

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Report
10/8/2017 – 10/21/2017**

DISTRICT 1

Conservation Officer (CO) Ethen Mapes responded to a car accident on South Boundary Road which runs through the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park. The road is a popular scenic and curvy drive. Unfortunately, speed and distracted driving has led to quite a few accidents and even more close calls in the past few weeks. On this particular accident, the driver was driving too fast on the wet road and failed to navigate a turn. The driver was unharmed but the vehicle was totaled after crashing into a large tree down an embankment.

CO Doug Hermanson fielded a variety of complaints that are typical for this time of year i.e. investigated a hunter harassment case, worked night hunting complaints, illegal waterfowl hunting, etc.

COs Ethen Mapes and Brian Lasanen attended Advanced Search and Rescue training in Grayling. Both COs learned a lot of very useful information from this training put on by SAR International.

Cpl. Dave Painter, COs Dave Miller and Doug Hermanson put on a hunter safety field day at the Baraga Customer Service Center for those students who had completed the online study course.

CO David Miller assisted the Porcupine State Park staff with added patrols during the fall color tours. The park is continuing to see high volumes of visitors as the color season winds down.

Sgt. Grant Emery attended the USCG Western Lake Superior Upper Peninsula Area Committee meeting with several other state and county officials. The main focus of the meeting was the Geographic Response Strategy Assessment.

COs Nathan Sink and Brian Lasanen were on patrol when they came across a vehicle operating at a slow rate of speed down a two track. The vehicle then came to a stop and the COs observed the driver shuffling around in the vehicle. As the COs approached the vehicle they witnessed the driver handing an uncased firearm to his son. Enforcement action was taken.

Dickinson County COs conducted multiple surveillance patrols on a pond that was illegally and heavily baited for waterfowl hunting. While the pond kept getting re-baited, the COs weren't able to catch anyone actually hunting the pond. Finally, their persistence paid off when COs Jared Ferguson, Brian Bacon and Sgt. Ryan Aho observed waterfowl hunters set up at the location. Contact was made and the following

violations were addressed: shooting at waterfowl before the legal shooting hours, hunting waterfowl over bait, no waterfowl licenses, and over limits of geese. CO Brian Bacon, Cpl. Dave Painter and Sgt. Marc Pomroy, with the assistance of special investigative unit detectives, were able to solve a string of tree stand thefts in northern Iron County. A confession was quickly obtained for the stolen tree stand that was in plain view in the bed of the truck. The suspects also admitted to stealing another tree stand, ladder and trail camera. Cpl. Dave Painter and deputies from the Iron County Sheriff Department recovered the additional stolen items from the suspect's residence. Both subjects were involved with each theft and were lodged in the Iron County Jail.

CO Brian Bacon was on patrol in Dickinson County when he made contact with a slow rolling vehicle on a forest road. The windows were down on the vehicle and two small kids were in the back seat. Contact with the driver found him to be very nervous and an open beer was observed in the counsel. CO Bacon also observed a spent shotgun shell on the passenger side floor board. CO Bacon conducted a short interview with the subject regarding his road hunting behavior and open beer in the vehicle. The subject stated that he routinely drove the two tracks with his two young kids and road hunted grouse. He admitted to shooting the one grouse he had out the window of the vehicle. CO Bacon addressed the multiple violations and cited the subject for the uncased shotgun in the vehicle.

COs Brett DeLonge and Mark Leadman received numerous complaints of fishermen getting caught in an old gill net outside of Marquette's Upper Harbor. With coordinates obtained from several fishermen, CO DeLonge and GLIFWC Warden Matt Kniskern located the gill net using the patrol boat's electronics. They marked the area and waited for calmer weather to return. CO DeLonge and CO Leadman returned and used 200 feet of line with a grapple and hooked into the old gill net. They spent several hours pulling the old gill net to the surface and removing it from Lake Superior.

CO Brett DeLonge took a complaint of illegal deer bait placed on commercial forest land in Marquette County during the summer months. CO DeLonge followed up on the complaint, located the illegal bait which also had several trees that were illegally cut, and worked the illegal bait site until the start of the archery deer season when the officer was able to locate a tree stand with the suspect's name written on it. CO DeLonge followed up with the suspect and obtained a confession regarding the illegal bait from the suspect. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Leadman was checking waterfowl hunters on Lake LeVasseur. Two subjects were returning to their vehicle and were carrying a freshly killed squirrel. Both subjects had been duck hunting and a check of their firearms and shot shells quickly revealed numerous violations. One of the subjects had an unplugged shotgun and did not have a state waterfowl license. Both of the subjects were in possession of numerous lead shot shells. The subject who had just shot the squirrel did not have hunters orange clothing. Both subjects were cited as well as educated on numerous hunting issues.

CO Jeffrey Dell was patrolling a two-track when he noticed a black cloud of smoke and a fire down a power line. CO Dell approached the fire and noticed several people were dismantling an old camper and burning it. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 2

CO Chris Lynch successfully served multiple warrants on a subject without incident. One warrant was for illegally harvesting an 8-point buck and the other was for illegal taking/possession of geese.

CO Chris Lynch and Sgt. Mike Hammill were on patrol when they observed an operator of an unlicensed ORV not wearing a helmet. A traffic stop was conducted and contact with the driver was made with the operator. The driver was run through dispatch and came back with a restricted driver's license and prior OWI convictions. With the strong odor of intoxicants coming from the operator's person, standard field sobriety tests were conducted. The operator failed the tests and took a preliminary breath test registering a .167 BAC. The subject was in violation of his driver's license restrictions and placed under arrest for felony OWI and lodged in the Delta County Jail.

CO Calvin Smith participated in a career day that was held at Lake Superior State University. CO Smith explained the hiring process for becoming a Michigan CO to over 30 participants.

CO Calvin Smith received a complaint of hunter harassment when a coyote was released from a licensed hunters trap. The suspect was bragging about it on a social media site. The complainant did not have an exact location from where the coyote was released, but that it was somewhere near the Canadian National Rail Road. CO Smith was able to locate the trap in Alger County with assistance from CO Mark Zitnik. The COs then traveled to the suspect's residence where they obtained a full confession. Law enforcement action was taken for interfering with the lawful taking of an animal.

COs Calvin Smith and Mark Zitnik received a call from a hunter participating in the Independence Hunt who had shot a buck and the bullet passed through and struck a doe that he did not see. The COs responded and helped the disabled veteran field dress his buck and get it back to his house. The doe was cleaned and gave to a needy family in the area.

CO Kevin Postma responded two nights in a row to shots fired in the wee hours of the morning. On the third night, CO Postma and CO Calvin Smith set up for a night patrol in the same location as the shots fired complaints that came in on the previous two evenings. Within five minutes after setting up, the COs observed a vehicle working a spot light. COs Postma and Smith followed the vehicle a short distance observing it shining four more fields. A traffic stop was made at roughly 2:45 am and contact was made with the three occupants. The three advised they weren't hunting but just shining and didn't realize it was illegal to possess a firearm in a vehicle while shining.

CO Kevin Postma investigated a deer attack in Mackinac County. The 6-point buck attacked a mother while she was waiting for the school bus with her daughter. The mother was able to divert the deer's attention from the six-year-old daughter; however, was gored three different times. The victim was able to seek safety by getting on the school bus. The victim sustained significant bruising and abrasions and went to the emergency room for treatment. The deer was likely one that had been befriended by humans at an early age. At the time of the incident, the deer was still being approached by humans who were feeding and caring for the wild animal. This was the second attack on record, both of which required medical attention. The deer has since been dispatched with the meat going to a local food bank. This serves as a constant reminder that feeding and habituating an animal can be dangerous.

CO Tom Oberg received a complaint of a turkey that was shot and killed without a license and posted on social media. CO Oberg patrolled to the area where it happened and made contact with the suspect. CO Oberg received a confession from the suspect for shooting the turkey without a turkey license. CO Oberg seized the remains of the turkey and the firearm that was used to kill the turkey and enforcement action was taken.

CO Michael Evink noticed a pickup parked along the Milakokia River. CO Evink located two individuals walking on the opposite shore. CO Evink watched the father and son pair, for the better part of an hour, as the two failed to use even one single legal method to attempt to catch a salmon. CO Evink was able to clearly watch the duo attempt to snag, he also observed that the lure used was obviously too big to be possessed on a classified trout stream. Being that the two were struggling mightily to snag a fish, they also tried to use a landing net and failed before finally hooking a salmon near its tail. Satisfied with their success they kept the foul hooked fish and headed towards their truck where they were contacted. During the contact CO Evink found only one of the fishermen had a license. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 3

On October 12th, while patrolling back roads, CO Andrea Erratt of Charlevoix County observed an angler fishing on Collins Creek, a closed Type 1 Trout Stream. CO Erratt walked up, and as the fisherman reeled in, he thought he had a trout on his line. He and his friend said they had discussed the fact that trout season had closed on September 30th but thought it would be okay because he was fishing for chubs to use as pike bait. CO Erratt ticketed the fisherman for fishing on a closed trout stream and advised him where to find local licensed minnow dealers.

While at home eating dinner, CO Andrea Erratt of Charlevoix County received a Report All Poaching complaint about deer hunters who had shot a doe and were dragging it out without gutting or tagging it. CO Erratt put her uniform back on, patrolled to the possible suspect's house and was unable to locate the truck or hunters. CO Erratt contacted East Jordan Police Department Officer Dan Reeves explaining the complaint and he helped her locate the suspects at a friend's house. The high school senior girl who shot

the deer had not taken hunter safety and had purchased hunting licenses for two years. CO Erratt checked the deer that had her un-validated tag stuck to the leg. CO Erratt seized the deer and her hunting licenses.

CO Steve Speigl received a Report All Poaching complaint of three men netting salmon in a local river. CO Speigl responded to the area and was able to watch the subjects for an extended period of time. After making contact, CO Speigl was able to determine that the only fish the anglers had was not taken with hook and line. In addition, one of the anglers was trespassing. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Speigl was notified of an archery hunter who had taken a deer that did not meet the antler point restrictions in Antrim County. Upon arrival, CO Speigl found that the deer was a 4-point buck (2 points on each side). While talking with the hunter, CO Speigl gathered that the hunter mistook the deer for an antlerless deer. The deer was seized and donated to a local needy family. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Duane Budreau received a complaint from Little Traverse Bay Band of Ottawa Indians dispatch that two of their tribal COs had contacted two subjects on Wycamp Creek with spears. The two male subjects were brothers and identified as state licensed fishermen. CO Budreau gathered statements from the witnessing tribal officers as well as the two individuals with the spears. One of the brothers did not have a fishing license and they both admitted to illegally spearing salmon. One ten pound chinook salmon had been illegally taken by spear. CO Budreau cited both subjects, charged restitution for the fish and seized their illegal gear as evidence.

CO Chad Baldwin received a complaint from CO Andrea Erratt referencing an ORV in the Jordan River Valley in Antrim County. CO Erratt was unable to respond, but CO Baldwin was only about 15 miles away. Once CO Baldwin arrived in the Jordan River Valley, there were several vehicles and hikers who stated they believed the ORV had left the valley and was now long gone. CO Baldwin patrolled through the valley and checked a nearby town for any ORV activity. With no luck finding the ORV, CO Baldwin decided to check one last road that was part of the snowmobile trail system that leads back into the valley. Several miles down the road, CO Baldwin spotted an ORV crossing an intersection and he initiated a traffic stop. The operator stated she had been told by friends that it was alright to ride ORVs through the Jordan River Valley even though there are signs prohibiting ORVs posted at both ends. The operator also admitted to riding her ORV through the valley often because she was unable to find any ORV trail maps for the area and assumed that meant you could ride anywhere. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling the Jordan River Valley, CO Andrea Albert noticed a vehicle that was driving erratically in a possible attempt to avoid CO Albert. CO Albert ran the plate which came back expired. A stop on the vehicle found the driver was suspended. The driver was arrested for his third offense of driving while suspended.

COs William Webster and Adam LeClerc were patrolling an area in Wilson Township, Alpena County, when they noticed ATV tracks going into an area of state land that is not open for ORV use. The COs followed the fresh tracks into the woods for about half a mile where they located the parked ORV. CO Webster had scouted the area prior to the season and had located a tree stand near where the ORV was parked. The COs checked the stand and found the hunter hunting out of it. The hunter did not have any identifiers on the tree stand, no helmet for his ORV, and operated the ORV in a closed area. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Bellville stopped a vehicle slow rolling a field known to be frequented by wildlife late at night. During the traffic stop CO Bellville was informed by central dispatch that a passenger of the vehicle had a state-wide warrant. The individual was arrested and lodged in the county jail.

CO Paul Fox responded to a complaint of a gunshot deer during bow season. The suspect admitted to hitting the deer with a car then shooting the deer to kill it. A salvage permit was never obtained. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Adam LeClerc presented at a hunter safety class at the Onaway Schools, where over 30 youths were contacted.

DISTRICT 4

CO Rebecca Hopkins took a complaint of a subject removing eggs from salmon and returning the fish carcasses to the Crystal River in Leelanau County. CO Hopkins responded to the complaint and identified an individual matching the description of the suspect. Upon interview, the suspect admitted to taking fish simply to remove the eggs. He also filleted the fish, bagged the fillets, and put them in a cooler for transport back home. The subject showed CO Hopkins where he tossed the fish carcasses on private property adjacent to the river. During a search of the cooler in the vehicle, CO Hopkins found several fillets of salmon admittedly caught by two individuals over the last three days of fishing. The subjects were not over their possession limit, but the fillets were not processed as required by law, making them over their daily limit. CO Hopkins could determine that the fillets were in different stages of cold from the current day's limit. Enforcement action was taken for the litter of fish carcasses.

CO Hopkins conducted a traffic stop on a truck that failed to yield upon entering a roadway, causing two lanes of traffic to brake aggressively. A check of the driver from North Dakota resulted in two local warrant hits. The subject was transported to the Wexford County Jail.

CO William Kinney assisted the Wexford County Sheriff's Department with a suicidal subject. The subject jumped from a moving vehicle and ran into the woods. It was made known to the officers by the friend, that the individual possessed a knife and wanted to do harm to himself. CO Kinney and the deputies proceeded on foot into woods to

search for the individual. During the course of the search, the officers were informed that the individual had traveled several miles and returned to his girlfriend's house. Thankfully the individual was unharmed and was further evaluated.

CO William Kinney and CO Sam Kosciński were patrolling the Manistee River near Tippy Dam State Park for fishing activity. The COs observed several individuals fishing with what appeared unlawful fishing gear. After making contact with the fishermen, it was found that one individual was in possession and using an illegal treble hook. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Brian Brosky and Kyle Publiski were watching anglers on the south branch of the Pere Marquette River when they noticed a group of anglers who were trying to snag fish with illegal gear. After watching the subjects for several minutes, the COs decided to contact the anglers. Upon contact, they were advised of their illegal fishing methods and illegal gear. After explaining the violations to the anglers, the COs were told that the subjects knew what they were doing was wrong, but they didn't think it was illegal to snag fish and use illegal gear because they were not planning to keep any of the fish. The anglers were advised that snagging fish had been illegal since 1993 and the gear they were using had been illegal on the river they were fishing for several years. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Brian Brosky and Kyle Publiski were checking an area of the Pere Marquette River in Mason County when they stumbled upon a male subject standing in the middle of the river with no fishing gear. After watching the individual, they noticed he began to walk around in the river and appeared to be trying to move fish around and chase them off of spawning beds and out of deep holes. The COs then noticed that a female subject was standing in the river with a large hand net at a shallow run where the male subject was rallying the fish. After several failed attempts to net fish illegally, the COs contacted the individuals. After interviewing the subjects, the female stated that it was on her bucket list to simply catch a fish in a net and to tell it "Hello, beautiful fish," then let it go. The COs disagreed that she was going to net the fish and let it go because two items that were located on shore where the subjects were located were an empty cooler and a large fillet knife. The female subject was then issued a citation for attempting to take fish with an illegal device and she was advised that she could tell the fish hello after catching one with a legal fishing pole and lure.

COs Brian Brosky and Kyle Publiski followed up on an illegal 8-point deer that was located after CO Ben Shively responded to a residence in Mason County that was being searched by a warrant issued to local law enforcement officers. CO Shively informed the Mason County COs that the deer was not tagged and after following-up, CO Brosky and CO Publiski were able to talk with the resident of the home who stated that the deer belonged to a certain individual. The COs interviewed the subject who stated that he did shoot a deer and he did tag the deer. After looking at photos, the COs determined that the deer was not the same deer and the homeowner lied to the COs. Upon further follow-up, the same 8-point deer, which was now skinned at the residence, had an antlerless tag attached to it. The COs were finally able to complete interviews. After

advising the suspect that he would be given three days to contact the COs before they presented the case to the prosecutor, the subject called the COs the following day and told them that he wanted to come clean. Apparently, the subject's son had shot the 8-point deer, unfortunately he had already used his one and only deer tag. His son killed the second buck without a license. The subject apologized for lying to the COs and told them that he couldn't come clean because he had not told his son that law enforcement officers were investigating the illegal deer. Both the father and the son were cited into court and are awaiting arraignment dates.

COs Kyle Publiski and Brian Brosky stopped an ORV in Mason County for operating on a county road without helmets. Upon stopping the ORV, the COs noted that the female passenger was attempting to hide something at her feet. After talking with the operator and passenger, open intoxicants were located and the passenger was cited for the offense.

Sgt. Mike Bomay and CO William Kinney received a complaint at the district office of a trapper who had a young male bear in one of his leg hold traps set for coyote. The COs responded to the area and with the use of catch poles were successful in releasing the small boar from the leg hold. The COs returned to the district office and was advised by the law secretary that the trapper had called back and couldn't believe it but had trapped another bear in his last trap on his line. The COs, now seasoned with bear removal skills, returned to the same property and successfully released the small sow from the leg hold with no injuries to either of the bears and no sightings of the adult sow bear.

CO Angela Greenway received a Report All Poaching complaint involving social media. CO Greenway interviewed the individual believed to have harvested a deer without a license. The subject admitted to taking a deer and purchasing his license a week later. The hunter stated he didn't have the money at the time he went hunting and couldn't wait until payday to get out and hunt with his recurve bow. The hunter was so excited about harvesting a deer with his recurve bow that he posted his success on Facebook. The hunter also failed to have his deer checked for the mandatory CWD testing. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Shively was checking the south branch of the Pere Marquette River in Oceana County when he observed a lone vehicle parked at the bridge. CO Shively walked up to the bridge and observed a subject fishing just into the water. CO Shively observed the subject attempting to snag fish on the gravel beds and that he was fishing with weight attached below the treble hook. CO Shively made contact with the subject as he exited the river and seized the illegal gear. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lebel received a complaint that a gut pile was found in the woods and it was believed the suspect who shot the deer did not have a license. Follow-up interviews and inspection of a local processor revealed that the suspect's girlfriend had purchased a license to tag the deer the day after it was shot. The suspect did not hold a deer license of any kind. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Casey Varriale was returning from a busy week of training and observed a three car accident on US 127. CO Varriale checked the victims for any injuries and assisted with traffic. CO Varriale continued patrolling toward his residence and approximately an hour after he got home a loud explosion was heard close by. CO Varriale ran outside to observe a residence nearby had exploded. CO Varriale immediately responded and utilized his department issued fire extinguisher to prevent the flames from spreading.

CO Jeff Ginn responded to a complaint of a subject hunting geese from a motorized boat and was able witness the hunter hunting within a safety zone and shooting from a moving under powerboat. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 5

CO Mike Hearn responded to the scene of a three vehicle injury accident that occurred on an ORV route in Kalkaska County. CO Hearn provided triage and first aid for the seven victims involved in the accident while waiting for medical personal to respond to the remote location. A seven-year-old child was airlifted from the scene and taken to DeVos Children's Hospital in Grand Rapids for treatment. The head-on crash is still under investigation. Kalkaska County Sheriff's Department, Bear Lake Township Fire Department, Kalkaska Township Fire Department and Garfield Township Fire Department also responded to the scene to assist with the accident.

COs Chuck McPherson and Craig Neal made contact with an archery hunter in Roscommon County. The hunter had multiple tree stands on state land with no name and address, baiting violations, and was operating ORVs cross country. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chuck McPherson wrapped up a hunting investigation on state land in Roscommon County. The archery hunter had been baiting deer weeks prior to the September 15th start date. The subject had also put up multiple tree stands with no name, address, or driver's license number. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chuck McPherson received information about an ORV that had been abandoned on state land in Roscommon County. CO McPherson located the ORV and a check in LEIN determined it had been reported stolen out of Clare County. The ORV was impounded and turned over to the Clare County Sheriff's Department.

CO Sam Schluckbier followed up on a private property complaint of baiting deer prior to the September 15th start date in Kalkaska County. While walking the property, CO Schluckbier discovered that the owner had posted "No Trespassing" signs well onto state owned land. The owner claimed he didn't think it mattered how far he posted the signs from his actual boundary line. A citation was issued for the baiting violation and the property line will be properly posted.

CO Sam Schluckbier located a vehicle sitting along a two track in Kalkaska County. Upon contact, CO Schluckbier found the driver acting nervous and attempting to hide

something inside his vehicle. After further investigation, CO Schluckbier located open alcohol containers in the vehicle. The driver admitted to drinking beer while driving around looking for deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Bader received a Report All Poaching complaint stating that a person had shot a small antlerless deer and left it in the woods. The same hunter then shot another deer the next day and recovered that one. Further investigation determined that the hunter had not purchased any hunting licenses this year. When CO Bader went to the address given in the complaint, he observed the hunter and another man skinning a deer. The deer did not have a tag on it. The hunter claimed he was going to go get a tag later in the day. The hunter eventually confessed that it was the second deer he'd shot without a tag this year. The deer was seized and enforcement action was taken. The hunter was also arrested on an outstanding warrant and transported to the Ogemaw County jail.

CO Nick Atkin was dispatched to a complaint where a white-tailed buck was trapped in the AuGres River up against a sea wall. CO Atkin arrived on scene and was able to catch the six-point buck using his catch pole and then pulled it over the seawall to release it. Unfortunately, the buck ran to the next river cut and jumped back into the water and again was trapped against the seawall. CO Atkin again caught the buck with his catch pole and released it onto dry land. This time, the exhausted buck struggled to his feet and ambled off into the woods.

CO Steve Lockwood responded to a complaint of a side by side UTV that was stuck in the middle of Hoister Lake within the boundary of House and Trout Lake State Forest Campground. The lake had been partially drained for restoration and the muddy area around the inlet stream was more than the operator and passenger could resist. The UTV was buried up to the frame with two flat tires and a broken CV joint. A wrecker was used to retrieve the UTV and citations were issued to the operator for the violations.

DISTRICT 6

COs Quincy Gowenlock and Will Brickel were on patrol in the Shiawassee River State Game Area for the duck season opener. While talking to hunters in the area it was discovered that a couple of hunters did not have plugs in their shotguns. Tickets were issued.

CO Quincy Gowenlock responded to a complaint of hunter harassment in the Marion Springs area of Saginaw County. When contacted, the complainant stated he was hunting when he noticed a vehicle shining the woods and that the vehicle had stopped near his car in the parking lot. As the hunter was coming out, the suspect began to shine his spotlight at him and yelling. The hunter who was hesitant to come out of the woods attempted to call 911, but due to poor cell service he was unable. Having no other choice but to come out, the hunter made his way to his vehicle where the suspect continued to harass him telling him that he was not allowed to hunt in this area and he

should not be there. After receiving this information, CO Gowenlock responded to the suspect's residence and made contact. The suspect immediately became defensive and denied having any involvement. The suspect failed to answer any of the COs questions and only wanted to talk about people trespassing on his land and stealing his property. A warrant request has been made through the county prosecutor's office.

Sgt. Ron Kimmerly received a Report All Poaching complaint on the waterfowl opener of three duck hunters setting up their decoys in the closed refuge in the Maple River State Game Area. Sgt. Kimmerly called the complainant, who advised that that the hunters moved out of the refuge and out of sight due to all the upset duck hunters yelling at them. Sgt. Kimmerly continued and made contact with the three hunters hunting from the top of a dike. Each hunter was issued a ticket for hunting from a dike in a state game area.

CO Joe Myers and Sgt. Ron Kimmerly made contact with a group of duck hunters that left their boat and decoys along a pond over a mile from the road on state land. The problem was that they left it there from last year's waterfowl season. The COs hid and watched for a while and then checked the duck hunters. A ticket was issued for hunting without a plug and a warning was issued for leaving the boat on state land for a year.

COs Robert Hobkirk and Daniel Robinson worked Bay County on the south zone waterfowl opener concentrating their efforts along the shore line between the Saginaw River and the Quanicassee River. COs Hobkirk and Robinson checked many hunters and found compliance to be very good. However, the COs did issue citations for a licensing violation and for possessing toxic shot.

CO Robert Hobkirk has been receiving complaints of individuals not registering while hunting on hunter access program (HAP) lands. While checking some HAP land, CO Hobkirk found a vehicle blocking a farm drive and when he checked the sign in sheet he found that the hunter had not registered. A citation was issued to the hunter for failing to register.

CO Seth Rhodea contacted a waterfowl hunter that he had observed hunting 25 minutes past shooting time. The hunter was also found to be hunting without one of the required licenses to hunt waterfowl and an unplugged shotgun. Citations were issued.

CO Seth Rhodea checked waterfowl hunters on the second weekend of the south zone waterfowl season. Approximately 40 hunters were checked and violations encountered included: using lead shot, hunting without required licenses, failing to have name and address on a blind. Multiple citations were issued to address the violations.

CO Mark Siemen received a complaint from Sanilac central dispatch about a sick deer in Snover. CO Siemen responded and spoke with a home owner in Snover about the deer. The subject stated the deer has been walking around for about a week and appears to be very sick. He stated he put left over chicken out for his cats and the deer ate the chicken. CO Siemen checked the area and found the deer behind a shed. The

deer was very skinny and did appear to be sick. With assistance from CO Seth Rhodea, the COs were able to put the deer down and it was sent to the wildlife disease lab in Lansing for testing.

CO Mark Siemen received a complaint from station 20 about a dog that was eating a deer in Tuscola County. CO Siemen spoke with the caller and he stated he was out bow hunting when he heard a dog growling and a deer making a loud, odd sound. The hunter located the deer and dog and found the dog eating the deer, which was still alive. The hunter stated he felt bad and chased the dog off and then dispatched the deer with his bow. After putting the deer down the hunter stated he called the DNR to explain what he did and was asking for guidance as to what to do with the deer. CO Siemen advised of his options and the hunter was satisfied. CO Jason Smith from Tuscola County is continuing the investigation with the dog.

CO Jason A. Smith received a complaint that a subject was hunting in a small area behind a trailer park with both a bow and a BB gun. While checking the area a subject and his girlfriend (both dressed in camo) were found walking around the woods. The subject refused to identify himself. They were questioned and released. A short time later a tree stand was found with a bow hanging next to it with a broad head still knocked. Additional info was gathered from talking with people in the area and charges will be sought through the prosecutor's office.

CO Joshua Wright was checking duck hunters on the Saginaw Bay when he came upon a couple who was doing okay on birds. When asked who took what birds, it was soon obvious that there was an over limit issue of redheads. After going through a full check, an unplugged gun, marine violations and violations of the medical marijuana laws were discovered. Several citations were issued.

During opening weekend of waterfowl season in Tuscola County CO Joshua Wright checked nearly 50 hunters with mixed success. Several citations and warnings were issued.

CO Chad Foerster worked the Saginaw Bay shoreline for waterfowl hunting activity on the morning of the south zone opener. Numerous groups of hunters were contacted with a handful of violations ranging from unplugged shotguns, unsigned federal stamps and marine safety violations. Enforcement action was taken along with education on safety.

CO Mike Haas received a complaint through the Report All Poaching hotline concerning waterfowl hunters in northern Isabella County. The complainant stated he heard hunters shooting near a pond well after the legal shooting hours. CO Haas located a waterfowl hunter sitting along a farm pond actively hunting well past the legal hunting time. CO Haas contacted the hunter who was unable to tell the CO what the legal hunting hours were and was surprised hunting hours had ended over 20 minutes ago. It was also discovered that the man did not have a 2017 Federal Waterfowl Stamp. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling through eastern Isabella County, COs Mike Haas and Dan Robinson came across an ORV operator on a county road. The COs conducted a traffic stop due to the multiple violations they witnessed: the operator of the ORV had a young child on his lap with another young child sitting on the back rack of the machine, the ORV was not licensed and no one was wearing a helmet. The operator was educated on the numerous safety concerns and was issued a citation.

During the southern waterfowl opener in Gratiot County, CO Mike Haas checked numerous hunters in the Maple River State Game Area. The majority of the hunters were compliant and following the laws and regulations concerning marine safety and waterfowl hunting. However, there were some issues that CO Haas had to address. Multiple hunters received citations for failing to purchase their Michigan waterfowl licenses, failure to purchase their federal waterfowl stamp, some boat operators did not have PFDs aboard their boats, and there were also boats with improper registration and MC numbers. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Haas was invited to a safety meeting at Dow Chemical in Midland. CO Haas presented and spoke to a group of employees about the duties of a Michigan CO and covered a variety of safety violations that COs encounter while working including topics such as boating, ORV and hunter safety.

While on waterfowl patrol, COs Dan Robinson and Bob Hobkirk worked the Saginaw Bay. The COs made contact with several waterfowl hunters and issued tickets for possessing lead shot and failing to purchase a state waterfowl license. The COs also issued several warnings.

While working state land in Midland, COs Dan Robinson and Mike Haas made contact with an individual operating his ORV on the state land forest road. At first sight the COs could see that the individual was not wearing a helmet, it was also discovered that the ORV was not registered. The individual was given warnings for operating in a closed area, operating an unregistered ORV, and a citation was issued for not wearing a helmet.

DISTRICT 7

CO Greg Patten responded to a hunter/ORV conflict and found that the hunter was on public lands using screw in steps for his tree stand. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Greg Patten reported checking on a vehicle that he tagged with a 48 hour notice parked in an MDOT parking lot. The vehicle had been parked there for months. CO Patten impounded the vehicle and took enforcement action for littering.

CO Matt Page conducted several meat processor inspections and notified the processors of the law changes, in regards to importation of deer and CWD. CO Page also checked for any out of state deer. All processor inspections were completed with everyone in compliance, but CO Page did locate a deer with a suspicious license date

and time. A subsequent interview of the subject led to a confession for taking a deer without a license and purchasing the license after the fact.

CO Matt Page received information from CO Jeremy Beavers of a possible illegal deer taken in Van Buren County. CO Page made contact at one of the suspect's listed addresses; however, it was the wrong one, and a family member tipped off the suspect that CO Page was looking for her. Upon initial questioning, the suspect involved made up a story contrary to the information CO Page was given from CO Beavers. After further questioning, the suspect admitted to shooting a deer without a license and then buying a tag after the fact. CO Page seized the buck in question and a report is being sent to the prosecutor's office for review.

CO Jeff Robinette attended a hunter safety class held at Edwardsburg Conservation Club and spoke about hunting regulations and the job duties of a CO.

DISTRICT 8

COs Andrew Monnich and Chris Reynolds were checking waterfowl hunters when they observed a group of hunters leaving a blind and getting into a boat. The COs observed the unregistered vessel travel to a house on the lake. The COs made contact with the hunters once on shore. They questioned the boat owner why he didn't have his vessel registered he stated that he didn't think he had to. The COs also pointed out that they didn't have any PFDs on board. Enforcement action taken.

COs Andrew Monnich and Chris Reynolds spotted three individuals fishing on a dock. As they approached them to check licenses, the individuals put the fishing rods down and stated they were going to get licenses but just hadn't yet. A quick check of a bucket on the dock revealed two undersized bass. One of the individuals had a felony warrant for his arrest and another was wanted on a misdemeanor warrant. COs Monnich and Reynolds placed both individuals under arrest. One was lodged in the Lenawee county jail and the other was turned over to Pittsfield Township Police Department. Enforcement action was taken for possessing undersized bass and not having fishing licenses.

CO Andrew Monnich observed two hunters in a boat hunting after the legal shooting times. CO Monnich contacted the hunters and notified them that shooting hours were over. They asserted that he was wrong. CO Monnich walked the individuals back to his patrol truck and handed them a waterfowl guide, showing them ending hunting times. They ended up acknowledging they were hunting well after hunting hours. Enforcement action taken.

CO Andrew Monnich received a call about hunters shooting 30 minutes past shooting hours for ducks the night before. CO Monnich and CO Eric Smither decided to go check the area that evening. The COs were able to sneak in and observed four hunters on a pond. At the end of shooting hours, the hunters didn't pack up but continued to hunt. The COs observed the hunters shoot at birds 57 times between 7:00 pm and 7:40 pm

well past the legal shooting hours. Once it was completely dark, the COs contacted the hunters who were still actively hunting. Violations such as shooting after hours, not having plugs in guns, loaded after hours, and not having waterfowl hunting licenses were addressed. Enforcement action taken.

CO Brandon Hartleben was checking North Hydro Park in Ypsilanti Township for activity when he observed two subjects fishing along the Huron River at the far end of the park. CO Hartleben watched both individuals fish for several minutes and then went to make contact when they started picking up their gear to move to a different spot. Upon making contact with the subjects, CO Hartleben observed a bottle of malt liquor in the female subject's hands, which is against park rules, and an 8-inch smallmouth bass on a stringer in the male subject's hands. Neither angler had a fishing license with them, but they both thought that they might have bought one. A check of the Retail Sales System revealed that neither subject had ever purchased a fishing license. The short bass was released alive back into the river and enforcement action taken.

CO Mike Drexler spoke at a hunter safety class at the Chelsea Rod and Gun Club. Approximately 40 students were in attendance.

CO Daniel Prince responded to an abandoned vehicle in the Oak Grove State Game Area at the Indian Lake Access Site. CO Prince was able to locate the vehicle that was recovered as stolen. CO Prince contacted the reporting police agency and turned the vehicle over to the investigating officer. While investigating the stolen vehicle, CO Prince also investigated an abandoned, partially sunk boat in the Indian Lake canal near the access site. The vessel's identification had been ground off. The investigation continues.

CO Andrew Monnich received a complaint of a hunter who possibly shot a whitetail buck prior to buying a kill tag. CO Monnich was able to make contact with the individual who stated that he did indeed harvest a buck and was quick to show CO Monnich the tag. CO Monnich then asked the individual how they were able to buy the tag 20 minutes before legal shooting hours ended for the day, drive over 20 minutes to their hunting property, and still have time to harvest the whitetail and validate the tag for that same day. After a few far-fetched stories, the individual stated they were actually just out looking for a doe with the only license they had and a buck walked out and they shot it but didn't have a tag for it. The hunters then went and bought it after the fact. Enforcement action taken.

COs Andrew Monnich and Chris Reynolds were following up on some complaints when they spotted an ORV driving very fast down the road. The COs were able to catch up to the ORV which was traveling almost 60 mph and initiated a traffic stop. It took the ORV operator over a mile to notice the emergency lights and hear the siren before coming to an abrupt stop. The rider was found to not have proper registration or any sort of identification. Enforcement action taken.

CO Andrew Monnich received a call from Lenawee Central dispatch about a hunter possibly using drugs in a deer blind. CO Monnich was given the general area where the hunter was on state land. As soon as CO Monnich parked his truck he could smell the marijuana. CO Monnich followed the odor to a secluded ground blind where he made contact with the hunter. The hunter admitted to smoking a large amount of marijuana. CO Monnich searched the individual and located a very small amount of burnt marijuana. The individual did not have proper markings on the blind. Enforcement action taken.

CO Pete Purdy stopped an ORV operating on the road way. The operator stated he received a ticket from a CO for the same thing several years ago and he fought the ticket in court and won. CO Purdy recognized the individual and advised he was the CO in 2012 that wrote him the ticket. CO Purdy went on to tell the individual that the magistrate gave him a break and gave him a lesser charge. Enforcement action taken.

COs Chris Holmes and Jason McCullough conducted a lengthy surveillance of some opening morning duck hunters on a local lake. After several hours of watching the subjects shoot ducks, contact was made. The hunters were found to be hunting over bait, hunting without a license, using an unplugged shotgun, and in possession of an over limit of ducks. Additionally, a couple of the hunters wounded several birds and made no effort to retrieve them. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Goss was working an area of previous late shooting complaints when he heard a volley of shots approximately two miles north of his location. Using a GIS mapping system CO Goss located a large pond in the middle of a farm field in the vicinity of where he heard the shots. CO Goss responded to the area just as a flock of geese was descending on the pond. Another volley of shots rang out and he watched as a goose fell out of the sky. CO Goss made contact with the hunters who were shooting twenty five minutes after legal hunting hours. One of the subjects was also found to be hunting without a state waterfowl hunting license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Jackson followed up on a litter complaint. During initial questioning, the suspect denied throwing litter into a nearby lake, but the officer had already been to the lake and located the litter in question. CO Jackson provided picture proof and the suspect immediately began apologizing. A citation was issued.

CO Todd Thorn checked some fishermen at the Brehnke fish ladder in Lansing. One of the men set his fishing pole down and started talking on his cell phone as CO Thorn approached. CO Thorn asked the man for his fishing license and was told that it was in his cousin's car nearby. When CO Thorn told the man that he needed to see the license the man said that he was supposed to be going to the hospital and needed to get going now. CO Thorn asked the man why it was so urgent all of a sudden when he was fishing and drinking a beer just a couple of minutes ago. CO Thorn then ran the man's name and found that he had no fishing license and a couple of warrants for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken, including lodging the man at the City of Lansing jail.

CO Chris Reynolds attended a hunter safety class at the Jonesville Middle School. The officer reviewed laws pertaining to hunting, fishing and trapping and fielded questions from the 34 students and three instructors in attendance.

COs Chris Reynolds and Andy Monnich received a tip that an individual had taken a deer without a license. The officers contacted the hunter who was asked if he had shot a deer during bow season. The hunter stated he had taken a nice buck and proceeded to tell the story of taking the deer. The officer advised the hunter that they knew he did not have a license to take the deer. The hunter said he never thought he would shoot a deer, so he didn't purchase a license. A report will be submitted and charges sought for taking the deer without a license.

CO Matthew Neterer observed a suspicious pickup truck parked on the side of M-52 near Stockbridge with two crossbow cases in the bed. CO Neterer ran the license plate and the RSS history of the owner and discovered that the registered owner was a woman out of St. Clair County with no 2017 hunting licenses. When the hunters returned to the vehicle CO Neterer and CO Todd Thorn contacted them. Their investigation revealed one of the subjects had trespassed onto a neighboring property and was driving on a suspended driver's license. The subject had six prior DNR convictions. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matthew Neterer responded to a baiting complaint in Meridian Twp. A county park worker observed two men dragging a sled with tree stands and a mineral supplement on private property bordering Lake Lansing Park North. CO Neterer responded and located tree stands along with the cardboard boxes that the stands came in littering the ground. Upon further investigation, CO Neterer located the mineral supplement hidden under a pile of freshly cut weeds in an attempt to conceal it. CO Neterer located the hunter's residence and observed the same mineral dumped in the suspect's back yard with a trail camera placed over it. CO Neterer left a business card for the suspect but has not received a phone call yet. Enforcement action is pending.

CO Matthew Neterer worked a case of a hunter posing with a very nice 8-point buck on the Facebook page of Michigan Buck Pole. CO Neterer recognized the hunter as he had cited him and his father for several violations in the past two years. Upon running the subject's RSS history, it was discovered that he only had an antlerless tag on the day that he shot the 8-point and had purchased his buck tag later that night. The subject admitted to taking the buck but blamed the sales clerk at Meijer for selling him the wrong tag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Maher conducted an investigation of an individual trespassing and stealing rocks off a complainant's property. The investigation spanned over the course of several weeks but CO Maher was eventually able to identify a suspect. After an interview CO Maher obtained a confession and enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason King attended 66th Circuit Court in Shiawassee County for sentencing on a case that he conducted earlier in the year. The suspect plead guilty on 3 felony charges,

all evidence seized was condemned by court, and time will be served at Michigan Department of Corrections.

CO Robert Slick spoke about laws and ethics at a Hunter Education class at the Rose Lake Glassen Building in Clinton County. There were sixteen students in attendance.

DISTRICT 9

While checking waterfowl hunters during a group patrol in Macomb County, COs Kris Kiel, Brad Silorey and Joseph Deppen contacted multiple hunters. The violations included hunting waterfowl without a license, unsigned federal stamps, and possessing lead/toxic shot. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Macomb County, CO Joseph Deppen responded to a complaint regarding waterfowl hunters shooting cormorants on Lake St. Clair. CO Joseph Deppen proceeded to Lake St. Clair in an attempt to find the waterfowl hunters. A party of three waterfowl hunters was located and CO Deppen found two dead cormorants next to the waterfowl hunters decoy bag. CO Deppen asked who in the group was the best at waterfowl identification. One of the waterfowl hunters replied, "I am confident these are two common mergansers". CO Deppen informed the hunters they had shot two cormorants which are a protected species. Upon checking their hunting licenses, two of the waterfowl hunters did not sign their federal duck stamps. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking waterfowl hunters on Lake St. Clair, CO Joseph Deppen saw two individuals hunting with a large decoy spread. CO Deppen saw the waterfowl hunters shoot at passing ducks, but they did not hit any of them. CO Deppen thought one hunter had shot four times as the ducks had passed. Contact was made and one of the hunters had an unplugged shotgun. The other waterfowl hunter did not sign his federal stamp. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking waterfowl hunters on Lake St. Clair, CO Joseph Deppen was checking a boat coming in from a day of hunting. The two waterfowl hunters had two mallards and said they had shot at a few more. While checking through their boat, a box of steel shot was located. On the bottom of the box of steel shot were three lead shotgun shells. The waterfowl hunters said he only thought there was one lead shell in there. CO Deppen informed him, that he was not allowed to hunt with any lead shot and he was carrying three lead shot shells, not just one. Enforcement action was taken.

While on wildlife patrol, COs Brad Silorey and Joseph Deppen encountered a group of hunters hunting on Lake St. Clair. The COs made contact and during the start of their check, a redhead landed in the hunters decoys. COs allowed the youngest hunter and first time waterfowl hunter in the group to take the shot and he took the drake redhead. During the duration of the check, multiple violations were found including lead shot, unsigned federal stamp, and no life jackets on board. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Brad Silorey and Joseph Deppen worked a Report All Poaching complaint in the Emmett Area of St. Clair County in which a tip had come in that a subject was frantically trying to purchase any kind of deer tag over the counter as he had to get a deer tagged he had. The subject was in a hurry and was very excited telling the clerk at the store that he needed a tag right away for a car killed deer. The caller looked at the deer and noted that it appeared to be shot with a firearm. COs Silorey and Deppen worked late into the Sunday evening hours, obtaining confessions on the illegal 8 point buck. It is alleged the buck was shot with a firearm, taken outside of the firearm season and taken without a license. A report for prosecution will be filed with the St. Clair County Prosecutors Office.

CO Ken Kovach received information regarding a subject who shot a buck with a firearm during the archery deer season. CO Kovach was able to locate the subject and subsequently obtained a confession from the subject to shooting the buck with a firearm. Upon further investigation, it was discovered the subject hadn't bought a license in several years. Enforcement was taken.

CO Brad Silorey was checking duck hunters on state land, when he observed three hunters pack up and begin to walk back to their trucks at the end of shooting hours. CO Silorey made contact with the three hunters. After checking all of the hunter's shotguns, CO Silorey checked the hunter's waterfowl licenses. One hunter did not purchase a license, and two out of the three hunters had large amounts of lead shotgun shells in their possession. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Silorey was on patrol checking waterfowl hunters when he heard multiple shots well after shooting hours ended. CO Silorey finished the check he was on and headed towards the sound of the shots. CO Silorey could hear someone still using a duck call approximately 20 minutes after shooting hours ended. As CO Silorey got closer to the calling, he observed a subject through his binoculars standing with a firearm in his hands, actively hunting. CO Silorey rushed over to the subject, who was holding a beer in one hand and his shotgun in the other, and also found two other subjects in the brush. CO Silorey secured all weapons, which were all still loaded 30 minutes after hunting hours. The subjects did not take any waterfowl that evening; however enforcement action was taken for hunting after legal hunting hours.

CO Brad Silorey was checking evening waterfowl hunters which were exiting the marsh for the day. CO Silorey checked a group of four hunters who did not have much luck with their aim, and missed several ducks. While checking one individual's blind bag, CO Silorey found nearly 20 rounds of "game load" mixed in with several rounds of steel shot. When asked what the "game load" was being used for, the subject stated that was what he was shooting that night. CO Silorey looked at the subject and two other hunters in the group, and asked them if they knew why this was an issue. The two other hunters stated that it was lead shot, and that he could not use that. It was also found that another hunter in the group was written a citation for lead shot the previous year. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Zultak conducted a traffic stop on a 3 wheel ORV operating in the roadway in Lapeer County. The ORV did not have a brake light, was operating carelessly in the roadway, did not have an ORV sticker, and the operator was not wearing the correct safety equipment. Enforcement action was taken.

While at a taxidermist, CO Matt Zultak located a nine point white tail deer rack. It was tagged with a 2011 deer harvest tag. Upon interviewing the subject who turned in the rack, the subject confessed to reusing the harvest tag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Zultak contacted successful hunters coming out of the woods in Lapeer County. They were dragging a tagged doe. Upon further investigation, the deer was illegally tagged with a tag for a different DMU. During the interviews, it was determined who shot the deer and the tag that was on the deer belonged to the other hunter. The violations included borrowing and loaning a license, as well as possessing an improperly tagged deer. Enforcement action was taken.

While driving down a dirt road in Lapeer County, CO Matt Zultak passed a pickup truck. CO Zultak could smell marijuana coming from the passing vehicle. CO Zultak followed the vehicle until it pulled into a parking lot. CO Zultak made contact with the operator and could immediately smell a heavy odor of marijuana and when the operator spoke, his breath smelt of intoxicants. During the investigation it was determined the operator was operating while intoxicated, operating with a suspended license, and in possession of marijuana and Vicodin. The subject also had two outstanding felony warrants and two outstanding misdemeanor warrants. All warrants were confirmed and CO Zultak placed the subject in custody on the outstanding felony warrants. The subject was then lodged at the Lapeer County jail.

COs Ray Gardner and Dan Walzak responded to a report of a deer stuck between a 6 foot chain link fence and a building. Upon arrival, the officers found the area that the deer was trapped in was only about 30 inches wide and about 130 feet long. A number of trees were growing in that space prohibiting the deer from moving freely from one end to the other. The deer (a six point buck) was about half way in and had forced itself past several young trees, preventing it from backing up. At one point the deer, trying to get past another tree, got itself caught between it and the building, suspending its hindquarters in the air such that its legs would not touch the ground. With the assistance of a couple of business owners lending tools, COs Gardner and Walzak were able to cut the tree that the deer was stuck on (along with a few others) to clear a path. While CO Walzak stopped traffic for safety, CO Gardner cleared the final obstacle and the deer exited the fence and was gone.

CO Raymond Gardner and Danny Walzak were responding to a complaint in the Pointe Mouillee State Game Area when they noticed two individuals fishing from the Middle Causeway. CO Gardner witnessed one of the fishermen pull a cast net from the water. When the fisherman noticed the officers were there, he quickly tried to shove the cast net into his cooler. At that time CO Gardner and Walzak made contact and the COs

found 10 carp, 3 largemouth bass and 3 bluegills that had been caught using the cast net. Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Schaumburger received a complaint of a deer possibly being shot on Grosse Ile. The complainant witnessed the suspect trespass on his property who told him he was looking for mushrooms and golf balls. Approximately ten minutes before the incident, the complainant remembered seeing an 8-point deer lying in his yard, before it took off across the yard. After contact with the suspect, the complainant searched the area and found multiple pools of blood on the roadway and then called CO Schaumburger. CO Schaumburger responded and located the blood and searched the surrounding woodlots with assistance from Grosse Ile Police Department and a local deer tracking dog. After searching for approximately 6 hours, they were unable to locate the deer. When the CO contacted the suspect, he admitted to shooting at a large 8-point deer that he estimated was 150 inches. The CO matched the arrow from the scene with arrows in the suspects quiver. The CO is still looking for the deer and will be requesting charges through the prosecutor's office for attempting to take a deer in an area closed to hunting.

CO David Schaumburger located a suspicious tag at a deer processor and followed up with the hunter. During the interview, the suspect showed a picture of herself in the stand at a date and time before she purchased a hunting license. The deer hunter admitted she shot a deer in the morning and then went and bought a tag and placed it on the deer. The hunter stated she has not been able to hunt in a few years and did not think she would have seen a deer. After the interview, the hunter stated she was a hunter education instructor and wondered if she would be able to continue her position. Charges are being requested through the prosecutor's office for taking a deer without a license.

CO James Zellinger encountered a subject hunting waterfowl with an unplugged shotgun at the Pointe Aux Peaux State Game Area. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Becker responded to a Report All Poaching complaint of subjects shooting waterfowl after hours in the Highland Recreation Area in Oakland County. CO Becker contacted three subjects as they returned to the boat launch. As CO Becker was checking firearms, one of the subjects ejected two shotgun shells from his gun. CO Becker asked if the subjects knew what the legal hunting hours were. One subject pulled up the chart from the hunting guide and stated the time. CO Becker pointed out that the chart he was looking at was not for waterfowl hunting, and that it was 45 minutes past legal hours. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Becker received a Report All Poaching complaint of subjects shooting waterfowl after hours at the Holly Recreation Area in Oakland County. CO Becker set up on the three subjects and contacted them as they were packing up their gear. While CO Becker was checking the hunters' licenses, the group heard more shots from the other side of the wetland. CO Becker located the suspect's vehicle and contacted them about an hour past legal shooting hours. CO Becker checked their firearms and found

two of the three were not plugged and one was still loaded. CO Becker then checked their licenses and was told that two of the hunters left their licenses at home. A check through retail sales showed that one of the subjects had no licenses at all. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Oakland County, CO Jacob Griffin checked hunters as they exited the woods in the evening. CO Griffin checked one subject walking off state land with a firearm in his hand. During the check the subject was hesitant to tell CO Griffin what he was hunting, which was waterfowl. CO Griffin explained that waterfowl hunting hours ended over an hour prior to the subject exiting state land. The subject's firearm was loaded and the subject did not have a Federal Duck Stamp, and did not purchase a Waterfowl Hunting License for 2017. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jacob Griffin was on patrol in Oakland County when he received a tip regarding a large bait pile placed on private property. CO Griffin investigated the area and discovered approximately 20-30 gallons of bait placed in front of a tree stand. CO Griffin returned to the area later that day to find one subject hunting over the illegal bait. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Justin Muehlhauser conducted a processor inspection in Forest Twp. While checking the tags on some of the antlers, the CO noticed a tag that was purchased after 8:00 pm on October 16. Upon closer examination, the CO noticed that the hunter did not notch out the date on the kill tag. According to the processor's records, the deer was dropped off mid-afternoon on October 17th. The CO conducted some follow up investigation and the suspect's father stated that the deer was shot on the 16th and he dropped it off for his son the next day. CO Muehlhauser interviewed the hunter who initially stated that he shot the deer in the morning of the 17th. When the CO confronted him with the evidence to suggest otherwise, the subject confessed to taking the deer without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

While CO Justin Muehlhauser was investigating the area around the Atlas Millpond following a waterfowl complaint, he located numerous marijuana plants. There were approximately 30-35 plants in individual pots, most had already been harvested. The plants were located on a development property directly next to an established home. While the CO investigated further, he discovered a garden hose that lead directly toward the home on the neighboring property. The CO notified the Genesee County Sheriff's Office and assisted local deputies with the investigation. Further investigations are currently underway.

DISTRICT 21

Detective Ken Cerny reports that a Bellevue, Michigan man completed a plea bargain that saw a plea no contest to a misdemeanor charge of failing to maintain a proper surety bond for a scrap tire collection site under Part 169 of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act. The man paid a \$500 fine and had removed over 700 tires from his collection site (which brought him into compliance with bond

requirements). Two additional charges of failing to register a tire collection site were dismissed as part of the plea deal. Charges originated from a February 18, 2016 inspection in Calhoun County by EIS and WMRPD that found 3119 scrap tires (mostly tractor tires) on the collection site. The collection site owner had a posted bond and sufficient facilities to cover only 2500 tires. The man has been prosecuted in the past for tire violations. Case closed.

Detective Holly Pennoni reports a business owner was convicted and paid \$625.00 in fines in the 86th District Court in Grand Traverse County for an air pollution violation under the Michigan Administrative Code adopted from the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Pollutants (NESHAP). In February 2016, Detective Pennoni received a complaint that the company was improperly conducting asbestos abatement. The company was hired to remove floor tiles suspected to contain Regulated Asbestos Containing Material (RACM). Further investigation from Det. Pennoni and Sharon LeBlanc, DEQ Air Quality Division, revealed that the company was not licensed to conduct asbestos removal, and failed to properly wet, transport, and dispose of the RACM according to state and federal regulations. The owner was charged with failure to have an on-site representative who was trained in the National Emissions Standards for Asbestos while conducting demolition activity involving RACM, failure to adequately wet RACM during the stripping operation, and failure to contain RACM in leak-tight wrapping during removal, transportation, and storage. The Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) also conducted an inspection in response to the complaint and assessed fines for three violations of the MIOSHA regulations.