

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
3/1/15 – 3/14/15**

DISTRICT 1

CO Brian Lasanen received a complaint of an abandoned snowmobile on Lake Gogebic and after checking the vehicle identification number, determined the snowmobile was stolen. The machine was turned over to the Ontonagon Sheriff's Department deputies who had handled the original complaint of the stolen snowmobile.

COs Brian Lasanen, Doug Hermanson, Dave Miller and Sgt. Ryan Aho conducted a group snowmobile patrol in the Bergland area. Numerous snowmobilers were contacted and violations were addressed for no trail permit, unregistered snowmobiles and exceeding noise emission levels. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lasanen assisted a local deputy with a stranded/stuck motorist. The driver of the vehicle attempted to drive down a snowmobile trail to go winter camping and became stuck in the snow far from any plowed road access. CO Lasanen located the driver of vehicle using his snowmobile and was able to provide him a ride out.

CO Brian Lasanen conducted an ice fishing patrol on Lake Superior near the mineral creek. CO Lasanen contacted an angler who advised he had not purchased a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Doug Hermanson was checking anglers who were fishing near Lake Superior's Huron Islands. A subject on a snowmobile was coming off the ice when he spotted the officer. He turned around and went back to warn a second subject who was coming off the lake on an ORV. When checked, they both had a limit of lake trout. CO Hermanson then followed the ORV tracks, which turned into foot tracks, to the base of a tree in which he found a cooler stashed with an additional 18 lake trout fillets. CO Hermanson re-contacted the angler who admitted to taking the overlimit. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Elton Luce and Mark Leadman contacted two anglers fishing on a small inland lake. The two subjects attempted to hide the fact that they were fishing, as neither had purchased a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Leadman investigated a complaint of illegal trapping. After extensive surveillance, CO Leadman contacted the trapper in the field next to one of his illegal trapping sets and uncovered many more violations than initially suspected. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Grant Emery, Dave Painter, Brian Bacon and Sgt. Marc Pomroy conducted a group snowmobile patrol in Gogebic County to target loud snowmobile activity in response to numerous complaints from the public. Four snowmobiles with modified exhaust systems were found to be over the legal decibel limit. Other violations encountered during the patrol included failing to purchase trail permits, operating unregistered snowmobiles and operating with a suspended driver's license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brett DeLonge checked two snowmobile operators coming off of the Menominee River. One operator had an outstanding warrant from a local police agency. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Grant Emery watched a snowmobile operator approach a road crossing stop sign. The operator looked one way and proceeded to cross the roadway, without checking the second direction. An approaching vehicle had to take evasive action to avoid a collision. CO Emery caught up to the operator and a check of the subject found him to have a suspended driver's license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Grant Emery responded to the complaint of loud snowmobiles and trespassing activity. While responding he observed a snowmobile operating against the flow of traffic. A check of the snowmobile and operator found the sled to not have a trail permit and improper display of the registration. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon and Sgt. Marc Pomroy investigated the complaint of a dog being caught in an illegal snare. While investigating, the officers discovered numerous illegal snare and body gripping trap sets. A suspect was developed and an interview led to a confession for setting the illegal traps and snares. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon and Sgt. Marc Pomroy received a complaint of a coyote being left in a snare. The snare location was found, but the snare and coyote had been removed. A check of the surrounding area led to discovering additional snare sets that were left out after the close of the snaring season. Contact with a nearby landowner led to the person responsible for the illegal sets. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon worked snowmobile activity in the Norway area. Four operators were ticketed for trail permit and registration violations.

CO Dave Painter observed a snowmobile pass by that did not have a trail permit in the required location. CO Painter was able to catch up to the operator and initiate a stop. A check of the machine found a trail permit in the wrong location, but the owner had failed to register the snowmobile for the last 10 years. The last time the snowmobile was registered was in 2004.

CO Brett DeLonge worked anglers fishing the Lake Michigan waters off of Menominee. The ice was so thick that anglers came from several miles to fish this area. The only

problem was, one angler was from Wisconsin and had traveled well into Michigan waters to fish and did not have a Michigan license.

DISTRICT 2

CO Rob Freeborn and Acting Sgt. Jerrold Fitzgibbon patrolled the waters of Little Bay De Noc from Ford River to Rapid River. A very busy day resulted in eight tickets and several verbal warnings being given. Violations included fish without license, non-resident purchasing resident licenses, undersized pike, undersized walleye, unregistered snowmobile, no ORV license, riding double and triple on ORVs, and not wearing helmets.

COs Rob Freeborn, Brett Gustafson, Jeff Panich and Acting Sgt. Jerrold Fitzgibbon patrolled Little Bay De Noc on Sunday. The weather was colder and fewer anglers were out, however six tickets were written and numerous verbal warnings were given. Violations included unattended lines, possession of marijuana, littering, no ORV license, riding double, and no helmets. Officer Panich also seized what appeared to be cocaine from an individual. A warrant is being sought through the Delta County Prosecutor.

Acting Sgt. Jerrold Fitzgibbon was up before daylight on Sunday to work a complaint of "set lines" on Little Bay De Noc. As the morning light revealed several anglers setting up, a large group of tip-ups surrounded a very quiet camper. Officer Fitzgibbon approached and contacted a single angler jigging outside of his camper with a total of 15 lines out. He explained that the lines have been out all night and that his friends were in the camper sleeping. Officer Fitzgibbon woke up the sleeping anglers and gave them an education on how to stay in attendance of their lines, and a need to pull them out when they no longer desire to fish. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jared Ferguson and Acting Sgt. Jerrold Fitzgibbon worked a two day patrol over the previous weekend on the waters of Little Bay De Noc from Ford River to Rapid River. The very busy patrols resulted in 15 tickets being written and several verbal warnings being given. Violations included undersized pike, fish without license, fish too many lines, no ORV license and unregistered snowmobiles.

CO Robert Freeborn assisted the Michigan State Police (MSP) with a one car personal injury accident on US 2. The truck had landed on its roof causing fuel to leak from the vehicle, luckily not starting a fire while the occupant was inside. CO Freeborn and the MSP Trooper were able to secure the scene until fire personnel arrived and could get the vehicle right side up.

CO Robert Freeborn received a complaint of a subject cutting the back straps off a deer while it hung in front of the subject's garage. CO Freeborn made contact with the suspect who stated that the deer had been hanging in his back shed since the end of deer season and he finally had enough time to butcher the rest of the deer. After CO Freeborn inspected the remnants of the deer carcass, it was determined that the suspect's story did match that of the current condition of carcass which appeared to be

hanging for quite some time. The suspect also had the proper tag that was still attached to the deer.

CO Robert Freeborn received a complaint of a snowmobile that hit a groomer on the snowmobile trail north of Shingleton in Alger County. The suspect was not injured but his snowmobile was totaled. CO Freeborn submitted his report to the Alger county Prosecutor for review.

CO Jared Ferguson was checking anglers on Little Bay De Noc when he observed a group of anglers who had an unregistered ORV. After making contact with the group, CO Ferguson located an undersized northern pike hidden in a snow bank. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jared Ferguson received a complaint of a subject with too many lines fishing on Little Bay De Noc. CO Ferguson responded to the area and found the angler, who had three tip-ups out and was jigging with two poles. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Michael Evink was conducting a patrol of Big Bay de Noc and Garden Bay. Officer Evink made contact with two brothers at their shack. He noticed that the sled next to the shack had an expired registration. After a few attempts to explain the expired registration, the owner of the sled admitted he had not transferred the title and failed to register the sled.

COs Michael Evink and Rob Freeborn conducted a snowmobile patrol of western Schoolcraft County. During the patrol the COs checked sleds on the trails and contacted subjects fishing on small inland lakes. The two officers encountered a group of snowmobilers that said they simply were out riding as last minute plan for the day, which may have explained the lack of trail permits. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Robert Crisp, Mike Evink and John Wenzel patrolled northern Alger County on snowmobiles. Activity was slow due to the warming weather, but at the end of the day several contacts were made with those out enjoying the trails. Several comments were made that the snowmobiler's were glad to see the Conservation Officers out patrolling.

CO John Wenzel was checking lakes in northern Delta County for fishing activity when he spotted fishing equipment out on the ice of one of the lakes with no one around. There was a jig pole set up with a line through the ice. After waiting 45 minutes, a snowmobile operator returned to the area and began reeling in the line. CO Wenzel made contact with the subject, who also admitted to not having a fishing license. The subject, who was from out of state, said he didn't expect to see a conservation officer out in such a remote location. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Robert Crisp and John Wenzel responded to a snowmobile personal injury accident in the Munising area. The Conservation Officers were first on the scene and stabilized the victim who had a broken leg. The victim was then transported by the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) crew to the waiting ambulance.

CO John Wenzel was patrolling snowmobile trails in northern Delta County when he came across a subject operating without a snowmobile trail permit. The subject stated he hadn't purchased one and figured he'd take his chances of not running into law enforcement. Enforcement action was taken.

CO John Wenzel responded to a complaint of unattended tip-ups near Farmers Dock on the Stonington Peninsula. The complainant said that subjects were putting out tip-ups and then going to sleep for the night and checking the tip-ups in the morning. CO Wenzel arrived before daylight and located the tip-ups. Contact was made with the subjects. Enforcement action was taken.

CO John Wenzel was patrolling the Ford River for activity when he observed two snowmobile operators not wearing helmets. After stopping the sleds, CO Wenzel observed that one of the sleds had an expired registration. Warnings were given for the lack of helmets and a ticket was issued for the unregistered snowmobile.

CO Bobby Watson was nearing the end of his patrol in Grand Marais when a pair of snowmobiles that lacked proper registration drove past the intersection he was observing. CO Watson travelled into town looking for the pair who had accelerated quickly once they saw the patrol truck. The two sleds were again observed but continued on an irregular path through town making it difficult to perform a stop. Eventually CO Watson could no longer see the sleds and assumed they had come to a stop behind a local business. CO Watson quickly found the snowmobilers who were now on foot near their sleds. A quick check of their snowmobiles showed both were unregistered. The riders informed CO Watson that one of them had received a ticket the previous night for operating on a state highway. Enforcement action was taken.

While on snowmobile patrol, CO Bobby Watson performed a stop on a group of snowmobilers operating carelessly through town. A ticket was issued to one of the snowmobilers in the group. As CO Watson delivered the ticket, the rider asked if the CO was an ordained minister, or if he knew of one. The rider explained he was looking to get married to his fiancé on the trails. CO Watson relayed he is not an ordained minister, and could not marry the couple.

COs Mike Hammill and Bobby Watson were checking local anglers on Big Manistique Lake and observed several unattended tip-ups approximately a half mile off shore. While operating toward one of the tip-ups, the flag tripped and began spooling out line. The COs moved away and observed the tip-up from a distance waiting for an angler from a residence to tend the line. After ample time, CO Hammill made contact with the angler at his residence and enforcement action was taken. One week later the COs again were checking anglers and came across the same situation - a flag up on a tip-up near the same residence. The COs again made contact at the residence to find the same individual from the week earlier and a friend claiming the unattended lines. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Bobby Watson and Mike Hammill worked a snowmobile patrol in northern Luce and Alger Counties. The COs encountered numerous violations and issued several tickets and even more verbal warnings. During one contact, a seasoned nonresident snowmobiler attempted to convince the COs that they were mistaken when he was advised his snowmobile must be registered. The snowmobiler explained he's been operating for years and all he's ever needed was a trail sticker. After the snowmobiler realized the COs didn't buy his story, he admitted to "not getting around to it yet". Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kevin Postma responded to a report of a car vs wolf accident north of Hessel. CO Postma arrived on scene to find a crowd of people around a very large adult male wolf that appeared to have been killed by a vehicle.

COs Bobby Watson and Mike Hammill were on routine snowmobile patrol when they observed two adults on a snowmobile pulling a third adult on a small sled. The two individuals on the snowmobile were lacking helmets, the snowmobile had no trail permit or current registration and one of the subjects had two warrants out of the Detroit area. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kevin Postma followed up on complaints of dogs that were running deer. CO Postma made contact with the owner of the dogs at about 12:00pm in the afternoon and explained the situation to the dog owner. CO Postma inquired as to the dog's location, to which the owner responded, "I let them out about 30 minutes ago, I'm not sure". CO Postma then proceeded to follow fresh tracks to a neighbor's house. The tracks then led into the woods on deer runways. After roughly an hour of trying to locate the dogs, CO Postma informed the owner that the dogs would have to stay on a leash. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Panich was checking ice anglers on Munuscong Bay when he found two excited anglers stating they were having a great day of fishing. One of the anglers claimed they were currently going to school to be a Conservation Officer someday and showed CO Panich his fishing license. When CO Panich asked to see their fish, he was more than a little surprised to see a bucket with what looked like minnows. A quick measurement showed that they had a 10" pike, three 12" walleye, and six very small perch. The anglers claimed they didn't realize there are size restrictions on the Great Lakes. CO Panich explained the length requirements on the different species of fish. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jeff Panich, Brett Gustafson, Robert Freeborn and Acting Sgt. Jerry Fitzgibbon conducted a group patrol on Little Bay DeNoc. The COs contacted two anglers fishing with nine tip-ups. The two anglers said their buddy was fishing the extra three tip-ups. When asked where the third angler was, they pointed to a small red dot on the other side of the bay. CO Panich took his snowmobile to the third angler who verified they were his tip-ups. When asked how he could tell if he had a fish, the angler stated that he uses binoculars. CO Panich explained that it was just short of a mile to his tip-ups and asked to see the angler's apparently very powerful binoculars. The angler then told CO

Panich that his binoculars were with the other two anglers a mile away. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jeff Panich and Michael Evink worked their way over to Mackinac Island to conduct a snowmobile patrol in response to several complaints of careless and reckless operation. During the afternoon, the two COs made numerous contacts checking snowmobiles. Several tickets were issued that day for failing to transfer registrations, expired registrations and careless driving. The Conservation Officers were greeted by several of the local island residence who thanked them for working the patrols on the island. The local residents on the islands advised that it's been very busy with visiting snowmobilers due to the ice bridge being open for a much longer than usual and welcomed the Conservation Officers patrols to keep everything in order.

CO Jon Busken contacted two anglers riding their snowmobile off Millecoquin Lake. The anglers stated that the fishing had been quite good and that they had both caught their limit of panfish. After asking to see their catch one angler told the officer, "Are you really going to count all those fish?" The pair was six fish over the daily possession limit. The officer also found that the snowmobile owner had never transferred the machine's title. Both individuals had prior fish related tickets. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Busken was on snowmobile patrol in Mackinac County when he observed a snowmobile with no registration and expired trail permit. The operator indicated he had not purchased the trail permit because he had just bought the snowmobile and had not yet gotten it transferred. The officer told him that the 15 day title transfer period only applies to the registration and that a trail permit must be purchased immediately. The investigation revealed that the snowmobile was purchased more than two months ago. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Busken was on snowmobile patrol in Mackinac County when he observed a snowmobile operator riding down a trail with no helmet. The operator lowered his head upon seeing the officer while his young son rode up behind him. The son was also not wearing a helmet. When contacted he said that he was not wearing his helmet because he was just going for a short ride. The short ride encompassed crossing multiple driveways, a county road, and US-2. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Busken was returning from training to Mackinac County when he saw a Clinton County Sheriff's Deputy initiate a traffic stop on the freeway. The officer stopped to assist the deputy. The distinct odor of marijuana was present in the vehicle. A search of the vehicle revealed marijuana and marijuana wax. The driver had a suspended license, a warrant, and did not have valid insurance on the vehicle. The driver was lodged in the Clinton County Jail.

DISTRICT 3

CO Andrea Erratt was on patrol checking ice anglers and found seven tip-ups set with no one around the ice shanty. CO Erratt recognized the name on the shanty as a tribal

subject and contacted the tribal CO. The tribal CO responded and contacted the angler later, who initially stated he'd been by his fishing lines all day. A ticket was issued by the tribal CO for fishing with unattended lines.

Both COs Carl VanderWall and Andrea Erratt gave presentations to Cub Scout groups, explaining responsibility in the outdoors, CO functions and duties, etc.

CO Andrea Albert gave a presentation with a question and answer session to about 200 attendees at a sportsmen banquet.

COs Eric Bottorff and Matt Theunick advised a caller that he could not keep a bobcat he found that had been hit by a snowmobile. The COs responded to the area and located the bobcat that had apparently been killed by a snowmobile.

COs Mike Feagan, Eric Bottorff, Matt Theunick and Sgt. Greg Drogowski all gave short presentations and read a book to students at the Wolverine Elementary School, where the theme was the outdoors and camping.

CO Andrea Albert talked to the Eastport Baptist Church Sportsman's group dinner about conservation laws and answered questions from the group.

CO Brad Bellville and Sgt. Joe Molnar inspected a privately owned cervid facility whose registration had expired. The operators had set illegal snares to catch coyotes that were getting into the facility. After addressing the deficiencies in their paperwork they were ticketed for not checking the snares every 24 hours and using illegal snares.

CO Duane Budreau gave two presentations at Camp Daggett during a father son weekend. CO Budreau explained reading a compass and led them through an orienteering course and later talked about ice safety and what to do if lost in the woods overnight.

CO Paul Fox was patrolling state land when he observed a large box containing household trash dumped just off a forest trail. Upon investigation, CO Fox found a name and address in the trash contents. CO Fox was able to track down the subject who dumped the trash. Upon questioning, the subject confessed to the littering. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Paul Fox responded to a complaint of an injured eagle. The eagle had been struck by a vehicle when it flew off a deer carcass on the side of the road. The eagle was transported to a licensed rehabilitator.

CO Tim Rosochacki was on his way to work on Belle Isle and came across a four car accident. CO Rosochacki assisted local deputies with the accident and in arresting an individual who was transporting marijuana in violation of medical marijuana laws.

CO Tim Rosochacki was following behind a vehicle which drove off the road, ran over a delineator marker in the grass, crossed back over the center line, and then back on the grass. CO Rosochacki activated his emergency lights and the vehicle continued to drive in a careless manner; approximately a half mile later the vehicle stopped and he made contact with the driver who was 71 years old and was trying to talk on a cell phone.

CO Jon Sklba patrolled Grand Lake checking fishing activity when he contacted a group of anglers, one of whom stated he did not have his license on him but it was back at the cabin and he could go get it. The angler did not return for nearly an hour and when he did his license showed that he had purchased it after the initial contact. He was ticketed for fishing without a license.

CO Nick Torsky policed a head-on accident where a truck had crashed into a passenger vehicle. CO Torsky secured the scene until a MSP Accident Reconstructionist arrived.

CO Nick Torsky gave a presentation to a hunter safety group in Johannesburg.

CO Carl Vanderwall gave a presentation to a Boy Scout Troop that was having a fishing derby. CO Vanderwall talked about conservation laws and why we have them.

DISTRICT 4

CO Steve Converse, Manistee County, was waiting at an access site after dark for ice anglers to come in from fishing. As CO Converse waited, he observed a vehicle turn into the road to the access site. He noticed it was traveling in his direction at a high rate of speed. The vehicle continued toward CO Converse and began spinning in circles and sliding around on the plowed surface of the access site before sliding to a stop within inches of his patrol vehicle. CO Converse made contact with the driver who was visibly upset that he had nearly hit a patrol vehicle. The driver advised CO Converse that he was just out "testing his new vehicle" in the snow. Enforcement action was taken.

While working an ice fishing patrol in Manistee County, Conservation Officer Steve Converse stopped an angler who had been fishing but was now operating his ORV to shore. CO Converse asked the angler for his fishing license. The angler searched for it insisting that he had purchased one. After a short pause, the angler stated that he "remembered where it was" and pointed to the rear of the ORV. CO Converse then discovered that his 2014 hunt/fish combo license was being used as an ORV permit. The angler eventually admitted that he had not purchased an ORV permit and figured he would use the appropriately colored fishing license to try to get through the day without having to buy one. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Converse was working an ice fishing patrol when he witnessed two ORVs operating across the lake, both had passengers. CO Converse could see that the operators had helmets but the passengers did not. Before CO Converse could contact the ORVs, the operators dropped off the first set of passengers and were heading back

to shore to pick up some more. CO Converse was able to catch up to the ORV operators after they had loaded up with their second set of passengers. CO Converse observed that they had open alcohol and were also operating without ORV permits. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck, along with a Lake County Sheriff's Deputy, were first on scene of a snowmobile personal injury accident where the operator had failed to negotiate a curve and fell off the snowmobile. The snowmobile then rolled over on top of the operator. CO Killingbeck provided first aid to the victim who had numerous injuries. CO Killingbeck also was able to transport the patient out to the nearest road where he continued providing first aid until EMS arrived.

While on patrol in Lake County, COs Kyle Publiski and Josiah Killingbeck observed two snowmobiles that failed to stop at a stop sign as they continued on at high rate of speed. As the COs attempted to catch up to the operators, they witnessed them driving through a second intersection without stopping or slowing as required. Several miles later, the COs were finally able to stop the snowmobilers. Both were issued tickets for careless operation.

CO Kyle Publiski stopped a snowmobile operator in Lake County for running a stop sign. When CO Publiski obtained identification and ran the operator through LEIN, it was discovered that he had an outstanding warrant from 1994. Enforcement action was taken and the subject was lodged.

CO Justin Vanderlinde was patrolling the snowmobile trail in Leelanau County when he encountered a snowmobile operator who nearly hit him while the operator attempted to negotiate a curve. CO Vanderlinde issued the snowmobile operator a ticket for careless operation. CO Vanderlinde was advised by the district court that the same snowmobile operator had received a ticket from CO Converse for the same violation one hour before CO Vanderlinde made contact with him.

COs Mike Wells and Josiah Killingbeck checked furbearer registration records and located a hunter who had registered a bobcat with a kill date in late January. A computer check of the subject's license revealed that the subject's license was purchased the day after the registered harvest date. Review of the records also revealed that a relative of the above subject registered a bobcat a month earlier while CO Killingbeck was present at the registration location. CO Killingbeck recalled that this relative was accompanied by a third subject who registered two river otter and a third bobcat. Interviews were conducted with the two subjects and admissions were received that neither of the subjects had taken the animals but instead gave their kill tags to the relative, who had harvested all animals involved. The relative was interviewed and admitted to taking a total of three river otter and three bobcats. The relative also confessed to using the kill tags of the other two subjects to acquire a seal. The main suspect was charged with multiple counts of overlimit regarding river otter and bobcat and also multiple counts of use kill tag of another. The other subjects involved were charged with registering otter/bobcat taken by another.

COs Brian Lebel and Angela Greenway of Mecosta County were on snowmobile patrol when they encountered two snowmobiles without trail permits. The first operator stopped for the officers and the second operator kept going. CO Lebel followed the second rider until he stopped and brought him back to the location of the stop. It was determined that both snowmobiles had no trail permits and expired registrations. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Angela Greenway and Brian Lebel were patrolling the White Pine Trail on snowmobiles when they came across a group of rabbit hunters who were hunting in a closed area. One of the hunters had a valid warrant for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken, including transporting the subject with the warrant to the Mecosta County Jail.

COs Brian Lebel and Angela Greenway were on foot patrol checking area lakes in Mecosta County for ice fishing activity. CO Greenway approached a shanty that had empty beer cans littered around it. CO Greenway contacted the three anglers who were occupying the shanty and determined one angler had not purchased a fishing license since 2012. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Ginn of Newaygo County was dispatched to a littering complaint. Upon arrival CO Ginn located a small plastic grocery bag in the ditch in front of the complainant's residence. CO Ginn located various pill bottles inside the bag along with other various items of trash. CO Ginn was able to locate the suspect at a nearby residence and after a short interview the suspect was transported back to the litter site where he picked up the remaining trash. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Michael Bomay and CO Jeff Ginn were patrolling the Muskegon River when they encountered a drift boat operating with a motor and no vessel registration. Upon making contact with the anglers it was also ascertained there were no life jackets aboard the vessel as well. The water temperature was 38 degrees. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 5

CO Brian Olsen witnessed a car from the opposing lane of traffic attempt to pass another vehicle without enough space and time. The passing car caused CO Olsen to veer off the road to avoid a collision. When CO Olsen turned around to conduct a traffic stop, the car reached speeds over 80 miles per hour in a 55 mile per hour zone. When the elderly man recognized the patrol vehicle's lights, he finally came to a stop. He blamed his poor vision and the other driver for his traffic issues. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Olsen witnessed two ORVs come out onto a county roadway from an area closed to ORV traffic. When CO Olsen attempted to catch up to them, he estimated their speeds in excess of 55 miles per hour. When he initiated a traffic stop, only one of the ORVs stopped. It was determined that the ORV had a broken taillight and no ORV

license. The driver admitted to operating at an excessive speed on the roadway and in a closed area beforehand. However, he claimed that he didn't know who the other rider was who failed to stop. After further questioning, CO Olsen eventually cleared the stop. He went further up the road and observed ORV tracks where the second ORV had turned around to look for his friend. After following the tracks along the roadway, CO Olsen found the second ORV back at a camp hidden behind a barn. That operator admitted to being the second ORV in the earlier incident. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Bader issued a ticket to a subject for not having a snowmobile trail permit who was riding down Beaver Lake Trail in Ogemaw County. The subject couldn't understand why he needed a permit because he was just taking a short ride (five miles) to the bar to meet his friends, not riding the trails. The subject also failed to mention that he was a CPL holder, but said it was OK because he is a CPL instructor. Enforcement action taken.

CO Kyle Bader was conducting a late night patrol when he stopped a vehicle that was heading away from an area that has a lot of illegal ORV activity. The stop resulted in two of the occupants being issued tickets for minor in possession of alcohol.

CO Jonathan Warner was on patrol when he conducted a stop on a snowmobile with an expired registration. The snowmobile registration had expired in 2010 and it was eventually determined to be on the wrong snowmobile. When CO Warner began interviewing the operator, he remembered him as a subject he had contact with in the past. CO Warner caught the same individual last fall during the firearm deer season. At that time, the man had been operating an unlicensed ORV with an uncased gun and was hunting over excessive bait. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Warren MacNeill was the first responder on scene for two structure fires in Alcona County. Although both fires started in the chimney area of each structure, they were unrelated. CO MacNeill was able to remove pets from one of the structure fires and assist by directing fire personnel to the location.

CO Warren MacNeill was the first responder on scene for a call of a "man with a gun" in a front yard. When CO MacNeill arrived, he secured the scene and determined the man had shot himself during a suicide attempt. CO MacNeill helped gather information and assisted deputies who responded to the scene.

While conducting a snowmobile patrol with CO Chris Bowen, CO Mike Hearn approached an intersection and observed two snowmobiles operating at an extreme rate of speed down the middle of the road. The county road is lined with houses on both sides, making the operation even more dangerous. CO Hearn was able to stop the lead operator, who admitted to operating over 100 mph. A ticket was issued for the reckless operation.

CO Mike Hearn was working a snowmobile trespass complaint when he observed two snowmobiles operating on a farmer's field. One of the machines was operating in a manner where it had broken through the deep snow and was throwing up dirt with the track. The trespassers were stopped, and subsequently it was determined that one of the operators was also suspended and had an outstanding warrant for his arrest. Tickets were issued for the trespass, and the second operator was arrested for operating on the suspended licenses and the outstanding warrants.

DISTRICT 6

CO Joshua Wright was checking anglers coming off Saginaw Bay and was seeing good success one evening. He found one individual who had a little bit of too much luck and was in possession of two extra walleye. The angler was ticketed and the overlimit of fish were seized.

While checking anglers on the Saginaw Bay one evening CO Joshua Wright checked a subject in a pickup truck on the ice who was talking to a group of anglers. While questioning the occupants, the CO found marijuana inside the vehicle and on one of the occupants. After looking closer at the location where the marijuana was found, Officer Wright found and seized other substances and later determined that it was methamphetamine. Reports were submitted to the local prosecutor's office and warrants are being sought.

CO Joshua Wright received a complaint that someone was cutting trees off of state land. While investigating the area he heard chainsaws running. CO Wright made contact with the subjects who were cutting trees on private property next to the state land and they admitted to him that they had really cut the trees on state land. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling the Rush Lake State Game Area (SGA) for illegal ORV operation, CO Bob Hobkirk found tracks in the snow leading down a closed trail. A short distance down the trail Officer Hobkirk located a 4x4 truck stopped in the trail. The operator admitted to being aware that he was operating his truck where he wasn't supposed to be. He was ticketed for operating in a closed area.

CO Bob Hobkirk was checking the fishing activity in the canals on Sand Point on Huron County's west side. He located two anglers and was able to get within 10 feet of the first angler before being noticed. As CO Hobkirk began to speak with the first man, the second angler looked his way and then started taking fish from his bucket and dropping them down his ice fishing hole. The CO quickly grabbed the buckets of both men. The first angler had a total of 68 perch and the second angler had 61 perch. Tickets were issued to both subjects for taking an overlimit of perch.

While working on Saginaw Bay near the mouth of the Saginaw River, CO Seth Rhodea observed a vehicle coming off the ice at a high rate of speed and with the driver not wearing a seatbelt. The Officer directed the driver to stop the vehicle and then made

contact with him. A search of the vehicle revealed the driver was in possession of a loaded firearm in the vehicle. The driver was ticketed for the violation.

CO Seth Rhodea contacted two anglers as they were packing up to head in from a night of fishing on Saginaw Bay. Upon speaking with the anglers they advised they had each caught six walleye. CO Rhodea confirmed what the anglers had caught and that they were in possession of an overlimit. In addition, they had failed to license their ORV and were not wearing helmets. Tickets were issued to address the over limits and warnings given for the ORV violations.

CO Jason A. Smith contacted one group of subjects riding double on an ORV with the rear passenger sitting backwards with his feet dangling off the machine, pulling a young child on a sled. None of the subjects were wearing helmets and the ORV had no registration. Enforcement action was taken.

A group patrol was conducted on the Saginaw Bay, Saginaw River and the Kawkawlin River by COs Seth Rhodea, Joshua Wright, Kyle Bucholtz, Joel Lundberg, Quincy Gowenlock, Dan Lee, Will Brickel and Sgt. Tony Soave. The officers were primarily targeting fishing violations but were also looking for snowmobile and ORV violations as well. Over the course of a busy weekend in March, the officers wrote a total of 63 tickets and issued at least double the verbal warnings. The violations that tickets were written for included over limits of walleye, possess undersized walleye, no fishing license, unattended lines, and fishing with too many lines. Snowmobile and ORV violations that were written were for violating the 100' rule near ice shanties, careless operation, failing to wear a helmet, expired registrations and fail to have a snowmobile trail permit.

CO Joel Lundberg contacted two individuals leaving the ice at dark. The two individuals stated they had caught their limit of walleye and had two buckets with five fish in each bucket. The CO asked a few more questions and decided to look through the fishing gear. The CO looked inside a fishing rod bag where the angler had his fishing poles and located an extra walleye that was hidden. The CO then checked the other angler's rod holder and found additional walleye. Tickets were issued and fish were seized.

CO Dan Lee checked two anglers coming in from walleye fishing on the Saginaw Bay. The two anglers advised that they had caught their limit. The CO checked their cooler and his count of the walleye was fourteen. The driver of the ORV told the CO that five of the walleye were his and at the same time gave his buddy a dirty look. The passenger told the CO that he caught nine. He then apologized to the CO and his buddy. The passenger who the CO had arrested in the past for possessing short walleye was issued another ticket.

COs Dan Lee and Will Brickel stopped three anglers coming in from fishing walleye on the Saginaw Bay. CO Lee made contact with two of them. The two he contacted had 12 in their shanty. They explained they had two fish from their friend. Unfortunately, CO Brickel found five on the friend. Tickets were issued.

While patrolling the Saginaw County River Systems, COs Quincy Gowenlock, Dan Lee and Will Brickel made multiple contacts with ORV and snowmobile operators. During the patrol several snowmobiles fled from the COs when contact was attempted, endangering the lives of dozens of citizens that were on the river systems at the time. Numerous arrests were made.

CO Quincy Gowenlock stopped three snowmobiles that were operating on the Shiawassee River SGA, which is illegal. The CO asked what they were doing on the game area. The snowmobilers advised that they just wanted to see where their other buddies were. The CO thought that was strange due to the fact that they were in the middle of the game area and all turned around at a high rate of speed as soon as they saw him. Tickets were issued.

COs Quincy Gowenlock and Dan Lee contacted an angler on the Saginaw River who was fishing for walleye late in the afternoon. He was in possession of five walleye, his limit. The COs observed him fishing in the morning from a distance but never made contact. When the COs questioned him about how many walleye he had caught in the morning he confessed to five, for a total of ten for the day. A local deputy stopped by the suspect's residence and confirmed there were five fresh walleye at his residence. A ticket for the overlimit was issued.

COs Quincy Gowenlock, Dan Lee and Will Brickel checked a group of eight walleye anglers fishing together on the Saginaw Bay. When the COs made contact they observed a large pile of walleye. After the COs counted the walleye it was determined there were 50 walleye, 10 over what the eight anglers would be allowed to catch. Several of the anglers kept telling the COs that none of the ten over was theirs. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 7

CO Cary Foster of Ionia County gathered information on two bucks taken without licenses during the 2014 season. Using computerized records from the Retail Sales System, he was able to conduct interviews of two hunters and determine one had taken an eight point buck in Montcalm County but purchased a license after making the kill. In a second case, CO Foster obtained a confession from a hunter who had taken a buck with a crossbow while having only one antlerless deer license. He then used his father's senior license to tag the animal illegally, but further admitted to taking a second doe without a license. Enforcement action is being taken by CO Foster for the illegal kills made by each hunter.

CO Greg Patten is seeking a warrant to charge a person in Muskegon County for taking a turkey with a bow in his backyard during the spring of 2014. CO Patten obtained a photograph of the individual with a wild turkey and a check of the Retail Sales System found he did not have a 2014 turkey license. A confession was obtained and charges are being sought at this time.

CO Dave Rodgers and Sgt. John Jurcich were present to accept the donation of a robotic whitetail deer mount to be used as an enforcement decoy. The donation by the West Central Michigan Chapter of the Quality Deer Management Association will be a great asset to conservation officers targeting complaints involving trespass and road hunting on private and farm properties across District 7.

CO Andy Bauer received a call at his residence that a subject had fired a shotgun in a residential area and had then thrown something over a fence. CO Bauer responded and after making contact with the homeowner was able to get a confession that the subject had shot two squirrels that had been bothering his dogs. Two dead squirrels were recovered and enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Mooney checked a subject fishing with three tip-ups on a local lake. During the check, CO Mooney observed a jigging pole next to a hole in the ice. CO Mooney left and returned from a different direction and observed the subject fishing with the jigging pole, with the three tip-ups still out. The subject was contacted again and ticketed for fishing with too many lines.

DISTRICT 8

CO Chris Reynolds interviewed a subject on an illegal deer case. The subject was interested in knowing how the officer knew that he had taken the deer without first having a tag, since the tag was validated on the same day it was purchased. The CO advised the subject that the tag was purchased after hunting hours were over for that day. The subject then confessed to getting home from work that day and going out hunting without a license and taking the deer. Charges will be sought on the illegally taken deer.

CO Matt Page observed an ORV being operated on a local lake by what appeared to be a young teenager, towing subjects around on the lake. When contacted, it was determined the operator was 14 years old and had never attended an ORV safety course. Additionally, the subject was operating without a helmet and on an unregistered ORV. The minor's parent was not in the vicinity of the activity at the time. CO Page eventually located the parent and issued a ticket for allowing someone under 16 to operate without supervision and without a safety certificate. The subject was warned on the registration and helmet violations.

DISTRICT 9

COs David Schaumburger and Kris Kiel worked a group patrol on Lake Saint Clair and made over 150 contacts. A few violations were observed including no use of helmets while on ORVs and snowmobiles and also having the proper licensing for both ORVs and snowmobiles. One particular violation CO Schaumburger observed dealt with an angler fishing with too many lines. When CO Schaumburger approached and entered the ice shanty, he observed one angler with four holes in the ice, each with a pole and a

baited hook. When CO Schaumburger asked why he had four lines, the angler replied that he was in the middle of changing bait on his poles. Enforcement action was taken.

While travelling to Belle Isle, CO Jason Becker attempted to make a traffic stop on a vehicle driving erratically and at a high rate of speed. CO Becker activated his emergency lights and siren and followed the vehicle for several miles before getting it to stop. CO Becker checked the three subjects through LEIN and found the driver had a suspended license. The driver was arrested and the vehicle was turned over to one of the licensed passengers.

CO Jason Becker responded to a RAP complaint of an ice shanty on a local lake past the removal date of March 1st and without a name and address. CO Becker was able to track down the owner to address the violations. The owner agreed to remove the shanty the next day. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol of Wolverine Lake, CO Jason Becker observed a snowmobile operator without a helmet. CO Becker waved the snowmobiler over and noticed that the snowmobile was not registered, nor did it have a trail permit. The operator was issued tickets for not wearing a helmet and not registering his snowmobile. Approximately an hour after CO Becker made contact with the snowmobiler, he observed the same subject operating in the township park across from Wolverine Lake, towing a row boat with a passenger in the boat. CO Becker contacted the two subjects and addressed the same violations with the same subject.

CO Jason Becker was catching up on paperwork in a township park when he heard an ORV approaching his patrol vehicle. CO Becker signaled the ORV operator to stop. The subject was operating without an ORV permit and in the township park, which is closed to ORVs. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Richard Cardenas received an email complaint of an illegally taken deer and photos from the suspect's Facebook profile. After his investigation, it was found that the suspect had shot an antlerless whitetail deer on October 9th, but did not purchase a hunting license until November 6th. CO Cardenas interviewed the suspect and obtained a written confession. Lapeer County Prosecutor's Office reviewed the report and granted an arrest warrant for the suspect.

CO Richard Cardenas patrolled Bevins Lake in Holly Township for fishing activity and checked one angler who had caught a northern pike. The pike was only 22 inches long and enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling Breast Bay on Lake Erie in Monroe County, CO Christopher Knights spotted two snowmobilers crossing the lake. After the individuals got closer to shore CO Knights saw one person without a helmet. CO Knights was unable to get to either sled due to the ice. CO Knights left Breast Bay and trailed them through multiple subdivisions and streets. The CO was able to see the tail end of one sled headed into a

garage, and pulled in behind the snowmobiler. One subject admitted to not wearing a helmet and enforcement action was taken.

CO Justin Ulberg received an ORV trespass complaint in Washtenaw County where two subjects were observed riding ORVs on a small frozen lake and then onto the complainant's property. CO Ulberg located the ORV tracks in the snow and tracked them back to a residence. Contact was made with a subject at the residence and it was determined that the ORVs came from two different residences in the area. CO Ulberg interviewed two different subjects and located the operators of the ORVs. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Justin Ulberg received a RAP complaint that was filed by the Fisheries Division related to a subject illegally spearing spotted gar through the ice on a lake in Washtenaw County. CO Ulberg contacted the juvenile's father, who explained that his son believed he was spearing Longnose gar. CO Ulberg explained how to tell the difference between the two fish species and gave a warning to the juvenile.

CO Mark Ennett was patrolling a relatively new quarry section of a South Rockwood location in Monroe County when he observed three persons operating ORVs at one end of the road that appeared to be lining up for a drag race. As CO Ennett approached two of the operators turned and sped off. The third operator stopped after hearing the officer's siren. It turned out to be a young father, riding with his nine year-old son. The machine was unlicensed, there were no helmets on either one, and they were operating on the road. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel finished up an investigation on a seven year old that had taken two bucks under the mentored youth program. The responsible mentor was interviewed and an admission was given. The mentor allowed the young hunter to take two bucks by acquiring a replacement deer tag. A report will be filed with the Macomb County Prosecutors Office for charges on the mentor.

COs David Schaumburger and Kris Kiel conducted a fish patrol utilizing snowmobiles on Lake St. Clair. Five tickets were written for snowmobile/ORV licensing violations and one for fishing with too many lines. Also on the patrol the COs encountered a subject with a felony warrant. The subject was arrested and COs Schaumburger and Kiel walked him off of the ice to the awaiting Macomb County Sheriff Deputies on the shore.

CO Daniel Prince contacted an 89 year old ice angler on Lake Chemung in Howell. The man was glad to be checked by a CO and reported that he had been buying hunting and fishing licenses for the past 73 years.

CO Pete Purdy contacted an ice angler on Thompson Lake. The angler advised he was a new ice angler and had just purchased a new ice rod & reel. He had also bought a new auger; he explained he went with the more expensive model that drilled a larger hole. However, when asked for a fishing license he advised he neglected to purchase

one. A check through RSS revealed he had never purchased a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pete Purdy arrived on scene of a vehicle that went off the road into a ditch. The driver advised the driver of another vehicle pulled out in front of her causing her to swerve to the shoulder where she hit a patch of ice and went into the ditch. She was uninjured and there was no damage to her vehicle. CO Purdy assisted her with getting a tow truck to the location to pull her vehicle out of the ditch.

CO Pete Purdy checked a small lake in Livingston County with no public access. CO Purdy contacted a husband and wife in an ice shanty. They both advised they didn't have licenses and that they had lived in the area four years and were told the COs rarely check that lake so they haven't purchased fishing licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Pete Purdy and Jason Becker responded to a RAP complaint of deer hanging at a residence. Upon arrival the COs contacted the homeowner who advised that he and a friend took the deer during the late antlerless deer season and hung them outside, with the intent of butchering the deer themselves. However with the extreme cold temperatures the deer froze solid. With the recent thaw they moved the deer into his garage hoping to salvage some of the meat. The COs examined the deer that were very aged but had validated kill tags on them.

CO Pete Purdy noticed a photo of an untagged nine point deer on a social media web site. The hunter typed in the caption shot with crossbow, on the morning of October 1, 2014. CO Purdy checked the Retail Sales System which revealed the subject purchased his 2014 combo deer tag in the afternoon of October 1st. COs Pete Purdy and Daniel Prince went to the subject's residence and interviewed the subject. He confessed that he shot the deer then purchased the license a few hours later. The subject turned over the nine point deer which was shoulder mounted hanging on his wall. Charges are being submitted to the Livingston county Prosecutor's office for authorization.

While conducting a foot patrol on Mott Lake in Genesee County, CO Saykham Keophalychanh observed several subjects sitting near poles that had lines in the water. CO Keophalychanh observed the subjects for several minutes prior to contact to ensure who was actually fishing. Upon contact, a check of the anglers who had been observed actively tending the lines showed one of them had not purchased a fishing license since 2013. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling the Flint River, CO Saykham Keophalychanh observed several subjects fishing through the ice. Observation from a distance indicated they were smoking a pipe of some sort and all subjects were tending lines. CO Keophalychanh began to make his way to their location and upon seeing him at about 10 feet away; one of the subjects kicked the pipe with the unknown substance down one of the holes. CO Keophalychanh questioned the subject on his actions and requested identification and

fishing licenses. Further checks through retail sales indicated that two of the subjects had not purchased a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

BELLE ISLE

While working Belle Isle, COs were called to the scene after learning three individuals had fallen through the ice near the marble lighthouse on the east end of the island. Sgts. Ron Kimmerly and Todd Szyska, along with COs Michael Feagan and Mike Drexler, responded to the area and split up to conduct foot and vehicle patrols in an attempt to locate the victims. After searching the entire east end of the island, CO Drexler located the victims on the canal between the golf course and water plant. Sgt. Szyska coordinated with the Detroit Fire Department and United States Coast Guard personnel as well as EMS while the other COs scaled the fence and rushed to assist the victims, who had gotten out of the water and were sitting on the snowbank. The woman had lost her shoes and coat in the ordeal and was starting to experience hypothermia when the COs arrived. The COs used hats, coats, gloves, blankets and provided additional first aid to keep the victims warm until other first aid responders were able to get carrying bags and boards to the scene so they could be used to transport the victims through the deep snow and back to the ambulance. All the victims recovered after they were warmed up.

CO Mike Drexler and Lt. Dave Shaw were working a Belle Isle shift when they observed a vehicle with a toddler riding on the front seat passenger's lap, not in a child booster seat. A traffic stop was conducted and the COs learned the operator, who was also the toddler's grandmother, was driving on an expired license. Further investigation revealed the operator was also wanted on an outstanding marijuana warrant. During the contact, the COs detected the strong odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle. The male passenger was in possession of three bags of marijuana. Bond was collected for the outstanding warrant, the female was issued a ticket for failing to secure a child, and a warrant request will be submitted to the prosecutor's office for possession of marijuana. The COs instructed the occupants to park the vehicle until the toddler's mother could bring a booster seat. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol on Belle Isle, COs Jason Smith and Mike Feagan conducted a traffic stop for speeding. The operator immediately stated to the officers that he did not have a valid license. CO Smith also learned that he had two outstanding warrants out of Detroit. The COs addressed the driving while suspended with the driver and advised him of his warrants. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel had court in the 36th district on the female subject that ran through barricades after closing on Belle Isle last summer. The subject failed to appear, and a bench warrant was issued.