

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
8/14/2016 – 8/27/2016**

DISTRICT 1

Conservation Officer (CO) David Miller responded to a complaint of a deer that was trapped along the shoreline on Huron Bay at the base of a cliff. CO Miller met the complainant, realized that there was no way to get to the deer from the cliff above, and went back to get a patrol boat. CO Miller was able to find a spot to launch the patrol boat fairly close to the area and was able to move the deer along the shoreline to a location where it could get up to the bank.

CO Brian Lasanen made contact with two groups of ATV riders taking advantage of the ORV free riding weekend. The riders advised they never rode in Michigan and told CO Lasanen this was a great way to see if they liked the ATV trails. Both groups plan to come back to ride whenever they can as they really enjoyed themselves.

CO Matt Eberly worked a marine patrol out of Lac La Belle and tried to make it to Manitou Island but the lake became so rough that he had to turn around at Keystone Bay. Just as CO Eberly pulled his patrol boat out of the water, the Keweenaw County Sheriff's Department requested assistance in searching for a missing kayaker between Copper Harbor and Manitou Island. The United States Coast Guard (USCG) was going to search from Lac La Belle to Manitou. CO Eberly advised the responding USCG vessel that he had just patrolled Lac La Belle to Keystone and had not seen any kayaks. CO Eberly drove up to Copper Harbor and launched his patrol boat to check the shoreline to High Rock Bay. A short time later the kayaker was located by a passing fishing boat and was pulled out of the water. It was reported that the kayaker was unsure what happened, stating he lost all strength and became sick halfway across from Manitou to the mainland.

CO Matt Eberly was called out by the USCG and the Keweenaw County Sheriff's Office this week for a missing sail boater. The boater left Keystone Bay at 5:00 pm on Wednesday for Copper Harbor in a 16 ft. sail boat. The boater's son reported that his father was overdue at 9:00 am Thursday morning. CO Eberly and a Keweenaw County SO Marine Deputy responded from Lac La Belle. The USCG sent their patrol boat as well as the request of their helicopter. The boater was spotted several hours later on Gull Rock off Manitou Island. The USCG helicopter retrieved the boater due to the shallow water and treacherous rocks surrounding the island. The boater had been in the water for several hours and the sail boat is believed to be lost. He was transported to Houghton County hospital to be evaluated.

CO Denny Gast is investigating a new illegal ORV trail that had been recently cut on state land to access Keystone Bay in Keweenaw County. This has been an ongoing problem with ORVs causing damage to the area.

CO Ethen Mapes responded to the call of an injured bald eagle in Ontonagon County. Two veterans had found the eagle struggling to fly in a farm field. After a short chase, the injured bird was caught and transported to Marquette's Raptor Rehabilitation Center to be evaluated.

CO Jared Ferguson received a call of an eagle that was injured on the highway in Dickinson County. As CO Ferguson attempted to retrieve the bird, it got up and flew away with no obvious injuries.

CO Jared Ferguson and Sgt. Marc Pomroy attended a law enforcement appreciation ceremony in Dickinson County. The event was sponsored by the local Caring House and was an opportunity for members of the community to meet local law enforcement officers, judges and prosecutors.

CO Jared Ferguson was on patrol when he came upon a black lab which appeared to be lost. Upon further investigation, CO Ferguson found the animal had a close encounter with a porcupine. CO Ferguson gave the dog treats and water while contacting the owner from information on the collar. The owner was very appreciative of the CO's efforts and stated the dog was missing for three days and would be brought to the veterinarian to remove the quills.

CO Shannon Kritz interviewed a suspect regarding an illegally placed bear bait, illegal blind, and illegal ORV trail created to access the bait site. A quick confession was obtained and enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon and PCO Jeremy Sergey responded to the complaint of a subject possessing a live turtle. The COs stopped at the suspect's residence and made contact with the subject. A subject showed the COs the turtle in question and stated he had been feeding it for three weeks. PCO Sergey measured the carapace of the snapping turtle and found it to be well under the legal size limit. The subject was educated about keeping live animals and cited for possessing the undersize snapping turtle.

CO Brett Delonge received a complaint of a suspicious vehicle parked in a remote location on state land. CO Delonge located the vehicle and determined that it had been stolen. The vehicle had also been used in a burglary in Wisconsin where numerous items including guns were stolen. The vehicle was turned over to the local sheriff's department and arrangements made for Wisconsin investigators to process the vehicle.

CO Brett Delonge attended the UP State Fair on several days to give information to fair-goers about the hiring process for Michigan Conservation Officers.

CO Mark Leadman received an anonymous complaint of a subject shooting a turkey in his yard. The investigation led to a residence where an elderly gentleman admitted to shooting the turkey because they would not stay out of his yard. The elderly gentleman also admitted to shooting turkeys several years earlier for the same reason. It was determined that bird feed was placed regularly in the yard for song birds but also drew

in the unwanted turkeys. The deceased hen turkey was located under a wood pile in the backyard. A warrant is being sought through the Marquette County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Mark Leadman attended the "Active Shooter Training and Train the Trainer" in St. Helen. Six COs were certified by LSU and FEMA to reproduce the class they attended and train other COs in their department or surrounding departments.

DISTRICT 2

CO Pat Hartsig attended a hunter safety class in Escanaba. He spoke to the group of students about the laws pertaining to hunting and being safe while afield.

CO Pat Hartsig was on patrol with Sgt. Jerrold Fitzgibbon on the shore of Deer Lake in Alger County. While speaking with fishermen, CO Hartsig noticed an ORV being operated on the state highway against the flow of traffic next to the lake. CO Hartsig stopped the vehicle and found that the operator had not licensed his RV. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Michael Evink was conducting a marine patrol of Indian Lake. He had numerous good contacts, but did locate one boat with three individuals fishing. They did not have licenses, but were going to let any fish they caught go. Enforcement action was taken.

Several District COs attended the annual state fair in Escanaba. COs worked a recruiting booth set up in the pocket park. The public was glad to see the COs and many questions were answered over the week-long event.

CO Mark Zitnik was on ORV patrol when he made a stop of two ORV riders for failing to license their ORVs. The riders both agreed they needed ORV licenses and it was wrong, and that they did not think they would get caught. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Zitnik was dispatched to assist Alger County EMS personnel into a remote spot of the Au Train River for a female who had possibly broken her hip. Once on scene, EMS personnel determined the woman fractured her femur as a result of jumping from a rope swing into shallow water. CO Zitnik, Au Train Fire, and EMS personnel extricated the woman from the river and into the ambulance. The woman was treated at Marquette General Hospital.

CO Mark Zitnik and Trooper Lewis were dispatched to a domestic assault in progress with a suicidal subject who tried grabbing a knife to harm his parents. On scene, it was determined the subject needed mental health treatment. The officers lodged the individual, who stated he worked for the FBI and he had Secret Service Agents following him to the Upper Peninsula. Notification was made to the Marquette Mental Health Unit.

COs Calvin Smith and Mark Zitnik were heading back from the U.P. State Fair when they stopped to assist with a disabled vehicle. When the COs made contact with the driver, he became very nervous and stated the car belongs to his girlfriend. Upon further investigation, it was found the license plate on the Mustang came back to a 1995 Chevy pickup and had no insurance. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Kevin Postma, Bobby Watson and Calvin Smith participated in a group patrol focusing on illegal ORV use and shipwreck scavengers on the shore line of Lake Superior from Sault Ste. Marie to Whitefish Point.

COs Mark Zitnik, Calvin Smith and Mike Evink attended the Wildlife Coalition Meeting in Shingleton. DNR staff and local citizens attended the meeting discussing local game populations, what measures are being taken, and what actions need to be taken in order to help the wildlife populations of the area.

CO Mark Zitnik was patrolling H-58 when he came across a parked running vehicle with an unconscious individual slumped over in the driver's seat. Upon making contact with the individual, it was determined he was highly intoxicated after arousing him and failing the majority of SFSTs provided. The subject was lodged in the Alger County jail for OWI.

CO Chris Lynch was on patrol on Little Bay de Noc when he observed one angler with four lines out. After watching the angler for a little bit, CO Lynch approached the angler when the angler began to reel up his lines. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Lynch was on patrol when he observed a large group of ORVs about to operate down the state highway. CO Lynch got to the group before they did. CO Lynch educated the group about ORV laws. CO Lynch addressed several other violations the group had going on such as no helmets, no eye protection, riding with more occupants than the ORV is designed for, allowing a minor to operate an ORV underage, minor with no ORV certificate, and several unlicensed ORVs. Enforcement action was taken.

PCO Nathan Sink and CO Kevin Postma obtained a confession from an individual in reference to early bear bait. For several years CO Postma had been working one particular strike bait sight with nil results. CO Postma was able to develop a suspect and obtain a confession once the individual was confronted with some blatant evidence. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kevin Postma was working ORVs near the Pine Bowl in Kincheloe. A group of ORVs was stopped and educated for operating in a closed area. Two of the ORVs had no ORV registrations but were taking advantage of the Free ORV weekend.

CO Jon Busken attended a career fair at Lake Superior State University. There were many interested potential applicants. CO Busken was able answer questions from the attendees.

CO Bobby Watson has been preparing for the upcoming bear season by scouting the local area and locating numerous active bait sites. CO Watson was recently able to locate and contact an out-of-town bear hunter who had been tending an illegal bear baiting site. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Bobby Watson was patrolling during the recent Free ORV weekend in an area with high ORV traffic. CO Watson observed an ORV approaching him at a very slow speed along the road way. As the ORV came closer, CO Watson noted that the driver of the ORV had a passenger doubled up behind him. CO Watson conducted a stop and informed the riders that unless the machine had been manufactured for a passenger, riding double was illegal. The ORV riders were very cooperative and stated that they lived just a short ways down the road. CO Watson took the opportunity to educate the riders with a warning.

CO Bobby Watson along with all District 2 COs took part in a boat naming ceremony in Sault Ste. Marie. The Eastern U.P. designated "Safe Boat" was dedicated to former DNR Law Enforcement Division Chief David Jones who served the Department and the state in the early 1900's.

CO Kevin Postma and PCO Nathan Sink were on patrol checking an illegal bear bait. While on patrol, a vehicle passed them that matched the description of a vehicle that was bear baiting before the season at a different location. CO Postma and PCO Sink contacted the individuals after following their tire tracks for an hour. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brett Gustafson and PCO Nathan Sink received a complaint from an angler who got his fishing line tangled in an unmarked gill net. CO Gustafson and PCO Sink patrolled the area and were able to locate the unmarked gill net. Further investigation is pending.

DISTRICT 3

While responding to a complaint, CO Andrea Erratt encountered an ORV operating on the roadway riding double. CO Erratt initiated a stop and made contact with the operator and her six year old passenger. Enforcement action was taken.

After receiving a substantial amount of rain, CO Erratt checked a known mudder truck area. While checking the area, CO Erratt encountered three trucks attempting to enter the area. A check of the vehicles revealed that the trucks were on their way to the illegal mud run area. It was also discovered that three of the trucks did not have proof of insurance, two had expired registrations, and one did not have a front bumper. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking the access site on Deer Lake in Charlevoix County, CO Erratt located two boats from a local livery tied at the access site dock. After monitoring the vessels for a 24 hour period, she made contact with the livery owner. The subject was warned for storing property on state land for more than 24 hours and was issued a citation for

utilizing a state access site for commercial purposes without a permit. The subject had been previously warned for the same offense.

While patrolling Little Traverse Bay on Lake Michigan, CO Duane Budreau and CO Baldwin made contact with several boats trolling the bay. On one such contact it was discovered that one of the fishermen did not have a fishing license, after initially claiming he did. A ticket was issued for fishing without a license.

During the same patrol on Little Traverse Bay, CO Budreau and CO Baldwin encountered a vessel operating with an expired registration. Upon making contact it was learned that the operator was attempting to sell the boat for his uncle and had two potential buyers on board for a ride. A safety check of the boat revealed there were only two PFD's for the three occupants. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Budreau responded to a complaint of an injured baby loon that had been attacked by an eagle. Upon making contact with the complainant and viewing the bird it was discovered that it was actually a hen hooded merganser. The complainant was concerned the bird could not fly; however, CO Budreau explained to the complainant that the bird cannot take off from dry land and needs water to get up speed in order to take flight. The bird was taken to the Maple River and released.

COs from District 3 worked the Top O Michigan Boat Races held in Indian River. The event involves closing portions of the Indian River to boating traffic while the race is conducted. During one of the races, CO Nick Torsky and PCO John Byers observed a pontoon boat operating in a closed portion of the river. As the COs got closer, they observed a small child (under three years old) on the open portion of the boat without a life jacket. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark DePew and PCO Colton Gelinas arrested a subject on three outstanding warrants for an illegal elk investigation CO DePew had been working since May. The subject was arrested and lodged in the Otsego County Jail.

CO DePew completed an investigation involving an individual who was hosting an MIP (Minor in Possession) alcohol party on state land. A warrant was secured, and the subject was arrested and lodged in the Otsego County Jail. He was sentenced to 30 days in jail.

CO Eric Bottorff was dispatched to two different complaints involving citizens who had picked up and kept baby wild animals. Citizens were reminded to leave wild animals in the wild.

CO Torsky, CO Kelly Ross, and CO DePew (all trapping instructors for DNR Law Division) attended the National Trapping Association Conference held in Kalamazoo, Michigan. The COs met with the general public answering questions and representing the DNR.

CO Tim Rosochacki was contacted by a DNR Park Ranger in the Pigeon River Country State Forest (PRC) who had located what he thought was an active "meth" lab. The CO arrived locating all the components needed to make methamphetamines. The CO contacted SANE (Straits Area Narcotic Enforcement) who assisted in the follow up investigation. Several suspects were identified and a search warrant of their residence was obtained. Three individuals were arrested for possession of methamphetamines and lodged in the Otsego County Jail.

CO Rosochacki received a RAP complaint reference a deer shot in the PRC. Two subjects were identified and admitted to being involved in the poaching incident. Warrants are being sought through the Otsego County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Bill Webster was heading to teach a hunter safety class in Alpena when a yellow ORV came cutting through a ditch bypassing a stop sign and proceeded to go the wrong direction on a state highway. CO Webster turned immediately, made pursuit, and after a short chase through an overgrown hay field the ORV was able to slip away and hide in the woods. With assistance from the MSP, CO Webster was able to locate the ORV and rider. The operator was underage and scared because he knew he was in the wrong. The juvenile was turned over to his mother and charges filed through the court.

CO Webster did a presentation for Alpena Rotary Club, giving them updates on the department and answering questions.

CO Webster assisted the Alpena Hunter Safety Class with teaching the material and answering questions for the students.

CO Adam LeClerc and CO Webster continue to work two cases of stolen ORVs in the Lachine area. The two stolen ORVs were recovered by CO LeClerc in a local gravel pit where the two riders were trespassing. The suspects had taken tires and wheels off one ORV and put them on another. The suspects had left one ORV hidden in the woods near the gravel pit with no wheels on it. CO Webster assisted with the recovery of missing items from the ORVs along with finalizing interviews with the suspects. Charges are being filed through the court.

CO Jon Sklba was travelling on a county road when he was passed by a vehicle. CO Sklba followed the vehicle as it continued to speed up, and exceed 80+ mph; he initiated a traffic stop. The driver of the vehicle said he didn't know COs could pull people over for speeding. CO Sklba issued the citation.

CO Sklba had received a complaint from a concerned citizen about a man removing timbers from a shipwreck close to shore in the Besser Bell Natural Area. The complainant gathered a description of the vehicle along with a license plate number. CO Sklba pulled into the driveway of the suspect's residence and the boards off the shipwreck were leaning up against a pole barn on the property. CO Sklba made contact with the suspect and after a short interview the suspect admitted to taking them from the

shipwreck. CO Sklba seized the board and is seeking charges through the prosecutor's office.

CO Sklba and CO Paul Fox attended a Quality Deer Management (QDMA) meeting in Hawks. There were 50 people in attendance and both COs presented an update to the group on hunting rules and regulations along with answering questions.

CO Brad Bellville was patrolling the Decheau Lake area for ORVs when he came across a group of ORV riders. The first ORV he contacted in the group was riding double on an ORV only designed for one and neither of the riders was wearing helmets. The other ORVs in the group were operated by juveniles that didn't have safety certificates and were underage. CO Bellville issued a citation for no helmets and took the opportunity to educate the group on the rules of operating ORVs.

CO Bellville assisted in two hunter safety classes in Montmorency County; one in Lewiston and one at Canada Creek Ranch. Both classes were well attended.

DISTRICT 4

CO Sean Kehoe and PCO Joseph Deppen were on patrol in Grand Traverse County when they encountered two ORVs at a gas station. While speaking with the individuals, they indicated they were riding the snowmobile trails in the area. Both riders were educated on the ORV rules and regulations pertaining to the snowmobile trails being closed to ORV activity.

While on patrol in Benzie County, CO Rebecca Hopkins and PCO Joseph Deppen responded to a complaint of ORVs driving recklessly. The riders were located at a local campground and they were interviewed on the reckless allegations. After an investigation into the location of the alleged incident, the riders were found not at fault. After some education on ORV laws and local trails, they rode the rest of the day without incident.

While on patrol in Benzie County, CO Rebecca Hopkins and PCO Joseph Deppen noticed a vehicle with a 55 gallon drum in the bed of a truck. Once the COs were noticed, the driver came over and indicated he had finally drawn a bear kill tag after 14 years of waiting. He was educated on bear baiting laws and his baits were found to be legal.

CO Rich Stowe, along with several other COs, attended the National Trappers Convention held in Kalamazoo. The COs ran the laser shot machine, as well as being available for questions and discussions with trappers.

CO Kyle Publiski and CO Brian Brosky of Mason County responded to a motorcycle versus truck accident on US 10 where a truck had pulled out in front of the motorcycle. The COs were first on scene and provided first aid. The driver of the motorcycle was taken to the hospital with severe injuries.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was patrolling local lakes near Baldwin in Lake County when he observed a boat missing a registration decal. CO Killingbeck made contact with the operator who said he was just "testing" the boat out. The last registration sticker read 1998 on the boat. The operator also did not have a personal floatation device in his vessel and told the CO that he was a "good swimmer" and was not concerned about a PFD. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was patrolling near Baldwin for illegal ORV activity when he observed an ORV operating on a forest service road and then entered onto private property where trespass frequently occurs. CO Killingbeck was able to stop the ORV and asked the operator if he was familiar with ORV regulations pertaining to where he could legally operate. The operator admitted he never even tried to educate himself on any of the ORV regulations. Further investigation showed that the driver was suspended. Numerous violations were addressed and enforcement action taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was patrolling the Idlewild area in Lake County for illegal ORV activity when he observed two subjects operating ORVs with no stickers displayed, and neither had a helmet or eye protection. CO Killingbeck stopped the ORVs and both subjects said that they thought they only needed helmets and stickers if they were on ORV trails. Both subjects were educated on ORV regulations and enforcement action taken.

While on patrol, CO Josiah Killingbeck observed an ORV doing donuts in the roadway. The operator then began operating carelessly and at a high rate of speed, passing another ORV while going up a blind hill. The ORV was stopped and CO Killingbeck discovered that the subject was new to riding ORVs in Lake County and had never attempted to educate himself on rules for ORV operation. CO Killingbeck provided him with a copy of the Michigan ORV handbook and enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was patrolling Woodland Lake in Newaygo County when he observed a pontoon boat operating with an expired registration displayed. CO Killingbeck stopped the vessel and discovered that the vessel registration had not been renewed. The operator blamed the expired registration on his grandmother and advised it was her vessel. CO Killingbeck also found there was no fire extinguisher onboard as well as no paper registration. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck reported that an illegal deer case from 2015 was adjudicated in Lake County. The case involved a subject who had taken an 8-point buck during archery season of 2015 and purchased a kill tag for it the following day. CO Schaumburger assisted CO Killingbeck with interviewing the suspect in the Detroit area where a confession was obtained. The hunter was ordered to pay \$5,000 in restitution and \$435 in fines and costs. The hunter had his hunting license revoked for one year.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was driving through a local campground near Baldwin in Lake County to check a local lake when he observed an ORV sitting near a campsite with no one around. The ORV appeared to be abandoned and when CO Killingbeck ran the

VIN, he discovered that the ORV was stolen from the Muskegon area. The ORV was turned over to the Lake County Sheriff's Department for further investigation.

CO Josiah Killingbeck received a RAP complaint of snagging that was occurring at Indian Bridge on the Pere Marquette River in Mason County. CO Killingbeck was able to get into the area undetected and soon observed an angler who was actively snagging. After watching the subject for 40 minutes, CO Killingbeck made contact with the fisherman who claimed he was not snagging and said he was only "lifting" when he felt a fish "brush his line." The angler then began begging CO Killingbeck to "not make him go through this" and started emptying his pockets. It was soon discovered that the man had three warrants for his arrest and he was not able to come up with \$20,000, plus bond. He was issued a citation for snagging and lodged in the Mason County Jail on his warrants.

CO Brian Lebel was working Silver Lake State Park sand dunes and stopped a subject for operation an ORV without a helmet. A file check revealed the subject had two outstanding warrants for his arrest. The subject happened to have four 100 dollar bills on him gladly posting his bond and was given an appearance date in Cass County to answer to his charges.

CO Ben Shively and CO Patrick McManus were patrolling Silver Lake State Park sand dunes when they observed an ORV that had travelled out of bounds onto the beach in an attempt to make it through a water hole and got stuck. They watched the subject get the ORV out of the mud and then meet up with his friends. The group then travelled out of bounds to avoid another water hole. Contact was made with the subjects who explained that they did not want to get their ORVs wet. Citations were issued to the subjects for disobeying the posted signage and operating out of bounds.

CO Ben Shively, CO Kyle Publiski and CO Brian Brosky assisted with a multi-jurisdictional hemp flight focusing on state, federal and private property. The COs assisted in removing the illegal marijuana and transportation of the plants.

CO Ben Shively assisted the Oceana County Sheriff's Office in the attempt to locate a suspect's vehicle involved in a home invasion that was reported broken down and stuck in the woods. Using his new ORV, CO Shively and a deputy located the vehicle and also found that the suspect had attempted to set fire to the woods. A second location was found where the suspect had made illegal entry to a residence. Additional charges are being sought through the prosecutor's office for arson and home invasion.

CO Mike Wells and PCO Tom Oberg received a complaint of reckless PWC operating on a nearby lake. A marine patrol was conducted and as they patrolled another witness approached them advising that they had obtained a video of the suspects operating a PWC and that the passenger was not wearing a life jacket. Review of the video confirmed the allegation. Suspects were contacted and it was discovered that one of the subjects did not have his required marine safety certificate nor was there a paper registration aboard the PWC. Interviews were conducted and the subjects denied the

allegation of the failure to wear a life jacket. Upon learning of the existence of the video, both subjects changed their story admitting that earlier in the day one of the subjects was on the PWC as a passenger without a life jacket and the other subject admitted he was operating the PWC at the time of the violation. Law enforcement action was taken with the admitted passenger.

CO Mike Wells of Newaygo County and PCO Tom Oberg were on patrol on USFS lands investigating a complaint of illegal bear bait. They observed an unoccupied vehicle parked along a two track. Upon inspection of the vehicle and the surrounding area, they determined that the subject entered into the woods. Surveillance was set on the vehicle and a short time later a subject was contacted carrying a small hand saw. The subject admitted that he was preparing his deer blind for the up-coming season. CO Wells asked him what type of blind it was and he admitted it was a hunting shack and that he had found the blind on the public land about three years ago and has been using it since. The subject escorted the officers to the blind location and upon inspection of the site determined that the subject had cut down a dozen small trees to clear shooting lanes and that the large shack had no name and address on it. The subject admitted that the blind has been in place and not removed for the last three years. Citation was issued to the subject for his failure to remove the blind at the end of the season with warnings issued for the cutting of the live foliage and no name/address on the blind.

DISTRICT 5

COs Mark Papineau, Brian Olsen, Casey Pullum, Warren MacNeill, and PCO Travis Dragomer, along with Sgts Brandon Kieft and Jeremy Payne, worked in conjunction with the Iosco County Sheriff's Department and Michigan State Police to patrol the annual Mud Jam at the Iosco County Fairgrounds. In total, 25 subjects were arrested for various violations related to the event and included disorderly persons, minor in possession of alcohol, trespassing, and criminal sexual assault. Additionally, the COs issued 46 citations related to illegal Off Road Vehicle operation which included no helmets, open intoxicants, operating on a public highway, driving on a suspended/restricted license, and careless operation. The event brought record numbers of people to the Hale, estimated in excess of 30,000 people.

CO John Huspen assisted at a hunter safety class where 11 people received their hunter safety certificates. The class was held at the Grayling Sportsman's Club in Crawford County. CO Huspen attended the classroom day to talk about laws and ethics.

CO John Huspen assisted the Grayling City Public Safety and Crawford County Sheriff Department on a PI accident. Officers discovered a subject was trying to exit a moving car when the car he was in hit a parked car, this caused the subject to get pinned between and under the two vehicles. CO Huspen assisted with closing of the road and crowd control. CO Huspen also assisted the wrecker driver with the removal of the vehicles from the scene.

CO Sam Schluckbier was conducting a night patrol on local inland lakes in Kalkaska County. While attempting to launch his patrol vessel, a fishing boat pulled up with two occupants. While checking the fishermen, one claimed that he caught a couple nice pan fish and had to keep a smaller walleye because it swallowed the hook. Upon closer inspection, the walleye was well under the minimum 15 inch size restriction and appeared to be in good health. The fish was confiscated and released. A citation was issued for possessing an undersized walleye.

CO Craig Neal assisted Missaukee Gun Club with their hunter safety class. CO Neal spoke with the class on the topics of laws and ethics when it comes to enjoying the outdoors.

CO Mark Papineau and Sergeant Jeremy Payne patrolled the outskirts of Mud Jam held at the Iosco County Fair Grounds near Hale, Michigan. During this patrol, the COs observed a small dune buggy driving around a city street corner at a high rate of speed causing the buggy to “fish tail.” A stop was made and it was discovered the passenger was underage and in possession of open alcohol. The subject admitted to drinking but explained to Sgt. Payne it was “okay”. He further explained that his mother said it was ok to drink as long as he, a recovering addict, was not using heroin. The operator was cited for careless operation of an ORV and the passenger was cited for open intoxicants in an ORV and minor being in possession of alcohol.

While working at the 2016 Mud Jam in Iosco County, CO Brian Olsen and Probationary CO Travis Dragomer noticed a man lying on the shoulder of M-65, a half-mile north of the event. When they made contact with the highly intoxicated individual, he advised he could not find his friends and decided to walk home to Ludington. After walking approximately a half-mile, he became tired and decided to take a nap. CO Olsen and PCO Dragomer advised the man that he was walking in the wrong direction. After administering a Preliminary Breath Test (PBT), it was determined the man was 3 times the legal limit. Due to the traffic hazard for motorists and the man’s own safety, the COs placed the man in custody for disorderly person and contacted Iosco County sheriff deputies for a transport. When the transport van arrived, the man was overjoyed to find his friends already inside the transport van.

CO Warren MacNeill assisted Alcona County Sheriff deputies with a subject who wanted to commit suicide. The male subject was a military veteran and was suffering from PTSD. CO MacNeill negotiated with the man, told some related military stories, and eventually convinced him that suicide was not the answer.

DISTRICT 6

CO Kyle Bucholtz assisted the Huron County Sheriff’s Office with a domestic disturbance. CO Bucholtz responded to the scene and spoke with family members, the investigation revealed an assault did not occur and an arrest was not warranted.

CO Mike Haas conducted a marine patrol on a chain of remote lakes in western Isabella County. While checking a boat of anglers it was determined there were not enough PFDs on board. The operator of the boat first stated that the other life jackets must have blown out of the boat earlier in the day but then admitted that he didn't think there would be a CO out on the lake. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling the Rush Lake State Game Area on the second Saturday of the Cheeseburger in Paradise Festival in Caseville, CO Robert Hobkirk issued four citations to ORVs and 4x4 trucks for operating in a prohibited area.

While at the Port Austin Harbor, CO Robert Hobkirk observed two ORVs pull into the harbor's parking lot. The operators were not wearing helmets and the vehicles were not licensed. CO Hobkirk contacted the operators and they admitted to travelling on the state highway to get to the harbor. Both operators were from Canada and stated they didn't know what they had done was illegal. CO Hobkirk escorted the individuals back to their cottage and cited each operator for the helmet violation and gave them warnings for operating on the state highway and operating unlicensed ORVs.

While patrolling Big Whitefish Lake in Montcalm County, COs Ken Lowell and Troy Ludwig made contact with a boat full of anglers. One angler stated that she had left her license back at the cabin. CO Ludwig obtained her information and checked with Station 20 regarding her purchasing a fishing license this year. The COs were advised that the angler had not purchased a license this year. When the COs re-contacted the angler she told them she had located her license on her cell phone. CO Ludwig was able to determine the angler had purchased her license on her cellphone after the original contact was made. The angler admitted to the COs she purchased her license after she was caught fishing without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling Big Whitefish Lake in Montcalm County, COs Ken Lowell and Troy Ludwig made contact with a boat that was showing an expired registration. CO Ludwig ran the boat's registration through Station 20 and determined the boat was expired. The angler in the boat claimed the boat was not his and belonged to someone in his family. CO Ludwig explained to the operator that he was responsible for the expired registration. Enforcement action was taken.

While on ORV patrol on state land in Midland County, COs Joel Lundberg and Eric Smither came across an ORV that was stuck in a mud hole in an area where ORV operation is prohibited. Enforcement action was taken.

While on marine patrol on Wixom Lake, COs Joel Lundberg and Eric Smither observed six personal watercrafts being operating after sunset. While attempting to stop one of the PWCs, the driver acted like he did not see the officers and drove his PWC toward a cabin on the lake. The COs followed and stopped the subject once he was on shore and collected his information as well as the information from the other five riders when they came into shore. While talking with the individuals, the first subject was advised to go to his vehicle and get his registration information. The subject then fled the scene in his

vehicle. The subject was later found to have a warrant for his arrest after the COs contacted the Bay County Sheriff's Department for assistance. The sheriff's department sent a car to the suspect's residence where they located him at his vehicle. The subject was lodged on the warrant and charges are being sought through the prosecutor's office. The subject's PWC was towed and the COs issued citations and warnings for the violations including operating a PWC after sunset, expired registration and failing to transfer titles.

COs Joel Lundberg and Eric Smither received a complaint of litter (bed mattress) on state land in Midland County. The complainant took a picture of a truck that had been seen in the area with a mattress in the bed of the truck. Using the picture, the COs were able to read the truck license plate number and get the registered owner's name and address. While interviewing the subject, he confessed he had dumped the mattress on state land. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Seth Rhodea was patrolling the Minden City State Game Area when he located a set of ORV tracks going into the state land. CO Rhodea located the ORV parked over a mile into the state land. The operator was contacted while picking berries, who was found to not have a helmet and the license on the ORV had expired in 2003. Citations were issued to address the violations.

While on patrol in Montcalm County, COs Dan Robinson and Josh Russell were docking their boat when they were summoned to another boat docked nearby. The COs were told a woman needed help and stated she had cut off her pinky on the swim ladder on the back of the boat. The COs could see that the pinky was not gone, but there was a significant injury. The COs bandaged the wound and the woman was transported to the hospital by a friend. The COs removed the boat from the water for the owners and secured their belongings before traveling to the hospital to check on the individual.

While on patrol in Montcalm County, COs Dan Robinson and Josh Russell made contact with numerous groups of people on the water. The COs issued several tickets for fishing without a license, towing a skier without an observer and registration violations. The COs contacted a small boat where three individuals were fishing. During the contact, the COs asked to see their PFDs and one of the subjects showed them an inch thick cushion for lawn furniture. The COs educated the subject about Coast Guard approved PFDs and issued a citation for inadequate PFDs onboard.

COs Josh Russell and Dan Robinson were patrolling Dickerson Lake in Montcalm County when they observed several people fishing out of a boat. The COs made contact with the anglers and asked to see their fishing licenses. One subject did not have a license and had not purchased one since 2013. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Siemen assisted the Sanilac County Sheriff's Office with a search for a capsized boat north of the Port Sanilac Harbor. It was reported that a boat had overturned in stormy weather with four occupants. All occupants were rescued from the water and the boat was left due to stormy weather. The boat owner advised he would

come back to remove the capsized boat on a later date. After the weather had cleared, officers attempted to locate the boat and believe it has been submerged and drifted into deeper waters.

While on patrol in Tuscola County, COs Casey Varriale and Josh Wright witnessed two youths riding on a county road without adult supervision. While talking with the youth operators it was discovered that neither had an ORV safety certificate. The youth operators and their father were educated about the requirements to ride alone on an ORV.

CO Casey Varriale and Josh Wright conducted a canoe patrol eleven miles down the Cass River in Tuscola County. Several positive contacts were made during the patrol.

DISTRICT 7

CO Matt Page assisted the Van Buren County Sheriff's Department with an emergency response following a tornado in the northern part of the county. CO Page assisted in checking the area for any injuries and blocking streets with live power lines in the roadway, until the power company was able to arrive on scene.

CO Steve Mooney and PCO Ryan Andrews were checking fishermen and encountered a subject that didn't have his fishing license with him. A radio check determined that the subject did have a fishing license, but had two warrants for his arrest. PCO Andrews placed the subject into custody and he was lodged at the Van Buren Sheriff's Department.

CO Richard Cardenas conducted several patrols in the Yankee Springs, Middleville State Game, and Barry State Game areas utilizing both overt and covert patrol strategies regarding illegal off-roading activity. Enforcement actions were taken in several incidents of illegal operation.

CO Michael Mshar received a RAP complaint of a subject who had killed a massasauga rattle snake. CO Mshar responded to the subject's residence and made contact with him and recovered the snake. The home owner admitted to killing the snake because it was coiled up by his front door and he was afraid it would harm his children, who were playing on the front porch. After looking up the snake online, it was determined the snake was a protected species. He then called and turned himself in. CO Mshar educated the family on the importance of snakes and how to deal with them should they ever have another situation similar. The snake was provided to Wildlife Division at their request.

CO Michael Mshar assisted the Illinois DNR in locating a suspect and his vessel that were involved in a hit & run personal injury accident on Lake Michigan near Chicago. CO Mshar checked several last addresses of the registered owner of the vessel and was able to locate him in the Allegan area. Further information was received that the vessel owner had sold the boat to a subject in Chicago about two months prior. CO

Mshar provided the new information to CO Josh Mooi of Illinois. CO Mooi contacted CO Mshar several days later advising they had picked up the suspect and charges were pending.

CO Michael Mshar was patrolling the Allegan State Game Area when he encountered two ORVs that were being operated on the roadway contrary to state law. While taking enforcement action, several other ORVs were seen operating on another road. After completing the first stop, CO Mshar contacted the second group and took enforcement action. All subjects were given ORV guides and instructed on the allowable use of their machines.

CO Michael Mshar assisted Allegan County Emergency Management in checking homes for trapped or injured occupants after a tornado had gone through the county causing extensive damage. CO Mshar then patrolled the Allegan State Game Area checking for blocked roads due to fallen trees. CO Mshar informed Allegan County Emergency Management and the game area staff of his findings. Although there was heavy damage to the area, no injuries were reported.

COs Chuck Towns, Paul Higashi, Chris Holmes, Richard Cardenas and Michael Mshar worked a booth at the National Trappers Association Convention in Kalamazoo, MI. COs fielded numerous questions from customers on hunting, fishing, and how to become a Michigan CO. The event was a great opportunity for local officers to interact with trappers from all over the country, as well as, showcase the Law Enforcement Division and their officers.

While on patrol, CO Jeremy Beavers received a complaint that a goose was shot in Grand Rapids, MI on a small pond on private property. CO Beavers met with the complainant and was able to get a description of the subject and the vehicle. Further investigation in the area revealed a possible suspect. When CO Beavers arrived at the suspect's residence, there was a black truck at the end of the driveway occupied by one person. CO Beavers exited his vehicle and was met in the street by the subject driving the vehicle. The subject told CO Beavers he knew why he was there. He stated he got a phone call from his mother, the owner of the property, where the goose was shot. The subject told CO Beavers that his son was responsible for shooting the goose and was on his way home. After waiting for a short time, the son arrived and CO Beavers introduced himself and explained why he was there. At that time, the subject stated he shot the goose with a pellet gun. He said he went to his grandparents' property to shoot his bow and while he was there he noticed a goose by the pond. He stated he shot it because his grandparent's horses have gotten sick in the past from eating goose feces. CO Beavers asked where the goose was and he stated it was in the woods behind his house. The subject stated he originally cleaned the goose and kept the breast, but after learning CO Beavers was at his grandparents he threw the breasts out. CO Beavers was able to retrieve the carcass, but the breast could not be located. The subject was cited for taking waterfowl during the closed season.

While working in Kent County, CO Justin Ulberg observed three anglers wading and fishing in the Flat River. CO Ulberg waited until the anglers exited the river before dark and checked to see if they had any luck. One of the anglers was in possession of an undersized bass and none of the anglers possessed a fishing license. A further check revealed one of the subjects also drove to the river on a suspended license. Enforcement action was taken for the violations.

DISTRICT 8

CO Andrew Monnich was patrolling the Hudson Recreation Area when he came upon a parked vehicle. CO Monnich noticed two individuals along the bank and observed the individuals. While watching the two fishermen he noticed that one of the individuals was using some sort of narcotics. Upon contact, CO Monnich noticed one of the individuals put something in his pocket. While questioning the subject about what he was doing he stated that he was just rolling a cigarette. CO Monnich searched the individuals and located a bag containing cocaine. The individual was placed under arrest and lodged in the Lenawee County Jail.

CO Pete Purdy assisted with a hunter safety class instruction at the Livingston County Conservation and Sport Association. There were 27 students in attendance. CO Mike Drexler assisted MSP in a search for a wanted armed robbery suspect in Washtenaw County. CO Drexler searched a few areas of state land in the area before the search was discontinued. CO Drexler also assisted a property owner in searching his barns and out buildings close to where the robbery attempt was made.

CO Rich Nickols was patrolling the Waterloo Recreation area in Washtenaw County when he located a vehicle parked on the side of the road with several tree stands in the back. CO Nickols located two subjects coming out of the woods who stated they had been scouting the area for deer and had hung one tree stand. CO Nickols explained that it was illegal to hang tree stands on public land prior to September 1st and gave the subjects a verbal warning.

CO Matthew Neterer responded to a complaint of an SUV intentionally running over a goose near the DNR Customer Service Center in Lansing. Witnesses reported two young men in the SUV intentionally hit the goose and then ran off road leaving deep ruts in the grass. A DNR employee was able to respond and humanely dispatch the injured goose. CO Neterer ran the license plate provided and made contact with the suspect. The suspect initially couldn't recall any of the events from the incident until CO Neterer showed him the pictures of the tire ruts, the injured goose and of his license plate. Upon seeing the pictures, the young man dropped his head and provided a full confession. Charges are pending with the Ingham County Prosecutor's Office.

COs Chris Reynolds and Andy Monnich investigated a trespassing case involving stolen tree stands and trail cameras. The trail camera that had been stolen was outfitted to send pictures to the owner as they were taken, capturing several pictures of the individual and his vehicle. A Facebook user contacted the owner of the property when

they recognized the pictures of the individual which were posted to Facebook. The owner of the property contacted the officers who conducted interviews on the subject who confessed to trespassing and stealing the property. He also implicated a friend who helped him take the property. The officers also interviewed the friend, who was not so cooperative until the officers informed him that pictures were taken, and that his accomplice had ultimately confessed to the theft and trespass. The property was recovered and returned to the owner. Both parties involved were advised that a report will be submitted and charges sought for the trespass and the theft of the property. While completing a fishing check on a Calhoun County lake, COs Carter Woodwyk and Jason McCullough observed a vessel operating at a high speed during prohibited hours. The COs contacted the operator and discovered he was intoxicated. Enforcement action was taken.

PCO Carter Woodwyk and CO Jason McCullough observed a couple of anglers fishing from shore on the opposite shore of the lake. Upon contact CO Woodwyk located an undersized largemouth bass in the bucket of one of the fishermen. Both fishermen stated they were new to fishing and didn't know anything about size limits. A license system check revealed the fishermen had been purchasing licenses for well over ten years. CO Woodwyk explained the importance of following the size limits and a citation was issued.

CO Jason McCullough and PCO Carter Woodwyk were patrolling Gordon Lake in Calhoun County when they observed an angler getting ready to launch a fishing boat on the lake. The COs could see that the registration was expired and notified the angler before he launched, saving him a ticket and fine. Additionally, the vessel did not have enough personal floatation devices on board and it did not have a serviceable fire extinguisher.

CO Isaac Tyson contacted three fishermen in a boat. All three men were acting very nervous even though each person had a valid fishing license. A check of the cooler produced an 11 inch Largemouth Bass. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 9

CO Justin Muehlhauser assisted Genesee County deputies on a fatal ORV accident in Atlas Township. The accident occurred on private property while the victim was returning home from some evening coyote hunting. Initial investigations suggested that the operator lost control and rolled the ORV and hit a tree. The operator was not wearing a helmet.

CO Dan Walzak made contact with four subjects fishing and requested to see their licenses. One of the anglers appeared to be looking hard for his license and pulled out a 2015 license to give to the CO Walzak. CO Walzak informed the subject that the license was expired and asked him if he had a current license. When the subject answered that he did not, one of his friends stated that they had bought their licenses at a local bait store on the same day. The subject then explained that he must have

placed the wrong license in his wallet. A quick retail sales license check on the subject revealed that he had not purchased a license for this year. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dan Walzak made contact with a subject who returned to a launch ramp on a personal watercraft 28 minutes after sunset. When asked why he was late coming off the water the subject offered that he had gotten weeds stuck in the impeller. In talking to the subject it came out that he was on his way in and had to pass the entrance of the launch ramp in order to make one "last minute loop" before coming in. CO Walzak asked if he knew when he was supposed to be off the water and the subject replied "when the sun goes down". CO Walzak explained that all personal watercraft have to be off the water at sunset and that the time changes daily. CO Walzak asked the subject if he knew what sunset time was. The subject did not know and had no timepiece to check. Enforcement action was taken.

While on a fishing patrol in Lake Erie, CO James Zellinger encountered a vessel with five occupants with only four wearable personal floatation devices. Enforcement action was taken for the missing floatation device.

CO David Schaumburger was approaching a pair of anglers when he spotted one angler with a bag in his hand walking towards the water. While CO Schaumburger was trying to get closer, he told the man three times not to dump the contents of the bag in the water. As CO Schaumburger made contact, the angler opened the bag and dumped it on the boardwalk. CO Schaumburger quickly picked up 4 undersize bass, while the angler stated, "I did not know the size limit." CO Schaumburger checked the anglers bait bucket and located two live gobies. As he looked in the bucket and asked whose gobies they were, the other angler tried to grab the bucket and spill the contents into the water; however, CO Schaumburger had control of the bucket and the angler was unsuccessful in his efforts. After getting identification from both anglers, CO Schaumburger recognized the man who tried to get rid of the gobies from a previous encounter where CO Schaumburger issued a citation for the same violation of possessing a live invasive species. After issuing citations to both the anglers, the angler who was in possession of the gobies grabbed all of his fishing poles and put them in the trash, stating, "I am never fishing again."

CO David Schaumburger made contact with a pair of vessels out fishing in Lake St. Clair. The four anglers on board the vessels stated they were out working on their limits of catfish. While checking the coolers on the first boat, CO Schaumburger spotted an undersized smallmouth bass underneath a large channel catfish. The angler stated that he did not have a measuring tape. While checking the coolers on the second boat, CO Schaumburger asked the angler to remove all of his fish and count them. The angler counted out 22 channel catfish, stating that he must have miscounted. Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Schaumburger was driving on the highway when he spotted a vehicle traveling in the right lane drive past him at a high rate of speed. CO Schaumburger

observed the operator make 3 erratic lane changes without using his turn signal, nearly causing multiple accidents. With both lights and sirens activated, and with the vehicle almost out of sight, CO Schaumburger observed the operator exiting the highway and was able to catch up. Upon making the stop, CO Schaumburger asked where the operator was going. The operator stated he was going home. CO Schaumburger looked at his license and asked why he was getting off on this exit when the city he lives in was nearly five more miles down the highway. The operator did not have a response and was issued a citation for careless driving.

CO Brad Silorey was on patrol checking anglers at a popular park in Macomb County, when he noticed an angler reeling in a fish. CO Silorey made contact with the angler to see what he had caught. The angler had caught a Bowfin (Dogfish). After congratulating the excited angler on his catch, CO Silorey requested to see the angler's fishing license. The angler was unable to find his license after checking all his pockets. The angler told CO Silorey that he did in fact have a fishing license. After a brief check, it was found that the last purchase of a license was the previous year. On top of having no fishing license the angler was also fishing with too many lines. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Silorey was on ORV patrol in Macomb County, when he came across two jeeps in an area frequented by ORV trespassers. One jeep was stuck and the other was attempting to pull the other out. CO Silorey made contact with the owners and explained to them that they were currently trespassing on private property. Additionally, neither vehicle was registered as an ORV. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach and PCO Zachary Bauer were working a joint Law Enforcement Task Force group patrol for the off shore power boat race on the Saint Clair River. Many contacts were made and several violations were observed and enforcement action was taken for multiple marine violations.

CO Ken Kovach and PCO Zachary Bauer were on foot patrol in St. Clair County checking anglers along a riverbank when they contacted several anglers. One angler they encountered did not have a valid fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach and PCO Zachary Bauer were patrolling for ORV activity when they came across an ORV being operated on the roadway. Upon contact the COs noticed the ORV was not licensed. Enforcement action was taken.

While in route to the Holloway Reservoir for a Marine patrol in Lapeer County, CO Al Schwiderson received a complaint from Lapeer Central of shots fired on Haines Rd. CO Schwiderson responded and found that it was target shooting and it was safe and legal.

Due to the new order coming into effect for the Lapeer State Game Area for target shooting, CO Al Schwiderson has been ramping up patrols to help explain to the shooters the new laws which will be posted by Wildlife Division soon. CO Schwiderson

contacted 16 shooters in the pit at 7:25PM, which was well after the 7PM closure. CO Schwiderson explained the new rules and provided a warning.

While checking anglers in Lapeer County, CO Matthew Zultak contacted a subject fishing without a license. It was confirmed with dispatch the angler did not have a current fishing license through the retail sales license system. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matthew Zultak contacted a subject pulling a boat trailer with an ORV on a county road in Lapeer County. The boat trailer did not have a plate, the ORV did not have a valid sticker, and the subject was not wearing a helmet. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matthew Zultak stopped a subject crossing a highway on a three wheeler in Lapeer County. The operator of the ORV had a suspended license, the ORV did not have a valid sticker, and the operator was not wearing a helmet. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matthew Zultak made contact with four occupants of a motor vehicle in Lapeer County. The vehicle smelt of burnt marijuana. CO Zultak conducted an investigation. The vehicle contained two minors, the minors' mother, and a cousin. CO Zultak was able to locate paraphernalia and two baggies of marijuana. The minors and the cousin admitted to using and possessing the marijuana while in the vehicle with the mother. A report will be submitted to the Lapeer Prosecutor's Office for review.

DISTRICT 21

Detective Ken Cerny reports a suspect pled responsible to littering under Part 89 and was sentenced to a \$750 fine. In June of 2016 the Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance received a complaint that the business was pumping septage waste onto the wooded property next to the septic business (without the property owner's knowledge). The complaint was referred to DNR EIS as a criminal complaint. Through investigation, Detective Cerny was able to determine that for months the suspect was clearing clogged valves on his septage tanker and then pumping leftover septage waste onto the neighbor's property. An estimated 1500 gallons had been disposed of onto the ground in the woods. An arrest warrant was obtained from the 3B District Court charging the suspect with a misdemeanor violation of Part 117 (Septic Waste Servicers).