

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
9/12/2016 – 9/24/2016**

DISTRICT 1

Conservation Officers (COs) Matt Eberly and Brian Lasanen assisted park rangers at Porcupine Mountain State Park with moving building material from Union Bay to the mouth of the Carp River. A total of five trips were made moving approximately two tons of lumber and cement to fix bridges that were washed out from the two summer storms.

COs David Miller, Matt Eberly, Doug Hermanson and Denny Gast and Sgt. Grant Emery assisted the Michigan State Police, U.S. Coast Guard and local law enforcement agencies in the search for two missing adults and one child that failed to return from their fishing trip on Lake Superior off of the Portage Canal.

CO Brian Lasanen was on his way to meet with Sgt. Emery in Mass City. As CO Lasanen entered into Mass City, CO Lasanen observed a group of five ORVs ride down the highway in front of him. CO Lasanen made contact with the group and advised them that ORVs cannot operate on the highway. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lasanen contacted an angler while checking a local trout stream. After a brief interaction, CO Lasanen asked the fisherman for his fishing license. The angler patted down all of his pockets and stated, "You're going to have to write me a ticket because I don't have a fishing license." CO Lasanen and the angler walked back to the patrol truck and while on the way back CO Lasanen could smell the odor of marijuana. Once back at the patrol truck CO Lasanen asked the angler if he had anything on him that he shouldn't, and the angler replied, "Just a little bit of weed and a pipe." Law enforcement action was taken.

COs Ethen Mapes and Brian Lasanen were working bear hunters when they encountered a group parked along the highway. Upon contact, the driver of one vehicle was in possession of a loaded and uncased shotgun in his truck. Law enforcement action was taken.

COs David Miller and Doug Hermanson assisted the Rice Lake Sportsman's Club with their hunter safety field day over the weekend.

CO Brian Lasanen was working an ORV patrol on the Rails to Trails near Bergland. CO Lasanen observed an ORV coming down the trail toward him so he pulled over to let the ORV pass. The operator of the ORV stopped and started a conversation with CO Lasanen. During the conversation CO Lasanen could smell an odor of intoxicants emitting from the driver, along with slurred speech. CO Lasanen asked the driver if he had consumed any alcoholic drinks this afternoon and the driver stated he had two beers. CO Lasanen had the ORV operator perform standardized

field sobriety tests. The driver was arrested for operating an ORV while intoxicated and lodged at the Ontonagon County jail.

CO Denny Gast helped teach trappers education over the weekend at the Ontonagon Valley Sportsman Club – 20 new and experienced trappers were in attendance for the one day class.

CO Denny Gast finally connected with a group of bear hunters who had placed a barrel (chained to a tree) with bait in it on state land. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Ethan Mapes assisted the Michigan State Police in a domestic assault in Ontonagon County. It was reported that a female subject was intoxicated and attacked her boyfriend with a crowbar. Upon arrival, the parties had separated. The female was taken into custody by the Michigan State Police.

COs Ethen Mapes and Brian Lasanen worked on a trespass complaint near Bruce Crossing. Two duck hunters were located with no waterfowl violations. The issue of trespass was found to be a civil matter based on land easement agreements.

CO Ethen Mapes spoke at a United States Forest Service meeting and updated the employees on new hunting rules and regulations as well as ORV laws.

CO Ethen Mapes was patrolling in the Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park when he contacted a bear hunter standing next to a truck. When CO Mapes approached the hunter, the man stated that he passed “it” up twice and should have passed “it” up again. Upon closer inspection, the man was referring to a small bear in the bed of his truck. The hunter was not certain if the bear was an adult or not. CO Mapes showed the hunter how to look for a milk tooth and the small bear was determined to be an adult.

CO Jared Ferguson was working in Dickinson County when he came upon an ORV operator riding double and not wearing a helmet on a county road. CO Ferguson made contact with the operator and his passenger and enforcement action was taken.

COs Jared Ferguson and Brian Bacon were working the opening day of small game season when they were called to assist a MSP Trooper on a possible deceased subject inside a make shift camp. The COs navigated over poor road conditions into the camping site. The COs and MSP trooper found clothes and other items but no person inside the shelter.

COs Jared Ferguson and Brian Bacon observed a slow moving vehicle ahead of them while out on patrol. CO Bacon was able to stay out of the operator’s sight and dropped CO Ferguson off with a grouse decoy. The COs waited for the vehicle to return on the dead end road. When the vehicle stopped at the grouse decoy, contact was made with the vehicle. Inside the vehicle, the officers located a loaded uncased 12 gauge shotgun.

CO Jared Ferguson and CO Brian Bacon contacted hunters on the opening day of the U.P. waterfowl season. The COs encountered many legal hunters but also addressed others for unsigned stamp violation and no life jackets were found on several boats. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jared Ferguson was working the northern portion of Dickinson County when he came upon a vehicle that was attempting to cross the Fence River into Iron County. The vehicle was submerged in the deep water due to recent heavy rains. CO Ferguson helped the operator and his passenger out of the river and found the vehicle was being operated without insurance and unregistered. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Marc Pomroy responded to a complaint of hunters making their own road around a closed gate to gain access to a large section of state land. Contact was made with the responsible vehicle operators and enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon and CO Jared Ferguson checked a group of anglers along a trout stream in Dickinson County. A check of the three angler's catch found all three to have their limit of brook trout. A check of their cooler in the truck found three more trout from the evening before. After a discussion on possession limits and intent, the anglers were sent on their way.

CO Mark Leadman and PCO Jeffrey Dell conducted multiple wildlife patrols resulting in numerous contacts and multiple illegal blinds being located on public land.

CO Mark Leadman and PCO Jeffrey Dell conducted a waterfowl patrol in the area of North Lake. Two hunters were located hunting a pond near a railroad Grade. One hunter was found to have an unplugged shotgun. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Leadman and PCO Jeffrey Dell conducted a waterfowl patrol in the area of Provost Lake after receiving a complaint of a hunter with an unplugged shotgun the day prior. Several groups of waterfowl hunters were located. Several hunters had unsigned federal "duck stamps", one hunter was found to have an unplugged shotgun and no state waterfowl license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Leadman and PCO Jeffrey Dell gave a presentation to the Northern Michigan University Ducks Unlimited Chapter on waterfowl hunting regulations.

DISTRICT 2

CO Pat Hartsig was checking bear hunters in the Hiawatha National Forest when he noticed fresh ORV tracks going around a rock berm used to close a forest road. A foot patrol led to an unlicensed ORV parked at the edge of a swamp with an illegal ORV heading into a wetland. CO Hartsig waited until the operator came out of the woods. Fifteen minutes after shooting hours, an ORV approached. The operator had no helmet and was operating in a closed area. When asked where his weapon was for hunting,

the subject stated he was not hunting, just sitting in the woods. CO Hartsig and CO Rob Freeborn questioned the man as to why he was wearing camo and had a tree stand safety harness on, to which he then replied he was just sitting in a tree. CO Hartsig noticed dried blood on the ORV's winch, and determined it was from a bear he had harvested the day before. The COs then walked into the woods following the subject's tracks, which led to bear bait with a tree stand placed over it, along with a bow hanging from the tree stand. The COs seized the tree stand, bow, and trail cam. A warrant is being sought for hunting without a license, numerous ORV violations, and cutting trees in the National Forest.

CO Pat Hartsig heard an ORV vs. Car accident go out over Central Dispatch. The CO responded to the scene and found a man in the ditch near the road. The ORV operator had lost control of his machine, and drove into the road, where an oncoming car hit him. CO Hartsig along with Michigan State Police investigated the scene, while the man was taken to the hospital for injuries sustained during the accident.

COs Pat Hartsig and Chris Lynch worked the Upper Peninsula waterfowl opener. Many groups were contacted at different locations throughout the county. There were a good number of ducks being taken that day with many happy hunters. Violations such as, hunting waterfowl without a license and unplugged shotguns were enforced. One particular group of new hunters had two ducks come into their decoys while being checked by the COs. When asked why they hadn't shot the birds, they responded they didn't know what they were and did not want to shoot at the unknown. CO Pat Hartsig thanked them for not shooting what they cannot ID, and then assisted them in identifying the ducks. Which promptly took off, were shot and added to the hunter's bag.

COs Robert Freeborn and Mark Zitnik set up the grouse decoy in an area with heavy hunting traffic with a lot of road hunting complaints. After several cars drove by the decoy and did not stop, a pickup slowly drove past the grouse and stopped just past it. While the COs watched the vehicle, the female passenger opened the door with an uncased 20 gauge in her hand and was not wearing hunter orange. The COs watched for a few more seconds as she crept to the back of the truck still holding the gun. The COs then made contact with the hunter who immediately stated she was just holding the gun and wasn't even going to shoot. The COs advised that they had watched the entire incident and observed the gun come out of the truck uncased and she did not load the gun while she was out of the vehicle. The COs checked the gun and found a shell in the chamber. She advised that she had a hunting license when the COs checked in the computer system they found that she had not purchased one for the year. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Robert Freeborn and Mark Zitnik set up the grouse decoy on a heavily traveled complaint area. After a few minutes, a truck slowly drove by and stopped near the grouse. The COs watched as a barrel of a shot gun was stuck out the window. The COs immediately made contact and found that it was a father and young son in the truck and the father had instructed his son to take the grouse out of the vehicle. The COs asked the son if he remembered what he was taught in hunter safety about guns in vehicles. The son stated that "you shouldn't be doing this". The COs educated the father on teaching his son proper hunting techniques and safety. The father was a Sault tribe member and was issued a citation by a Sault tribe officer for possessing a loaded firearm in a vehicle and his gun was seized as evidence by the tribe.

COs Robert Freeborn, Mark Zitnik and Mike Evink assisted the USFS in trying to locate a possible missing person in the National Forest. An abandoned vehicle was found with suspicious circumstances surrounding it. After searching the area, no sign of the person was found. USFS is continuing the investigation.

CO Chris Lynch was on patrol when he observed a truck parked next to a river. A glance at the truck revealed an uncased shotgun in the vehicle. Nearby CO Lynch located the owner of the truck fishing. A check of the subject's licenses revealed the subject was a non-resident who purchased a resident fishing license. When confronted with the license issue the subject stated he was trying to save a few bucks. Enforcement action was taken.

A deer poaching case CO Chris Lynch had worked earlier this summer was adjudicated. The subject shot an antlerless deer with a .22 caliber rifle during the closed season in the safety zone for eating his flowers. The subject pled guilty and was ordered to pay \$3,425 in fines and restitution.

CO Chris Lynch was on patrol when he observed a possible road hunter in front of him. With CO Lynch knowing the road dead ends, CO Lynch backed off and set up the grouse decoy. The vehicle came back and stopped. The subject was contacted and an uncased gun was observed in his vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Lynch set up a grouse decoy in a popular road hunting area. Less than five minutes later CO Lynch observed a subject get out of his vehicle with an uncased shotgun with no hunters orange. CO Lynch contacted the subject and enforcement action was taken.

On the opening day of small game season CO Chris Lynch was on patrol when he observed two occupants on an ORV without helmets when required. CO Lynch lost

sight of the ORV but followed the tracks to a residence. CO Lynch contacted a subject at the residence and interviewed him about the ORV tracks leading to his residence. The subject knew nothing about an ORV coming to his residence and no ORV was located. CO Lynch asked the subject if he had been hunting. The subject advised that he did and he got one bird earlier in the day. The subject stated he got a woodcock and showed it to the CO. CO Lynch advised the subject that woodcock season wasn't open yet and enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Lynch was on patrol when he observed an ORV operating down the state highway, then down railroad tracks, while carrying two occupants on the ORV when not designed for it. CO Lynch observed no licenses on the ORV as he got behind the subjects. CO Lynch activated his emergency lights and sirens and after two miles the ORV finally pulled over. CO Lynch made contact with the subjects and enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Lynch was on patrol when he observed an ORV operating at a high rate of speed down a county road. CO Lynch proceeded to follow the ORV and observed the ORV disregard a stop sign and a traffic stop was initiated. Contact with the occupants was made and both of them had the odor of intoxicants coming from their person. One occupant was a minor with a BAC of .116 and the other occupant, the driver, was also found to be impaired and the one furnishing the alcohol to the minor occupant. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Lynch was checking a local access site where there were reports of anglers taking over limits of walleye. A check of one boat coming to the launch revealed an over limit of walleye. A confession was obtained from the angler and enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Zitnik and Sgt. Jerrold Fitzgibbon instructed hunter safety in Munising and Superior Central, in all they taught over 40 students. The students were very attentive and eager to learn.

Sgt. Jerrold Fitzgibbon worked the waterfowl opener on Forest Lake Basin. Contact was made with a group of three hunters sharing a coffee can full of #6 lead shot. The subjects had been shooting at high flying birds all morning with no success. One subject hadn't purchased a Federal Duck stamp. They also had no PFDs in their boat. Tickets were issued to all three subjects.

Sgt. Jerrold Fitzgibbon observed a pair of hunters during the morning waterfowl hunt. In one volley the subjects were able to get off 7 shots between them. When contact was

made later in the morning one subject was found to have a shotgun that held 5 shells. Enforcement action was taken for using an unplugged shotgun.

COs Robert Freeborn and Michael Evink assisted with a hunter safety class in Schoolcraft county.

CO Bobby Watson and Sgt. Mike Hammill were patrolling the waterfowl opener on a local flooding when contact was made with a group of hunters. During the check CO Watson discovered that one of the hunter's possessed a shotgun that was capable of holding more than three shells total. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Bobby Watson and Calvin Smith encountered a very large group of bear hunters using hounds from the Remus area. The first vehicle contacted was in possession of a loaded shotgun in a motor vehicle. Enforcement action was taken. The following day the same group of bear hunters was encountered by CO Smith and CO Jon Busken, once again, a vehicle contacted from the same group of houndsmen and was in possession of a loaded shotgun in a motor vehicle. Enforcement action was taken a second time. Later on that night, Sgt. Michael Hammill and CO Watson were called out on a complaint of bear hunters going through a locked gate and operating vehicles within a natural area of the Tahquamenon State Park. CO Watson and Sgt. Hammill responded to find members of the same bear hunting group attempting to leave the scene. Enforcement action was taken for a third time. The following day all the local COs responded to a tip that this same group had allegedly illegally harvested a bear and was in the process of retrieving it. Contact was made, a search warrant was drafted and the investigation is ongoing. This group has been the source of many complaints over past years.

CO Jon Busken received a complaint of a 79 year old female who had just registered her first ever black bear. Interviews were conducted by Sgt. Hammill, CO Busken and CO Robert Watson of those involved. The officers found that the woman's grandson had shot the bear and used her tag to seal the bear. Confessions were obtained and a report is being submitted with warrant requests.

COs Jon Busken, Brett Gustafson and Robert Freeborn assisted the Charlevoix County Sheriff's Office and Michigan State Police with securing a vessel that had washed upon the Lake Michigan shoreline in Mackinac County. The vessel was processed for evidence in reference to a drowned person.

COs Brett Gustafson and Jon Busken conducted a snagging enforcement patrol on the Carp River near St. Ignace, the COs found two people fishing in the river. Shortly after

beginning observing the pair, one of the fishermen retained a pink salmon caught in the tail. Contact was made and all five fish the pair had caught were found to be foul hooked. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Calvin Smith was fishing on one of his pass days when he was flagged down by an anchored vessel. CO Smith motored over to the vessel to find that the other fishermen's batteries were dead. CO Smith used a pair of jumper cables to start the boat. The group of fishermen who were retired Indiana State Troopers were very thankful for the help.

CO Kevin Postma responded to the scene of a road kill moose south of Paradise. The moose was recovered and turned over to a local meat processor to be processed and eventually given to a local food bank. Donations from local churches will help offset processing fees.

CO Kevin Postma and PCO Jeremy Sergey responded to a second moose complaint, this one involving a moose that was seen inside of the County Fairgrounds. By the time COs arrived that moose had found its way out and was seen running into the woods in seemingly healthy condition.

CO Kevin Postma and PCO Jeremy Sergey were working duck hunters for the north zone opener and had positioned themselves in Munuscong Bay to observe and listen for early shooting. Approximately 14 minutes before shooting hours began, a group, approximately only 80 yards from the COs location decided to shoot early. The COs made contact with the eager hunters and questioned them about their false start. They advised that they thought they were in zone one. CO Postma explained to them that even if they were in zone one, which they weren't, they still would have been 8 minutes early. CO Postma then showed the individuals where they were on the map and enforcement action was taken.

PCO Jeremy Sergey and CO Kevin Postma contacted a group of duck hunters on Munuscong Bay. While checking guns for plugs, PCO Sergey discovered one of the guns was not plugged. The hunter advised that he's never been duck hunting before and usually just uses the gun for turkey hunting. PCO Sergey advised that hunter he should be happy he left his turkey loads at home but next time he needs to put a plug in, a citation was issued.

PCO Jeremy Sergey and CO Kevin Postma worked the north zone duck opener on Munuscong Bay. All groups checked had ducks with some nearly limiting out. Several violations were addressed ranging from marine PFD violations to licensing violations.

Lt. Skip Hagy participated in a table top disaster exercise sponsored by the USCG, this exercise helps establish procedures, protocols, and asset deployment in the event of major incidents.

DISTRICT 3

CO Chad Baldwin was on an ORV patrol when a 911 call came out about an elderly woman who had fallen off her horse and sustained a head injury on the North Country Trail. CO Baldwin was in close proximity to the call but the caller didn't exactly know where they were located and mistakenly gave the wrong location where CO Baldwin was waiting for them at the trailhead. Local Fire Rescue arrived on scene as well and Central Dispatch "pinged" the caller's phone to get a better location. CO Baldwin and Fire Rescue quickly moved to the new location and arrived to find the woman conscious and walking around. CO Andrea Erratt arrived on scene and directed an ambulance into the area where the victim was picked up and treated at a nearby hospital.

CO Chad Baldwin participated in a marijuana grow flight for Charlevoix County. Other agencies involved included the State Police, County Sherriff and K-9 Unit, as well as several other local police departments. The flight eradicated several illegal marijuana grow operations and many illegal plants were seized and destroyed. The flight also ensured that marijuana caregivers with grow operations were conducting them properly and within the law.

CO Andrea Albert, Antrim County, received a citizen complaint of four wheelers operating illegally in the Jordan River Valley. CO Albert was able to finally catch up to the operators operating illegally on the US 131 highway right of way. The lead operator was upset that he was not getting a warning for the violations. CO Albert pointed out the numerous "no ORV" signs he drove past in the Jordan River Valley and along the highway right of way. A ticket was issued for the violation and a warning was issued to the second operator.

CO Andrea Albert stopped two four-wheel ORVs operating illegally on the US 131 highway right of way. The operators had driven past a no-wheeled motorized vehicle sign during their travels. A ticket was issued to the leader for the violation.

CO Steve Speigl responded to a 911 call of a fisherman trespassing in Antrim County. Once on scene, CO Speigl identified the trespasser and found that the trespasser had been mistaken about navigable versus non-navigable streams and legal access to each type of waterway. The property owner provided pictures and video of the encounter. The property owner also provided videos and pictures from the same trespasser from April of this year and told CO Speigl that he had already warned the same fisherman then. The case has been referred to the Antrim County Prosecutor's Office for review.

CO Andrea Albert received a complaint of someone possibly burning tires and other debris in their yard in Mancelona. Contact with two subjects found them burning an old mattress to clean up the yard. A file check on one of the subjects revealed he had a

warrant out for his arrest for failing to appear on an assault charge. CO Albert lodged the wanted subject at the Antrim County jail and cited the second subject for burning the mattress.

In the late afternoon of the youth hunt, CO Andrea Albert was contacted by a local hunter who had found several marijuana plants while looking for an injured deer that his daughter shot. CO Albert contacted the complainant and located the plants and had to continue on to another complaint that evening. The next day CO Albert came back out to the plant location and found several more marijuana plants in another location that appeared to be from the same suspect. CO Albert left the area briefly and upon returning found a pickup truck parked near the trail that leads to the marijuana plants. CO Albert found two subjects actively tending the marijuana plants. One of the subjects took responsibility for all of the plants at both locations. A warrant will be requested from the prosecutor's office for manufacture marijuana.

CO Andrea Erratt attended hunter safety classes in Harbor Springs and Charlevoix. All together 76 students were in attendance.

While patrolling the North Country Trail in Emmet County, CO Andrea Erratt came across an ORV that had been traveling cross country destroying trees and operating on the North Country Trail. The subject had also been baiting a deer site, which when checked had too much bait. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Duane Budreau and PCO Carter Woodwyk encountered a subject at Wycamp Lake in Emmet County parked in a suspicious area. A check of the vehicle revealed a strong smell of marijuana. A consent search of the car revealed marijuana. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling the Pellston area, CO Duane Budreau and PCO Carter Woodwyk stopped an ORV operating through town with the operator not wearing a helmet. A check of the subject revealed that he did not have a driver's license either. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark DePew contacted several bear hunters hunting with the aid of dogs near the Otsego-Cheboygan County line. The CO checked the hunters/participants noting they were all in compliance with the law.

CO Mark DePew was contacted by a land owner in Otsego County who reported bear hunters trespassing with the aid of dogs. The CO arrived at the locations a short time later, however; the trespassers had left. Several names were identified as to who was possibly trespassing. The investigation continues.

CO Mark DePew was contacted by a citizen who was setting up his bow stand on state land and located an illegal ORV trail. The CO followed the trail on foot that ultimately

led to private property. The CO attempted to contact a landowner, however; was unsuccessful. The investigation continues.

COs Tim Rosochacki and Eric Bottorff attended a hunter safety program held in Indian River. The COs met with over 20 kids talking about hunting ethics and gun safety.

CO Eric Bottorff contacted an ORV that was operating illegally in Cheboygan County. Upon contact with the operator, he stated he was aware he was in a closed area but thought he would not get caught. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tim Rosochacki attended a Jake's Event in Wolverine sponsored by the National Wild Turkey Federation. During the event, the CO discussed with youths under the age of 16 proper gun handling techniques, hunting ethics, and turkey hunting.

CO Tim Rosochacki received a complaint during the youth season that several youth hunters (appearing to be under the age of 14) were observed hunting with a firearm on state land in violation of the law. The CO contacted the group that was hunting locating a dead deer. It was determined a 12-year-old had shot the deer on state land in violation of the law. In addition, there were three other youths and parents hunting also with firearms under the age of 14. The parent of the youth hunter who shot the deer was cited for allowing a youth to hunt on state land with a firearm under the age of 14. Only one citation was issued during the encounter and the other youth hunters, and their parents were educated on the rules and regulations of hunting on state lands.

COs Nick Torsky and Kelly Ross attended the North American Fur Harvest Convention held in the Upper Peninsula which was attended by more than 100 people. The COs conducted seminars on legal trapping methods while answering questions posed by the public.

COs Paul Fox and Jon Sklba located an early bear bait on state land in Presque Isle County. CO Fox later contacted two subjects hunting bear over the bait. One of the hunters was a Tribal member and the second hunter, who was non-tribal, was hunting as well. Both subjects were found hunting over an hour past legal hunting hours with loaded rifles. In addition, the assisting hunter did not possess a valid hunting license or bear tag. The Tribal hunter did not have any licenses or kill tags in possession. Neither subject was wearing hunter orange. A citation was issued to the non-tribal hunter and the Tribal violations will be turned over to Tribal Law Enforcement.

CO Paul Fox was patrolling state land in southern Presque Isle County during small game opener when he observed a vehicle stopped in the roadway. Upon contact with the driver, he noticed open beers in the center console. When CO Fox asked the driver why he had open beers in the car, the driver said he didn't think it was a big deal

because he was in the middle of nowhere and there is no traffic. A citation was issued for open intoxicants in a motor vehicle.

CO Paul Fox and CO Bill Webster were patrolling state land in Montmorency County when they contacted a pair of hunters operating an ORV in a closed area. A check of their hunting location revealed illegal baiting and illegal tree stands that the subject failed to remove. A citation was issued.

CO Adam LeClerc was patrolling in the city of Alpena when a call came from the local dispatch center of a man who just kicked in a door and made entry into a home. CO LeClerc responded along with Alpena City Police Department. As they were approaching the location the man exited the house and entered a vehicle leaving the scene. The City Police initiated a traffic stop; when the vehicle stopped the man bailed out of the vehicle and started to run. CO LeClerc was just pulling up as this was happening and was able to make a short foot pursuit and apprehend the suspect. The man continued to struggle but eventually complied with CO LeClerc's commands. CO LeClerc turned the suspect over to City Police for processing.

CO Bill Webster was contacted by CO Kelly Ross in Montmorency County about a baited blind on state land. CO Ross had attempted contact in the morning but no one showed up to hunt. CO Webster was working the evening so CO Ross passed the information on. CO Webster checked the location in the evening and was able to locate a grandfather hunting with his granddaughter over the baited area. CO Webster asked the hunter if he knew he was not allowed to hunt over bait and he said yes but wanted to give the girl an opportunity to see a deer. A short conversation between CO Webster and the grandfather ended with the grandfather saying "This is a great learning experience. My granddaughter knew it wasn't right and I put her in a terrible position." The man was issued a citation for placing bait and given a warning for no name on his blind.

CO Bill Webster was working the elk season in northern Montmorency County when he was contacted by DNR Wildlife Division about a side by side going around a gate on state land operating in an area they are not permitted. CO Webster responded to the area, but by this time it was dark. As CO Webster approached the gated location he could see fresh ORV tracks in the mud off the road going around the gate. CO Webster got out and walked around the gate and toward a wildlife opening where the ORVs had gone. As CO Webster was standing in the clearing, he could hear motors running toward him so he waited. Within a few minutes three ORVs drove right up to him. CO Webster stopped the ORVs and advised the riders of the closed area they were in. None of the ORV riders were wearing helmets and two of the three ORVs didn't have taillights that worked. The ORV riders were issued tickets for operating in a closed area and given warnings for the other violations.

CO Bill Webster received a complaint in Montmorency County, Rust Township about a neighbor trespassing on his private land baiting for bears. CO Webster arrived at the location and located the bear bait. CO Webster followed a well-defined foot path to a

neighboring residence. As he was walking to the back of the residence, he noticed deer feed placed on the ground behind the home. CO Webster knocked on the door and when he made contact with the owners a strong odor of marijuana was coming from within the home. CO Webster asked the man if he was growing marijuana and he hesitated but said yes. A consent search of the home came with the seizure of six live marijuana plants. A citation was issued for feeding deer and a warrant request is being submitted to the Prosecutor's Office for the possession of marijuana.

CO Bill Webster was working an area closed to ORV use in Alpena County. CO Webster made two stops for ORVs in the area which resulted in one citation being issued for ORV closed area. CO Webster gave one warning for operating in a closed area and one warning for riding double on an ORV not designed for two people.

CO Bill Webster did a presentation for the fall harvest day at the St. Paul Lutheran Church in Hubbard Lake. The event was well attended and CO Webster spoke to a lot of hunters waiting with anticipation for this year's deer season.

DISTRICT 4

Checking the Crystal River for fishing activity, CO Patrick McManus noticed three individuals walking along an adjacent roadway, appearing highly intoxicated. The subjects stopped at a nearby bridge crossing and one of the individuals produced a fishing rod with a treble hook attached to the line and no bait; subsequently attempted to snag salmon. CO McManus was assisted by a National Park Service Law Enforcement Ranger and was able to make contact with the individuals. The subject who attempted to snag the fish produced a fishing license that didn't belong to anyone in the group, the second subject had misdemeanor warrants for previous drug crimes, and the third angler also had misdemeanor warrants for larceny and drug charges. Upon searching the subjects, methamphetamine was located and all three individuals were taken into custody and lodged at the local county jail. Charges were also filed for the fishing violations observed.

Patrolling the Betsie River after dark at the Homestead Dam, CO Hopkins heard excited yelling coming from the spillway of the dam. Although very close, CO Hopkins was unable to make out the activity at the dam without approaching closely. As she approached the group of individuals, she realized the yelling was cheering and observed a subject pull a large salmon from the spillway with a long handled net. The subject who netted the fish was charged with possessing a fish illegally taken, as the fish was taken by illegal method from waters closed to fishing. Restitution is being sought for the 19 pound salmon.

CO Sean Kehoe investigated a complaint of two camps on state land in Grand Traverse County that were extending their stay well beyond the 15 days allowed by law. As CO Kehoe continually checked the camp for someone, he noticed the cards were constantly changing with a new date. Rather than securing the bottom half of the card, CO Kehoe took pictures of every new card. After several attempts and several days after the initial

report, CO Kehoe finally contacted the camper who reported he had only been there for two weeks. CO Kehoe informed the camper of their untruthfulness and the camper confessed. Enforcement action was taken.

CO William Haskin assisted at the Carl T. Johnson Center of Cadillac with their first Waterfowl Seminar. Thirteen participants were provided training and information specific to waterfowl hunting.

CO Steve Converse and PCO Joseph Myers were working Tippy Dam when they noticed two subjects who were snagging and using extremely large in-line treble hooks with weight below and no bait. The COs made contact with the two men and found them to be in possession of three snagged salmon along with a significant amount of marijuana on their person and in their vehicle. One angler had a warrant out of Detroit for a contempt of court charge. Enforcement action was taken and a \$250 bond was posted.

CO Steve Converse and CO Joel Lundberg were working at Tippy Dam when they watched as two anglers fished with treble hooks and weight below their hooks. When the COs made contact with the father-son duo and discussed the violations with them, the father became very irate and belligerent. Citations were issued for using illegal fishing gear and both were asked to leave the state park. When CO Lundberg escorted the men to their vehicle, CO Converse stood back and watched to ensure that they exited as requested. While watching them, CO Converse saw the son throwing garbage and a beer can into the woods, as the father decidedly got into his motor vehicle with an open beer container. Enforcement was taken a second time for the additional violations.

CO Steve Converse and PCO Joseph Myers addressed numerous violations on the Big Manistee River that included use of treble hooks, use of lead minnows and baits exceeding one ounce.

CO Steve Converse and PCO Joseph Myers were working along a stretch of the Betsie River when they watched an angler who was obviously snagging. After a while, they contacted the angler regarding the snagging and use of a treble hook. The angler initially denied knowing the new fishing regulations, but when CO Converse addressed him by name and informed him that they had this same conversation last year, in this same spot, he decided it was time to stop lying. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Converse and PCO Joseph Myers were near Rainbow Bend on foot patrol when they contacted some individuals standing along the river smoking marijuana and using illegal fishing gear. When the COs contacted the subjects, one tried to convince them that he had a medical marijuana card and that it was legal to smoke it in public. The COs advised them that it was not, and advised him that not only was he in possession of marijuana illegally on federal land, but that the two ounce lead minnow he was using for bait was also illegal. He said that his buddies had "just informed him that the lure was illegal," but he didn't have time to take it off yet. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski received a complaint of anglers who were fishing closed waters near the mouth of the Little Manistee River. CO Publiski responded to that location and found three anglers fishing well into the closed portion and in possession of two steelheads. The anglers claimed that the only reason they fished this spot was because others were fishing there when they had arrived. CO Publiski advised the anglers that the closure was clearly noted in the fishing digest and enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski was checking the closed portions below the Little Manistee Weir and found five adults and four youths fishing within the spawning closure. The anglers claimed that they decided to fish there when they arrived and had seen others fishing. CO Publiski asked one of the adult anglers if he had looked at the fishing digest prior to fishing there, and the angler stated that he certainly had taken time to read through the rules and was sure it was open. When CO Publiski asked to look at the angler's fishing digest, the angler could not locate it. Numerous citations were issued for fishing closed waters.

CO Kyle Publiski noticed fresh ORV tracks coming from federal land in an area closed to ORV operation in Mason County and decidedly followed the tracks. CO Publiski eventually caught up to four ORVs operating in the roadway. As he was following them, he watched as one of the operators crossed over to the opposing traffic lane to run through a large mud hole. When the ORV hit the standing water, the operator almost lost control of his machine. CO Publiski stopped the operators and addressed the illegal and careless operation. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Will Kinney and CO Troy Mueller were working Tippy Dam when they noticed two anglers who were dipping fish with a large landing net above the coffer. The COs made contact with the anglers and ultimately issued a citation for attempting to take salmon with a net. CO Steve Converse and PCO Joseph Meyers ran into the same duo a bit further downstream, three hours later, and found them using large 2" grapple style hooks with no bait and weight below, snagging salmon. When they were approached by the COs, the men initially acted as if they could not speak English, but one accidentally exclaimed "another ticket." Enforcement action was taken a second time.

CO Brian Brosky, CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Kyle Cherry were working a stretch of the Pere Marquette in Mason County when they encountered two different groups of anglers who were using un-baited hooks with weight attached below. The COs also discovered that one angler didn't have a 2016 fishing license and enforcement action was taken. As they continued downstream, the COs saw two additional anglers who had fishing rods with treble hooks wound up tightly to the end eye. The anglers would wait for fish to splash and would then use the rod tip to snag at the salmon. The anglers were also smoking marijuana. When the COs contacted them, they immediately stated that they watch the "game warden" shows on television and "wanted to cooperate because they respect them." Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky, CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Kyle Cherry were at the Little Manistee Weir after midnight when they observed three subjects appear out of the darkness near

the fishing platform. The three men immediately produced a pole and began snagging salmon that were below the weir and hooked five fish within five minutes. Shortly thereafter, the subjects realized they were being watched and were preparing to run when the COs ordered them to stop and obtained identification. It was discovered that the anglers had parked over a 1/4 mile away and snuck in without flashlights to avoid being detected. A check through LEIN revealed that one subject had a warrant for his arrest. Several tickets were issued for the fishing violations and the subject with the warrant was lodged at the Manistee County Jail.

CO Brian Brosky and PCO Kyle Cherry were working areas of the PM River for illegal fishing activity. The COs got behind two anglers on the river and watched a female as she tied on weight below her hook and began snagging. When the COs approached her, she dropped the rod, leaving her terminal tackle in the water. CO Brosky graciously brought her line in for her with the illegal gear still attached. When the COs ran the anglers for prior DNR violations, they found that they had written her male counterpart for the same offense in 2008.

CO Brian Brosky, CO Kyle Publiski, PCO Kyle Cherry and PCO Casey Varriale were working in Manistee County when they witnessed an angler snagging fish using an illegal lead minnow. When they made contact with the angler, he was very apologetic and said he knew snagging was illegal. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky, CO Kyle Publiski, PCO Kyle Cherry and PCO Casey Varriale stopped at the Little Manistee Weir and found two anglers fishing in complete daylight on the viewing platform where fishing is prohibited. The anglers were casting directly below the weir where hundreds of salmon were staging. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky, CO Kyle Publiski, PCO Kyle Cherry and PCO Casey Varriale were patrolling at Indian Bridge after dark when they contacted a large group of anglers. CO Brosky, CO Publiski and PCO Varriale approached the group while PCO Cherry was standing behind the anglers and out of view. PCO Cherry noted that one angler immediately set down his pole along the streambank. When the COs asked him for a license, he said that he wasn't fishing. PCO Cherry made his presence known and pointed out the rod to the man who finally admitted that he was "placing the hook in the water and reeling it in, but not really fishing." They also contacted another angler who was stripping line off of his reel and throwing it into the weeds. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Casey Varriale watched an angler on the Pere Marquette River who was actively snagging. When the COs made contact with the angler to discuss the violation, he became belligerent with the COs and insisted that he "never broke the law before." The COs ran the angler for prior DNR offenses and found he had been ticketed four times for various violations. Enforcement action was taken a fifth time.

CO Brian Brosky and PCO Kyle Cherry were watching four anglers who were in the Pere Marquette River in Mason County as they casted over the reeds in an attempt to snag salmon with their fly rods. The COs could hear one man as he exclaimed "I jerked that one right over his back." Another angler who was fishing legally near them exclaimed that "someone could be watching" and advised that they should release any foul hooked fish. The legal angler was certainly right. The COs made contact with the group and took enforcement action for attempting to snag salmon.

CO Brian Brosky, CO Kyle Publiski along PCO Kyle Cherry and PCO Zachary Bauer worked a section along the Pere Marquette River in Mason County when they found a large camp with a generator running and lights illuminating the water. The anglers were using bare hooks, retaining foul hooked fish, using weight below their hooks, using oversized hooks and snagging. When the anglers first began fishing, they were using completely bare hooks until they discovered it was too difficult to see where hooks were in relation to fish and then began using orange yarn to make it easier to snag. Contact was made and enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck received a complaint of fishermen trespassing along the Pere Marquette River near Baldwin where numerous complaints have been recently reported. CO Killingbeck was able to locate the anglers who matched the descriptions given to him by property owners. CO Killingbeck made contact with the fishermen and discovered that one was fishing without a license and the other two claimed to have them, but did not have them in their possession. After checking them through Retail Sales, it was discovered that none of the anglers had a 2016 fishing license and one subject had a warrant for his arrest with no bond. Three citations were issued for fishing without a license and the subject with the warrant was lodged in the Lake County Jail.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was on patrol along the Baldwin River when he observed three anglers trespassing on private property while fishing. While observing the subjects fishing, CO Killingbeck witnessed one angler who was snagging and had retained two foul hooked fish. The others in the group were attempting to snag as well. CO Killingbeck made contact for the snagging violations and found that one also didn't have a 2016 fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was on patrol along the Baldwin River when he observed a subject attempting to snag fish with a fly fishing rod. CO Killingbeck observed the subject jerk his rod 17 times in two minutes. CO Killingbeck made contact with the angler who was also trespassing on posted private property and he eventually admitted to attempting to snag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck received a complaint of an ORV trespassing on private property with an empty gun case in the back. CO Killingbeck found the ORV parked on posted private property and waited for the subject to come out at dark. CO Killingbeck contacted the hunter and discovered he was taking advantage of the disabled hunting weekend, but was in possession of a loaded firearm after legal hunting hours. Also, he did not have his kill tag with him. When CO Killingbeck asked the subject what he had

planned to do if he shot a deer, the hunter told him that he usually doesn't tag his deer until he gets it out of the woods anyways. CO Killingbeck educated the subject on hunting ethics and trespassing laws. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck and CO Brian Brosky conducted a joint patrol on the Pere Marquette River in Mason County targeting illegal fishing activity. Numerous violations were encountered and addressed including, operating watercraft at high speeds in a slow no-wake area, fishing without licenses, and several PFD violations.

CO Angela Greenway was on foot patrol along the Pere Marquette River that is known for illegal salmon snagging. CO Greenway observed one subject attempting to snag salmon and trespass on the private property. Contact was made and violations were addressed.

CO Angela Greenway was conducting stationary surveillance at a known salmon snagging spot on the Pere Marquette River when she observed a vehicle stop and one subject exit the vehicle. The subject ran to the river passing several no trespassing signs. CO Greenway then observed the subject run back to his vehicle and get a fishing pole. The subject then ran back to the river and on his first attempt to snag a salmon he jerked the rod so hard that the line and hook was snagged up in the trees behind him. He then ran back to his vehicle to get gear to re-tie another snagging device. The subject returned to the river and made a second attempt in snagging a salmon and was successful. As he was attempting to get a second salmon, a vehicle went by and the subject ran for cover and dove in the woods. Once the vehicle passed by the river, the suspect grabbed his fish and once again ran for his vehicle. CO Greenway made her presence known and took enforcement action, including issuing multiple citations and seizing the fish for evidence.

CO Jeff Ginn was requested to assist with a perimeter on a shots fired complaint and possible barricaded gunmen. It was reported the male subject at the residence had fired several rounds from a semi-automatic pistol at his friends and family while he was high on methamphetamine. While in route to the residence, CO Jeff Ginn and Newaygo County Deputy Gronzo observed the suspect traveling south on M-37 near White Cloud on his motorcycle. The CO executed a traffic stop on the suspect and conducted a felony arrest. The suspect was found to be in possession of a loaded semi-automatic pistol which was believed to be used in the original felonious assault. The suspect was lodged at the Newaygo County Jail and several charges are pending.

CO Troy Mueller reports that a lot of bird hunters are taking advantage of the recent GEM projects in Osceola County. Although not a lot of birds were harvested this weekend, the reported number of flushes was up. The hunters seemed very impressed with the work the DNR has put into habitat.

CO Mike Wells received a complaint of road hunting and trespass. The complainant advised that he had observed two subjects in a pick-up truck shooting at grouse with .22 rifles on his property from the roadway. The property owner obtained a registration from the vehicle and CO Wells was able to locate the address of the vehicle owner. Inspection at the location of the violation revealed that the property line was not correctly posted and the property owner was advised that prosecution for the trespass was not possible. CO Wells followed up attempting to locate the subjects at the listed address shortly after the incident and discovered that no one was at home. CO Wells returned to the residence several hours later and made contact with the two suspects and the vehicle which had just returned to the residence from hunting. Both subjects gave admission to hunting that property and stated they did not know that the property was private. CO Wells inquired about the firearms in the vehicle and asked if the firearms were unloaded. One of the subjects responded that he thinks that his firearm was unloaded. Inspection of his firearm revealed one live round in the chamber with five more rounds in the magazine of the rifle. Citation was issued to the subject for the loaded firearm in the motor vehicle and both subjects were warned regarding the earlier trespass.

CO Mike Wells and PCO Zack Bauer were on special assignment in Manistee County working salmon runs. They were on patrol at the Little Manistee weir site when they observed a van in the parking lot just before dark. The COs observed the van for a short time when a subject was observed exiting the rear of the van with a fishing net in his hand. CO Wells and PCO Bauer then observed the subject proceed to the closed section of the river, wade into the water and attempt to net one of the many salmon in the river. After several failed attempts, the subject returned to the van and the COs made contact with him. The subject gave admission to his attempt to catch the fish with the net because he needed the food. The subject gave consent to inspection of a cooler in the van. Upon checking the cooler, the COs observed a fishing rod in the van with an illegal device (treble hooks in line over-weight). CO Wells asked the subject if he had a tackle box in the van and asked if he could inspect it. The subject gave consent to inspection of his tackle box and upon opening it, the COs discover a large multi-pointed hook with weight rigidly attached to the hook. The subject advised that he had purchased the hook at a garage sale and did not know that possession of it was illegal. Citations were issued for having possession of fishing gear on closed waters and for the possession of the weighted hook. Warnings were issued for fishing within 300 feet of the weir and the unlawful use of the net.

CO Ben Shively was conducting a shining patrol in Oceana County when a pickup truck was observed at 1:40 am casting a light out the driver's side window into the field. CO

Shively was able to conduct a traffic stop on the vehicle. CO Shively obtained identification from both occupants and found that he had cited the driver two years ago in the same area for shining with a weapon in possession with the same passenger. The driver did not have a weapon in his possession this time but was still cited for shining after 11 pm and before 6 am.

CO Ben Shively responded to Charles Mears State Park on a report from Oceana Dispatch of a missing child along Lake Michigan. CO Shively responded to the area and learned that the child had been located $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile north of the park. CO Shively returned to his vehicle just as dispatch advised that the child had been pulled from Lake Michigan and that a Pentwater Police Department officer was beginning CPR. CO Shively was second on scene and responded to the shoreline with his AED and first aid bag and met the Pentwater officer. CO Shively took over CPR for 15 minutes until EMS arrived on scene. The child was transported to the hospital, but due to her time in the water they were unable to revive her.

CO Ben Shively responded to a second shots fired call at 2:30 am in Oceana County. CO Shively and a deputy had responded to the area earlier, but could not locate the source of the shots. Upon arriving in the area the second time, they went to a migrant camp which was the only residence with anyone up in the area. As CO Shively exited his vehicle and identified himself, a subject rose out a chair a picked up a handgun from a gas grill and threw it into the weeds. CO Shively recovered the unregistered handgun from the weeds and interviewed the subject who threw it. After interviewing the subject and confirming that he had been shooting at a water bottle in the weeds, and noting that he was visibly impaired by alcohol, CO Shively gave the subject a preliminary breath test which showed a reading of .115. CO Shively placed the subject under arrest for possession of a firearm while intoxicated and lodged him at the Oceana County Jail.

CO Ben Shively was responding to a large tree down across a road during a thunderstorm at night when a vehicle passed by him that had no tail lights. CO Shively conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle and when asked for his driver's license the driver produced a driver's license that had been expired for seven years. The subject was cited for driving while license expired.

CO Troy VanGelderren was conducting stationary surveillance along a trout stream and witnessed a father and son reaching into log jams attempting to catch salmon with their hands. CO VanGelderren finally witnessed the son pull a salmon out of the shallow stream. The father continued to jab his fishing pole into log jams attempting to move

more salmon to the son's location. Citations were issued to both for taking/attempting to take salmon with an illegal device.

CO Troy VanGelderren was conducting surveillance of seven subjects along a designated trout stream that was full of salmon. Two subjects were smoking marijuana and the rest of the group was all attempting to snag salmon. CO VanGelderren witnessed two subjects successfully snag salmon and made contact with the group. A total of six fish were snagged and seized by CO VanGelderren. Citations were issued for taking salmon with an illegal device, trespassing and possession of marijuana.

DISTRICT 5

CO Ethan Gainforth contacted numerous small game hunters on opening day. One of the eager hunters was found to be hunting without a license. When asked about purchasing a license, the hunter stated that he normally purchased one. A quick check of the license system revealed no license purchases since 2011. A citation was issued for hunting small game without a base license

CO Gainforth was talking to two subjects in a vehicle on the snowmobile trail in Clare County when a subject on a dirt bike approached them at a high rate of speed. Upon seeing the CO's vehicle, the operator quickly spun around and headed back the same direction that he came from. At the same time, three other operators in the same group continued straight through the intersection. CO Gainforth quickly began to follow the dirt bike in an attempt to affect a traffic stop. Unfortunately, the dirt bike operator lost control in the loose sugar sand and dumped his bike over. No injuries sustained. CO Gainforth took enforcement action on the spot. Sgt. Wood was called and responded to the scene. After a short interview, both officers followed the operator back to his cabin where the other three operators could be contacted. It was learned that before the days ride, everyone in the group had a plan to 'scatter' if they ran across the DNR in the woods. In the end, all operators were issued citations, ranging from operating in a prohibited area to operating without a helmet.

COs Mark Papineau and Phil Hudson were on a foot patrol on state land in Gladwin County when they contacted several small game hunters. One of the hunters stated his license was back at camp but when the CO's started running him in the Retail License Sale System he, changed his story and said he did not purchase one. A quick radio check revealed that the subject had not purchased a hunting license in two years. The hunter told the COs that he was unaware that licenses could be checked over the radio. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Bobbi Lively and PCO Tom Oberg conducted a traffic stop on a slow rolling vehicle on federal forest lands in Oscoda County for a traffic violation. While conducting a check of the small game hunter a loaded .22 rifle was discovered in the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Olsen was given information off Facebook where an individual appeared to have taken two deer during the youth season. CO Olsen was able to determine that only one deer had been taken. However, the young hunter was hunting unsupervised, not wearing hunters orange, and had failed to purchase a license. Enforcement action is being sought through the Ogemaw County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Kyle Bader responded to an address in downtown Prescott at the request of the fire chief. A resident was burning a pile of trash that included, but was not limited to, televisions, furniture, and partially filled gas cans. The fire was extinguished by the fire department. The resident was issued a citation, one of many he's received from the DNR Law Division over the years.

CO Kyle Bader and PCO Colton Gelinis checked an angler at Lake St. Helen. When asked, the man told PCO Gelinis that he had 2 fish in his basket, and that he wasn't sure of the size requirements. The man said if any of the fish were too short he would throw them back. After locating a short bass, PCO Gelinis issued the man a citation for possessing an undersized largemouth bass.

CO Kyle Bader and PCO Colton Gelinis assisted Ogemaw County Sheriff's Office and Michigan State Police with pickup verses motorcycle crash on M33 that resulted in one fatality.

While patrolling on an ORV around dark, CO Casey Pullum observed an ORV pull onto the road and drive away from him for approximately 1 mile. The operator then turned around and popped a "wheelie" coming back toward Officer Pullum. Officer Pullum activated the emergency lights and stopped the ORV. Upon approaching the suspect, Officer Pullum noticed the operator wasn't wearing a helmet. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Brandon Kieft and CO Jeff Panich conducted a nighttime patrol. The COs checked on an illegal blind they had located the previous month in Alcona County. During the check, Sgt. Kieft and CO Panich located two subjects riding on ORVs without helmets near the blind in question. It was soon apparent that the two men were the suspects of numerous illegal blinds and baits located in the area. The COs also learned of two deer that were shot earlier at the main camp. After several hours of putting all the stories

together and determining the events of the day for the first day of the youth hunt, Sgt. Kieft and CO Panich were able to determine the camp was responsible for two illegal deer, 3 illegal baits, 4 illegal blinds and several licensing and ORV violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO John Huspen contacted a subject who was operating his UTV along M-72 east of Grayling. The subject was contacted after he turned the UTV onto state land that is closed to ORV usage. The subject was headed out on state land to place his deer bait while the baiting season was closed. Upon contact the subject stated that he wasn't breaking any laws. CO Huspen educated the subject as to laws he was violating and enforcement action taken.

COs John Huspen and Chuck McPherson attended a hunter safety field day at the Grayling Sportsman Club. The COs instructed at the tree stand safety station and the archery station. The COs then spoke with the 20 students about hunter ethics and the game laws.

CO Ben McAteer encountered a group of hunters exiting the woods during the youth deer hunt in Crawford County. Upon making contact with the group, one of the youths was observed not wearing any hunter's orange. When CO McAteer asked the child's father about the orange, his father stated that he had gotten too hot and removed the orange. The group then explained that they had shot and tracked a doe and were going to get their vehicle to retrieve the deer. CO McAteer followed along to the location where the doe was lying and observed an untagged deer and drag marks leading away from posted private property. When asked if they obtained permission to enter the private property, the father stated "No, I probably should have asked, but I didn't think it would be a big deal". CO McAteer took the opportunity to educate the young hunters about the importance of wearing hunters orange and taking a hunter safety class to learn how to be responsible hunters. The father was issued a citation due to the multiple violations.

At the invitation of the local Whitetails Unlimited Chapter, COs Mike Hearn and Sam Schluckbier attended their annual banquet dinner. The officers gave a presentation to the 120 attendees and answered various questions during the event.

CO Mike Hearn received a complaint of three individuals seining minnows from a small inland lake in Kalkaska County. The suspects had already left the lake prior to the officer's arrival. Further information was obtained from the complainants and CO Hearn was able to locate the suspect vehicle at an access site on another lake. The suspects were already out on the lake fishing in a boat. CO Hearn made contact with the group

when they returned to the dock after dark. The group had discarded the unused minnows in the lake. CO Hearn informed them that it was illegal to take the minnows from one lake and use them in another. It was also illegal to discard the unused minnows into a different lake. While checking their fish, CO Hearn located an under-sized walleye as well. Enforcement action was taken for the various violations.

At the request of a Deputy from the Kalkaska Sheriff's Department, CO Mike Hearn responded to the scene of their traffic stop. Upon arrival CO Hearn was informed that the Deputy had come upon a vehicle that was parked partially in the road and had observed the driver walking with a rifle. During interviews, it was determined that the suspect was small game hunting. The suspect was not wearing any hunter orange when observed by the Deputy. A search of the vehicle also revealed an uncased bow. The complaint was turned over to CO Hearn and citations were issued for the various violations.

CO Mike Hearn made a traffic stop on a vehicle that was being operated illegally on a pipeline easement. Upon further investigation, it was determined that the vehicle was displaying an improper plate, was not insured, and the driver was an unlicensed juvenile. Also, CO Hearn located an open can of beer that the father was consuming and neither occupant was wearing a seatbelt. The passenger, who ended up being his father, stated that he was out teaching his son how to drive. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling state owned land in Kalkaska County, CO Sam Schluckbier discovered a large pile of household products thrown into the woods. The pile contained everything from a toilet to a pop up tent, with many additional items spread throughout. CO Schluckbier located a shipping address from a local resident. Contact was made with the homeowners, who claimed they had attempted to get rid of the trash properly, but became frustrated and dumped it on state land. The subjects were instructed to clean up the dump site and a citation was issued for littering on public property.

CO Matt Liestenfeltz was patrolling state land when he observed a vehicle believed to be road hunting. Upon making contact with the vehicle's three occupants, CO Liestenfeltz recovered a loaded, uncased shotgun and .22 pistol, and three Grouse to which the occupants confessed to having taken from the vehicle. Citations were issued for loaded firearms and taking game from a motor vehicle.

CO Chris Bowen made contact with hunters in a vehicle parked on state land. While talking with the subjects, a loaded .22 rifle was discovered inside the truck. Further investigation revealed the hunters were driving the roads looking for small game near

the road. Once an animal was located, a hunter would get out of the truck and shoot it. When questioned about their hunting tactics, the hunters replied that unloading the firearm would “take too long.”

While patrolling northwest Missaukee County, Sgt. Jeremy Payne observed an ORV pass a vehicle at a high rate of speed around a curve. A stop was made on the operator who was not wearing eye protection. The operator explained to Sgt. Payne that he just purchased the ORV and was not “up” on current ORV laws. Sgt. Payne educated the operator and issued a citation.

DISTRICT 6

While patrolling Huron County, CO Kyle Bucholtz assisted the Sheriff’s Office with a domestic assault. CO Bucholtz arrived on scene and spoke with the suspect as a deputy spoke with the victim. It was determined one subject had assaulted a second. An arrest was made and the investigation is ongoing.

CO Kyle Bucholtz responded to a larceny complaint in Huron County. The caller stated he had hunting gear stolen from lands near his home. CO Bucholtz took the subject’s report and is investigating the incident.

While on a recent patrol in Huron County, CO Kyle Bucholtz observed a small dirt-bike cross his path about ¼ mile ahead. CO Bucholtz watched as the operator pulled back on the handle bars and accelerated across a state highway, performing a “wheelie”. CO Bucholtz stopped the operator nearby. The operator was a juvenile who had just purchased the motorbike. It was noted the dirt-bike was without a registration. CO Bucholtz educated the operator on ORV law and assured he returned home safely.

CO Quincy Gowenlock and PCO Troy Ludwig responded to a complaint of goose hunters illegally baiting geese in a field located in Saginaw County. Contact was made with one adult hunter and three youth hunters. No bait was located in the field the group was hunting; however, a check of the hunter’s firearms revealed the adult hunter and one youth hunter did not have properly plugged shotguns. The COs educated the hunters on the importance of complying with the maximum load of three rounds per gun. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Quincy Gowenlock and PCO Troy Ludwig were on patrol in Gratiot County when they witnessed a moped operating on a dirt road with what appeared to be an adult male and small child riding the vehicle. The moped swerved multiple times in front of the COs and the child was not wearing a helmet. The COs stopped the moped and

discovered the operator of the vehicle had a suspended operator's license. While discussing the importance of child safety the adult male stated that he was letting his son drive the moped because he wanted to teach him something. He further stated that he never wore a helmet growing up and turned out fine. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Quincy Gowenlock and PCO Troy Ludwig responded to a complaint of hunter harassment and a property line dispute in Gratiot County. The complainant stated that the suspect had set up a blind in the firing lane his son was going to hunt during the Liberty Hunt. The suspect had also gotten into an argument on Facebook with the youth, stating he would walk the property line all weekend to prevent the hunt from taking place. This led to an argument with the suspect and complainant over the phone in regards to who should be able to hunt the land. An inspection of the hunting area revealed a blind that had been set up in the only firing lane available on the property that the complainant had permission to hunt and the suspect did not. The inspection also revealed an excessive amount of bait well over the permitted two gallons, which had been placed by the complainant. Contact with the suspect was made and he admitted to placing the blind and Facebook messaging. After a discussion with the COs in regards to property rights and the ethics of hunting, both parties agreed that the situation had gotten out of hand and resolved to work out an agreement that would appease everyone.

While working in Huron County on the second day of the youth waterfowl weekend, CO Robert Hobkirk observed three hunters in a field. Before making contact with the hunters, CO Hobkirk observed all three shoot at a flock of passing ducks. Citations were issued to the two hunters for hunting ducks out of season.

While on patrol in Huron County, CO Robert Hobkirk located and checked two goose hunters near Ubyly and found that one hunter was using a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells. The hunter was cited for the violation.

CO Ken Lowell received a complaint before the Liberty Hunt regarding an adult baiting early on state land. CO Lowell located the early bait as well as a couple illegal tree stands. On the first day of the hunt, the CO went out and checked the early bait and illegal stand for hunting activity. The CO contacted a youth and his 22 year old brother in the double ladder stand. The older brother claimed that his 15 year old brother was hunting but he had the bow release on his wrist. After a short discussion the older brother admitted to hunting. He did not have any hunting licenses and neither hunter was wearing hunters orange as required during the Liberty Hunt. Enforcement action was taken on the older brother for hunting out of season and hunting without a

license. The youth was educated on the rules that go along with state land hunting and hunter orange requirements.

While working early goose hunters in Montcalm County, CO Ken Lowell contacted multiple groups of field hunters. The first contact produced an unplugged shotgun as well as one hunter that failed to purchase a waterfowl license and the Federal Duck Stamp. Enforcement action was taken for the unplugged gun and failing to purchase hunting licenses.

While checking early goose hunters in Montcalm County, CO Ken Lowell contacted a large group of hunters being guided by a local guide service. All the hunters were legal but a violation was found with one of the guides that was hunting and guiding. A check of his licenses showed that he had not purchased a Federal Duck Stamp. Enforcement action was taken for failing to purchase a Federal Duck Stamp.

While on patrol in Montcalm County, COs Ken Lowell and Josh Russell stopped a dirt bike that was riding down the road in a careless manner and at a high rate of speed. Upon contact with the rider, it was discovered that he did not have an ORV registration sticker. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Russell was patrolling Stanton State Game Area when he made contact with an individual coming out of the game area. The individual had just finished fishing and was getting ready to head home. While checking the fishing gear in the back of the truck, the CO noticed beer cans among the other trash. The angler checked out and was sent on his way. The angler left and CO Russell continued down the trail and found a beer can on the trail which was still cold to the touch and was the same type that was in the back of the angler's truck. The CO turned around and preformed a traffic stop on the individual. The angler had a suspended driver's license, no proof of insurance and admitted to throwing the can out the window. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Russell was patrolling the Edmore State Game Area when he noticed an SUV parked in a parking lot that had a problem with vehicles driving over the berm. The CO pulled in the parking lot where the SUV was parked and noticed fresh tracks driving over the berm. As the CO was investigating the fresh tracks he noticed 3 individuals in the SUV in full camo and face paint. The CO made contact with the individuals and asked if they had any luck hunting. They stated they weren't hunting and just walking around in the woods. When asked if they had firearms in the vehicle they said yes. When asked if they were cased the driver stated, "There are cases back there." The CO opened the hatch of the SUV and located two uncased guns. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Siemen received information from a Deputy at the Sanilac County Sheriff's Office about a large amount of tires being dumped in a ditch in Lexington Township. CO Siemen located over a dozen tires at this location. During the investigation, CO Siemen located a possible suspect living a half mile away from the location. While speaking with the subject he advised that he was with his friend when the tires were dumped in the ditch. CO Siemen made contact with the friend and spoke with him about the tires, and he confessed. The tires were picked out of the ditch by the suspect and he was issued a citation for dumping the tires.

CO Mark Siemen responded to a complaint involving multiple hunters that had shot a house in Sanilac County, Elk Township while hunting geese. After speaking to the home owner it was determined the six hunters were trespassing in his corn field while hunting. CO Siemen spoke with the subjects and after the investigation was complete all six subjects were issued citations for recreational trespass. Two subjects were also issued citations for having loaded shotguns in a motor vehicle, and two others were issued citations for not having the proper licenses to hunt waterfowl.

CO Joshua Wright was patrolling Tuscola Game Area when he saw a couple ORVs climb over a berm and enter the closed area. Having a good knowledge of the SGA, CO Wright had a hunch as to where they might end up and he was correct. Once the operators were stopped he discovered that neither of them were wearing helmets. Other violations present were no ORV registration stickers, open intoxicants, and various equipment violations on each ORV. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 7

CO Ivan Perez made contact with a subject fishing for blue gills along the Grand River in Grand Haven. It was identified that the subject was over his limit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ivan Perez assisted Wildlife Division staff with a captive cervid facility inspection in response to a complaint that came in of an antlerless deer running loose with an ear tag. Contact was made with the subject and his deer pen was inspected. It appeared that the subject's fence had been cut and since repaired. The landowner was advised of reporting procedures for escaped deer to follow in the future.

While traveling on M66, CO Cary Foster was passed by a vehicle travelling approximately 85mph in a 45mph no passing zone. The vehicle passed CO Foster using a center turn lane. The vehicle was then paced at between 85-90mph for a short distance. When the vehicle was stopped, the operator advised CO Foster that he was an organist for a local church and was late for morning service. He was issued a citation for careless driving.

CO Greg Patten was in the process of launching his patrol boat when he saw several people fishing near the launch ramp. Upon contact, one subject gave the CO a false name of someone who turned out to be deceased. CO Patten was eventually backed up by Muskegon Police Department at which time the suspect decided that he would give his real name rather than go to jail. Enforcement action was taken for fishing without a license and for giving a false name.

CO Greg Patten responded to a report of an injured bear called in to Muskegon Central Dispatch. It turned out to be a large black dog. The information was turned over to the county animal control officer.

CO Greg Patten responded to a hunter harassment complaint. Three people were goose hunting on a golf course with permission. A female pulled in to the parking lot and honked her horn when the geese were coming in to the hunters. Enforcement action was taken. It was also identified that one of the hunters did not have a state waterfowl license. The subject was cited for the licensing violation as well.

CO Jeremy Beavers made contact with a large group camping in the Portland State Game Area without a permit. It was also identified that two of the subjects had been operating an ORV off road in a closed area. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeremy Beavers made contact with two small game hunters along with a young child in the Grand River State Game Area, who were not wearing hunter orange clothing. When asked why they were not wearing the required orange clothing, the subjects stated that their orange clothing was for colder weather. CO Beavers explained the importance of wearing the required clothing, especially since it was the first deer hunting weekend of the year and they had a juvenile with them. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeremy Beavers made contact with two juveniles fishing in the Maple River State Game Area. As he approached, he could see a four-wheeler parked along the shoulder of the road. During contact, CO Beavers learned both boys were less than 16 years old and had not attended an ORV safety course. Further investigation revealed that, they did not have helmets, rode double on a machine that was not designed for a passenger, and they did not have an ORV sticker. CO Beavers made contact with the operator's father who stated that he was aware of the juveniles operating the ORV unsupervised on the road, riding double, and without helmets. Enforcement action was taken with the father for allowing a person less than 16 to operate an ORV without supervision and given warnings for the additional violations.

While patrolling the Rouge River State Game Area, in Kent County, CO Justin Ulberg observed a vehicle parked in a non-designated area. CO Ulberg contacted two subjects near the vehicle and advised that the vehicle was parked in an area where vehicles were prohibited. Neither subject had any identification and advised that their driver's licenses were left back at the tent they were staying in for the night. CO Ulberg followed the subjects back to their camp location. CO Ulberg checked inside the tent and found

drugs and drug paraphernalia. Enforcement action was taken on multiple violations including, possession of narcotics, minor in possession of alcohol, camping on state land with no permit, and operating a motor vehicle in a closed area.

CO Chris Simpson made contact with a subject sitting in the trunk of his car with a loaded rifle on the side of the road in Duck Lake State Park. The subject was in full hunter orange and claimed to be hunting chipmunks with his .22 rifle. Enforcement action was taken for having a loaded gun in a motor vehicle.

CO Paul Higashi responded to a complaint of hunter's trespassing on railroad property in Kalamazoo County. A quick response to the location resulted in two persons being cited for railway trespassing.

CO Chuck Towns was working fish run activity in the Allegan State Game Area when he noticed smoke in the distance. He traced the smoke up-wind to a fire approximately 2 miles away. DNR Fire personnel were notified and responded to the area to extinguish the fire. It was determined that a very large pile of wood chips and brush from a recent timber cut had self-ignited causing the forest fire. A follow up with the logger will ensue by the DNR Forest Resource Division.

CO Chuck Towns assisted in the rescue efforts of an elderly individual who had become lost in the Allegan State Game Area. The man had gone mushroom hunting and did not find his way back to his vehicle before dark. He spent the night in the woods and was eventually located by a Michigan State Police K-9 Unit the following morning. He was located about a mile from his vehicle.

CO Chris Holmes and PCO Scott MacNeill responded to an in progress domestic violence assault that was happening on the shoulder of the roadway near the officers location. Both the victim and suspect were very uncooperative, and under the influence of Methamphetamine. The male suspect was in possession of Methamphetamine components, marijuana, and was on probation. The male suspect was arrested on a warrant and charges will be sought on the drug related possession.

CO Chris Holmes and PCO Scott MacNeill responded to an ORV trespass complaint in a Kalamazoo County apartment complex late one evening. CO Holmes and PCO MacNeill found the suspect ORVs parked at an adjoining trailer park and waited down the roadway near a Consumers Power powerline. A subject drove by the COs and stopped at the suspect's location tipping them off to CO Holmes and PCO MacNeill's presence. Officer Holmes noted that the subject was in violation of the motor vehicle code and pulled him over. The COs asked the driver why he had tipped off the suspected ORV operators. The driver replied he was just being "neighborly". The driver

was found to have a suspended driver's license and was on probation. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Holmes and PCO Scott MacNeill responded to an accident where an intoxicated passenger had jumped out of a moving vehicle after arguing with his wife. The injured subject was unresponsive and had serious head trauma injuries. The officers assisted paramedics at the scene.

Minutes after arriving back in Kalamazoo County from a weekend on Belle Isle, CO Chris Holmes and PCO Scott MacNeill responded to an unknown situation in the parking lot of a large grocery store. The COs discovered that a subject had attempted to sell a cell phone through Craigslist and was robbed. The victim was then dragged by the suspect's vehicle out into a busy roadway. The victim sustained severe road rash abrasions. During the same time, another incident was unfolding at a local restaurant down the road where several people were actively fighting. Once on scene the COs assisted the Portage Police Department with calming the scene, when one of the suspects fled on foot through the parking lot. The suspect was apprehended and it was determined that he had discarded a large bag of crack cocaine and marijuana while running from officers.

While working on Belle Isle, CO Chris Holmes and PCO Scott MacNeill responded to an armed robbery at a Walgreen Drug Store a few blocks from the island. The armed robbery had occurred approximately two minutes prior to the COs arriving on scene. Three armed suspects entered the store and tied up the employees and a security guard. The security guard was able to break free and retrieve his concealed handgun. The suspects and security guard all discharged their firearms at each other. No one was injured and the suspects fled the store. CO Holmes and PCO MacNeill secured the scene and checked the status of the victims until relieved by a Detroit Police Officer.

DISTRICT 8

CO Rich Nickols spoke at a hunter education class at the Fowler Conservation Club. There were 30 students in attendance as well as many parents.

CO Andrew Monnich attended a hunter education class in Adrian with 53 students. CO Monnich spoke about firearm safety and general hunting rules.

CO Andrew Monnich received a call in early September from a local landowner who found a pile of corn at one of his deer hunting stands on his farm. CO Monnich met with the landowner and was shown where the illegal bait was. CO Monnich suggested

moving a trail cam so that it was overlooking the corn pile. The landowner called back a few days later stating that the individual was back trespassing and that the camera took pictures of him putting out another 100 pounds of corn. CO Monnich went to the area on the morning of the early antlerless opener at daybreak and located the suspect. The suspect was trespassing, baiting deer early, putting out over limits of bait, and wearing no hunter's orange. He also did not have a current license and was in violation of his parole by hunting. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrew Monnich responded to a call about a runner being shot by a hunter in the Onsted State Game Area. He responded and met with three hunters who had already been located by Cambridge Township police officers. CO Monnich assisted with the accident and eventually determined it to be an unfortunate accident. The hunters were legally hunting and well outside of the safety zones. The runner did not require medical attention and suffered a welt on her forehead.

CO Pete Purdy taught the legal portion of a hunter education class at the Livingston Conservation & Sport Assoc. There were 95 students in attendance. CO Purdy also taught the legal portion of a hunter education class at the Whitmore Lake Rod & Gun Club. There were 22 students in attendance.

CO Pete Purdy made contact with two anglers on Island Lake. When asked for their fishing licenses one angler handed the other angler his Muskellunge tag. The angler attempted to claim that his friend's Musky tag was his fishing license. CO Purdy pointed out that the Musky tag had the same date of birth and license number as his friend's fishing license. The angler admitted that he didn't purchase a fishing license. He went on to say that he pays a lot of child support and couldn't afford a fishing license. The subject was issued a citation for fishing without a license.

COs Pete Purdy & Brandon Hartleben contacted a subject who called RAP to report that he was hunting with his son and they misidentified a small four point buck for an antlerless deer. The subject advised that when he approached the downed deer he realized it was a buck. He explained that he told his son that he made a mistake and he would need to turn himself in. The COs discussed the situation and decided to give the subject a warning.

While on marine patrol on Lobdell Lake CO Pete Purdy made contact with two anglers on a boat. One angler advised he didn't have his fishing license with him. CO Purdy advised a check could be done to confirm he purchased a license this year. The subject then confessed that he hadn't purchased a 2016 fishing license. In addition, the subject had four misdemeanor warrants for his arrest. CO Purdy escorted the vessel

back to the boat launch where a Livingston County Sheriff's Deputy was waiting to transport the subject to the Livingston County Jail.

CO Mike Drexler and PCO Eric Smither were on patrol in Washtenaw County when State Police Troopers were dispatched to a felonious assault that had just occurred. The COs were not far from the call and responded with the State Police. The COs assisted searching the area for the suspects and investigated the area where the incident occurred.

CO Brandon Hartleben concluded his investigation into a subject that was suspected of running set lines for turtles at Big Island in Ford Lake. CO Hartleben removed 21 set lines from around the island during his initial investigation and was able to successfully release two Softshell Turtles that had been caught. CO Hartleben was able to obtain a confession when the subject was confronted with photographic evidence that CO Hartleben had obtained from multiple complainants. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brandon Hartleben spoke to a hunter education class hosted by the Dexter School District at Creekside Intermediate School in Dexter during their field day. Approximately 26 students of all ages were in attendance. CO Hartleben provided an overview of the role and responsibilities of a CO, discussed regulation changes, provided safety advice, reviewed how to validate and attach a kill tag, and answered numerous fish and game questions.

CO Chris Reynolds attended a career day on September 14th in Reading. The CO talked with 165 Hillsdale County High School students about the duties of a CO, the hiring process and the academy, while also fielding several questions on hunting, fishing, marine and ORV law.

CO Chris Reynolds staffed a booth at the Hillsdale County Fair and ran the hunter education laser shot trailer.

CO Jason McCullough observed a subject fishing from a dock. The angler stopped fishing and started to walk away after he saw CO McCullough. Upon contact the angler became upset and asked CO McCullough if he didn't have something better to do like catch some illegal immigrants. CO McCullough quickly explained the job functions of a CO and told the angler if he could point him in the direction of some illegal immigrants he would gladly investigate. Further investigation revealed the angler did not have a fishing license and enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason McCullough was checking anglers along a local river when he came across 2 subjects fishing downstream from a dam. One subject stated they had caught some bluegills. As CO McCullough went to check the stringer of fish the fishermen stated there was also a couple of small bass on the stringer that he was saving for his kid. An RSS check revealed one angler did not have a fishing license and had an arrest warrant. The other fisherman had just received a citation from CO Monnich three months ago for possession of short bass. After a short conversation the fisherman admitted he knew how long the bass were supposed to be and he wasn't saving them for his kid. The angler added he didn't expect to see a CO today. A citation was issued for the short bass.

CO Shane Webster located a family camping in the Waterloo Recreation Area in a closed area. They advised the campground was full so they decided to just pitch a tent in a parking lot. The family was advised that camping was not allowed outside of the campground areas without a permit. They cleaned up the mess they made and left the area.

CO Todd Thorn was patrolling in the Rose Lake State Game Area when he located a vehicle parked on the side of the road with a bow case in it. CO Thorn ran the license plate which came back to an individual who COs Thorn and Nickols had both arrested previously for fish and game violations. Further investigation revealed that the registered owner's hunting privileges were revoked, and that he had purchased hunting licenses earlier in the day. CO Thorn waited and was able to contact the hunter after sunset. CO Thorn found that the man was hunting and was sitting in a tree stand on state land without name and address. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Thorn contacted two juveniles; one 11 and the other 16, after hunting hours ended. The boys were hunting alone in a field several miles from home without any adult supervision. When contacted, the older boy still had a loaded shotgun. The 11 year old did not have any hunting licenses with him. CO Thorn contacted the father of the boys and had him come to the location. Enforcement action was taken against the father.

CO Todd Thorn assisted Ingham County Deputies with a search for a lost mentally handicapped man who had been tagging along with some hunters. The man wandered off while the others weren't looking, and could not be found. After a search, the man was found lying in a field not too far from a road, but quite a distance from the hunting location.

CO Todd Thorn was on patrol and found a man outside of his house who he knew to have a warrant for a fish and game violation. The man was contacted and enforcement action was taken.

CO Matthew Neterer heard Clinton County Central Dispatch put out information about a subject in a red pickup truck that had just shot from the road. CO Neterer was approximately 30 miles away but responded to patrol the area. CO Neterer made contact with the complainant and learned that they had actually confronted the suspect and got a partial license plate number. CO Neterer was able to use the information to get an address for the suspect and upon contact the suspect confessed that he had fired a shot at a doe from his truck. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matthew Neterer attended a beginner's fishing class at Michigan State University where approximately 18 students from all over the world were in attendance to learn the basics of fishing. CO Neterer provided fishing guides and discussed the importance of the laws in protecting the resource for future generations.

While on kayak patrol on the River Raisin in Jackson County, COs Chris Maher and Shane Webster checked a group of early goose hunters. During the check the COs discovered that one of the hunters had illegal shot along with an unplugged gun. The hunter stated that it was his first time hunting waterfowl and he did not know all the rules. COs Maher and Webster educated the hunter and left him with a 2016 waterfowl guide for his reference during future hunting endeavors. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 9

While getting ready to launch a boat for a waterfowl patrol on the Detroit River, COs David Schaumburger and Dan Walzak observed a vessel coming in to the launch ramp with expired registration. Making contact, the operator stated that he had just purchased the vessel and had taken it out to see if it ran. Enforcement action was taken.

COs David Schaumburger and Brad Silorey made contact with an early goose hunter who set up a makeshift blind in a 10x10 ft. square of standing corn within a cut corn field. The hunter had all the required licenses and approved equipment, but as the COs were walking away, CO Schaumburger noticed something bright orange on the ground amongst the decoys that looked out of place. The CO identified it as a freshly peeled corn cob that the CO assumed had been thrown from the blind. The COs also discovered 4 additional freshly peeled corn cobs that were not missing any kernels nor had any dirt on them. One particular feeding decoy had been placed on the ground with the mouth of the decoy right next to a corn cob, as if the decoy was eating the corn cob. The COs walked the field where there were no decoys, and could not find any freshly

peeled corn cobs, or corn cobs that could have been left behind from the combine. The hunter denied placing or throwing the corn cobs, even though he stated he was the only one hunting this blind in the previous 3 days. The COs explained to him that even if he did not place the corn, he should have known, especially when he placed the decoy so close to the corn cob that he was hunting over a baited area. Enforcement action was taken.

COs David Schaumburger, Kris Kiel, and PCO Joseph Deppen were checking anglers in the midnight hours when CO Schaumburger made contact with one angler who stated that he did good that night. CO Schaumburger opened the cooler of fish and counted seven walleye, made eye contact with the angler who immediately said, "Yep I have seven." The angler stated that his 6th and 7th walleye were the result of a double header, and he did not think the COs would be out tonight. The additional fish were seized and enforcement action was taken.

COs Raymond Gardner and Danny Walzak were patrolling the Berlin and Ash Township areas for hunting activity when they spotted an individual operating an ORV on a public roadway closed to ORV use. The COs stopped and made contact with the operator. Enforcement action was taken.

CO James Zellinger conducted a fishing patrol of anglers on Lake Erie. During the patrol numerous anglers were contacted. CO Zellinger encountered two different groups of anglers in possession of a gross over limit of yellow perch. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel checked the 25 Mile Mini game-area in Macomb County on opening morning of small game season. As the CO was checking a group of goose hunters set up in a field, he noticed two subjects walking along the edge of the woods. Neither subject was wearing hunter orange and upon contact, were found to be in possession of three squirrels. One subject stated that he did not think he needed hunter orange while hunting squirrels and the other said that it was too hot to wear it. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel stopped four ORVs within an hour, operating on the roadway in St. Clair County. In all four separate incidents, the operators stated that they had just read that the law had recently changed in St. Clair County to allow riding on the side of the road. CO Kiel educated them that the law has not changed and the County is reviewing the decision to lift the ban in some townships.

CO Kris Kiel checked the Macomb County Mini-Game Area and located a car parked along the road with a gun case in it. The CO hid down the road until the hunter emerged from a field without any hunter's orange on. The hunter placed his .22 rifle, loaded, on the hood of the car as the CO pulled up. The hunter was small game hunting without hunter's orange, hunting with a .22 rifle (which is not allowed on this public land), and had a loaded firearm upon a motor vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Kris Kiel, Brad Silorey, David Schaumburger, and PCO Joseph Deppen worked a waterfowl/fish group patrol in Macomb and St. Clair Counties. Violations found included hunting geese over bait, undersized walleye, over-limit of walleye, and possession of mutilated fish. Enforcement action was taken in all cases.

CO Brad Silorey was on patrol in Macomb County when he received a complaint from DNR dispatch. The complaint described a hunter that was baiting when prohibited and possibly hunting within a safety zone. CO Silorey arrived on scene at the described location and observed a pop-up blind set up, with an elevated feeding trough 20 yards away. CO Silorey looked at the nearest residence and spotted an individual peeking their head out the front door of the home. CO Silorey made contact with the home owner, who admitted to being the owner of the blind and feeder. CO Silorey walked out to the bait in question with the subject and observed nearly 10 gallons of corn and a mineral block. CO Silorey informed the subject that not only was he baiting when prohibited, but he also had bait in excess of 2 gallons, and did not have the bait spread directly on the ground in the ten foot diameter. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Silorey was patrolling state land in Macomb County when he observed several groups of waterfowl hunters. CO Silorey made contact with the first individual who immediately stated that he was using an unplugged shotgun. CO Silorey instructed the subject to unload his firearm so he could inspect it. The subject ejected three rounds from the shotgun, and after a brief inspection of the rounds, all three were toxic lead shot. The subject also had many more toxic lead rounds in his bag. After running the subject through dispatch, it was found that he had four prior DNR convictions within the last 5 years. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Silorey made contact with a group of three waterfowl hunters in Macomb County. While doing a check of licenses and equipment, CO Silorey found several rounds of toxic lead shot in one of the hunter's ammo bag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Silorey was checking anglers at a popular fishing spot in Macomb County, when he observed a bucket of fish near one group of anglers. CO Silorey made contact with the anglers and inspected their fish along with fishing licenses. The anglers were found to be in possession of two undersized bass; one 12 inch largemouth bass, and one 13 inch smallmouth bass. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher was first on scene and assisted St. Clair County Sheriff's Department with a vehicle accident off the exit ramp from I-69. The witness saw a man and woman walk away from the scene. CO Lasher gave the vehicle license plate to Central Dispatch and it came back as a stolen vehicle out of Port Huron earlier that day. CO Lasher responded to the closest gas station within walking distance and found a man

and woman who walked into the store. CO Ben Lasher and Deputy Bob Gross took the two subjects into custody for the stolen vehicle and turned them over to the Port Huron Police Department for questioning.

CO Ben Lasher stopped two dirt bikes operating on a dirt road in St. Clair County. Both dirt bikes were not street legal, and were operating on the open roadway. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher stopped a truck pulling a boat for not having a drivers' side brake or turn signal. The truck and trailer had just left the Marine City access site and CO Lasher asked if they had caught any fish. After a short investigation, a 12 inch walleye was found in the boat. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach received information about an adult hunter who shot a buck during the youth hunt in St. Clair County. CO Kovach was able to locate the subject and conduct an interview. A confession was obtained and enforcement action was taken. The deer was confiscated and donated to a needy family in the local community.

CO Ken Kovach was contacted by RAP and St. Clair County Central Dispatch reference a large buck that appeared to be in distress in a bean field. CO Kovach located the buck and observed it run, and then fall over. CO Kovach dispatched the deer and sent it to the lab for testing.

CO Ken Kovach has been busy checking anglers in St. Clair County. Limits of walleye are once again being caught throughout the St. Clair river system. On one particular check, CO Kovach observed a subject with six fish over the angler's limit. Enforcement action was taken.

While on fisheries patrol in St. Clair County, CO Kris Kiel and PCO Joseph Deppen were checking boat launches in the area when they observed a boat coming in with two anglers on board. When asked how they did, one angler said they got a "little one". Upon further inspection of the live well COs noticed a walleye. After confirming licenses, the walleye was measured and was found to be short. Both anglers admitted they did not want to throw it back because they thought it was dead when they brought the walleye aboard. Enforcement action was taken

While patrolling Kensington Metro Park, CO Pete Purdy and PCO Joseph Deppen noticed an angler fishing in Kent Lake. Officers approached the angler and asked him for his fishing license and driver's license. Upon closer inspection, the 2016 All Species Fishing License did not match up with the Michigan driver's license number or birth date. The angler claimed to purchase a resident fishing license with an out of state license. When asked for the out of state driver's license, the angler said it was torn up once he got his Michigan driver's license. The angler was caught up with multiple inconsistencies with his stories and continued to be evasive with COs. After a thorough background check, it was found the angler did not have a legitimate Michigan fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling to and from HAP properties in Lapeer County, CO Al Schwiderson stopped an ORV that was being operated by a helmetless driver. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matthew Zultak made contact with three subjects attempting to recover an ORV out of a culvert. CO Zultak ran a search on the ORV which reported it as stolen. The subjects were interviewed and the ORV was recovered. The information was turned over to the Lapeer County Sheriff Department in which the ORV was stolen.

CO Matthew Zultak made contact with two ORV operators on the side of the road. The subjects had just ridden out of a closed area. They did not have licensed ORVs, and one subject did not have a helmet. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matthew Zultak made contact with a group of Canada Geese Hunters. The subjects had a successful day with birds in the bag limit. Upon further investigation an unplugged shotgun was located, as well as multiple unsigned waterfowl stamps. Enforcement action was taken.

On opening day of small game season, CO Jason Becker was patrolling Highland Recreation Area and checked an area frequented by hunters. CO Becker walked into the woods to find a subject sitting next to a tree dressed in all camouflage with a .22 caliber rifle. CO Becker announced himself and the subject unzipped his jacket and switched his camouflage hat for the orange one hidden in his jacket. During the contact, the subject was complaining about all the other people in the woods hiking, dog walking, and biking. CO Becker reminded the subject that the recreation area is open to all the activities he listed. CO Becker also pointed out that wearing hunter orange is not only the law, but given the number of people in the woods, it was in his best interest to wear it for his safety. Enforcement action taken.

COs Jacob Griffin and Christopher Knights were on patrol in Oakland County when they received a call that multiple individuals were operating ORVs on private property while discharging pistols. The COs immediately responded to investigate. The COs entered the opposite side of the property where the individuals supposedly entered. While the COs were out on foot they heard multiple ORVs approaching. The COs waited for the ORVs to get close before identifying themselves and requesting the subjects to stop and shut the engines off. The subjects were asked if they had firearms and questioned reference the complaint. Although there were no firearms found, the COs found open beer cans on both ORVs. The two subjects admitted to trespassing with their ORVs, they were not wearing helmets or safety glasses, and one of the ORVs had no registration. Enforcement action taken.

CO Justin Muehlhauser attended the annual youth deer pole put on by the Flint Regional Chapter Safari Club International at Madden's Lounge in Davison. There was an excellent turnout even with the rough weather conditions for the two day hunt. The largest deer was an 11 pt. taken from Davison Twp. The buck weighed roughly 180

pounds dressed. The deer was taken with a .50 cal. Muzzleloader. It was the young youth's first deer.

CO Justin Muehlhauser attended the annual Bio-Blitz at the For-Mar nature center in Genesee Co. There were several school classes that attended from many of the local school districts. CO Muehlhauser spoke about the DNR and a CO's role in protecting Michigan's Natural Resources. The children enjoyed seeing large sets of antlers and many different types of wildlife pelts. Approximately 250 contacts were made.

CO Justin Muehlhauser attended the annual Skill-O-Rama put on by the Boy Scouts of America at the Silver Lake Park in Fenton. CO Muehlhauser greeted many people of all ages throughout the day and answered many questions pertaining to COs and the role they play in conservation. Approximately 200 contacts were made.

BELLE ISLE

COs Dan Walzak and Chris Simpson responded to back up an MSP Trooper on an accident involving a vehicle hitting a light pole on Belle Isle. The COs arrived to see a vehicle with the front end caved in and the hood crumpled almost to the point of being folded in half. Using small hand tools, the operator of the vehicle was industriously attempting to straighten out the front end of his vehicle stating that if he could get the metal out of the radiator and reach the battery, he could get the car started and drive it. All officers at the scene advised the subject that he was not going to be able to drive the car away but, bent on proving the officers wrong, he continued with his efforts. Ultimately, the driver was issued a citation by the Trooper and a wrecker arrived to remove the vehicle.

While on general patrol on Belle Isle, CO Ken Kovach and PCO Joseph Deppen drove past the Nancy Brown Peace Carillon Tower. In passing, both COs observed two individuals duck down in the shrubbery within the historical landmark as their patrol vehicle drove by. COs immediately turned into the next driveway and approached the subjects. Both subjects were found to be trespassing for a photography opportunity. After a brief investigation and insuring no vandalism had occurred, both subjects were briefed on Belle Isle closed areas and were given verbal warnings.

While on general patrol on Belle Isle, CO Ken Kovach and PCO Joseph Deppen conducted an ORV/foot patrol on the North end of island. Officers observed three subjects getting out of the water in a closed swimming area. Upon further examination, the subjects were seen to be drinking from silver containers and putting those containers in their backpack. Officers approached the three subjects and asked if any of the three had been drinking. All three denied any drinking or having silver containers. Upon a consented search of the backpack, various brands of beer cans were found. All three subjects were unaware there was no alcohol allowed on Belle Isle. Enforcement action was taken.