as operating unregistered snowmobiles, operating without trail permits, operating in a game area and failing to stop for police officers. During this patrol, a group of snowmobiles were stopped that were operating carelessly and on a closed road. One of the operators sped off and went around a gate at the entrance of the game area. A brief pursuit was ended when the operator, who had a suspended driver's license and had been drinking lost control and hit a tree. The subject was taken into custody and lodged in the St. Clair County Jail.

CO Pat Hartsig was conducting an ice angler patrol on Lake St. Clair when a group fishing was contacted. The group had ridden with two occupants on an ORV with no helmets. It was also found that one of the anglers had not purchased a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Schaumburger was checking anglers at Ford's Cove when he came upon a suspicious ice shanty. CO Schaumburger smelled the odor of burnt marijuana around the shanty and made contact. The angler was in possession of drug paraphernalia, approximately five grams of a green leafy substance. The subjects were also found to be trespassing. Enforcement action was taken.

While on snowmobile patrol, CO Schaumburger attempted to stop two snowmobiles operating on the roadway. The CO attempted a head-on stop but when the CO activated his lights, the two sleds veered around the truck and sped off down the road. The CO attempted to catch up to them and radioed to CO Walzak their location. When the CO turned the corner a few blocks away, he saw his two sleds that fled, this time both operators had their heads slumped on the handlebars as in a look of defeat. It turned out they did not stop for the CO but one of the machine's belt had torn and the snowmobile was inoperable. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Danny Walzak stopped a subject for operating a snowmobile on a roadway. The subject was following another machine and when he was stopped the other snowmobile accelerated and disappeared. When asked why he was operating on the roadway, the subject stated that he and his partner were going to put gas in their machines and go riding in a large field a few miles away. When CO Walzak asked the subject if he knew who owned the field, he just said, "No". CO Walzak reminded him they would have been trespassing. Enforcement action was taken for the illegal operation on the roadway.

CO Danny Walzak stopped a subject operating an ORV on a roadway. In addition to being on a roadway, the subject was operating without the required helmet and eye protection. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Danny Walzak observed a vehicle travelling on northbound I-75 at a high rate of speed, tailgating other vehicles and changing lanes without using turn signals. When the subject reached a clear stretch of road, his speed reached 94 mph. CO Walzak stopped the vehicle and, upon contacting the operator, asked why he was travelling in

such a manner around other vehicles on the highway. The operator answered that he was just trying to get home. The vehicle had expired registration and a LEIN check on the driver showed that he had two misdemeanor warrants for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jason Becker and Justin Muehlhauser were on patrol on Lake Fenton for a fishing tournament. The COs checked anglers participating in the tournament. CO Becker checked two subjects in an ice shanty. The subjects had three tip ups and a rod inside the shanty. One subject stated he was not fishing and the other subject stated that all of the tip ups and the rod were his. The officers pointed out that none of the tip ups had names on them and the one licensed angler was fishing with too many lines. While checking the one subject's license, CO Becker could smell a strong odor of marijuana. The subjects had a container of marijuana and several smoking devices in the shanty. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Justin Muehlhauser and Jason Becker worked a snowmobile/ORV patrol on Lake Fenton during a fishing tournament. Later in the evening, the COs checked an ice shanty on the north end of the lake. When the COs arrived, there were nine lines in the water and nobody was present. The COs made contact at a nearby residence and were met by several juveniles. They said the adults were fishing in the tournament and just left to go to the bar. The babysitter called them to come back. A few moments later several men returned; three were able to produce valid fishing licenses. The CO inquired about the unattended lines. The men did not dispute the fact that they left the lines unattended to go have a few drinks. The COs addressed the violations and enforcement action was taken for unattended lines.

BELLE ISLE

CO Matthew Neterer was patrolling Belle Isle on a midnight shift when he observed a vehicle travel onto the island well after the park had closed. CO Neterer conducted a traffic stop and discovered that the driver had a warrant for assault out of a nearby agency. The driver was arrested and lodged without incident.