

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
9/25/2016 – 10/9/2016**

DISTRICT 1

Conservation Officer (CO) Ethen Mapes assisted the Michigan State Police with the arrest of two subjects out of Ontonagon on felony drug related charges.

CO David Miller was working a grouse decoy in a problem area that has significant road hunting activity. After sitting for a couple hours with the decoy out and not a single vehicle going past, CO Miller pulled the decoy and walked back to the truck to put everything away. Soon thereafter, CO Miller heard a truck slowly approaching his position. CO Miller hid in the woods on a corner and made contact with the driver when he arrived. The driver of the vehicle had a loaded firearm in the front seat and tried to explain to CO Miller that his 13 year old daughter must have loaded it. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Ethen Mapes assisted the Ontonagon County Sheriff's Office with a domestic assault that took place in the village of Ontonagon.

COs Ethen Mapes and Matt Eberly worked jointly with Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park staff by utilizing a Great Lakes patrol boat to transport one last big load of materials (6 tons worth) to the mouth of the Carp River. The building materials will be used to rebuild a bridge over the Carp River that was destroyed from the severe weather events that hit the park over the summer.

CO Shannon Kritz received a complaint about a deer being shot and killed in the front yard of a residence in Gogebic County. CO Kritz and CO Brian Lasanen responded to the scene and found evidence that a deer had been shot on private property and within the safety zone or the complainant's residence. The complainant was able to take multiple pictures of the suspect vehicle.

CO Brian Bacon was working ORV activity in Northern Dickinson County when he observed an ORV being operated on the roadway at a high rate of speed. CO Bacon was able to stop the operator and quickly found the ORV to be unlicensed. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Shannon Kritz conducted a patrol in Northern Iron County to check small game hunting activity. Contact was made with a slow moving vehicle, but the occupants claimed to not be hunting. A closer inspection of the contents of the vehicle found open beer cans and an uncased shotgun. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 2

CO Jon Busken was on routine patrol when he observed an ORV being operated by a man with an uncased firearm. A traffic stop was conducted and the operator was found to be administratively denied and revoked. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Zitnik, Cpl. Dave Painter, and Sgt. Jerrold Fitzgibbon attended Agri-Palooza in Chatham. They partnered with Wildlife Division staff Jeff Lukowski and Don Brown. The officers discussed their daily role as a conservation officer in protecting natural resources, as well as hunter safety topics. Wildlife staff demonstrated and talked about banding ducks and what they learn from it. This is a field day set up for 5th grade students from Alger and Marquette Counties. Classes spend 15 minutes at each presentation and see several different topics throughout the day. Several hundred children spent the day learning about natural resources and other topics from 27 different "presenters".

CO Mark Zitnik was on patrol when he came across two ORV operators not wearing helmets. CO Zitnik made contact with the father and son who were on their way to hunt grouse. Several violations were present including no ORV license, no helmet, and an uncased firearm. Law enforcement action was taken.

COs Bobby Watson and Calvin Smith were dispatched to a local launch on the Tahquamenon River for a report of a fully submerged vehicle. The COs used their patrol boat to transport the wrecker service over to the submerged vehicle. The vehicle was recovered and returned to the owner who thanked the COs for their efforts.

COs Mark Zitnik and Calvin Smith participated in a career day held at the Luce County Fairgrounds. Students from every high school in the Eastern Upper Peninsula attended. The COs answered questions ranging from the day to day operations of a CO to the hiring process.

COs Kevin Postma and Calvin Smith checked some duck hunters trying their luck on a local pond. The two young hunters were not of age to be hunting without supervision and one of the hunters had an unplugged gun and possessed toxic shot. The parents were contacted and advised of the violations.

CO Pat Hartsig was checking waterfowl hunters on the Escanaba River who had shot a few mallards. While checking their licenses, one hunter did not have the state waterfowl license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pat Hartsig had found a bear bait and blind made from multiple trees cut down in the Hiawatha National Forest. CO Hartsig finally met the hunter walking into his blind after weeks of attempts. Enforcement action was taken for cutting trees in the National Forest.

CO Pat Hartsig attended a hunter safety class put on at a local high school. Topics such as laws and ethical hunting were discussed with the group.

CO Pat Hartsig, along with CO Chris Lynch and CO Marv Gerlach patrolled Big Bay de Noc and checked numerous commercial fishermen setting out trap nets in anticipation for the upcoming whitefish spawn. Violations such as improperly unmarked nets were addressed.

CO Kevin Postma and PCO Jeremy Sergey assisted Wings of Wonder during the release of "Mighty Mac" in St. Ignace. Mighty Mac is a bald eagle that was rehabilitated after suffering from what was believed to be West Nile virus. The eagle was successfully released and appeared to be healthy and strong.

CO Kevin Postma and PCO Jeremy Sergey assisted with a hunter safety field day at the Chippewa County Shooting Association. Lessons included the safe handling and use of firearms and archery equipment. Adults and youth participated in the event and several students were certified.

CO Kevin Postma responded to the scene of a moose vs. truck accident on Sugar Island. The driver of the totaled vehicle was unhurt, however; the bull moose was found deceased at the scene. CO Postma took possession of the moose where it was then turned over to a local meat processor. Once the moose is processed, it will be turned over to area food assistance programs.

CO Kevin Postma held a hunter education class in the Rudyard area and assisted with another hunter education program in the Sault area.

CO Kevin Postma contacted a group of goose hunters with a limit of 24 birds. After a routine license check, it was determined that one of the individuals was not properly licensed. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Lynch was on night patrol when he observed an ORV operating down the middle of the county road. The ORV was unlicensed, had no working tail light when required and the operator had no helmet on. A traffic stop was initiated and the driver was issued a ticket for the violations.

CO Chris Lynch was on patrol on state land when he observed a truck coming towards him. Once the truck was closer to CO Lynch, he noticed the driver and passenger had open intoxicants in the cab of the vehicle. Both occupants were ticketed for open intoxicants in a motor vehicle.

DISTRICT 3

CO Matt Theunick and PCO Nathan Sink responded to a complaint of an injured owl. CO Theunick and PCO Sink located the owl and were able to capture it. The owl was to be transported to a wildlife rehabilitation center for federally protected birds.

CO Steve Speigl and PCO Nathan Sink responded to a complaint of six dead Canada Geese and two dead mallard ducks dumped by a gravel pit. CO Speigl and PCO Sink located the birds and after investigation located the shooter of the birds. The shooter admitted to dumping the birds by the gravel pit and taking the birds without purchasing a waterfowl license. Enforcement action was taken.

After completing an investigation involving a poached deer in Otsego County, CO Tim Rosochacki received arrest warrants for two individuals for “taking a deer during a closed season”. The subjects were both arrested without incident.

CO Tim Rosochacki contacted several duck hunters hunting from a pontoon boat in Cheboygan County. Upon contact, it was determined that there were no life jackets located on the boat. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tim Rosochacki contacted two hunters hunting in the Pigeon River Country. Upon making contact with the hunters it was determined that both had excessive bait, screw-in tree stakes, and hunting without licenses on their person. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark DePew contacted several ORVs in Cheboygan County that were not displaying ORV licenses. Upon contact, one of the operators was possibly intoxicated. Field sobriety evaluations were performed but did not support an arrest for operating while intoxicated. Enforcement action was taken for the ORV license violation.

COs Andrea Erratt and Andrea Albert attended and instructed at the Charlevoix Rod and Gun Club hunter safety field day. Sixty students received hunter safety training.

CO Andrea Albert, Antrim County, observed a vehicle parked near a local stream that has a history of subjects trespassing on private property to access the small non-navigable stream to take spawning salmon. CO Albert contacted the angler leaving the stream, who said he was scouting it out for salmon. CO Albert pointed out the no trespassing signs that he walked by to access the stream. He claimed to not have seen the signs and did not know it was private. After contacting the landowner, a ticket was issued for recreational trespass.

COs Andrea Albert and Andrea Erratt were checking anglers on the Boyne River when CO Albert observed a female subject in chest waders fishing when suddenly her male companion quickly came down to her location, took her pole, and led her away across the river. After a brief foot pursuit across the river and up the bank, CO Albert contacted the anglers and asked to see her fishing license as the male subject was just checked by CO Erratt. The female subject said her boyfriend had her license. The male subject was very aggressive and said they both had already been checked by a CO. He then produced his fishing license trying to trick CO Albert into thinking it was his girlfriend's license. When CO Albert advised it was his license, he then stated she was only watching him fish. The male subject was very irate and continued to berate CO Albert and interfere with the investigation until CO Albert warned him against doing so. A ticket was issued to the female subject for fishing without a license, and at the end of the contact the male subject stated "Well, at least you were nice about it."

COs Andrea Albert and Andrea Erratt observed and checked numerous anglers on the Boyne River. Subjects were cited for using lead lures with treble hooks and one fish was seized that was illegally taken with a treble hook.

COs Duane Budreau and Chad Baldwin and PCO Carter Woodwyk conducted a salmon fishing patrol on the Boyne River. COs encountered numerous violations ranging from weighted hooks, snagging, and retaining fouled-hooked fish. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrea Erratt responded to a complaint of a subject burning illegal materials. Upon arriving, CO Erratt made contact with a subject burning a couch, plastic bins and appliances. CO Erratt asked the subject if there was anything legal being burned in the pile. The subject stated "no, pretty much nothing in the pile is legal". Enforcement action was taken.

CO Duane Budreau and PCO Carter Woodwyk received a complaint of individuals using a truck to rally geese from a field to shoot. The COs made contact with the subjects, who claimed ignorance of the law. They stated they do this all the time with boats so they thought it would be ok with the truck. The officers explained that neither was legal. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Paul Fox was on patrol on state land in Presque Isle County when he came upon a deer hunter returning to his vehicle from the woods. Upon contact, it was discovered that the hunter did not have his kill tag in his possession or in his vehicle. A citation was issued.

CO Paul Fox was on foot patrol on the Ocqueoc River near the lamprey control weir, where no fishing is permitted within 100' of the weir. Multiple anglers were fishing at or within the weir due to the salmon being stacked up near the control weir. Citations were issued for the violation.

CO Adam LeClerc was patrolling southern Presque Isle County when he noticed a vehicle drive very slowly on a back road. CO LeClerc was able to make contact with the three occupants of the vehicle and found each of them to have an uncased loaded firearm in the vehicle with them. CO LeClerc asked the men what they were doing and they all said they were small game hunting. CO LeClerc issued citation for uncased firearms.

DISTRICT 4

CO William Kinney and CO Troy Muller were working Tippy Dam in Manistee County. The COs observed salmon anglers throughout the evening fishing near the dam. The COs watched two men walk down the sidewalk to the river. CO Kinney observed the two anglers proceed into the water with two large landing nets. The COs sat and observed the two anglers for several minutes and witness one of the anglers' net two fish and place them on shore. CO Kinney and CO Muller made contact and questioned them in regards to their illegal fishing method. The anglers stated they were there to catch salmon and were unaware that they couldn't use nets to catch fish. The COs informed them it is their responsibility to know the laws prior to fishing. Enforcement action was taken and restitution will be sought for keeping unlawfully taken fish.

CO Patrick McManus was on patrol in Leelanau County when there was a call to be on the lookout (BOL) for a specific vehicle that hit several mailboxes as well as two parked cars, and then fled the scene. CO McManus responded to the area and located the BOL vehicle, activating his emergency lights and siren, only to learn the vehicle was not stopping. At this time, not only was the 'vehicle chase' very slow, but the driver had burned off their front tires and were riding on only wheels and hubcaps. Eventually the driver stopped, and upon contact was almost unresponsive. After a quick evaluation of the drivers' health and well-being, CO McManus contacted local EMS as he suspected a diabetic emergency. Once on scene, EMS tested the drivers blood/sugar levels which read almost five times higher than what is considered normal. The driver was transported to the local hospital for treatment, and CO McManus assisted the Leelanau County Sheriff Department with the multiple crash scenes throughout the county.

CO William Kinney received a complaint from the Report All Poaching hotline in regards to an individual who had killed a woodpecker up in the Mesick area. After several weeks of investigating, CO Kinney was finally able to make contact with the suspect. The suspect was very cooperative with the CO and admitted she had killed a woodpecker that had been pecking on her house for several weeks. The suspect helped the CO look for the bullet casing as well as provided a picture of the dead bird. The suspect stated she had no idea she could not shoot the bird until her fiancé came home and informed her that she was in the wrong. CO Kinney informed the lady that other measures should have been tried instead of killing the bird. Enforcement action was taken.

CO William Kinney was working Headquarters Lake in Grand Traverse County during the waterfowl opener. CO Kinney checked multiple waterfowl hunters throughout the course of the morning. CO Kinney watched as two hunters exited their hunting spot using a motorboat. At the launch, CO Kinney noticed that the watercraft being used by the hunters had not been registered since 2014. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was patrolling along the Pere Marquette River when he observed an angler attempting to snag salmon with a fly fishing rod. The angler would let his fly drift over the salmon on gravel beds and would then jerk the line. After several attempts, CO Killingbeck witnessed the angler hook a salmon in the back and subsequently made contact with him. The angler told the CO that he does not call his method of fishing "snagging." Instead he calls it "chuck and ducking." CO Killingbeck educated the subject on legal fishing methods and a citation was issued for snagging.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was on the Baldwin River when he observed a subject walking along the banks looking for fish. Upon seeing a fish, the angler would cast his line overtop of the salmon and reel in very fast attempting to snag the fish. CO Killingbeck witnessed the subject eventually land a salmon that was hooked in the dorsal fin and he proceeded to put it on a stringer. Contact was made and he admitted that he knew his method of fishing was illegal and he offered no excuse for his behavior. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was patrolling along the Baldwin River when he observed three subjects trespassing on posted private property. CO Killingbeck decided to watch the subjects for some time before contacting them. CO Killingbeck soon witnessed one of the anglers going back and forth along the banks looking for salmon to snag. Eventually he took two salmon that were not hooked in the mouth. Contact was made with all three subjects as they were taking the fish back to their vehicles. They all admitted they knew they were trespassing. Further investigation showed that the subject who was snagging did not have a 2016 fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was working on opening day of archery deer season in Lake County and attempted to locate a subject responsible for an illegal ORV trail that lead to a box blind with excessive bait. Although there was no vehicle parked in the area, CO Killingbeck acted on a hunch and hiked into the blind. Once at the blind, CO Killingbeck announced his presence several times with no response. CO Killingbeck checked the door of the blind to see if it was locked and discovered it was locked from the inside. CO Killingbeck then ordered the subject out of the blind and eventually made contact with a hunter who was attempting to hide from him. When CO Killingbeck asked for a hunting license, the hunter said that he had not purchased one yet and also admitted that he

knew his bait pile was well over the legal amount of two gallons. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck responded to a request for assistance with a U.S. Forest Service officer in Lake County. The U.S. Forest Service officer had noted a blind on federal land that had excessive bait. Upon entering the area, CO Killingbeck heard the sound of someone coming out of a ladder stand and began running towards the sound. CO Killingbeck witnessed a hunter running from the stand with a loaded crossbow. CO Killingbeck was able to catch up to the subject and ordered him to stop. The subject told CO Killingbeck that he was not hunting from the stand and said that he was just "walking through the area." The hunter was adamant that he was afraid of heights, and when questioned why he was wearing a safety harness, the subject replied that he "always wears a harness even when hunting from the ground". CO Killingbeck was able to trace the hunter's boot tracks back to the stand and found the matching part of the harness still attached to the tree. Warrants are being requested.

CO Josiah Killingbeck and CO Angela Greenway were on foot patrol at Tippy Dam when they noted a man who was fishing with an illegal "lead minnow". As the COs approached him, he quickly cut his line and put his lure in his pocket thinking the COs had not seen it. When the COs asked him for the lure, he told them he had lost it in the river. When the COs ordered him to remove the lure from his pocket, they also discovered that he was in possession of marijuana. Numerous illegal lead fishing lures were seized from the angler, along with the marijuana. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck, CO Rich Stowe and PCO Kyle Cherry were on patrol at Tippy Dam when they observed several subjects fishing with treble hooks which are illegal on the Big Manistee River. Once contact was made, the COs also discovered the hooks being used by the anglers were oversized and also un-baited. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Troy Ludwig were working the Pere Marquette River in Mason County when they came upon several anglers who were using two ounce spoons with oversized hooks to snag. When the COs made contact with the anglers and asked if they knew why they made contact them, they admittedly stated "we are snagging." Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Troy Ludwig were working the Pere Marquette River when they encountered several anglers who were using $\frac{3}{4}$ ounce spoons with oversized treble hooks to snag fish. The COs watched the anglers as they swept the spoons across the fish beds, ultimately hooking the salmon in their backs. When CO Publiski

and PCO Ludwig approached them and advised that they were getting tickets for snagging, the individuals hung their heads and admitted that they knew snagging was illegal. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Troy Ludwig were following behind a vehicle when they noticed it quickly turn a corner and a man jumped out with a large bag of corn. The COs followed the man into woods only to find that he had already emptied the entire bag of corn under a tree stand that had no name on it and had been left out on public land for several years. The COs approached the hunter and asked him if he was the owner of the stand and he said "yes." The COs discussed the laws pertaining to baiting as well as the regulations on tree stands with the man and enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Joseph Deppen, along with CO Steve Converse and PCO Carter Woodwyk, worked the Big Manistee River at Tippy Dam. The COs noticed a group of anglers who were fishing above the Coffey Dam in waders and could see that they were using in-line, oversized treble hooks with weights below and that they were clearly snagging fish. The PCOs donned waders and went into the river to put a stop to the illegal activity. While they were on their way out, one of the anglers exited the water and CO Publiski discreetly contacted him and noted that he now had a fly tied on. When CO Publiski told the angler that he had already seen him using illegal fishing gear, the angler denied using anything but a fly. CO Publiski saw braided line hanging from the inside pocket of his waders and had him pull it out. Not to the COs surprise was the illegal gear that was being used prior to their contact and the man hung his head and stated, "you got us." The PCOs waded out and made contact with the additional two anglers where they grabbed the illegal gear and ask them to come to shore. PCO Deppen had to carry the female angler on his back when she began struggling in the deep troughs and swift water. Enforcement action was taken once all individuals were back on solid ground, including restitution for the three snagged fish they had kept.

CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Joseph Deppen were working opening morning of duck season when they received a complaint of what was described as illegal deer hunting. When the COs were given the location of the complaint, they knew the shots being heard were most likely from duck hunters. The COs responded and found four hunters in a flooding off the Sable River and witnessed them shoot a woodpecker. After the hunters shot the bird, one man proudly exclaimed "that woodpecker won't peck wood again". The COs eventually made contact with them, and while obtaining licenses CO Publiski noticed little white feathers lying on and around the hunting equipment. CO Publiski then asked the hunters what else they had shot this morning to which they responded "mourning doves" and said they had stomped them into the mud to get rid of them. CO Publiski had the men unearth the doves and enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Joseph Deppen located six anglers on the Pere Marquette River who were retaining foul hooked fish. The anglers had already caught several fish and had bags of fillets lying on the shore, along with carcasses. The COs also witnessed them smoking marijuana cigarettes. When the COs made contact with them, the anglers initially denied any wrong doing. The COs then pointed out the hook marks on the backs of the fish carcasses that were also on shore and their attitudes quickly changed. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Converse and PCO Carter Woodwyk were working a late night patrol on a closed tributary off the Big Manistee River when two individuals came down to the stream with a homemade spear. The COs watched the men as they used their flashlight to illuminate the stream, making several attempts at spearing the salmon. At the point when they were ready to leave, they stashed the spear in the woods and discussed coming back in a few days. The COs surprised them with their presence and enforcement action was taken for the attempt to take salmon with a spear. Several minutes after clearing their contact with that group, a second party showed up with heavy weight rods and bare treble hooks and immediately began attempting to snag the salmon. The COs again emerged and made contact with the men. The COs ran the subjects through LEIN and one individual had a warrant out of Manistee County for an assault charge. He was not able to post bond and was lodged. The others were cited for various charges which included fishing without a license, retaining foul hooked fish, fish without bait, trespassing, use illegal fishing gear, and fishing closed waters.

CO Steve Converse and PCO Carter Woodwyk were working closed waters on the Betsie River when they encountered an angler who was fishing with illegal gear. The angler had taken a crappie rig and had attached an M-60 to each lead. They watched the angler cast multiple times through a deep hole in an attempt to snag salmon before they contacted him and enforcement action taken.

CO Steve Converse and PCO Travis Dragomer watched as a group of five individuals were attempting to snag fish with spoons and spinner bodies without blades. When the COs contacted the anglers, they admitted they were snagging, stating "do you really expect these fish to bite?" The COs responded by them that not every fish will bite, nor will they always have success when fishing, but persistence usually pays off. The COs ran the subjects for priors and found one of the individuals was arrested at that same location by CO Converse for retaining a foul hooked fish two years prior. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Converse and PCO Travis Dragomer were working a late night patrol in a secluded spot on the Betsie River fishing when they encountered an individual using

illegal gear and also in possession of fish on the closed waters. Enforcement action was taken.

Lt. Steve Burton, Sgt. Carla Soper and PCO Casey Varriale worked a stretch of the Big Manistee River below Tippy Dam. Enforcement action was taken for numerous violations which included retaining foul hooked fish, use of illegal gear, and purchasing a resident fishing license when not eligible.

CO Rebecca Hopkins, Sgt. Carla Soper and PCO Thomas Oberg worked a closed portion of Pine Creek in Manistee County when they encountered three anglers who had fishing rods with oversized and un-baited treble hooks, weight suspended below their hooks and possessed four salmon. The anglers were also trespassing. The COs seized the illegal fishing gear and 45 pounds of salmon. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Angela Greenway observed a van parked along the roadway near a closed trout stream. CO Greenway was able to locate the subject trespassing and attempting to snag salmon. CO Greenway watched the subject walk up and down the bank with a fishing pole attempting to snag salmon. The subject eventually hooked a fish in the back. When CO Greenway made her approach, the subject stated that he had entered the river from the bridge. However, his vehicle was parked nowhere near the bridge. CO Greenway advised him that she had observed him walking the banks of the river and attempting to snag salmon. He got very upset and told the CO that she should be out solving real crime and catching real bad guys like the 8 year olds taking a buck during the youth hunt.

CO Angela Greenway continued surveillance of a closed stream and approximately an hour later a van pulled up right by the river. A guy got out and ran along the river looking for fish. Upon locating fish, he ran back to his van to get a fishing rod. On his first attempt to snag a salmon, he jerked the line so hard the line that it was caught in a tree behind him. The violator then cut the line and ran back to his van to get more gear and re-tie another snagging rig. On his second attempt, he successfully snagged a salmon and hid it under a tree branch. Another vehicle drove by the stream and slowed down. The violator ran and hid in the bushes until the vehicle was out of sight. The violator then got spooked, grabbed his fish and ran toward his van. CO Greenway headed the suspect off and was able to catch him before he fled the area. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lebel and PCO Casey Varriale were on patrol during the waterfowl opener and located two hunters using buckshot and hiding various toxic lead shot when the

COs made contact. One subject was also in possession of marijuana. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lebel and PCO Casey Varriale were working the waterfowl opener and checked a hunter that was using an unplugged shotgun. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Ginn and PCO Bauer were working along the Manistee River when they observed a male angler actively fishing. Upon further investigation, the COs observed the male suspect fishing with a lure primarily made of lead. The angler was cited and the lure was seized as evidence.

CO Jeff Ginn was working along the Manistee River when he observed two anglers actively attempting to snag salmon. Upon making contact with the suspects, they were cited for snagging and possessing an undersized brown trout.

CO Jeff Ginn and PCO Jeff Dell were working northern Newaygo County when they observed a male angler fishing in a closed trout stream. The angler was contacted and found to be in possession of a brook trout. The angler was cited for fishing a closed stream and given a warning for possessing the trout out of season which was successfully released.

CO Jeff Ginn was north bound on M-37 during the early morning when he observed a vehicle which appeared to be stuck on the railroad tracks south of White Cloud. Upon further investigation, CO Ginn observed two subjects attempting to get the vehicle unstuck from the rails. Upon making his approach, the suspects ran into the woods from CO Ginn. CO Ginn and PCO Jeff Dell located one of the males hiding in a car at a nearby campground. The second suspect was also located and charges are pending.

CO Jeff Ginn made contact with a subject who was using a multi-pointed hook. He claimed to have a language barrier. After some communication struggle, CO Ginn was able to obtain consent to look in his tackle box. CO Ginn was able to locate various illegal tackle. A check with Station 20 for prior convictions revealed that he had priors from last year for illegal gear. A citation was issued.

CO Mike Wells was on special assignment at Tippy Dam regarding the fall salmon run. CO Wells observed a single subject in a canoe, snagging, in hopes that the darkness would conceal his activity. CO Wells monitored the subject for a period of time and observed him land two foul hooked fish. A subject in waders assisted the subject in the canoe by netting one of the fish for him. The subject in waders took possession of both fish placing them on a stringer around his waist. The subject in the canoe came back to

shore and CO Wells made contact with him. The subject admitted he had foul hooked the fish and that he had given several fish to the subject in waders because he was nice enough to net some of the fish for him. A citation was issued to the canoe operator for retaining a foul hooked fish. CO Wells continued to monitor the subject in the waders and a few hours later he returned to shore and contact was made. This subject had five salmon on his stringer and when asked how many of the five salmon he had caught, he admitted that he had only caught one of the five salmon. The subject readily admitted that four of the salmon were given to him by a subject in a canoe. CO Wells advised this subject of the foul hooked fish and the subject initially stated that he did not know that the fish that were gifted to him were snagged. Further interview revealed that the one salmon that the subject had caught was also foul hooked. A citation was issued for the retaining of the foul hooked fish.

CO Mike Wells and PCO Casey Varriale were partnered up on the opening day of the waterfowl season. Prior to legal shooting hours, they received a complaint of trespass regarding two watercraft that had entered into a waterway that was completely surrounded by private property and set up to hunt without permission of the land owner. The COs responded to the area and made use of a canoe to contact the two trespassing watercraft. Contact was made with the two vessels and, after educating the hunters regarding recreational trespass on waterways, the subjects politely agreed to leave. The COs returned to the location of the complainant, whom was also hunting with two other subjects a short distance away from the trespassing vessels. The complainant was advised of the outcome and that the subjects agreed to leave. Waterfowl checks were made of the complainant and his two hunting partners and it was discovered that one of these subjects possessed an unplugged gun. The other subject had failed to obtain his state waterfowl license and was in possession of several rounds of lead shot. Citations were issued for the unplugged gun and the possession of lead shot.

CO Troy VanGelderren and PCO Kyle Cherry were working salmon snaggers on the White River when they witnessed three fishermen attempting to snag fish with illegal gear. Since the water was too deep to cross, the COs drove to the other side of the river and snuck up behind the violators. PCO Cherry made contact while CO VanGelderren watched from a hidden location. One of the suspects, still in the water saw, PCO Cherry. CO VanGelderren witnessed him cut his line to get rid of his illegal hook. The suspect then said that something broke his line. CO VanGelderren advised him that he witnessed him cut his line, and he denied cutting his line or using illegal gear. The COs issued citations to all three fishermen for snagging with illegal gear, and a second citation for littering to the suspect that cut his line. After the fishermen left, CO VanGelderren put on his waders and dragged the river with a stick until he found the suspect's cut line, with the illegal hook still attached.

CO Troy VanGelderren and PCO Kyle Cherry were patrolling a closed creek full of salmon when they witnessed a subject with a fishing pole attempt to snag the spawning salmon. The COs ran across the creek to catch the suspect when he attempted to leave in a hurry. The COs found two more snagged salmon hidden in the suspect's vehicle. Citations were issued for fishing on the closed stream and snagging the salmon.

CO Troy VanGelderren and PCO Kyle Cherry were patrolling the White River after dark when they witnessed four fishermen attempting to find salmon with their headlamps. The suspects then would cast out their lines and reel their lines in. The COs could see through night vision that the hooks the suspects were using were illegal "spiders" with weights permanently attached to the hooks. After realizing that the suspects did not know how to snag salmon, they made contact and issued tickets for the illegal hooks. The COs also took numerous other illegal hooks off from the suspects. The suspects said that a man who they met in the parking lot earlier gave them the hooks and said that they worked for catching salmon.

CO Ben Shively of Oceana County was checking a closed section of stream when he observed vehicles parked near the stream. CO Shively observed a subject attempting to spear fish. CO Shively walked the stream back to where he saw the subject and observed four subjects in the stream three of them using five foot tree limbs that had been sharpened to a point and one using a machete attempting to spear fish. CO Shively contacted CO Troy VanGelderren and PCO Kyle Cherry who responded to the area and walked down the stream from the opposite direction. Upon seeing the COs, all the subjects dropped or hid their make shift spears and pitched the machete into the weeds. The subjects were taken back to their vehicle and the COs attempted to identify the individuals, but none of them could produce any valid identification. Since the individuals could not be identified, CO Shively placed all four subjects under arrest, and with the assistance of an Oceana County deputy, transported the subjects to the Oceana County jail where they were lodged and issued citations for attempting to take fish by illegal method and given verbal warnings for fishing without a license and attempting to take fish on a closed trout stream.

CO Ben Shively was working Tippy Dam just after midnight when he observed a subject fishing alone along the shore just up from the coffer. As CO Shively watched the subject, he observed that the subject was using illegal tackle and attempting to snag fish. After watching the individual cast three times and attempt to snag a fish five times per cast, CO Shively was just about to make contact when the subject snagged a fish. CO Shively observed the fish come in sideways to shore and watched the angler remove the hook from the belly of the fish in front of the adipose fin and then put it on a

stringer. CO Shively made contact with the angler who quickly tried to hide his illegal gear. The subject was cited for snagging and retaining a foul hooked fish, and issued a verbal warning for using illegal tackle. CO Shively weighed the king salmon, and \$100 restitution will be sought on the 10 pound fish.

DISTRICT 5

CO Steve Lockwood and Sgt. Jon Wood investigated a RAP complaint of duck hunting during the closed season. The suspects had left the area before they arrived on scene. The info was that they had a cabin in the area and were going to lunch. After much searching and no luck finding them, Sgt. Wood thought to go check a local sporting goods store. The suspect vehicle was parked across the street and the hunters were located. The suspects confessed and turned over the ducks they had shot during the closed season. Warrants are being sought.

PCO Smither and CO Lockwood worked the Pine Creek (closed water) in Manistee County and caught four juveniles, their two fathers and another adult netting salmon. The one father dropped everyone off and left the area, there was one adult on the bridge alerting the net crew to oncoming vehicles and when to hide, then the vehicle came back a short time later to pick everyone up. The COs were watching the whole thing take place and stopped them as they were leaving with seven illegally harvested salmon weighing over 100 pounds.

CO Ethan Gainforth received a complaint regarding the gross over baiting of deer on a property in Clare County. CO Ethan Gainforth and CO Joshua Wright walked to the over baited tree stand and made contact with two hunters. In addition to the excessive deer bait, it was determined that one of the hunters was hunting without a license. The hunters were advised of the baiting issue and a total of seven blinds, each with gross over limits of bait were found. Multiple citations were issued and the hunters were made to clean up the bait to a legal limit of two gallons.

CO Nick Atkin was checking for angler activity at the Pine River Access Site when he observed a subject fishing from shore. It was clearly apparent to the angler that CO Atkin was watching him fish. After watching the subject fish for about 10 minutes, CO Atkin made contact and discovered the subject was fishing without a license. Ironically, the angler advised CO Atkin that he knew he didn't have a license, and simply hoped the CO would not check him. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Atkin responded to a several waterfowl complaints on the middle zone waterfowl opener in Arenac County. Both complaints were in the south zone which was not currently open for the hunting of waterfowl. In total, four illegal waterfowl were seized and numerous citations were issued for the hunting and taking of waterfowl during the closed season.

CO Nick Atkin observed several waterfowl hunters on the Saginaw Bay during the south zone waterfowl opener. CO Atkin made contact with four hunters at the close of hunting hours. During the course of the contact, CO Atkin discovered that not only were the hunters operating an unregistered watercraft, but all four of the hunters were in possession of an over-limit of Redhead Ducks. Numerous citations were issued.

CO Mark Papineau received a complaint of a hunter conflict involving a dispute over a hunting location on state land in Gladwin County. According to the hunter, when he returned to his hunting location, he discovered a threatening note secured to a tree adjacent to the hunting blind. CO Papineau was able to locate two hunting blinds in the area, both of which were over-baited. Several days later, CO Papineau made contact with one hunter who denied writing the threatening note. The subject eventually confessed to note, and said that he had made a stupid decision. The subject also advised that he and his son over-bait because they are from out of town and only come up on the weekends. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Papineau was dispatched to an ORV accident at the ORV Trailhead Parking Lot in Gladwin County. Upon arrival, CO Papineau made contact with the juvenile victim and several witnesses. The investigation revealed that the ORV was being operated in a careless manner in the parking lot by a juvenile and with an illegal passenger, also a juvenile. The driver of the ORV lost control, struck a wooden boundary marker which overturned the ORV. Both the juvenile driver and juvenile passenger were ejected. The illegal passenger landed on a second wooden boundary marker crushing her chest. The victim was transported to the hospital by EMS where she was treated and released the following day with numerous rib fractures. Luckily, the victim suffered no life-threatening injuries.

On the opening weekend of archery season CO John Huspen was patrolling a Crawford County location where someone had started baiting before the September 15 date. CO Huspen contacted the subject who had numerous violations besides the early bait. The subject was hunting from a tree stand with no name and address attached, he had exceeded the 2 gallon limit for bait at the site, no hunting license in possession, destroying damaging trees on state land no permit and operating an ORV cross county to place the stand and bait. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben McAteer followed up on a complaint of an illegal dump site on state land in Crawford County. CO McAteer was able to locate building materials that led to a nearby construction site. The owner of the site stated that he had hired a local dumpster company and paid \$400 to have the building materials removed to the dump. CO McAteer tracked down the owner of the dumpster company and after a lengthy interview obtained a confession to the illegal dumping. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben McAteer encountered two hunters located in a pop-up blind on state land in Crawford County. The couple complained about the amount of traffic in the area and stated that they were about to leave. CO McAteer requested the hunting license from both hunters. After the request, the male subject stated that his girlfriend was not hunting and that she only brought out her crossbow to see what it was like to have it in the blind. After speaking with the female subject it was determined that she was in fact hunting, but had not purchased a license. A citation was issued for hunting without a license.

While on patrol in Kalkaska County, CO Mike Hearn and Probationary CO Ryan Andrews received information of a underage drinking party that was being planned on state land. The information stated that the party was to be held on state land near the Springfield Recreation Area and was being advertised on social media. CO Mike Hearn and PCO Ryan Andrews investigated the area and found flagging setup to lead party participants to the party location along with several tarps setup as shelter and a "Happy Birthday" sign hung in the trees. In an effort to control the party, CO Mike Hearn and PCO Ryan Andrews conducted a patrol of the area and performed a traffic stop on the first vehicle following the trail that lead to the party location. The vehicle had four minors in it that were in possession of a keg of beer, marijuana, and schedule 1 narcotics. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sam Schluckbier made a traffic stop on an individual coming out of the woods in Kalkaska County. Inside the vehicle was empty five gallon buckets. The driver appeared to act nervous and began to tell stories about previous hunting locations. After interviewing the subject for several minutes, CO Schluckbier convinced him to walk back to his tree stand. Once at the stand, CO Schluckbier located approximately 15-20 gallons of bait and an illegal tree stand. Surprisingly, the hunter has been cited for the same violations 5 times in previous years. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sam Schluckbier made a traffic stop on a suspicious vehicle operating on a forest road. During the stop he discovered that the driver was the thirteen year old son of the passenger. When speaking with the passengers he could smell beer on his breath. Open alcohol containers were shoved underneath the seat and a case of beer was located in the back. CO Schluckbier searched the vehicle and found a loaded handgun hidden under some clothes. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Bowen made contact with an individual who was cutting wood on state land. During the contact it was discovered the subject did not have permit to remove the wood. The subject stated that it was already on the ground so he thought anyone could take it. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Bowen received a complaint of waterfowl hunters inside the safety zone of landowners on shore of a Roscommon County lake. CO Bowen located the hunter and was able to use a rangefinder to get an accurate distance. The hunter was only 102 yards from the houses on shore. Enforcement action was taken.

While investigating a complaint in the Backus State Game Area, Probationary CO Joseph Myers and CO Chuck McPherson discovered multiple illegal baits. Upon investigation of those baits they were able to locate and discover two hunters. One hunter had not tagged a deer he had shot earlier in the season. The hunter was still in possession of two kill tags. The same hunter was also hunting from an unlabeled tree stand. The other hunter was hunting without any identification, hunting license or kill tags in his possession. Warrants are being sought for the untagged deer violation

Probationary CO Joseph Myers and CO Chuck McPherson were patrolling the Dead Stream Swamp when they contacted a hunter in a blind on state land without a name or address attached. The hunter also had cultivated a food plot, spread an over limit of bait, cut trees for concealment, and did not have any identification, hunting license or kill tag in his possession. Enforcement action was taken.

Probationary CO Joseph Myers and CO Chuck McPherson were dispatched to a complaint in the Backus State Game Area. The complaint was regarding a hunting camp that was in a location not permitted. Upon contact of the hunting camp it was discovered that the camp did not have a DNR Camp Card, required for all state land camping and had operated a vehicle in an area not permitted. Upon contacting the hunters, one hunter had a warrant for his arrest and was taken into custody. The Roscommon Sheriff's Office assisted and the subject was lodged in the Roscommon County jail.

Probationary CO Tom Oberg and CO Bobbi Lively were checking waterfowl hunters in Iosco County on the opening day of the middle zone waterfowl season. While checking ducks on one of the vessels, PCO Oberg and CO Lively came across a grebe, a protected species. When PCO Oberg asked the hunters about the bird, they claimed that they thought it was a teal duck because it had flown in with a group of teal. The bird was seized and enforcement action was taken.

Probationary CO Joseph Myers and CO Brian Olsen responded to a larceny of hunting equipment complaint in Ogemaw County. PCO Myers and CO Olsen were able to locate and interview the suspect. Although he initially lied and tried to claim that he received the property from a friend, a confession was eventually obtained. PCO Myers

and CO Olsen were also able to recover additional stolen property from the suspect's house and a warrant is being sought through the Ogemaw County Prosecutor's office.

Probationary CO Colton Gelinias and CO Kyle Bader tried to stop a vehicle that committed a traffic violation in Ogemaw County. The vehicle failed to stop, and led PCO Gelinias and CO Bader on a 6-mile pursuit at speeds greater than 90 mph. The driver fled his vehicle on foot and ran into an apartment complex. PCO Gelinias and CO Bader, along with the help of Ogemaw County Sheriff Deputies, located the driver's apartment. He was convinced to open his door and was taken into custody without incident. He is being charged with two felonies and two misdemeanors through the Ogemaw County Prosecutor's Office.

PCO Colton Gelinias and CO Kyle Bader checked a group of three duck hunters on opening day of the middle zone waterfowl season. The group had violations including: no federal waterfowl stamp, no state waterfowl license, no base license, inadequate number of PFDs on board their vessel, and taking a prohibited species, a grebe. Enforcement action was taken.

PCO Colton Gelinias and CO Kyle Bader responded to a complaint of a person passed out in the driver's seat of a car at a public boat launch. The front passenger tire was missing and the rim was nearly destroyed. Gouge marks in the road indicate the car was driven without the front tire for over three miles. The driver was found to have a blood alcohol content over three times the legal limit. She was arrested and lodged in the Ogemaw County Jail.

CO Jeff Panich was given a baiting complaint by CO Warren MacNeill in July of 2016. He continually monitored the large bait throughout the summer. On October 1st, CO Panich walked to the pop-up blind where he was met by a hunter. CO Panich checked the man's license and discussed the length of time he had been baiting and the amount currently on the ground. CO Panich asked the hunter why he was baiting in a restricted county when there were large food plots directly behind his hunting area. The hunter shrugged his shoulders and stated, "I figured I was deep enough in the woods and felt confident I wouldn't be caught." Enforcement action was taken.

CO Casey Pullum was investigating some deer hunting violations on state land when he came across a subject walking in the woods. The man informed CO Pullum that he just witnessed two subjects on the trail operating ORVs without helmets. CO Pullum noted the information for future patrols in the area. The very next day, CO Pullum was patrolling in the exact same area when he noticed three ORVs. All three operators were carrying passengers on machines that were not designed for them and no one in the

group was wearing a helmet. After conducting a stop on the ORVs, CO Pullum also noticed the ORVs were unlicensed. He recognized one of the operators as the man he spoke with the day before on the trail. When CO Pullum pointed that out, the man's friends couldn't believe he "told on them." Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 6

COs Will Brickel and Joel Lundberg located a fresh ORV trail going into a closed area on state land. Shortly after the ORV was located, the COs made contact with the operator. He was not wearing a helmet and was operating in the closed area. Further investigation showed he was placing bait at a deer stand which already had too much bait. Tickets were issued for the illegal operation and over baiting.

While patrolling in Huron County for shining activity, CO Kyle Bucholtz located two vehicles parked on a secondary road partially blocking the traveled portion of the roadway. CO Bucholtz made contact with the occupants. During the investigation, CO Bucholtz and a patrol officer from Harbor Beach located marijuana, alcohol, cigarettes and prescription medication in a seventeen year-old's possession. The investigation is ongoing.

CO Kyle Bucholtz responded to a deer hunting complaint in Huron County. While investigating the scene, CO Bucholtz located two separate baiting violations. Once the suspects were located, enforcement action was taken.

COs Kyle Bucholtz and Bob Hobkirk patrolled the Saginaw Bay for the opening day of waterfowl season. While speaking with a group of hunters, the COs observed another group of hunters shoot at a flock of cormorants. Two cormorants swam off wounded and a third was seized after it was found dead in the water. Enforcement action was taken for hunting a non-game species.

CO Chad Foerster received a complaint during the youth deer season that indicated youth hunting deer on state land hunting with firearms and without wearing hunter orange. The CO was able to locate the youth hunters in question along with numerous others. When the investigation was complete, the CO found 16 violations ranging from not wearing hunter orange, improper licensing and possession of an untagged deer. The adult in charge and the youth were all educated on the law and enforcement action was taken.

CO Quincy Gowenlock and PCO Troy Ludwig responded to a complaint of a suspect who had purchased more than one deer license for his children. PCO Ludwig made contact with the suspect and he admitted to buying a second set of kill tags for his children knowing they already had them. The suspect explained his ex-wife refused to give him their deer licenses so he could take the kids hunting on his day off. The father just decided to buy them so he did not have to deal with his ex-wife. Enforcement action was taken.

During Michigan's youth deer season, CO Mike Haas observed a vehicle parked on the side of a dirt road with its hood propped up and was displaying expired license plate. Upon checking the vehicle CO Haas could see hunting gear in the back seat and boot prints leaving the roadway heading into the woods. CO Haas parked down the road and determined who the car belonged to. CO Dan Robinson was called to assist with the situation and went to the home of the vehicles registered owners for an interview. CO Robinson asked the owner of the vehicle if her car had broken down and she told him the car was fine. Her husband and son were using the car and had gone hunting. CO Haas observed two hunters leave the woods, get into the vehicle and drive away. CO Haas got behind the vehicle and pulled the operator over for the expired registration. While speaking with the driver it was determined that he did not have a driver's license on him, he did not have permission to hunt on the property where they were hunting and had a loaded rifle in the back seat. Enforcement action was taken.

During a patrol through state land in Isabella County, CO Mike Haas encountered an ORV. The operator was 12 years old and had another juvenile sitting on the back of the 4-wheeler. The juveniles were warned for not wearing helmets and eye protection, riding double, operating in a closed area, having an expired ORV license and not having their ORV safety certificates. They were escorted home where the mother was informed of the numerous violations and notified she could also be cited for allowing children under the age of 16 to operate an ORV without adult supervision. Enforcement action was taken.

While conducting a night patrol in Isabella County, CO Mike Haas heard a Mt. Pleasant officer call out a vehicle pursuit on the radio. The fleeing vehicle failed to stop for officers then crashed into a house, injuring a woman that was inside the home. The driver of the vehicle then fled on foot and attempted to hide from the officers. The Mt. Pleasant Police Department asked for any near-by units to assist in setting up a perimeter. CO Haas responded along with troopers from the Michigan State Police, Isabella County deputies, Saginaw-Chippewa Tribal Police, and Central Michigan University officers. A team of officers and a canine unit searched on foot through backyards and wooded areas to flush the suspect out of his hiding spot. While watching the perimeter from his patrol truck, CO Haas observed the suspect running across the road with an officer pursuing him. CO Haas left his patrol truck and pursued the suspect on foot. After running through several yards, CO Haas was able to catch up to the suspect and tackle him to the ground. Additional officers then helped secure the suspect who was arrested for driving while having a suspended license, fleeing and eluding, resisting and obstructing, failing to stop at the scene of an injury accident and for an open arrest warrant.

COs Mike Haas and Dan Robinson responded to a trespassing complaint during the early antlerless season in Isabella County. The owners of the property stated their renter was in the woods hunting and had been told she was not allowed to hunt on the property. The COs located the woman and spoke with her in her deer blind and addressed the trespassing allegations. The woman stated she had never been told she couldn't hunt there and the COs were also made aware of current civil disputes which

were complicating the situation. While trying to determine whether the woman should be hunting there or not, a deer stepped into one of her shooting lanes. The woman stated she was within her legal rights to shoot the deer and had to feed her family. After the COs advised her not to shoot the deer, the woman aimed her rifle and shot the deer. CO Robinson escorted the woman out of the woods as CO Haas investigated the deer which turned out to be a young antlered buck. CO Haas notified the woman that she had just shot an antlered deer in front of two COs during the antlerless deer hunt. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Isabella County, COs Mike Haas and Dan Robinson investigated a bait feeder which was within the shooting lane of a deer blind next to the road. The COs could see the area around the feeder appeared disturbed and knew the feeder was placed before it was legally allowed. Once the COs got to the feeder, they could see that it was rigged with a hole to dump bait when a chain was moved. The feeder was approximately a quarter full of corn and some was on the ground. The next day CO Robinson made contact with the subject who had moved the bait overnight and denied that it was there the day before. A citation was issued to the individual for baiting prior to September 15th.

While working Huron County on the opening day of archery deer season, CO Robert Hobkirk cited three subjects who had driven onto the Verona State Game Area to retrieve deer.

While working a patrol in Huron County on the evening of the archery deer opener, CO Robert Hobkirk checked a shiner who was in possession of an uncased and cocked crossbow. The subject was cited for the violation.

On September 30th, Sgt. Ron Kimmerly received a call from a Saginaw County Sheriff's Deputy that a group of hunters may have been hunting geese during the closed season. Sgt. Kimmerly, the Saginaw Deputy, and a Saginaw County Sheriff's Sergeant contacted the three hunters in a field on Mackinaw Road in Saginaw County. The hunters were hunting five days after the goose season had closed. The hunters told the officers they had just read the hunting guide that morning and must have misread it. The hunters were in possession of eight geese they had just shot. Further investigation revealed this was not the only day they hunted geese after the close of the season. The hunters shot 15 geese on the 27th, two days after the season closed. Sgt. Kimmerly went to one of the suspect's residence and seized the meat from the 15 geese from a refrigerator. A total of 23 geese were seized. The reimbursement to the state before the fines will total \$11,500.00 at \$500.00 per goose. The three hunters were each issued a citation for taking geese out of season.

On the opening day of archery deer season, CO Ken Lowell was following up on an illegal baiting case on state land. As the CO was driving down a two-track he observed the suspect vehicle and made a traffic stop. There were two hunters in the vehicle and both had uncased crossbows in the front seat of the truck. The CO had the suspects show him where they were hunting. One of the hunters took the CO to another hunter's

stand to avoid his violations of illegal baiting, screw in tree steps and no name on his tree stand. After informing the hunter he knew where he was actually hunting the hunter took the CO to his illegal tree stand. Violations included uncased bow in a motor vehicle, bait more than 2 gallons, using screw in steps on state land, and failing to put name and address on stand. The driver of the vehicle was also suspended and the passenger had a valid warrant for her arrest. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Joel Lundberg and PCO John Byars were conducting a snagging patrol on the Big Manistee River. PCO Byars noticed what appeared to be an angler fishing with a spoon. After the subject casted, PCO Byars noticed the lure traveled too far to be a normal weighed spoon. PCO Byars also noticed a distinct sound once it hit the water. PCO Byars approached the subject and discovered that the subject was fishing with an illegal lure. CO Lundberg checked two more subjects nearby and discovered they were also using the same type of illegal lure. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Joel Lundberg and PCO John Byars were observing an angler struggling to land a fish at the base of Tippy Dam. After further observation, CO Lundberg and PCO Byars noticed the fish was not hooked in the mouth. The subject retained the foul hooked fish once he landed the fish. Enforcement action was taken.

PCO John Byars was observing an angler at the base of the Tippy Dam in Manistee County. PCO Byars noticed the angler was attempting to illegally snag fish. After a period of time, PCO Byars observed the subject illegally snag a fish and retain it. PCO Byars made contact with the angler who stated he had not finished paying off the citation from last year for the same offense. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Joel Lundberg was working anglers fishing for salmon on the Manistee River. CO Lundberg got in his truck to check a different section of river and two small game hunters were coming down the road towards the officer. CO Lundberg contacted them and noticed an uncased, loaded rifle in the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jill Miller investigated a complaint about a safety zone violation and an early bait pile. CO Miller contacted the suspect and there was not a safety zone violation but the subject had placed bait prior to the legal start date. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jill Miller attended a hunter safety class in Bay County. There were around 60 people in attendance.

CO Jill Miller checked a subject who came to get his five point buck checked at a deer check station in Bay County. Upon checking the deer, CO Jill Miller noticed the subject tagged the deer with someone else's tag. The subject admitted to using the wrong tag. Education and enforcement action was taken.

CO Jill Miller investigated a complaint in Bay County about a subject who shot a doe in a county which was not open to hunt during the early antlerless season. CO Jill Miller

contacted the subject who admitted they didn't know that the county was a closed county for the antlerless season. Education and enforcement action was taken.

CO Jill Miller was out on patrol in Bay County checking anglers on a creek and noticed a subject on an ORV in a field without a helmet. The subject shut off the ORV and waited a few minutes in the field. The subject then started the ORV back up and proceeded to the roadway without a helmet on. CO Jill Miller was able to catch up to the ORV and conducted a stop. The subject who was not wearing a helmet as required by law had also failed to license his ORV. Education and enforcement action was taken.

CO Jay Person was asked to assist on a "be on the lookout" for a vehicle traveling through Midland County. Citizens were following this vehicle due to erratic driving and nearly causing numerous accidents. CO Person was advised by Central Dispatch that the citizens got the driver of the vehicle to stop in downtown Colman. The male citizen made contact with the driver and advised central dispatch that he was "highly intoxicated". CO Person arrived on scene and made contact with all involved. The driver of the suspect vehicle appeared to be intoxicated and expressed his thanks to the nice citizens for stopping him. He told CO Person "they did a good thing!" Sobriety tests were conducted and a PBT administered indicated the subject was almost twice the legal limit. CO Person was assisted by a MSP Trooper and the suspect was arrested and transported to the Midland County Jail.

While patrolling in Sanilac County, COs Seth Rhodea and Mark Siemen contacted a male and female hunting together. The couple initially told the COs that only the female was hunting and she was the only one with any deer licenses. Due to some suspicious behavior, the COs continued to question the hunters. When they asked the female to pull her bow back she initially picked it up upside down and was unable to pull the string back more than a few inches. The couple then admitted the plan was for the male to shoot the deer and the female would then use her tags. Citations were issued for hunting without a license and the illegal use of screw in steps on state land. The male hunter was also transported to jail on several outstanding warrants.

CO Dan Robinson participated in a Rural Education Day at a farm in Shepherd. CO Robinson had the opportunity to talk to 350 fourth-graders from the Isabella County school districts. The students traveled between stations where they were exposed to farm life and the importance of farming in our communities. CO Robinson focused the discussion at his station on ORV safety when traveling on county roadways and on trails in the state.

While on patrol CO Dan Robinson responded to a complaint of property damage involving an ORV. CO Robinson located the vehicle and witnessed the ORV driving in a reckless manner on a county road. CO Robinson stopped the vehicle and arrested the driver for reckless driving. The driver was visibly impaired. The investigation of the event is ongoing.

While on patrol in Isabella County, CO Dan Robinson was called to an area where an archery hunter was almost hit by a bullet. The investigation led to a piece of property where two people were target shooting in the woods with a handgun. The individuals were not using a proper backstop and allowed their bullets to travel outside of their shooting area. The incident is under investigation with possible charges pending.

CO Josh Russell was patrolling the Flat River State Game Area when he noticed fresh ORV tracks leading into a parking lot in the game area. The CO followed the tracks and located a couple in a side-by-side in the game area. They had driven over a berm. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in Tuscola County, CO Jason A. Smith and PCO John Byars stopped to check two fishermen. Upon contacting the subjects, they both admitted to not having a fishing license. PCO Byars checked the subjects in LEIN and discovered that one subject had a warrant for their arrest. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Wright and PCO John Byars were checking hunters on state land in Tuscola County. PCO Byars noticed blood on the tailgate of the truck and asked the subject how the blood came to be on the truck. The subject admitted to harvesting a buck that morning and had not tagged it. PCO Byars was given directions as to where the deer was and located the deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Wright was checking state land in Tuscola County when he came upon a parked vehicle. As he approached the vehicle he could smell the order of burnt marijuana. The occupants admitted to smoking marijuana just prior to CO Wright's arrival. One of the occupants was a minor and was turned over to his parents. Enforcement action was taken for the violation.

While on patrol in Tuscola County, CO Josh Wright and PCO John Byars responded to a RAP complaint about a hunting location with too much bait on state land and a tree stand with no name on it. CO Wright and PCO Byars surveilled the location until the suspect arrived. Not only was the subject hunting over too much bait but he was hunting without a license and was cited for his violations.

In Tuscola County, CO Josh Wright and PCO John Byars responded to a trespassing complaint. When they arrived on scene they noticed an abandoned vehicle and the land owner had an abandoned pop-up blind. PCO Byars located the suspect at his house a mile and a half down the road. CO Wright and PCO Byars went to the suspect's house and he admitted to the trespassing violation. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 7

CO Matt Page assisted CO Steve Mooney with a hunter safety presentation at the Southwest Michigan Gun Club in Mattawan. The COs spoke to approximately 15 students.

CO Andy Bauer spoke at a hunter safety class of approximately 25 students at Berrien County Sportsman's Club about hunting regulations and the duties of conservation officers.

CO Steve Mooney was on patrol checking closed trout streams and located a subject fishing a closed section of the Black River. CO Mooney observed the subject attempt to snag a spawning salmon numerous times without having any luck. CO Mooney contacted the subject and issued him a citation for snagging and warned the subject about the closed stream violation.

CO Jeff Robinette responded to a RAP complaint of two subjects fishing with illegal gear on a trout stream in Berrien County. This particular stream has a special regulation of the use of single hooks only, due to a long history of the snagging of spawning trout and salmon. Upon arrival, CO Robinette observed both subjects fishing with treble hooks in the restricted area. CO Robinette subsequently made contact with the subjects and issued them citations for the illegal gear violation.

CO Jeff Robinette responded to a RAP complaint of two subjects shooting and killing a swan on the waterfowl opener. The subjects had then returned to a campground where they were staying. CO Robinette responded and obtained a confession from one of the subjects, who stated that he had mistaken the swan for a Canada goose, as the sun was shining in his eyes. After killing the swan, they had become scared and returned to their campsite. The subject was cited for killing the mute swan.

CO Andy Bauer was observing a trout stream in Berrien County that had a large number of spawning steelhead. This stream had a single hook restriction, due to a long history of snagging of spawning trout and salmon. CO Bauer observed a boat with two men fishing in the restricted area with legal gear, until the other fishermen left the area, thus leaving the two men in the boat alone. Almost immediately, the two men changed their gear to treble hooks and attempted to snag the spawning steelhead. CO Bauer observed the subject for a short while and then made contact with the men from shore. CO Bauer asked the two men to come to shore as he wanted to speak with them. The men claimed that they couldn't due to the shallowness of the water and appeared to be considering fleeing in the boat. CO Bauer ran into the water and crossed the fifty yard stretch of water and grabbed onto the boat. The two men were surprised and stated it was just like they had seen on T.V. CO Bauer issued both men citations for the illegal gear, which they admitted to knowing was illegal.

CO Matt Page and CO Steve Mooney were patrolling closed trout streams in Van Buren County and made contact with a father and son, who were fishing on a closed stream,

attempting to take spawning salmon. Citations were issued for fishing on the closed stream to the father, with the son being warned.

CO Tyler Cole was checking a popular fishing spot, where you can frequently see fish in the shallow bays. CO Cole observed a subject fishing and after speaking with the subject, discovered that the subject did not have a fishing license. The subject stated he was going to see if the fishing was any good before buying a license. The subject was cited for fishing without a license.

CO Andy Bauer and Sgt. Zach Doss were on patrol when they observed a vehicle with an uncased crossbow showing in the back window of a truck. Contact was made with the driver and a citation was issued for the uncased crossbow.

CO Tyler Cole and Sgt. Zach Doss were on patrol in Cass County and observed two bow hunters with a deer at their vehicle. Upon seeing the patrol truck, one of the subjects immediately pulled out a deer tag and was going to tag the deer. Sgt. Doss made contact with the subject before he could validate the tag and asked why he had not tagged the deer. The subject stated that he had shot the deer and had then tracked it a short ways to where it was recovered. The subject stated that he then had gutted the deer and waited for his friend to help drag the deer out of the woods. He stated that he had just not bothered to tag the deer and was going to tag the deer at the truck. It was explained to him that immediately upon recovering the deer, it is required to be tagged with a validated kill tag. CO Cole issued a citation to the subject for failing to immediately tag the deer. Coincidentally, as CO Cole was writing the citation, the subject's father showed up, who had been issued a citation at the same location last year by CO Cole and Sgt. Doss for allowing a minor to hunt unsupervised.

CO Andy Bauer received an internet RAP complaint that stated that a subject at an address possessed an untagged deer and had taken an over limit of ducks. No other information was given. CO Bauer responded to the location and attempted to make contact, but nobody was home. CO Bauer waited for the subject to return and when he did, he pulled into the driveway with a loaded gun in his vehicle. After speaking with the subject, an untagged deer was located at the residence. No ducks were located. CO Bauer issued citations for both the untagged deer and the loaded gun in the vehicle.

PCO Zach Bauer and CO Brad Brewer checked two fishermen at a bridge in St. Joseph County. After asking to see fishing licenses, it was discovered that one of the subjects did not have a license. A citation was issued for fishing without a fishing license.

CO Chuck Towns received a complaint from a bow hunter referencing subjects riding ORVs in the Allegan State Game Area. While tracking down the group, CO Towns noticed the ORV operators had operated down county roadways and past gates and signs reading "no motor vehicles". CO Towns found the suspect's vehicles and trailer and contacted them upon their return. They claimed that an Ottawa County DNR officer told them it was legal to ride on the state land. A check of DNR priors showed the subjects were written by CO Ivan Perez, Ottawa County, for the exact same violation exactly four years previous. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Richard Cardenas received a complaint of a suspect taking squirrels during the closed season. After investigating the complaint, multiple violations were found including taking squirrels during the closed season, safety zone violations, and hunter orange violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ivan Perez responded to a complaint of a subject shooting sand hill cranes. Contact was made with the suspect, who admitted to shooting the cranes because of damage they were causing in his yard. The sand hill cranes were in a garbage bag in his garage. The subject stated that he wasn't sure what to do with them until a friend of his told him that they were the "Ribeye of the sky", so he thought he might try to eat them. The subject's shotgun and the cranes were taken as evidence and a citation was issued for the illegal taking of protected game.

CO Ivan Perez assisted Ottawa County Sheriff's Department with a transport of an FOC warrant to their jail. While on the way to drop off the subject at jail, CO Perez noticed a residence with billowing black smoke coming off an open fire adjacent to the home. After lodging the subject, he returned to the scene to find the homeowner tending the fire. As CO Perez approached the subject he noticed several steel belts from a tire remaining in the fire with other household rubbish. CO Perez informed the subject of the violation and issued a citation for the solid waste violation.

CO Ivan Perez and CO BJ Goulette assisted with the Grand Haven High School Outdoor Education Class at the North Ottawa Rod and Gun Club. CO Perez and CO Goulette assisted with 70 students throughout the week with instruction on hunter safety, handling firearms, and shooting techniques.

While checking a local deer processor, CO Greg Patten located a deer tagged with a license purchased in Oceana County at 10:45 AM on Sunday, October 2, 2016. The deer was dropped off in Muskegon before 12:30 PM on the same day. In following up, the hunter confessed to killing the deer without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking a local deer processor, CO Chris Simpson located a deer tagged with a license purchased at 4:30 PM on Saturday, October 1, 2016. The deer was dropped off at the processor on the same evening. A records check revealed that the deer kill tag

belonged to a female subject with sporadic license purchase over the last few years. CO Simpson went to the residence and interviewed the female subject who first claimed she shot the deer within 15 minutes of arriving in the woods, but could not give any details of which way the deer was coming or which side of the body it was shot on. CO Simpson explained that not remembering the details of your first deer was hard to believe. She finally came off the story and stated her husband shot it the morning of the 1st and asked her to buy a tag for the deer because he didn't want to waste his tag on the 4 point buck. CO Simpson interviewed the husband and he had the same story and a wallet full of tags belonging to him, his wife, and their 15 year old son. The deer kill tags for the female subject were seized as evidence along with the husband's unused restricted deer kill tag and the husband was issued a ticket for failing to immediately tag a deer and for borrowing a license of another.

While checking a local deer processor, CO Chris Simpson located a deer tagged with a license purchased at 1:30 PM on October 1st and brought in the same day. A records check revealed that the deer kill tag belonged to a female who had never purchased a license before. CO Simpson went to the subject's residence and was greeted by the husband and CO Simpson explained he needed to speak to his wife. The husband went in the house and after a long delay returned to the door and told CO Simpson that his wife was in bed and not feeling well because she is battling Hodgkin's disease. CO Simpson asked if he knew why he was there. He stated it was about the deer... That she shot. CO Simpson advised him that his wife didn't shoot the deer and asked if he wanted to drag his sick wife into his mess. The subject admitted that he shot the deer and thought it was bigger, but it suffered some ground shrinkage when he climbed out of the stand. He didn't want to tag what he described as a German Shepard sized deer with his tag, so he had his wife purchase a tag and used her license. The deer kill tags for the female subject were seized as evidence along with the husband's unused restricted deer kill tag and the husband was issued a ticket for failing to immediately tag a deer and for borrowing a license of another.

During a patrol on Thornapple Lake in Barry County, CO Jeremy Beavers and CO Richard Cardenas checked hunter activity during the waterfowl opener in southern Michigan. During their patrol the COs checked multiple groups of hunters. During their checks, four groups were found to be hunting on property that belonged to the Michigan Nature Association. The groups were informed that they were not allowed to hunt on the property and were instructed they would have to move to another location. The COs explained to the hunters that if they wished to hunt the property in the future they would need written permission from the association. While checking another group it was discovered that one hunter did not have a waterfowl license. He was unaware that he did not have a license stating he thought his father purchased his license for him. CO Beavers explained that he must purchase his own license and it's his responsibility to have it with him at all times while hunting. The subject was cited for hunting waterfowl without a valid license.

CO Justin Ulberg was observing two anglers fishing in the Rouge River when the anglers suddenly retrieved a salmon and brought it to their vehicle. CO Ulberg was able

to contact the subjects before they left the area. The subject stated that they had been fishing but did not catch any fish. The anglers admitted they had a salmon in the vehicle but claimed another angler gave them the fish. A check revealed that neither angler had a 2016 fishing license. CO Ulberg decided to issue only one of the anglers a citation with an agreement between the two that the other angler would help pay for the fine. The anglers appreciated the leniency and CO Ulberg advised them to purchase fishing licenses prior to going fishing in the future. Approximately two hours later, CO Ulberg was checking anglers along the Grand River and observed the same two subjects fishing. Contact was made with the anglers and they were surprised to see CO Ulberg so soon and working in a completely different area. Neither subject had purchased a fishing license. CO Ulberg wasn't as lenient during the second contact. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Justin Ulberg assisted the Michigan State Police and Kent County Sheriff's Department with two subjects who fled during a traffic stop, proceeded in crashing the vehicle, and then fled on foot into a wooded area. CO Ulberg held a perimeter position while a canine unit searched the wooded area for the subjects.

CO BJ Goulette was called to a trespass complaint during the south zone waterfowl season opening weekend, along with local deputies. After sorting out stories, it was determined there wasn't a trespass but one of the hunters was hunting with a shotgun capable of holding more than the legal limit of shells. Enforcement action was taken.

On the morning of the south zone waterfowl opener CO Perez and CO BJ Goulette were patrolling the Grand River by boat near Grand Haven checking waterfowl hunters when a 911 call regarding distressed boaters came out on the radio. CO Perez and CO Goulette responded and arrived on scene just as some nearby homeowners finished loading up the four subjects into their boat and taking them to shore. The homeowners brought the four hunters, two dads with their sons, into their home to warm up and get dry. The boat had taken on water when it hit a boat wake and the already rough water finished sinking and capsizing the boat. Fortunately nobody was injured in the incident.

CO David Rodgers and CO Chris Simpson responded to a complaint in north Ottawa County of an immense amount of shooting during the opening weekend of the south zone waterfowl opener. CO Rodgers was able to locate the four hunters on an agricultural pond and witness them shooting at crippled ducks on the water, and gathering them from the area. CO Rodgers made contact and located 58 ducks harvested by the four hunters along with a large amount of corn they had set out as bait in and along the edge of the pond. One of the subjects, who had left the area was located by CO Simpson during a traffic stop, which revealed a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle. Confessions were obtained for placing out over 200 pounds of corn. All of the firearms used in the incident along with all of the ducks taken, which included 35 wood ducks and 23 mallards, of which 13 were hen mallards, were confiscated for being taken by illegal methods. Charges are pending for taking waterfowl over bait, taking an over limit of waterfowl, and for having a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle.

DISTRICT 8

CO Andrew Monnich received a call from a local deer hunter who stated that he found what appeared to be a camp in the middle of his property. He also was missing a trail camera and had a blind vandalized. CO Monnich arrived at the location just before dark and went with the landowner to check the camp. As CO Monnich was approaching the camp, the landowner stopped him and stated that all the materials that had been present previously were now gone. CO Monnich did a quick check of the camp, did not locate anyone, and decided to back away and call for assistance. CO Monnich and the land owner were waiting for back up to arrive when CO Monnich heard someone in the field approaching them and observed a male dressed in camo carrying duffle bags. CO Monnich confronted the man at which point he dropped the bags and fled on foot. CO Monnich chased the individual for a short distance and ultimately lost him in some woods. Lenawee County Sheriff's Officers arrived along with a Michigan State Police K-9 unit. The K-9 tracked the individual through a wood lot and in to a nearby bean field where the track was eventually lost. CO Monnich and the K-9 unit located numerous items such as fishing poles, bow and arrow, knives, fish finders, GPS units, radios, trail cameras, and many other items along the track. The next day, CO Monnich and CO Maher were able to tie all the material into numerous break-ins in the area. The investigation is ongoing.

COs Andrew Monnich and Chris Maher checked two hunters coming out of the Onsted Game Area. The COs noticed a large amount of bait in the trunk of their car. Upon questioning the hunters about the bait, they stated they had put some in front of their hunting spots. The COs asked the hunters to walk them to their stands. Once at the stands they found two large bait piles well over the 2 gallon limit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Daniel Prince followed up on an illegal tree stand complaint in the Oak Grove State Game Area in Livingston County. CO Prince was able to make contact with the archery deer hunter while he was hunting in the stand. CO Prince issued the subject a citation for using screw-in tree steps on state land. The hunter also had no name and address on his tree stand.

CO Andrew Monnich was traveling down US-223 when he noticed a deer hanging in a barn. CO Monnich checked the deer and could not locate any tag on the deer. As CO Monnich was walking up to the house, a man came out of the back door asking what he was doing there. CO Monnich stated he was just checking to see where the tags were for the harvested deer in the barn. The man stated that he had shot the deer last night and had not been out to get tags for it yet, and was unaware that he needed to have tags on private property. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrew Monnich received a tip from CO Jeff Goss about a large whitetail deer that was possibly harvested in Lenawee County by an archery hunter without a license. CO Monnich looked the suspect's information up and traveled to Monroe County where the individual lived. CO Monnich located the suspect and was able to gain a confession for shooting the deer prior to buying his license. The individual stated that a friend of his took the deer to a buddy that processes deer and that they planned on butchering the deer the next day. CO Monnich contacted CO Zellinger from Monroe County and they both traveled with the suspect to the deer processor the next day. CO Monnich and CO Zellinger located the suspect's deer and found an additional four deer hanging without tags on them. Enforcement action was taken on the suspect's illegal deer and the investigation on the other four deer hanging in the meat cooler is continuing.

CO Shane Webster assisted CO Chris Reynolds after he performed a taxidermy inspection and located a 10 point buck that did not have a license on it. A quick investigation revealed the taxidermist was unaware that the deer had been brought in without a tag as it was dropped off while he was not there. An interview with the suspect revealed the deer had been shot by his sister in 2015. She was also interviewed and stated she had been hunting on October 1st, 2015 while only in possession of an antlerless license when the 10 point came in to her bait pile. She admitted that she could not resist and had shot the deer without a proper license.

CO Todd Thorn patrolled the Dansville State Game Area on the opening day of archery season in search of persons hunting from illegal stands found during late summer. CO Thorn located two men at one of the ladder stands that had been in the location for approximately two years without being removed. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Thorn conducted a processor inspection at Milligan's in Eaton Rapids. A tag was found on a deer that was purchased just before the deer was dropped off. CO Thorn located the hunter and gained a confession of purchasing the kill tag after taking the deer. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Matthew Neterer and Todd Thorn were first on scene of a domestic violence barricaded gunman situation. The call from Ingham County 911 stated that a lone man was inside the house with a loaded shotgun and that the other party had left the residence. A short time after they arrived, the gunman came out of the residence and surrendered his weapon. The patrol supervisor from the Ingham County Sheriff's Department was able to talk the man away from the weapon and CO Thorn secured the loaded shotgun. The subject surrendered after a brief scuffle and was transported to the hospital for evaluation.

CO Matthew Neterer attended the 1st annual Law Enforcement Unity Day hosted by the Lansing Mall. CO Neterer displayed his patrol truck inside the mall along with the Michigan State Police, Ingham and Eaton County Sherriff's Departments, Lansing and East Lansing Police, and Mason City Police. The event was designed to allow the public to interact with law enforcement in a positive way and build relationships within the community. The event seemed well received by the public and will likely be held again in years to come.

CO Todd Thorn was patrolling in the area of Moore's Dam in Lansing when he observed a man fishing between the riverbank and the Board of Water and Light fence, in an area closed to the public. CO Thorn was able to locate BWL security and, with their help, contacted the fisherman. An investigation revealed that the man had two warrants for his arrest. The fisherman was lodged on his warrants and was ticketed for trespassing.

CO Matthew Neterer was dispatched to an active oil spill by Ingham County 911. CO Neterer reported the issue to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) Oil and Gas Division. According to the DEQ, approximately 42 gallons of oil and brine leaked into an 8ft by 6ft area of soil. The leak was caused by a broken 3 inch line that ran from an oil pump to an oil holding tank.

CO Jason King received a complaint from Station 20 about a subject with a captive deer and possibly shooting fox out of season in Shiawassee County. CO King made contact with the subject at his residence. CO King located the captive deer and questioned the subject about the shooting of fox. A confession was made and law enforcement was taken on both matters.

CO Robert Slick received a complaint of a baited blind in Shiawassee County. CO Slick responded to the location and found the blind baited with 50 lbs. of corn and apples and made contact with the hunter. CO Slick informed the hunter that there was no baiting in Shiawassee County. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Reynolds worked the Hillsdale County Fair with the hunter safety laser shot trailer. Hundreds of contacts were made, many potential violations were discussed, and the trailer was a great way to encourage hunting with the youth that were at the fair. The booth and trailer was manned by officers all week. Hillsdale County Fair officials said it was a big hit and requested it again for next year.

While preparing for the bow season opener, CO Jackson was on foot patrol at a local Hunter Access Program parcel. Officer Jackson noticed ORV tracks in the parking lot as well as on the roadway. Several days later an ORV was located in a trailer in the

same lot on the afternoon of the opening day of bow season. CO Jackson was able to make contact with the owner of the ORV and, after a short conversation, the man admitted to using the ORV to set up his tree stands earlier in the week. The man also admitted to using too much bait. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Reynolds while on patrol noticed two hunters in a field and one of the hunters was not wearing orange. Upon contact, the hunters said they were small game hunting. The CO advised that hunters orange was required while small game hunting. When the hunters were asked for their licenses, one of the hunters stated that he had left his hunting license in his friend's home and picked up a backpack that appeared to have some feathers on it. The CO asked the hunter to leave the backpack while he retrieved his license at the home. The hunters then stopped and said he didn't leave his license in the home. When asked what was in the backpack, the hunter stood silent for a second then admitted to shooting a turkey and cutting the meat off, leaving the carcass in the woods. When asked for a turkey license the subject couldn't produce one. The CO followed the subject into the woods and retrieved the carcass. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chris Reynolds noticed a vehicle parked in a field on the edge of a wood lot. After a short wait, CO Reynolds watched two hunters load a deer into the vehicle. CO Reynolds met the hunters as they were exiting the field and noticed right away that the hunters seemed nervous. CO Reynolds checked the deer and noticed the kill tag was not validated and had just been purchased. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason McCullough contacted three bow hunters coming off MDOT property along a major highway in Calhoun Co. CO McCullough noticed a strong odor of marijuana on all three hunters. Further investigation revealed the three hunters had been smoking marijuana in the hunting blinds. CO McCullough also located marijuana on the hunters. Additionally, one of the hunters was wanted on an outstanding warrant. The hunters were issued citations and the hunter with the warrant was lodged in the local county jail.

DISTRICT 9

Sgt. Todd Szyska was checking multiple duck hunters on opening day within St. Johns Marsh, St. Clair County, when he came upon a group of four hunters in the process of dragging their vessels out of one body of water over the dike into the main channel. Sgt. Szyska made a thorough check which located wood duck bag limits for all hunters. However, several marine violations were found which included: not enough life jackets (PFDs), no navigation lights, and improper display of vessel registration. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Kris Kiel and Brad Silorey set up to observe Lake St. Clair's Goose Bay for early shooters on the opener of waterfowl season. The COs were able to apprehend the only early shooters within earshot that morning. Three subjects shot two geese before published shooting hours. One of the subjects stated that the two geese were swimming in their decoys and they got excited. The birds were seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Brad Silorey worked on typing several illegal turkey case reports this week. Two suspects are being charged with taking illegal turkeys from last fall. The subjects posted a video to YouTube of them taking the turkeys over bait. Additionally, one subject failed to purchase a turkey license for that year. The cases are pending review with the Macomb County Prosecutor's Office.

COs Brad Silorey and Kris Kiel worked a midnight patrol the morning of the duck season opener. The COs patrolled Goose Bay in the St. Clair Flats looking for hunters who may have set up their decoys too early. After working the bay, the COs checked hunters at a near-by marsh and at multiple boat ramps. Several violations were discovered including invalidated federal duck stamps and using/possessing toxic lead shot.

CO Ben Lasher was checking anglers shore fishing in St Johns Marsh Game Area and found a man and woman in possession of an over limit of blue gills. The pair were 13 fish over and the female did not have a license. The male subject had seven warrants out for his arrest from three different courts, all were for traffic offences. After having the warrants confirmed through dispatch, it was concluded that none of the agencies wanted him and he was advised and released on them. Enforcement action was taken for the fish violations.

CO Ken Kovach and PCO Joe Deppen happened upon a PI accident. A small passenger car T-Boned a semitrailer as the driver was trying to back into a driveway. The driver and passenger of the car were administered basic first aid by the two COs and then transported to a local hospital for treatment.

CO Ken Kovach was requested by St. Clair County Deputies to assist on a warrant attempt on a known felon. CO Kovach was able to locate the subject by use of night surveillance equipment.

CO Ken Kovach was checking anglers in boats in northern St. Clair County, when he came across a subject with an over limit of walleye. Enforcement action was taken.

While finishing patrol in St. Clair County CO Ken Kovach and PCO Joseph Deppen responded to an accident on I-69. COs assisted MSP and local units secure the vehicles and ensure scene safety. Both vehicles were damaged, but no medical attention was needed for either party.

CO Ken Kovach and PCO Joseph Deppen responded to a RAP complaint of over baiting deer and possible trespass in St. Clair County. While investigating the location, it was found the hunters were trespassing on private property and the bait pile was over two gallons. The location is patrolled on a regular basis and the hunters will be contacted.

While on fisheries patrol along the St. Clair River in St. Clair County, CO Ken Kovach and PCO Joseph Deppen encountered four men fishing near the water treatment plant. Upon further inspection of their coolers, the anglers were in possession of short walleye. The owner of the cooler confessed to netting and keeping the walleye, but he would not admit to who actually caught the walleye. After speaking with all the anglers, one angler confessed and took ownership of the walleye. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking anglers at a local boat launch in St. Clair County, CO Ken Kovach and PCO Joseph Deppen observed a boat motoring too quickly in a no wake zone. In addition to creating wake, the boaters ran over other angler's fishing gear and cut their lines with his propeller. He was signaled to stop and was approached at the dock. The anglers in the boat were found not to have enough life jackets for the people aboard. After a quick discussion that he could not use his dog's life jackets on each of his arms as proper floatation, enforcement action was taken.

CO Ken Kovach and PCO Joseph Deppen were checking waterfowl hunters on public land in St. Clair County. Approximately twenty minutes after legal hunting hours ended, CO Kovach and PCO Deppen checked two hunters who each had loaded shotguns. The hunters were unaware of the law requiring to unload their weapons in the barrel and magazine at the close of legal hunting hours. The hunters also failed to sign their federal duck stamps across the face. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Al Schwiderson was busy this week working hunter safety classes in Lapeer County. CO Schwiderson attended a hunter safety class at the Lapeer County Sportsmen's Club with approximately 40 students present, and also another at the Masonic Temple in Lapeer.

CO Matthew Zultak conducted an ORV stop on three subjects for not wearing seatbelts and operating in the roadway in Lapeer County. CO Zultak had witnessed the subjects hunting for waterfowl earlier in the day. During the stop, CO Zultak discovered two uncased shotguns and one subject did not have a federal waterfowl stamp. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matthew Zultak assisted the sheriff's department in handling a continuing problem with ORVs on railroad property in Lapeer County.

CO Matthew Zultak checked multiple waterfowl hunters on the opener for waterfowl in Lapeer County and around the Lapeer State Game Area (LSGA). Enforcement action was taken on multiple licensing, firearms, and ORV issues.

CO Dan Walzak worked a group patrol with Sgt. Damon Owens and CO James Zellinger at Sterling State Park checking perch anglers. Many anglers were coming in with fish and a significant number of anglers had numbers approaching their limits. Compliance was extremely high with only one citation written for the day. Several verbal warnings were given for minor marine violations.

CO Dan Walzak received a report of a subject dressed in camouflage clothing and carrying archery hunting equipment entering a closed section of the Pte Mouillee State Game Area. CO Walzak responded to the area and made contact with the subject exiting the closed area as he was returning to his vehicle. After a routine check the officer asked the hunter why he chose to enter the area when it was posted closed and pointed out the numerous signs. The subject responded that he did not realize that he was not allowed to enter that part of the game area and should have read the signs. Enforcement action was taken.

Working a waterfowl patrol with CO David Schaumburger, CO Dan Walzak checked a hunter that professed to do everything legal. During the check the hunter was found to be missing his waterfowl license. When told the news, the subject pointed to his licenses but pointed to the "Waterfowl Hunter Survey" line. When advised that it had to state "license" and show a fee paid the subject stated that he was sure he purchased his license and started to grouse about how it was the license agent's mistake. A quick check through the retail license sales system verified that a waterfowl license had not been purchased for this year. The subject was also in possession of a firearm that was capable of holding more than three shells in the chamber and magazine combined. When this was pointed out the subject said that he was only shooting 3½" shells while hunting. The problem was that he had a few 2¾" shells in his shell bag and if used in combination a fourth round could fit in the shotgun. Moreover, while the subject claimed that he only took 3½" shells out of his shell bag, CO Walzak observed two of the shorter rounds – unfired – lying on the floor of the boat. In addition to all of this, the subject had an unsigned federal stamp and a discharged fire extinguisher. Enforcement action was taken.

CO James Zellinger assisted Monroe County Sheriff's Deputies with a medical call. The subject was having a diabetic reaction and was acting very combative and unruly. Six law enforcement individuals were required to restrain the subject while medical staff cared for the subject. The subject was eventually transported to the hospital for further treatment.

CO James Zellinger observed a subject walking through the managed waterfowl area zones at Pointe Mouillee State Game Area. The subject did not have a permit and waterfowl season had not opened yet. Enforcement action was taken.

COs David Schaumburger and Raymond Gardner assisted the Michigan State Police at the end of their pursuit near the Metropark, backing up the Troopers and holding a perimeter.

CO David Schaumburger located a vehicle that was possibly trespassing onto some adjacent land. The vehicle had a bow and arrow case in the back seat, so the CO decided to walk around and find the deer hunter. CO Schaumburger located the hunter in a tree stand that did not have a name or address on the stand, and the hunter had parked in a private condominium subdivision that was posted "No Trespassing". Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Schaumburger located a vehicle in a "mudding" area while dealing with a different recreational trespass violation. The "mudders" did not have permission for the property they were on, but stated their friends told them to come to the area to have some fun. Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Schaumburger checked a group of waterfowl hunters on opening day when he asked to look inside the hunter's blind bags to see their shells. When one of the hunters opened his bag, he was visibly upset with himself and the CO asked what happened. The hunter stated that he had lead shells in his bag on accident as he also uses the bag when he goes trap shooting. The hunter was in possession of 12 toxic lead shot shells. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Raymond Gardner received a complaint from a passerby in the Pointe Mouillee State Game Area who informed him of a truck that was stuck in the mud in the State Game Area. CO Gardner located the truck and enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol in the Ortonville State Game area, CO Christopher Knights came across a suspicious looking black car in the lot. CO Knights drove past the car and looked into the woods and saw three individuals standing there. CO Knights put the truck in reverse to get back to the lot. As he pulled in, all three took off into the woods. CO Knights got on his PA and ordered them to come out. Slowly but surely, each one came back out of the woods and returned to the parking lot. CO Knights met them at their car and began questioning them. CO Knights learned two were only sixteen years old and the other seventeen. All three stated they were just out there walking around, and doing nothing. After further questioning, one of the three began to cry and advised they were doing a little more than nothing. Again, CO Knights kept asking what was going on and eventually they stated all three were smoking marijuana in the woods. CO Knights left it at that and gathered all of their information as well as all of their parent's info. As CO Knights walked back to his truck to contact the parents, he saw a bottle sitting on a bag inside of the car. CO Knights asked for permission to open the car, which he was given. He picked up the bottle and it was a pint of Captain Morgan. CO Knights searched the back pack and found two more bottles of whiskey as well as eight grams of marijuana, a bong, vapor, and other paraphernalia. One of the teens confessed to owning the back pack. CO Knights contacted each parent and advised them of the situation and told them they need to meet him at the game area to take custody of their children. Each parent arrived and was briefed of each child's actions. Enforcement action taken.

CO Jason Becker responded to Proud Lake Recreation Area on a complaint reported to park staff that a subject had constructed a tree stand out of lumber and had attached it

to the tree with screws. CO Becker located the stand and noticed that the subject did not put his full name and address so that it was legible from the ground. CO Becker was able to track the subject down and advised him that he could not attach the stand with nails or screws and his information had to be legible from the ground. The subject stated that he thought it was ok as long as it was removed at the end of each season. CO Becker referred him to the hunting guide where the regulations are published. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jason Becker and Jacob Griffin responded to a RAP complaint in Highland Recreation Area of a hunter bow hunting in a closed area. The COs met up with a subject in a tree stand approximately 150 yards into the closed area. The COs had the subject point to the map where he thought he was hunting. CO Becker pointed out his actual location on the map. CO Griffin also pointed out boundary sign posting the closed area approximately 30 feet from his parked vehicle. Enforcement action taken.

COs Jason Becker and Jacob Griffin heard a call for the Michigan State Police to respond to an area for subjects operating off road on private property. Both COs were nearby and responded to the area. While turning onto the road where the complaint originated, a vehicle was operating on the left side of the road and almost ran head-on to CO Becker. CO Becker activated his emergency lights and the subject took off at a high rate of speed. CO Becker also activated his siren and both COs made a stop on the vehicle. While obtaining the driver's identification and vehicle registration, CO Becker observed a bag of marijuana in the glove compartment. The passenger claimed it belonged to her. After checking the subjects in LEIN, the driver had three warrants for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken on the driver for failing to stop when signaled, the passenger for possessing a controlled substance, and the vehicle was impounded. The driver was lodged in the Livingston County Jail on his warrants.

CO Jason Becker received a RAP complaint of a subject that was in the process of butchering two deer in his shed and neither deer had a tag. CO Becker responded to the residence to find two subjects almost complete in butchering the two deer. CO Becker interviewed the subjects and found that they were shot by the homeowner in Antrim County. The subject stated that he had no hunting license for 2016. While interviewing the subject, he told CO Becker that he had no money and was only providing food for his family. CO Becker advised the subject that the money spent on gas to travel that far could have been more wisely spent on food for his family. CO Becker seized the deer and warrants are being sought.

CO Justin Muehlhauser was patrolling Holly Recreation Area the evening before opening day of bow season. The CO noticed a man working on a vehicle parked off of Barron Rd. The man was trying to remove a piece of sheet metal that had become damaged when he intentionally drove through the brush to "make the parking area bigger" The CO pointed out the violation of damaging vegetation on state land. Upon further investigation, CO Muehlhauser learned that the man was tending to his hunting location on the state land. The man stated that he just placed his tree stand a few days prior and that he was tending to his bait. CO Muehlhauser questioned him about the

stand and the volume of his bait. Immediately the man stated "10 gallons" then corrected himself and said "I meant a half of bucket in a 10x10 area." The CO suggested that they go take a look just to make sure. As the man showed the CO to his tree stand, he informed the CO that he had lied about properly marking his tree stand. When they arrived at the location CO Muehlhauser inspected the tree stand. It was in violation. CO Muehlhauser inspected the bait pile and noticed that the man was correct about his initial statement of the bait. There were at least 10 Gallons of corn, beets, carrots, and apples at the location. The CO waited as the man cleaned up the bait pile before he was free to leave. Enforcement action taken

On opening day of bow season CO Justin Muehlhauser noticed a vehicle parked at the end of a vacant subdivision in Holly Twp. CO Muehlhauser checked the vehicle to see if it possibly belonged to a hunter. The CO noticed a bow case in the back and other miscellaneous hunting gear. CO Muehlhauser cross referenced the registered owner with the DNR Retail sales system. The owner had not purchased a license for 2016. CO Muehlhauser entered the property and viewed a hunter in a tree stand from about 50 yards away. The CO backed out and waited for the hunter to return to his vehicle. Eventually the hunter returned dressed in full camo. He had a grunt call and binoculars around his neck. He was carrying a bow with a knocked arrow. The CO made contact and asked him how he did. The man said that he didn't see a thing. When CO Muehlhauser asked to see his hunting license the man stated, "I wasn't hunting." the CO confusingly looked at the man and pointed out that it sure looked like he was hunting. Again the CO asked for his license. The man insisted that he was not hunting and that he did not have a license. He claimed that he was just walking his property. CO Muehlhauser pointed out that he had actually seen him hunting from a tree stand approximately 200 yards from the parking area. The man chose not to make any further statements. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Justin Muehlhauser responded to a call of a woman who had fallen from a tree stand in Mundy Twp. The woman was an experienced hunter and had hunted from the location many times prior to the incident. The woman fell approximately 20 ft. She was not hunting alone; her partner heard the fall and was able to come to her aid. The woman was taken to the hospital for evaluation. The extent of her injuries is unknown. The hunter was not wearing a harness.

CO Justin Muehlhauser followed up on a complaint of a man who was taking all sorts of wildlife from behind his residence in Flint Twp. As the CO made contact with the man he quickly became agitated and stated that his neighbor has been making false claims against him and wanted to go down the street to confront her. CO Muehlhauser was able to get the man to calm down and talk about the situation. He said that the neighbor is mad because he live traps the feral cats in the neighborhood and turns them over to animal control. He said that he releases all wildlife that he catches inadvertently. CO Muehlhauser checked the man's yard and did not notice any violations.

CO Jacob Griffin was on foot patrol in Oakland County when he spotted a subject hunting from a tree stand. CO Griffin noticed that the subject was hunting over a large

amount of bait. CO Griffin conducted a hunting check and asked the subject if he is aware of how much bait is permitted to be out at one time. The subject stated he was not sure. CO Griffin also asked the subject why his name and address was not on his tree stand. The subject stated he was not aware of that law either. When the subject was asked if he has ever read a free hunting guide with the rules and regulations, the subject stated he has never looked at one. CO Griffin explained to the subject what he was in violation of and educated him on some of the basic hunting laws while showing him the hunting guide. Enforcement action taken.

CO Jacob Griffin was on foot patrol in Oakland County when he spotted two subjects walking in his direction with firearms. CO Griffin noticed that one subject had an orange vest while carrying a .22 caliber rifle and the other subject was in full camo wearing waders while carrying a shotgun. Given the time of year and the strange mixture of hunting attire, CO Griffin asked the two individuals what they were hunting for. After both subjects verified they were hunting squirrels, CO Griffin asked one subject why he was not wearing any hunter's orange. The subject stated he could not find any before he left his home. CO Griffin explained the hunter's orange law to the subject. Enforcement action taken.

CO Jacob Griffin was on patrol in Oakland County when he decided to visit a stand he had noted to have a large amount of bait by it. CO Griffin found one subject in the stand hunting over the bait he noted from earlier in the week. The subject immediately stated that he knew CO Griffin was there regarding the bait. CO Griffin spoke with the subject about the bait, but also pointed out that the subject did not have his name and address on his stand, he is using screws in the tree, and that he failed to announce he was carrying a concealed pistol. The subject stated that he forgot he was carrying his pistol concealed. Enforcement action taken.

BELLE ISLE

While working on Belle Isle, CO Chuck Towns responded to a bike accident where two bicyclists collided near the main entrance. A female subject suffered head, shoulder, and a leg injury. CO Towns was able to provide first aid to her until medical personnel arrived.

While working Belle Isle, CO Jason Becker received a complaint of subjects in the old zoo, which is closed to the public. CO Ray Gardner met CO Becker at the zoo where they located five subjects inside the zoo. CO Becker ran a LEIN check on the subjects and one subject had two warrants and another had one warrant. Enforcement action taken.

While working on Belle Isle, CO Chuck Towns responded to a bike accident where two bicyclists collided near the main entrance. A female subject suffered head, shoulder, and a leg injury. CO Towns was able to provide first aid to her until medical personnel arrived.