

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
9/20/10 – 10/3/10**

DISTRICT 1

CO Marvin Gerlach responded to a complaint from a subject who claimed to have lured a wolf into a dog kennel. His follow up investigation revealed it to be an ordinary dog at which point it was released to the owner.

CO Trey Luce responded to a complaint of a subject who had illegally shot a nine point buck near the city of Marquette. When CO Luce arrived at the subject's residence, he observed the subject cutting up the deer. After a short interview, the subject was ticketed for taking a deer out of season. The weapon used and the deer, which was still in full velvet, was seized.

CO Matt Eberly found a 15 year old road hunter driving his father's jeep without his knowledge. Matt took the youth home and turned him over to his 21 year old sister.

CO Mark Leadman assisted a hunter in locating a "300" pound bear that had been shot and wounded. Once the bear was tracked down and dispatched, it turned out to be a 60 pound cub bear. The bear was seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon contacted three subjects setting up deer stands for the archery season. A check of their sites found illegal stands set up over corn. A check of the vehicle found an uncased shotgun and an uncased bow. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Wicklund responded to a late night complaint of an individual who allegedly shot a cub bear. The CO contacted the parties involved and determined that the bear was indeed a cub. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Wicklund stopped an ORV and discovered the individual was in possession of several dozen prescription pills. The individual did not have a prescription for the pills and lied to the CO about where he got them. Enforcement action was taken and the pills were turned over to the Michigan State Police (MSP) for disposal.

CO Mark Leadman assisted Delta County conservation officers with an investigation into an unlicensed charter boat. Contact was made with the vessel when it returned to shore. A confession was obtained and a charter boat inspection was conducted which revealed numerous equipment violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Leadman and Sgt. Marc Pomroy followed up on an investigation in which a subject had illegally killed a 500 pound black bear without a license. They interviewed the subject who not only admitted to killing the bear without a license, but admitted to killing a second 500 pound bear in a previous season.

CO Ryan Aho stopped a group of ORV operators with numerous violations. The subjects were operating without helmets, riding double and had failed to license the ORVs. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon contacted a bow hunter who was sitting in an illegal tree stand, had used screw-in tree steps on state land, and had placed bait out prior to October 1st. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon and Sgt. Marc Pomroy contacted a subject about a truck load of firewood he had cut. A check of the vehicle found an uncased rifle and expired license plates on the truck. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Wicklund responded to a complaint of dogs chasing deer. The individual had placed a bait pile out in his yard to attract the deer and then had his dogs chase the deer when they came to the bait. When asked if he was recreationally viewing the deer, the subject said no, his dogs were fat and this was the only way he could get them some exercise. Enforcement action was taken.

While working a trespass complaint, CO Jason Wicklund observed two individuals shooting at several grouse along the trail. Contact with the individuals found one shooter not wearing hunter orange. A check of the vehicle found drug paraphernalia on the seat. Enforcement action was taken

DISTRICT 2

COs Derek Miller and Mike Hammill conducted a waterfowl patrol on opening day and encountered two different groups of hunters who were hunting with unplugged shotguns and in possession of lead shot. Enforcement action taken.

CO Kyle Publiski observed a suspicious vehicle with two subjects who appeared to be road hunting. As the CO proceeded to make a traffic stop the passenger became quite active as he tried to unload a firearm and put it in the case. Further investigation revealed that one of the subjects was wanted on a statewide outstanding warrant. The subject was lodged in the Chippewa County jail.

CO Jeff Panich was on foot patrol when he observed a vehicle with a gun case in the back parked along the roadway. The CO waited for the hunter to return to see how his bear season was going. As the subject came out of the woods, he quickly tossed his loaded firearm in the truck and began to drive away. The CO was able to stop the vehicle on foot and the subject was issued a ticket for loaded firearm in a motor vehicle.

CO Kyle Publiski encountered a subject on an ORV who had several empty deer bait bags. The CO explained that under the baiting regulations you can't bait deer until October 1st. The subject indicated that he was aware of the regulation. The CO followed the subject back to his illegal bait and found that it was also over the two gallon limit. Ticket issued for illegal bait.

CO Derek Miller came across a motor vehicle stuck in the ditch. The CO saw feathers and blood along with some hunting gear. The owner showed up a short time later and admitted to road hunting and that he'd shot some upland game. Further investigation revealed that he didn't have a hunting license. A ticket was issued for hunting without a license and a warning given for invalid license plates on the motor vehicle.

CO Robert Crisp assisted in the search for a lost/overdue horseback rider in the Hiawatha National Forest. CO Crisp located and followed the horse tracks, then located the rider. She was found waiting out a rainstorm in an abandoned camp. The rider was four hours overdue.

COs Jared Ferguson and Michael Evink contacted a subject who was shining deer at 10:30 p.m. The subject had an uncased rifle with a magazine on the seat of the truck. The rifle was seized and a ticket was issued.

CO Jerry Fitzgibbon apprehended an ORV operator after he attempted to flee from the CO. The operator began to cross over a road obstruction but when he saw that CO Fitzgibbon could cross the same obstruction, he stopped. A loaded firearm was found on the ORV and a ticket was issued for the violation. A warning was given for the possible attempt to flee and for not wearing a helmet.

CO Reid Roeske, with the assistance from District 25 personnel, arrested a subject for having an illegal charter boat operation in Delta County.

DISTRICT 3

CO Steve Speigl contacted two anglers along the Boyne River in the middle of the night. The first angler was found standing on a large weighted treble hook still attached to his rod. While addressing the first angler, CO Speigl watched the second subject throw something into the woods. CO Speigl found a container containing seven weighted treble hooks. Enforcement action was taken.

While addressing separate violations, CO Steve Speigl watched as a man carrying a fishing rod walked past his patrol truck. The man stood behind a line of parked cars for a short time, then returned and passed CO Speigl without his fishing rod. A quick scan of the area showed the man threw his rod and snagging hooks in the ditch. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Speigl patrolled the Boyne River late one night and encountered two subjects who were snagging. The violators also had 10 illegal weighted treble hooks and one had a warrant for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Feagan and Sgt. Greg Drogowski received a tip of marijuana growing on state forest land. The marijuana plants were located, and due to circumstances, were pulled

before the grower could harvest them. There were only seven plants, but some were seven to eight feet tall.

COs Matt Theunick, Eric Bottorff and Mike Feagan worked a possible baited pond complaint on the waterfowl opener. Although there was no bait found, lead shot was. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Richard Stowe was called on by the U. S. Coast Guard (USCG) regarding a boater in distress call on Lake Huron. CO Stowe was able to locate and assist the stranded angler using the Great Lakes patrol boat.

COs Mark DePew and Kelly Ross investigated a complaint of a dead bull elk found in Montmorency County. The elk had been dead for some time, and may have been from the early part of the elk season. The investigation continues.

CO Mark DePew was unable to contact a subject in the spring who appeared to be hunting turkey over bait. CO DePew was successful, however, in contacting the individual hunting over bait on the opening day of bow season. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Depew was conducting surveillance of anglers on the Boyne River after dark. While watching a subject in the river from a concealed position, CO DePew stepped on a stick, alerting the subject. He then observed the subject pick up an object from the river bottom. The subject then threw the object – a rock – at CO DePew, striking him in the chest. CO DePew then made his presence known, and the very sorry suspect profusely apologized. The novice angler stated that he was very nervous being on the river after dark, and he believed that CO DePew was a bear. CO DePew also ticketed two other subjects for snagging salmon.

CO Bill Webster contacted a subject on the opening day of bow season who was hunting over an unusual bait. The subject was using finely ground sugar beets, with “Buck Jam” dripping onto the pile from an I.V. bag. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Bill Webster ticketed a subject hunting over bait in Alpena County in the fall of 2008. The subject was baiting again in 2009, but CO Webster was unable to catch him in the act. CO Webster was able to contact the subject on the opening day of the 2010 bow season, and enforcement action was again taken.

CO Bill Webster observed a vehicle parked near a duck marsh with 20 gauge lead game loads and .22 rifle shells on the seat. With assistance from CO Joe Molnar, CO Webster was able to narrow down the location of the hunter by the sound of the 20 gauge shotgun report. The COs contacted two hunters coming out of the marsh, one of whom possessed a rifle. The shotgun barrel was loaded with lead, and the .22 rifle barrel was also loaded. Neither hunter was properly licensed. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Torsky assisted Pigeon River Country State Forest staff with the investigation of an apparent human gravesite on state land. An elaborate gravesite and shrine had been discovered, which included a rock covered grave with a handmade cross, planted shrubs, hand carved crosses, and an elaborate fence made from tree limbs. The responsible party was identified, and it was determined that the tomb did not contain a body, but was built as a memorial to the subject's daughter, who had been murdered in the Flint area two years ago. Action was taken to have the memorial removed from public land.

COs Nick Torsky, Mark Depew, and Kelly Ross conducted foot patrols through a large area that receives duck hunting pressure in very remote and secluded areas. The area has generated complaints and tickets for early and late shooting, overlimits, and other violations in the past. The COs contacted several hunters throughout the opening weekend with violations that included unplugged guns, lead shot, and improper licensing.

DISTRICT 4

CO Mike Borkovich was patrolling local streams when he contacted subjects who possessed 39 M-60 snag hooks and 13 snagged salmon. The fish were seized and tickets were issued to the subjects who possessed the illegally taken fish.

Area COs conducted their annual Riverwatch patrol with citizen volunteers from across the state concerned with the ethical taking of salmon at Tippy Dam in Manistee County. Volunteers assisted local COs with patrolling the river and reported several incidences of persons taking salmon with illegal gear and using illegal methods. Each year the group coordinates with DNRE Law Enforcement officers to conduct the patrol. The primary focus this year was visibility and deterrence. In previous years the volunteers have worked after dark and into the early morning hours alongside COs to address complaints of persons taking salmon illegally after daylight hours.

CO Steve Converse was patrolling on foot in Manistee County when he observed three persons in a creek chasing salmon with a net and spear and trespassing on private property. He contacted the group and ticketed them.

CO Steve Converse received a complaint of a person snagging with illegal gear on the Manistee River. CO Converse responded and found a person throwing a weighted treble hook and in possession of a salmon that he had recently snagged. The subject was contacted and charged for the illegal gear and the illegally taken fish.

CO Steve Converse ticketed over 40 subjects for committing numerous violations associated with the annual salmon run in the Manistee County river systems over the last two weeks. Violations included using illegal gear, taking salmon by illegal methods, keeping small trout, and fishing without licenses.

CO Angela Greenway encountered a subject on a dune buggy running up hillsides off of the ORV trail on state land in Lake County. Shortly after she arrived, she watched the operator speed down a hillside and run over a stop sign. The driver was ticketed for the illegal operation and made to repair the sign.

CO Brian Brosky was patrolling on the Pere Marquette River when he observed a person drinking beer on the opposite side of the river, using illegal gear and attempting to snag salmon. CO Brosky travelled to the other side of the river and contacted the person as he was walking to his vehicle. The subject was only carrying a fishing pole. While writing the person a ticket for snagging, CO Brosky asked him where his beer can was. The subject admitted to leaving his trash out along the river and was ticketed for litter as well.

CO Jim Espinoza received a complaint from a local MSP trooper reference a subject who was at Indian Bridge in Mason County snagging salmon. When CO Espinoza arrived the subject looked over at him and immediately burned off his illegal gear and intentionally let it sink to the bottom of the river. CO Espinoza recognized the individual and remembered ticketing him for snagging the previous year. Tickets were issued for keeping a foul hooked fish and litter.

CO Steve Converse was patrolling along the Manistee River when he observed six subjects with illegal gear. The gear consisted of three to four hooks tied directly to a single line with a weight suspended below. After contacting the group it was found that there were three father and son pairs on a family outing. Each subject was ticketed for utilizing illegal gear, two were ticketed for keeping over 100 pounds of illegally taken fish and one of the subjects was arrested and jailed on an outstanding felony warrant.

CO Angela Greenway investigated an illegal baiting complaint and found three different piles of corn, carrots, and sugar beets. Officer Greenway contacted the suspects and discovered the bait was placed for the youth hunt. A ticket was issued for the violation.

While patrolling the Pere Marquette River, CO Angela Greenway and Sgt. Kevin Hackworth observed two subjects snagging salmon. The subjects had hooked into several salmon but were unsuccessful in landing any. Contact was made and the male subject admitted that he was teaching his girlfriend how to catch fish by snagging.

COs Angela Greenway and Sam Koscinski were driving across Tippy Dam and observed a man snagging salmon. When they contacted the subject they found he was using an illegal hook. The subject was ticketed for using illegal gear.

COs Sam Koscinski and Angela Greenway were issuing a ticket to a subject for retaining a foul hooked salmon at Tippy Dam when CO Greenway observed three subjects in a boat using illegal gear. The COs were on foot and had no way to get to the boat in the middle of the river. CO Koscinski saw a river guide he knew in a boat that was close by. He contacted the guide and the COs were picked up and taken to the subject's boat. Enforcement action was taken.

While CO Angela Greenway and an employee with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) were checking closed streams they observed a subject on an ORV who was not wearing a helmet. The ORV was on a road leading away from the river and was being followed by a vehicle. In checking the vehicle, a loaded uncased rifle was found in the front seat and an uncased shotgun was found in the backseat. The driver of the vehicle was also in possession of open intoxicants. A knife with blood and deer hair on it was also found. The subjects stated that they obtained the deer from a car-deer accident and had the proper permits. A local deputy confirmed that he issued the permit to the subjects the day before. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Angela responded to a baiting complaint and observed a pile of corn, carrots, mineral block, and sugar beets across the road from the suspect's residence. Contact was made and the subject stated that it was for his goats and geese. CO Greenway asked why he would place food in an area where his animals would have to cross a road to eat and not in the pens behind the house. The subject attempted to convince CO Greenway that the piles were not for attracting deer because his animals occasionally went across the road anyway.

While checking anglers along the Manistee River, CO Seth Rhodea watched an angler who was snagging fish and keeping them. When the CO contacted the angler the angler tried to tell the CO that both fish had been hooked in the mouth and were legal. The angler later admitted that the fish were snagged after CO Rhodea pointed out exactly where he had seen the fish hooked and explained that he had watched the angler remove the hooks. A ticket was issued and the illegally taken fish were seized.

CO Michael Bomay received a complaint of a buck being shot during the early antlerless deer season. CO Bomay stopped by the suspect's house and was informed by a young boy that his older brother had shot a buck and showed him the antlers. The boy also advised the CO that his mom, dad, and brother were hunting down the road. Officer Bomay was waiting in the dark down the road for the family's arrival when a slow rolling vehicle came his way. A subject jumped out of the back of the truck and the truck took off. CO Bomay was able to stop the subject in the truck. As it turned out, this was the same family that Officer Bomay had been waiting for. Mom and Dad were in the front of the truck, while their 16 year old son was in the bed of the truck with a loaded firearm. The father had four prior DNRE violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Michael Bomay was unable to make it in time to a complaint of a subject shooting ducks on a boat the day before the season. The complainant was able to get a license plate when the subject left the lake access site. Two days later, Officer Bomay contacted the subject, who denied shooting ducks out of season and claimed that he had been shooting blackbirds. CO Bomay followed the subject back to his cabin and found a lighted deer bait pile near the cabin with a crossbow and nocked arrow sitting by the window. A ticket was issued for baiting deer.

CO Troy Mueller followed ORV tracks onto a gas company's property. The tracks led to a hunting stand and bait pile. The hunter was not present, but left his bow at the stand. When the subject did not return for the evening hunt, Officer Mueller seized the bow and trail camera and left his card. The subject called the CO two days later and confessed to baiting. The equipment was returned and a ticket was issued.

DISTRICT 5

CO Matt Liestenfeltz responded to a complaint before the archery opener where a land owner located a fresh drag mark coming from his property. It was backtracked to a gut pile and then back to the landowner's elevated hunt stand. The landowner said he had seen a vehicle in the area at dark lately and it had unusual tail lights. CO Liestenfeltz combed the area and located the vehicle at a residence. After an interview one subject confessed to helping a female drag the deer off the property. CO Liestenfeltz located the female hunter and obtained a confession that she had been trespassing and hunting from the stand and shot an eight point buck. The deer was seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Liestenfeltz was contacted by an out of town landowner indicating there may be a hunter on his property. CO Liestenfeltz checked the area at dark and located a subject coming off the property in full camo with a rifle attempting to take deer out of season.

CO Matt Liestenfeltz arrived within minutes to a complaint from a landowner who observed a vehicle with three subjects leaving his property with a deer in the bed of the pickup truck. With a partial license plate number and a description of the vehicle and subjects, CO Liestenfeltz checked the area and located the suspects. The driver, whose driving privileges were suspended, told the CO that one of his passengers shot the small doe the night before on adjacent property and they drove on to the private land without permission to pick up the deer. He also told CO Liestenfeltz that the subject who shot the doe did not want to use his combination license, so he borrowed the second subject's antlerless license which was not valid for that area.

CO William Cherry received a complaint from a landowner who located a blind and bait on his property and had a suspect in mind. CO Cherry located the subject at his house dressed in full camo and in shoes that matched the tracks left at the blind. The subject at first told the CO he was not on the property, then said he'd been on the property to find his dog, and then eventually admitted to hunting over the bait on the private property.

COs Chuck McPherson and Chris Bowen responded to a safety zone complaint on a small lake. They contacted the waterfowl hunter and additionally found the subject with lead shot and an unplugged gun.

CO Bobbi Lively assisted MSP with a search for a subject who fled on foot when the trooper attempted to arrest him, along with another subject, for outstanding felony

warrants. The subject had a mobile meth lab on him when contacted and officers located additional materials to cook meth at his residence.

CO Joel Lundberg was investigating a safety zone complaint on the opening day of waterfowl season. He located the hunters and observed their activities. They were not violating a safety zone, but they did have an overlimit of mallard ducks, which they tried to hide when they saw CO Lundberg. He was able to retrieve the hidden ducks and take enforcement action.

COs Steve Lockwood and Joel Lundberg investigated a complaint of a subject hunting deer with a firearm on the day before the archery season. They located the subject road hunting from a car with an uncased shotgun loaded with buckshot.

DISTRICT 6

COs Phil Hudson and Nick Atkin contacted a small game hunter who had an overlimit of squirrels in the trunk of his vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Seth Rhodea was working a late-night shining patrol when he observed a vehicle shining a large field where several deer were feeding. He watched the vehicle moving slowly down the road, shining the large herd of deer. CO Rhodea got behind the vehicle and followed it for a short distance. When the CO stopped the vehicle, he found an uncased rifle lying on the front seat with live rounds sitting next to them. The subject was ticketed for the violation. The firearm and spotlight were seized as evidence with plans to condemn the rifle.

While on patrol in Tuscola County, CO Joshua Wright came upon an ORV being operated on the roadway. On the ORV were two adults and a three-year old child. None of the riders were wearing a helmet and the ORV was not properly registered. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Joshua Wright was watching an angler on a state game area lake, when he noticed the individual catch a fish, put it in a plastic bag, then hide it in the weeds. The CO watched the angler catch a few more panfish and put them in a creel in plain sight. After watching the angler for about another half hour, the CO witnessed the angler put another fish in the bag that appeared to be an undersized bass. Once CO Wright contacted the angler, he was surprised that the CO was so close and saw what he did. Enforcement action was taken for two short bass.

While on patrol, CO Joshua Wright could see black smoke in the distance and headed toward the source. The CO located a burn pile behind a residence with a tire burning. The owner did not think that there was a problem just burning one tire at a time. The homeowner was ticketed for unlawful disposal of scrap tires.

CO Joshua Wright checked a bait pile on state land and located a subject hunting over it. The hunter could not understand why the CO was checking him and denied knowing

anything about the bait. After locating the hunter's partner, who was also hunting over bait, CO Wright questioned him as to who placed the bait. The hunting partner told the CO that they both brought the bait out. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Seth Rhodea and Joshua Wright checked an illegally baited tree stand in Sanilac County. When they approached the stand, they could see the hunter lighting something up and smoking it. The CO quickly got the hunter down from the stand and found out that the substance was marijuana. After further investigation, COs discovered more marijuana in the hunter's camper. The hunter received three tickets and a hand full of verbal warnings.

COs Seth Rhodea and Joshua Wright were finishing up an investigation when a pickup truck pulled up next to them and stopped. The occupants in the vehicle had two uncased bows sitting on their laps. Further investigation revealed open containers of alcohol. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Scott Brown from Huron County received a phone call regarding a deer that had been shot in Sanilac County. The deer was shot across the road from the complainant's house and was taken from the scene. After patrolling the back roads with assistance from the MSP, the suspect vehicle was located. The two suspects still had blood on their clothes, hands, and in the bed of the truck. After a brief investigation, the carcass was discovered and the head and meat were retrieved the following day. The deer was a nine point buck. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Robert Hobkirk obtained warrants and arrested two individuals for angler harassment that occurred during the bass catch and release season. The subjects were allegedly intimidating and throwing rocks into the water near two anglers who were trying to fish in Huron County. One of the victims identified both individuals from photographic line-ups. The photo line-ups were created with the assistance of CO Jeff Rabbers. The complaint has been submitted to the prosecutor for possible charges.

CO Robert Hobkirk was contacted by CO Mark Depew from District 3 regarding a warrant he had for an individual in Huron County. The subject was being charged with recreational trespass and possessing a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle while elk hunting. CO Depew faxed the warrants to CO Hobkirk, who located and arrested the subjects.

CO Jason A. Smith received a complaint of a subject who had shot a deer on state land during the early antlerless season. CO Smith responded and located the subjects, who had a deer hidden under their vehicle. Neither of the subjects had a private land antlerless license, nor permission to hunt any private land in the area. The deer was also untagged. Tickets were issued for taking deer out of season and hunt deer without a license.

CO Jason A. Smith contacted small game hunters hunting on railroad tracks. After watching the subjects for a while, contact was made and a ticket was issued. The two hunters had five DNRE prior arrests between the two of them.

While working night time deer hunters, CO Jason A. Smith received a complaint of a shot fired a short distance from the area he was working. CO Smith checked the area and located an injured deer in the field. After hiding his patrol truck and waiting a bit, a vehicle matching the original description returned to the area and began to retrieve the deer. Contact was made, an interview was conducted and a confession was obtained. A firearm was seized and tickets were issued.

CO Jason A. Smith checked a piece of property where a bait pile was located at the end of last deer season. A subject with a crossbow was found hunting over beets, apples, carrots, and salt blocks. The subject had stopped and got his crossbow endorsement earlier that day; however, he did not buy a deer license because he "didn't have time." Tickets were issued for baiting and licensing violations.

CO Holly Pennoni responded to a complaint of crossbow hunters hunting on posted private property. CO Pennoni contacted the hunters and issued tickets for recreational trespass. The hunters said they did not see the signs when they entered the property earlier in the morning.

CO Vicki Goss was checking HAP land during the early antlerless season. One individual exiting the area did not have a private land antlerless license so enforcement action was taken. While handling the first incident, another subject exited and was not wearing hunter orange and an appearance ticket was issued.

CO Vicki Goss received a complaint from a lady who was disgusted with her neighbors for not properly disposing of their deer carcasses. She complained of the odor and the possible diseases her dogs and grandchildren may be exposed to. After the complaint was taken care of and two days later, the CO found household trash belonging to her dumped on state land. Another visit was made to the original complainant for clean up and an appearance ticket.

CO Ken Lowell was checking a baited area where he wrote a ticket last year. When the CO got to the blind he found more bait in the same location. The CO contacted the same individual as last year and wrote him another ticket for baiting.

While working a complaint, CO Ken Lowell located several bait piles near tree stands. After several attempts to talk with the landowner, the CO finally caught up with him. The landowner said he likes to bait and admitted to putting out the bait. A ticket was issued.

Sgt. Ron Kimmerly took a complaint where a swan flew through a picture window in a house and started attacking the residence. Upon arrival, the Sgt. found a very unhappy and aggressive swan. The Sgt was able to capture the injured swan with a dog loop.

Unfortunately the swan died from its injuries. The homeowner told the Sgt that he was asleep when the swan went through the window and when he heard the crash he thought a plane had crashed into his house.

CO Jeremy Payne contacted two groups of hunters during the youth waterfowl hunt in the Maple River State Game Area (SGA). Both groups were hunting within the closed refuge. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeremy Payne located two baited tree stands on state land. The CO came back later and found one of the stands occupied. The hunter did not have his name and address on the stand and also had an assault warrant for his arrest. The hunter was lodged in the county jail. The friend of the hunter who was hunting the second baited tree stand will be contacted in the near future.

CO Jeremy Payne contacted a group of four duck hunters. One had no waterfowl license, two had no federal stamps, three had no plugs in their guns, and the group was in possession of an overlimit of hen mallards. Tickets were issued for all the violations.

CO Jeremy Payne worked two duck hunters that were hunting a baited pond. After contacting the hunters it was also found that they did not have plugs in their guns. Tickets were issued.

CO Jeremy Payne was on his way home when he observed some movement in a lighted garage. The CO noticed that a subject was looking at a deer that was hanging from the rafters. The CO contacted the subject and found the deer to be untagged. A ticket was issued.

CO Dan Lee was checking bow hunters as they left the Shiawassee River SGA when he stopped a vehicle with an uncased bow in the front seat. When asked, the hunter could not produce any deer licenses or his driver's license. Tickets were issued.

CO Dan Lee responded to a RAP complaint of duck hunters in the Crow Island SGA a week early. The CO located the hunters and witnessed them drop several ducks. The CO ordered the party out of the marsh and contacted a father and two juveniles. When the CO informed them the south zone opener wasn't until next weekend the father stated that his son had looked it up online and said Crow Island was open. The birds were seized and a ticket was issued.

DISTRICT 7

CO Andy Bauer followed up on information from a local law enforcement agency that was investigating a subject for drug related offenses. During a search of the subject's property, deer parts were found. CO Bauer contacted and interviewed the subject, who claimed to have picked up the deer along the road after his buddy hit it with a car. The subject claimed there wasn't any damage to the vehicle so he didn't get a car deer permit.

CO Steve Mooney observed an angler fishing closed waters in Bangor. Upon approaching the angler, another subject yelled out and warned that the DNR was coming. The angler tossed his fishing pole into the water. CO Mooney informed the angler that if he did not pick up the pole he'd be getting a litter ticket and going to jail. The angler fished out his pole. In addition to fishing closed waters, the angler did not have a fishing license and he was using illegal gear.

CO Greg Patten received a complaint from a subject who had just moved into a new rental house. The subject stated that the previous resident had just been evicted and left a deer hanging in the back yard that did not have a tag on it. CO Patten located the subject who left the deer, and who admitted to shooting the deer. A check revealed that the subject had a license to shoot the deer, but failed to validate and tag it.

While checking area trout streams, CO Greg Patten observed a vehicle parked next to a bridge. CO Patten approached the vehicle and saw someone sitting inside the vehicle quickly trying to make a phone call. CO Patten asked the individual who he was trying to call and the subject responded that he was trying to call his wife, but could not get cell service. CO Patten began to walk up the stream toward a dam when he observed an individual standing in the stream poking around with a spear. The second subject stated that he was just looking around, but there weren't any fish in the river yet. It was then determined that the subject with the spear was with the subject in the truck. The subject in the truck had been trying to contact his friend to warn him that there was a CO in the area, but he did not have cell service and therefore could not make the call.

CO Chuck Towns was on patrol in the Allegan State Game Area (SGA) when he observed two illegal ORV operators who fled upon seeing the patrol vehicle. After a brief search CO Towns located each subject hiding in the woods where they were ticketed for illegal operation.

CO Chuck Towns while on patrol in the Allegan SGA contacted a squirrel hunter who was found in possession of an overlimit of squirrels and was also doing some illegal wood cutting. CO Towns took enforcement action in each of these incidents.

COs Patrick McManus and Mike Mshar were working in Allegan County when they observed a bow hunter coming out of the woods. When contacted, the hunter advised he was just scouting and gave no explanation for not purchasing a license.

CO Chris Holmes was fueling his patrol vehicle when he observed smoke coming from a nearby yard. Upon investigation, he found a subject burning a couch to obtain the metal frame to be sold for scrap. The subject was ticketed for illegal disposal of solid waste.

CO Chris Holmes assisted the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department with a foot pursuit of two subjects who had stolen two ORVs from an area business. The pursuit led to a wooded swamp area and involved the K-9 unit. Information obtained during the

pursuit lead to recovery of the stolen property and arrest of the subjects involved in the break-in.

DISTRICT 8

The MSP received a complaint of an illegal bait pile and called COs Peter Purdy and Dan Prince to assist with the investigation. The COs located a subject who was hunting with a firearm over bait but was not wearing hunter orange. The subject also had an uncased bow in his vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Peter Purdy investigated a complaint that a subject was trespassing and hunting over bait. CO Purdy located a subject who admitted to hunting over bait. The subject also stated that he knew he was hunting on someone else's property but thought it was ok because he had been doing it for years. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dan Prince contacted a subject who was hunting over bait in a tree stand during the early antlerless firearm season, but was not wearing hunter orange. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Damon Owens received a RAP complaint that a deer had been killed illegally during the early antlerless season. CO Owens tracked down the subject and received a full confession as to how he killed the deer illegally. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rich Nickols received information that a subject was hunting waterfowl illegally. CO Nickols located an adult subject hunting waterfowl during the youth-only season. The subject did have a nine-year-old child with him, but admitted to hunting waterfowl out of season, with an unplugged gun, and without the proper waterfowl licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jeff Goss, Brian Fish, and Kyle Bader worked a group ORV patrol to address the illegal operation of ORVs on the Consumer Energy powerline and the roadways. Numerous contacts were made and violations encountered included operating ORVs on the roadway, operating ORVs while license suspended, operating ORVs without the proper safety equipment including helmets, and illegal ORV operation. Enforcement action was taken in all instances.

COs Damon Owens and Jonathan Warner assisted local law enforcement agencies in a Help Eliminate Marijuana Plants (HEMP) patrol. The COs used their ORVs to access areas where conventional vehicles could not travel. A United States Army helicopter was used to locate the marijuana plants; the COs were then directed to the locations on the ground. Over 2000 plants were removed from Jackson County.

With the help of CO Dan Lee in Saginaw County, CO Dan Bigger completed an illegal deer investigation that began last fall. The subject was going to plead not guilty until he found out that CO Bigger had DNA evidence that showed the blood in his truck matched

the deer that was taken illegally on private property. The subject paid \$1000 restitution plus fines and costs and was put on probation for six months.

CO Dan Bigger received a complaint that a deer was shot illegally. CO Bigger investigated and located an untagged deer hanging at a residence. Interviews were conducted and CO Bigger received a confession that the subject shot the deer without first obtaining a license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dan Bigger contacted occupants of a vehicle illegally shining numerous fields at 2:00 a.m. CO Bigger's investigation revealed that the subjects involved in the shining activity lived over an hour away. When asked why they came so far to shine, their response was "everyone knows that big bucks are in this area". Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 9

Checking a complaint of deer baiting, Sgt. Arthur Green and CO Dan Walzak found a ladder stand with a salt block, a large amount of apples and a feeder filled with corn nearby. Another tree stand with a large amount of apples was located a short distance away. Three subjects were later contacted in connection with the baited stands. Enforcement action was taken.

While responding to a recreational trespass complaint, CO Brandon Kieft followed tire tracks until he located a sport utility vehicle with hunting gear inside. Near the vehicle, CO Kieft witnessed a man holding a knife with blood all over his hands. He was just finishing field dressing a deer when CO Kieft asked why the deer had not been tagged. The man stated that he left his hunting license at home; however, a quick check of the RSS system did not show any deer licenses purchased for 2010. The man eventually confessed to shooting the deer without a license and recreational trespass. The deer was seized and enforcement action was taken.

While checking private land on a deer baiting complaint, CO Brandon Kieft contacted a man who was hunting over 100+ pounds of bait. The individual was questioned about the bait and issued a ticket for the violation. CO Kieft also questioned the man about a trail camera, which had recently been taken from the property. The subject admitted to taking the camera, which was seized and returned to the owner.

CO Dan Walzak responded to a complaint of suspected illegal hunting activity at Pointe Mouillee SGA. CO Walzak met up with a Wildlife Division employee and together they contacted six subjects engaged in varying degrees of unlawful hunting activity. Multiple counts of taking wood ducks out of season, hunt waterfowl with lead shot, hunt waterfowl with unplugged firearms and shooting after hours were present. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Mark Ennett and Dan Walzak were first on the scene of a personal injury motorcycle crash. The rider of the cycle was adamant about getting up, getting home

and generally getting out of the area. When rescue arrived and a Monroe County deputy arrived to take the crash report it became clear why it was so urgent for the rider to leave. He was riding a stolen motorcycle.

CO Jonathan Sklba has been kept busy this past week investigating a possible sighting of a black panther at the Petersburg SGA. CO Sklba received information of numerous complaints made by multiple callers in the area. He was also informed that Monroe County Dispatch had received similar complaints. CO Sklba responded to the area and received another complaint from an individual in a local parking area that his son saw the biggest black cat he had ever seen just a couple of miles south of the area. No evidence of an exotic cat was found but patrols of the area will continue and the local biologists will be notified.

COs Jonathan Sklba and Mark Ennett contacted an angler who was fishing at the Edison Pier in Monroe. When CO Sklba asked the subject for his fishing license, he became belligerent and asked the CO why he was harassing him. The subject stated he was from Alabama and CO Sklba advised him of the laws on fishing in Michigan. While the CO was running a LEIN check, the subject became aggressive and decided he did not want to cooperate any longer. COs Sklba and Ennett had to physically restrain the subject and he was arrested for the fishing violation and for resisting and obstructing.

CO Ben Shively contacted three waterfowl hunters who were hunting geese after legal hunting hours. Two tickets were issued and the youth was turned over to the parent.

CO Ben Shively and Sgt Arthur Green contacted a group of small game hunters and found one of them did not have a license. After further checking it was discovered that the subject had his twin brother's fishing license and had last year's small game license that was issued to him. A ticket was issued for hunt small game no license.

CO Ben Shively observed two vehicles pull into a county park and quickly leave when they saw his patrol vehicle. CO Shively stopped both vehicles after they had pulled into a cemetery south of the park. Both vehicles were checked and the driver of the second vehicle had a felony warrant for possession of cocaine on school property. Genesee County confirmed the warrant but advised they were only taking violent felonies. The subject was advised and released.

CO Ben Shively followed up on a complaint from MSP of a subject who was cutting up a deer at 10:00 p.m. CO Shively contacted the subject and asked to see the kill tag. The subject dug in his pockets and pulled out an unvalidated kill tag on a backer. The subject admitted he planned to use the kill tag again. Enforcement action taken.

CO John Borkovich contacted a subject who was in possession of an untagged antlerless deer on the last day of the early antlerless deer season. The subject had discarded the hide and legs of the deer into the Black River. The subject admitted taking the deer near Carsonville and not purchasing a license. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling in Genesee County, CO Mark Papineau stopped two ORVs that were operating on the roadway and whose operators were not wearing helmets. CO Papineau found the machines were not titled and neither of them had an ORV license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher responded to a careless discharge complaint and while checking the property, found a buck tagged with an adult's kill tag. The CO found the tag was signed by the juvenile who allegedly shot the deer. After interviewing all parties, CO Lasher determined the clerk at the store entered the wrong information on the apprentice license.

While patrolling in Lapeer County, CO Al Schwiderson and Sgt. Tom Wanless observed a pickup truck parked on private property near Genesee County Parks' property which is closed to hunting. As the COs approached the vehicle, they observed the tailgate down and three bags of carrots in the bed of the truck. The COs walked a short distance into the woods and found two subjects trimming tree branches in front of a ladder stand. There were also carrots and apples on the ground near the blind. The subjects admitted to placing the bait and it was also determined the blind was on the County property. Enforcement action was taken, the bait was picked up, and the blind removed.

On October 3, CO Mark Papineau and Sgt. Tom Wanless received a RAP complaint of subjects shooting ducks in Genesee County. After checking the area, the COs observed two subjects in camouflage with long guns one half mile from the given location. The COs contacted the father/son duo who admitted to duck hunting and not being good shots. The father stated that his juvenile son only shot one mallard. When asked, the hunters thought the season opened on October 2. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher received a complaint of a subject catching and keeping snakes. CO Lasher contacted the subject, who had a total of 22 snakes that he took from the wild. Working with Wildlife Division Biologists, the snakes were identified and included eight Eastern Fox Snakes, which are protected. The subject stated he collects snakes as a hobby. Enforcement action was taken

CO John Borkovich responded to a complaint in St. Clair County where the complainant saw four deer enter the woods, then heard two gunshots followed by the sound of an ORV. The CO contacted a subject in a nearby parked truck who was acting nervous. CO Borkovich learned that this subject had just sent a text message to six other subjects who were hiding in the woods and warned them that "the DNR was here". CO Borkovich had the subject text the others to come out and when they did, they were not cooperative. CO Borkovich then walked through the woods and found an apple tree with store purchased apples underneath it. The CO continued walking and found a button buck with a large caliber bullet hole in the shoulder and a drag rope attached. CO Borkovich interviewed the subjects and one of them finally admitted to shooting the

deer with a pistol while archery hunting. The subject did not have a CCW and had his 10 year old son with him. Enforcement action was taken for the numerous violations.

While working on Harsens Island, CO John Borkovich contacted a subject and his daughter who were in possession of two untagged deer; one spike and one doe. The spike had been previously shot by an arrow. Enforcement action was taken. While on the ferry coming back to the mainland, CO Borkovich was parked next to two subjects who appeared to have been hunting. When asked how they did, they explained one of them shot at a spike horn that was too far away, but felt he hit it because he was hunting with a crossbow. They tracked the deer for four hours and lost it. When the CO learned where on the island they were hunting and where the arrow hit the deer, the CO explained that another hunter shot the deer.