

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
10/11/15 – 10/24/15**

DISTRICT 1

CO Brian Lasanen contacted a road hunter and observed the passenger trying to zip up his shotgun case. The CO told the passenger to stop what he was doing. CO Lasanen observed the shotgun case to be half way zipped up. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lasanen received a call from a Michigan State Police (MSP) trooper asking for assistance. The trooper advised CO Lasanen he stopped an ORV rider with no helmet and determined the suspect was out hunting. The trooper asked for the suspect's hunting license and driver's license. It was determined the suspect used an old Michigan ID to purchase a Michigan resident hunting license. The CO contacted the trooper and suspect. The suspect advised he moved from Michigan to Wisconsin in May of 2014 and still had his old ID from Michigan and used that old ID to purchase a resident hunting license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lasanen was on patrol in the Bergland area when he observed an ORV with no ORV decals. CO Lasanen contacted the subject and he advised he never purchased ORV decals. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Eberly responded to a complaint from a bow hunter of subjects pushing open an old skidder trail on commercial forest land; the subjects then towed in several box blinds on trailers and set them up behind a land company gate. CO Eberly found the blinds and informed the land company so their foresters could inspect the area to determine if they wanted any action taken.

CO Dennis Gast, while working Otter Lake, contacted an angler at the dam. During the contact it was found the subject not only did not have a fishing license, he was also driving with a suspended driver's license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dennis Gast, while working Keystone Bay, checked three ORVs, one of which was unregistered. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon and PCO Shannon Kritz completed the investigation of multiple land owners involved with trespass and trail camera theft. Enforcement action was taken for the trespass that led to the thefts.

CO Brian Bacon and PCO Shannon Kritz were on patrol when they observed a subject without a helmet operating a three wheeler on a county road. A stop was conducted and several violations, along with a valid local misdemeanor warrant, were discovered. Further contact with the subject led to the possession of marijuana. Other violations addressed included operating an unregistered ORV, failure to wear a helmet, operation of an ORV with a suspended driver's license and failure to title an ORV.

CO Brian Bacon and PCO Shannon Kritz responded to the complaint of an injured red tail hawk. Individuals at a local motel had called to report the injured bird in the yard of the motel, unable to fly. The officers responded and discovered the red tail hawk was actually a grouse. The grouse had been struck by a vehicle and was unable to recover from the injuries.

Sgts. Ryan Aho and Marc Pomroy investigated the report of hunter harassment and trail camera theft in southern Marquette County. Suspects were identified through trail camera pictures provided by the complainant. Two subjects were interviewed who were in possession of the stolen cameras. Charges are being sought through the Marquette County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Brett DeLonge participated in an annual job fair recruitment event at Northern Michigan University. During the all-day event CO DeLonge spoke with many college students interested in a career as a conservation officer, with several students starting the application process. During the event CO DeLonge was asked to give presentations to student classes at the University. Presentation dates are scheduled for the near future.

CO Mark Leadman and PCO Calvin Smith received a complaint of an ORV operating in a closed area. The subject was located operating in a prohibited area. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Leadman and PCO Calvin Smith located four individuals who appeared to be duck hunting in a closed area in Marquette County. The COs conducted surveillance of the group and observed one of the hunters taking an overlimit of mallards. When contacted the officers discovered the group had failed to provide personal flotation devices (PFDs) and the boat being operated was not registered. The group was advised that the basin they were hunting was closed to hunting. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Leadman and PCO Calvin Smith checked several duck hunters coming in from duck hunting at a popular Marquette County waterfowl hunting location. One of the subjects checked had lead shot in their possession. One group did not have PFDs on their watercraft, and another had licensing issues. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Leadman and PCO Calvin Smith came across two subjects trying to remove a heavily damaged truck from a ditch in a remote location. The driver drove into the ditch earlier that morning and had failed to report the accident. There was significant damage to his truck. The scene was secured and turned over to the MSP.

CO Elton Luce investigated the illegal taking of a pine marten. Charges are pending for taking the pine marten out of season and illegal method of take.

CO Jared Ferguson was called to a complaint of a deer that appeared to have an arrow stuck in its front shoulder. CO Ferguson found the deer and followed its blood trail back to an illegal blind with no name and address on it. Investigation continues.

CO Jared Ferguson received several complaints of deer that had been shot and their antlers cut off being left in the middle of a potato field. CO Ferguson is continuing the investigation.

CO Trey Luce obtained a two count warrant for a subject for the illegal take of a pine marten.

CO Trey Luce is currently investigating an ongoing trespass issue with two neighboring landowners.

CO Trey Luce received a complaint of a boat that was partially submerged in front of a camp on Lake Independence. The landowner is working at removing the boat.

CO Brian Bacon and PCO Shannon Kritz checked a vehicle parked on a two track in Iron County. A short walk from the vehicle the officers found a bow hunter hunting over more than the two gallon bait limit. It was also discovered that there were two uncased firearms in the subject's vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brett DeLonge received a complaint of several deer being shot from the roadway at night near a residence in Menominee County. CO DeLonge met the property owner and located the deer that had been shot, dragged to the road edge, and had only choice meat removed. After investigating the scene and interviewing the complainants CO DeLonge located a recently spent rifle cartridge near the area of the deer. The investigation is ongoing.

DISTRICT 2

CO Bobby Watson was concluding a day of patrol when he encountered a vehicle driving erratically. CO Watson observed the vehicle narrowly miss several parked cars near a local high school. CO Watson conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle and initiated contact with the driver. After a short conversation, the driver informed CO Watson that he was on his way to the liquor store to purchase more beer but decided he was too drunk to drink anymore, and chose to drive home. The driver then stated, "I guess you got me!" The driver of the vehicle was more than twice the legal limit. Enforcement action was taken.

While on routine patrol, CO Bobby Watson observed a pickup truck driving very slowly. CO Watson then watched as the truck's tail lights indicated that the vehicle had been put into park. CO Watson then sped up to the vehicle to make contact. Contact was made with the driver and a passenger. Upon greeting the individuals, CO Watson observed an over-and-under shotgun tucked in between the two front seats. A brief interview with the suspects led to the discovery of another uncased and loaded shotgun in the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Busken observed an ORV operating on a county road but could not see a valid ORV license attached. Contact was made with the operator who was found to be administratively denied and revoked. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Busken contacted two anglers coming off a lake in Mackinac County. The anglers were successful and told the officer about the pike and walleye they had caught. When checking the fish the officer observed a bass in the live well. When questioned about the bass the anglers were quick to ask, "How big do bass have to be?" After measuring the fish all parties agreed that the 12-¾ inch bass was certainly short of the 14 inch requirement. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jon Busken and John Wenzel attended a career fair at Lake Superior State University. The officers met with multiple interested candidates and answered career related questions.

CO Jon Busken contacted two waterfowl hunters coming off of the Straits of Mackinac near St. Ignace. While contacting one hunter the officer noticed the second hunter was in a hurry to put the two shotguns in their vehicle. Contact was made with the second hunter who was hesitant to produce both firearms. One shotgun was found to be unplugged. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rob Freeborn received a RAP complaint regarding a deer that was just shot in a subject's yard just after 11:00 p.m. CO Freeborn responded from his residence shortly after receiving the complaint. Once on scene, CO Freeborn immediately was able to locate a fired 12 gauge slug hull in the complainant's yard along with a fired slug that was recovered from the ground. CO Freeborn was then able to get a detailed description of the suspect vehicle. After several hours CO Freeborn and a Tribal Officer were able to locate the suspect at a camp. Upon walking up to the camp, the officers located the suspected vehicle that was given by the complainant. The officers recovered a 12 gauge shotgun that was still loaded with matching slugs that were found on scene. When CO Freeborn asked the suspect if he knew why the officers were there, the suspect stated, "Because someone supposedly shot a deer from my truck!" CO Freeborn then asked the suspect why he would think that when the officers never mentioned that to him. CO Freeborn continued to interview the suspect who confessed that he was the one who shot the deer from his truck. Several charges are pending and the firearm used in the incident was seized.

CO Jeff Panich and PCO Mark Zitnik responded to a complaint of duck decoys being left out overnight on the Straits in St. Ignace. When they arrived on scene they found the decoys were owned by a waterfowl guide who was guiding seven hunters without his guide license or charter inspection. Enforcement action was taken.

While working on Drummond Island CO Jeff Panich and PCO Mark Zitnik contacted two ORV riders not wearing helmets and who had failed to register their ORVs. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling to an illegal archery stand, CO Jeff Panich and PCO Mark Zitnik encountered a side-by-side without an ORV registration sticker. After finding the unregistered ORV it was determined the driver of the vehicle was highly intoxicated. After failing field sobriety tests the subject was lodged in the Chippewa County Jail for operating while impaired.

CO Kevin Postma and PCO Mark Zitnik were heading to Munuscong Bay to work waterfowl hunters when they received a call from a MSP trooper that three college students had sunk their boat in the Bay and were saved by two out of state Indiana hunters. When the COs arrived at the boat launch they found the three hunters in the ambulance suffering from severe hypothermia. After getting their statements and GPS coordinates of the sunken vessel the COs were able to salvage most of their equipment.

DISTRICT 3

CO Steve Speigl received a complaint of a hunter who trespassed and put up a blind and camera over an excessive amount of bait. After two weeks of searching, CO Speigl was finally able to locate the suspect and address the violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Speigl received a RAP complaint of an illegal ORV trail leading onto a local conservancy property. CO Speigl found the site and was able to locate the tree stand and bait associated with the illegal trail. He checked later in the evening and found the suspect hunting at the site. The suspect only had an antlerless kill tag, and it was for the wrong hunt unit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Duane Budreau and PCO Ethan Mapes were working a complaint of a subject possibly hunting with a firearm during the archery deer season. The officers were conducting surveillance of the site when they witnessed the suspect drive up in his ATV with an uncased firearm and enter his hunting blind. Officers observed the site for a period of time and then contacted the suspect. Upon making contact, the suspect admitted to hunting deer with a firearm and hunting without a license. Other violations encountered were excessive bait and transporting an uncased firearm in a motor vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrea Erratt gave a safety presentation to Consumer Energy employees at the Boyne City Office. The officer covered ORV, hunting, snowmobile and marine safety.

Sgt. Michael Feagan and PCO Ethan Mapes attended a hunter safety class at the Harbor Springs Sportsman's club. The officers presented to approximately 60 subjects.

CO Andrea Erratt responded to a complaint of two subjects on the Boyne River carrying spears. Upon arrival, the officer was not able to locate the subjects, but did observe an individual attempting to snag fish with an unbaited treble hook. Prior to making contact with the subject, the officer witnessed him illegally snag and retain a fish. Contact was

made with the subject who was also in the act of trespassing. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol, CO Andrea Erratt observed a group of trucks parked on the side of the roadway. Upon checking the vehicles, an uncased crossbow was observed sitting on the seat in one of the vehicles. Figuring that the subjects were tracking a deer, Officer Erratt sat on the site. After a short period of time, the CO encountered an ATV coming out of the woods with several individuals and a deer in the back. Upon making contact, several open cans of beer were located in the ATV as well as the deer kill tag not being validated. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Theunick and PCO Chad Baldwin responded to a lost hunter after dark in a remote area with heavy cover in Cheboygan County. Central dispatch was able to give GPS coordinates to the officers from the subject's cell phone. The COs entered the coordinates on their handheld GPS unit and walked in, locating the 81 year old man, shivering, but otherwise all right. Officers transported the man back to his cabin.

CO Mark DePew and PCO James Zellinger investigated a dead bull elk in the Pigeon River Country (PRC) state forest.

CO Matt Theunick and PCO Chad Baldwin responded to a sick bull elk in the Wolverine area, and found it to be a probable brain worm victim. The elk was put down and the head turned in to Wildlife Division for testing.

CO Nick Torsky gave a hunter safety and law presentation to a group of Independence Hunt hunters, prior to their hunt.

CO Nick Torsky attended a PRC Advisory Board meeting, giving input on law enforcement issues.

CO Mark DePew and PCO James Zellinger were approached by a subject who stated he believed he found a bomb in the woods. The bomb turned out to be a live grenade and was removed by the MSP Bomb Squad.

CO Nick Torsky worked in the PRC state forest per several horseback riding violation complaints. CO Torsky found horseback riders in closed areas and issued tickets.

CO Mark DePew and PCO James Zellinger received a complaint of a car stuck on a berm in the Pine Barren Forest Pathway. The vehicle was located and the driver ticketed for operating a motor vehicle in a prohibited area. The vehicle was removed.

CO Matt Theunick and PCO Chad Baldwin attended a Fishermen's Island State Park planning meeting, answering several questions from the public about multiple topics.

Sgt. Greg Drogowski attended an Inland Lakes Citizens Fisheries Committee meeting, giving law enforcement perspective on the Mullett Lake walleye regulations.

CO Matt Theunick and PCO Chad Baldwin stopped a person using a spotlight at 1:00 a.m. to locate deer, and ticketed him for shining after 11:00 p.m.

CO Matt Theunick and PCO Chad Baldwin gave a presentation at a National Wild Turkey Federation Jake's Event on hunter safety, hunting regulations and conservation officer job duties.

Sgt. Joe Molnar responded to a complaint of a blue heron being shot and a picture posted on social media. Sgt. Molnar contacted the suspect and three juveniles at a camp with a stocked trout pond behind the cabin. Sgt. Molnar received a confession from the camp owner that he shot it because of the number of fish herons eat and he was unaware his children had posted a photo of the bird online. A ticket was issued for taking a prohibited species.

COs Christopher Lynch and Bill Webster were working a shining patrol when they received information from the DNR Pilot that he spotted a vehicle using a light after 11:00 p.m. The COs contacted two individuals at a hunting camp who were shining. While searching the vehicle CO Lynch located a loaded .22 pistol in the vehicle and the driver was also in possession of the firearm while under the influence of alcohol. The driver was arrested and lodged for his violations.

COs Christopher Lynch and Bill Webster investigated a complaint of an eight point buck being shot without a license. While interviewing the suspect the officers received a confession to shooting the deer on September 30th without a license. A report has been submitted to the prosecutor's office.

CO Tim Rosochacki responded to a complaint of a bear which had been staying in a landowner's yard for a week, and at one point walked up on him in his garage. CO Rosochacki responded to the call and was able to walk within 20 feet of the bear and after discussing the issue with Wildlife Division staff, it was decided to euthanize the bear due to safety concerns. Once the animal was euthanized it was found to have a broken jaw and was in poor body condition.

DISTRICT 4

PCO Ben Weber and CO Holly Pennoni responded to a RAP complaint of excess bait being used on state land. While attempting to locate the bait site, COs observed a hunter who had driven an ORV in a closed area. The hunter was contacted and the suspect bait site was inspected. Enforcement action was taken on the ORV violation.

On general patrol of state land, PCO Ben Weber and CO Holly Pennoni observed a vehicle drive by with a child on the driver's lap and not in a child car seat. A traffic stop was made and the situation investigated, where it was established the driver did not have an operator's license, proof of insurance and lacked child seats. Unlabeled prescription drugs without a proper prescription were also located in the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

PCO Ben Weber and CO Holly Pennoni took a complaint at the District office regarding excess bait on federal land in Wexford County. The COs drove to the location and patrolled on foot and discovered two individuals, both with multiple bait piles exceeding the two gallon limit. Tickets were issued.

While patrolling state land, PCO Ben Weber and CO Holly Pennoni observed two individuals driving an ORV on state land. The subjects were coming back from hunting at the time but the driver was not old enough to drive an ORV on his own. They were also riding double with no helmets at the time of the contact. The ORV was not licensed and the driver did not have his ORV safety certificate. Both individuals also had uncased bows. In addition, both had been hunting but were too young to hunt by themselves without supervision.

PCO Ben Weber and CO Holly Pennoni were alerted by county dispatch of two individuals who called 911 because they were lost and their cell phones were failing. Due to the failing light and dropping temperatures, the officers requested assistance from the MSP, local sheriff's deputies and several fire departments. Observing searchers in the area, a homeowner made contact and revealed the two lost individuals had come to his house earlier and he had called them a ride home. Once home safely, both previously lost individuals failed to call 911 back to inform them they had arrived home safely.

CO Patrick McManus and PCO Bill Haskin responded to a complaint of a skunk that had been in a cage for several days. The skunk was located and after further investigation the absentee homeowner was contacted. The homeowner did not know anything about the trap or skunk. COs questioned some neighbors and ascertained one takes care of the residence while the homeowner is away. This neighbor was questioned and admitted to having trapped the skunk and that the skunk had been in the trap for several days. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Patrick McManus, Sam Koscinski, and PCO Bill Haskin were patrolling the Manistee River when they observed an individual wading the river with a large landing net. The COs observed the individual attempt to net a salmon and he was successful in his second attempt. The COs continued to watch this person and were also able to establish he had illegal gear attached to the rod and reel he was using. COs contacted the individual and enforcement action was taken.

CO Rich Stowe investigated a dead bear complaint where the bear was reported to have died within 100 yards of a bow stand. The bow hunter stated that the bear was not there the previous day and that he had no explanation how it had gotten there. A field necropsy was conducted and results pointed toward damage to the side of the head of the bear and to his nose. The bear was entirely skinned shortly thereafter and the only injury detected was to the side of the head, and this injury appeared to have been caused by a motor vehicle. The bear was located deceased approximately 400 yards from the nearest road.

CO Brian Brosky and PCO Will Kinney were contacted by a subject who had self-reported an APR (Antler Point Restriction) violation. The hunter had been seeing an eight point buck on camera and when a spike buck came in five minutes before closing hours, he assumed it was the deer that he had documented. The hunter had over 60 years of hunting experience and the COs were left with few options but to seize the illegally taken deer along with the hunter's deer tag.

COs Brian Brosky and Sam Koscinski and PCO Will Kinney worked a group patrol on the Manistee River in the jet boat when they came up to a camping site where there has been a history of illegal fishing. The COs contacted several anglers who were attempting to snag fish, using weight below their hooks, and using lures comprised of lead. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky and PCO Will Kinney responded to a shot fired complaint in rural Mason County where a caller reported a shot at 1:30 a.m. and deer running across the road. Local deputies were the first to respond and located a subject who claimed to be target shooting. When the COs followed up, they determined that the suspect had actually been shooting at a deer that he claimed to have hit by a car. After being interviewed, it was determined that the subject shot at the deer and was also shooting in a reckless manner toward a barn with horses. Enforcement action taken.

CO Brian Brosky and PCO Will Kinney responded to complaint of waterfowl hunters possibly hunting with unplugged guns. The caller advised that there were only two hunters and that every series of shots from the two exceeded six rounds. When the COs arrived, they caught up with the hunters and found that there were four hunters, two of whom were lying in a layout boat, two onshore. The COs checked to see that the waterfowl hunters' guns were plugged, and found them in compliance. When COs asked for licenses, one hunter had not purchased his federal waterfowl stamp or his Michigan Waterfowl license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski stopped by an archery camp and was visiting with the hunters when he saw several ORV operators coming from closed federal land not wearing helmets. CO Publiski was advised by the hunters that the ORV activity is a normal occurrence, and that they were operating during hunting hours and ruining their hunt. CO Publiski first contacted a group of seven ORVs operating illegally and took enforcement action. He then was prompted by another hunter to check behind a berm up the road as two more ORVs were parked behind signs denoting "Road Closed." CO Publiski caught up to those two operators and issued tickets for operating in a closed area as well. CO Publiski then observed two more ORVs operating beyond the "Road Closed" signage coming from a private campground adjacent to the federal land. Enforcement action was taken yet again.

CO Kyle Publiski was coming down a two track after dark on state land when he observed an ORV coming at him without a light on. The operator, who was not wearing a helmet, was stopped and also didn't have an ORV sticker displayed. The 15 year old operator was hunting without supervision prior to being stopped. CO Publiski followed

the youth back to his house where he was able to speak to the father, advising of the many violations. Enforcement was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Andrew Monnich were sent to complaint where subjects were snagging on Bear Creek in Manistee County. The COs arrived and immediately observed two subjects snagging, who were using M-60 weighted lead treble hooks. The COs witnessed them take a fish and decided to approach after the fish went onto a stringer. When they asked the anglers for the fish, the anglers responded that they didn't have any fish. The COs separated the two men, one of whom took CO Monnich to the stringer and provided information that there were many other M-60s at their camp. After retrieving the fish, the COs regrouped and accompanied the individuals back to the camp where they found three other illegally taken fish and 81 additional M-60 style snag hooks. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck, Lake County, was contacted on his day off by a hunter who had reported that he had seen a vehicle driving over "Road Closed" signs and around posts on federal land. The occupants of that vehicle then reportedly walked past the caller's tree stand while he was hunting. CO Killingbeck responded to the area and the complainant pointed out to CO Killingbeck where the suspect vehicle was located. CO Killingbeck waited at the vehicle and one of the hunters from that vehicle eventually returned. CO Killingbeck then walked with the hunter back to his stand and found that there were several violations including the use of eye bolts screwed into a live tree to hang a corn feeder, no name on the deer blind, and no hunting license in possession. That hunter then led CO Killingbeck to a second blind where the driver of the vehicle was located. The driver of the vehicle also had no name on his stand, no hunting license in possession, had cut live trees for shooting lanes, and had also used eye bolts to hang his corn feeder. When CO Killingbeck explained to them that he was responding to a complaint and was going to be issuing tickets, the hunters quickly advised that they knew where there was a deer blind with a large bait pile. CO Killingbeck was led to the original caller's stand, where his girlfriend was sitting over a large bait pile and with fresh cut live pine trees all the way around the blind. Numerous tickets were issued for the violations.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was checking an illegal tree stand when he heard a gunshot nearby. CO Killingbeck responded to the area and located a subject without any hunter orange sitting in a blind who was participating in the Disabled Veteran Hunt. CO Killingbeck also noted that there was no name and address on the hunter's stand and that he was using excessive bait. When CO Killingbeck asked the hunter how much bait was out, he replied, "There's more than a few gallons". The hunter also advised that he had shot a deer but couldn't find any blood. CO Killingbeck looked around where the subject claimed he had shot and immediately located a blood trail. CO Killingbeck assisted the hunter in tracking the deer for over a half mile where friends of the hunter arrived to help continue with the search. CO Killingbeck addressed the violations and one ticket was issued for the overbait.

CO Josiah Killingbeck observed a vehicle as it failed to stop at a stop sign while entering onto a main roadway. CO Killingbeck stopped the vehicle and immediately saw an uncased bow on the seat. When the CO asked the driver why he hadn't cased his bow he responded that he was just "being lazy." The driver did not have his proof of insurance in the car and disobeyed a stop sign. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck responded to a complaint of an excessive bait pile and located the site with a tree stand that had no name or address and screw-in steps. CO Killingbeck came back later that night and located a subject hunting in the stand. The subject admitted that he knew it was illegal to use screw-in steps and that he had put out more than two gallons. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sam Koscinski was patrolling the Little Manistee Weir when he located a parked vehicle. CO Killingbeck walked downstream and found two individuals fishing in closed waters. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Sam Koscinski, Patrick McManus and PCO Bill Haskin worked a boat patrol along the Big Manistee River that resulted in numerous violations, including possession of undersized trout and use of illegal fishing gear. While they were slowly operating the boat down the river, they could see a shallow gravel bed where a fish was splashing in the water. The COs watched as an angler on shore retrieved a net, scooped up the fish and put it on a stringer. The angler was obviously not cognizant of who they were as they were only feet from him when he took the fish. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sam Koscinski patrolled the Manistee River by boat and found a father and son who were both very obviously snagging. The father was using illegal gear which included a weight below the hook, and his son was using a lead spoon. CO Koscinski contacted the subjects who had no excuse for their fishing methods and enforcement action was taken.

COs Sam Koscinski and Steve Converse located anglers who were using lead lures on the Big Manistee River near Tippy Dam. When the COs questioned them about their gear, they admitted that the local store told them they were illegal to use, but they still decided to fish with them. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Converse was working a stretch along the Big Manistee River when he came across a group of anglers that included a father who was teaching his son how to cast across fish spawning on shallow gravel and snag fish. The anglers were all using bare in-line treble hooks with weight below. CO Converse contacted the anglers and issued tickets for snagging and illegal gear and seized over 65 pounds of salmon.

CO Steve Converse was working at Tippy Dam at 1:30 a.m. when he encountered two individuals snagging fish with illegal lures made of lead. Through his conversation with the men, CO Converse found they were apprised of the new fishing regulations but had chosen to disregard the information. The CO also found that both had been issued tickets in the past by CO Mike Wells for snagging. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Converse was driving down a two track on state land after dark when he saw a parked vehicle. The CO could see that there was blood on the tailgate of the truck and fresh ORV tracks heading into the woods from that location. A short while later, two ORVs came from the woods pulling a sublegal buck and the operators were not wearing helmets. After investigating, CO Converse discovered that the hunter who killed the deer was an 18 year old female. She told the CO that her father hadn't told her about the antler point restrictions. The deer and ORVs were loaded up and CO Converse followed her back to her house where he discovered that her 16 year old sister was hunting unsupervised. CO Converse had a long discussion with the parents about the laws and enforcement action was taken.

PCO Ethan Gainforth and CO Jeff Ginn of Newaygo County received information of two subjects duck hunting within the City of Fremont and within a school zone, both areas prohibiting hunting. PCO Gainforth discovered one suspect had an outstanding warrant for his arrest out of Grand Rapids and failed to sign his duck stamp. Enforcement action was taken.

PCO Ethan Gainforth and CO Jeff Ginn observed a boat off shore with five subjects fishing. CO Ginn recalled giving the group warnings in the past for not having enough PFDs and for having illegal size gear, including issuing a ticket to the female angler in the group for not having a fishing license back in 2010. The female angler had never taken care of the ticket and had a valid warrant for her arrest. PCO Gainforth contacted the subjects on board. Upon identifying the female in question she was found to be the suspect CO Ginn had written five years prior. The boat was also short on PFDs and the captain was ticketed this year for the violation. The female suspect was arrested and transported to the Newaygo County Jail where she was lodged for the original fishing without a license violation from 2010.

PCO Ethan Gainforth and CO Jeff Ginn received a RAP complaint for a hunter who had watched a small buck chasing a couple does run to the neighboring property. The hunter reported hearing a gunshot from the area they believed the deer had gone. The COs responded to the area and, upon making contact with the neighboring landowner, observed the hide of a whitetail buck lying in the back of a UTV. PCO Gainforth contacted the suspect who advised he had taken the spike buck with his crossbow earlier in the morning. PCO Gainforth quickly determined the deer had been taken with a firearm and obtained a confession from the suspect. PCO Gainforth was able to determine the suspect had taken two additional deer earlier in the season. One of the deer was a seven point buck and the head was located in the suspect's freezer with an improperly validated kill tag. The third deer was an untagged antlerless deer taken during the Liberty Hunt. Enforcement action was taken on the whitetail deer taken with a firearm during a closed season, failing to validate a kill tag on the second deer and for possessing a whitetail deer without a validated kill tag on the third deer.

CO Troy VanGelderren and PCO Andrew Monnich worked Tippy Dam and issued several tickets for illegal gear. The COs teamed up with CO Troy Mueller and observed

an angler who got so frustrated attempting to snag salmon that he grabbed a landing net and decided it would be easier to just net the fish. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Wells of Newaygo County was on patrol in the Muskegon State Game Area (SGA) checking on deer hunting activity when he observed an ORV with a small pick-up truck operating in the closed area. CO Wells followed the subjects a short distance and made a stop on the pick-up due to a damaged tail light. The ORV continued on out of sight. An interview of the truck occupants revealed the name of the ORV operator and CO Wells advised the pick-up truck to remain at the location as he proceeded to locate the ORV. A short distance later CO Wells located the ORV stopped along the road waiting for his friends to catch up to him. A check of the ORV operator and the machine revealed that the subject was without the necessary ORV license and that the machine was untitled. A ticket was issued for the unlicensed ORV with warnings for the closed area operation and untitled status of the machine. The driver of the pick-up was warned regarding the taillight violation.

CO Mike Wells received a complaint of an overlimit of bait and several days earlier had met with the complainant after dark to examine the site. The bait pile was determined to be well over the two gallon limit. CO Wells returned to the location and contacted the hunter in the stand. Upon his approach, CO Wells discovered a second bait pile equally as large as the first that was not observed initially due to darkness. The subject was asked if he knew what the baiting limit was and he advised that he did not. CO Wells issued the subject a ticket for the bait violation and as he was completing the paperwork the subject asked where he could obtain a hunting digest so that he could read up on the baiting laws.

CO Mike Wells was contacted by CO Kevin Postma of District 2 in the Upper Peninsula regarding a subject he had contacted in the Sault Ste. Marie area. CO Postma advised that this subject may be running illegal charters in that area and that he issued him a ticket for failure to provide a PFD aboard a vessel. A short time later on the same day CO Wells received a RAP complaint of subjects taking overlimits of trout near a local dam in Newaygo County. CO Wells became suspicious when he learned that the complainant was the same subject that CO Postma had contact in Sault Ste. Marie just a few hours earlier. CO Wells contacted this subject the next day that advised him of the details of the complaint giving location, time, and detailed subject descriptions of the subjects whom he stated he witnessed taking the fish. Upon completing the investigation, CO Wells contacted the subject several weeks later and asked him how he could have observed the subjects in Newaygo County when the evidence shows he was in Sault Ste. Marie at the time of the trout overlimit complaint he had filed. The subject finally admitted that he had filed a false report because he needed to contact CO Wells with questions about charter boat law. The subject had lost the officers phone number and he believed that the complaint would prompt a return call from CO Wells. A warrant was issued regarding the filing of a false report and conclusion is still pending.

COs Ben Shively and Troy VanGelderren of Oceana County along with PCO Andrew Monnich located two vehicles on federal land with subjects hunting a beaver pond. The

COs set up on the pond and observed the subjects actively calling ducks and shooting 34 minutes after the end of legal hunting hours. They contacted the three subjects on their way back to their vehicles and found one of the hunters in possession of lead shot. Three tickets were issued for hunting waterfowl after legal hunting hours and one ticket was issued for possession of lead shot.

CO Brian Lebel and PCO Ethan Gainsforth conducted an investigation on a deer that was harvested with no license. Upon the completion of the interview it was determined based on admissions that the deer hunter harvested the deer and then purchased his hunting license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Angela Greenway of Mecosta County was on patrol and observed a vehicle traveling the two-track slowly with windows down and upon making an approach noticed that the occupants exited the vehicle and enter the woods with firearms. Upon making contact it was determined that the subjects were hunting for squirrels without wearing hunter orange. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 5

While checking waterfowl hunters in Arenac County, CO Nick Atkin heard a gunshot off in the distance just after legal hunting hours. CO Atkin responded to the area and was able to locate several hunters who were still hunting after hours. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Atkin received a complaint regarding a group of people who had left a campfire burning on state forest lands in Arenac County. CO Atkin responded to the area and quickly located the camp site, and the unattended fire, which had now started to burn into the woods. CO Atkin contacted the fire department to extinguish the wildfire. During an interview of the caller, CO Atkin was able to determine a list of suspects. Contacts were made with several people and confessions were obtained for littering and allowing a fire to escape.

CO Mark Papineau assisted Gladwin County Sheriff's Deputies with a missing person investigation in the Gladwin Field Trial Area. The victim had been reported missing the night before and was last seen three days prior. After the vehicle was located by family members, a multi-agency search began. While MSP canine units searched the heavily wooded area, CO Papineau and deputies re-interviewed various family members. Armed with new information, CO Papineau began a foot search of an area where he discovered the victim who was still alive. The victim was suffering from hypothermia, dehydration, and other minor injuries. CO Papineau was then able to get the victim to a nearby inland lake where he coordinated efforts with deputies for extraction from the area on a boat. Once out of the woods, the victim was transported to the hospital in Gladwin for additional treatment.

CO Phil Hudson assisted Arenac County Deputies with a report of seven or eight armed subjects on the roof of a residence. According to the 911 call, the subjects were

attempting to unlawfully gain entry into the residence. CO Hudson arrived on scene first and was able to secure an outer perimeter while he waited for additional law enforcement units to arrive. Upon their arrival, CO Hudson, along with deputies and MSP troopers, searched the woods and surrounding areas for the suspects; however, no one was found. As law enforcement was leaving the area, the caller yelled out and advised that the suspects had returned and were in the woods. A quick examination of the wood line revealed nothing. The caller was eventually transported to the hospital for a mental evaluation.

CO Chuck McPherson and PCO Craig Neal responded to a complaint of an ORV parked on state land in Crawford County. Upon finding the ORV with an empty bow case, they back tracked the ORV to a residence. They were able to identify a possible suspect and noted he had not purchased any deer licenses for 2015. They made contact with the suspect as he exited the woods on his ORV. Enforcement action was taken for ORV and hunting violations.

PCO Craig Neal and Sgt. Jeremy Payne were called out to a possible illegal deer case in the middle of the night. With assistance from Roscommon Sheriff's Deputies, they responded and found a .30-30 lever action rifle on one side of the road and a gunshot deer on the other. A suspect was identified and interviewed by CO Neal. During the interview the suspect admitted to shooting the buck from the roadway with the aid of his headlights. While at his residence the suspect showed the officers a second buck he claimed to have shot legally with his crossbow. When officers asked for his licenses, he gave them both unused tags from his combination license. The suspect then admitted to not tagging the second deer. Property was seized and warrants are being sought.

CO Bobbi Lively and PCO Sam Schluckbier observed a salt lick in the yard of a residence still under construction in Oscoda County. Since this area is closed to all baiting and feeding of deer, the officers investigated further. They located documents that identified the property owner and determined that he was actually a non-resident. While researching his hunting history, it was discovered that he had been using a Michigan personal identification card to purchase resident hunting licenses since 2012. After interviewing the property owner and other family members, warrants are being sought for five counts of illegal license purchases and one count of baiting in a closed area.

CO Brian Olsen and PCO Matthew Zultak conducted surveillance on a vehicle still parked alongside the roadway in Ogemaw County well after legal hunting hours. When the two hunters finally emerged from the woods, the officers made contact with them. They observed blood on the hands of both subjects. While investigating further, they located a deer heart and back straps in the pockets of one of the hunters. He finally admitted to shooting an antlerless deer while hunting that evening. He took the officers back into the woods where they located a gutted and untagged deer hanging in a small tree. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Bader and PCO Josh Wright investigated a complaint of a person who had set out more than the legal amount of bait. The officers located a stand overlooking a bait pile that had approximately two pick-up truck loads of sugar beets. The subject was issued his third ticket in four years for placing illegal amounts of bait. The officers are working with the Ogemaw County Prosecutor's Office to make sure the subject is sentenced using the repeat offender statute, which carries a maximum fine of \$1000 and minimum jail sentence of 10 days.

CO Jonathan Warner was patrolling Ogemaw County when he observed a golf cart headed directly at him operating the wrong way on the M-55 highway. CO Warner conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle and was able to move the golf cart and operator to the shoulder of the roadway for safety. Further investigation determined that the subject's driving was impaired and he didn't possess a valid operator's license. He was arrested and lodged in the Ogemaw County Jail.

CO Jonathan Warner investigated a complaint of late night shining and shooting deer in Iosco County. The property owner had noticed vehicle tracks in his farm fields and unusual activity late at night in the area. CO Warner conducted surveillance near the property and witnessed a pickup truck operating in a slow manner down the road. The occupants of the vehicle drove into several farm fields using the headlights and a handheld flashlight to illuminate the area in an attempt to shoot deer after hours. CO Warner conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle and located numerous firearms inside. While interviewing the occupants, CO Warner obtained confessions from the subjects and arrests were made for shining with weapons in possession and a felony concealed pistol violation. The firearms were seized, the vehicle was towed, and the subjects were lodged in the Iosco County Jail. CO Warner was assisted on scene by MSP troopers from the West Branch Post.

CO Warren Macneill and PCO Ben McAteer were patrolling after dark in Alcona County when they heard a single rifle shot nearby. While investigating the area, they observed a building with lights on and attempted to make contact with the occupant. The officers discovered a building full of over 150 marijuana plants growing inside. The officers notified the Alcona County Sheriff's Department for assistance and waited for their arrival. The owner granted permission to search the property and eventually all marijuana plants were confiscated. Warrants were sought on the drug violations and the subjects are awaiting trial.

CO Josh Russell was checking Van Etten Dam for fishing activity when he observed a subject directly on top of the dam. CO Russell observed the angler cast many times from that location and decided to make contact. He asked the angler if he knew the area was off limits and whether he had seen the "No Trespassing" sign. The angler admitted that he knew he shouldn't have been fishing there. Enforcement action was taken.

PCO Ben McAteer and Sgt. Brandon Kieft were patrolling Ogemaw County when they observed a youth on an ORV about to cross the M-55 highway. The officers stopped to check on the child and realized that his ORV was disabled in the roadway. Further

investigation determined that the ORV was not licensed, the 11-year-old operator and his younger brother had never taken an ORV safety course, they were operating without helmets, and there was no adult supervision present. When the parents arrived on scene, the officers informed them of the violations and enforcement action was taken.

PCO Ben McAteer and Sgt. Brandon Kieft were checking anglers fishing the Au Sable River. PCO McAteer watched through binoculars to determine which subjects were fishing and what fish they had in their possession. As a group of anglers packed up to leave the area, the officers made contact and it was determined that two of the subjects did not have valid fishing licenses and another was in possession of a foul-hooked salmon. The officers seized the fish and enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 6

CO Quincy Gowenlock was patrolling the Crow Island SGA when he observed a subject walking down the two track in full camo holding a compound bow. The CO stopped and made contact with the subject who advised he was going back in for the evening deer hunt. When asked for his deer license, the subject advised he left his wallet back in his vehicle. When the CO told him that he would follow him back to the car, the subject got a scared look on his face and stated, "Maybe I left it on the table at home." The CO walked the subject back to his vehicle where he retrieved his operator's license. A subsequent check through Station 20 revealed the subject had not purchased a deer hunting license since 2012. The subject was issued a ticket.

PCO Robert Slick was working with CO Quincy Gowenlock when they observed a Razor ORV traveling at approximately 50 mph down a county dirt road in Saginaw. PCO Slick paced the ORV at 48 mph, and while behind it he noticed that the driver was not wearing his seatbelt or wearing a helmet. The COs initiated a traffic stop. Upon contact the subject advised he was just coming home from a friend's house and didn't know he needed to wear a helmet or seatbelt. When asked about the speed the subject seemed surprised that there was a speed limit for ORVs on county roads. The subject was issued a ticket for the helmet violation and given a warning for speed.

After a week and several attempts to make contact, PCO Robert Slick and CO Quincy Gowenlock were able to make contact with a subject regarding an illegal disposal of solid waste. The week prior the COs found a large dump site at the dead end of Miller Road in Saginaw County. The site consisted of several couches and several sofa chairs. When the COs went to the St. Charles Field Office and contacted the staff they found out that Wildlife Division staff had already been out to the sight and picked up a large quantity of trash and brought it back to the six yard dumpster which was now full. Upon contacting the subject, he blamed his friend whom he had paid \$500 to clean out his house which he was being evicted from. The COs made contact with the suspect and issued him a ticket for his violations.

PCO Jill Berry and CO Quincy Gowenlock were on patrol in the Maple River SGA when they received a complaint of a subject hunting without any hunter orange. The COs

responded to the area and located a vehicle. While at the vehicle, the suspect walked out of the woods carrying a loaded shotgun. When asked, the subject advised he was waterfowl hunting. When the COs went to check his gun to make sure it was plugged the subject admitted to not having it plugged and then said he was small game hunting. The COs then asked the subject to make up his mind and try and figure out what he was hunting. The subject seemed puzzled until the COs advised him that he had to wear hunter orange if he was small game hunting, unless he was hunting waterfowl. If he was hunting waterfowl he had to have a plug in his gun. With that question the subject said he'd take his ticket for an unplugged shotgun. A ticket was issued.

PCO Jill Berry and CO Quincy Gowenlock received a call from Sgt. Jeremy Payne regarding a subject trespassing and shooting a deer. The COs responded to Isabella County and made contact with the complainant. The complainant advised he was on his property earlier in the day and found the neighbor walking around with a crossbow. He told the neighbor that he was trespassing and to leave. Later that day when the complainant's son came out in the evening to hunt he saw the neighbor climb up into his tree stand just five feet from the property line. Instead of hunting, the son sat back and watched the suspect. Toward the end of hunting hours he saw two does and a buck come into the field and watched the suspect shoot onto their property hitting the buck. After obtaining this information, the COs found an arrow which had passed through the buck and was stuck in the ground covered in blood. They followed the blood trail and then located a six point buck. Contact was then made with the suspect at his house where he admitted to trespassing earlier in the day saying he didn't know he was on their property but denied shooting the buck. After approximately 10 minutes the subject confessed and said he was sorry. Enforcement action was taken.

PCO Robert Slick and CO Quincy Gowenlock were working Saginaw County when they received a call from Central Dispatch regarding a subject trespassing. When the COs arrived on scene they were told by a Bridgeport Township Police Officer that he was out at the same location the previous day dealing with the same subject for the same reason. The COs walked back into a large 120 acre section and attempted to locate the subject but were unable to locate him. They then set up down the road near the suspect's vehicle and waited for the end of hunting hours. Later on the subject came walking out through the front gate with his bow and climber stand. When contacted, the subject advised he wasn't hunting on their property. When asked why he walked out the front gate he paused and said that they gave him permission to walk in and out just not hunt. Enforcement action was taken.

After receiving a complaint of subjects in a fishing tournament violating the slow, no-wake zones on the Saginaw River in Bay City, PCO Robert Slick and CO Quincy Gowenlock launched the Welling patrol boat. While patrolling the river near Skipper Buds Marina, the COs observed a vessel traveling on plane at high speed in a no-wake zone. The COs initiated an enforcement stop on the vessel and when asked the operator stated he didn't know it was a slow, no-wake zone. The COs informed the subject that they were out on the water for the specific complaint of tournament participants violating the no-wake zone. The subject said, "Everyone does it." The COs

advised, "Not while we are out here." A ticket was issued. Unfortunately, only having one boat on the water, the COs were not able to stop the other 30 boats committing the same violation at the same time, but all were given a warning over the PA and powered down to idle speed. No other complaints were received that day.

CO Ken Lowell and PCO Dan Robinson responded to a complaint of a raccoon that was trapped out of season. The COs made contact with a subject who had trapped three raccoons while attempting to trap a coyote. The COs educated the subject on the proper way to report incidental catches when trapping. The raccoons were seized and enforcement action was taken.

While performing a deer processor inspection, CO Ken Lowell and PCO Dan Robinson came across a deer that looked suspicious. The COs contacted one individual who claimed he bought a tag for another individual to use. The COs interviewed the second subject and that interview led to a taxidermist who was operating without the proper permits or record keeping. The illegal animals were seized and enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol, CO Ken Lowell and PCO Dan Robinson made contact with five hunters who were hunting waterfowl. One of the hunters did not have his federal stamp signed and a second hunter in the group did not have a plug in his shotgun. Enforcement action was taken.

PCO Jill Berry received information from someone who advised that two subjects who were working on an upcoming outdoor show posted a video of two spring turkeys being taken out of season. Upon further investigation of the posted video and pictures of the hunt, the COs met with the suspect and he admitted to taking one of the turkeys out of season. The COs contacted the second suspect who also admitted to taking the second turkey out of season. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dan Lee and PCO Jill Berry received a complaint from the RAP hotline that an eight point buck was taken without a license. The COs met with the subject and questioned him about the buck. He admitted to shooting the buck and then purchasing his license after it was shot. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Quincy Gowenlock and PCO Jill Berry received a complaint about a suspect trespassing who shot a deer illegally. Upon further investigation it was determined the suspect did trespass and also shot the deer on private property. Contact was made with the suspect who admitted to taking the deer and being on private property. Enforcement action was taken.

PCO Ray Gardner and CO Bob Hobkirk gave a short presentation to the Elkton Lions Club. Officers spoke about the new walleye and perch regulations on Saginaw Bay and answered any questions from the group. PCO Gardner spoke about his academy and field training experiences.

PCO Ray Gardner and CO Bob Hobkirk patrolled the west side of Huron County on Saginaw Bay checking waterfowl hunters. PCO Gardner checked approximately 40 hunters and issued tickets for unplugged shotguns, hunting waterfowl with no state waterfowl stamp, transporting a loaded firearm in a motor boat and failing to provide the adequate number of PFDs. A number of verbal warnings were also issued.

PCO Ray Gardner and CO Bob Hobkirk were about to launch a boat on Rush Lake in the Rush Lake SGA when two hunters arrived in the parking lot carrying four redhead ducks each. The hunters explained that they were hunting with two other hunters, but the birds were not legally tagged. After a short interview, officers learned that the hunters had shot 16 redhead ducks (eight ducks overlimit) and were running birds back to their camp so that they could keep hunting. Officer Gardner seized the overlimit of birds and ticketed each of the hunters for taking too many redhead ducks.

PCO Ray Gardner investigated information he received on a subject who was operating his truck in a wetland area in the Rush Lake SGA. PCO Gardner interviewed the suspect and ticketed him for the violation.

PCO Ray Gardner and CO Bob Hobkirk patrolled Saginaw Bay around the Fish Point area checking waterfowl hunters. Officer Gardner checked one subject who was hunting with an unplugged shotgun. The hunter was ticketed for the violation.

PCOs Josh Wright and Justin Muehlhauser were working waterfowl hunters on the Saginaw Bay. Many hunters were contacted north of Fish Point to Sebewaing with many violations found. The COs contacted a group of hunters who were just getting ready to head in for the day. The COs checked the birds and then asked to see the life jackets. While one of the men was retrieving the PFDs CO Wright noticed another set of legs hidden in the front of the boat. When the group was questioned about the hidden bird they claimed it was from the previous day's limit. The hidden bird made them over limit of redheads. Other violations on the bay included unplugged firearm, hunt no license, fail to provide PFDs, and possess more than one firearm. Enforcement action was taken.

PCO Justin Muehlhauser spent the day at the Tuscola County Technological Center talking to high school students about pursuing a career in Law enforcement. PCO Muehlhauser talked about DNR, Law Enforcement Division and what the students can expect as they pursue a career in law enforcement. The PCO was able to answer questions about the academy and give the students a look of what academy life is like by showing the Recruit School 6 video.

While patrolling state land, CO Kyle Bucholtz observed a vehicle run a stop sign while failing to signal a turn. CO Bucholtz stopped the vehicle and spoke with the driver. While speaking with the driver, CO Bucholtz observed an uncased shotgun lying in the backseat. Enforcement action was taken.

On two separate occasions, CO Kyle Bucholtz stopped suspended drivers operating ORVs. On both occasions enforcement action was taken.

CO Seth Rhodea was patrolling in Sanilac County when he observed two hunters waterfowl hunting in a local marsh. CO Rhodea sat back and observed the remainder of the hunt and witnessed the hunters shooting after hours. When contact was made with the hunters, in addition to hunting after hours there were multiple license violations present. Enforcement action was taken to address the violations.

CO Seth Rhodea contacted two hunters returning to their vehicle after an evening of waterfowl hunting. While checking the hunters' license and firearms one of the firearms was found still loaded after the legal shooting time had ended. Additionally, when CO Rhodea asked the hunters if they had shot anything, both stated they had not gotten any ducks, but one hunter showed the CO a bird which he claimed was a snipe. CO Rhodea immediately recognized that the bird was not a snipe and was actually a protected shorebird. CO Rhodea also located lead shot in the ammo box of one of the hunters. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Seth Rhodea contacted two hunters on kayaks returning to the launch after an evening of waterfowl hunting. When asked if they had any PFDs with them both hunters stated they did not and did not believe they needed PFDs to use a kayak. A ticket was issued for the PFD violations.

COs Seth Rhodea and Bob Hobkirk and PCO Ray Gardner teamed up to work waterfowl hunters on Saginaw Bay. During the patrol numerous violations were discovered that included hunting without licenses, hunting with unplugged firearms, PFD violations, watercraft registration violations and possession of more than one firearm while waterfowl hunting. Multiple tickets were issued to address the violations.

CO Jason A. Smith and PCO Mark Siemen contacted a subject on state land trapping raccoons prior to the season. He also failed to tag his traps, had snares with him, and was wandering around without wearing hunter orange and carrying a loaded .22 rifle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason A. Smith and PCO Mark Siemen responded to a complaint of somebody shooting a swan at Fish Point. The suspects were located, interviewed, and the area was searched. No swan was located, but other violations were found and addressed.

CO Jason A. Smith and PCO Mark Siemen received a complaint of ongoing issues with a dog wandering around under a bow hunter's tree stand. The bow hunter got video of the dog. The dog's owner had been previously warned about allowing his dog to roam freely. A ticket was issued.

CO Jason A. Smith and PCO Mark Siemen contacted a subject operating a side by side ORV on the roadway shortly after legal shooting hours. The gentleman had four prior alcohol violations. He was arrested and lodged for number five.

CO Chad Foerster was working northern Bay County for waterfowl hunting activity. As he was observing several groups, he noticed a large population of redhead ducks using the area. After making contact with a single hunter, he found him in possession of an overlimit of redhead ducks. He also found him in possession of a loaded shotgun in his boat while under power. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chad Foerster was working the Quanicassee SGA when he came into contact with a subject driving in and entering the same game area. Further investigation revealed the subject was in possession of a loaded rifle in his vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Joel Lundberg was working a trespass complaint when he witnessed an individual across the river from him loading a deer onto an ATV. CO Lundberg could not check the man that night, as he had to handle a complaint. Two days later, CO Lundberg went to the residence where he believed the hunter lived. The individual at the house denied hunting or shooting a deer, but after a short discussion about the witnessed activity a few nights before, the hunter admitted to shooting an eight point buck and not tagging it. When asked why he did not tag the deer, the hunter stated, "Because I never bought a license". Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 7

CO Saykham Keophalychanh contacted two subjects fishing on a closed trout stream at Flaherty Park – Mill Creek in Berrien County. Both subjects were ticketed for fishing on the closed stream.

CO Andy Bauer spoke to two separate hunter safety classes at the Berrien County Sportsman's Club and Bend of the River Sportsman's Club with approximately 55 students being contacted.

CO Brad Brewer and PCO Isaac Tyson contacted four subjects who were reportedly shooting recklessly in the Three Rivers SGA. Upon contact, it was discovered that the subjects had been small game hunting and were bored and were shooting at trees. One of the subjects did not have a small game license. The subject without the license was ticketed and the subjects were warned regarding their shooting activity.

CO Brad Brewer worked a joint patrol with District 8 officers for shining activity. A vehicle was spotted shining and CO Brewer made a traffic stop. During the stop, an uncased shotgun was located on the back seat of the vehicle and a spotlight was hidden under the front seat. The driver was ticketed for shining with a weapon and transporting an uncased firearm. It was further discovered that the passenger, an Indiana resident, had been illegally purchasing Michigan resident licenses. The subject was ticketed for the illegal license purchases.

While patrolling Lyons Park in Bangor, CO Steve Mooney and PCO Tyler Cole drove into the parking lot and observed one subject walk up from the stream with no fishing gear in his possession. The COs made a decision to leave the park and walk in from the back way to see if the subject had hidden fishing gear when the COs pulled in. After walking in, the officers observed the subject go back to the stream and then leave the park with a fishing pole in his hand. The COs went back to the truck and attempted to locate the subject. The subject was located walking along the sidewalk in Bangor. Contact was made and enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling Lyons Park in Bangor, CO Steve Mooney and PCO Tyler Cole issued seven tickets for fish closed trout stream/possess hook and line on closed trout stream.

While patrolling Lyons Park in Bangor, CO Steve Mooney and PCO Tyler Cole walked the stream to locate any illegal fishing activity taking place. While walking the stream, PCO Cole located one subject in possession of fishing gear. After questioning, the subject stated that he had found the fishing pole along the stream, and was only going to try to return it to its owner. PCO Cole walked the subject back to the parking lot and obtained the subjects information. The subject had a total of four misdemeanor warrants and was taken into custody, and was also issued a ticket for possess hook and line on closed trout stream.

While patrolling for archery deer hunting activity, CO Steve Mooney and PCO Tyler Cole located an ORV along the Van Buren Trail. Upon inspection of the ORV, it was found that no bow case was present. There was also corn and a five gallon bucket inside the ORV. The COs investigated and located a subject hunting over bait. After investigation, it was found that the subject was hunting over five gallons of apples, and two 40 lb. bags of corn. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol for illegal ORV activity, CO Greg Patten found a quad runner parked in the Muskegon SGA, which is closed to ORVs. CO Patten located the operator and a companion putting up a tree stand. The subject had put in a screw-in step in the tree where he was putting the stand. Investigation revealed that the subject rode double on a single quad to the game area from a subdivision nearby, which would have put him on the road to get there. A records check revealed that this was the same subject that CO Greg Patten ticketed in September riding double on the road with no helmets. A discussion of rules and regulations were administered and enforcement action was taken.

COs Ivan Perez and Greg Patten responded to a trespass complaint on a private lake in northern Muskegon County. One subject was found with no federal stamp and no PFDs in the boat. Enforcement action was taken.

PCO Hugh McMath and CO Greg Patten located a subject riding on the roadway (not open to ORVs), with no helmet, and no ORV license. Enforcement action was taken.

PCO Hugh McMath and CO Greg Patten found a subject attempting to snag fish in the lower Muskegon River. His companion had a salmon on that was foul hooked when the officers approached, but it broke off along with his hook. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Justin Ulberg, while working in Kent County, followed up on a complaint of a subject who had shot a seven point buck without having a deer license. CO Ulberg was able to find a picture of the subject and the deer in question on a social media site. It appeared that the subject shot the deer in the morning and didn't purchase his deer license until later on in the afternoon. CO Ulberg interviewed the subject and obtained a confession that the subject shot the deer and then purchased his deer license. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling small tributaries off the Grand River in Kent County, CO Justin Ulberg observed an angler walking from the stream with two salmon. CO Ulberg contacted the subject and observed blood coming from a small wound on the side of one of the salmon. CO Ulberg questioned the subject about where the fish were hooked. The subject pointed to the body of the fish several inches behind the gills. CO Ulberg checked the subject's fishing equipment and found the angler to be using illegal gear and it was determined that both fish were "snagged". The fish were seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Robert Crisp responded to a single vehicle accident where the driver fled on foot into the woods in rural Barry County. CO Crisp assisted local deputies with securing the scene. After a brief search of the area the suspect returned to his vehicle and was taken into custody. The driver was operating on a suspended license, had warrants and was operating under the influence.

CO Richard Cardenas received an internet complaint regarding a hunter who harvested an antlered deer on October 10th of this year in Barry County. CO Cardenas investigated and determined that the hunter harvested the deer before he had purchased his licenses. CO Cardenas interviewed the suspect and received a full confession.

CO Paul Higashi received a complaint of persons trespassing while hunting waterfowl in Kalamazoo County. CO Higashi responded to the location and subsequently contacted two adults and three juveniles hunting from a camouflaged pontoon boat. One of the juveniles was in possession of an unplugged gun, one adult had failed to purchase a federal waterfowl stamp and there were inadequate PFDs on the boat. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Holmes and PCO Chris Maher encountered a person operating a dirt bike on a county roadway. The driver had a suspended driver's license and was committing several ORV violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Holmes concluded an investigation with a search warrant on a subject's residence. COs Paul Higashi, Jason McCullough, and PCO Chris Maher assisted with

-serving the search warrant. The subject had purchased hunting licenses while his hunting privileges were suspended and had killed a buck. Venison, cell phones, archery equipment, and other items were seized. During the search, 48 marijuana plants were discovered. The Southwest Enforcement Taskforce (SWET) was notified and seized the plants and associated equipment.

CO Chuck Towns responded to a complaint of waterfowl hunters shooting geese on Sink Lake in Allegan County within the closed portion of the Allegan Goose Management Unit. CO Towns located the three hunters and found they had taken six geese illegally. Enforcement action was taken for hunting geese in a closed area.

DISTRICT 8

CO Jason McCullough and PCO Chris Maher responded to a complaint of several gun shots, where the complainant heard a deer "bawling" after the shots. PCO Chris Maher interviewed several suspects and witnesses over the next couple of days, and while looking around the area of one of the suspects, found a path leading out into a cornfield. At the end of the path was a gunshot deer that had been dumped. CO Maher recovered two shotguns still in the blind where the shooting occurred. Charges are pending.

CO Chris Reynolds assisted the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) with an investigation of a subject who had filled in a large wetland area with minimal restoration efforts. The CO, along with DEQ personnel, advised the subject if he did not start making more effort to restore the area charges would be filed.

CO Chris Reynolds interviewed a subject on a possible illegal deer case. The subject, when questioned, started to shake and stutter some of his responses. The subject confessed to shooting the deer without a license, saying, "I'll never do that again," and, "I never thought I would shoot a deer." Charges will be sought for taking a deer without a license.

COs Jason McCullough and Chris Maher checked a group of hunters from kayaks. Upon contact one hunter was found in possession of lead shot. The hunter tried to explain he was using lead to spook birds that landed beyond the decoys. He also had an unplugged shotgun. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Chris Maher, Jeff Goss, and Jason McCullough responded to a complaint of waterfowl hunters shooting prior to established hours. The hunters explained they were excited when a big group of teal showed up before shooting hours and couldn't contain themselves. The hunters stated they knew the shooting hours but the opportunity was too good to pass up. CO Maher explained the importance of adhering to the shooting hours and enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Goss conducted a processor check and located a large buck with a tag attached that had not been validated. Upon further investigation, it was discovered that the name on the tag did not match the name on the cutting order. During the

investigation, CO Goss determined that the buck was shot by a 13 year old boy during the youth hunt. His father failed to secure a deer license for the child because he didn't think he was going to get a deer. After shooting the deer the father called his brother who loaned him one of his son's mentored youth deer tags. The tag was then attached to the deer without being validated. Records show that the youth who shot the deer has not had licenses for the last two seasons. Charges are being sought for both of the parents involved.

CO Jeff Goss responded to a trespassing complaint where the complainant was able to provide trail camera pictures of the subject on his property two years in a row. After going door to door in the neighborhood, CO Goss located the subject. The subject was in his garage standing near a deer carcass when CO Goss showed up. After they were done talking about the trespass issues, CO Goss asked to see a tag for the deer in the garage. The man advised that he didn't have the tag for the deer and that his friend shot the deer and gave it to him. After completing interviews with both subjects, it was discovered that the subject's friend shot the deer behind the subject's house. After shooting the deer it was given to the subject and placed into his garage without a tag on it. Both subjects were ticketed for possession of an untagged deer. The complainant in the original trespass case did not want to press charges.

CO Jeff Goss responded to a hunter harassment case where a farmer had been cutting wood and moving dirt in front of the neighbor's tree stands shortly after daylight. Upon making contact with the farmer, CO Goss advised him that it was against the law to harass someone who was legally hunting. The farmer assured the CO that he was not harassing the hunters. He went on to explain that he can do whatever he wants on his own land. The farmer made several references to the neighbors shooting on to his property. After talking with the farmer for a while it was apparent to CO Goss that there was one thing that was upsetting the farmer. There were three locations where the neighbors had stands near the property line and they were all facing his property. CO Goss asked the farmer what would happen if the neighbor would just turn his stands around and face away from his property. The farmer said "well I guess I could start my farming activities a little later in the day." CO Goss contacted the complainant who agreed to turn his stands around. So far no further issues have been reported.

CO Rich Nickols and PCO Jason King were conducting a patrol in Sleepy Hollow State Park. The COs observed a small pile of shelled corn on the ground behind a parked vehicle. While investigating the scene the COs came in contact with the owner of the vehicle. After further investigation the COs discovered that the subject had several bait piles at the location he was hunting. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rich Nickols and PCO Jason King were investigating a complaint of waterfowl hunters hunting on the Looking Glass River in Clinton County. The hunters were believed to be hunting on private property without permission. The COs encountered several hunters, none of whom had permission from the landowners. One drake mallard and one hen mallard were seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Rich Nickols and PCO Jason King followed up on a complaint of an illegal dumping of deer carcasses. After investigating the scene the COs located a deer kill tag attached to one of the deer carcasses. The COs were able to locate the suspect at his residence and enforcement action was taken.

CO Rich Nickols and PCO Jason King received a RAP complaint of an illegally taken deer. After an investigation and interview with the suspect, the officers were able to confirm the complaint and seized a nine point white-tailed deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Shane Webster and PCO Joshua Jackson were patrolling in Lenawee County when they witnessed an ATV carrying four passengers, none of whom were wearing helmets. While talking with the riders another ATV pulled up with two riders, neither of whom were wearing helmets. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Shane Webster and PCO Josh Jackson investigated photos posted of a buck pole and upon investigation they discovered a subject who had not purchased a license until after the photos of a deer were posted. They interviewed the individual who confessed to shooting the deer without a license. A written report will be submitted to the prosecutor.

PCO Josh Jackson and CO Shane Webster were checking archery hunters and located an eight point buck without a validated license on it. The hunter was field dressing the deer and had not yet notched the tag. The officers educated the young hunter on the importance of immediately validating the license.

While on his way to Belle Isle, PCO Joshua Jackson witnessed a passenger car in the grass in the median. He stopped to check on the driver and asked what happened. The driver was okay and said they were having car troubles. PCO Jackson waited with the occupants until a Livingston County Officer arrived.

CO Todd Thorn and PCO Matt Neterer patrolled Ingham County, conducting two minnow dealer inspections, a marine special event application investigation, and a number of RAP complaint investigations. During the day, the COs found a deer feeding location in the no-feeding zone of Ingham County. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling a night shift in Detroit, COs Larn R. Strawn and Justin Ulberg contacted several subjects parked in the Milliken State Park after the Parks posted closed hours. CO Strawn and CO Ulberg were able to identify the subjects and determine one was a current fugitive with multiple outstanding warrants. The fugitive was taken into custody without incident. The fugitive was subsequently released with a notice to appear in the courts holding the warrants.

CO Larn R. Strawn responded to a RAP complaint of a person with a captive deer inside their residence. CO Strawn located and contacted the subjects and determined there were no deer living in the residence. CO Strawn educated the homeowners on the

proper permit process for rehabilitating wildlife and provided them with contact information for the permit process.

Sgt. Troy Bahlau, while patrolling at night, observed a vehicle pulled over on the shoulder facing north with the headlights on into the 70 mile an hour southbound traffic. Sgt. Bahlau positioned his patrol truck with the emergency lights on to steer traffic away from the wrong way vehicle. Upon making contact with the driver, Sgt. Bahlau found the driver got confused by following her in-car GPS and turned on the exit ramp rather than the next road it was taking her to. She was very upset and didn't know what to do once she realized she was on the wrong side of the freeway. Sgt. Bahlau safely got her turned around and to the road she was looking for.

CO Pete Purdy responded to a trespass complaint. The complainant showed CO Purdy the property survey stake and a pop up blind that had been placed on the property line. Prior to calling the RAP line the complainant posted "No Trespassing" signs and left a note in the pop up blind asking the hunter to move his blind. After getting no response, he called the RAP line. CO Purdy was able to determine the owner of the blind by using a plat book. CO Purdy contacted the subject at his residence and addressed the concerns regarding the blind and excess deer bait placed near the site.

CO Pete Purdy responded to a complaint called in by DNR Wildlife Division staff of a subject calling them to report a CWD deer he came across that wouldn't stand up when approached. The subject went on to say he went ahead and shot the deer so it wouldn't get away. Wildlife Division personnel requested a CO respond to the subject's residence before their staff collected the deer regarding the subject shooting the deer without being instructed to do so. When CO Purdy arrived on scene the subject showed him the deer in question. CO Purdy was confident the deer wasn't suffering from CWD as it didn't show any signs of the disease and it was a yearling. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pete Purdy checked a waterfowl hunter in a vessel and realized the hunter had no PFDs on board. In addition, he had not signed his federal migratory bird stamp. Enforcement action taken.

CO Pete Purdy contacted two anglers in a boat, one of whom didn't have his fishing license with him. A check through the retail license system confirmed the angler did purchase a 2015 fishing license. The angler stated he forgot it and was warned for the violation. A marine safety check of the vessel revealed there were not enough PFDs on board as well as no fire extinguisher. Enforcement action was taken along with warnings for missing safety equipment.

DISTRICT 9

CO Kris Kiel and PCO Jake Griffin were on foot patrol at Wetzel State Recreation Area when they heard shots from multiple subjects. PCO Griffin located the subjects and contacted them for a routine waterfowl check. While inspecting their hunting equipment,

PCO Griffin discovered that one subject was in possession of lead shot rounds. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel and PCO Jake Griffin were on foot patrol at Harsens Island when they spotted several subjects returning to the launch area. PCO Griffin contacted the subjects and informed them that the boat they were using did not have a valid registration. During the waterfowl check, PCO Griffin also found one subject who failed to sign the federal stamp and one additional subject with a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells. Enforcement action was taken.

On the same foot patrol, PCO Jake Griffin observed three subjects returning to the launch area. During the waterfowl check, PCO Griffin found one subject who was in possession of lead shot round and one additional subject who failed to sign the federal stamp. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher found a subject who was walking his dog in the refuge at St. John's Marsh. Apparently, the dog walker had upset another duck hunter's hunt. Enforcement action was taken for entry into the refuge.

CO Ben Lasher responded to the industrial complex area near Marysville for a trespass in progress. CO Lasher responded and found a subject trespassing in the area. CO Lasher reports this has been a problem area in the past for trespassers and they are usually hard to catch. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher found late hunters in an area where he has not checked in the past. Due to the higher water levels hunters are able to access a corner spot next to the St. Johns Marsh Game Area refuge using their boats. Two hunters were contacted by CO Lasher and were hunting after hours and one also was hunting with an unplugged shotgun. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher checked a woman fishing with her husband and daughter at Decker's Landing. The adult daughter and mother did not have fishing licenses. Enforcement action taken.

While patrolling St. Clair County, CO Ben Lasher stopped numerous side by side ORVs in the road while working hunting activity. Enforcement action taken.

CO Ben Lasher assisted St. Clair County Sheriff's Department deputies with a car/ORV fatal accident. The operator of the ORV was driving northbound and a car passing southbound traffic collided head on, killing the ORV operator.

CO Ken Kovach and PCO Brad Silorey received a RAP complaint regarding a snake that was killed with a bow & arrow. Through a brief investigation, photos were found of the incident on the suspect's social media page. PCO Silorey contacted and interviewed the suspect and received a confession. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach and PCO Brad Silorey were on patrol on Harsens Island in the wildlife managed area. A tip came in that there was a specific group that was taking more shots than usual out in the managed area. The COs waited for the group to finish their hunt and contacted them as they were coming out of the marsh. While conducting checks of the hunters' ammunition, one hunter presented a pheasant shotgun load that contained lead. The ammunition was seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach and PCO Brad Silorey were on patrol on Harsens Island in the wildlife managed area. While checking a large group of hunters returning from their morning hunt, PCO Silorey found several full boxes of ammunition in one hunter's bag. PCO Silorey questioned the suspect about why he had so much ammunition in an area where you are only allowed to bring 18 shells. The suspect stated it was for him and his friend. PCO Silorey counted how many shells there were total and found they were still overlimit on shells. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach and PCO Brad Silorey were patrolling Harsens Island checking waterfowl hunters in the wildlife managed unit. PCO Silorey was conducting a check on a group of hunters returning from their morning hunt. While checking the hunter's equipment in their boat PCO Silorey observed an extra gun case buried beneath the rest of the equipment. Upon questioning the group, one hunter said that was his extra gun he brings because his other gun does not function properly. In addition to the extra shotgun, the hunters also had an overlimit of shotgun shells in their possession. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol PCO Brad Silorey and CO Ken Kovach observed an ORV cross through an intersection at a high rate of speed with two passengers and no helmets. PCO Silorey was able to catch up to the ORV and conduct a traffic stop. During the contact with the two subjects PCO Silorey explained to the operator and passenger that they were riding double on a single person ORV, they had an expired ORV license, and that neither one of them were wearing helmets. In addition to the above violations the operator was not driving on the extreme right side of the road and was exceeding the speed limit for an ORV on the roadway. Enforcement action was taken.

During a patrol in Genesee County, CO Jeremy Beavers received a RAP complaint that a subject shot a doe without a license. The subject made several comments about shooting the doe during the early antlerless season. The subject's fiancé also made statements about the kill. After checking both subjects' license purchase history it was learned that the subject did not have a license and has never purchased a hunting license. The subject's fiancé showed two antlerless tags. After determining where the couple lived, CO Beavers went to their house to investigate the complaint. CO Beavers first contacted the male subject. CO Beavers questioned the subject regarding the doe and he stated that he killed the deer. CO Beavers told the subject that there was no use in lying and that he had evidence indicating he did not shoot the deer. CO Beavers explained that he had pictures of her posing with the deer and saw his comments stating that he was proud of her for killing her first deer. At that point the subject stated that he did not shoot the deer and was lying in order to protect his fiancé. The subject

went on to say that after she shot the deer, he cleaned it and attached one of his tags in order to validate the kill. CO Beavers then spoke with the female subject. She admitted to killing the deer and using her fiancé's tag. She also stated that she was aware she needed her own license. The information obtained during the investigation will be submitted to the prosecutor for review.

CO David Schaumburger contacted a subject who was suspected of taking a deer illegally. During the interview, the suspect confessed to giving his kill tags to a friend to tag a deer. CO Schaumburger was able to interview the friend and obtained a confession of using another's kill tag, failing to immediately tag a deer, and transporting an untagged deer. The suspects were both very remorseful; however, enforcement action was taken.

BELLE ISLE

Sgt. Emery worked the Detroit Marathon on Belle Isle and reports that over 30,000 people participated in the race.

While patrolling Belle Isle State Park in the evening CO Larn Strawn and an MSP trooper were dispatched to a call of an elderly man who seemed lost and distressed. CO Strawn made contact with the man and discovered he was a 90 year old WW2 veteran. The veteran became lost after taking a wrong turn on his way home from church earlier that morning. His home and church are in a suburb of Chicago. The veteran drove all throughout the day and ultimately found Belle Isle after approximately 12 hours. CO Strawn and the MSP trooper assisted the veteran and escorted him to Detroit Receiving Hospital. The veteran was admitted and treated for dehydration, provided a hot meal and clean clothes. CO Strawn stayed with the veteran through the night. CO Strawn contacted his nearest family members in Raleigh, North Carolina and assisted them with arrangements to pick up the veteran the next day. After follow up CO Strawn confirmed the veteran made it home to Chicago safe and sound.

CO Will Brickel was patrolling Belle Isle in Detroit when he observed a vehicle driving the wrong way on a one-way street. Upon stopping the vehicle and contacting the driver, he discovered there was open alcohol in the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.