

**Law Enforcement Division  
Bi-Weekly Field Report  
5/21/2017 – 6/5/2017**

**DISTRICT 1**

Conservation Officer (CO) Ethen Mapes attended Camp 911 in Ontonagon where 5<sup>th</sup> graders from several school districts gathered to meet all the different emergency personnel. CO Mapes gave a safety talk to the students on marine and ORV safety. Helmets and life jackets were stressed as highly important pieces of safety equipment.

CO Brian Lasanen taught a marine safety class for twenty-five 6<sup>th</sup> graders at the Ontonagon Middle School.

CO Brian Lasanen assisted the Michigan State Police with a fatal dump truck rollover accident on M-28 in Ontonagon County.

CO Doug Hermanson assisted DEQ Detective Trey Luce with an illegal wetland filling investigation in Calumet Township.

CO Doug Hermanson responded to a roadkill moose in Baraga County. He assisted Michigan State Police on the personal injury accident crash and removal of the moose from the roadway.

CO Ethen Mapes was on marine patrol on Lake Gogebic when he spotted six unattended fishing lines in the water. CO Mapes tied his patrol boat off to the dock where the poles were located and waited for the owners of the poles to come to the dock. After a while, it was clear that the anglers were not coming to attend to their poles. CO Mapes walked up to the house as the anglers pulled into the driveway. They stated they had gone to the bar for a couple of drinks and had forgotten to pull their lines in. Law enforcement action was taken for not having immediate control of their fishing lines.

CO Ethen Mapes was meeting with two Michigan State troopers in the Bruce Crossing area when he noticed an ORV operating without a helmet. When CO Mapes tried to stop the ORV, the driver fled and led the CO on a pursuit for nearly a mile down a multi-use trail. The subject was apprehended and found to be intoxicated and in possession of marijuana. Law enforcement action was taken for multiple violations.

CO Ethen Mapes was checking boaters and anglers at the Bergland boat launch when he smelled a strong aroma of intoxicating liquors coming from a boat operator. When asked how much the operator had to drink, the subject stated he had three beers, later changing his story to he had been drinking all day. After failing field sobriety tests, the subject was arrested for operating a boat with a blood alcohol content greater than 0.08.

CO David Miller responded to a car vs. moose accident in Baraga County. An immature bull moose had been struck by a motor vehicle along US-41 and Ohio Mine road. The vehicle sustained severe damage and the moose succumbed to its injuries.

CO Denny Gast assisted with the hunter safety field day at Camp Nesbit. Fifty-five 6<sup>th</sup> graders from an area school attended the training and received their hunter safety certificates.

CO Gast worked fishing activity along the Sturgeon River in the spawning closure. CO Gast located a husband and wife fishing in the closed area. The male suspect also failed to immediately disclose that he had a concealed pistol license (CPL). Enforcement action was taken.

CO Hermanson instructed hunter safety for the Hancock Schools field day at Camp Nesbit, nearly 70 students were in attendance.

CO Jared Ferguson presented to 25 Iron Mountain Middle School students regarding the career of a conservation officer during their recent field trip to Lake Antoine. The students each came with questions related to recreation and natural resources for CO Ferguson to answer.

COs Brian Bacon, Shannon Kritz and Nathan Sink assisted the local Wisconsin wardens with a joint patrol to assist Florence WI and Crystal Falls MI high school students on a float trip of the Brule River.

CO Nathan Sink was on patrol when he observed a boat fishing near the shoreline of Pomeroy Lake in Gogebic County. CO Sink approached the boat and made contact with the occupants. CO Sink asked the occupants to hold up their current fishing licenses. All but one held up current licenses. The individual who did not hold up a license stated he was only testing out the fishing pole. CO Sink also noted an expired registration on the boat and had the operator come ashore to address the violations. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jeremy Sergey and Brett DeLonge taught a boating safety class at the 2017 annual "Becoming an Outdoor Woman" program at the Bay Cliff health camp in Big Bay.

CO Mark Leadman, Brett DeLonge and Sgt. Ryan Aho assisted forest management with sound testing for the proposed state shooting range locations in Marquette County.

CO Brett DeLonge attended a skilled trades career day at the Marquette County Fairgrounds. CO DeLonge gave a law enforcement career presentation along with officers from the Michigan State Police and Northern Michigan University Public Safety. The large event brought over 400 high school students from schools in Marquette and Alger Counties. Several students showed a great deal of interest in pursuing the career as a CO.

COs Brett DeLonge and Mark Leadman were patrolling a catch and release only lake in Marquette County when they observed anglers fishing from an unregistered boat. While conducting a license and marine safety check, the COs located a walleye one of the anglers had kept. The COs escorted the group of anglers to the dock and addressed the violations found during the check.

CO Mark Leadman and Sgt. Ryan Aho were patrolling a popular pan fishing lake when they observed two subjects fishing from kayaks. One of the subjects was fishing without a license and neither had life jackets. Enforcement action was taken.

## **DISTRICT 2**

Sgt. Jerry Fitzgibbon and CO Mark Zitnik were working Memorial Day weekend looking to address ORV violations when they observed three ORVs operating on a state highway. A traffic stop was conducted and several violations were addressed including no ORV license, operating on a public highway, and failing to display an ORV license. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Jerry Fitzgibbon and CO Mark Zitnik were 1<sup>st</sup> on scene of a roll-over ATV accident. No one was injured; however, the side-by-side ATV that had been rented just 15 minutes earlier had to be rolled over and pulled out of the ditch by a wrecker. A sizable wrecker bill and a ticket for careless operation followed.

CO Chris Lynch was on patrol when black smoke was observed coming from the back yard of a residence. CO Lynch made contact with a lone subject at the residence who was burning a mattress in a burn pile in the back yard. Upon interviewing the subject, the subject stated they were wondering when the DNR was going to show up. A ticket was issued for the violation.

CO Pat Hartsig attended a wildlife coalition meeting at the Escanaba Sportsman's Club with members and representatives of local wildlife clubs in attendance.

CO Pat Hartsig attended a family night at Rapid River Public School. CO Hartsig spoke to residents about the job of a conservation officer.

CO Kevin Postma contacted three fishermen fishing in Michigan waters near the Canadian border on the north end of Sugar Island. None of the fishermen had Michigan fishing licenses as they advised they thought they were in Ontario waters. CO Postma explained to them that were certainly in Michigan waters but would show discretion as long as they could produce Ontario fishing licenses. Two of the individuals provided their Ontario fishing licenses; however, the third advised that it was in the truck. After initially giving CO Postma a false name, it was determined that the third individual did not have a Michigan or Ontario fishing license, enforcement action was taken.

CO Kevin Postma contacted three fishermen fishing on the north end of Duck Lake on Sugar Island. These were the same three fishermen that CO Postma and Sgt. Mike

Hammill checked two weeks prior. At that time there were three fishing rods along the bank, but of course the only individual fishing was the one with the fishing license. This time CO Postma observed all three of them fishing. Upon contact, one of the fishermen threw his pole down into the canoe. When CO Postma asked for their fishing licenses, they advised they had left them in the truck. It was eventually sorted out that the same two that didn't have fishing licenses two weeks earlier, still didn't have fishing licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kevin Postma contacted an individual on Sugar Island while walking back to his patrol vehicle. It was determined that the individual had a felony warrant for marijuana delivery out of Chippewa County. The individual was arrested and lodged in the Chippewa County Jail.

CO Gustafson picked-up two eaglets from a citizen who had found them on the ground below a nest in Mackinac County. They were turned over to a rehab facility.

CO Tom Oberg was waiting in line for the Neebish Island Ferry when he noticed a side-by-side ATV leave the ferry. As the ATV drove past, CO Oberg did not see any ORV stickers displayed on it. CO Oberg conducted a traffic stop on the ATV. It was determined the operator had a suspended driver's license in Michigan. After verifying through central dispatch, CO Oberg arrested the subject and transported him to the Chippewa County Jail.

CO Tom Oberg was on Marine patrol on the Gogomain River when he contacted two individuals fishing. CO Oberg made contact to see how their fishing was going. After checking their fishing licenses, CO Oberg asked to see their required safety equipment on the vessel. After the subjects looked through all their compartments on the boat, the two fishermen failed to present any lifejackets aboard. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Bobby Watson and Calvin Smith worked the annual Grand Prix 500 Race in Detroit with several other COs from around the state. With efforts from Michigan COs and Michigan State Troopers the event went smoothly with no major incidents.

### **DISTRICT 3**

CO Andrea Erratt of Charlevoix County participated in the East Jordan Elementary School Career Vehicle Day. CO Erratt talked to 370 students throughout the day, some of whom enjoyed climbing on the quad in the back of her truck.

On Saturday, CO Andrea Erratt received a nuisance bear complaint, called the complainant, and received directions to their house on a dead end road. CO Erratt took a wrong turn and ended up at a neighbor's house discovering burning building materials but no one was home. CO Erratt went and talked to the nuisance bear complainants who had their bird feeders tore down the previous night. She advised them to bring in all of their bird feeders that were attracting the bear. CO Erratt returned to the

neighbor's house and discovered he had returned home and put more building materials on the fire. He was ticketed for illegal disposal of solid waste and warned for the unattended fire.

On Sunday, while patrolling state land posted closed to ORVs, CO Andrea Erratt of Charlevoix County stopped two quads. Both operators said they did not see the "No ORV" sign they had just driven past. The lead driver asked if he was getting a ticket and when CO Erratt replied yes he said he should have let his girlfriend lead. He was ticketed for operating an ORV in a closed area on state land and his girlfriend was warned for the same offense.

On Sunday, CO Andrea Erratt of Charlevoix County received a complaint from CCE Central Dispatch about a fisherman in a kayak on Susan Lake swatting at a loon with his paddle. A deputy called and volunteered to check on the kayakers while CO Erratt responded from across the county. CO Erratt arrived at Susan Lake just as all four kayakers were coming to shore. Three of the four kayakers, including the suspect, did not have life preservers in their kayaks. The suspect stated he was being chased by the loon as he unknowingly fished by its nest and he only splashed the loon. CO Erratt warned him that it is illegal to harass loons at any time. CO Erratt ticketed the three kayakers for no PFDs.

On Memorial Day while launching her patrol boat on Deer Lake, CO Andrea Erratt of Charlevoix County observed an ORV traveling at an extremely high rate of speed on Deer Lake Road. After patrolling Deer Lake and loading her boat onto the trailer, CO Erratt observed the same ORV operator headed toward M-75 traveling at a high rate of speed. CO Erratt unhitched her boat trailer and made pursuit, but found it difficult to catch the ORV due to the speed. CO Erratt initiated a traffic stop after the driver continued west on M-75. The driver admitted he was driving at least 55 MPH and that his driver's license was suspended. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling Six Mile Lake on Memorial Day, CO Andrea Erratt of Charlevoix County checked two people fishing from the Echo Township boat launch dock. They both said they did not have fishing licenses but they had talked about buying them before they went fishing. They were both ticketed for fishing without a license.

On Memorial Day after loading her boat back on the trailer, CO Erratt was answering questions at the Six Mile Lake boat launch when she observed a side-by-side and a quad headed north on Miles Road at a high rate of speed. CO Erratt unhitched her boat, made pursuit and initiated a traffic stop. The quad operator stated they were going 45 MPH. CO Erratt ticketed the operator for no helmet and collected bond from the Florida resident. CO Erratt warned him for driving an unlicensed ORV exceeding 25 MPH in the middle of the road. CO Erratt talked to the juvenile side-by-side operator and followed him to his home where she explained to his father that she had warned him for going faster than 25 MPH in the main traveled portion of the road.

CO Andrea Erratt of Charlevoix County talked to the East Jordan Sixth Grade girls at Camp Willey before they camped overnight. CO Erratt displayed her fur kit containing the pelts of several game animals from past cases including a bobcat, coyote, mink, muskrat, beaver, bear, and elk. CO Erratt explained DNR laws, CO duties, and how to become a conservation officer.

At the Mancelona Bass Festival, CO Andrea Albert ran a DNR law information booth handing out regulation information. CO Albert answered numerous questions on hunting, fishing, boating and ORV regulations and took several complaints that will be followed-up on.

CO Andrea Albert checked two lake trout anglers that had just returned off of Lake Michigan. The fishermen were in possession of three lake trout, but only one of them purchased a fishing license. The limit for lake trout in East Bay is two per person. CO Albert advised either one of them had an over limit of lake trout or the other one was in possession of fish without a license. A safety check of the vessel found two additional marine safety violations. A ticket was issued for the over limit and warnings issued on the safety violations.

CO Andrea Albert observed a kayaker on Torch Lake with a small child on the front not wearing a life jacket. When the kayaker came to shore he had put an adult life jacket on the child, but did not buckle the strap. The kayaker admitted he put the life jacket on his four year old after seeing CO Albert. He did not have a personal floatation device for himself and the life jacket on the child was improper as it was for an adult. He also parked his vehicle in the handicap parking space at the access site without a handicap permit. A citation was issued for the safety violation.

CO Chad Baldwin of Charlevoix County attended tactical tracking school at Fort Custer Education Center in Augusta, Michigan. COs attending this week-long training learned how to track individuals through wilderness areas.

CO Chad Baldwin of Charlevoix County talked to the East Jordan Sixth Grade Boys at Camp Willey before they camped overnight. CO Baldwin explained DNR laws, conservation officer duties, and how to become a conservation officer.

CO Steve Speigl was patrolling a remote portion of public property in Antrim County when he noticed several ORVs operating in a closed area at an impromptu, illegal hill climb area. CO Speigl was able to stop the ORVs, but not before erosive damage had occurred. The operators said they were lost and thought that area was part of the trail system, which CO Speigl advised them that area was over a mile away. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Speigl attended a career day at Ellsworth High School in Antrim County. Several students passed through the station learning what a career as a conservation officer consisted of and the steps to becoming a conservation officer.

CO Duane Budreau participated in the City of Petoskey Public Safety open house. He displayed his Great Lakes patrol boat at the Petoskey City Marina.

CO Eric Bottorff made contact with numerous ORVs in the Black Mountain area of Cheboygan County. Several tickets were issued for closed area operation.

CO Rosochacki investigated a personal injury accident involving an ORV in Cheboygan County. The operator was climbing a hill and rolled the ORV over on him causing severe injury.

CO Rosochacki worked the Indian River in Cheboygan County over the Memorial Day weekend issuing several marine citations, including wake violations, no life jackets, and unregistered boats.

CO Rosochacki was dispatched to two complaints involving abandoned fawns. Upon investigating the incidents, it was determined the individuals had removed the fawns fearing that they had been abandoned. The fawns were returned to the general area, and the individuals were educated as to leaving baby animals in the wild.

Sgt. Mark DePew contacted two individuals in Otsego County over the Memorial Day weekend - one operating an ORV and the other a large tractor on a public roadway. Upon contact with the operator of the ORV, it was determined he was not wearing a helmet and was not displaying an ORV license. As the investigation continued, a loaded rifle was located on the ORV and the operator was intoxicated. A short time later, the tractor operator arrived who was also intoxicated and started a verbal confrontation that turned physical with the sergeant. As the incident escalated both the operator of the ORV and the tractor attempted to gain control of the loaded gun; however, were unsuccessful. At the conclusion of the investigation, both subjects were arrested for numerous violations, including three felonies, and five misdemeanors. Both were lodged in the Otsego County jail.

CO Brad Bellville stopped to assist a broken down ORV on the side of the road while patrolling in Montmorency County. While assisting the ORV rider another ORV passed his location at a high rate of speed operating in the middle of the paved road and displaying expired ORV stickers. CO Bellville conducted a traffic stop on the ORV. A records check showed the operator to have a suspended driver's license. The subject was arrested and lodged in the local county jail on numerous violations.

CO Brad Bellville conducted an ORV patrol in Montmorency County over the holiday weekend. During this patrol numerous contacts were made and several subjects were issued tickets for violations such as operate closed area, expired ORV stickers and operating without a helmet.

CO Kelly Ross was patrolling in Montmorency County when he encountered a group of ORVs riding double in a closed area. The subjects also were not wearing helmets and

had numerous equipment violations. One subject had a suspended driver's license and was also in possession of marijuana. Enforcement action was taken

CO Kelly Ross responded to an ORV personal injury accident on a trail system in Montmorency County. A female driver hit a stump causing her to flip her ORV which landed on top of her.

CO Kelly Ross was patrolling in Montmorency County when he observed two subjects riding ORVs on the roadway. The subjects were also riding double and had no helmets. In addition, one of the ORVs did not have a valid ORV decal. Upon contact, CO Ross learned that one of the subjects had now received his 2nd ticket in two days. One of the passengers also showed an outstanding arrest warrant and was lodged at the local jail. Enforcement action was taken on multiple violations.

CO Kelly Ross assisted with the investigation of a motorcycle vs. elk accident in Montmorency County where the subject was critically injured. The subject struck the elk while travelling on M-32. The subject was airlifted to Traverse City with extensive injuries.

CO Bill Webster was patrolling ORVs in closed area locations in Montmorency County over the holiday weekend. He contacted multiple ORV operators and issued tickets for operating in closed areas. In addition numerous other violations were witnessed and addressed.

CO Jon Sklba worked with a local conservation group in Presque Isle County posting aquatic invasive species signs at area public launches prior to the busy boating season. The signs are important to educate the public on the ways to transport their boats between different bodies of water without moving invasive species.

CO Jon Sklba was dispatched to a trap located in the Thunder Bay River near Hillman in Alpena County. The complainants advised that the trap had already captured a goose and a duck. CO Sklba responded to the area and located the top of a dog kennel that had floated down the river until it was hung up by a downed tree. No animals were found. The obstruction was removed to avoid any entanglement issues with local wildlife.

CO Adam LeClerc responded to a carcass dumping complaint in Alpena County near Rockport Recreation Area. Two large crates were discovered with cow bones inside. While checking one of the crates, a kill tag for a whitetail deer was located. Contact was made with the tag owner. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Adam LeClerc was on patrol in the Rockport Recreation Area when he came across a vehicle parked in an obscure location in the park. The vehicle was also in a closed area. A records check of the license plate revealed that it belonged on another vehicle. While talking to the driver, it was discovered that he did not have a current registration, a driver's license on his person, or a recreation passport to be in the Rockport

Recreation Area. The driver stated he had just bought the vehicle and had a ticket in his possession from the Michigan State Police for improper use of a plate. Enforcement action was taken for several violations.

CO Paul Fox and CO Jon Sklba patrolled a private gravel pit in Presque Isle County where the owner was having issues with subjects trespassing. The COs contacted numerous subjects riding ORVs and fishing in the private gravel pit. The property is posted and enforcement action was taken for the trespass violations.

Sgt. Michael Mshar responded to a remote location in Montmorency County where a subject who was mushroom hunting found a large 6x6 bull elk that was dead. It was determined the elk had probably been wounded during the December elk hunt and was not located at the time.

#### **DISTRICT 4**

CO Colton Gelinas, CO William Kinney, and Sgt. Rebecca Hopkins assisted District 9 with the law enforcement efforts on Belle Isle for the annual Detroit Grand Prix.

CO Rich Stowe and CO Sean Kehoe worked the bass opener in Grand Traverse County where they encountered a fisherman in a canoe with no PFD and another fisherman with an under size trout. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rich Stowe responded to a complaint of over-limits of blue gills. After locating the subject in question, it was found that he had taken an over-limit of panfish. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rich Stowe and CO Sean Kehoe attended a police memorial service conducted by the Grand Traverse Sheriff's Department.

While working Hamlin Lake in Mason County, CO Kyle Publiski and CO Steve Converse contacted three different boats on Hamlin Lake in the matter of a half hour that were all in possession of marijuana, marijuana oil, and drug paraphilia. Charges are being sought for the various drug violations.

Working Silver Lake Sand Dunes, CO Kyle Publiski and CO Brian Brosky drove past a group of individuals that were parked and walking around their vehicles. CO Publiski watched as one of the subjects walked to the cab of the pickup truck and cracked the door slightly and began drinking a can of beer. Since all alcohol is prohibited in the park, the COs made contact with the group. Two coolers full of various alcoholic drinks were seized and the subjects were evicted from the park and cited for possession of alcohol.

While patrolling Hamlin Lake during Memorial weekend, CO Kyle Publiski and CO Brian Brosky issued several citations for fishing without licenses, expired registrations on boats, and no PFDs. The COs noted that there was an increase in individuals not purchasing fishing licenses and that it seemed to be more of an issue than in the past.

Working ORVs in Mason County, CO Kyle Publiski and CO Brian Brosky located several ORVs operating in closed areas on federal land; many of the areas where illegal operation has been seen included the federal forest roads. The roads are getting so much illegal operation that they are becoming impassable with a standard four-wheel drive pickup truck. Enforcement was taken on all illegal operation.

Working Silver Lake Sand Dunes, CO Kyle Publiski and CO Brian Brosky were parked on top of one of the hills watching for illegal operating when they heard a crashing sound behind them. The COs turned around just in time to see a side-by-side coming to a rest upside down. The COs quickly backed up behind the ORV to stop any other vehicle from coming over the hill and becoming involved with the accident. The COs helped investigate the crash and drove the injured passenger to the parking lot for EMS care.

CO Ryan Andrews was on patrol in Lake County in an area closed to ORV operation. While on patrol at this location, several ORVs entered the area operating illegally. The ORVs were stopped and enforcement action was taken.

Over Memorial Day weekend, CO Josiah Killingbeck was working a group ORV patrol with deputies from the Lake County Sheriff's Department. While patrolling, CO Killingbeck observed an operator on an ORV without a helmet or eye protection, holding an open beer. CO Killingbeck stopped the ORV and the operator told him that he was not familiar with ORV regulations. CO Killingbeck suspected the operator had also been drinking and conducted sobrieties. The operator failed sobrieties and the PBT results were 0.13. The operator was arrested and lodged in the Lake County Jail for operating while intoxicated.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was advised by Lake County Dispatch that an intoxicated man was asking for gas at a staging area in Lake County. CO Killingbeck made contact with the callers at the staging area and within minutes, he located the suspect operating in the parking lot on an ORV without a helmet or eye protection. CO Killingbeck made contact with the operator who was not making sense when talking and could hardly walk. It was determined that the subject was intoxicated and nearly three times the legal blood alcohol limit. The subject was also driving on a suspended license from previous drunk driving convictions and was arrested and lodged in the Lake County Jail for operating while intoxicated.

CO Josiah Killingbeck responded to a domestic assault in Lake County. CO Killingbeck backed-up a Lake County deputy on the call and while speaking with the victim, the suspect drove by. The victim pointed out the suspect was possibly intoxicated. CO Killingbeck watched the suspect fail to stop at a stop sign and conducted a traffic stop. CO Killingbeck determined that the driver was intoxicated with PBT results over twice the legal limit. The subject was arrested and lodged in the Lake County Jail for operating while intoxicated.

CO Casey Varriale and CO Troy VanGelderen were on patrol at the Silver Lake Sand Dunes in Oceana County where they witnessed a man operating a side-by-side on public roads without a registration. CO Varriale conducted a traffic stop and the man admitted that he knew he needed a registration for his side-by-side, but didn't obtain one. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Shively was four vehicles behind a Ford F-350 pickup at a roundabout in Silver Lake State Park when the vehicle began brake-torking in the roadway with pedestrians next to the vehicle. CO Shively conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle and issued the subject a citation for careless driving.

CO Ben Shively conducted a traffic stop on a side-by-side Polaris RZR waiting in line to enter the Silver Lake ORV Area displaying a dealer license plate. CO Shively observed that the Polaris did not have blinkers, mirrors, or DOT tires. CO Shively issued a citation for operating an ORV on a public roadway and gave a verbal warning for improper use of a dealer plate.

CO Ben Shively responded to a complaint of subjects fishing without licenses at the Hart dam in Oceana County. CO Shively and Deputy Jeremy Swihart from the Oceana County Sheriff's Department responded and made contact with the group at the dam and found one subject fishing without a license and a misdemeanor warrant for assault and battery. Deputy Swihart's subject also had a misdemeanor warrant for possession of marijuana. Both subjects were lodged on the warrants and fishing without a license at the Oceana County Jail.

CO Jeff Ginn assisted Newaygo County Deputy Don Morsaw on a missing / runaway 11 year old girl incident. The young lady, who was up visiting family from down state, was upset and ran into the Huron-Manistee National Forest. Deputy Morsaw located the girl just before dark and returned her to her worried family.

CO Jeff Ginn responded to a Newaygo County Campground to address an aggressive Canada goose. Upon arrival, CO Ginn observed the goose affectionately referred to as Bruce the Goose, hanging around a couple parked vehicles in the campground. It was alleged the goose had been seen hissing and charging at young children trying to feed him. Bruce was captured by CO Ginn and relocated to a remote Newaygo County lake several miles from the campground. Bruce didn't appear too aggressive and it is believed the interaction with the campers allowed Bruce to become too comfortable. This should be a reminder to simply enjoy the wildlife from a distance.

## **DISTRICT 5**

COs Mike Hearn and Matt Liestenfeltz were patrolling a desolate county road in Kalkaska County when they observed an ORV approaching them from the opposite direction. The driver turned abruptly off the county road and started operating cross country to dodge the COs. Knowing the area, the COs checked nearby residences and

were able to make contact with the operator. He had made it back to a cabin and shut the ORV in the garage. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Hearn responded to the Twin Lake Boating Access Site in Kalkaska County to handle multiple complaints of illegal storage during the Memorial weekend holiday. Several lakefront property owners were storing their detached trailers and leaving boats moored at the access site over the weekend to give them more room for guest parking on their private property. Warnings had been given in the past for this activity; however, owners weren't correcting the issue. CO Hearn removed the trailers and boats with a wrecker service and the owners were cited for the violations.

CO Matt Liestenfeltz was on patrol in Northwest Missaukee County when he noticed an ORV operator not wearing a helmet. After making contact, CO Liestenfeltz found the operator to be intoxicated. The man was arrested and lodged in the Missaukee County Jail for operating while intoxicated (OWI) 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense. He had a blood alcohol content (BAC) of .21.

CO Matt Liestenfeltz followed up on a complaint of nine anglers taking undersized bass in Missaukee County. CO Liestenfeltz made contact with the anglers who had taken 14 smallmouth bass. Two of the bass were under the required size of 14 inches. Enforcement action was taken.

While launching a boat at North Higgins Lake State Park in Crawford County, COs Ben McAteer and Sgt. Brian Olsen noticed an angler pack-up his gear and leave the area as they arrived. After launching the boat, CO McAteer made contact with the angler. He did not have a fishing license and was in possession of two undersized rainbow trout. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sam Schluckbier observed a motorcycle operating at extremely high speeds in Kalkaska County. CO Schluckbier pursued the motorcycle, and with the help of local law enforcement, was able to get it stopped several miles away. When contacting the driver, he advised that he was operating over 105 mph. The operator also failed to register the bike and was unable to provide insurance. Enforcement action was taken for the multiple violations.

CO Sam Schluckbier received a complaint of a littered campsite on state land after the Memorial Day weekend. The campsite was located along the Boardman River in Kalkaska County. Investigating the campsite, CO Schluckbier was able to identify two suspects who may have camped there days prior. CO Schluckbier conducted interviews and both suspects admitted to leaving the fire burning and the site littered when they vacated on Monday morning. Citations were issued for litter and they were required to clean up the campsite before the upcoming weekend.

CO Casey Pullum responded to an ORV versus jeep personal injury accident in Oscoda County. CO Pullum was the first to arrive on scene and was able to apply first aid to the victims until EMS arrived. The jeep was driving south on a county road and "t-boned"

the ORV driven by a 13-year-old female with a 16-year-old male passenger. They both sustained non-life threatening injuries and were taken to the local hospital. CO Pullum assisted the Oscoda County Sheriff's Department with the follow-up investigation.

CO Kyle Cherry conducted an ORV patrol in Iosco County with US Forest Service Law Enforcement Officer Justin Repine on Memorial Day weekend. A total of nine tickets were issued with twice as many warnings given. Violations included riding double, failure to license ORV, operating in closed areas, and possession of marijuana.

CO Kyle Cherry assisted Oscoda Township Police in locating a missing, suicidal woman in Iosco County. The woman was found at the edge of a lake with lacerations on her wrist. She was unconscious and unresponsive, but breathing. CO Cherry along with Oscoda Police and the U.S. Forest Service stayed with her until EMS arrived. She was evacuated out of the woods and into an ambulance to receive further care.

While patrolling the state forest campgrounds in Gladwin County over the Memorial Day weekend, CO Steve Lockwood noticed the smell of marijuana coming from a campsite. When CO Lockwood began to investigate further, the suspect began to laugh uncontrollably while clearly smoking marijuana. CO Lockwood walked into the campsite in full uniform and jokingly asked the subject for a "hit." While still laughing, the suspect surprisingly passed the joint to CO Lockwood. Enforcement action taken.

CO Ethan Gainforth attended a fishing awareness presentation at the American Legion Post 404 in Harrison. CO Gainforth talked to the kids about fishing safety and the importance of using caution around water.

CO Phil Hudson assisted Arenac County with a subject lying in the ditch along I-75. The subject had taken an overdose of prescription drugs and was attempting to commit suicide. CO Hudson and an off duty medic carried the subject to an awaiting ambulance for transport to a local hospital.

CO Josh Wright observed two anglers fishing on a bayou of the Muskegon River in rural Clare County. CO Wright notice the men dump a bucket into the water and then refill it with fresh water. As the men made their way back to shore, CO Wright made contact. After further investigation, a 15 inch northern pike was located in the boat and no life jackets were on board. Enforcement action was taken.

While on marine patrol during the Memorial holiday weekend, CO Mark Papineau made contact with numerous vessels displaying expired registrations. Each time, CO Papineau was informed by the operators that the registrations were valid because it stated "2017" on the sticker. After educating the vessel owners about the registrations expired at the end of March, enforcement action was taken.

## **DISTRICT 6**

CO John Byars was patrolling a county park when he noticed two subjects drinking alcohol in the woods. CO Byars noticed one subject appeared underage and made contact with the subjects. While both subjects were old enough to drink, they both had warrants for their arrest and were lodged in the Gratiot County Jail.

CO John Byars noticed a utility truck on fire on the side of the road. The CO stopped to check the occupant and render aid. The driver was unharmed but CO Byars determined the fire was too large to handle. The CO radioed for the fire department and assisted with the fire until they arrived.

CO Joe Myers responded to a complaint regarding the harassment of wildlife. CO Myers received information regarding a female who had taken a fawn from the wild and tried to give it away. CO Myers conducted interviews and gathered statements regarding the fawn. In an interview with the suspect, the suspect admitted to taking the fawn from the wild and trying to give it away. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling in Montcalm County, COs Ken Lowell and Dan Robinson made contact with three anglers fishing from a boat on Townline Lake. The COs watched from a distance and observed the anglers catching panfish. When contact was made, each angler told the COs that they each had their own bucket of fish. After the panfish were counted, the COs found that one of the anglers had 33 panfish in his bucket. He told the COs that he was not counting and did not think he had over his limit of 25. A ticket was issued for the over limit.

COs Will Brickel and Joel Lundberg were working an ORV patrol on state land in the Midland and Gladwin Counties and dealt with multiple issues including improperly plated vehicles, operating ORVs where prohibited, as well as lodging subjects on warrants.

COs Will Brickel, Joel Lundberg, Mike Haas and Chad Forester conducted an ORV patrol on state land in Midland County. The COs made contact with approximately 100 people throughout the patrol. Most common violations observed were for improper plates on motor vehicles, no plates on motor vehicles, no helmets, and operating ORVs where prohibited. Fifteen citations were issued and one individual was lodged in the local jail on arrest warrants.

CO John Byars and Sgt. Ron Kimmerly conducted a marine patrol on the Memorial Day weekend and wrote ten tickets for boaters not having any PFDs in their boats. Most of the boaters were in kayaks and told the COs that they had no idea they had to have a PFD on board. Sgt. Kimmerly asked most of the boaters if they thought they needed PFDs for a canoe. All said yes. Sgt. Kimmerly replied that there is not much of a difference other than kayaks capsize easier.

Sergeants Ron Kimmerly and Tony Soave were working a marine patrol in 30 MPH winds on the Shiawassee River in the Federal Flats area. The waves on the river were close to 1 ½ feet. The sergeants then came across two kayaks with an adult in each.

When the sergeants got closer they noticed that there was an infant between the legs of the female kayaker. While neither of the adults were wearing a PFD or had one on board, the infant was wearing one. The male kayaker did not know where he was and advised the sergeants that they were trying to get to the Center Road Bridge on the Tittabawassee River. Sgt. Kimmerly advised that it was at least 10 miles away and they would capsize in the high winds. Due to the extremely dangerous situation, the sergeants put the kayakers and the three individuals in their jet boat and took them back to their vehicle. The adults were issued citations for no PFDs and the sergeants took some extra time discussing the possible ramifications of the situation they put themselves and the infant into.

While on patrol in Sanilac County, CO Seth Rhodea stopped the operator of an ORV after seeing him operating without a helmet. During the stop and talking with the operator about the violation, it was also discovered that the ORV did not have a valid ORV license on it. A citation was issued.

In Sanilac County, CO Seth Rhodea contacted two anglers trolling on Lake Huron that were fishing with twelve lines, double what would have been the legal number of lines for two anglers. Citations were issued for fishing with too many lines.

While conducting ORV patrol in Sanilac County, CO Mark Siemen stopped two ORVs with female operators, one of which had a small child riding on the back of the ORV. CO Siemen observed the subjects riding on the road with no helmets and the minor child on the back holding onto the operator. As CO Siemen got closer and prepared to stop the ORV, he saw one of the females throw a beer can into the ditch. She stopped once the overhead lights were activated on the patrol truck. The second operator had trouble stopping her ORV because of the beer can in her hand. Once both subjects were stopped, enforcement action was taken. Multiple citations were issued and one of the female subjects will be appearing in court for operating an ORV on the road with a denied and revoked license.

During the Memorial Day weekend, CO Mark Siemen was parked in his patrol truck on the side of a road in Sanilac County when a vehicle drove by, nearly striking the side of the CO's patrol truck. The operator of the vehicle held up a beer can and then sped off. While CO Siemen followed the vehicle, he saw the driver throw the beer can out the window and sped up away from the CO. The driver continued driving north running multiple stop signs as CO Siemen attempted to catch up to the vehicle. CO Siemen contacted Sgt. Scott Brown to assist with the traffic stop in northern Sanilac County. Once the vehicle was stopped, the driver was arrested for multiple warrants out of Lapeer County and was issued citations from CO Siemen. The subject was transported and turned over to the Lapeer County Sheriff's Office.

CO Mark Siemen while conducting a marine safety patrol on Lake Huron had contact with a subject in a kayak about a half mile out from the Lexington break wall that did not have a PFD with him. During a conversation, and while issuing him a citation, the kayaker stated he knew how to swim. CO Siemen advised that due to the cold and

rough waters, making it to shore would be pretty difficult and that even if he can swim he still needs a life jacket while in a kayak. After issuing the citation CO Siemen motored about a half mile away and was watching other boaters. After a period of time, CO Siemen saw the kayaker in the water waving his arms and struggling to swim. CO Siemen quickly motored over to the subject. As he arrived, he saw the kayak upside down and sinking. CO Siemen grabbed the subject and assisted him into the patrol boat. Once in the boat, the subject advised that the CO was right about trying to swim, that it was too cold and rough. The subject stated his kayak took on water and tipped, and he could not get back to it because it was sinking in the water. After gathering the subject's items, he was transported to the harbor and thanked CO Siemen multiple times for helping him.

CO Jason A. Smith gave presentations to students at both the St. Paul Lutheran School and the Millington Junior and Senior High School. CO Smith discussed firearm safety, hunting and fishing regulations. CO Smith also discussed with kids the responsibilities of a conservation officer in Michigan. In total about 80 students were in attendance.

CO Jason A. Smith observed a good number of boats on Saginaw Bay in the early part of the holiday weekend. One subject was issued a citation for not having a PFD on board. Warnings were also given to him for expired registration and not having a Type IV Throwable PFD. He also was without any flares.

While working Saginaw Bay over the Memorial Day weekend, CO Joshua Wright made contact with the operator of a vessel which did not have enough PFDs for all the occupants onboard. Enforcement action was taken.

During an ORV patrol in the Rush Lake State Game Area over the Memorial Day weekend, Sgt. Scott Brown made contact with numerous ORV riders. Compliance with the ORV laws and state land use rules was good with a few warnings being given for some small violations. No safety violations were noted. There are still areas of the SGA that are being utilized illegally by ORV riders, but the illegal activity is sporadic and hard to deter.

While on patrol in Isabella County, CO Dan Robinson was checking the shoreline of a local lake for fishing activity. CO Robinson observed two vehicles parked in a private parking area. CO Robinson went down to the shoreline and observed several people fishing, including three adults and two kids. CO Robinson watched the group fishing for a few minutes before making contact. At the initial contact, one adult admitted to not having a fishing license and was just watching his kid's pole. The second adult checked had his fishing license, but the third adult, a female, said she was holding her husband's fishing pole. The kids were also fishing but were away from the adults. Upon further investigation, CO Robinson found that the two adults without licenses were tending their own poles. The parked vehicles were also found to have registration and insurance issues, and there was only one licensed driver for two vehicles. The two adults were issued tickets for fishing without a license, warned for recreational trespass and the group had to get a ride home.

While on patrol over the Memorial Day weekend, COs Dan Robinson and Ken Lowell made several contacts in Isabella County lakes. The COs had many positive contacts but they also issued citations for several safety violations including bow riding, insufficient PFD's and a few registration tickets.

Over the Memorial Day weekend, CO Dan Robinson was given a hit and run, property damage accident that occurred on an Isabella County lake. Several hours had passed since the event and there was little evidence. Witnesses who saw the accident were able to provide a good description of the boat that was involved. After several days of investigation, CO Robinson was able to track down the suspect and the boat involved. The suspect admitted to being involved in the accident and that he intended to make it right, but had not gotten around to it. A report was sent to the local prosecutor's office for failing to report an accident or provide his information to the property owner.

While on patrol in Isabella County, CO Dan Robinson saw a boat on a local lake that was showing an expired registration. CO Robinson initiated a stop and was informed that the boat was registered, but they had not put the updated sticker on. As part of the stop, CO Robinson conducted a marine safety check, and asked the operator if he had enough PFDs onboard for the four occupants. The driver said that he did and pointed to his storage. CO Robinson asked to see them and for everyone to hold one up. The driver of the boat produced two PFDs for four occupants, and one of the PFDs was for an infant and would not have been the appropriate size for anyone onboard. The driver was issued a citation for failing to provide a PFD for everyone onboard his vessel.

## **DISTRICT 7**

CO Chuck Towns was contacted by Allegan County Sheriff's Department personnel about a missing and endangered person. Cell phone towers indicated an approximate location in the Allegan State Game Area. CO Towns conducted a broad search of the area and located a set of tire tracks leading off the road in a remote location on state land. CO Towns followed the tracks and located the missing person and his dog in a vehicle which had become stuck in a wetland. The subject had been stuck in the spot for two days without food or water. Arrangements were made with the sheriff's department to return him to Portage. His dog was returned to his family.

COs Zach Bauer and Tyler Cole were on marine patrol when they encountered two subjects fishing on a local lake and a check revealed nine largemouth bass out of season. The bass were seized and two citations were issued for the possession of largemouth bass out of season.

COs Tyler Cole and Matt Page were checking Witco Ponds for fishing activity when they encountered a person fishing. After watching the subject catch and release a bluegill, contact was made. When asked how the fishing was, the subject stated that he had not caught anything all day. After informing the subject that he was observed catching a bluegill, he admitted to catching the bluegill and fishing without a license. A citation was issued for fishing without a license.

CO Tyler Cole checked Mill Pond in the City of Dowagiac and observed two subjects fishing. A check for fishing licenses was conducted. One subject produced a valid license, while the other produced a valid State of Indiana fishing license. The subject stated that he had just moved to the area, and did not realize that a fishing license was required in Michigan. The subject was educated on the laws of fishing in Michigan and a citation for fishing without a license was issued.

CO Jeff Robinette was on marine patrol in Cass County. CO Robinette observed three persons fishing from a livery vessel. CO Robinette made contact with the vessel and discovered there were no personal flotation devices in the vessel. Further investigation revealed that one of the subjects had a warrant for his arrest. That subject was also the person that had rented the vessel and had forgotten to load the personal flotation devices. The subject with the warrant was issued a ticket for not having flotation devices aboard and was subsequently taken into custody by CO Robinette and transported to the Cass County Jail.

COs Jeff Robinette and Matt Page were on marine patrol in Cass County when they noticed two occupants on a vessel fishing and made contact. The COs discovered two undersize largemouth bass and two undersize northern pike in a fish basket. The fish were released alive into the water and tickets were issued to both occupants for the undersize fish.

COs Matt Page and Saykham Keophalychanh conducted marine patrols on several lakes in Berrien and Van Buren counties. While on patrol, citations were issued to two subjects fishing without a license and a citation was issued to a small boat for not having any PFDs on board. Multiple warnings were given for minor fishing and marine violations.

COs Matt Page and Tyler Cole responded to a domestic violence call after a deputy requested back up with a resistive suspect. CO Page and CO Cole assisted in securing the subject and loading him in the cruiser. The subject was lodged at the Van Buren County Jail.

While on marine patrol in Ionia County, CO Jeremy Beavers made contact with a subject as he was attempting to pull his vessel off the water. A marine safety check revealed that the subject did not have enough flotation devices for all the occupants on board. CO Beavers also noticed the registration for the vehicle the subject was driving was expired. The subject was also unable to provide valid proof of insurance. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Ionia County, CO Jeremy Beavers checked anglers fishing on the Grand River in Lyons. CO Beavers made contact with three subjects. During his check, CO Beavers spotted four largemouth bass in their cooler. CO Beavers had the anglers pull all of the bass from the cooler, as they all appeared to be shorter than the required 14 inches. CO Beavers measured the fish; the largest being 11 inches and the

smallest was five inches. The subject responsible for the fish was cited for possessing largemouth bass less than 14 inches.

While patrolling inland lakes in Kent County over the Memorial Day weekend, CO Justin Ulberg cited several persons for marine violations related to expired registrations and required safety equipment. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Justin Ulberg checked a boat at an access site on the bass season opener. The angler being checked was in possession of an undersized bass and the registration on his boat was expired. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking anglers at 6th St. Dam in Kent County, CO Justin Ulberg spoke with a couple of anglers who were preparing to fish. CO Ulberg discovered that neither subject had bought a fishing license. CO Ulberg informed the anglers that they would have to purchase a license before they began fishing and explained different ways to get a license. Approximately one hour later, CO Ulberg was checking for anglers at a different spot along the Grand River and noticed the same two individuals, one of which was actively fishing. Neither subject had purchased a fishing license. Both were surprised to see the CO again. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling the Rogue River State Game Area in Kent County, CO Justin Ulberg encountered a vehicle coming down a two-track towards him. As the driver of the vehicle came up to CO Ulberg's truck, he rolled down his window indicating he wanted to talk with him. CO Ulberg immediately detected the smell of marijuana. Further investigation resulted in the discovery of a glass jar containing marijuana. Enforcement action was taken.

While on ORV patrol in the Muskegon State Game, CO Greg Patten made contact with a subject operating a motorcycle. The subject was operating an unlicensed ORV in an area closed to ORV use. Enforcement action was taken.

While on marine patrol over the Memorial Day weekend COs Greg Patten, Chris Simpson and Sgt. Jeff Rabbers made contact with numerous anglers trolling for salmon. One subject had set up his passenger seat to look like an angler, outfitting it with a coat and hat to justify running too many lines. A second boat check revealed that the subjects were operating an unlicensed charter boat where one of the subjects did not have a valid fishing license. A marine safety inspection also revealed a supply of marijuana aboard the vessel. Enforcement action was taken for the fishing violations and a warrant is being sought for the drug violations.

## **DISTRICT 8**

CO Mike Drexler was clearing a marine patrol on Memorial Day evening when he received a complaint of a subject who was intoxicated and crashed his vehicle into a tree at the Pinckney State Recreation Area. The investigation revealed the operator was a 17 year old male who was heavily intoxicated. CO Drexler administered sobriety tests

and subsequently arrested the operator for operating while intoxicated and minor in possession. The subject registered a .19 BAC on the breath test, over twice the legal limit. A warrant is being requested through the prosecutor's office.

CO Brandon Hartleben contacted a pair of fishermen fishing on the Huron River across from the old Ford Plant in Ypsilanti. After observing the men fish for a few minutes, CO Hartleben navigated the trail along the river and made contact. Upon making contact, one of the subjects quickly stated "you got me," since he had not purchased a fishing license. A file check also showed that he had an outstanding misdemeanor warrant out of the 50th District Court in Pontiac. The subject was advised and released on the warrant, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrew Monnich was on his way to the Jackson DNR Field Office when he was passed by a motorcycle traveling well over the posted speed limit and passing other vehicles recklessly. CO Monnich conducted a traffic stop on the motorcycle and made contact with the driver who was agitated that he was getting pulled over, adding that he was already late for an appointment. During the stop CO Monnich found the individual's driver's license was suspended and he also had a number of warrants for his arrest. CO Monnich placed the individual under arrest and was assisted by Blackman Twp. Police Department who transported the subject to the Jackson County Jail.

CO Daniel Prince attended the Livingston County Kids Outdoor Fair which is held each year at the Livingston Conservation and Sports Association in Brighton. The event gives children an opportunity to try outdoor activities such as shooting clay targets with shotguns, shooting archery equipment, shooting small caliber rifles, and practicing their casting for fishing and much more. The event is free and open to all kids. CO Prince talked with 475 children and adults about the importance of firearm safety, shooting techniques and the duties of a Michigan CO.

While working marine patrol on Allens Lake, CO Eric Smither watched two individuals fishing from a paddle boat. CO Smither made contact with the individuals who said that their fishing licenses were at a house on the lake. CO Smither followed the two individuals back to their house where they ultimately stated they did not have fishing licenses. Enforcement action taken.

CO Chris Reynolds gave a presentation for the Jonesville Rotary Club at Olivia's Restaurant located at 212 East Chicago Street on May 31st. The CO went over the hiring process for becoming a CO, academy training, job duties performed, and answered questions regarding hunting, fishing and ORV laws for the members in attendance.

CO Jason McCullough was watching a group of anglers for several minutes along a Calhoun County river. Upon contact, CO McCullough noticed an extremely strong odor of burnt marijuana. Two of the anglers had no identification and had a hard time remembering their names, addresses and birth dates. Upon further investigation, two of

the anglers finally admitted they did not have fishing license and handed over the rest of the marijuana. Citations were issued.

CO Carter Woodwyk observed an ORV operating on the road in Hillsdale County with two young children standing in the back. The ORV was stopped and Woodwyk noted the ORV was not properly licensed and none of the passengers were wearing seatbelts at the time of the stop. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Hillsdale County, CO Carter Woodwyk was passed by a vehicle in a no passing zone. A traffic stop was conducted and the CO could smell the odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle. A brief conversation with the driver revealed marijuana was under the passenger seat. The CO continued questioning the driver about the marijuana and when he last smoked it. The driver stated it was approximately one hour prior to the stop. Field sobriety tests revealed he was under the influence of a controlled substance. Enforcement action taken.

CO Carter Woodwyk was traveling westbound on I-94 near the Ypsilanti city limits when he observed two vehicles in the ditch, one rolled over, and no first responders in the area. The CO stopped to secure the scene and to check for injuries on all the victims of the crash. After all of the victims were determined to be stable, local fire and ambulances arrived on scene. While investigating the scene, a vehicle traveling westbound on I-94 hit the back of a fire truck which was blocking a lane of traffic. There were three victims in the vehicle, and one of the 15 year old victims was pronounced dead at the hospital. The current condition of the other two victims is currently unknown.

While checking anglers at the Pine Lake boat launch, CO Troy Ludwig observed an ORV driving at a high rate of speed on an adjacent road with the operator not wearing a helmet. The operator also failed to stop at a stop sign before entering onto a busy highway. CO Ludwig stopped the ORV, which was operating in a county closed to ORV use on the roadway. The operator stated he was trying to make it home to tell his parents they needed to call his sister. Enforcement action was taken.

After patrolling the Grand River on Memorial Day, CO Troy Ludwig stopped to assist an Ingham County Sheriff's deputy on a traffic stop. During the course of the stop it was discovered that the occupants not only had marijuana in the vehicle, but were also producing methamphetamines in the vehicle. Discovered in the subsequent search of the vehicle was a loaded pistol, packaged methamphetamine, and items needed to produce and distribute methamphetamine. The driver of the vehicle admitted that the pistol and methamphetamine were his, and was lodged at the Ingham County Jail. The passenger of the vehicle had an outstanding warrant out of Eaton County and was lodged at the Eaton County Jail.

CO Troy Ludwig participated in a river clean-up with students from Eaton Rapids High School. The students had previously spent three hours each learning how to operate a kayak and given the chance to put their skills to the test while cleaning up the Grand River.

CO Shane Webster noted a vessel operating with an expired registration and made a stop. After confirming the vessel was indeed being operated with an expired registration, a safety check of the vessel was completed. There were no life jackets on board for any of the nine occupants. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Thorn checked a fishing location at a county park in Ingham County and contacted two men fishing. CO Thorn noticed that they were the same two men who he had contacted a week or so prior and found that one of them had been fishing without a license. During this check, both men stated, as they had the time before, that only one of them was fishing. Just as he had done the time before, CO Thorn had been observing both of them fishing with rod and reel and a dip net prior to contact. A second ticket was issued to the same man within a two week period for fishing without a license.

CO Todd Thorn received some new information regarding a significant deer poaching case that he has been investigating that took place in Lansing. Two witnesses were interviewed and four sets of antlers were seized after being turned over to CO Thorn by the witnesses.

CO Todd Thorn arrived at the Spartan Speedway after receiving a Report All Poaching complaint of a deer caught in a fence at the racetrack. With the help of racetrack employees the deer was released from the fence.

COs Todd Thorn and Robert Slick worked a marine patrol on Lake Lansing and observed a man operating a PWC with an inflatable PFD. The COs pursued and contacted the man as he quickly tried to get off his PWC and walk between some houses. The COs then noticed the PWC's registration was expired. The man admitted to the COs that he was trying to get away from the COs without being seen. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling the Grand River by boat, COs Todd Thorn and Robert Slick made contact with a man and a woman fishing from shore behind a home. When contact was made it was learned that neither had a fishing license. Both were adamant that they should get a verbal warning and be left alone. The COs investigated further and found that the female had felony and misdemeanor warrants for her arrest. Enforcement action was taken and the female was lodged on her warrants.

CO Matthew Neterer received a complaint of a fawn that was in the roadway hanging around a road-killed doe. CO Neterer responded and located the fawn in a nearby hay field. CO Neterer was able to capture the fawn and transport it to a nearby wildlife rehabilitation facility.

CO Chris Maher was working marine patrol when he got a call from the Jackson County Sheriff's Marine Division to assist with a Personal Water Craft (PWC) explosion on Wolf Lake. CO Maher quickly responded to the scene where a PWC exploded while two individuals were on board. CO Maher assisted the sheriff's marine unit in retrieval of

the PWC. The operators were taken to the hospital and are expected to make a full recovery.

CO Jason King received information that a group of fishermen were fishing on a private lake without permission. CO King located the subjects and conducted an interview. After speaking with the subjects and the lake owner, it was determined that the men were recreational trespassing. Enforcement action was taken.

## **DISTRICT 9**

While on marine patrol in Lake St. Clair, CO Joseph Deppen came across two kayakers in a heavily congested area. The kayakers were drinking and were having difficulty navigating the waterways. The kayakers were taken to calmer waters and a safety inspection yielded that the kayakers did not have any life jackets. The kayakers said they took them out the day before. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel received a Report All Poaching complaint of three anglers in a boat that had caught their limit of walleye, loaded their boat, left the area, and launched again a short time later in St. Clair County. COs Kiel and Brad Silorey sat on the suspect's vehicle until they returned to the launch. While waiting, the COs checked other boats coming off the water. They contacted three groups with short walleye, one with an over limit of walleye, and found a vessel with not enough PFDs on board. When the suspect's vessel returned to the launch, the three anglers were found to have 14 walleye. The COs separated the subjects and interviewed them. The subjects admitted to taking the first 18 walleye and placing them in another vehicle parked down the road. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel checked three anglers coming off a boat launch on the St. Clair River. The subjects stated they had caught their limit. When CO Kiel counted their fish, four additional fish were found in their live-well. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Kris Kiel and Brad Silorey, while on marine patrol, checked a vessel with two adult males and two children that were fishing. Neither adult had a fishing license, the vessel was unregistered and there was only one adult PFD on board, which was on a small eight year old. The other child on board, who was under 6 years old, was not wearing a PFD, and there was no type IV PFD for the vessel. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach has been busy checking walleye anglers this past week in St. Clair County. On one particular patrol in the early morning hours, CO Kovach observed several subjects catching and keeping a large number of fish, without throwing any back into the water. Upon checking the anglers a few hours later, CO Kovach discovered the subjects were 19 fish over their limit. The anglers commented that they thought they would be ok as they didn't think the CO would be out at that time. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach has contacted several anglers with short fish in both the St Clair River and Lake Huron. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher checked a boat coming into the North Channel access site and found two anglers with 16 walleye, 4 over their legal limit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher checked a small park with the same four anglers in it from the night before in St. Clair County. The second check found one angler to be in possession of an over limit of walleye. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher was watching an angler land and measure a walleye and drop it behind the park bench he was set-up on in St. Clair County. A short time later, CO Lasher checked the subject's stringer of 5 walleye. When asked if he had any more fish, the subject stated he did not have any more. CO Lasher checked behind the bench and found two walleye – 7 total fish for this angler. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Ken Kovach and Sgt. Todd Szyska assisted the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department, Port Huron Police Department, and the US Coast Guard in a search and rescue for a 9 year old that had dove into the St. Clair River off of the YMCA in Port Huron and never resurfaced. The youth was recovered not far from where he had jumped in by dive team and immediately lifesaving efforts were started and the subject was rushed by EMS to the hospital.

CO Brad Silorey worked a late night patrol this week checking anglers targeting walleye. While checking anglers returning to the boat launch, CO Silorey made contact with a vessel that had four anglers on board. After checking all of the anglers fishing licenses, CO Silorey checked the fish the anglers had in a cooler. The anglers had caught 19 fish that night. After measuring all the fish, CO Silorey found 3 walleye that were less than 13 inches, which is under the legal size limit on the St. Clair River. None of the anglers confessed to taking the undersized fish, so the captain decided to take the blame. In addition to the undersize walleye, the boat owner also failed to provide enough lifejackets for each person on board. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol checking shore anglers near a popular beach in Macomb County, CO Brad Silorey contacted an angler fishing on an inland body of water. When CO Silorey asked the angler what he had caught, he stated that he had two undersize largemouth bass in his bucket. When CO Silorey questioned the angler why he had them, he stated that the bass "swallowed the hook" and he killed them as he tried to remove the hook. CO Silorey explained to the angler that he was still not allowed to keep the undersized bass, even if he thought they may not have lived. The two bass measured 10 and 12 inches. Enforcement action was taken.

While CO Jason Becker was on patrol on Union Lake he contacted a subject that was operating a boat with two young passengers walking around inside the boat without PFDs. CO Becker asked the subject if he had any PFDs on board for the children. The subject pulled out the PFDs and stated that he didn't know that children needed them.

CO Becker advised the subject that children under six years old needed to wear them. The subject stated that the children were four and two years old. A check through dispatch showed that the subject had one DNR prior for an expired registration from CO Becker. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Travis Dragomer conducted a marine patrol on Lake Ponemah in Genesee County. The CO made 29 contacts while on patrol on the lake. The CO located two vessels operating with expired registrations. One of the vessels that showed an expired registration also was in possession of an undersized largemouth bass. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Travis Dragomer made a traffic stop of a vehicle that passed him on a double yellow no pass lane. After investigating the vehicle once stopped, it was determined the plate on the vehicle was not for the correct vehicle. The vehicle had an expired registration and the operator had no insurance. Enforcement action was taken.

While on marine patrol in Oakland County, CO Jacob Griffin spotted one subject in a kayak out on the busy water. CO Griffin approached the subject looking for a personal flotation device (PFD), but did not see one on board. When CO Griffin asked the subject if he had a PFD on board, he stated "I do not have a life jacket, but it's okay because I can swim". CO Griffin explained to the subject that he must have some type of PFD on board his kayak to operate it on state water. The subject became very agitated. CO Griffin escorted the subject safely to shore and enforcement action was taken.

While conducting a marine patrol on Lake Orion, CO Christopher Knights and Sgt. Steve Mooney spotted two boats without any registration numbers. The COs made contact with both boats at the same time and both parties failed to carry their temporary permits on the vessels. They advised both boats to pull over to a dock one of the individuals owned, so they could gather more information. After speaking with both parties and completing a marine safety inspection, it was found that neither boat had life jackets on board. Each individual was advised of the law for registration numbers as well as the PFD laws and enforcement action was taken.

COs Justin Muehlhauser and Travis Dragomer worked a marine patrol on the Holloway Reservoir. As the COs checked a group of anglers, CO Muehlhauser asked to see the PFDs on the vessel. The operator stated they didn't have any lifejackets, just a couple throwable seat cushions. Enforcement action was taken for failing to provide PFDs.

CO Justin Muehlhauser checked a group of anglers returning to the Lobdell Lake boat launch. During the check it was discovered that the owner of the vessel did not have enough PFDs for everyone onboard. He was also missing a throwable flotation device. Enforcement action was taken for the violation.

CO David Schaumburger observed anglers dumping white bass into two vehicles and waited to check them until they were ready to leave. When the CO made contact, the

angler he contacted started shaking, complained of his head hurting, and dropped his coffee. The CO thought the angler was having a diabetic episode but the angler stated that was not the case, the CO assumed the angler was in shock to see him. Of the seven people in the fishing party, only one of them had a fishing license, and only three admitted to fishing. They had placed white bass into multiple coolers amongst two vehicles and the CO let the only person with a license keep his 25 white bass and the CO seized an over limit of 237 white bass. Enforcement action was taken and the CO will be asking for \$2,175 in reimbursement for the fish.

CO David Schaumburger contacted an angler fishing for white bass that was dumping fish in a large cooler in his vehicle. The CO counted the fish and the angler had 39 too many white bass. The angler stated to the CO that he was having so much fun that he lost count. Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Schaumburger was on marine patrol when he approached a vessel that was walleye fishing. Before the CO could say a word, the angler told the CO, "White Bass, White Bass, and White Bass only." The CO observed a walleye on the deck of his boat and asked the angler what that was. The angler grabbed the walleye and threw it overboard. The CO asked to see the fish in the live well and located 9 additional walleye, putting the angler 5 over the limit, 4 of which were undersize. The CO grabbed the walleye the angler had thrown overboard. The angler had four prior DNR violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Schaumburger located six young adults off-roading on private property while on patrol. The operators stated that everybody from their high school and neighboring city high schools come to this property because it is state land and you can operate ORVs anywhere on state land. The CO told them that this was private property and they had passed three signs on the way into the property that stated no trespassing. Further, he told them that even if it was state land, they are not allowed to off road anywhere they please. Enforcement action was taken and the CO told them to inform their high school that this activity was not permitted at this location.

CO James Zellinger assisted a Michigan State trooper during a traffic stop. The vehicle had three subjects inside, two of which were possessing open intoxicants. The third subject had a warrant for her arrest. The trooper arrested the subject with a warrant and wrote citations to the other subjects.

## **BELLE ISLE**

While patrolling Belle Isle, CO Joseph Deppen observed a vehicle speed through a stop sign, the vehicle made an illegal U-turn into oncoming lanes of traffic. A traffic stop was conducted. The driver said he was not aware of any stop sign and the U-turn was to get his favorite parking spot. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dan Walzak worked marine enforcement for the Grand Prix detail over the weekend with CO Jeff Panich and CO Tyler Cole. During the weekend the COs made contact

with a few vessels that were displaying expired registrations. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol on Belle Isle, CO Kyle Bucholtz smelled the odor of marijuana in a parking area. CO Bucholtz located a suspect and removed marijuana from both the suspect's person and vehicle. Enforcement action was taken. CO Bucholtz was assisted by CO Todd Thorn.

CO Mark Siemen, while traveling to Belle Isle for a meeting, came across a multiple vehicle crash on the Chrysler Freeway just before the Jefferson Avenue exit. CO Siemen checked all subjects and assisted a female from her vehicle so she would not get struck by another passing motorist. CO Siemen remained on scene until an ALS unit and Michigan State Police arrived on location. The female was transported to the hospital with minor injuries.