

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
11/1/10 – 11/14/10**

DISTRICT 1

CO Jason Niemi and Sgt. Pete Wright conducted a taxidermy inspection of a business in Menominee County. The owner was unable to produce records, didn't have the majority of his animals tagged, was in possession of an unsealed bobcat and illegally possessed a spruce grouse. Enforcement action was taken on the violations.

CO Marvin Gerlach and Sgt. Pete Wright contacted a non-resident bow hunter who was purchasing resident hunting licenses using a Michigan State ID card he had acquired. It was determined that he had been illegally purchasing fishing, small game, and combination deer licenses every year since he had moved in 2004. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Wicklund and Sgt Marc Pomroy checked an area of past baiting complaints. Once again, the COs located several stands with huge piles of bait. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Wicklund responded to a complaint of trespass and an illegal blind. The blind was located only a few feet from a no trespassing sign. The owner of the blind was located and enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason Wicklund responded to the complaint of a subject putting a dam up along a stream of Camp Lake to raise the water level in front of his residence. The dam was removed and the investigation is ongoing.

CO Grant Emery stopped an ORV operating along the state highway. A check of the subject found no helmet, an unlicensed ORV and a loaded uncased firearm. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon has responded to numerous complaints of blind thefts and damage in the last week. Activity has increased on state owned lands and many hunters are competing for the upcoming firearm season.

CO David Miller arrested two subjects on the night before the firearm opener for shining an artificial light in an attempt to locate deer at night. A loaded rifle and open cans of beer were seized from the vehicle.

CO Brett Gustafson and Sgt. Steven Burton arrested a man in Ontonagon County for possessing a loaded 12 gauge shotgun with buckshot and hunting over bait prior to the firearm opener.

CO David Miller ticketed a man who brought a buck into the Baraga Office which had three points total. He was hunting with a combination license.

COs Matthew Eberly and Dennis Gast wrapped up an illegal wolf case this week. A confession was obtained from a trapper who had caught a wolf and shot it, then disposed of its carcass. Forensic evidence and DNA were used to make the case.

CO David Miller issued a ticket to a local bear guide in the Chassell area for failing to have his name and address on his tree stand. A warning was also given for placing names other than his own on his other tree stands in the area.

CO Brett Gustafson assisted local and state authorities with the investigation of two men who appear to have died of natural causes. One incident involved a man who died at a remote hunting camp. The other was an older man who appears to have died of a heart attack while baiting deer. No foul play is suspected in either case.

DISTRICT 2

CO Kevin Postma responded to a complaint shortly after checking out of service for the day for a shining and shots being fired. After working the complaint for several hours the CO observed a vehicle shining deer. Upon contact, an extensive investigation ensued resulting in a loaded uncased firearm, felon in possess of a firearm, open intoxicants in a motor vehicle, operation of a motor vehicle while intoxicated, recreational trespass, and an illegal deer. Enforcement action taken.

CO Jeff Panich encountered a rollover accident that had just happened. The CO called out the accident, provided first aid, and secured the scene for responding units.

CO Derek Miller observed an illegal ORV trail winding through state land. Investigation revealed several cut trees and overbaiting. Upon contact the subject was issued a ticket for operating an ORV in a prohibited area.

CO Jerry Fitzgibbon arrested one subject for posting "No Trespassing" signs on state land.

CO Reid Roeske located an illegal ORV trail on state land and after following it for a short distance, located two subjects who were operating ORVs while bow hunting. Both were transporting uncased bows. Tickets were issued to both subjects.

CO Michael Evink is investigating an incident in Schoolcraft County where Wildlife Division recovered a wolf collar that appears to have been removed from a wolf. Though the wolf has not been located, the collar has blood on it, indicating foul play. The investigation is continuing.

CO Reid Roeske contacted a subject who was a felon in possession of a firearm, his driver's license was denied and revoked and he was using improper plates on his vehicle. He was turned over to the Michigan State Police (MSP).

CO Robert Crisp ticketed a subject who had incidentally caught a bobcat in a trap prior to the season opener for bobcat. Rather than release the bobcat, the subject, knowing the season was closed, killed and kept the bobcat. He intended to keep it until the season opened and then get it registered as required by law.

DISTRICT 3

CO Andrea Albert checked a man who was deer hunting on public land. The only license he had was a private land antlerless license. The hunter was ticketed for the violation.

CO Andrea Erratt received a complaint about people snagging fish on the Boyne River near Dam Road. CO Erratt patrolled the area and ticketed one woman for retaining a foul hooked fish. CO Erratt then contacted two brothers fishing with treble hooks on the Boyne River and in possession of two illegally snagged salmon. One brother was ticketed for fishing with a treble hook on the Boyne River and warned for fishing for salmon without an all-species license. The second brother was ticketed for snagging and keeping two salmon hooked in the tail and the dorsal fin. He was warned for fishing with a treble hook on the Boyne River. CO Erratt donated the three seized salmon to a local family with eight kids.

CO Stephen Speigl followed up on a complaint of conibear traps that were not submerged under water. Once CO Speigl located the traps, he found that they were only partially submerged and without trap tags. He located the owner of the traps and took enforcement action.

CO Eric Bottorff contacted a hunter coming out of the woods just before deer season carrying a saw. When asked what he had been doing, he stated, "Nothing". Almost twenty minutes of conversation failed to produce a logical answer. As the subject left, CO Bottorff found where the subject had set up a blind, along with dumping bait out. CO Bottorff tracked down the subject who was attempting to quickly leave the area. This time the subject admitted to placing the bait out. Enforcement action taken.

A defendant that was ticketed for elk guiding on state land without a permit, after being warned and advised to obtain one, was fined \$540. Subsequent offenses will be \$740.

CO Matt Theunick and Sgt. Greg Drogowski responded to a call from a local police officer who had made a traffic stop on a subject who had a gunshot buck deer in the vehicle two days before the firearm season. The COs interviewed the subject further and ended up seizing parts of another deer at his residence that had been shot with a gun a week earlier. The subject is also a convicted felon and currently on probation. The deer and rifle were seized and warrants are being sought.

CO Michael Feagan received three complaints regarding deer baiting in a couple days and was able to contact three bow hunters hunting over the bait. Three tickets were issued.

CO Richard Stowe contacted occupants of a camp on state land that had been there for six weeks and that he had received complaints on. A ticket was issued for camping in one location for more than 15 days, and they were required to move their camp on November 14, the day before deer season.

CO Kelly Ross was participating in a flight and was waiting for a vehicle that was shining to come out of a large block of private property. While waiting, a second vehicle came by shining on the road. A stop was made on the second vehicle and a ticket issued for shining in November.

CO Kelly Ross investigated a litter complaint on state land. Nine large bags of garbage had been dumped off the back side of a gas well. Investigation revealed several names all related to one address. Upon contact with a subject there she said she had given her son money to take the trash to the dump. The son pocketed the money and dumped the litter on state land. Enforcement action taken.

CO Joe Molnar checked a vehicle on state land with a large amount of bait in the back. CO Molnar sat on the vehicle until dark. Two juveniles who were hunting unattended came out of the woods. Upon talking to them it was discovered their dad was farther in on the state land and he had shot an eight point earlier in the year, and all were hunting over bait. A license check showed that the dad only had a private land antlerless license. Upon talking to the dad he admitted to shooting the deer without a license. Enforcement action taken.

CO William Webster received a complaint about a subject hunting with a rifle and using disease control permits to shoot bucks. CO Webster and CO Kelly Ross conducted separate interviews. CO Ross recovered the head and antlers of a 10 point buck that had been gunshot, was in a freezer, and not tagged. CO Webster interviewed the shooter and learned he did not have disease control permits or any state hunting licenses. The investigation continues.

CO Mark DePew reports dispositions on two separate turkey cases from this spring. Both subjects paid over \$1,700 each and lost their hunting privileges for two and four years respectively.

CO Mark DePew sat in the woods and watched a hunter shoot a doe over bait and in an illegal tree stand. The hunter found the deer, field dressed it, then walked out to his vehicle and left. CO DePew contacted the hunter and he admitted he was going to get his wife so she could tag the deer. The hunter also admitted to shooting two other antlerless deer and a large buck and using others' tags on all of them. Enforcement action taken.

DISTRICT 4

Area Conservation Officers recently conducted a group patrol for illegal shining activity in Mecosta County. COs Michael Bomay, Jeffery Ginn and Brian Lebel had briefly met at the same location when all three observed a vehicle shining a nearby field. The COs made a traffic stop of the vehicle illegally shining and contacted two subjects. In the truck the COs located a freshly shot doe deer and a rifle. The subject was ticketed for the poaching violation and the rifle and deer were seized.

During a shining flight in Montcalm County, the plane located some flashlights out in a field at 2:00 a.m. COs Michael Bomay and Michael Wells responded to the location and surprised a father and son who were standing over a dead eight point buck with a deer tag in hand. As it turned out, the 16 year old boy had legally shot the large buck with his bow and had waited until later that night to track it with his father. The COs helped drag the deer out of the field and congratulated the young hunter on his nice buck.

In Newaygo County a two year old boy fell into the Muskegon River while playing at a park. CO Jeffery Ginn responded to the location with his boat. CO Ginn advised a fishing guide of the situation and sent him downstream to check. The fishing guide recovered the boy's body and brought him back to the access site. CO Ginn assisted emergency personnel with first aid; unfortunately the young boy did not survive.

In Oceana County a retired conservation officer saw a spotlight, heard a shot and called CO Troy Vangelderren to respond. The MSP were able to stop the vehicle and detain the subjects until CO Vangelderren arrived. The vehicle contained four loaded and uncased firearms and one uncased bow. One of the subjects admitted to previously shooting a six point buck. A check of his deer tags revealed he still possessed all issued tags which were unused. Tickets were issued for untagged deer and shine artificial light to locate deer while in possession of a firearm.

CO Brian Brosky responded to a complaint from a landowner who was walking his property and observed a subject in camouflage running away carrying a crossbow. CO Brosky waited from a concealed location and apprehended the person as he was making his way to a waiting vehicle. The subject was ticketed for recreational trespass.

CO Steve Converse contacted a hunter just as he was leaving his vehicle to go to his tree stand. The subject started acting nervous when he saw the officer. CO Converse asked the subject if he would show him his hunting spot. The subject walked to his blind and showed the CO the blind and a pile of bait that he had placed nearby. A ticket was issued for the baiting violation.

COs Steve Converse and Carla Soper were following up on a Manistee County baiting site they had located from an airplane flight when they encountered a subject who stated that he had not taken any deer this season. The subject attempted to avoid showing the COs his regular combination license deer tag during conversation, which

aroused the COs' suspicions regarding his previous statements. The license was ultimately displayed and found to be covered in deer blood. An untagged button buck was located and the subject admitted to not validating and removing the tag for use on another deer. A ticket was issued for the tagging violation.

CO Angela Greenway received a complaint from a citizen that their neighbor had a bait pile in their back yard and that they had just recently shot a deer that had been feeding on it. CO Greenway responded to the suspect's residence and asked to see the deer. CO Greenway was taken to the suspect's garage and shown a deer hanging over a wheelbarrow. The subject was ticketed for the baiting violation.

CO Angela Greenway was following up on a spincast feeder at a remote cabin that was located during a bait flight earlier in the week. Upon arriving, the landowner began verbally assaulting the CO and kicking and throwing items around in his yard. Undeterred, CO Greenway continued her investigation and ticketed the subject for the baiting violation.

CO Angela Greenway was following up on a complaint in Lake County from earlier in the fall regarding several piles of bait that were discovered by a local deputy while conducting a helicopter patrol targeting marijuana grow locations. The landowner began swearing and accusing the CO of lying about the source of her complaint. CO Greenway called the deputy, who was on duty, to come out and speak with the landowner while she continued her investigation. The deputy arrived to explain the detection of the illegal bait while CO Greenway photographed four piles containing several dump truck loads of potatoes. The landowner had driven to the eastern part of the state to obtain the cheap bait and was upset that his secret was out. He further explained that leniency should be granted because he and his nephew only hunted over bait during the bow season. A ticket was issued for hunting deer over bait.

While checking a bait pile behind a residence in Manistee County, CO Carla Soper located a subject out walking near the bait. The subject claimed that he was only walking, and that his friend must have placed the bait out. CO Soper ran a record check on the subject and found him to have a child support warrant with a \$33,000 bond. The subject was unable to post bond and was lodged at the Manistee County Jail.

DISTRICT 5

CO John Huspen located a vehicle parked along a fenced military artillery range closed to the public due to periodic live fire and unexploded ordinance. CO Huspen waited and caught an archery deer hunter crossing the fence coming from the artillery range. The range is heavily signed "No Trespassing", including a sign located right where the hunter came over the fence. The subject first claimed he didn't know it was closed, then later admitted he knew but indicated hunting was slow outside the range.

CO Bobbi Lively inspected a taxidermist and discovered a deer carcass that had been shot with a firearm during the archery season. CO Lively took license information and the first name of the subject who dropped off the deer which enabled her to locate several subjects involved. Assisted by COs Brandon Kieft and Ben Shively who interviewed the subjects, CO Lively determined who had shot the deer. A search of the residence where the deer was shot led to an additional deer, lighted bait piles on the property, and several unregistered handguns. Warrants are being sought.

CO Chris Bowen was called out to assist with locating two lost hunters. With GPS coordinates from the hunter's cell phone, CO Bowen was able to walk in and locate the hunters within an hour.

CO Chris Bowen was directed by a DNRE pilot to a vehicle that was shining deer in November. When CO Bowen attempted to stop the vehicle, the driver fled but eventually stopped. CO Bowen contacted three subjects who had two loaded rifles and spotlights in the vehicle. The driver, who was also intoxicated, was arrested and firearms were seized. At the time they were stopped, the subjects were also trespassing on private property. Enforcement action was taken.

CO William Cherry responded to a complaint of an illegally taken deer. The information led CO Cherry to a residence where he could see an untagged deer hanging. The property owner was contacted and denied having taken a deer. When asked about the blood on his clothing, the owner indicated he had a car kill deer that he shot. When questioned about shooting the deer, he recanted and said he had hit it with a shovel. When asked to see the shovel, he admitted to shooting the deer the night before with a .22 caliber rifle behind his house.

CO Mike Hearn reports stopping an ORV operator who was running in a closed area of state land. The subject was the brother of an individual CO Hearn had ticketed and towed his ORV just a week earlier. The brother was riding the same ORV and was ticketed and transported to jail on an outstanding felony warrant. The ORV was towed again.

CO Mike Hearn continues to investigate a theft of over \$20,000 in timber taken from a local timber producer who had purchased the timber and cut and stacked the wood, which ended up being stolen before it could be removed from the sale location. The subjects left heavy equipment to load the saw logs onto semi trucks to remove the wood from the site. CO Hearn caught the subjects at night when they returned for another load of logs.

While participating in a shining enforcement flight, CO Brian Engelhard responded to a vehicle shining after midnight. CO Engelhard initiated a traffic stop on the vehicle and was assisted by Sgt. Jean Davis and COs Jon Warner and Bobbi Lively. There were two firearms in the vehicle along with spent and live rounds for the respective guns. Tickets were issued to both occupants for shining with weapons in possession and given warnings for shining during November.

CO Brian Olsen responded to a complaint of a subject walking in the woods wearing all camouflage and carrying a shotgun during the five day quiet period. CO Olsen located the subject who was not wearing any hunter orange walking along a fence line while carrying a .12 gauge shotgun loaded with slugs. The subject first claimed he was coyote hunting but he didn't have any type of hunting license. A ticket was issued.

Sgt. Glenn Gutierrez received a complaint of a single gunshot at dusk on November 13th. He responded to the area and located two individuals loading a deer into a pick-up truck. CO Brian Olsen assisted and recovered two rifles from two different blinds that were illegally baited. The father and son team both decided to start the firearm deer season early because they said they were tired of other people beating them to the deer.

COs Joel Lundberg and Steve Lockwood saw a deer hanging at a residence. They stopped to check the tag and found it had not been validated. Further investigation revealed that the tag was borrowed from a friend and the shooter did not have a hunting license. The investigation also produced another deer that he had shot. Charges are pending.

DISTRICT 6

CO Josh Wright conducted an inspection at a taxidermist and located a deer that appeared to have been shot with a firearm. The tag on the deer was validated on October 1st. The hunter was from Huron County so the investigation was turned over to CO Robert Hobkirk. After a lengthy interview, the subject confessed to shooting the eight point deer during the early antlerless season. He claimed that prior to shooting this deer, the largest deer he had shot was a spike and having this deer in front of him was too tempting. A warrant will be requested for the illegal killing of this deer.

Just after ending his shift CO Robert Hobkirk received a Report-All-Poaching (RAP) complaint regarding an archery hunter who had watched a young hunter enter a deer blind carrying a firearm. Just prior to his arrival, CO Hobkirk received a call stating that the subject had just shot a deer with a small caliber rifle. With the assistance of local police officers, CO Hobkirk located and seized the deer and firearm. The 16 year-old committed numerous violations and will be petitioned to the juvenile division for further action.

CO Nick Atkin was contacted by a complainant at 3:30 a.m. in reference to subjects shooting from a truck possibly poaching deer. The subjects were in an area where an eight point buck was recently poached. The local sheriff's deputies stopped a vehicle matching the description of the subject vehicle. CO Atkin responded and interviewed the subjects and investigated the scene. During the investigation, the subject shooting from the vehicle was found to be intoxicated. The shooter also shot numerous signs and mailboxes. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Atkin was on a late night shining patrol in early November when he stopped a subject shining a field. During the investigation that followed, the subject was found to be in possession of a bow while shining. The subject stated that he thought shining was legal until November 14th. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Phil Hudson was working perch anglers in plain clothes when he noted an angler was catching what appeared to be a possible overlimit. CO Phil Hudson contacted his partner to check the angler, CO Nick Atkin, who was in a marked unit. CO Atkin conducted a check of the angler and located an overlimit of perch. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Atkin was on a late night shining patrol when he witnessed a subject shine a field in the distance. The CO caught up to the shiner and stopped the vehicle. During the investigation that followed, an uncased rifle was located in the back seat of the car with a loaded magazine under the passenger seat. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jay Person received a complaint from the DNRE pilot who had been up flying on a bait flight. The pilot reported that he observed a large amount of corn broadcast across the ground on approximately three acres of a large piece of property. CO Person contacted the landowner who admitted to spreading approximately 1000 pounds of shelled corn. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason A. Smith received a complaint of a live turkey that was tied to a fence. After checking the area it was determined that the turkey had got tangled in a string that was used to put up the fence in a straight line. The turkey was released unharmed.

CO Jason A. Smith received a complaint of juveniles hunting without supervision. After checking the area a 14 year old apprentice hunter and a 15 year old hunter were hunting after having been dropped off for the evening. Both boys' parents were called to the scene where tickets were issued for allowing minors to hunt unsupervised. They were also baiting. Verbal warnings were issued for the bait.

CO Jason A. Smith received a complaint of trapping prior to the season opener. Officer Smith checked a couple of areas and seized the traps that were placed too early. CO Smith was contacted by the subject the next day and it was planned to meet with the trapper during the upcoming weekend, issue him a ticket and return his traps. In the meantime, CO Joshua Wright also contacted CO Smith and advised him he was investigating the same trapper. CO Wright had been in contact with the prosecutor's office and had discussed charging the subject with a separate count of trapping out of season for each trap set (20-30 counts) and condemning the traps.

After receiving a complaint of several bait piles, CO Seth Rhodea checked the area to attempt to contact the hunters. The CO located several hunters on the property with two of them having bait in front of their stands. Both hunters were ticketed for hunting over bait.

COs Seth Rhodea and Bob Hobkirk responded to a shots fired complaint in northern Sanilac County. The complainant advised them that he could see the hunters in a field looking for the deer and carrying a firearm. Contact was made with the hunters and a shotgun was found in the area. The deer that the hunters were tracking was shot with an arrow and the subject with the gun claimed he was carrying it for pheasants. When asked for his hunting license and where his hunter orange was, the hunter claimed he did not need orange on his property and he did not have his license in the field with him. He was ticketed for failing to wear hunters orange and warned for not having his license in possession.

While checking camps in the Verona State Game Area (SGA), CO Scott Brown observed a vehicle stop at the intersection of a paved road and power brake, smoking the tires for about 15 feet. While on a traffic stop with the vehicle, it was determined that the driver had a warrant for non-paid child support and was a suspect in state land use violations. The passenger had open intoxicants. Tickets were issued for open intoxicants and land use violations. The driver was lodged in the Huron County Jail.

Officer Scott Brown observed a vehicle which looked to be headlighting a field. The vehicle drove through the hay field in the Verona SGA and then came back out onto the road. Although not intoxicated, all occupants had open intoxicants. Tickets were issued to the driver for state land use violations and open intoxicants.

CO Daniel Lee was checking an area of frequent trespassing when he contacted a subject waiting to pick up his boss, who works at a steel company, and who was hunting on the problem property. The CO attempted to contact the hunter by phone but got no answer. The CO then went into the woods looking for the hunter but only found an empty tree stand with custom welded tree steps. The CO finally contacted the hunter at his place of business. The hunter attempted a variety of statements, including he wasn't hunting deer and not on the property in question. When the CO showed him the custom welded tree steps he admitted to trespassing. The licenses he produced had been purchased 15 minutes before the CO arrived.

CO Chad Foerster investigated an anonymous complaint of a possible illegal deer that was shot under a light with a firearm during the closed season. The CO was able to locate the deer in question and get confessions from all parties involved. The deer was seized and charges are pending.

CO Chad Foerster received a phone call from an off duty deputy reference trespassers who were on his land and that he was holding. The deputy stated that he was out bow hunting and three other hunters came walking up on him. The hunters told the deputy that there were no signs posted where they entered the woods. The deputy walked them out to the location where they entered and showed them a "No Trespassing" sign that was clearly posted. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Chad Foerster and Sgt. Ron Kimmerly received a call from two police officers who had observed a suspicious vehicle parked in the back of a graveyard. The officers

heard several shots and believed the subjects were possibly firearm deer hunting before the season. The COs walked in and found two subjects in hunting blinds. Each blind had a pile of beets, carrots and corn around them. The subjects advised that they were just watching the deer and did not have any firearms. Another police officer brought his dog to the scene but no firearms were found. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 7

CO Mike Mshar located two upland bird hunters using dogs within the Todd Farm Wildlife Refuge in the Allegan State Game Area (SGA). The hunters claimed to be unaware of the closed access area until CO Mshar pointed out six signs they had passed to gain entry to the area.

CO Gary Raak was conducting a late night shining patrol in Barry County when he observed a small light being used from a slow moving vehicle after 2:00 a.m. After conducting a traffic stop and investigation, CO Raak recovered a homemade light being used by a front seat passenger and a crossbow loaded with a bolt possessed by a rear seat passenger. Three persons were ticketed for violations; two of the occupants had extensive violation records.

COs Chris Holmes and Paul Higashi obtained information regarding a subject who used a .410 shotgun to kill a deer during the archery season. After locating a kill site and collecting evidence, a suspect was identified and contacted by CO Holmes the following day. CO Holmes obtained a confession from the subject who had taken a shotgun to his stand while bow hunting over bait. The subject then used the firearm to take an 11 point buck.

CO Chris Holmes was on patrol at the Sugarloaf Lake Access site late one night when he located two large trucks with several teens who had just "turfed" the parking area and dumped trash from their vehicles. CO Holmes ticketed the teens for litter and hours violations at the access site and required they return and repair damages the following day. A check of the area found the access site cleaned and repaired the following day with the teens headed to court to answer for the violations committed.

CO Mike McGee responded to a RAP complaint regarding a hunter who had an untagged deer. CO McGee located a very small doe stashed behind the house of the hunter. The doe was taken with a bow and the hunter did not wish to use his tag on such a small deer. It was also discovered that the deer was taken over bait.

CO Zach Doss responded to a complaint from the sheriff's department reference shining and shooting activity. With assistance from the sheriff's department, CO Doss located the responsible subjects and recovered a deer that was shot with a .22 while using a spotlight.

DISTRICT 8

CO Jeff Walker responded to a homeowner's complaint about hunting within a safety zone. CO Walker's investigation found that a subject using a crossbow had fired a shot which missed the game and lodged into the complainant's car door. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rich Nickols responded to a complaint of a road killed bobcat in Clinton County. Upon arrival at the scene it was determined that the road killed animal was a barn cat and not a bobcat as suspected. No permit was needed.

COs Damon Owens and Shane Webster responded to a complaint about a suspicious vehicle parked in a no hunting area. The COs located the subject who was hunting in a closed area and who did not possess any hunting licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

While following up on an illegal baiting complaint, CO Dan Prince and Sgt. Troy Bahlau contacted a subject who was hunting with a crossbow from a ladder stand over bait. The investigation revealed that the subject had shot a four point buck and did not possess the correct hunting license. The COs also found what appeared to be marijuana in the subject's possession. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Shane Webster contacted an ORV operator who was in possession of an uncased .22 rifle on the machine. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Bader received a complaint that a landowner had just witnessed a vehicle shoot into a cornfield on his property from the roadway and then speed off. CO Bader was able to get to the location of the illegal activity and stop the vehicle. When contacted, the occupants had an uncased shotgun on the front seat between the driver and passenger. The driver stated that the passenger had a hunt from a standing vehicle permit so they thought they were legal. CO Bader explained what was legal with the permit and took enforcement action on the illegal activity.

CO Brad Brewer received information about an illegal 11 point buck. CO Brewer's investigation found two untagged bucks at the same residence, one 11 point and one eight point buck. The subject who shot both deer did not have an excuse as to why he didn't tag them. Enforcement action was taken.

Following up on a complaint, CO Brad Brewer located a subject who had shot a trophy buck but did not possess a hunting license. CO Brewer's investigation showed that the subject used his brother-in-law's hunting license to tag the deer. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Goss received information about a subject who was hunting deer over bait without a license. CO Goss located the subject trying to hide in his deer blind. The subject did possess a license but was hunting over bait. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rich Nickols received information about a large bait pile behind an apartment complex. Upon investigation CO Nickols located a subject who admitted to hunting over the bait, but didn't admit to placing the bait. The subject who was hunting over the bait had not purchased any hunting licenses and was wanted on a warrant out of Lansing. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pete Purdy received a complaint about a subject who shot a deer over illegally placed bait while trespassing. CO Purdy's investigation showed that the subject was trespassing and took a deer illegally. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pete Purdy received a RAP complaint about a subject who was hunting within a safety zone while trespassing. The subject was illegally hunting over bait, while trespassing, within a safety zone, and didn't possess the required licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

While following up on a complaint, CO Pete Purdy located two ORVs which were operating on private property. The ORV operators went around "No Trespassing" signs, were carrying more people than allowed, and the occupants were not wearing the required helmets. Enforcement action was taken.

While waiting for his partner to arrive at their meeting location, Sgt. Bahlau observed a pickup truck transfer a buck onto a second vehicle. Upon contact with the two subjects, Sgt. Bahlau learned that the subject who shot the deer doesn't purchase his own licenses, but "shoots the deer for his friend who buys the licenses". Enforcement action was taken.

CO Shane Webster contacted a subject leaving a field after bow hunting. The subject didn't have his hunting license with him and stated that he forgot his licenses at home. Upon further investigation it was determined that the subject had not purchased a hunting license since 2008. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dan Prince and Sgt. Troy Bahlau assisted local deputies with a complaint of a nine point buck killed with a shotgun the day before firearm deer season opened. The subject shot the deer with a shotgun from his bathroom window. The deer ran into the neighbor's yard and died, so the subject loaded the deer into his truck and took it to a third location and field dressed it there. The subject then had his wife take pictures of him with the deer and his archery equipment. The picture fooled no one as all of the neighbors heard the shotgun blast. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Dan Bigger and Rich Nickols contacted occupants of a vehicle who were illegally shining for deer during November. The COs located an uncased crossbow in the vehicle and the occupants admitted their intent to shoot a deer at night with the aid of flashlights. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dan Bigger assisted local deputies with a complaint of hunter harassment. The raccoon hunter complainant stated that he had been shot at and he thought his dog had been killed. The CO's investigation led them to a suspect, a recently fired .22 rifle, and the hunter's dog in the suspect's garage. Enforcement action was taken and the dog was returned to the rightful owner.

DISTRICT 9

CO Mark Papineau received a RAP complaint of waterfowl hunters doing some excessive shooting and possibly overlimit of waterfowl. CO Papineau contacted seven hunters who were on a guided hunt. While inspecting the birds that the hunters had taken, CO Papineau found the subjects had an overlimit of hen mallards. The CO also found various licensing violations. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Mark Papineau and Brandon Kieft assisted COs from the Mio area on a deer that was shot with a rifle in the archery season in the Mio area. The COs interviewed subjects in southeast Michigan, one of whom is a convicted felon who owns a cabin in Mio. Mio area COs executed a search warrant on the cabin and found firearms. They will be seeking a warrant for a felon in possession of the firearm. COs Papineau and Kieft interviewed the subject who denies shooting the deer but admits to possessing it.

CO Linda Scheidler was working waterfowl hunters in the Genesee County Parks managed area on Mott Lake. One subject she checked had an unplugged shotgun. The subject admitted that he knew the night before that his gun was unplugged but he did not think he would get checked. Enforcement action was taken.

CO John Borkovich responded to a trespassing complaint where the subjects tracked a wounded 11 point buck onto the complainant's property and retrieved it. CO Borkovich contacted the subjects and followed the blood trail back to a bait pile under a tree stand on the subjects' property. Enforcement action was taken on the large bait pile and the trespassing.

CO Al Schwiderson has been investigating a complaint where he seized a deer that was gun shot during the archery season. The deer was hanging at a convicted felon's residence. The subject stated that another subject gave him the deer. CO Schwiderson gave the subject a few days to provide him the contact information on the subject. CO Schwiderson contacted the subject's parole officer in Flint, who contacted CO Papineau to assist locally. CO Papineau and the parole officer executed a search warrant at the subject's residence and found 17 firearms. A warrant will be sought for the violations.

While conducting an evening patrol for road hunting and other illegal activity, CO Ken Kovach and Intern Brandon Szyska observed a vehicle slowly driving out of a large field after dark. The vehicle stopped just short of the road and CO Kovach watched as the vehicle's lights went out and the operator got out of the vehicle and walked to the back of the truck. CO Kovach approached the vehicle and identified himself. The subject

stated, "You're going to give me a ticket". When the CO asked why, the subject stated he did not have his hunting licenses yet had a freshly killed deer in the bed of the truck. Enforcement action taken.

Sgt. Tom Wanless observed a pickup truck parked on the side of a county road in a high road hunting area in Montrose Township. As the CO approached the vehicle, the operator did a U-turn in the road and headed away. The CO stopped the vehicle based on an equipment violation. While contacting the operator and passenger, the CO found a loaded 12 gauge shotgun behind the front seats. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Linda Scheidler has been working several baiting complaints. Shortly after checking a baiting complaint and not finding anyone hunting over it, CO Scheidler received a call from the complainant who advised he heard a shot and shortly after that saw a deer hanging behind the subject's barn. CO Scheidler and Sgt. Tom Wanless responded and contacted the subject. The deer was actually shot with a crossbow; however, the kill tag was not validated and was a restricted license on a three point. Enforcement action was taken.

CO John Borkovich responded to a baiting complaint and was able to walk up behind a subject in a portable blind. As the CO looked into the window he surprised the subject who was in possession of a scoped shotgun during the archery season. CO Borkovich seized the firearm and then saw the subject reaching for a 2-way radio. The CO took the radio away from the subject and inquired as to the location of the other subject. The subject did not have identification. As CO Borkovich tracked down the second subject, the first subject took off. CO Borkovich tried to catch the subject at the subject's vehicle; however, the subject had already taken off. Fortunately, CO Borkovich recorded the license plate of the vehicle. CO Borkovich interviewed the second subject, who was trespassing and hunting over bait. The CO was able to get the subject to contact the subject who fled and had him return and meet with the CO. When the subject returned CO Borkovich learned the subject was convicted twice in the past for assault with a dangerous weapon. Enforcement action was taken on both subjects.

CO John Borkovich received a tip that a subject had just shot a deer over a bait pile with the aid of a light after legal hunting hours. CO Borkovich contacted the subject and obtained a full confession of the subject for shooting a doe with a crossbow at night. Enforcement action was taken.

While off duty, CO John Borkovich observed a pickup truck that matched the description of a truck that had numerous complaints of road hunting. The truck had two bucks in the back of it. The CO followed the truck to a DNRE check station where he contacted the subjects who admitted to taking the deer. CO Borkovich knew one of the subjects who claimed to shoot the six point. The problem was the subject had already shot a seven point on October first, a six point a week later and an eight point the Friday before Halloween. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking a trespassing complaint during the archery season, CO Ken Kovach heard a gun shot then had a bullet hit a tree near him. The CO was able to find the subject hunting over a bait pile. Enforcement action was taken.

While working road hunters in the evening hours the weekend before the firearm opener, CO Ken Kovach observed a vehicle coming out of the back of a field. The CO waited for the vehicle and contacted the subjects as they pulled up to him. In the conversation, the CO discovered two uncased bows in the vehicle. Further conversation led to the operator telling CO Kovach that he got a six point four nights prior. The bad news was the subject had no hunting license to take that deer. Enforcement action was taken and a warrant will be sought.

CO Mark Ennett issued a feeding ticket to a subject from a RAP complaint who admitted to putting out apples, corn, and a salt block next to a ground blind. He denied hunting at that location, merely wishing to look at the deer. He tried to downplay the amount and age of the apples, despite having fresh apples on the ground and four more bags of the same apples at his back door.

CO Mark Ennett responded to a complaint of a wildfire that got out of control. A landowner had been burning trash in the woods behind his house. The local fire department had been to the site three times over the past two days. The last big fire took three agencies to respond. CO Ennett issued a ticket to the landowner for allowing a fire to go out of control.

CO Mark Ennett responded to a report of a subject found deer hunting with a crossbow in Sterling State Park. After field dressing the deer, they found a bolt from a crossbow in the chest cavity of the deer. CO Ennett interviewed the subject who admitted to hunting in the Park. The subject stated he was unaware of a hunting ban in the park. A warrant is being sought for the violations.

CO Jonathon Sklba and Sgt Arthur Green were on a foot patrol checking Detroit Edison property when they contacted two subjects who were trespassing and hunting deer. CO Sklba separated the two and asked each one if they knew where they were and how the hunting season had been. Both subjects admitted to walking in the water to get around a fence to enter the area. They also stated they had shot a doe and a five point on the same day. One subject said he has taken a seven point, an eight point and a spike horn in the last three years. Both subjects agreed to give written statements and surrendered the processed venison from this year's deer and the second subject took a seven point and the spike horn mounts off the wall of his home. Warrants will be sought.

While working a shining patrol in northern Oakland County, CO Brandon Kieft conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle operating without any tail lights. While contacting the driver, CO Kieft observed open intoxicants in the vehicle. Upon further investigation, it was determined that the driver was operating while intoxicated and also without a valid operator's license. He had three prior convictions for operating on a

suspended driver's license and three prior convictions for operating while intoxicated. He was arrested for felony operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated and lodged in the Oakland County Jail.

COs Brandon Kieft and Mark Papineau responded to a complaint of a deer shot with a firearm during the archery deer season. The COs examined the deer and confirmed that it was shot with a firearm. They walked the wooded area of the complainant's property and located blood. Doing a reverse track of the blood, the COs discovered a loaded 30-30 rifle hidden in the woods under some leaves. Tracking further, they located a tree stand with a 30-30 casing that matched the two rounds found in the gun. Nearby was a small bait pile as well. The COs contacted the property owner who provided a full confession. Charges are being sought on taking a deer with a firearm during the closed season, taking a deer with a rifle in the shotgun zone, taking a deer without a hunting license, and baiting.

CO Brandon Kieft obtained an arrest warrant for a case involving two anglers who were harassed and assaulted while fishing on an Oakland County lake. The confrontation began when a lakefront property owner yelled at two anglers in a boat to stop fishing near his shoreline. The anglers ignored the property owner and continued to fish. The property owner returned to his residence and obtained a compound bow with arrows. He fired two shots at the anglers before they were able to flee the area.

CO Ben Shively responded to a complaint of shots fired along gas line property. He went through neighboring property and entered onto the gas line right of way to check a residence that bordered the property. CO Shively located a ladder stand on the property next to the residence and behind a fence there was an untagged doe that appeared to have been shot with a firearm. CO Shively contacted the suspect's wife at the residence who allowed him to check the deer and he was able to locate a small caliber wound to the neck. CO Shively seized the deer and took it to a local processor and did a necropsy on the neck. After skinning the deer it was found to be shot with a .17 cal HMR round in the neck. CO Shively contacted the suspect who had returned from work who stated that the deer was shot from the road. CO Shively inquired why the suspect did not call the MSP about the shot fired next to his house, why he had not called the DNRE after locating a gunshot deer, and then hid the deer in his back yard to process it. The suspect had no answers. The suspect stated that he did not own a .17 cal rifle but a box of .17 cal HMR rounds were located in his shed next to where the deer was hanging. The subject was ticketed for possession of a gunshot deer during the closed season. The deer was donated to Sportsman Against Hunger.

CO Kris Kiel received a complaint from the sheriff's department of a subject who saw a buck get out of the river and walk into his backyard. He got his bow and shot the deer; it ran to the neighbor's yard and lay down. The subject asked the neighbor if he could retrieve it and she called 911. CO Kiel responded and had to dispatch the deer. The subject was issued a ticket for the safety zone violation.

While working with an intern, CO Kris Kiel saw tail lights from a vehicle in a field. He watched through binoculars as the driver took two large buckets out of the bed of the truck and walked into the woods. CO Kiel sneaked up to the vehicle and stood on a pile of carrots and waited for the subject to return. He contacted the subject and had him show them where he had taken the bait. The subject showed them two bait piles of about 20 pounds of bait. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Kris Kiel and Todd Szyska responded to a RAP complaint of subjects rallying ducks. The COs observed three people in a boat driving through and chasing ducks and shooting as they flew away. At one point, the subjects' dog was at the bow of the boat and all three subjects stood up and fired over its head at ducks that were on the water. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel contacted a subject hunting over bait. When he identified himself and asked the hunter to come down from his tree stand, the hunter asked why. CO Kiel told him he wanted to talk to him about hunting over bait and the subject said he was not hunting over bait. CO Kiel kicked away some leaves to show the corn the subject had placed on the ground. The subject came down out of the tree and was issued a ticket for hunting over bait.

CO Todd Szyska checked duck hunters in a boat who were violating the slow, no-wake rule as they approached a launch ramp. CO Szyska found the subjects were short two personal flotation devices (PFDs) and had a fire extinguisher that had been discharged. A ticket was issued for fail to provide PFD and verbal warnings given for slow, no-wake and the fire extinguisher violations.