

**Michigan Department of Natural Resources  
Law Enforcement Division  
Bi-Weekly Field Report  
10/7/2018 – 10/20/2018**

**DISTRICT 1**

Sergeant (Sgt.) Brian Bacon interviewed the parties involved in a hound hunting trespass complaint where a bear was shot on private land and the landowner contacted the hunters at the kill site. Conservation Officer (CO) Brett DeLonge is continuing the investigation.

CO Jared Ferguson was patrolling the Caspian – Alpha recreational grade in Iron County when he came upon a large wash-out in the trail. The hole was 8-10 feet deep and 6 feet wide. CO Ferguson contacted Forest Resource Division personnel who brought several barricades to the location to help prevent any serious injuries on the trail.

District officers attended a trapping enforcement school along with 24 other conservation officers from around the state. The week-long training was meant to increase the COs' knowledge of trapping and what to look for when enforcing Michigan's trapping laws.

CO Cody Smith was on patrol when he checked Lake Levasseur Flooding for waterfowl activity. Upon pulling into the launch, he noticed a hunter waving from shore about 200 yards away. When contacting the hunting party, CO Cody Smith asked how their luck was treating them. One of the hunters stated they had two mallards and two smaller ducks. CO Smith examined the smaller waterfowl one being a widgeon and the other being a pie-billed grebe. A check of their shotguns showed one to be unplugged. CO Smith also did a check for lead shot and found an orange vest in one of the hunter's backpacks that contained a full box of number seven lead shot. A box of slugs was also found in the backpack. The violations were discussed, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Cody Smith and Michigan State Police (MSP) troopers responded to a lost hunter. He was tracking a deer when he became disoriented and could not find his way back to camp. Due to falling snow, any foot prints he left behind were covered. After a long hike in and shouting the name of the lost hunter, CO Smith was able to locate the individual when the hunter replied to his shouts with blasts on a whistle. The individual was dressed for the weather and was able to make it back to his vehicle and camp unharmed.

CO Zach Painter was on patrol in Iron County and responded to a complaint of bear hunters who were trespassing. CO Painter contacted the hunters who had driven through a gate with no trespassing signs. The hunters stated that several years back they received permission to go behind the gate. CO Painter talked

with the complainant who said they no longer had permission, but he did not want to press charges if they left and did not come back. CO Painter educated the hunters on the importance of getting permission from land owners on a year-to-year basis and gave them a verbal warning for recreational trespass.

CO Brian Lasanen was traveling to a beaver issue complaint when he observed a car traveling faster than the posted speed limit. CO Lasanen utilized his patrol truck radar unit and got a reading of 74 mph in a 55 mph zone. CO Lasanen turned and followed the vehicle for about a mile. During that time, he observed the vehicle cross over the center line and travel down the middle of the road. CO Lasanen performed a traffic stop on the vehicle and noticed an odor of intoxicants emitting from the vehicle and the driver to have blood shot eyes. CO Lasanen conducted standardized field sobriety tests and offered the driver a portable breath test (PBT). The driver refused the PBT and was subsequently lodged in the Houghton County Jail for operating while intoxicated (OWI).

CO Brian Lasanen was patrolling a closed section of the ORV trails. CO Lasanen contacted one ORV and advised the operator he was riding on a closed trail. The rider stated he did not know the trail was closed. CO Lasanen advised him of the sign and the fence he went around as being good indicators the trail is closed. The ORV rider also failed to purchase ORV licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeremy Sergey and Cpl. Mike Hammill were patrolling in northern Menominee County when they heard a report of an individual who crashed his truck in Hermansville. CO Sergey and Cpl. Hammill arrived on scene and quickly assessed the individual for injuries. The individual was not injured and the Menominee County Sheriff's Department assessed the crash.

CO Josh Boudreaux contacted multiple groups of hunters who had been pleasantly surprised by an increase in ruffed grouse activity. One group of hunters reported 14 flushes in a matter of two hours. In addition, CO Boudreaux talked with many hunters who have successfully harvested deer this season and reported seeing a larger quantity of 6 and 8 points than in years past.

CO Brett DeLonge received a complaint of bear hunters who were trespassing and killed a bear on property where permission was not granted. CO DeLonge investigated the bear kill site, property lines, and spoke with several land owners and locals in the area to obtain information on the hunters. CO DeLonge was able to identify the hunters and after several suspect interviews was able to get admissions of trespassing and not wearing proper hunter orange. Enforcement action was taken, and citations were issued for several violations.

## **DISTRICT 2**

CO Mark Zitnik was working a night shift checking for shining activity when an oncoming truck had his bright lights on. The CO signaled to the oncoming vehicle that his bright lights were on. The oncoming vehicle shined the CO with his light bar. A traffic stop was made, and the driver of the vehicle had a warrant out of Chippewa County. The subject was arrested on the warrant and lodged in the Alger County Jail.

CO Mark Zitnik received an in-progress complaint of several out of state hunters who were running people off the road while bear hunting. As the CO was heading to the location, he was advised that the hunters had just shot a bear possibly without a tag. CO Zitnik along with Munising Police Department and an MSP trooper tracked down the hunters, interviewed them and it was found that the bear was legally shot. The CO warned the group to slow down and to stay on the proper side of the road no matter how excited they get about the bear they have treed. This was one of numerous complaints received this fall in the district regarding bear hound hunters blocking roads and driving recklessly.

CO Stephen Butzin was patrolling in Masonville Township when he received a complaint of black smoke nearby. CO Butzin searched the area until he located an individual burning a cabin's worth of carpet, metal, and old furniture. The individual was issued a citation.

CO Stephen Butzin was first on scene to a residential burglar alarm in Garden Township. As the CO was attempting to gain a vantage point on the residence he noticed a considerable amount of bait on the property which was well over the two-gallon limit. The CO as well as officers from the Delta County Sheriff's Department cleared the house. Thankfully the alarm was false. Contact was made with the property owner regarding the bait and enforcement action was taken.

CO Colton Gelinis received an anonymous complaint about a doe being killed in Luce County, where there are no antlerless deer tags available. CO Gelinis contacted a suspect at a camp who stated he was hunting; however, he did not kill anything. After a short investigation and statements from other subjects at the camp, the suspect confessed to killing a doe and hunting without a license. The skinned-out deer carcass was located on the adjacent property and was seized. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Colton Gelinis responded to a RAP complaint in Mackinac County about duck hunters shooting a crow during the closed season. CO Gelinis contacted the suspects who were in possession of a dead crow, as well as having no Michigan waterfowl license and unsigned federal duck stamps. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Bobby Watson was given a tip by a DNR employee regarding a very large trash dump site on state land. After a short investigation, CO Watson was able to

contact the suspect involved. The young man stated he had just moved out of the city and did not realize he had to set up an account for regular trash pick-up since he had always been living within city limits. The trash was promptly picked up and disposed of properly. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Robert Freeborn and US Forest Service (USFS) Officer Dave Tembreull located a vehicle parked along a closed trout stream. As the officers approached the stream, they noticed someone standing in the river while a second angler was observed running up the river. CO Freeborn observed the angler net a large salmon and climbed up the bank with it. After startling the angler, CO Freeborn asked where his fishing pole was. The angler pointed toward the woods and stated he wasn't using it. The officers then located three more fish hidden in the woods. After a brief interview, it was determined that all the fish were netted. The fishermen were advised the stream was closed and it was illegal to net fish. All fish were seized, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Robert Freeborn was contacted late at night by the local city police department regarding possible lost anglers. CO Freeborn along with a Sgt. from the local city police department patrolled the river in CO Freeborn's boat. After an hour of searching, the officers were unable to locate the anglers. Several hours later the anglers were located safe and unharmed. The pair had decided to check into a local motel without notifying their family members.

CO Robert Freeborn received a complaint from a local trapper who had caught two wolves in his traps. CO Freeborn contacted the local biologist and headed to the scene to assist in releasing the trapped wolves. CO Freeborn checked on the first wolf and determined it was shot in the head while still in the trap shortly before his arrival. He then immediately checked the second wolf which was still alive and well. CO Freeborn searched the area for vehicles while keeping an eye on the second wolf until the biologist arrived. The biologist was able to release the second wolf without incident. The investigation is ongoing.

CO Michael Evink received an unusual complaint about a couple of guys who had been using an ORV and trailer to transport materials into the Hiawatha National Forest to make a camp for the upcoming deer season. The driver of the ORV had left his partner in the forest and returned to town to get more supplies when his ORV broke down. The driver waited until the next morning to report his partner had been in the woods overnight without a shelter. The driver also stated he didn't know the road names where he left his partner but wasn't too worried as his partner was used to being in the woods. CO Evink made contact with the ORV driver and using his description, was able to identify where the second individual might be and responded to the location. He found the second individual walking down the two-track; cold, wet, and tired. CO Evink gave the grateful subject a ride back to his partner's house.

### **DISTRICT 3**

CO Chad Baldwin received a complaint from a couple of goose hunters who were hunting on their own private property. The hunters witnessed an individual drive his pickup truck onto their property, stop in the corn stubble, and load up some corn that was lying on the ground. The suspect was recognized by the hunters and CO Baldwin was able to locate and interview him. During the interview, the suspect admitted to crossing the property line and knew what he did was wrong. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Duane Budreau was watching a couple of waterfowl hunters traversing the Crooked River while standing up in a small boat, anticipating them to be jump shooting ducks while under power. CO Budreau waited for them to return from the marsh in the small plastic flat bottom boat with an electric trolling motor. The boat had no visible MC numbers on the side. When the hunters arrived at the launch, CO Budreau checked their firearms which were both loaded and one was unplugged. The boat owner stated he was told the boat did not need to be registered unless it was powered by a gas motor. He was educated and warned for the registration, loaded firearm in motorized boat, and cited for the unplugged gun.

CO Adam LeClerc investigated a RAP complaint of a turkey possibly being taken over bait. After meeting with the complainant and checking the area, CO Leclerc found more than the allowed legal limit of deer bait on the ground. CO LeClerc interviewed the suspect and he admitted to shooting the turkey while deer hunting. CO Leclerc explained to the hunter that it is illegal to hunt over bait for turkeys and enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrea Albert was working a deer shining patrol around farm fields known for shining activity in Antrim County. CO Albert conducted a traffic stop on a slow rolling vehicle for an equipment violation. The driver was not looking for deer but was too intoxicated to drive. Field sobriety tests found the operator to be under the influence of alcohol over twice the legal limit. The subject was lodged for OWI.

CO Andrea Albert received information from a RAP dispatcher of a subject on social media who had possibly shot a doe in Antrim County during archery season prior to purchasing any deer licenses. The RAP dispatcher had reviewed social media websites and found the hunter had posted the picture about the same time the tag was purchased. CO Albert followed up with the hunter who admitted to shooting the deer then going and buying a license. A citation was issued for the violation and the hunter used the experience to teach his two teenage sons about the importance of following game laws.

CO Andrea Albert received information on a subject shooting an 8-point buck during the archery season who bought a license after the fact. CO Albert contacted the hunter who eventually confessed to shooting the deer without a license. The hunter had shot the buck during an evening hunt, tracked and found

the deer the next day. After finding the deer, he purchased a hunting license. The deer was seized and the hunter was cited for the violation. The penalty for taking an 8-point deer without a license consists of 5-90 days in jail, five years revocation of all hunting licenses and \$6,000 in restitution plus court fines and costs.

CO Andrea Albert was the closest unit to respond to a call of a suicidal subject who had cut an artery in their arm. CO Albert applied first aid to stop the severe bleeding and ensured the scene was safe for medical personnel to enter the home. The subject was transported to the hospital for medical care.

Sgt. William Webster was patrolling the Green River area in Antrim County when he received a complaint of a trespasser on private property. Sgt. Webster checked the area and located an older man who was walking on the private land. When Sgt. Webster asked the man what was going on he said he was taking a walk in an area where he used to play as a kid. Sgt. Webster called the complainant and advised who the suspect was, and they laughed because it was an old friend they had not seen in years. No enforcement action taken but a friendly reminder was given to stop and ask permission before entering private property.

CO Eric Bottorff was conducting surveillance on the Little Black River when a subject and his 11-year-old son approached the river and attempted to net a large group of spawning salmon. Shortly after that, the subject climbed into the culvert that ran underneath the roadway and netted three salmon while his son directed fish toward him with a stick. The subject was contacted at his vehicle with the salmon still in his net. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Eric Bottorff gave a presentation to Wolverine High School biology students. The students learned about conservation law regulations, how natural resource laws are developed and enforced, and identification of local animals by their skulls and furs.

COs Eric Bottorff and Matt Theunick attended a Jake's Day event for the Indian River Wild Turkey Federation. Young hunters learned about turkey hunting regulations and safe turkey hunting practices.

CO Kyle Cherry assisted local authorities responding to a possible bomb threat at a Walmart in Otsego County. CO Cherry located an individual possibly involved in the threat. CO Cherry and Otsego County deputies determined the individual was not involved and Gaylord Police cleared the building of any threats.

COs Kyle Cherry, Eric Bottorff, Tim Rosochacki, Matt Theunick, Adam LeClerc, Chad Baldwin, and Sgt. Mark DePew executed a search warrant at a residence in Cheboygan County. The search warrant was executed after receiving credible

information that a subject had poached a cow elk. Several items located in and around the residence supported the poaching incident. The COs also uncovered stolen property along with illegal narcotics. The investigation continues.

CO Sidney Collins received a complaint that campers had attempted to burn their trash before leaving their campsite. When CO Collins arrived, the campers were already gone, but the trash was only half burnt. There were several pill bottles and 'whip-its' in the trash. After searching the area closely, CO Collins found a temporary driver license that was partially burnt. CO Collins was able to identify the campers home address was. Upon arrival at the home, the tenants had just been evicted. The investigation is ongoing.

COs Sidney Collins and Kyle Cherry responded to a complaint of a captive deer. There was photographic evidence of a deer held captive since he was a young fawn at a residence without a rehabilitation permit. After questioning the subjects, it was determined that the young buck was not held captive but was friendly to humans due to feeding. The subjects had been feeding the deer, so it continued to return and become friendly enough to touch. The COs explained why it was dangerous for the deer to rely on people feeding it and that it needed to be able to rely on itself to find food in the winter time.

CO Jonathan Sklba received a snagging complaint in the Rogers City area. CO Sklba was responded, and the subjects were gone upon arrival. CO Sklba stayed in the area for a while and observed quite a bit of traffic; however, nobody would fish with a CO in the area. CO Sklba left the area and hid his truck only to return on foot. Upon his return, a least a dozen people had begun fishing. CO Sklba was able to observe the anglers and make a few good checks.

CO Jonathan Sklba received a complaint of possible trespassing where the land owner located a gut pile on his property. CO Sklba was able to track down the responsible hunter. The hunter was legally hunting when the deer he shot ran towards the neighbors. The deer expired on the property line where the hunters field dressed the deer. The complainant was fine with the hunters recovering their deer but asked to be advised if it happens again.

CO Jonathan Sklba was able to help New Mexico officers wrap up an investigation of a Michigan resident illegally harvesting an elk in New Mexico.

CO Jonathan Sklba received a complaint by a hunter who had items stolen from state land. CO Sklba would like to remind all hunters to secure their items after they are finished with their hunt for the day. The complainant had numerous items stolen from his blind, including the blind. The investigation is ongoing.

CO Jonathan Sklba was sitting in his patrol truck when two vehicles passed speeding through town. CO Sklba was utilized his radar to obtain their speed as 60-mph in a posted 35-mph zone. CO Sklba began to follow the vehicles and

observed the two racing down M-65. The vehicles taking up both lanes of travel as they continued to speed south side-by-side. CO Sklba's radar locked in the vehicles speed at 103-mph in a posted 65-mph zone. Eventually, CO Sklba was able to catch up to and stop one of the vehicles where the driver was contacted, and enforcement action taken. The plate of the second vehicle was obtained and a follow up will be made.

#### **DISTRICT 4**

While patrolling the Platte River, Sgt. Dan Bigger observed a subject land a foul hooked fish, after repeated attempts to snag multiple fish. Sgt. Bigger then observed the subject take his coat off and pull the fish to a less conspicuous location as he looked around. As Sgt. Bigger continued to monitor the situation, he observed the angler place the fish on a stringer and walk it down the river and tie it to a tree nearly 100 yards from where he and his friend continued to fish. Sgt. Bigger continued to check other anglers and upon contact with this one, was immediately notified of "all the snagging and illegal activity." Sgt. Bigger inquired to how many fish they caught, and the anglers replied they only had two and they were "both caught in the mouth." Sgt. Bigger inquired as to whether he was sure he only had caught two fish after the angler told him he had just got there and had to leave another location due to all the snagging going on. Sgt. Bigger escorted the angler to the location he was seen hiding the other stringer with the foul hooked fish. The angler began screaming at himself for not letting the fish go. Enforcement action was taken.

After responding to a spearing complaint in Grand Traverse County, CO Rebecca Hubers was the closest officer to a reckless driver complaint in East Bay Township. The reckless driver was being followed by an off duty tribal officer. CO Hubers was northbound to the complaint when she passed a vehicle matching the description of the suspect southbound. After navigating the median and heavy traffic, CO Hubers caught up to the suspect after he crashed his vehicle into a tree. The subject was assessed and turned over to emergency medical personnel and Grand Traverse County deputies.

COs Richard Stowe and Rebecca Hubers were conducting stationary patrol in a business park area in Grand Traverse County after receiving specific complaints of illegal shining activity. A vehicle was observed shining after legal hours and the COs conducted a traffic stop. The driver was found with a cocked crossbow and broad-head arrows in the front passenger area of the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Amanda Lake received a call at approximately 3:00 am from the RAP line with a complaint of a vehicle that had been stopped for shining by a Leelanau County Sergeant. CO Lake contacted the Sergeant who reported there was also an uncased, cocked crossbow in the vehicle and that he would wait with the suspect until she arrived on scene. CO Lake responded to the area and



interviewed the subject about his activities. The individual claimed he was merely out for a drive, but there was a strung crossbow in the back of the vehicle as well as several bolts within reach of the suspect. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Patrick McManus and Rebecca Hubers were on patrol at the Betsie River when they noticed a subject reel in a fish caught under the belly. Once the subject netted the fish, they took the time to look around to see if anyone was watching and didn't see the COs standing directly above their location. The subject then put the fish on a stringer and resumed fishing. The COs made contact shortly thereafter and issued the subject a citation for retaining the foul hooked fish.

CO Justin Vanderlinde patrolled portions of the Betsie River with Michigan Representative Curt Vanderwall. Representative Vanderwall was interested in several enforcement issues involving the Betsie River.

CO Josiah Killingbeck responded to a call where a woman was yelling for help saying that her boyfriend was attempting to light her on fire. As CO Killingbeck arrived on scene, he could see a flash of light near a trailer in the woods in the area where the call came from. CO Killingbeck contacted a male subject who CO Killingbeck believed was the possible suspect. The suspect was intoxicated and agitated, telling CO Killingbeck that his girlfriend was attempting to set the house on fire. CO Killingbeck observed heavy smoke coming out of the house. Not knowing exactly the circumstances involved, CO Killingbeck detained the male subject for safety. The male subject did not want to comply, and after a short struggle, CO Killingbeck was able to get the subject handcuffed. The subject told CO Killingbeck that his girlfriend was inside the residence that was filling with smoke. CO Killingbeck requested the fire department and putting his own safety at risk, along with a Lake County deputy, both officers entered the smoke-filled residence. CO Killingbeck and the Lake County deputy found a suicidal female subject laying on a mattress partially covered with blankets that were on fire. The female was making no attempt to leave the residence or remove the burning materials off her as she was coughing and gagging with smoke inhalation. CO Killingbeck and the Lake County deputy, knowing that they did not have long before becoming overcome with smoke themselves, dragged the female out of the residence just prior to an explosion that consumed the inside of the residence with flames. CO Killingbeck provided first aid to the female subject until Emergency Medical Services arrived. CO Killingbeck assisted the Lake County Sheriff's Department with the investigation.

CO Steven Converse was on patrol along the Manistee River when he observed three individuals fishing with illegal lures. CO Converse contacted the subjects and educated them on the fishing regulations and issued them tickets for the violations. The next day CO Converse observed the same subjects using the same illegal devices and blatantly snagging fish. Contact was again made, and tickets issued for snagging and the use of illegal gear.

CO Josiah Killingbeck contacted two subjects in a permanent ground blind that had been on state land for at least three years. At the time of contact, the subject was also using an over-limit of bait. The subject told CO Killingbeck that he had not looked at a hunting guide since he was a kid, twenty some years ago, and had no idea on the rules for blinds or baiting regulations. Numerous violations were addressed, and education provided about legal hunting methods. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck located a deer blind with a bait pile that exceeded the two-gallon bait limit and it had not been spread out over at least a 10' x 10' area. The hunting blind also did not have the required hunter's identification on it. CO Killingbeck checked back later in the day and located a subject hunting. The subject told CO Killingbeck that he had no idea on rules for baiting and has not attempted to educate himself on hunting regulations. CO Killingbeck explained the importance of knowing hunting regulations and why regulations are in place. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck contacted an ORV that was operating on a designated ORV trail without an ORV trail license displayed. The subject told CO Killingbeck that it must have blown off his machine. After asking the subject for his driver's license, the operator told CO Killingbeck that his license was suspended. CO Killingbeck asked the subject why he was operating an ORV if his driver's license was suspended. The subject attempted to tell CO Killingbeck that he does not need a license to drive an ORV. CO Killingbeck confirmed that the subject's driver's license had been suspended for many years. The subject was arrested and lodged in the Lake County jail for driving while suspended.

CO Brian Brosky was checking the Pere Marquette River in Mason County when he located an individual who was attempting to snag salmon. After watching the individual for a short time, the subject managed to snag a fish in the dorsal fin and with the help of his young son, they were able to land the fish. CO Brosky noted that the subject spent a considerable amount of time posing with the fish while his son took pictures. The father and son eventually packed up to leave and were contacted by CO Brosky. The subject immediately said that he knew he should have let the fish go and admitted that the fish was hooked in the dorsal fin. CO Brosky questioned as to why he spent so much time posing with the fish and the subject said that it was the biggest fish he had ever caught, and he wanted to have it mounted. The subject had guessed that the fish weighed near forty pounds and CO Brosky told the subject that for subjects' sake, he should hope it didn't weigh that much as the reimbursement for the fish would be \$400. CO Brosky guessed and told the subject that the fish more likely weighed between 18 and 20 pounds, and the scale confirmed the fish was just under 19.5 pounds. The subject was cited for snagging fish and he was thankful that his guesstimate of the weight of the fish was not accurate.

COs Brian Brosky and Kyle Publiski responded to a complaint of a subject that had operated his motor vehicle past road closure signs on USFS land in Mason County. The COs checked the area on foot to locate the subject who was bow hunting afield and did not have a license in his possession. The subject was also hunting over excess bait and failed to place a name and address on his tree stand. Upon checking records, it was determined that the same subject had been cited for the same offenses in 2008. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Wells was on patrol when he observed an unoccupied parked vehicle. He made inspection of the vehicle and while doing so he heard the discharge of a shotgun to the west of his location. CO Wells conducted foot patrol of the area and a short time later he observed a subject walking with a long gun in hand. CO Wells also immediately observed that the subject was carrying a squirrel and was not displaying any hunter orange clothing. Contact was made with the subject and CO Wells asked him why he was not displaying hunter orange. The subject responded that the only orange he had in the vehicle was a heavy winter type coat and that it was too hot to wear it. A citation was issued for the violation.

CO Mike Wells was on patrol when he received a request for assistance from a local fire department regarding an illegal burn. CO Wells arrived at the location and after consulting with the chief of the fire department, he made inspection of the burn sites. There were two separate burn locations in which three camping type trailers were burned to the ground. CO Wells spoke with the suspect whom admitted that he had just purchased the property and that he was disposing of the junk that the previous owner had left. CO Wells also observed radial bands from tires in both burn sites. CO Wells asked the subject how many tires had been burned and the suspect admitted that he had taken most of the tires to the dump, but that he kept approximately 30 tires so that he could use them to keep the fires burning. A citation was issued for the unlawful disposal of solid waste.

CO Mike Wells was on patrol when he observed two hunters at their vehicle just after dark. He made contact and observed the younger male subject holding a crossbow and placed it in the back of the vehicle. He spoke with both subjects that admitted they had been hunting. The younger subject even admitted that he observed a nice 8-point yesterday but could not get a shot at it. CO Wells requested hunting license and the younger male advised that he left his at their camp. CO Wells conducted RSS check and discovered that the subject had not obtained a deer hunting license this season. CO Wells asked the subject a second time and he admitted that he had forgotten to purchase a license. Further check revealed that this subject had already hunted two years on an apprentice license and that he was not eligible to obtain a license until he completed a hunter safety class. A citation was issued for the no license violation.

CO Mike Wells was on patrol when he observed a truck driving slowly and periodically braking. CO Wells slowly followed the vehicle for a short distance

when the vehicle backed into a location to turn around. CO Wells contacted the operator of the vehicle and observed an uncased, scoped shotgun on the front passenger seat of the truck. CO Wells asked the operator why the gun was uncased. He advised that he was hunting the Independence Hunt and displayed a Hunt from Standing Vehicle Permit. CO Wells asked him if he had any ammunition in his pocket and the subject produced a box of shotgun slugs. There was also a spotlight on the front floor area of the truck. CO Wells advised the subject that even though it is daylight out, the presence of the uncased firearm along with the spotlight does not look good. The subject again stated that he has a Hunt from Standing Vehicle Permit. CO Wells explained to him that the vehicle must be parked and motor off before he can uncase the firearm and hunt from the vehicle. This was in writing on the back of the permit that he provided to CO Wells. CO Wells asked the subject if he had a case for the firearm and the subject admitted that he left the case at his camp. A citation was issued for the uncased firearm with warning issued for an expired registration plate on the vehicle.

CO Mike Wells was just leaving his residence for patrol when he received a complaint of three subjects in a boat shooting at waterfowl while under power. The complainant had taken photographs of the watercraft and was able to obtain the registration number. CO Wells responded to the access site on the lake and within a few minutes he observed the suspect watercraft motoring by the site. CO Wells ordered the vessel into the launch and contacted the hunters. Three shotguns were in the vessel and all were loaded at time of contact. Two mallard ducks were on the bow of the vessel and CO Wells advised the subjects of the complaint and asked if both ducks were rallied and shot. The subjects asked what rallying was and CO Wells explained the violation of shooting waterfowl while the boat is under power. He explained that the motor cannot be utilized, and the forward momentum of the boat must stop before the guns can be loaded and shot. The occupants advised that both ducks were shot under power. CO Wells requested licenses from the three subjects and two of them advised they left them at the cabin. The firearms and waterfowl were seized for evidence. CO Wells followed subject to the cabin and confirmed license purchases. All licenses were correct until it was discovered that the juvenile aboard had not completed his hunter safety requirement. Both adult subjects were issued for the loaded firearms in the watercraft and the juvenile's father was contacted regarding his son's activities.

CO Casey Varriale assisted the Ewart City Police Department with a suspicious vehicle parked in Riverside West Park. Contact was made with the vehicle with a strong odor of marijuana coming from the interior. The city police officer searched the vehicle and found a grocery bag full of edible marijuana. CO Varriale determined the individual had been drinking during an interview and witnessed him drive to the park. A PBT was administered and the individual was over the legal limit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Ginn responded to a RAP complaint of two subjects who had taken deer with a firearm. Upon arrival, CO Ginn contacted the suspects gutting the deer on the back side of a soybean field with the aid of their headlights. Upon further investigation, CO Ginn was able to determine the suspects did indeed shoot the deer with a firearm. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Van Gelderen was patrolling public land when he came upon a group of woodcutters. CO Van Gelderen discovered different violations which included a truck pulled off road and into the woods. The truck that drove through the woods had driven over several small trees. CO Van Gelderen discovered the driver had three outstanding warrants for his arrest. A citation was issued, and the subject was lodged in the Oceana County jail for the warrants.

CO Jeff Ginn and Sgt. Mike Bomay responded to a complaint from the Mecosta County Sheriff's Department warrant team. When the warrant team arrived on scene to arrest a suspect with multiple warrants for his arrest, he was in possession of unprocessed deer meat. CO Ginn and Sgt. Bomay were able to discover that two of the subjects involved were felons. The vehicle used in harvesting the deer was stained with blood in the rear portion of the SUV. Blood was also observed on all four interior door handles; three firearms were recovered from the vehicle and an additional three deer were in and around a shed adjacent to the residence. All five deer were taken with a firearm. Both subjects were lodged on the probation violations and outstanding warrants. Enforcement action was taken to address the five illegal deer.

COs Ben Shively and Troy VanGeldereren spoke at a Whitetails Unlimited banquet in Oceana County to 125 attendees on CWD and hunting issues.

CO Ben Shively stopped two ORVs that were operating after sunset without headlights and taillights. One operator driver's license was suspended and revoked. The ORV also was not licensed, and the owner had failed to title the ORV. The second subject was found to have a contempt of court warrant. A citation for operating an ORV while suspended/revoked was issued and the second subject was arrested and lodged on the outstanding warrant.

## **DISTRICT 5**

CO Mike Hearn was contacted by a concerned property owner regarding ORVs trespassing to access a hill on his property in Kalkaska County. At the request of CO Hearn, the area was posted by the owner as private property. A berm was also established to keep vehicles out. The posting and berm failed to deter activity, so the property owner reached out for further assistance. During a recent patrol, multiple groups of ORVs were contacted and subsequently cited for trespassing on the private property. Every person contacted stated that they had seen the private property signs prior to crossing onto the private property.

CO Charlie Jones was on patrol near Sunset Trail and M-72 in Bear Lake Township when he observed a vehicle driving westbound swerve off the road onto the shoulder several times. CO Jones initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle. Field sobriety tests were conducted and it was determined that the male subject was operating while intoxicated. The male subject was taken into custody and lodged in the Kalkaska County Jail.

CO Charlie Jones and Sgt. Brian Olsen were on patrol in Kalkaska County around 1:00 a.m. The two COs noticed a suspicious vehicle parked in a DNR ORV parking lot. When the COs pulled up behind the vehicle, the driver opened the door and exited the vehicle. CO Jones could smell the strong odor of marijuana. The two passengers quickly produced valid medical cards to possess marijuana and advised they had run out of gas. Further investigation revealed that one of the passengers had multiple warrants out of Antrim County. As the COs were dealing with the suspicious vehicle, another vehicle pulled into the parking lot. The driver turned out to be the dad of the suspicious vehicle driver. When contact was made with the father, the COs located more marijuana. The father also had warrants for his arrest and was operating on a suspended driver's license. The COs arrested both the passenger of the suspicious vehicle and the father who had come to assist his son. The Kalkaska County Sheriff's Office assisted by transporting one of the arrestees.

CO Craig Neal was patrolling state land near the Cadillac Pathway in Missaukee County when he noticed several ORV tracks going past a "No ORVs" sign. CO Neal followed the tracks and located six ORVs operating in the closed area and three of them did not have the proper ORV licensing. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Craig Neal had been working a complaint of an illegal tree stand on state land in northern Missaukee County. CO Neal was finally able to locate the hunter in his tree stand. The hunter had several violations: baiting prior to September 15<sup>th</sup>; placing a tree stand on state land prior to September 1<sup>st</sup>; as well as no identification on his stand, to name a few. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Matt Zultak and Ben McAteer were conducting a wildlife patrol in Roscommon County when they noticed a subject wearing all camouflage floating down the Cut River in a camouflage kayak. The COs contacted the subject and asked what he was doing. The man answered, "Observing waterfowl." CO Zultak noticed a shotgun in the kayak that the man was attempting to conceal with his leg. CO Zultak informed the subject he had seen his firearm and asked what kind of shells he was shooting. The man replied, "Eights." CO McAteer asked why he was afield without hunter orange. The subject confessed that he was waterfowl hunting and did not need hunter orange. Upon further investigation, it was determined the man was not only hunting waterfowl with toxic/lead shot, but also had failed to obtain a federal waterfowl stamp. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Bader checked a waterfowl hunter in Ogemaw County that was returning to his vehicle to get a fishing pole. The man said one of his decoys had floated into the middle of the lake and he was hoping to snag it. CO Bader followed him back to his blind and checked his two hunting companions. When one of the hunters unloaded their shotgun, CO Bader observed that one of the shells contained lead shot. Further investigation revealed the man to be in possession of more lead shot shells in his hunting bag. A citation was issued for hunting waterfowl with toxic shot and a warning was issued for not signing his federal migratory bird stamp.

CO Jon Warner was checking duck hunters coming off Tawas Lake in Iosco County when a smaller flat bottom boat caught his attention. The boat was occupied by three hunters and had so much gear it was in danger of capsizing. Upon checking the hunters, he discovered they didn't have a single PFD and the registration was expired. Enforcement action was taken.

After spending time working an over-limit complaint of white-tailed bucks during the fall of 2017, CO Steve Lockwood received the break he needed nearly a year later. Recently, CO Lockwood received a tip that the suspect was out hunting in Clare County and would be hunting without a license. A quick check through the DNR's licensing system confirmed the suspect had not purchased any hunting licenses for the current year. CO Lockwood met up with CO Ethan Gainforth and responded to the area that the suspect was allegedly hunting. Both COs waited until after shooting hours for the man to return to his vehicle. The suspect immediately informed the COs that he thought he left his hunting license at his house. CO Lockwood was able to get the man talking and bragging about his hunting adventures from the previous year and he inadvertently "spilled the beans" about his illegal activities from the previous year. In addition to issuing a citation for the current violation of hunting without a license, COs Lockwood and Gainforth followed the suspect back to his residence and seized evidence from the previous year's violations. CO Lockwood will be seeking warrants through the Clare County Prosecutor's Office for an over-limit of white-tailed bucks and borrowing kill tags from another person.

CO Mark Papineau was contacted by an Illinois Conservation Police Officer (CPO) regarding a subject who had shot a deer in Michigan in 2017 without a license. According to the Illinois CPO, an Illinois resident was seeking employment with their agency as a conservation police officer and, during a background investigation, admitted to hunting in Michigan in 2017. As the background investigation continued, it was discovered that the applicant had shot an antlerless deer during Michigan's archery deer season and never obtained a Michigan hunting license. CO Papineau contacted the applicant and obtained a confession. The applicant advised CO Papineau that he did not buy a license because a family member from Michigan advised him that he did not need one. The applicant was dropped from the Illinois hiring process and has pending

criminal charges through the Gladwin County Prosecutor's Office for taking a deer without a license in Michigan.

## **DISTRICT 6**

CO Josh Russell was patrolling the Flat River State Game Area when he pulled into a parking lot and found a vehicle parked with a subject standing outside of it. As CO Russell contacted the individual, he noticed an uncased shotgun in the vehicle. CO Russell asked the subject what he was hunting, and the subject responded "turkey". The subject did not have a case for the gun and was hunting on public land with a private land turkey license. The subject was issued citation for uncased firearm in a motor vehicle.

CO Quincy Gowenlock was checking subjects coming out from their morning waterfowl hunt in the Shiawassee River State Game Area (SGA). While conducting a check on an individual, CO Gowenlock checked the hunter's shotgun for a plug. After finding the shotgun to not have the required plug in it for hunting waterfowl, CO Gowenlock told the hunter that he would be issuing a citation. The hunter could not believe that he didn't have a plug in his shotgun and the CO checked again. After stating "there must be a mistake", the hunter handed CO Gowenlock four shotgun shells and the CO proceeded to insert all four into the magazine tube. At that point the hunter conceded and accepted his citation.

While on patrol in Huron County, CO Kyle Bucholtz was passed by a subject traveling at a high rate of speed. As traffic entered the city limits, the subject passed multiple vehicles at once. CO Bucholtz stopped the vehicle and discovered multiple juveniles in the back seat and the driver was without insurance. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Bob Hobkirk and Seth Rhodea worked opening day of the south zone waterfowl season on Saginaw Bay patrolling the area by boat. During the patrol numerous violations were located including possessing toxic shot, hunting waterfowl without licenses, unplugged shotguns, transporting loaded firearms while under power and numerous marine violations. In total 10 citations were issued during the patrol.

COs Seth Rhodea, Bob Hobkirk and Kyle Bucholtz worked a patrol out of the Sebewaing area checking waterfowl hunters. Violations discovered during the patrol included hunting without the proper license, hunting with lead shot and hunting with unplugged guns. Citations were issued for the violations.

COs Bob Hobkirk, Jill Miller and Seth Rhodea patrolled the west side of Saginaw Bay on the second weekend of the south zone waterfowl season. During the patrol the COs cited an individual for hunting without a valid license, taking a protected species and transporting loaded firearm in watercraft.



CO Mark Siemen received a complaint about a bow hunter who was trespassing. CO Siemen responded and located the bow hunter and spoke with him about the property he was hunting on. After speaking with both property owners, it was determined that the hunter may have not been trespassing and the property owners were not sure about the property line. CO Siemen did ask the subject if he had a hunting license and he advised he did not. Enforcement action was taken and he was issued a citation for hunting without a license.

CO Mark Siemen received information that a subject had killed a deer with his bow and purchased a license the next day. With this information CO Siemen contacted the subject and he confessed to killing a 9-point buck without a license. All evidence was collected, photographed and seized by CO Siemen. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Siemen received information about a subject he was very familiar with due to multiple prior violations during past deer seasons. The information was that the subject had purchased a deer combo license while having his hunting privileges revoked from prior violations. CO Siemen contacted the subject and asked him for his license. The subject produced the combo tags and he stated he bought the tags because he collects them. Enforcement action was taken and the tags were seized.

CO Mark Siemen had contact with a father and son during the waterfowl opener. Both subjects were hunting without a waterfowl license, unplugged firearms and they were using lead shot. During the investigation CO Siemen did locate a mallard duck that was killed by the hunters. Enforcement action was taken, and both subjects were issued citations for multiple offenses.

CO Joshua Wright was checking waterfowl hunters at Fish Point Managed Waterfowl Area when the first party he came upon had more than the allowed amount of ammunition by forty rounds. The next party CO Wright checked had an unplugged gun in the group with the plug in the gear bag. The third-party CO Wright checked resulted in the arrest of a hunter for possessing a firearm while under the influence of a controlled substance. The individual was taken to a local hospital for a blood draw and lodged at the Tuscola County Jail.

While on patrol, CO Jill Miller got a complaint about a subject who was shooting does in Gladwin County and tagging them with antlerless licenses for Bay County. When CO Miller arrived, there was a doe hanging in the barn. The subject claimed his daughter shot the doe. Upon further investigation, the subject admitted to shooting the doe and tagging it with his daughter's tag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jill Miller received a complaint from the Report All Poaching (RAP) hotline for Saginaw County about three untagged deer hanging in a backyard. CO Mike Haas and CO Josh Russell assisted CO Miller with the investigation. The subject

and his son arrived with an uncased bow in the car and had an untagged doe in the backyard. Upon further investigation, the subject's son shot the doe the evening before and an 8-point buck that morning. The subjects did not have permission to be hunting on the property where the deer were taken. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking waterfowl hunters in eastern Isabella County, US Fish & Wildlife Officer Jeff Hunter and CO Mike Haas contacted a group hunting near a large pond on state land. One of the hunters had failed to purchase his Michigan waterfowl license and his federal waterfowl stamp. The officers escorted the group back to the hunter's truck and discovered an uncased bow in the backseat and a bag of corn in the bed of the truck. When the officers asked what the corn was for, one of the hunters stated he was planning to hunt turkey and had purchased the corn to bait turkeys to his hunting spot. The man was educated on the baiting laws in Michigan and informed that it was illegal to bait turkey and waterfowl; it is also illegal to bait deer in Isabella County. State and federal citations were issued to address the licensing and weapon violations.

While patrolling near Coldwater Lake and checking for waterfowl hunting activity, CO Mike Haas observed a vehicle run a stop sign. CO Haas caught up to the vehicle and noted it was also speeding and displaying expired registration. CO Haas conducted a traffic stop and verified that the vehicle's registration had expired five months prior and the driver had an expired driver's license. A citation was issued to address the multiple traffic violations.

COs Mike Haas and Dan Robinson received a complaint that a group of waterfowl hunters had shot a sandhill crane while hunting in Isabella County. The COs arrived on scene and took up covert positions near the hunters. As the hunters were packing up, CO Haas heard someone in the group comment about not getting caught "walking out with the crane." After checking the hunters and getting a confession that one of hunters in the party shot the crane, the COs returned to the pond to locate the dead bird. Over the next few days, the COs worked with the local US Fish and Wildlife Officer who confirmed that the crane was shot in violation of the farm permit issued by their department. A citation was issued and several warnings were given dealing with the various permit violations. Both the permit holder and the hunter admitted that they did not read the permit prior to taking birds.

CO Dan Robinson was checking a local park and river access area in Isabella County, when a truck pulled in with a load of trash and quickly turned around. CO Robinson wrote the plate down and ran it through LEIN, showing the plate to be invalid for the truck it was attached to. CO Robinson followed the tracks a few miles and noticed trash flying out of the back of the pick-up. A traffic stop was initiated, and the driver admitted that he had never registered or titled the truck nor had insurance on it, he also added that the plate was one he had "lying around". He was also in possession of drug paraphernalia. The vehicle was

searched and towed and the driver issued a citation related to the registration and improper plate.

CO Dan Robinson was checking a state game area in southern Isabella County when he saw what appeared to be very fresh donut marks in the road from an ORV. CO Robinson followed the tracks from Isabella County into Montcalm County for several miles before locating two quads sitting at an intersection. The quads left the intersection at a high rate of speed, passed a vehicle in a no-passing zone, and were traveling in the middle of the roadway. CO Robinson activated his emergency lights and siren and followed the vehicles onto the next dirt road, where one subject stopped and the other turned, looked and took off again. The CO followed the fleeing quad for another mile or so when the operator slowed and came to a stop. The subject was issued citations and warnings and his machine was towed from the scene. The second subject was in contact with the first by social media and refused to come to the intersection where the CO had the first subject stopped. The subject was identified with limited information and contact will be made with him at a later date.

## **DISTRICT 7**

CO Richard Cardenas was patrolling the Barry State Game Area when Barry County central dispatch reported an armed and suicidal subject near the area. CO Cardenas responded to the complaint to assist the officers arriving on scene. While en route to the subject's location, deputies advised the subject was refusing to comply with commands to disarm and was asking them to shoot him. CO Cardenas was third on scene, communicated with deputies, and snuck around the home to obtain a safe position behind the subject. The subject eventually complied with the deputy's orders and placed the shotgun down at his feet. As the subject slowly moved away from the firearm, CO Cardenas saw an opportunity to end the situation and snuck in behind the subject placing himself between the subject and the shotgun. CO Cardenas then took control of the subject and escorted him towards deputies and was ultimately detained. Additional weapons were located on the subject and he was transported to the hospital without incident by Barry County Sheriff's Department.

COs Tyler Cole and Zach Bauer were on patrol when they noticed two anglers fishing on a bridge. Contact was made with the anglers. Further investigation revealed both anglers were using multi pointed hooks in an area where multi pointed hooks are restricted for preservation of salmon. Enforcement action was taken on the equipment violations.

CO Zach Bauer was on patrol when he saw an angler fishing near the Berrien Springs Dam. CO Bauer made contact with the angler. CO Bauer noticed a pole laying on the ground that appeared to be rigged with gear that is illegal to use. CO Bauer had the angler reel in his line. The angler reeled in two un-baited treble hooks, with weight suspended below the hooks. CO Bauer advised the

angler he cannot use this setup unless the hooks are baited, and the hooks are on three-inch dropper lines. The angler stated he did not know this, and he has not been in trouble with the DNR. CO Bauer checked the angler for prior violations and the angler had prior violations seven years and one day prior for attempt to snag fish and fishing with weight suspended below hook without a dropper line. Enforcement action was taken for the equipment violation.

COs Jeff Robinette and Travis Dragomer observed a truck parked on the Andrews University HAP Land. The COs observed an uncased firearm in the back seat of the vehicle. The COs contacted the hunter as he exited the woods 45 minutes after legal hunting hours. After conducting a check on the hunter, it was determined that he had his shot gun loaded after legal hunting hours, did not have a turkey license on his person, and had an uncased .22 caliber rifle in his back seat. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Page was called considering two subjects that were putting waders on getting ready to fish a closed stream after dark in a remote area. CO Page contacted a local Berrien County deputy to sit on the vehicle prior to arrival. Once on scene, both officers walked back through rugged terrain and located two subjects walking the stream. Contact was made and only one of the two subjects was in possession of fishing equipment. The individuals stated that they didn't know the stream was closed and had never fished it before. CO Page advised them that usually when people are fishing a stream for the first time they think is open they don't wait till after dark to trek through that rugged of terrain. The anglers agreed. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Page was making a left-hand turn and noticed a semi passing him on a double yellow nearly jack-knifing his trailer and narrowly avoiding a serious accident. CO Page was assisted by a Michigan State Police motor carrier unit who after a detailed inspection found that 18 of the 22 trailer brakes were inoperable. The truck was decommissioned until repairs are made and enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling the Three Rivers State Game Area in Fabius Township, St. Joseph County, CO Jeremy Cantrell noticed two individuals target shooting from the bed of their truck. Upon further investigation, CO Cantrell discovered that there were multiple other firearms in the back seat of the truck. CO Cantrell asked to search the vehicle and found that one of the firearms was loaded and uncased. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Ivan Perez and BJ Goulette found a hunter who had been illegally hunting and took a buck illegally off an Ottawa County Park property that is closed to hunting. The subject was also baiting contrary to the baiting ban in the CWD area. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Ottawa County, CO Ivan Perez was forwarded an email from an Ottawa County Sheriff's Department deputy indicating that in the early morning hours they had been dispatched to a shining and shooting complaint in Northern Ottawa County. CO Perez continued reading that the two suspects had been apprehended in the area of the shooting and had confessed to shooting at deer that evening. The deputy continued in his email that there was a .22 rifle recovered and fresh blood in the trunk of the vehicle. The driver stated that the blood was from a nine-point buck the passenger had shot earlier that week. The following morning CO Perez made contact with the passenger of the vehicle at his residence to speak about the events earlier that morning. Prior to making contact, CO Perez had discovered that the passenger had only purchased a single deer license. CO Perez asked to see his I.D. and all hunting and fishing licenses. The passenger produced his unused kill tag. When asked about his deer, he stated that he had shot a 9-point buck on the first of October and forgot to tag it. When CO Perez asked about the fresh blood in the trunk of the driver's vehicle, he stated he had no idea where it was from and that he had brought his 9-point buck home himself. CO Perez issued the subject a ticket for failure to immediately tag and left his residence. CO Perez then made contact with the driver of the vehicle at his residence. Prior to making contact, CO Perez discovered that this subject had not purchased deer licenses for 2018. Upon making contact at the subject's front door, CO Perez could smell the strong odor of suspected marijuana; there were also very small children within the residence. When asked about the marijuana, the subject produced a medical marijuana card and stated that he was a caregiver for several subjects and currently had several growing marijuana plants on his property. After a short investigation, the subject admitted to shooting an 8-point buck at night earlier in the month with the .22 rifle that was currently in the Ottawa County Sheriff Department's possession. He was able to produce the rack and deer meat. Due to the large number of marijuana plants at his vicinity, CO Perez requested the aid of W.M.E.T. and the Ottawa County Sheriff's Department. The subject was later charged with manufacturing by W.M.E.T. as he had 19 plants more than allowed by law. The Ottawa County Sheriff Department is submitting a warrant request for the driver and passenger for the shining and shooting complaint, and CO Perez issued a ticket to the driver for possession of the illegally taken deer.

While on patrol in Ottawa County, COs Ivan Perez and Justin Ulberg noted a large plume of black smoke a few miles away along the Grand River. The COs investigated and came to an address where the fire was burning. There was a large fire that had tree stumps, brush, about a dozen old tires and broken up fiberglass. The landowner stated that she was only using the tires as an accelerant. She also stated that she had called in a burn permit with the township fire department. CO Perez checked with dispatch and found that she did have a permit to burn. CO Perez requested the aid of the township fire department to extinguish the blaze. CO Perez informed the landowner to carefully read the rules of her permit as it states what she can and cannot burn. A ticket was issued for unlawful disposal of solid waste by burning.

In September, CO Greg Patten received a complaint of a ladder tree stand placed on Muskegon County property with no name and address. The area was baited with a white mineral. CO Patten checked the stand several times and did not locate anyone in it. On 10/13/18, CO Patten checked the stand and did not find anyone in it. As CO Patten was driving from the area he came across a subject sitting in a vehicle in a farm field on the county property. The subject told CO Patten that he had been hunting that morning, shot a deer with his bow, and was waiting to track it. CO Patten asked the subject where he had been hunting. The subject pointed toward the wood lot where the illegal stand was located. CO Patten described the stand to the subject, the subject said that the stand was his and that was where he was hunting. CO Patten asked the subject if his name and address was on the stand, he said that he thought that it was on the top. CO Patten and the subject returned to the stand. The subject then said that he thought that his name was on the ladder, but he must have painted over it. The subject denied placing any bait out. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Greg Patten and a Muskegon County Deputy were working on locating subjects who were using unmarked tree stands and bait in Duck Lake State Park. On October 14, 2018 CO Patten received an email from a person who called the RAP line about one baited area. The reporting party said that people were back in the area hunting with bait. CO Patten was in a different part of the county. CO Patten contacted the deputy to check if he was close to the state park. The deputy said that he was already going to check the area and would look and see if there were any persons in stands or using bait. The deputy located two subjects hunting with corn and molasses bait which was well over the old two-gallon limit. The subjects were set up near an area baited with carrots and sugar beets that was reported earlier. The subjects were unaware of the other bait and confessed to just putting out the corn and molasses. Enforcement action was taken.

On October 1, 2018 the opening day of bow season, CO Greg Patten received a complaint through the Report All Poaching (RAP) dispatch center of a person who shot from a vehicle with a bow. CO Patten contacted the reporting party and recovered an arrow with a broadhead at the scene. The complainant did not know who shot, did not have a license plate, and could not identify the suspect. CO Patten conducted further investigation and learned that a possible suspect driving a vehicle that was similar to the one reported was involved in a rollover crash in Oceana County. CO Patten checked with Oceana County and learned that the subject who crashed had a bow and arrows. The subject was arrested on several charges and the bow was seized by Oceana County. CO Patten then learned that the arrows that the arrested subject had in his possession matched the arrow at the scene of the shooting. CO Patten checked with more people in the area and was given another name of a subject who was with the person who crashed his vehicle. CO Patten interviewed that person who confessed to shooting from the vehicle on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The person said that he was shooting at turkeys. The subject also did not have any hunting licenses. Reports have

been submitted to the Muskegon County Prosecutor's Office for enforcement action.

While checking a deer processor in Kent County, CO Justin Ulberg noticed a tag that appeared suspicious. The deer tag had been purchased approximately one hour before CO Ulberg's arrival at the processor. It appeared that the hunter had shot the deer and then purchased his license. CO Ulberg responded to the hunter's residence and interviewed him about the deer. The hunter confessed to not having his license when he went out hunting, shot the deer and then went to the store to purchase his license. Enforcement action was taken.

## **DISTRICT 8**

CO Mike Drexler was working the waterfowl opener on foot patrol of a state game area in Washtenaw County when he contacted his first group of the morning. While checking a hunter in the group, CO Drexler noticed him eject what appeared to be two lead shells out of his shotgun. CO Drexler checked the shells and found the subject to be hunting with lead shot. Enforcement action taken.

CO Andrew Monnich was checking the Onsted State Game Area when he noticed a vehicle parked in an access site where someone had cut down trees and put a stand up with screw-in steps and no name/address back in September. CO Monnich walked toward the stand and was greeted by a hunter heading out. A quick conversation revealed it was his stand and enforcement action was taken for multiple violations.

CO Pete Purdy observed the operator of a PWC not wearing a PFD on Thompson Lake. CO Purdy contacted the 17-year-old operator at the boat launch. He advised his father looked for a PFD and couldn't find one but told the 17-year-old to go across the lake anyway because they were taking it out of the water. CO Purdy made contact with the father of the operator. In addition, the PWC hadn't been registered since 2017, and the owner didn't transfer the registration with Secretary of State for over a year. Enforcement action taken.

CO Pete Purdy observed a subject sitting in a running vehicle in a state game area parking lot in Livingston County. As CO Purdy approached the vehicle he observed the subject attempting to cover something up. When asked what it was the subject advised it was an open can of beer. CO Purdy asked if the individual was intoxicated and he stated "maybe." CO Purdy instructed the individual to exit his vehicle. The subject said he didn't want to because he had a "federal warrant." CO Purdy ordered the subject out of vehicle and took him into custody. A check revealed the subject was a probation absconder and had a suspended driver's license. CO Purdy lodged the subject in the Livingston County Jail.

CO Jason McCullough received a complaint from a landowner of a bait pile and tree stand on his property that didn't belong to him. CO McCullough met the complainant and as they were going to look at the bait pile they found the trespasser hunting in the tree stand. The hunter had a few beers and a couple of pints of liquor to help him pass the time. Upon contact and further investigation, in addition to the over limits of bait, trespassing, and alcohol, it was determined the suspect had already shot one buck and failed to use his tag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason McCullough assisted the local sheriff's department with a complaint involving a home owner who had a crossbow bolt shot into the wall of their home. The bolt had penetrated the exterior wall of the home. Located a short distance from the house was a large bait pile and trail camera. Using the trajectory of the arrow, a makeshift ground blind was located on some vacant city property. The officers contacted a couple of adjacent property owners who lived on the next road. The adjacent property owners happened to be missing a crossbow bolt that matched the crossbow bolt removed from the home. After a brief interview, the hunter stated he had shot at movement in the bushes during low light conditions. The hunter stated he heard a loud impact after he shot but thought he hit a plastic bucket that had been left in the woods previously. Thankfully no one was injured, and CO McCullough stressed the importance of always knowing your target and what is beyond it. Charges are being sought through the local prosecutor's office.

CO Jeff Goss responded to an ongoing waterfowl hunting complaint on Turtle Lake. The caller suspected that the hunters were hunting within her safety zone. Upon arrival, the hunters were found to be outside the safety zone of the caller. Several neighbors were upset about how close the hunters were hunting to their houses. Upon contacting the hunters, it was discovered that they were hunting within another neighbor's safety zone as well as trespassing. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Goss received a complaint of a person who trespassed to retrieve a deer they shot. When the complainant followed the tracks back to the property line, they observed a massive amount of bait near a tree stand. Upon arrival, evidence of the crime was collected. The suspects were from out of town and had been leasing the property for two years. After contacting several people, it was discovered that the suspect was already back home with the deer several counties away. CO Goss contacted District 9 Sgt. Jason Becker for assistance. Sgt Becker was able to meet with the suspect and obtain a full confession to the illegal activity. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Goss assisted the Calhoun County Sheriff's Department on a waterfowl hunting complaint. Upon arrival it was discovered that three hunters had been shooting at geese when they allegedly shot some nearby vehicles. Although the hunters were outside the complainant's safety zone, they were still close enough



to cause damage to two vehicles. Charges are pending for reckless discharge of a firearm.

CO Nick Wellman was on patrol when he noticed several shots coming from a local lake. CO Wellman located a group hunting and decided to set up and watch the group for a while. CO Wellman observed the group kill several birds through his spotting scope and kept notes on what birds were killed and by who. CO Wellman thought they may have shot too many geese. He asked CO Josh Jackson to meet him there, so they could split up and intercept the group as they left the area in a boat. The COs contacted the group as they traveled up Coldwater River. After checking gear and licenses, the group was asked to show the COs all the birds they had killed. Just as CO Wellman had thought, the group had killed an over limit of geese. The two bird over limit was seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Wellman was patrolling near the Sauk River when he noticed two individuals fishing off a fishing pier. He contacted the two anglers and they both stated they had fishing licenses but didn't have the licenses on them at the time. After checking their story through dispatch, it was found that neither of them had fishing licenses and one of the men had a warrant for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken and the man with the warrant was placed in custody.

CO Chris Maher received a complaint of an individual who found a tree stand by a pile of bait on his property and was unsure who placed them there. The land owner stated he did not want individuals hunting his property without permission and took the tree stand down. During his investigation CO Maher discovered the stand belonged to a man who lived out of town and placed the stand up during the youth hunt to take out a young hunter. The suspect stated he took out his friend's daughter and the property owners of the land he was supposed to be hunting on did not inform him that he was on someone else's land. Due to the circumstances CO Maher was able to facilitate the return of the tree stand to the owner. However, enforcement action was taken on the bait, even though Jackson County recently became a no baiting county the bait pile was much larger than two gallons, a law which has been in effect for numerous years.

CO Shane Webster received information on a subject who had been continuously hunting after hours for waterfowl. CO Webster was able to set-up on the individual and observe him hunting. CO Webster observed the subject continue to actively call waterfowl and remain loaded well after hours and take a shot at a goose 17 minutes after legal hunting hours had ended. CO Webster contacted the subject who advised he thought hours had ended at 7pm for the evening, which was incorrect as hours had ended at 6:47 pm; however, the individual still had not unloaded for six minutes after his own prescribed hunting hours. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Chris Reynolds and Nick Wellman interviewed an individual in Hillsdale County who hunted and possibly had taken a deer without a license. The hunter immediately confessed to hunting and taking the deer without a license and led the COs to the deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Carter Woodwyk was patrolling the Somerset State Game Area in Hillsdale County for the south zone opening day of waterfowl season. The CO approached two hunters, one of which immediately stated they had an unplugged firearm they were using to hunt. The subject assured the CO they were only loading the firearm with three shot shells. When the CO unloaded the firearm, four shells came out. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Carter Woodwyk attended a pretrial hearing and a condemnation hearing at the Hillsdale District Court regarding an illegally taken deer from 2017. The suspect pled guilty to illegally harvesting a ten-point antlered whitetail deer, and the suspect's crossbow was condemned to the State of Michigan.

CO Carter Woodwyk received a complaint of littering in Hillsdale County. When the CO arrived at the complainant's residence, the complainant gave the CO an empty prescription pill container with a possible suspect's name on it that he located in the litter pile. When the CO saw the name on the pill bottle, he immediately recalled giving a citation to the same suspect for littering in the Lost Nation's State Game Area (SGA) earlier in the year. Coincidentally, this suspect has an arraignment coming up to determine his fine amount for littering in the Lost Nation's SGA earlier this year. The CO plans on informing the judge of this most recent incident, and the excessive amount of litter disposed of on the complainant's private property, before the arraignment happens.

CO Larn R. Strawn was patrolling the Looking Glass River in Clinton County in the early morning hours to check waterfowl hunters. While negotiating some sharp curves, CO Strawn encountered a vehicle passing head-on in a no passing zone. The vehicle narrowly missed CO Strawn's patrol truck. CO Strawn turned around and eventually was able to catch up to the vehicle as the operator was travelling at a high rate of speed and attempting to elude CO Strawn. After several miles, CO Strawn made a traffic stop and asked the driver why he was driving so recklessly. The driver exclaimed that he was two hours late to work. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Larn R. Strawn is investigating an abandoned boat and accompanying litter at the Muskrat Lake State Game Area. The boat was dumped over the weekend and has been noticed by several concerned citizens and residents, all of whom have been calling to report the dump site.

CO Strawn received a complaint of a person failing to tag a deer and then transporting the deer in violation of the CWD transport restrictions. CO Strawn responded to the suspect's residence and while approaching the house CO

Strawn noticed the deer was hanging in a tree in the back yard. The deer still was not tagged. CO Strawn contacted the hunter and discovered the hunter was not aware of the transport restrictions but had not validated and attached the kill tag to the deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Thorn located four large bait piles on a hunting property in Holt. No one was present on the hunting property, so he left and returned the next day. Upon arrival, CO Thorn located three individuals with a small antlered deer that they had just tagged. CO Thorn investigated and found that the deer was shot over a large bait pile in an area where baiting is not allowed. Enforcement action was taken.

Responding to a RAP complaint, CO Todd Thorn went to a residence in Leslie where there was a report of baiting deer. CO Thorn located a large bait pile and found that the resident was hunting without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Troy Ludwig was patrolling the Charlotte State Game Area (SGA) when he contacted a hunter he had been looking to catch up with for some time. The hunter had constructed a permanent artificial ground blind on SGA property and not removed it every night as law requires. The hunter had also removed and damaged trees in the process of constructing the blind along with leaving trash at the site. The hunter's father was contacted in a similar blind set up a few hundred yards away with the same violations. The hunters were obliged to take down the blinds and clean up their mess in lieu of being lodged in the county jail. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Troy Ludwig contacted a hunter at the Charlotte State Game Area (SGA) who had a large open bag of carrots in the bed of his pick-up truck. After checking the hunter's licenses, the CO inquired about the carrots and the hunter admitted to placing bait in a county off limits to baiting. The hunter cleaned up his bait and enforcement action was taken.

CO Troy Ludwig received a complaint of a hunter who had posted a picture of the 8-point buck she had taken on the internet; however, she had not purchased her hunting license prior to taking the animal. When the CO interviewed her and her boyfriend who she had been hunting with at the time, the hunter admitted to not having a license and tagging the deer with her boyfriend's license. Enforcement action was taken.

## **DISTRICT 9**

CO Adam Beuthin was on patrol in Monroe County checking waterfowl hunters at Pointe Mouillee State Game Area when a vessel came into the Roberts Rd. public launch. The CO contacted the hunters and while checking their licenses one of the hunters had a federal duck stamp that was unsigned. When asked

why the stamp wasn't signed the subject said, "I just didn't do it yet" to the CO. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Nick Ingersoll and Keven Luther were patrolling the Erie Metro Park when they contacted three individuals out waterfowl hunting. The COs conducted a check and asked all the hunters if they had plugs in their guns. All three hunters stated they did. The COs checked the hunter's shotguns and determined that one of the three guns could hold more than three shells. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Ingersoll was patrolling the Lost Peninsula in Erie Township and observed two anglers fishing. As he approached the dock where the anglers were fishing, he noticed one of the anglers had left the dock. CO Ingersoll searched the area and found the angler sitting next to a shed without his coat on. CO Ingersoll contacted both anglers and asked for their fishing licenses. After a short pause the angler sitting by the shed stated he thought the CO didn't see him fishing so he took off his coat to try and hide from the officer. CO Ingersoll advised the angler that taking his coat off didn't hide the fact that he was fishing. The angler admitted to fishing without a license and enforcement action was taken. After CO Ingersoll issued the angler his citation, he observed a separate group of anglers fishing. CO Ingersoll contacted the three anglers and found that two of the three anglers did not have a fishing license, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Ingersoll was patrolling the City of Monroe when he observed an individual walking along the railroad tracks. CO Ingersoll contacted the individual and asked him what he was doing. The individual stated he was just out for a Sunday stroll. When CO Ingersoll asked him if he could be on the railroad tracks, the individual stated, "I am not allowed to be on the tracks, I used to work for the railroad and I know I am not supposed to be walking here." CO Ingersoll advised the individual of the safety concerns he had with him walking on the tracks. Enforcement action taken.

CO Nick Ingersoll was working the opening day of waterfowl season when he received several calls regarding two houses being hit multiple times with shot. CO Ingersoll responded to the residences which were being shot. Upon his arrival CO Ingersoll observed two holes in one of the house's siding. CO Ingersoll was able to determine who the hunters were and started towards them. While he was walking towards the hunters he observed the two hunters shoot and hit the houses. CO Ingersoll contacted both hunters and questioned them on why they were shooting at houses and not shooting in a safe direction. The hunters stated they thought they were being safe and were avoiding the houses. CO Ingersoll explained to the hunters the importance of knowing what is behind your target, and that they had caused damage to one of the houses. Both hunters were being careless with their firearms and enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Ingersoll was working the opening day of waterfowl season when he contacted two hunters just finishing their hunt. CO Ingersoll asked both individuals how they did and stated they shot five wood ducks in total. CO Ingersoll asked the hunters for their licenses, and both hunters immediately put their heads down and told the CO they did not have them. They stated they didn't think they would be going out that morning and said they should have gotten them. Enforcement action was taken, and the five wood ducks were seized.

CO Nick Ingersoll was working the opening day of waterfowl season when he contacted a hunter just finishing his hunt. CO Ingersoll asked the hunter if he could look at the ammunition he was using, and the hunter agreed. CO Ingersoll was advised by the hunter that he reloads all his own ammunition, so he knows they were all steel shot. CO Ingersoll inspected his ammunition and found seven shells that contained lead shot. The hunter stated he didn't know he reloaded the heavy steel shotgun shells with lead shot and had made a mistake. CO Ingersoll advised the hunter the importance of not using lead shot and enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Ingersoll was working the opening day of waterfowl season when he contacted a group of hunters who had two ducks. CO Ingersoll asked the hunters to identify the two ducks. One of the hunters stated they shot a wood duck and a coot. CO Ingersoll asked the hunters if they knew what a coot looked like and they stated no, they just thought they shot one. CO Ingersoll advised them that what they were calling a coot was in fact a grebe. CO Ingersoll advised both hunters that it is important to be able to identify what they are shooting. Enforcement action was taken on the hunters for shooting a protected species.

CO David Schaumburger observed a group of waterfowl hunters near the end of shooting hours. All three of the hunters unloaded at the proper time and CO Schaumburger contacted the group. The CO asked to see the shotgun shells of the hunters and the CO asked if there were any lead shells in their shell box. The hunter the box belonged to stated, "There shouldn't be." The CO found eight lead shot shells in the box. Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Schaumburger received a complaint of an ORV operating on the dikes at Pointe Mouillee State Game Area. CO Schaumburger and Sgt. Damon Owens were in the area and began to search for the operator. The COs located the suspected ORV approximately a mile away and attempted to catch up. The ORV was able to navigate the terrain better than the COs and it took approximately 10 minutes and after going through two locked gates the COs were able to conduct a stop on the ORV. The ORV turned out to be a licensed motorcycle and the operator stated he wanted to test it on some off-road terrain. Enforcement action was taken for operating a motor vehicle in the game area.

CO David Schaumburger met a vessel at the launch after a morning waterfowl hunt. A thorough check of their gear and their blind bags led to the CO

discovering two suspicious shells. A density check of the shells revealed they contained lead. The hunter was cited for possession of toxic shot.

CO David Schaumburger contacted a vessel at the dock that was returning from a morning waterfowl hunt. The hunters told the CO, "We are all good you don't even need to check." The CO proceeded on like normal, and after checking all their waterfowl gear, he turned his attention to the required marine gear. When the CO asked to see three lifejackets, the owner of the vessel's head drooped down and said he forgot them at home. Enforcement action was taken for failing to provide PFDs.

COs David Schaumburger and Dan Walzak patrolled the Detroit River the night before the waterfowl opener specifically looking for hunters placing decoys before 3 AM. The COs located numerous groups, all of them complied except one group of people on Celeron Island. The COs contacted four people occupying Celeron Island at approximately 2 am who were drinking beer and having a campfire. State law prohibits occupancy between the hours of 11 pm and 4 am, prohibits alcohol, and ground fires. The four people on the island stated they were going to a wedding the next day and were just out there having fun and "telling lies". Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jessie Curtis and Sgt. Todd Szyska followed up on a RAP complaint of a Facebook post that a subject in Lapeer County had taken a monster 13-point buck. The COs compared the posting date and time with his RSS license purchases and found that they were a day off from one another. CO Curtis and Sgt. Szyska responded to the residence and contacted the hunter. The hunter was proud to show the COs his buck which was hanging in the barn from a pulley system. The buck was tagged, and notched; however, it did not match the date of the Facebook post. When the hunter was confronted about the time discrepancy, he confessed that he shot it without a license and then obtained the license after the fact. The hunter explained that it was a buck of a life time and he couldn't help himself and knew he had done wrong. The hunter explained he tried to do the right thing by purchasing the license after the fact. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Joseph Deppen, Brad Silorey, Kris Kiel, and Sgt. Todd Szyska were working on a waterfowl baiting complaint and conducted surveillance on a group of hunters during the waterfowl opener. CO Deppen had found corn spread throughout the south side of the pond earlier in the week. On the waterfowl opener, COs observed eight hunters set up decoys and enter a box blind facing the pond on the property. The hunters were extremely successful with multiple flocks of geese and mallards flying into the pond and being taken. After the hunters had taken approximately twenty geese, COs Deppen and Silorey noticed two hunters carrying geese and placing them in the bed of a pickup truck and returning to the box blind to continue the hunt. After a few hours, the COs contacted the hunters to check their licenses and ammunition bags. The COs asked about any additional geese and the hunters denied shooting anymore.

COs interviewed the hunters and obtained confessions to the location of the other geese. Twelve geese were found inside the bed of a pickup truck on the property. The hunters harvested a total of 33 Canada geese and four mallards, which put the hunters nine Canada geese over their legal limit. The hunter's violations included failure to retrieve waterfowl, hunting over a baited area and over limit of geese. All the hunter's firearms were confiscated, and reimbursement will be sought for all the waterfowl taken illegally during the hunt.

COs Brad Silorey and Pat Hartsig investigated an extremely large buck that was taken near the St. Clair and Macomb County border. After a large amount of online investigation and interviews, COs Silorey and Hartsig obtained a confession that the subject took the deer and then trespassed on private property in the process of retrieving the deer. There were also multiple tagging violations that were discovered during the investigation.

CO Pat Hartsig checked waterfowl hunters on Lake St. Clair, Harsens Island and St. Johns Marsh this weekend. CO Hartsig encountered groups using toxic shot, unplugged guns and no licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pat Hartsig received a complaint of an untagged deer hanging in a garage. The complainant gave a general area and the wrong name of a suspect. CO Hartsig contacted the local police department and was able to find a similar named individual. Contact was made at the residence and when nobody answered the front door they walked to the garage door where CO Hartsig and Silorey noticed blood on the ground. The subject came out of the house and stated he did not have a tag for the deer. The hunter's buck and bow were seized, and enforcement action was taken.

COs Brad Silorey and Kris Kiel were conducting a deer processor inspection in Macomb County checking the deer that had been dropped off after the first week of the archery season. CO Silorey inspected the deer heads in the freezer while CO Kiel addressed the violation that the processor had for incomplete records. CO Silorey found a deer head that did not have a deer kill tag attached. After further investigation of the processor's records on the deer, COs Silorey and Kiel determined that the deer required further investigation due to the unlikely timeframe in which the deer was dropped off and when the hunter had purchased his license. The following day COs Silorey and Kiel contacted the subject. COs Silorey and Kiel questioned the subject who was excited to show the COs a picture of the 10-point buck. The subject showed a picture of the deer hanging in a tree without a tag on it and at the top of the picture the date showed October 1st at 7 pm. Unfortunately, the subject did not purchase his kill tag until 8:30pm that same day. The subject confessed to shooting the deer without a tag. He stated that he forgot and was excited to try his new crossbow. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Silorey was checking waterfowl hunters returning to a boat access site after the morning hunt. CO Silorey contacted three hunters and asked how they did that morning. The hunters stated that it was slow, and they only shot one grebe. CO Silorey observed a pied-billed grebe in the bottom of the boat. CO Silorey checked the hunters license and equipment and asked who had shot the grebe. One hunter excitedly stated that he did. CO Silorey informed the subject that he had shot a protected species. The subject's excitement immediately turned to disbelief. The subject stated that he has been hunting for 20 years and never knew that he could not shoot grebes. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Christopher Knights and Sgt. Jason Becker worked the opening day of waterfowl season at Pontiac Lake. The COs located multiple vehicles parked at the launch and contacted hunters when they returned to their vehicles. Upon checking one group of hunters it was found that one of the hunters was only able to provide a federal duck stamp. After further investigation, the COs discovered the hunter had no Michigan waterfowl license. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Jacob Griffin and Sgt. Jason Becker were patrolling Oakland County when they spotted several subjects hunting waterfowl. As CO Griffin walked towards the three hunters they began packing up their gear to make their way off the water. The COs conducted a routine waterfowl check and discovered that one of the hunters had not signed his federal waterfowl stamp, and another hunter was in possession of lead shot. The subjects were educated on the state and federal waterfowl laws and enforcement action was taken.

CO Jacob Griffin was patrolling Oakland County when he came across a subject loading up his waterfowl hunting equipment. CO Griffin conducted a check of his equipment and licenses and discovered the hunter was in possession of lead shot while he was hunting waterfowl. The subject explained he just grabbed his old shells to bring with him for the days hunt. CO Griffin educated the hunter on the waterfowl laws and enforcement action was taken.

CO Danielle Zubek and Sgt. Jason Becker received information that an archery deer hunter had put out an excessive amount of bait, well over the two gallons allowed by law. The COs located the hunter who admitted to placing approximately 20 gallons of bait at one location. Enforcement action was taken.

## **BELLE ISLE**

COs Adam Beuthin, Raymond Gardner, Keven Luther, Brad Silorey, Sgt. Jason Becker, Sgt. Damon Owens and Sgt. Todd Szyska, along with troopers from the Michigan State Police, worked the Detroit Free Press Marathon on Belle Isle. Due to the cold temperatures, COs were busy with multiple medical transports to the medical tent as the ambulance provider could not keep up. COs transported



several runners that were hypothermic, dehydrated, and suffering from muscle spasms and fatigue.