

[Graphic: Michigan Department of Natural Resources Logo.]

Spring Highlights: Northern Lower Peninsula

Wildlife Division 2016

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100 Year Anniversary!

[GPS Goal 6](#)

[Graphic: Group photo at the Gladwin Field Trial Area Anniversary Celebration.] 2016 marks the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Gladwin Field Trial Area, (GFTA). Recently, a great celebration took place in northern Gladwin County at the historic Alibi Hall. Field trial groups, dog clubs, and partners from all around gathered to share stories of the great times and the uniqueness of the GFTA. Learn more about the GFTA [here](#).

Spring Birding Tours

[GPS Goal 5](#)

[Graphic: A man points out a bird to another birder at a spring birding tour.] [Graphic: A group of birders gather at a spring birding tour.] The Manistee Marsh and the Houghton Lake Flats hosted their first annual spring birding tours. Both locations are managed wildlife floodings that provide excellent waterfowl hunting in the fall and great birding in the spring. Staff provided history of the managed area, explained our management goals, and our techniques to get us there. Both tours were well received and will be planned again in 2017.

Infrastructure Improvements

[GPS Goal 9](#)

[Graphic: Water control structure up close.] [Graphic: Panoramic view of a water control structure.] Many water control structures can be found on state forest land across the region. Most were constructed over 50 years ago for great waterfowl and furbearer breeding habitat which resulted in great hunting and trapping recreation. Major maintenance is taking place and recently, Cannons #1 and Stoney Creek have been refurbished with new water control structures installed. Both will be ready for the 2016 hunting seasons.

[Graphic: govDelivery red envelope logo.] Over 1 million people receive information directly from the DNR. [Sign-up](#) today! Personalize by location and interest!

Goose Banding

[GPS Goal 1](#)

[Graphic: Canada geese in a pen.] [Graphic: Volunteers and DNR staff gather Canada geese into a pen.] Across the region, staff are herding Canada geese by the dozens on golf courses, county parks and private land while they are molting and unable to fly. Once the geese are in their temporary pen, staff and volunteers work quickly to band them, while gathering age and sex information. Banding is an important tool for estimating harvest and survival while tracking the location of harvest. The banding goal for the region is 350 geese.

NLR Game Cam Corner

What can you find in a managed wildlife opening? [Graphic: Elk in a field.] [Graphic: Wild turkeys and white-tailed deer in a field.] [Graphic: Black bear in a field.] [Graphic: Coyote in a field.]

Meet the Northern Lower Region

[Graphic: DNR Biologist Mark Boersen.] Mark Boersen is currently a Wildlife Biologist at the Roscommon Customer Service Center. Mark has been with the DNR for nearly 13 years and oversees wildlife management in Roscommon, Ogemaw, and Iosco counties. He also serves as the NLR black bear contact person. When not working, Mark loves to hunt, scuba dive, boat, and travel with his wife Emily, and daughter Avery.

[Graphic: DNR Biologist Steve Griffith.] Steve Griffith is currently the Wildlife Biologist at the Traverse City DNR field office, which will soon be a Customer Service Center. Steve started his State of Michigan career in 1996 with Public Health and came to the DNR's Wildlife Division in 2000 as a wildlife technician in Traverse City. In his spare time, Steve likes anything to do with Lake Michigan and the sand dunes!

Contact Information

To contact NL Wildlife Division staff, call one of the Customer Service Centers

Cadillac 231-775-9727

Gaylord 989-732-3541

Traverse City 231-922-5280

Roscommon 989-275-5151

For more information, go to www.michigan.gov/dnr