

**Law Enforcement Division  
Bi-Weekly Field Report  
10/3/10 – 10/18/10**

**DISTRICT 1**

CO Dennis Gast responded to a complaint of a bear cub being shot by a hunter. He arrived, seized the cub and ticketed the hunter.

CO Dennis Gast stopped a vehicle carrying two subjects who were goose hunting with 22 caliber rifles, had no licenses, and a loaded gun in the vehicle. The subjects were arrested.

CO Brett Gustafson responded to a property destruction complaint where someone had spiked a forest service road. An international mining exploration company had a vehicle damaged when the road they were travelling was spiked with nails. CO Gustafson found numerous other sites where the trail was spiked. The investigation continues.

CO Matt Eberly and Sgt. Steven Burton worked a grouse decoy and checked seven hunters. A warning was given for an uncased firearm and for failing to wear hunter orange as required by law.

CO Grant Emery checked a vehicle whose occupants were believed to be hunting small game. A look in the vehicle found a loaded/uncased shotgun.

CO Jason Wicklund was contacted by two Georgia Game Wardens who were hunting in the area and came across a dead bear left in the woods. An examination of the bear showed the bear was killed earlier that morning. The investigation is ongoing.

CO Jason Wicklund was contacted by Wildlife Division personnel about a suspected cub bear that was registered. The CO contacted the party and determined that the bear was indeed a cub. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Wicklund received information about an individual who shot a four point buck and turkey before either season was open. CO Wicklund was able to check the suspect's garage when a relative happened to stop by and check on the place. Inside the building, the CO was able to determine that a deer and turkey were recently processed in the garage. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Wicklund stopped a vehicle shining a local golf course. The vehicle had expired plates and both occupants were suspended and had warrants for their arrests. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ryan Aho and Sgt. Marc Pomroy responded to a complaint of a moose hit by a tractor truck and trailer in Iron Mountain. An adult cow moose was struck by the truck and killed. The truck driver was unhurt and able to continue on his way.

CO Dennis Gast and Sgt. Steven Burton responded to a call from a trapper about having caught two wolves about 50 yards apart in his coyote traps. Upon arrival, the COs confirmed there were two 80 lb. wolves in the foothold traps. Using a snare pole and gloves, the COs released both animals unharmed.

Sgt. Steven Burton and Wildlife Division personnel responded to a call of a wolf carcass on South Nestoria Road in Baraga County. After forensic examination of the month old carcass, the animal was found to be a large coyote.

CO Brett Gustafson found a hunter in Ontonagon County hunting bear with a Carney tag. He was shown a map of the Carney area about 150 miles from his location. He was also ticketed for hunting the wrong area and given a warning for an illegal tree stand.

## **DISTRICT 2**

CO Jeff Panich issued a ticket for illegal disposal of solid waste to an individual burning tarpaper and other building materials.

COs Jeff Panich and Kyle Publiski were called to assist three stranded duck hunters. The hunters were on an island in Munuscong Bay when their boat drifted away. Their boat had drifted almost 1½ miles before the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) picked it up in the shipping channel. The COs used their boat to transport one of the hunters to their boat in the shipping channel.

CO Kyle Publiski stopped occupants in a slow rolling vehicle who had their windows down and were road hunting. The passenger had an uncased bow with an arrow nocked. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Derek Miller received a call of a stranded boat on the Tahquamenon River north of Newberry. It was already dark when CO Miller launched his boat and headed to the stranded boaters, who had made a fire on shore and were very happy to see the CO.

CO Kevin Postma contacted the operator of a vehicle who was driving around drinking beer with a loaded uncased gun. Enforcement action was taken.

## **DISTRICT 3**

CO Rich Stowe received a complaint of snagging at the Rogers City Harbor. CO Stowe worked the complaint the next day and apprehended three subjects with four brown trout they had snagged. Seven additional brown trout that were snagged the previous day were seized at their campsite. All three were ticketed for possessing illegally taken fish and their fishing gear and fish seized.

CO Michael Feagan ticketed several subjects for attempting to snag and associated violations on the Cheboygan and Ocqueoc Rivers.

CO Mike Feagan and Sgt. Greg Drogowski investigated a complaint of a forest trail road on state land that had not only been blocked with brush and cut trees, but an actual trench dug across it and camouflaged with brush. The COs walked the trail back and located a parcel of private land where the "road obstructers" had come from. On the private parcel, a baited bow stand was found. CO Feagan returned later in the week and found a subject hunting over the bait. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Theunick investigated a loose swine complaint where pigs have been routinely getting loose and causing damage to state and other private lands. The swine owner has been warned and advised he will be ticketed and/or the pigs will be shot if found on state land again.

CO Andrea Albert responded to a complaint of people snagging fish in Elk Rapids. When she arrived she located one subject who was still snagging fish. He earned a ticket for his efforts.

CO Andrea Albert, while checking anglers on the Boyne River, ticketed one individual who was snagging. Later that evening she encountered a different person who was trespassing on very well posted property. He was also ticketed for his violation.

At 12:30 a.m. on Saturday, the DNRE aircraft pilot led CO Andrea Erratt to a vehicle he saw headlighting fields. CO Erratt contacted the landowner as he returned to his barn. The landowner stated he wasn't a hunter, but likes to look at the animals on his property. CO Erratt observed an uncased shotgun lying on the passenger seat of the vehicle and another shotgun in a case behind the front seat. Both shotguns were fully loaded. The subject stated he was worried about seeing a bear. The man had a concealed pistol license and he was legally carrying a loaded handgun in a holster. CO Erratt explained the safety hazard and ticketed the man for possessing a loaded shotgun in a motor vehicle.

CO Andrea Erratt checked an angler trying to catch salmon on the Bear River in Walloon. He told the CO they wouldn't bite. CO Erratt ticketed the subject for fishing on a closed trout stream and warned him for fishing for salmon without an all species license.

#### **DISTRICT 4**

While on a night patrol, CO Troy Vangelderren observed lights shining from under a bridge over the White River. CO Vangelderren was able to get into a surveillance location and observed three subjects snagging salmon. The group from Ohio had eight salmon on the stringer and all were using illegal gear. The fish and equipment were seized and all three subjects were lodged in the Oceana County jail on the fishing violations.

CO Mike Wells was working a complaint of early waterfowl hunting on a Newaygo County lake. CO Wells observed a subject hunting in front of his house. When

contacted, the subject replied he wasn't hunting with the shotgun he was holding, but protecting his property from trespassers. CO Wells advised the subject that he had been watching him hunt for over an hour and saw him shoot the dead duck lying near his feet. The subject then confessed to hunting ducks without a federal stamp, a state waterfowl license, a small game license and was using lead shot. Enforcement action taken.

CO Mike Borkovich stopped a vehicle whose occupants were shining deer after legal hours. Upon contact, CO Borkovich determined the two subjects were both intoxicated and had marijuana in their possession. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sam Koscinski worked on a baiting complaint from last year's deer season. CO Koscinski found the past location where the site was heavily baited again this season. After several attempts, CO Koscinski contacted a subject hunting over the illegal bait. A ticket was written for the baiting violation.

While checking a group of waterfowl hunters, CO Sean Kehoe asked three subjects to demonstrate that their shotguns were plugged. Two of the subjects displayed legal shotguns; the third subject attempted to put only two shells in the magazine and claimed that the gun was legally plugged. CO Kehoe discovered that the gun did not have a plug and that the subject was not licensed to waterfowl hunt. A ticket was issued for the license violations.

## **DISTRICT 5**

CO Mike Hearn contacted an individual who was shining deer in a field from his vehicle. The driver had a loaded rifle in the vehicle and was also operating a vehicle while intoxicated and on a suspended license. The subject had just been released from prison ten days earlier and was on a tether. He also had a warrant for absconding.

CO Mike Hearn observed a large black plume of smoke and located a subject burning solid waste materials in an open pit. The subject was moving and had decided to burn objects which included an old computer, furniture, and clothes instead of putting them in the trash. The subject had been burning these types of items for ten hours that day.

CO John Huspen stopped a vehicle that was shining for deer just before midnight. The driver had an uncased bow in the vehicle and a loaded AR-15 rifle with a tactical light on the floor of the vehicle. The driver indicated he would have shot a deer that night if he had seen one.

COs Tami Pullen and Rebecca Hopkins teamed up on several salmon related arrests including illegal devices, snagging and no fishing licenses.

CO Brian Engelhard received a hunter harassment complaint from a victim who alleged that a neighbor passed by his stand several times while he was archery deer hunting before eventually stopping and harassing him. The suspect was angry because he

thought the hunter was hunting too close to his property. The following morning the hunter hunted from the same stand and CO Engelhard set up surveillance close by. The neighbor returned and again harassed the hunter and was ticketed by CO Engelhard for hunter harassment.

## **DISTRICT 6**

CO Holly Pennoni contacted three anglers who were quickly trying to get to their vehicle to drive away. The CO had observed them fishing and asked if they had caught anything. They all replied that they had not caught any fish. The CO saw a bucket of bluegills inside their car. None of the anglers had licenses. When CO Pennoni asked why they hadn't bought fishing licenses this year, they replied, "We just haven't gotten around to it yet." Tickets were issued for fishing without a license.

Sgt. Tony Soave and CO Seth Rhodea spent the opening day of waterfowl season checking hunters in southern Sanilac County. A high compliance was found with most hunters resulting in only two tickets being issued. One ticket was issued for hunting before legal shooting time and the other for possession of lead shot. The number of birds in the area was high as well.

CO Seth Rhodea was checking anglers at the Port Sanilac boat launch when he contacted an angler who had just come off Lake Huron. When the CO asked the angler how he did fishing, the angler told him that he had caught one lake trout and had it in his cooler. The CO advised the angler that lake trout season had been closed for almost two weeks and issued a ticket for taking lake trout out of season.

CO Scott Brown was called by an off duty Michigan State Police (MSP) trooper who had observed a hunter on an ATV take bait back to two stand locations in a State Game Area (SGA) in Huron County. The hunters were contacted at the road, and after a short interview and a few photos, tickets were issued for illegally baiting deer.

While patrolling the Rush Lake SGA, CO Robert Hobkirk located numerous illegal tree stands. While on his way back to the patrol truck, CO Hobkirk observed that one of the stands was now occupied. The hunter had cut small trees around his hunting location and had also placed a mineral block to attract deer. The subject was issued a ticket for illegally cutting trees on state land and received a warning for baiting in a closed area. The mineral block had been placed in the woods on the hunter's morning hunt and was located before his evening hunt.

While checking duck hunters on the Saginaw Bay, CO Joshua Wright could hear an ATV being operated in a wetland area of the shoreline. It didn't take long when another hunter arrived to join the party CO Wright had contacted. CO Wright discovered two ATVs parked in the wetland and after checking the owners, it was discovered that CO Wright had given one of the hunters a warning two years ago in the same spot for the same violation. Enforcement action was taken this time.

While checking on a bait complaint on state land, CO Joshua Wright found the location of the bait and the stand but was surprised when he did not find the hunter right away but his crossbow hanging in the stand. CO Wright seized the crossbow and collected evidence while calling out for the hunter. After about 45 minutes, the hunter appeared back at his vehicle, acting confused as to why COs were there and why his vehicle was blocked in by the MSP. The hunter admitted that the crossbow was his but claimed that he did not hear the CO call or see him. Evidence was seized and enforcement action was taken.

While conducting a foot patrol in the area of the Tuscola SGA, CO Jason A. Smith contacted a bow hunter who was hunting out of an illegal tree stand that had screw-in steps and no name on it, and who did not have his hunting license on him. CO Smith returned to his camp and confirmed the hunter had a valid hunting license. He was warned for not having his license on him and was given a ticket for screw-in tree steps.

CO Jason A. Smith was called to assist local deputies with a missing/lost person. The subject had wandered off into some farm fields in the middle of the night without adequate clothing. After checking the area it was decided that the subject was intoxicated and had returned to a family member's house. The subject had then wandered off again. The search was terminated when it was determined that COs were looking for an intoxicated individual and not a missing or lost person.

CO Jason A. Smith worked an evening in Arenac County with CO Phillip Hudson working waterfowl hunters and fall fish run activity. A group of five subjects were found hunting waterfowl after hours. At about 20 minutes after legal shooting hours ended, CO Smith heard one of the hunters "guarantee" his partners that it was after legal shooting hours. At about 25 minutes after legal shooting hours, a couple of the hunters chuckled about how they used to be such sticklers for following the legal shooting hours. At 30 minutes after legal shooting hours, CO Smith contacted the group of five hunters who all had loaded firearms, decoys out and were still calling ducks. The last several ducks that had come in had not been shot at because the hunters had not seen them in time because of the low light conditions. Some of the hunters' guns were also unplugged. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason A. Smith received a complaint that a hunter had shot a swan at Fish Point Managed Waterfowl area. After responding to the area and contacting a group of hunters, interviews were conducted. A confession was received from the hunter and a dead swan was dug up from the mud behind the hunter's house. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Seth Rhodea received a complaint of a subject who was afield goose hunting on the south zone waterfowl opening weekend. The hunter was charged a year ago for taking several illegal deer, illegally taking, and commercializing walleye and sturgeon as well as harvesting gross over limits of waterfowl. The hunter had originally received a five year revocation of all hunting and trapping privileges. The subject drove his girlfriend's car so as to not to draw the attention of the local game warden. CO Rhodea walked in

from the opposite direction about a half mile through the cornfield and set up behind the hunters close enough to hear them talking. The suspect told his hunting partners that they could shoot well after legal shooting hours because there was only one CO that works the county. When the subject began to unload his gun to go look for the game warden, CO Rhodea contacted him. Charges will be filed for hunting while revoked, waterfowl hunting with lead shot and recreational trespass.

While on patrol in Montcalm County, CO Ken Lowell checked two hunters riding on an ORV with their bows not in a case. Both men forgot their helmets and they were riding double. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Lowell received a bait complaint in Montcalm County. The CO located the bait and contacted multiple neighbors until he found out who the bait belonged to. The next day the CO contacted the suspect who advised he did not know it was illegal to bait. Enforcement action was taken.

While working the waterfowl opener on Crow Island, CO Chad Foerster made his way through thick swamp grass and set up within 15 feet from a group of hunters. During the several hours of surveillance, the hunters had quite an interesting conversation. One which particularly interested the CO as they were talking about an illegal deer that one of the hunters had recently taken. A remark was made stating, "It is only illegal if you get caught." Shortly after, the CO made his presence known and found one of the hunters to be hunting without licenses. Sgt. Ron Kimmerly made his way to the scene where the COs separated the four hunters and interviewed them on the statements made about the illegal deer. A confession was obtained and the remainder of the deer was seized. Enforcement action was taken on both the waterfowl violations and the illegal deer. When all was said and done, the hunter who stated it is only illegal if you get caught saw things a bit differently and found out that it is illegal no matter what, and it is just a matter of time until you get caught.

## **DISTRICT 7**

No report.

## **DISTRICT 8**

During the early antlerless season, CO Dan Prince received information that a father and son hunting duo had illegally killed a six point antlered deer. CO Prince's investigation confirmed that the juvenile son had killed an antlered deer during the antlerless season, with the father's permission. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Damon Owens assisted the local deputies with an investigation about the illegal killing of a mute swan. Eyewitnesses provided information that a subject intentionally drove his jetski into a group of mute swans, killing one of them. The subject was interviewed by CO Owens and confessed to intentionally running into the swans. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Dan Prince and Pete Purdy received numerous complaints of many subjects hunting illegally while using bait. In addition to the illegal bait, the COs observed subjects hunting from unmarked tree stands on state land and hunting without the proper licenses. Enforcement action was taken in all instances.

COs Dan Prince and Pete Purdy observed numerous subjects keeping undersized bass, catching over their limit of bluegills, and not complying with the marine regulations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Shane Webster received a complaint that a subject was trespassing on private property to archery hunt for deer. Upon contact with the trespasser, CO Webster noted that the subject was also hunting without a license, in possession of marijuana, and wanted on warrants out of Hillsdale County. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Shane Webster took enforcement action in 2009 on a subject who was baiting deer on his private property. The same subject was again baiting for deer this year. Enforcement action was taken again.

CO Rick Villerot assisted local law enforcement with the investigation of a fatal hunting accident. The juvenile subject failed to return home after small game hunting alone. The deceased subject, who was not wearing the required hunter orange garment, was found the next day by searchers. It was also reported that the juvenile had not taken the required hunter education class.

CO Kyle Bader received two separate complaints of a subject trapping out of season. CO Bader located the illegal traps and interviewed the subject. The subject turned over the illegally taken animals including one fox, one coyote and several raccoons. Enforcement action was taken.

In separate instances, COs Jeff Goss and Al Mendez contacted two separate subjects who killed a deer and didn't have a license so they used someone else's hunting license to tag the deer. Enforcement action was taken in both instances.

## **DISTRICT 9**

CO Mark Ennett issued two tickets on the opening day of waterfowl season to hunters from two different groups. One subject had an unplugged shotgun and the other hunter had brought two shotguns, one "just in case". He did say he had used both of the guns because he had run out of shells for his first gun. CO Ennett thought the hunter looked familiar and it turned out he had ticketed the subject on opening day of the 2009 waterfowl season for hunting with an unplugged shotgun at the same location.

CO Mark Ennett was on foot patrol along Halfway Creek when he saw an ORV with two persons on board, neither one of whom was wearing a helmet. The ORV turned onto a small trail that leads to a landfill. CO Ennett caught up to them and they said they were

out giving their dog some exercise. The subjects had a total of six violations and CO Ennett issued one ticket for operating without a helmet and gave warnings for the others.

While patrolling Pointe Mouillee SGA, COs Mark Ennett and Dan Walzak saw a vehicle that matched the description of a vehicle that was involved in a long running complaint. The three hunters were almost back to the road by the time the COs were able to contact them. All three of the subjects claimed to be hunting ducks and all were using unplugged shotguns. Enforcement action was taken. CO Walzak recognized two of the hunters from a multiple-offense complaint he handled back in September. During that contact, several hunters were ticketed for various charges, including possession of waterfowl during the closed season and hunt waterfowl with unplugged shotguns. One hunter said they had learned their lesson in the September incident, but CO Ennett pointed out they did not learn very well, since they were committing the same violations.

COs Mark Ennett and Dan Walzak were the first emergency unit on scene of a two car traffic accident with injuries. They saw a car in a ditch and the driver laying a few feet away as they were driving past. The COs radioed the county dispatcher about the accident and helped with patient stabilization and injury assessment until Emergency Medical Services (EMS) arrived. The COs assisted with traffic control until the scene was stabilized. Both victims were taken to the hospital, one for chest pains and one for neck and back pains.

While checking waterfowl hunters, CO Dan Walzak was approached by a subject all ready to go duck hunting – carrying a cased shotgun, dressed in blue jeans, an orange pull-over shirt and tennis shoes asking for suggestions on where to hunt waterfowl. After giving the individual a couple suggestions, CO Walzak asked him for his licenses. The hunter advised he had just purchased it and offered up only a daily waterfowl area use permit. When CO Walzak explained that he needed a small game license, a state waterfowl hunting license and a federal migratory bird hunting stamp, and that the use permit was not needed in the area that he was intending to hunt, the stunned hunter said “Whoa – I’m glad I ran into you!” Looking at the situation, CO Walzak thought that a firearm check might be in order. The subject was carrying a box full of 20 gauge lead shot-shells for his 12 gauge shotgun. “Educational” action was taken.

CO Lacelle Rabon attended a court hearing for a subject who was ticketed for purchasing a hunting license while hunting privileges were revoked. The subject pled guilty and was fined \$200. The court instructed him again that he cannot purchase a hunting license until December 31, 2012.

CO Brandon Kieft issued a ticket to a subject for damage/destroy shrubs, trees, vegetation on state land. The subject was tilling land to plant food plots on state land to attract deer. He was also cutting large tree limbs in order to place tree stands.

CO Brandon Kieft contacted a subject whose twin brother had been ticketed by CO Ben Shively for hunting with no small game license in September. The brothers had been

passing licenses between each other instead of buying their own license. CO Kieft ticketed one subject for a baiting violation and warned him for having his 16 year old brother with him hunting over another bait pile.

CO Ben Shively issued tickets to a subject who was hunting over bait from a tree stand with no name and address on it. The subject was hunting on state land and had a bait pile of corn out.

CO Ben Shively assisted MSP on a serious injury accident that involved a motorcycle. The motorcycle driver was stopped at a red light when the driver of a vehicle coming from the opposite direction fell asleep and the vehicle drifted across the center line and struck the cyclist. As the accident reconstruction investigator was finishing the sketch of the scene, a second injury accident was reported just down the road. CO Shively assisted with that scene due to equipment malfunctions on the MSP vehicle. In the second accident, a Department of Human Services employee was transporting two youths from a supervised visit and had a heart attack and drove the mini van off of the roadway. The driver was transported to the hospital and admitted.

CO Ben Shively was checking an area that was being used to grow marijuana when he contacted a subject who was carrying a bag of apples. As CO Shively approached the subject, he was stepping on carrots that had been placed by the subject with the apples. The subject was ticketed for baiting and admitted that the marijuana was planted by his roommate. CO Shively interviewed the roommate who admitted to growing and harvesting the marijuana and stated he was in the process of getting a license to supply medical marijuana. What was left of the plants was removed and turned over to MSP.

COs Kris Kiel and Todd Szyska patrolled the Wetzel State Recreation Area on opening day of the waterfowl season and checked several groups of hunters. The COs checked one group of hunters who had some success and one of them claimed he did not shoot anything. A check of the area where he had been standing revealed a dead sand piper that was hidden in the brush. The subject admitted to shooting it thinking it was a woodcock. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Kris Kiel and Todd Szyska watched a group of two waterfowl hunters shoot at and hit a mute swan. When contact was made, the hunter who shot the swan denied shooting it but when the COs told him they had watched him do it, he admitted to shooting the swan. The other member of that group had an unsigned federal waterfowl stamp, no Michigan waterfowl license or small game license.

COs Todd Szyska and Kris Kiel watched a group of six goose hunters that were on private property shoot 13 geese. When the hunters packed up to leave, the COs made contact and the hunters admitted to taking 12 geese and played stupid about the last goose. The COs checked the area and found the other goose hidden under a large decoy. The hunter was ticketed for the overlimit and another hunter was ticketed for no federal stamp.

CO Mark Papineau and Sgt. Tom Wanless observed a side-by-side ORV traveling down a busy five lane road in Mundy Township. The COs tracked the ORV down to a residence in a nearby neighborhood. As the COs were pulling into the drive, a male subject came out of the house. When asked if he knew why the COs were there, he said he figured it was because of the deer in Davison. The COs had the subject tell them about the injured deer the subject's dog attacked and killed. The subject stated they did not want to waste the meat and his adult son did not want to waste a kill tag so they just loaded it up and brought it home. The adult son admitted that he processed the deer; then took the cape and carcass by ORV and dumped it on private property where he did not have permission. After noting all the violations and explaining them to the subjects, enforcement action was taken including making the subjects pick up the remains of the deer and discarding of them properly.

CO Mark Papineau received a Report-All-Poaching (RAP) complaint of a subject hunting deer over bait in Genesee Township. CO Papineau responded and found a subject hunting with a crossbow in a tree stand over a large pile of bait. The subject told the CO he already shot a six point earlier in the season. When CO Papineau confirmed the subject's licenses, the subject only had his regular combination license left. The subject admitted that he shot the deer, field dressed it, and transported it to a processor untagged. He stated the processor would not accept it without a tag and that the processor told the subject which license to put on the deer. Enforcement action was taken on the subject for hunting over bait and an inspection will be conducted on the processor.

CO Mark Papineau is receiving numerous baiting complaints. On one he responded to in Mundy Township, CO Papineau found a subject hunting in a tree over a large pile of bait. The subject stuck out in the tree line because he was wearing blue jeans and a blue T-shirt. The subject stated that he did not put the bait there and that it must have been the other subject who had permission to hunt this property. CO Papineau explained that the subject was still hunting over it. The subject also stated he lived in Michigan seasonally and had a resident hunting license. Follow up will be conducted to determine in which state the subject is a resident.

CO Mark Papineau observed two subjects on two ORVs not wearing helmets and operating on the roadway. The CO stopped the subjects and found five additional violations including a suspended driver's license on one of the subjects. Enforcement action was taken and the subjects pushed the ORVs home.

CO Linda Scheidler is investigating a complaint where the subject's dogs are running at large and chasing deer. CO Scheidler attempted to contact the owner of the dogs at the residence; however, no one was home. Interestingly, there were a few dogs matching the description of those in the complaint, running off leash. CO Scheidler will be working with Genesee County Animal Control to address the issue.

CO Linda Scheidler received a complaint of a subject hunting on closed Genesee County Parks Property. With the assistance of a park ranger, the CO contacted a

subject who was mowing shooting lanes on county property. The subject also cut down trees and had a large pile of bait out including a mineral block. CO Scheidler issued the subject a ticket for baiting and the ranger addressed the destruction of county property.

CO Linda Scheidler responded to a complaint of two subjects trespassing. When she contacted the subjects in the act, the CO found the subjects hunting over bait. Enforcement action was taken.

While working the managed area on Harsens Island for the waterfowl opener, CO Ben Lasher contacted several hunters who were reporting good success. One hunter the CO checked was in possession of lead shot. Enforcement action was taken.

CO John Borkovich checked a group of waterfowl hunters on opening morning. Three of the hunters did not shoot a bird; however, the fourth hunter, who was paralyzed and confined to a wheelchair, got his limit. That hunter was thankful to his friends for helping him get outdoors to hunt.

CO Al Schwiderson checked an angler as he was leaving Seven Ponds Nature Center and found the angler had his limit of five bass. Unfortunately for the angler, four of the bass were undersized. The subject felt that he could get away with keeping the little ones and figured it was not hurting much to keep them. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach responded to a RAP complaint where the complainant witnessed a subject shoot an egret on a small pond. When CO Kovach arrived at the subject's residence, he was met by a 20 year old male. The subject admitted to shooting the egret because it was eating the fish in their newly stocked pond. Enforcement action was taken for shooting a protected species.

While on foot patrol in Erie SGA, CO Jonathan Sklba stopped an ORV that had entered the closed area from the roadway. The subject was driving on the roadway, had no helmet and no ORV license. A ticket was issued for operating in a closed area and verbal warnings given for the other violations.

CO Jonathan Sklba investigated a complaint of subjects hunting in the refuge at Pointe Mouillee SGA. He found two subjects that had entered from the lake and had shot nine waterfowl, seven red heads and two mallards. Both subjects were issued tickets for taking game from a refuge and taking an overlimit of red heads.

Sgt. Tom Wanless assisted local police officers with an ORV personal injury accident. Four juveniles, two females and two males, were illegally riding double down the road on two four wheelers, and not wearing helmets or protective eyewear. The two females rear-ended the ORV with the two males on it. Both females were thrown from the ORV, which flipped over and landed in the ditch. Both females were transported to a local hospital. The female operator is still hospitalized with head injuries. The incident is still under investigation.

CO Mark Papineau was contacted by a local deputy in regard to a subject hunting squirrels in the City of Burton. The deputy heard several gunshots coming from a wooded area and entered to investigate. The deputy then observed a subject walking in the woods with a firearm and no hunter orange. Contact was made, and the deputy was able to locate five squirrels the subject had shot. CO Papineau arrived on scene moments later and spoke with the hunter. Apparently, the subject had shot five squirrels and was planning on shooting more. The subject admitted to removing his orange hat and placing it in his coat pocket. It was also determined that the subject had not purchased a small game license and was a convicted felon. Enforcement action was taken.