

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
4/30/12 – 5/14/12**

DISTRICT 1

CO Marv Gerlach responded to the complaint of an eagle that was killed when struck by a car. The eagle was recovered by CO Gerlach and turned over to Wildlife Division staff.

CO Brian Bacon contacted a subject fishing a small lake in Dickinson County. The angler had no personal flotation device (PFD) on board his vessel and had not renewed his boat registration. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 2

CO Kevin Postma responded to the scene of a fire that was threatening area homes. Upon arrival the fire was still going and DNR fire crews were working alongside local volunteer fire departments to save a garage and homes. The CO investigated the fire's origin and developed a suspect who admitted to setting some debris on fire and then couldn't contain the fire once it got into the trees. A ticket was issued for allowing a fire to escape. Fire crews were able to save the nearby homes and the threatened garage suffered damage to one side from the heat of the blaze.

DISTRICT 3

While on patrol, CO Carl Vanderwall observed vehicle tracks around a logging road that was bermed against vehicular traffic. Officer Vanderwall followed the tracks that led a long distance onto state land, finally ending at a pickup truck abandoned in a wooded area. A check of the vehicle revealed that it had been stolen from a salvage yard in southern Michigan. The investigation is ongoing.

CO Andrea Erratt checked four adults riding double with children on unlicensed ORVs. They were picking mushrooms on state land and operating the ORVs without any helmets and across country in an area with no posted ORV trails. CO Erratt ticketed one of the family members for operating an unlicensed ORV and issued several warnings for operating unlicensed ORVs, operating ORVs in a closed area on state land, no helmets, and riding double. Later the same day, CO Erratt stopped a father riding double on a county road with his three year old son. His 11 year old son was following on his own ORV. CO Erratt ticketed the subject for operating an unlicensed ORV and warned him for riding double, allowing his 11 year old son to operate a four-wheeler, and operating an ORV on a state highway.

CO Andrea Erratt responded to a 911 call about two elderly women who got lost while picking mushrooms on state land. The women described their location as on state land near a trail with blue dots. CO Erratt was able to locate the women on the North

Country Hiking Trail and return them to their vehicle. They had been lost over three hours and were very happy to see CO Erratt. The sisters suspected their husbands would not let them go mushroom picking alone again.

CO Andrea Erratt stopped a 14 year old boy operating his dirt bike unsteadily on the shoulder of a county road. CO Erratt followed the juvenile to his home and talked to his mother, who said she had let her son ride his dirt bike to a party. The mother said she knew the rules and already had an ORV rule pamphlet. CO Erratt ticketed the mother for allowing her 14 year old son to operate the dirt bike without adult supervision and without taking an ORV safety class.

CO Andrea Erratt checked several anglers as they returned to a launch on Lake Charlevoix. The CO ticketed one angler for operating an unregistered motorboat and warned another for failing to display his current registration decal.

While patrolling a known mudder truck site in Charlevoix County, CO Andrea Erratt encountered two trucks stuck in a creek. Both vehicles were untitled and had no insurance, plus one of the drivers had his driving privileges suspended several times over. Trucks were seized and enforcement action taken.

CO Eric Bottorff responded to an accident of a motorcycle flipping over on the rider at the Black Mountain scramble area. The rider was located and was found to have an injury to his leg; however he refused an ambulance. First aid was rendered at the scene.

While patrolling an ORV restoration area, CO Mike Feagan came across three ORV operators, two of whom were riding double on their machines, and with none of the riders wearing helmets. In addition, one of the operators was carrying a concealed weapon and failed to disclose it to the CO. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 4

CO Sean Kehoe observed four subjects walking the banks of the Boardman River searching the water with a handheld light; three of the subjects were carrying home made spears. CO Kehoe watched the subjects but did not see them use the spears. CO Kehoe then contacted the group and identified himself as a CO. The subjects were cooperative and advised him they were spearing lampreys. CO Kehoe explained that the possession of a spear along a trout stream was a violation. CO Kehoe had the subjects show him the lampreys they claimed to have been spearing. The subjects took CO Kehoe to a boat access site on the river where he observed a dead lamprey. Enforcement action taken.

CO Steve Converse was travelling through Manistee when he observed a number of individuals cleaning fish near Manistee Lake. He stopped to speak with the anglers and ultimately determined that they had an overlimit. One angler was issued a ticket for the possession violation.

CO Angela Greenway followed up on a burning violation in Lake County whereby a landowner had set a fire that got out of control and burned a significant area of his neighbor's property. He was issued a ticket for the violation.

CO Angela Greenway observed a vehicle parked illegally near a bridge. CO Greenway stopped and located a subject who had illegally parked and then walked past a pair of no trespassing signs to fish. CO Greenway had just met with the same subject earlier that day to return equipment taken in a trespass case a couple of weeks prior. The subject was issued a second trespass ticket.

CO Mike Wells was on patrol on a Newaygo County river when he contacted three subjects trout fishing. One of the subjects advised that he had left his fishing license at home. CO Wells located a total of three undersized fish in two creels. Enforcement action was taken against two of the subjects for possessing undersized brown trout and a warning was issued for fishing with no license in possession.

CO Mike Wells observed a watercraft on a local Newaygo County lake that has proven in the past to be an area where anglers keep bass out of season. Surveillance was set up on the watercraft and after two hours, all three subjects in the vessel were observed catching several panfish. CO Wells contacted the anglers when they returned to shore and 31 panfish were located in the vessel. When asked for licenses, one of the anglers advised that she was not fishing. After CO Wells explained that he'd watched her fishing for the past two hours she apologized for giving a false statement to the CO, and accepted a ticket for fishing without a license.

CO Brian Lebel was patrolling near an access site on the Muskegon River in Mecosta County when he observed several anglers fishing. He stopped and watched as the subjects caught several walleye. The anglers appeared nervous and spent a great deal of time looking back at CO Lebel. After several minutes one subject began counting fish from a basket. After counting the subject started throwing fish back into the river. The boat was ordered to shore where an overlimit of walleyes and undersized walleyes were discovered. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 5

CO John Huspen was contacted by a subject who observed a pickup truck loaded with home debris drive onto state land near his subdivision and later observed the vehicle come out empty. CO Huspen was able to locate a large pile of trash, including an inflatable pool and carpet dumped in the described area. CO Huspen located the suspect vehicle in the nearby subdivision and interviewed the owner who admitted to dumping the trash on state land.

CO Chuck McPherson was contacted by a Michigan State Police (MSP) trooper who was investigating a breaking and entering of a cabin. The cabin owner had photographs taken at the cabin of an adult and a young male riding on a golf cart with a dead turkey in the back and an uncased rifle on the front of the cart, and a dog running

with them. The trooper was able to identify the individuals in the picture when he observed them and the dog in their vehicle at a public place. A search warrant for the subject's residence located the stolen items, as well as the rifle and blood and feathers from the turkey. The father admitted he allowed his 10 year old son to shoot the turkey without a license while trespassing. The juvenile was also with the adult during the breaking and entering.

CO Bobbi Lively recently completed a six month investigation of five individuals who were illegally cutting veneer grade hardwood logs from state land and selling them to a local lumber mill. The investigation covered two counties and twelve separate sites where logs had been cut. The sites were discovered after weeks of extensive searching of the two counties. Between January and December 2011, the subjects had been cutting top quality hardwoods in remote locations of state land, taking only the prime eight foot veneer grade logs and selling them to the mill. All of this was done with a come-along, bobcat and a pickup truck. The estimated value of the illegally taken timber was approximately \$47,100. A total of 19 felony warrants and five misdemeanor warrants have been served on the five subjects.

Sgts. Glenn Gutierrez and Jean Davis, along with COs Brian Olsen, Jon Warner, Bobbi Lively, Warren MacNeill, John Huspen, and Matt Liestenfeltz assisted in evacuations, traffic control and origin investigation on two large wildfires totaling nearly 450 acres in Ogemaw County.

DISTRICT 6

CO Joel Lundberg responded to a call of a turkey poaching incident and contacted the complainant, who had heard a gunshot close to his house. The complainant had seen a vehicle pull over along the road where two subjects ran into the woods and retrieved something in a plastic bag. The car then left the scene at a high rate of speed. CO Lundberg patrolled the area and located a vehicle matching the car's description. Interviews were conducted with the two occupants and they admitted to shooting a hen turkey. The subjects took the turkey and disposed of it in a nearby woodlot and put the firearm in a nearby trailer. CO Lundberg recovered the firearm, the hen turkey, and confessions from both the shooter and the driver. Neither individual had a turkey license. Tickets were issued and the firearm was seized.

CO Dan Lee was patrolling the Gratiot/Saginaw State Game Area (SGA) when he observed a vehicle parked along the roadside. A check of the registered owner showed that he had a private land turkey license. As CO Lee was approaching the vehicle a man exited the woods in full camouflage clothing but not carrying a firearm. He explained to CO Lee that he had been scouting for turkeys but not hunting. Inside the vehicle was an empty gun case. The man insisted he was not hunting so CO Lee told the man he was free to go. CO Lee stayed at the location to search for a firearm. A short time later the CO could see the subject in his vehicle down the road, but not moving. Eventually the man came back with questions about where his turkey hunting license would allow him to hunt and if he could cut through state land with a firearm

without a public land license. CO Lee explained that he had to get back to work looking for the firearm the man had left in the woods. The hunter admitted to hiding the shotgun when he saw the CO approaching. CO Lee seized the firearm and issued a ticket for hunting turkeys on public land without a license.

CO Dan Lee and Sgt. Ron Kimmerly responded to a trespassing complaint where the complainant had called after setting up to catch the habitual violator. While CO Lee interviewed the subject, Sgt. Kimmerly retrieved the trespasser's equipment. Sgt. Kimmerly located a bag of sunflower bird seed with the equipment; however, the subject denied baiting. Sgt. Kimmerly then located the bird seed shells on the ground. Again the trespasser denied baiting. Sgt. Kimmerly then located sprouting sunflowers in between the turkey decoys the trespasser had set up. Finally the trespasser admitted to baiting. The subject also did not have his turkey license with him, had been previously convicted of purchasing a private land license when not eligible and taking an illegal bear.

CO Quincy Gowenlock received a call from a MSP trooper requesting assistance with a possible shooting victim, initially reported as a hunting accident. Upon arrival on scene it was determined that it was not a hunting accident but an attempted suicide. The subject had attempted suicide with a knife. CO Gowenlock assisted emergency medical personnel on scene until MSP arrived to take the report.

CO Holly Pennoni issued a ticket for fishing without a license to an angler to whom she had issued the same ticket two years ago. CO Pennoni asked the angler why he had not purchased a license and his reply was that this was his first time fishing since the new year licenses came out, and he did not pass by a store that sold licenses. CO Pennoni asked the angler how his catch was during the walleye opener, which was a few weeks prior, and the angler stated they did great and that he caught a lot of walleye on the Bay prior to the season opening.

CO Joshua Wright received a tip that a person had been out fishing on the Saginaw Bay, returned to shore and dropped off some fish in a cooler in his vehicle, and then went back out fishing. CO Wright contacted the subject when the angler returned from his second trip. Enforcement action was taken for an overlimit of walleye.

CO Joshua Wright was waiting for turkey hunters to come back from an evening hunt on state land when he observed one of the hunters discharge his firearm. CO Wright quickly contacted the hunter and asked him to look behind him. The hunter was only 50 yards from a house where only a few minutes earlier CO Wright had watched kids playing in the yard. Enforcement action was taken.

While at the county courthouse, CO Hobkirk saw a subject that he was looking for was awaiting a pretrial. CO Hobkirk had investigated the individual for illegally possessing a raccoon that had recently bitten someone. When the individual was contacted in the courthouse hallway, he admitted to taking a raccoon from the wild and keeping it in his

residence for a year. The raccoon now weighs 44 pounds. The subject was ticketed for the violation, and arrangements are being made for the removal of the animal.

CO Hobkirk checked two individuals turkey hunting on state land. The male advised CO Hobkirk that he was not hunting because his license was for private land only. The female hunter claimed that she was hunting, but when the CO checked her license found it was not valid until the next hunting season. A ticket was issued to the female hunter for hunting turkeys without a valid license.

CO Seth Rhodea contacted numerous ORV operators in Sanilac County operating with varying violations. Several tickets were issued that included operating without valid ORV licenses and helmets. Numerous warnings were also given.

DISTRICT 7

Sgt. Jeff Rabbers and CO Patrick McManus patrolled the Allegan SGA over the weekend for illegal night time ORV activity. One arrest was made for operating off road in a closed area near the Kalamazoo River.

COs Patrick McManus and Chuck Towns reported three arrests for illegal ORV activity in the Allegan SGA. Problems persist with subjects driving off of designated trail roads causing destruction to highly erosive areas along or near the Kalamazoo River.

CO Gary Raak contacted a subject fishing along Dagget Lake in the Barry SGA in possession of marijuana. The subject had a three count warrant for drug related offenses including a felony for delivery of controlled substances. The subject was lodged on the warrants and charges are pending for the possession of marijuana.

Sgt. Jeff Rabbers and CO Paul Higashi contacted subjects fishing a channel between two inland lakes near Portage. The subjects reported catching some bass and panfish. When an investigation was conducted a largemouth bass was located, which neither subject could accurately identify. When the anglers were informed bass season wasn't open yet they then stated someone had given it to them. The bass was also undersized. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Mooney responded to a Report-All-Poaching (RAP) complaint of a subject who had taken three goslings from the wild to keep as pets. The goslings were returned to their parents and enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Mooney contacted an angler who had retained four small bass during the closed season, and also did not have a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Cerny was contacted by a hunter in Three Rivers SGA, who stated that a vehicle was parked in a closed area. CO Cerny investigated and found that subjects had gone around a closed gate and had driven into a closed area and were camping. A ticket was issued for operating a vehicle in the closed area.

CO Andy Bauer, while checking inland lakes, located two subjects fishing without licenses, one boat with no PFDs on board, and a subject with undersized and out of season bass in possession. Tickets and warnings were issued.

An investigation conducted by COs Steve Mooney, Jeff Robinette, Andy Bauer and Sgt. Zach Doss into the activities at a deer processor led to two convictions for the subject, one for buy/sell/barter wild game – venison, and one for improper records. The subject was fined \$1500 dollars by the Cass County Court.

DISTRICT 8

CO Kyle Bader conducted a marine patrol on Coldwater Lake and checked two anglers, who said they left their licenses back at the cabin. Before CO Bader was able to check the computer license system, they admitted they did not have fishing licenses. CO Bader wrote each of them a ticket for fishing without a license.

CO Kyle Bader assisted local deputies with the apprehension of two subjects who were living in an abandoned house without permission and making meth. When the deputies arrived on scene, they found the two subjects had fled on foot. A witness said they saw the pair cross a road and head into a swamp/woodlot and it looked like one of the subjects had something black in his hand, possibly a pistol. Two deputies, CO Bader and CO Jeff Goss set up a perimeter around the area, with the fourth border being the Saint Joseph River. A landowner called dispatch and said that from his second story window he could see the two suspects hiding in the woods. Both COs and an off duty MSP trooper saw the subjects trying to hide in a swampy area. They approached and ordered the subjects out and took them into custody without incident.

CO Jeff Goss contacted two anglers fishing that he had been watching for an hour. One of the subjects stated he wasn't fishing, and had no fishing license or outstanding warrants. The subject was right on one account, he did not possess a valid fishing license and he did have two warrants out for his arrest. CO Goss lodged the angler and issued tickets to both for fishing without a license.

CO Jeff Goss was transporting an orphaned fawn to a rehabilitator when he was almost sideswiped by a driver. CO Goss followed the driver a short distance and initiated a traffic stop. Upon making contact he realized the driver smelled of alcohol and did not speak English, fortunately the driver's friend was following them and was willing to act as a translator through the investigation. The subject was found to have a .17 BAC and was lodged in jail.

CO Derek Miller issued several warnings for possessing bass during the closed season. One group of anglers was at Mill Lake fishing from shore. The subjects said that they were catching a few bigger fish and that they were fighting really well. The CO checked their stringer and found they had two bass in their possession. The subjects had no idea that bass season was closed and were proud to show them off. CO Miller educated them on the closed season and the bass were released.

CO Derek Miller worked the Ford Lake access site checking multiple boats during the afternoon. One subject came to shore with an unregistered watercraft and did not have any life jackets. The subject advised that he just purchased the boat and that he had not had a chance to register it. CO Miller issued a ticket for operating an unregistered watercraft and gave a warning for no lifejackets.

CO Derek Miller assisted with a group patrol along the Huron River. He issued two tickets for fishing without a license. As a group, the COs seized over 200 white bass, and over 15 verbal warnings for marine and fishing violations.

COs Derek Miller and Todd Thorn located three subjects fishing along a pier in the Lansing area, only two of whom could produce ID and fishing licenses. The subjects had been drinking alcohol and could only produce state ID cards. One subject was wanted on a felony firearms warrant and was also wanted by the Federal government for the same charge. Once an MSP unit arrived the troopers took the subject into custody and then obtained identification from the third subject who did not want to ID himself. That subject also came back with two misdemeanor warrants and was lodged. Two out of three subjects were lodged for warrants, while the third called for a ride and continued to fish.

During a group patrol along the Detroit River, COs Pete Purdy, Derek Miller, and Mike Drexler were checking anglers in the City of Detroit. The COs were advised by some anglers that a subject was in the area attempting to break into houses and businesses. Shortly after, CO Drexler was contacted by factory security guards advising that the same subject attempted to cut a hole in their fence, and they provided the CO with a description of the subject. CO Drexler checked the area and located a subject matching the description climbing up a sign pole to cut copper wire from the sign with wire cutters. CO Drexler detained the subject and COs Purdy and Miller joined him at the scene. A check through LEIN revealed the subject had 15 misdemeanor warrants for his arrest; however, none of the warrant holding agencies were able to pick up the individual due to lack of manpower. Detroit Police dispatch advised they had no cars available, and the subject was released. The copper wire and wire cutters were seized by CO Drexler; and he will follow up with Detroit Police Detective Bureau.

CO Pete Purdy contacted occupants of a vessel coming off the Detroit River and into the Elizabeth Park Boat Launch. The vessel had an expired registration, and no serviceable fire extinguisher. CO Purdy also checked the vessel operator in LEIN and found that he had a misdemeanor traffic warrant. In addition, CO Purdy checked DNR priors and found that he had issued the same subject a ticket in 2007 for possession of an overlimit of white bass. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pete Purdy checked an area known to have a lot of illegal ORV activity. A RAP complaint had recently been generated by residents in the area who have become fed up with all the illegal ORV activity. CO Purdy immediately stopped two ORVs operating on the roadway, one of which was unlicensed. The operators advised they had driven 10 miles because they heard people talk about riding in the area. CO Purdy discussed

the multiple ORV violations of riding on the roadway to reach a large field they didn't have permission to ride on. Enforcement action was taken.

After completing an ORV stop, CO Pete Purdy observed an automobile that had an extremely loud exhaust operating erratically in the area. CO Purdy conducted a traffic stop and contacted the driver. The driver was using her cell phone which explained the erratic driving. The driver had no insurance on the vehicle and she assured the CO she was going to get it repaired in two days. She went on to say she had recently had her license reinstated from a suspension. A check through LEIN revealed that her operator's license was valid; however, she had a misdemeanor traffic warrant for failing to appear in court for a driving while license suspended charge in 2004. The subject was warned for the above driving violations and was lodged for her outstanding warrant.

While on patrol, CO Dan Bigger checked several of the mill ponds adjacent to the Shiawassee River system and made many marine contacts. While conducting his patrol, CO Bigger observed a small rowboat with two adults and two young children. CO Bigger started a conversation with the group and learned they were one life jacket short and that the boat was taking on water due to a failed seam. CO Bigger had the subjects get out of the boat and the owner row back to the adjacent shore. A ticket was issued for no PFD and all four boaters left safely.

CO Dan Bigger observed a vessel with both adults and children fishing. From a hidden vantage point, CO Bigger observed the adults cast and retrieve for several minutes and one of the adults was very animated in showing the other how to set the hook when the bobber moved. After several more minutes, it was obvious they were not assisting the kids fishing and contact was made. The angler admitted to fishing without a license and enforcement action taken.

While on marine patrol, CO Dan Bigger received a RAP complaint that a subject had shot two turkeys. CO Bigger was able to contact the subject over the phone and obtain a confession and the location of the birds. Upon the completion of the marine patrol, CO Bigger contacted the subject at his residence and located both birds. CO Bigger explained that although he had tagged one of the birds, it was with a spring 2011 license and that both birds were not legally taken and therefore seized. A warrant request is pending.

CO Richard Nickols received a RAP complaint of a subject who got his truck stuck operating off road in the Maple River SGA. CO Nickols responded to the area and found the subject who had just been pulled out by two other vehicles that had arrived on scene. Further investigation revealed that the subject had been mud bogging in the area on state land. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Richard Nickols and Todd Thorn worked a night patrol in the Maple River SGA to address illegal fishing activity and illegal camps on state land. During the patrol, the COs checked several subjects fishing, one of whom had no license. They also observed recent illegal ORV activity on state land and a set line in the Maple River. The

COs also found seven subjects camping near the river without a permit. Three of the campers were minors in possession of alcohol. Two of the campers were operating a boat with no PFDs and had no navigation lights. Enforcement action was taken and the subjects were ordered to clean up the camp.

CO Shane Webster stopped to check an angler at a local fishing bridge and found that he was using four lines. The angler attempted to shrug off the issue by stating his girlfriend had just left. CO Webster advised that if the other angler wasn't present the other line should have been pulled immediately. A check of the DNR prior system revealed the man has received a ticket in the past for using too many lines. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 9

CO Linda Scheidler received a RAP complaint of someone snagging fish at the Holloway Reservoir Dam. The CO approached by walking along the ¼ mile dike. When she reached the halfway point she saw the suspect walking across the dam to leave. CO Scheidler sprinted and when she reached the dam saw the suspect put the fish in the back of his pickup truck and walk toward the cab of the truck. CO Scheidler then noticed a uniformed police officer standing nearby. She hollered to him, "Officer, stop that man!" The officer held the suspect for the CO, who took enforcement action for four snagged walleye, weighing a total of eight pounds.

While on marine patrol on Holloway Reservoir, CO Linda Scheidler observed three anglers who were shore fishing. She saw one of the subjects catch a fish and show it to another angler, who then reeled in his line so he could walk up to the first subject and admire the fish. Officer Scheidler approached and asked to see fishing licenses. None of them had licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel received a RAP complaint of a subject at Lake St. Clair Metropark keeping three largemouth bass. The complainant gave a good description of the angler and location. CO Kiel located the individual and found three largemouth bass in his bucket. The subject said that he thought that the season opened on May 1st. Enforcement action was taken.

As he was clearing a complaint, CO Kris Kiel observed three subjects walking toward a parking lot. Two of the subjects were carrying fishing equipment and the third was struggling with a large garbage bag over his shoulder. The CO caught up with the group and asked if they had any luck fishing. The subject carrying the garbage bag dropped it on the ground and opened it up to show the CO their catch. Inside was a large, stuffed fish basket. The CO took out every fish and found over 20 sheephead, a large channel catfish and two smallmouth bass. One of the bass weighed four pounds and the other was undersized. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Szyska responded to a complaint of subjects throwing out various breads and chips at their residence to bait in birds. The CO was met at the door by a 19 year old

male who admitted “they” were shooting squirrels and stuff. The second subject stated he was not shooting anything because he was a convicted felon and could not possess a firearm. CO Szyska found the second subject had several other restrictions due to his felony conviction. Warrants are being sought on both subjects for multiple violations.

CO Ken Kovach assisted local deputies with a suicidal subject in the Lapeer SGA. A passerby noticed a flexible tube running from the tailpipe into a window. The passerby pulled out the apparatus and saw a shotgun in the back seat. Five officers, including CO Kovach, responded and as they approached the vehicle, they heard a gun shot. The officers headed into the direction of the gunshot and found a subject on his back with a shotgun wound to his head, yet still alive. The subject was transported to the hospital.

While checking anglers at Metro Beach, CO Todd Szyska came upon a subject fishing who handed the CO an Alabama fishing license. The subject stated he thought it was good for all 50 states. CO Szyska ran a license check on the subject and found he had purchased a 24 hour license four years prior. Enforcement action was taken, and \$100 bond was taken on the scene.

CO Todd Szyska contacted a subject who was fishing and when he asked to check her license she told the CO to come back in an hour or so because it was in her car and she did not want to be bothered. The CO ran the angler’s identification through the license system with her verbal information. She had not purchased a fishing license since 2005. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Arthur Green, COs Mike Drexler and Lacelle Rabon worked a group patrol targeting anglers on the lower Detroit River. Sgt Green issued one ticket for possess overlimit of white bass and two for marine violations. Seventy-one white bass were seized during the patrol. All tickets issued for overlimits of white bass are accompanied with requests for restitution of \$5 per fish. A total of 441 fish were seized.

Sgt. Arthur Green issued a ticket to a subject for attempt to take walleye during the closed season during a group patrol in early April. CO Kris Kiel was testifying on all tickets issued during the group patrol since he was the observer and witnessed the violations. The subject appeared in court and complained that the lure that was seized was not his and that he was not fishing with that lure, and demanded a trial. CO Kiel called Sgt. Green and advised him of what was happening then returned to the court room to tell the prosecutor Sgt. Green was on the way. The subject changed his mind and pled guilty and was fined \$300.

CO Mark Ennett conducted a shore fishing patrol along the Nature Trail and lagoons in Sterling State Park, and made over two dozen contacts. Two anglers were fishing without valid fishing licenses; a third subject was later spotted up a nearby tree. The angler was attempting to retrieve a “10 dollar lure” that he had cast into the tree across the canal from where he was fishing. When he finally came down, without the lure, enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Ennett was working an ongoing complaint of out of season bass being kept on the River Raisin. Several groups of anglers were observed, but no fish were being caught. CO Ennett contacted one pair of anglers who gave several reasons why they thought they did not need a fishing license. At one point, one of the anglers asked if they were even fishing, stating that all they were catching was rocks. Enforcement action was taken on both.

COs from Districts 9 and 8 worked a group patrol focusing on anglers in the lower Detroit River. Several subjects were issued tickets that resulted in seizures of 170 fish. In total, 21 tickets were issued for offenses which included possessing overlimits of white bass, fishing without a license, possessing fish without a license, operation of unregistered watercraft, and various marine equipment violations. In addition, the COs made seven LEIN arrests.

While working a group patrol, COs Dan Bigger and Dan Walzak contacted three subjects who had quite a bit of luck fishing for white bass on the Detroit River. The COs counted 174 fish – 99 more than what they were legally allowed to take. When the COs reminded the subjects that the limit was 25 fish per person, one of them tried to defend their actions by claiming that they were told that the limit was 35, lowering their take to 69 fish over the limit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dan Walzak contacted two anglers who stated that they were fishing for white bass and figured that they had 30-35 fish. According to one of the anglers, “They weren’t cooperating”. Checking the fish in their cooler, CO Walzak asked the vessel owner if that was the only cooler they had and the subject indicated that it was. CO Walzak spotted a second cooler in the forward cabin and asked about its contents. The subject pulled out a third cooler and opened it, revealing food and drink. CO Walzak pointed at the cooler that was left in the cabin and requested that the subject bring it out. Inside were more white bass – enough to exceed the anglers’ limits, and a smallmouth bass which is still out of season on the Detroit River. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Lacelle Rabon was checking anglers when he observed a subject who was fishing alone. CO Rabon contacted the subject and asked to see his fishing license. The subject stated he had a license to fish, but he had left it in his vehicle. As CO Rabon and the subject walked to his vehicle to get the license, the subject stated, “You know you gave me a ticket last year for fishing without a license, and I had to appear in the 16th District Court”. Before the subject opened his vehicle door, he stated, “The license I purchased last year may be expired”. He displayed an expired 2011 fishing license and was issued a ticket for fishing without a license. He then asked CO Rabon if he would have to say or do any thing different in court for appearing on this second offense. The subject was advised to contact the court.

CO Lacelle Rabon was first on scene of a rollover accident on a local freeway. He observed smoke coming from the vehicle and requested MSP, fire and other emergency personnel via radio. There was a heavy downpour of rain, and the driver of the overturned vehicle had to be helped to crawl out the broken out rear window. CO Rabon gave the driver his rain jacket and allowed her to sit in the patrol vehicle. She

was asked for her driver's license, and she replied her driver's license was "suspended". MSP handled the accident report and emergency services personnel conveyed the driver to the hospital.

CO Mike Drexler was checking shore anglers when he contacted one angler who stated that he left his fishing license at home. When asked if he purchased a fishing license, the angler stated that it might be expired. After a computer check revealed that the angler had never purchased a fishing license and was also wanted on several outstanding warrants, a ticket was issued for fishing without a license and enforcement action was taken on the warrants.

COs Mike Drexler and Ben Shively conducted a joint patrol to check anglers coming off the Detroit River. The COs found nine individuals with overlimits of white bass, including one vessel with two anglers who were 98 fish over the legal limit. The COs searched the vessel and located hidden fish in several compartments throughout the boat. Nine tickets were issued for overlimits of white bass and over 130 fish were seized.

CO Mike Drexler was checking anglers coming off the Detroit River when he checked one vessel with five anglers on board. After searching the boat, the CO located almost 200 white bass in various hiding places. Two of the anglers did not possess fishing licenses, and two were wanted on outstanding warrants. CO Drexler issued five tickets for overlimits of white bass and possessing fish without a license and seized over 70 fish. CO Drexler lodged one of the subjects on several outstanding warrants.

CO Ben Shively finalized a case from the 2009 deer season on a subject charged with hunting while revoked. The subject pled guilty, was fined \$500, placed on probation for the remainder of 2012, hunting license revocation extended through 2012, and forfeiture of his crossbow, tree stand, and climbing sticks.