

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Field Report
2/25/2018 – 3/10/2018**

DISTRICT 1

Conservation Officer (CO) Ethen Mapes was patrolling a snowmobile trail intersection when two snowmobilers failed to stop or even slow down. After getting the snowmobiles stopped, CO Mapes found that neither snowmobile had a trail sticker. The individuals stated that they knowingly took the chance of not purchasing trail stickers to save some money. Law enforcement action was taken for careless operation of a snowmobile and failing to obtain a trail sticker.

CO Ethen Mapes responded to a report of a pile of animal carcasses near downtown Ironwood. CO Mapes found a pile of animal carcasses behind an apartment building and was able to locate the owner. The young man explained to CO Mapes that he was teaching himself how to trap. CO Mapes discussed the laws, rules and regulations with the new trapper and got him back on track for his future trapping endeavors.

CO Ethen Mapes was patrolling on Lake Gogebic when he noticed an angler sitting on his snowmobile and jigging. Upon contact, the angler was very nervous. The reason for this became apparent upon the discovery that the fisherman was fishing with too many lines. Law enforcement action was taken.

COs Doug Hermanson, Brian Lasanen, and Ethen Mapes worked a group snowmobile patrol in Houghton County targeting loud exhausts. They issued several tickets and warnings including seven tickets for sound violations.

Sgt. Grant Emery responded to an injured bear cub in the city of Ironwood that had been hanging around for the past week. People were leaving food and milk out for it and teenagers were going up to the bear and taking selfies with their phones. Sgt. Emery located the bear cub, which turned out to be about 35 pounds, under a spruce tree next to the back door of a residence. Using a catch pole, Sgt. Emery was able to capture the bear and put it in a dog carrier. The cub was placed in a heated stall and given food and water that night before it was transported by Wildlife Division to a rehabilitation facility that was equipped for bears and could provide the needed care.

CO Brian Bacon and PCO Micah Hintze contacted subjects ice fishing in Dickinson County. One of the subjects quickly exited the shack and stated he wasn't fishing, leaving the two other subjects fishing with a total of eight lines out and no names and addresses on tip-ups. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon and PCO Micah Hintze stopped a vehicle for traveling at a high rate of speed. The subject told PCO Hintze that he was in a hurry to change out an oxygen tank and that he was getting low on air. When asked if he needed to change it out now, the subject stated, "No, I was going to do it at the next stop." When asked to see the

gauge on the tank that was next to the subject, it was on full. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeremy Sergey conducted a patrol to check ice fishermen on Lake Michigan. The ice fishermen were surprised to see CO Sergey, especially a group fishing on the seaward side of a large ice plate formed by a pressure ridge. All the fishermen were following fishing regulations and reported poor fishing.

CO Jeremy Sergey along with the Michigan State Police responded to an overturned vehicle in Menominee County. The vehicle had left the road on a corner and flipped into a farm field. There were no injuries and speed was a factor. The driver stated they were running late for work.

CO Jared Ferguson and PCO Micah Hintze conducted a snowmobile patrol in Dickinson and Iron Counties. The COs encountered snowmobile violations that included unregistered, improperly placed trail permits, fail to obtain trail permits and careless operation.

CO Jared Ferguson and PCO Micah Hintze conducted a joint snowmobile patrol with the Iron County Sheriff's Department. While patrolling, the COs came upon a couple who were having snowmobile problems. The individuals didn't know how to change the belts or remove the belt while towing another snowmobile. The COs assisted them in removing the snowmobile from the trailway and getting it back to a local mechanic to fix the issue. The individuals were very thankful and said they were afraid because it was getting dark and their cell phones didn't work in the UP.

CO Jared Ferguson and PCO Micah Hintze were patrolling the back waters of a local reservoir when they came upon two individuals tucked back into a cove hidden in the trees. After contacting the individuals, it was found they had a total of 15 tip-ups in and unregistered snowmobiles. While finishing the investigation, three more snowmobiles pulled in with unregistered machines and the operators were not wearing helmets. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jared Ferguson and PCO Micah Hintze conducted a fish patrol on an inland reservoir in Iron County. While checking several shacks with litter and no name and address on all four sides, they observed three snowmobiles jumping the ice pressure cracks. Contact was made and one individual in the group was found operating with a suspended driver's license, unregistered snowmobile, no trail permit, and possession of marijuana. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jared Ferguson and PCO Micah Hintze answered a complaint regarding an ice shack on a local lake containing excessive garbage on the ice. The COs located the shack and found beer cans and other types of litter strewn about the ice. The ice shack was not properly identified on all four sides as well. The COs investigated further and were able to obtain two names associated with the shack. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeremy Sergey checked several anglers along the Menominee River below the first dam. The anglers had several questions regarding fishing regulations within the boundary waters. CO Sergey was able to answer their questions and the anglers were found to be following the rules surrounding the boundary waters.

CO Jeremy Sergey has noticed some ice shanties that are on questionable ice in Menominee County. Attempts have been made to track these individuals to ensure they have a plan to remove their shanties.

CO Shannon Kritz patrolled area lakes in the Ottawa Federal Forest with Forest Service Officer Kenneth. The officers found high compliance with the few fishermen who were out enjoying the colder temperatures.

CO Shannon Kritz met a complainant who documented various tree stands that have been left out on public land past the legal end date. CO Kritz went via snowmobile to four separate tree stands that failed to have any name documentation attached to them. These tree stands will be followed up on during hunting season when contact can be made with the owners.

While patrolling a lake in Dickinson County, CO Brian Bacon and PCO Micah Hintze observed an ice shanty with three individuals inside who also had multiple tip-ups set outside. Upon contacting the fishermen, two of them were actively "jigging" while one man didn't possess a license and claimed thoroughly he wasn't fishing that day. The other two fishermen each had three tip-ups set and were actively fishing within the shack, putting them in violations of fishing with too many lines. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling a lake in Dickinson County, CO Brian Bacon and PCO Micah Hintze contacted a fisherman with multiple northern pike frozen on the ice. When asked what he measured the pike with, the individual explained he had nothing to measure with and assumed they were over the legal-size limit. The COs measured the fish and determined them to be undersized. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Bacon and PCO Micah Hintze gave a presentation to Kingsford High School seniors on the job of a Michigan conservation officer and their multitude of duties. The COs spoke with the class regarding career opportunities, answered questions on natural resource enforcement, and presented a handful of Michigan's native furbearers to the class with their identification and traits of each species.

CO Brett DeLonge presented to an Introduction to Criminal Justice class at Gogebic Community College on the function and responsibilities of a Michigan conservation officer. CO DeLonge explained the important role conservation officers play in natural resource protection and how they are an integral part of the law enforcement community. CO DeLonge had several students interested in becoming a conservation officer and answered several DNR law-related questions.

CO Brett DeLonge assisted the Department of Public Safety and Police Services of Northern Michigan University with an event for Marquette area elementary students interested in the law enforcement field. Activities included hand cuffing, finger printing, simulated fire extinguishing, a drive simulator, and general wildlife resource protection.

CO Brett DeLonge was working a snowmobile patrol in Marquette County when he observed a group of snowmobiles traveling in his direction. The group of snowmobiles did not have snowmobile trail permits. CO DeLonge was able to turn his machine around on the trail and effect a stop on the group. Upon contact with three of the riders, CO DeLonge observed several violations including no registration decals, no snowmobile trail permits, no paper registration, and failure to transfer registration. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Leadman was patrolling a snowmobile trail intersection between Gwinn and Marquette. Soon after arriving at the intersection, CO Leadman observed a group of snowmobiles passing through the intersection. Each snowmobile stopped at the road crossing and continued through the intersection. CO Leadman observed another snowmobile pass the entire group, ignoring the stop sign at the road intersection, and cross the road at the same time as another snowmobile. CO Leadman was able to contact the snowmobiler about a mile down the trail. The snowmobile operator had ignored hand gestures from several other snowmobilers to stop or look behind him. CO Leadman explained the careless operation he witnessed and discussed the fatal snowmobile accident at the same intersection two years prior from an operator that failed to stop at the intersection. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 2

While checking a local lake, CO Robert Freeborn contacted a couple of fishermen enjoying the balmy temps and sun. CO Freeborn noticed four lines on the ice and asked both fishermen for their fishing licenses. One of the fishermen immediately stated that he was not fishing and did not have a license. CO Freeborn then questioned the second fisherman who stated it was his extra line and that he would take responsibility. A citation was issued for fishing more than three lines.

COs Robert Freeborn, Mark Zitnik and Christopher Lynch worked a busy intersection for snowmobiles. While traffic was on the light side, there were still several violations, including careless operation, expired snowmobile registration and failure to display registration. Citations were issued for all violations.

COs Robert Freeborn, Michael Evink, Mark Zitnik, Calvin Smith, and Colton Gelinis worked a group snowmobile patrol on a busy Saturday. The COs initially separated into smaller groups to cover more area and eventually met up at a central location to set up a sound meter. While all snowmobiles tested passed the required 88 decibels, the COs did encounter several violations including; failure to attach a trail permit, expired snowmobile registration, and failure to obtain a trail permit. A total of seven citations were issued.

CO Mark Zitnik and an Alger County Sheriff's Department officer were on snowmobile patrol when they observed a snowmobiler without a trail permit. When speaking with the snowmobilers, the officers noticed one snowmobile had his trail permit resting under the windshield and not stuck on the snowmobile and the other rider did not put it on. Enforcement action was taken for failing to affix trail permit.

CO Mark Zitnik and an Alger County Sheriff's Department officer were on snowmobile patrol at a busy intersection. In all, over 100 contacts were made and several verbal warnings given. Four citations were issued for careless operation, unregistered snowmobile, failure to display registration, and failure to attach trail permit.

CO Jon Busken attended career fairs at Bay de Noc Community College in Escanaba and Iron Mountain. The CO was able to meet with multiple students who are interested in conservation law enforcement careers.

CO Chris Lynch and Sgt. Jerry Fitzgibbon conducted a patrol on Little Bay de Noc checking ice anglers and snowmobilers. Overall compliance was good, and anglers were happy to see the COs out patrolling.

CO Michael Evink participated with the St. Francis 5th grade class by being the mystery reader on Dr. Seuss day. CO Evink read "Oh the Places You'll Go".

COs Tom Oberg and Calvin Smith and Sgt. Mike Hammill patrolled local lakes in the Curtis area checking on ice fishing activity. While on South Manistique Lake, CO Calvin Smith came across an ice shack that was unoccupied and one of the tip-ups that was close by had its flag up. CO Smith located six more tip-ups in the area and waited nearly an hour before the two fishermen returned. When questioned on why they left their fishing lines unattended, the fishermen replied, "the fishing was slow, and we decided to run back to our cabin". CO Smith then asked them how many lines they could fish with and the fishermen replied, "Three each". CO Smith then pointed out a seventh line that was inside the ice shack and one of the fishermen replied, "Oh yeah, forgot about that one". Law enforcement action was taken.

While checking fishing activity on Big Manistique Lake, COs Calvin Smith, Tom Oberg and Sgt. Mike Hammill issued citations for fishing without a license and for fishing with more than three lines.

COs Tom Oberg and Calvin Smith assisted the Michigan State Police and Luce County first responders with a snowmobile accident in Northern Luce County. The snowmobiler was operating off trail, lost control and suffered a broken leg.

COs Colton Gelinis and Calvin Smith along with wildlife technician Jayne Meinard responded to a wolf collar that was giving a mortality signal. The wolf was located nearly two miles from the closest road and it was determined the wolf was killed by a rival wolf pack.

COs Colton Gelinis and Calvin Smith patrolled Luce County snowmobile trails and issued citations for expired registration, failure to display registration decals and for failing to attach trail permits.

CO Tom Oberg worked a busy Saturday on Munuscong Bay for the annual Last Chance Walleye Tournament. Throughout the day, several citations were issued for individuals fishing with more than the three fishing lines that they are allowed by law.

COs Mark Zitnik, Calvin Smith, and Colton Gelinis were on snowmobile patrol in Alger County. The COs made numerous snowmobile contacts, issuing citations for failing to obtain snowmobile trail permits and registration violations.

COs Colton Gelinis and Calvin Smith were on snowmobile patrol in Luce County when the COs observed an Ohio snowmobile go by with a 2013 registration. The COs pulled over the snowmobile and it was determined that all three snowmobiles in the group had expired registrations and were not aware their snowmobiles needed to be registered. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kevin Postma and PCO Nick Ingersoll were patrolling state land in Chippewa County when they observed six trash bags lying on the side of the road. The COs located a name and address within the trash to find out who it belonged to. After a few days of attempting to contact the individual, they were able to finally talk with her at her residence. A confession was gained for throwing the trash on the side of the road and enforcement action was taken.

CO Kevin Postma and PCO Nick Ingersoll were on ice fishing patrol on Munuscong Bay. The COs contacted a group of anglers who all had three lines in the water. What one of the anglers did not notice was that the COs had been watching him prior to the contact and were able to count the four lines in the water he was using. After further questioning, the angler admitted he had four lines in the water and enforcement action was taken.

CO Kevin Postma and PCO Nick Ingersoll were on ice fishing patrol on Munuscong Bay. The COs approached one ice fishing shack where two anglers were fishing. The anglers had success prior that day with a northern pike sitting outside the shanty. After the COs started talking with the anglers, they noticed a fish behind the door in the shanty that was hidden. The COs asked the anglers to pull the fish out so they could measure it. After measuring the northern pike, it was found to be under the legal size limit of 24". The COs asked the two anglers about the fish and they stated it was not theirs. They did say it was their friend's fish who was fishing in another shanty. The COs contacted the other fisherman and questioned him about the fish he speared earlier that day that was undersized. He admitted to spearing it and said he thought it was 24" when he speared it but was mistaken when he measured it. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kevin Postma and PCO Nick Ingersoll were leaving the Carp River when they observed a vehicle pass them at a high rate of speed. The COs were able to conduct a traffic stop on the vehicle. After asking the driver if there was anything in the car they needed to know about, the driver stated he had his shotgun hanging in the back. The COs were able to locate an uncased shotgun in the backseat, an open half gallon of Captain Morgan in the front seat, along with two cases of Bud Light, two 12-packs of craft beer, and a 30 pack of Pabst Blue Ribbon beer in the back seat. Both the driver and passenger were minors and were questioned about the alcohol. They admitted to it being theirs. The COs made them dump all the alcohol out. A warning was given for possessing an uncased firearm in a motor vehicle and open intoxicants in a motor vehicle. Enforcement action was taken for the minors being in possession of alcohol.

CO Kevin Postma and PCO Nick Ingersoll were on snowmobile patrol when they received a call from dispatch advising of a snowmobile accident. The COs were near the accident and were able to respond. Upon arriving at the accident, they observed a snowmobile that had lost control and collided with a tree. The driver of the snowmobile was already taken to the hospital by Whitefish Township EMS. The COs interviewed the riding party and then assisted with getting the wrecked snowmobile off the trail. The driver of the snowmobile only received minor injuries and is expected to make a full recovery.

CO Kevin Postma and PCO Nick Ingersoll patrolled Munuscong Bay. While checking two ice shanties on the lake, they identified the odor of marijuana. After questioning the individuals in the shanty about the marijuana, both individuals confessed to having marijuana on them. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 3

CO Nick Torsky and PCO Danielle Zubek gave presentations to over 80 students at a career day at Pellston Public Schools. The COs discussed the functions of a conservation officer, as well as the hiring and training process.

CO Nick Torsky and PCO Danielle Zubek assisted Fisheries Division staff with the investigation of possible arson and malicious destruction of property (MDOP) at the Oden State Fish Hatchery. An attempt to make a fire on an observation platform was discovered by staff, as well as other evidence that was recovered. The investigation is ongoing.

CO Nick Torsky and PCO Danielle Zubek were on patrol in the Pigeon River Country State Forest when they encountered a woman who stated she was trying to find her husband whose vehicle had become disabled somewhere in the forest. Due to their unfamiliarity with the area and the lack of cell service, she was having a difficult time locating him, and she was becoming quite concerned due to the falling temperatures and impending darkness. From the information she provided to the COs, they were able to locate the man and his dog, both unharmed, a short time later, and transported him back to his waiting spouse.

CO Nick Torsky and PCO Danielle Zubek were observing fishermen on Lake Charlevoix when they spotted an angler who appeared to be fishing with more than three tip-ups. During their observation, the angler in question pulled in a legal-sized northern pike, surrounded by a group of onlookers who did not appear to be fishing, but proceeded to take multiple pictures in various poses with the fish. Upon investigation, it was discovered the onlookers were from South America and had never seen such a fish and wanted the pictures as souvenirs. It was also discovered that the angler was in fact fishing with too many lines. A citation was issued.

CO Nick Torsky and PCO Danielle Zubek, along with Sgt. Jon Wood, attended Wildlife Division's furbearer workgroup meeting where representatives from various stakeholder groups were able to give input on potential furbearer regulation changes for 2018 and beyond.

CO Duane Budreau, along with CO Nick Torsky and PCO Danielle Zubek, attended a hunter safety program in Harbor Springs. COs Budreau and Torsky, along with PCO Zubek, emphasized to the attendees the importance of safe hunting practices as well as the key laws encompassing the sport of hunting in Michigan.

CO Duane Budreau was patrolling southern Emmet County when he came across a vehicle parked down an unplowed seasonal road. Upon looking in the window of the vehicle, CO Budreau observed an uncased firearm on the driver's seat. Fresh foot prints in the snow led into the nearby woods. After a moment, a voice called out from the wooded area. The owner of the vehicle was using the cover of the trees for some privacy. When the subject returned to his vehicle, CO Budreau addressed the firearm issue. The subject advised he was coyote hunting when he had to take emergency action in the woods. CO Budreau explained the dangers of leaving an uncased loaded firearm in an unlocked vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol, CO Andrea Albert and PCO Amanda McCurdy received a Report All Poaching complaint of a subject fishing alone on Lake Bellaire with four lines in the water. CO Albert and PCO McCurdy responded to the area and utilized binoculars to observe the individual fish with three tip-ups and one jigging rod. The subject was then contacted and admitted he was fishing with too many lines and was aware that this was a violation of law. A ticket was issued for fishing with too many lines.

CO Jon Sklba responded to a complaint of an unknown large animal on Grand Lake in Presque Isle County. CO Sklba patrolled the area; however, was unable to locate any animals.

CO Jon Sklba responded to a trespassing complaint on the Oqueoc River in Presque Isle County. CO Sklba spoke with the landowner and has been patrolling the area.

CO Jon Sklba located property that was left out on state land in Presque Isle County after it was required to be removed. CO Sklba contacted the owners of the items and enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Sklba was contacted by a subject in Alpena County who advised he had found a dead bear on his property. CO Sklba was provided pictures of the "bear"; however, whatever was photographed was not identifiable because it was under snow. CO Sklba advised the complainant to monitor it, and report back if the item becomes identifiable. The complainant called a few warm days later to advise it was just a large frozen clump of grass.

CO Paul Fox attended a career fair at Cheboygan High School. Hundreds of students attended with several interested in careers with the DNR. CO Fox and Parks and Recreation Division staff helped several interested students with career advice and hiring opportunities.

CO Paul Fox responded to a complaint in Presque Isle County of unattended lines. CO Fox located several tip-ups on the ice that were set with no one around. CO Fox confiscated the items and is attempting to locate the responsible party.

Sgt. Michael Mshar and PCO Sidney Collins assisted the Michigan State University research staff and the DNR Wildlife Division to locate a deceased cow elk in a remote area of Montmorency County. The animal was part of a research program and had recently died of unknown causes. The animal was located and appears to have died of natural causes. The elk was submitted to MSU's lab for testing.

CO Adam LeClerc spoke to an advanced placement biology class at Alpena High School. CO LeClerc went over the job functions of a conservation officer, typical daily patrols and interactions, and went over a few closed cases from Alpena County. CO LeClerc then fielded questions regarding career path, college classes, and how to make resumes better when applications are filled out. The students were very responsive and interactive.

Sgt. Mark DePew received information that a subject had kept a sturgeon after snagging it under the ice on Otsego Lake in Otsego County. The information was limited; however, contact was made with an angler who was in possession of a sturgeon that was over 55" in length. After conducting several interviews, the angler ultimately confessed to snagging the fish in the stomach area then pulling it through the ice after drilling several additional holes around the original hole to get the large fish out. The sturgeon along with the fishing equipment used in the illegal take was seized from the angler. The Otsego County Prosecutor's Office is reviewing the case for "possessing fish (sturgeon) illegally taken." Penalties for a person who takes or possesses a sturgeon in violation of Michigan law and found guilty are punishable by imprisonment for not less than 30 days or more than 180 days. A fine of not less than \$500.00 or more than \$2,000.00, or both, and the costs of prosecution plus the loss of fishing privileges for the next three years. In addition to court fines and costs, reimbursement for a sturgeon is \$1,500.00 for each fish illegally taken or possessed.

Sgt. Mark DePew and CO Nathan Sink conducted a snowmobile patrol in Otsego County. Several contacts were made and several citations issued for operating without obtaining a trail permit and for operating with an expired registration.

CO Eric Bottorff and PCO Nicholas Wellman conducted a stationary snowmobile patrol at a local trail crossing. During the patrol, CO Bottorff and PCO Wellman contacted approximately 80 snowmobiles. Various violations were observed, including operating a snowmobile with no registration, operating on the trail with no trail permit, failure to transfer registration, and failure to display trail permit. In all, three citations were issued along with several warnings.

While patrolling for snowmobile activity near Wolverine, PCO Nicholas Wellman and CO Eric Bottorff responded to a complaint of a snowmobile on fire south of Wolverine on the snowmobile trail. Upon arrival, PCO Wellman grabbed the fire extinguisher from the patrol truck and ran to extinguish the fully engulfed snowmobile, while CO Bottorff maintained contact with central dispatch and Wolverine Fire Department. After extinguishing the fire, CO Bottorff and PCO Wellman contacted the group of snowmobilers to make sure no one was injured and assisted Wolverine Fire Department with the scene, and finding out the cause of the fire, which ended up being an electrical fire. No injuries occurred, and the snowmobile was towed to the nearest crossing where it was picked-up.

CO Eric Bottorff and PCO Nicholas Wellman received a complaint from Cheboygan State Park that some previous campers had cut down live timber for firewood during their recent stay. After meeting with park employees, contact was made with the camping party that was responsible and enforcement action was taken.

CO Eric Bottorff and PCO Nicholas Wellman responded to a complaint of an animal carcass on Wildwood Lake. Upon arrival, it was determined that a deer had been chased onto the lake and killed by coyotes. The ice was still safe to walk on, so CO Bottorff and PCO Wellman retrieved the deer carcass from the ice.

CO Kyle Cherry was on patrol in Otsego County when he stopped to assist a vehicle pulled onto the shoulder of a road. Upon contacting the occupants, CO Cherry discovered the passenger was undergoing a 13-minute seizure. CO Cherry requested medical personnel to the location. Before EMS arrived on scene, CO Cherry was able to assist the passenger's stepmother with administering medication needed to stop the seizure. The passenger was able to recover and was okay.

CO Kyle Cherry responded along with an Otsego County deputy and Michigan State Police trooper to an unresponsive male in Otsego County. Officers arrived within minutes to the location. First aid was rendered but was ultimately unsuccessful.

CO Tim Rosochacki received a Report All Poaching complaint of tip-ups left unattended overnight near a shanty on Mullet Lake. Due to the good description of the shanty in question, CO Rosochacki was able to quickly locate and sit on the shanty. Two hours

later, a subject arrived at the shanty and tended to the tip-ups, upon making contact the subject stated he “wanted to see what was out there.” Enforcement action was taken.

COs Tim Rosochacki and Nathan Sink responded to two separate car/elk accidents, one on I-75 near Wolverine in Cheboygan County and the other on Finnegan Rd near Gingell Rd in Otsego County. Both elk were salvageable and taken to a local meat processing facility to be processed. The meat will be distributed to local food pantries in Northern Michigan.

DISTRICT 4

CO Patrick McManus and CO Rebecca Hubers were in Leelanau County near North Lake Leelanau and noticed a snowmobile being operated at a high rate of speed across the ice. The operator was not wearing a helmet and exited the lake at a nearby residence. Upon making contact with the operator, it was determined that the snowmobile also had an invalid snowmobile registration and no trail permit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO William Kinney was dispatched to a wildfire that had escaped from a residence in Wexford County. When CO Kinney arrived on scene, he observed several acres had been burnt before the fire was suppressed. When CO Kinney questioned the homeowner, it was discovered the homeowner was burning several large piles of trash and brush when the fire escaped. With no burn permits being issued for the day, and the large quantity of trash, enforcement action was taken for the illegal burn.

CO Sam Koscinski and PCO Cody Smith were patrolling the Manistee pier heads when they observed a vessel with two occupants running eight lines on inline planer boards. The COs watched the boat as they picked up lines and came into the channel. Contact was made and enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Converse and PCO Cody Smith were patrolling Bear Creek due to an increase in fishing activity. During the patrol, the COs contacted two kayak fishermen who failed to have life vests in their kayaks. They explained the importance of personal flotation devices and enforcement action was taken.

In a joint training session with the East Lake and Manistee Fire Departments, CO Sam Koscinski and PCO Cody Smith were able to participate in an ice rescue training session. The scenario took place on Manistee Lake where thin ice allowed for the most realistic training experience. CO Sam Koscinski and PCO Cody Smith wore survival suits to execute multiple different types of rescue.

While patrolling the Pere Marquette River near Gleason’s Landing in Lake County, CO Kyle Publiski, CO Brian Brosky and PCO Stephen Butzin observed two individuals fishing. One fisherman and his gear were lying next to a no trespassing sign. After a short time, the COs observed one fisherman walk up and down the bank of the river

next to several no trespassing signs. The fishermen were contacted and cited for recreational trespass.

While patrolling the Pere Marquette River in Lake and Mason Counties, CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Stephen Butzin located several boats that were lacking life jackets or any floatation devices at all. Multiple boats were cited for not having personal floatation devices (PFDs).

CO Josiah Killingbeck was getting gas in Mesick when he observed a truck drive by his location that was operating at a high speed leaving a school zone. CO Killingbeck finished getting gas and was heading towards a deer carcass complaint when he observed the same truck. CO Killingbeck determined the vehicle to be travelling in excess of 90 mph as he was able to conduct a traffic stop and contact with the driver. He was told the vehicle was recently restored and had no plate but was insured. CO Killingbeck ran the VIN of the vehicle through LEIN and determined that the truck was indeed not plated. Numerous violations were addressed and enforcement action taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck made contact with a hunter he had been attempting to contact since deer season regarding a combo tag found at a local deer processor that was not validated. The subject told CO Killingbeck that he had killed a doe with his rifle during the 2017 firearm deer season, admitted to not validating his kill tag and using the combo tag to tag an antlerless deer. CO Killingbeck explained that during firearm season it is illegal to put a combo tag on an antlerless deer. The subject admitted to never attempting to educate himself on Michigan deer hunting regulations and enforcement action was taken.

CO Scott MacNeill assisted the Manistee Sheriff's Office with locating a reckless driver in southeastern Manistee County. The driver was found sleeping in her vehicle, which was halfway in the ditch in park. After further investigation, the driver was found to be intoxicated and it was determined she was driving the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Scott MacNeill was part of a multi-agency effort to locate two hikers whom were believed to be lost on the North Country trail in Manistee County. The two hikers camped overnight on the trail in subzero temperatures and approximately 6-8" of snow. Coordinating the search efforts were CO MacNeill, federal law enforcement, Manistee County Sheriff's Department, and the Little River Band Tribal officers. The officers were able to locate the two individuals safe and unharmed. The concerned parents were contacted and any disciplinary action was handled by them.

CO Brian Brosky was following up on processor violations and suspected DMAP violations when he noted several discrepancies on paperwork files. CO Brosky had to interview a local farmer on some of the discrepancies found and during the interview it was admitted by the farmer that virtually all of his DMAP permits (approximately 108) were sold/bartered to hunters in violations of DMAP rules. The farmer was issued a citation for the violations, and several of the hunters are also under investigation for

lending/loaning the same DMAP permits to other hunters, some of who harvested deer off the permitted property. Additional investigations and charges are pending for related violations.

CO Brian Brosky, CO Kyle Publiski and CO Stephen Butzin were at a local business when CO Publiski noted that a person who had just left the store was operating a vehicle while his driver's license was suspended. CO Brosky was able to locate the vehicle and suspect at his home based on CO Publiski's information. The operator of the motor vehicle confirmed that he had not had a driver's license since the mid-1980s. He was placed under arrest and lodged in jail by the COs for DWLS with prior convictions/suspensions.

CO Brian Brosky responded to a dispatch call of a young 4th grade female student who rode a bus home from school to an address in Mason County, but unfortunately she was on the wrong bus and no one was home when she arrived. A neighbor located the girl walking in the roadway crying and learned of her situation when he helped the girl and called 911 to report the incident. CO Brosky arrived and with the help of the neighbor, dispatch, and the young girl, the father was contacted and the girl was given a ride home to the correct house approximately three miles away.

CO Troy VanGelderren and PCO Zach Painter were on patrol in Oceana County when they observed a vehicle pulling a camper trailer that did not have a license plate. Garbage was also flying off the trailer. A traffic stop was conducted, and the driver had no proof of insurance and an improper license plate on the vehicle. The passenger of the vehicle admitted to having warrants. Enforcement action was taken for the no proof of insurance and the improper license plate. The passenger was placed under arrest for three warrants and lodged at the Oceana County Jail.

CO Angela Greenway responded to a 42-acre wildfire in Mecosta County. After an investigation, it was found that a subject was burning illegal materials which ultimately escaped and spread the fire to nearby woods and fields. A citation was issued and the cost of suppression will be reviewed and submitted.

CO Jeff Ginn and CO Angela Greenway responded to a personal injury single car accident in Newaygo County. The COs provided assistance at the scene where one subject was pronounced dead and the other was taken by life flight to a nearby hospital.

CO Jeff Ginn arrested a fishing guide in Newaygo County on a warrant who is facing charges of illegal chumming on the Muskegon River. It is the subject's second offense of the illegal chumming activity within one year. CO Ginn was able to watch the subject chum on several occasions, as well as retrieve evidence of the activity that the subject had hidden after being tipped off that he was being watched. A report submitted to the Newaygo County Prosecutor's Office resulted in the arrest warrant being issued.

CO Mike Bomay is investigating a suspicious death of a bald eagle. The investigation stemmed from a concerned citizen's complaint who noticed the eagle dead in a tree

near a roadway. CO Bomay retrieved the eagle from the tree and the preliminary investigation showed the eagle may have been shot. CO Bomay has interviewed several potential witnesses and the eagle is being necropsied at the lab. The investigation continues.

DISTRICT 5

After receiving multiple complaints of ice shanties starting to go through the ice on Lake Skegemog in Kalkaska County, CO Mike Hearn and PCO Jeremy Cantrell patrolled the lake in an attempt to contact the anglers. During their patrol, they observed a shanty that appeared to have no name and address affixed to any of the sides and was falling through the ice. Upon further investigation, the COs could make out a partial name written on a piece of vinyl siding attached to the shanty. CO Hearn searched fishing licenses purchased by all residents in the local town. A name was located that closely resembled the name on the shanty and an interview was conducted. The shanty ended up belonging to the subject who was interviewed. He was advised that the shanty was falling through the ice and a citation was issued to him for the name/address violation.

CO Mike Hearn received a complaint from the Report All Poaching dispatch center about a possible illegally taken deer during the fall of 2016. The complaint information originated from social media and showed evidence of a suspiciously harvested 7-point buck. CO Hearn and PCO Jeremy Cantrell obtained the evidence and conducted interviews. It was determined the suspect shot the deer without a hunting license and had the land owner purchase a license after the incident. The suspect was an out-of-state resident, so it was cheaper to have the land owner buy the deer license. A report was submitted to the Grand Traverse County Prosecutor's Office. Charges have been authorized and the case is pending in the 86th District Court.

During a snowmobile patrol in Kalkaska County, CO Mike Hearn and PCO Jeremy Cantrell noticed a snowmobile with an expired registration. After conducting a stop on the snowmobile, the COs investigated further. It was discovered the snowmobile was recently purchased, the title had not been transferred, and there was no current trail permit. The individual was operating on the prior owner's 2013 registration and 2012 trail permit. A citation was issued addressing the various violations.

CO John Huspen and PCO Sidney Collins made several traffic stops on vehicles crossing the fog line as well as disregarding stop signs. Upon investigating, one vehicle was in possession of traps without identification on them and a couple of firearms. Enforcement action was taken.

CO John Huspen and PCO Sidney Collins assisted the City of Grayling Public Safety with a breaking and entering complaint where a gun, golf cart and other items were stolen from the fish hatchery in Crawford County.

While patrolling on a side-by-side ORV in Crawford County, COs Ben McAteer and Matt Zultak observed two people target shooting at a local gravel pit. The COs traveled a safe distance away from the shooters to watch for illegal ORV activity in the gravel pit.

After approximately 15 minutes, the target shooters packed up their firearms and began driving up the gravel pit to an area closed to vehicular traffic. CO McAteer contacted the driver and observed an open bottle of liquor sitting on the floor. As the COs talked with the occupants, the odor of intoxicants appeared to be coming from the driver. Both occupants were permitted to carry concealed pistols. CO McAteer asked where the firearms were located. The passenger advised that his firearm was unloaded and stored in the rear of the vehicle. The driver stated his pistol was loaded and being carried on his hip. The COs secured the firearms and conducted field sobrieties on both occupants. The passenger was confirmed to be sober; however, the driver was almost twice the legal limit to operate a motor vehicle. After securing evidence, the driver was placed under arrest for operating a motor vehicle and carrying a concealed pistol while intoxicated. CO Chuck McPherson was contacted to assist with transport. The subject was lodged in the Crawford County Jail on the violations.

COs Kyle Bader and Casey Pullum along with PCO Justin Vinson attended the 4th annual Luzerne Area Predator Round-up in Oscoda County. The COs interacted with the hunters and answered questions. Overall, the hunt provided a good turnout with excellent success.

CO Kyle Bader and PCO Justin Vinson assisted Michigan State Police with a search for a missing 12-year-old boy. The search lasted several hours into the night. The boy returned safely to his home on his own.

While conducting ORV patrol on state land, CO Kyle Bader and PCO Justin Vinson encountered three jeeps operating in an area closed to motorized vehicles. While contacting the group, the COs discovered one of the operators was in possession of marijuana. A search was conducted of the vehicle yielding more marijuana and other drug paraphernalia. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Casey Pullum was patrolling Oscoda County when he contacted two snowmobile operators. One of the snowmobiles had two different registration decals applied. CO Pullum recognized the owner of the snowmobile from a prior law enforcement contact last month where he had multiple snowmobile violations. CO Pullum observed the registration on the left side of the snowmobile was valid; however, the right side had an expired registration. CO Pullum asked where he obtained the valid registration. The operator said he took the registration off one of his other snowmobiles, so he wouldn't get a ticket. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Warner and PCO Katie Stawara were patrolling state land in Iosco County when they observed a vehicle operating in an area closed to motorized vehicle traffic. The COs contacted the occupants and noticed gun cases in the back of the vehicle. PCO Stawara inquired about the firearms and the driver confessed to having a loaded shotgun uncased between the front seats of the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken for transporting a loaded/uncased firearm in a motor vehicle.

During what was likely the last snowmobile patrol of the season in Iosco County, CO Jon Warner and PCO Katie Stawara contacted two snowmobile operators on the

snowmobile trail who failed to buy trail permits. When asked why they didn't buy the permits, the operators replied they were only expecting to ride this one time and didn't want to pay for the trail permits. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ethan Gainforth assisted Clare City Police Department and the Clare County Sheriff's Department with a search of the woods near the Tobacco River for a Clare High School student who made a verbal bomb threat in class and proceeded to jump out the back window of the classroom wearing a backpack. After 45 minutes of searching, law enforcement found out the student had just been picked up by public transport and dropped off at his residence. The student was taken into custody by the Clare City Police Department.

CO Nick Atkin conducted a presentation for numerous students at the AuGres High School. The students learned about the job duties and responsibilities of a conservation officer in Michigan. The students showed a lot of interest and were very engaged in the presentation.

CO Steve Lockwood and PCO Charlie Jones received information from the Gladwin County Sheriff's Department that a subject was burning tires, building materials and other illegal items. The COs patrolled near the location and observed two large fires in the subject's yard. They contacted the landowner and confirmed the materials in the fire. The Gladwin Fire Department was contacted to put out the fire. The landowner was issued a citation for the violation.

CO Ethan Gainforth received a complaint about a subject who was illegally trapping on private property in Clare County. CO Gainforth was able to locate several traps and violations during the investigation. As a strange coincidence, the suspect just happened to call CO Gainforth to make a complaint about some different problems he was having on his property involving tree stands. CO Gainforth responded to the suspect's residence and worked to solve his complaint. After addressing his complaint, CO Gainforth asked him about his trapping activities for the year. The suspect just hung his head and admitted his violations: trapping without a license, failing to check traps, and not having his name and address attached to his traps. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Steve Lockwood and PCO Charlie Jones were patrolling the state forest lands when they noticed some fresh ORV tracks in the snow. A vehicle and trailer were also found near the location. The COs located the ORV operators shortly thereafter and made contact. Multiple violations were addressed including riding double and operating unlicensed ORVs. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 6

CO John Byars was patrolling the southern part of Midland County and noticed very dark black smoke rising from the woods not far from his location. The CO found where the smoke was coming from and observed an in-progress house fire. The CO attempted to locate anyone inside but found no one. CO Byars called Midland County

central dispatch and informed them of the fire and location. CO Byars also informed central dispatch that the fire had spread into the woods at a rapid rate along with explosions coming from the house. The CO directed the fire department in and then directed traffic and other fire units to the location. The CO confirmed with the chief of operations and with the owner that nobody was in the house. The house was a loss, but the quick actions of CO Byars helped reduce damage to the natural resources of the surrounding woods and other houses.

CO John Byars was conducting an ORV patrol and observed two individuals riding their quads down the road while raising the front end of the quads off the road. The CO also observed that the operators were not wearing their helmets. The CO conducted a stop and issued citations for not wearing their helmets and issued written warnings for careless operation.

CO Quincy Gowenlock organized a group patrol on the Saginaw River system on Saturday, March 10th to target fishing violations. Twelve COs participated along with US Fish and Wildlife Officer Jeff Hunter. The officers made contact with 468 anglers and for the most part, violations were at a minimum. The violations that did occur were three over limits of walleye, six PFD tickets, a ticket for no fishing license and one for possession of marijuana. There were also many verbal warnings issued.

COs Jason King and Will Brickel attended the Whitetails Unlimited Banquet at Zehnder's Restaurant in Frankenmuth. They spoke with approximately 125 attendees at this function.

COs Jason King and Will Brickel attended and gave presentations at Swan Valley Middle School for career day. There were approximately 160 students in attendance.

CO Kyle Bucholtz checked a large number of anglers near Mud Creek in Bay Port. Fishing has been steady with moderate amounts of perch being taken from the creek.

COs Robert Hobkirk, Josh Wright, Seth Rhodea and Kyle Bucholtz patrolled the thumb area as a group. Multiple coyote hunters were contacted. No citations were issued as the hunters were all in compliance with state law.

CO Robert Hobkirk received a complaint from a park employee of snowmobilers operating in the Port Crescent State Park day use area. This has been an issue at the park during this past winter. Prior to the CO arriving on the scene, the snowmobilers had left the park, but not before the park employee was able to take a photograph of the snowmobiler's registrations. CO Hobkirk went to the address of the snowmobiler's registered owner and contacted both snowmobile operators. The owner of both snowmobiles was cited for the violation and a warning was given to the second snowmobile operator.

CO Seth Rhodea contacted a subject who had left his waterfowl blind out on Saginaw Bay over a month and half past the removal date. A citation was issued for failing to remove the blind.

CO Seth Rhodea responded to a trespassing complaint where some rabbit hunters were found to be trespassing while hunting. One hunter was cited for trespassing while hunting and the rabbit he shot while trespassing was seized.

CO Mark Siemen received information that a coyote had been captured by a subject and was being held at his residence in Lexington Township. The subject called to report that he put the coyote on a dog leash and that it is now out of control and upset. CO Siemen responded to the location and spoke with the subject. He stated he found it on the road and that it had been injured. He stated he picked it up and brought it home with the intentions of giving it to a rehabber. He stated he contacted multiple rehabbers, but no one would take the animal. CO Siemen educated the subject on why he should not have brought the coyote home and why he should have not put it on a dog leash. Enforcement action was taken.

While working in Sanilac County, CO Mark Siemen was checking the north branch of the Cass River and had contact with a subject trapping beaver. CO Siemen was advised by the subject that he had lost his fur harvester license along with his wallet. CO Siemen and the subject walked back to the road and the subject was checked through station 20 for a 2017 license and asked if his traps were properly tagged. He stated they were and advised CO Siemen he had a couple in his van. CO Siemen asked if he could check the traps. The traps were checked, and no tags were located on the traps. The subject stated he had shortened the chains and must have forgotten to put them back on. The subject then asked CO Siemen if he was getting a ticket for having untagged traps. CO Siemen advised him that if the trap that was already set in the river had a tag on it that he would only issue a warning and that the traps all needed to be tagged before setting them. CO Siemen, along with subject walked back to the location the first trap was set and it was checked for a tag. With no tag being located on the set trap, the subject was issued a citation for not having his traps properly tagged.

CO Mark Siemen, while checking the Minden State Game Area, had contact with a subject coming out of a parking lot. The subject stopped to talk and was asked what he was doing. The subject stated he was taking his tree stand down. CO Siemen advised the subject that his tree stand should have been removed by March 1st. CO Siemen issued a warning to the subject.

CO Mark Siemen was in the court house checking the status of issued citations when he was advised by the courts that a subject had a warrant for his arrest. The subject was issued a citation early last fall by CO Siemen for operating his ORV on a state road and having a suspended driver's license. With this information CO Siemen responded to the subject's residence and he was located and arrested by CO Siemen and transported the jail.

Due to the recent number of complaints, CO Jason A. Smith continued to check a local private harbor for trespassing issues. At the request of the owner, enforcement action is being pursued against trespassers.

CO Joshua Wright found 40 untagged traps in a marsh in Tuscola County. At the time he was not able to identify the trapper, so a property seizure was left in place of the confiscated traps. Two days after finding the traps, CO Wright received a Report All Poaching complaint from a trapper that someone had stolen his traps. It was a very short discussion to realize the traps were not stolen but seized. CO Wright met with the trapper and returned his traps along with a citation. This same trapper was warned two years prior by CO Wright for having untagged traps.

While on snowmobile patrol on the Saginaw Bay and Kawkawlin River, CO Jill Miller stopped multiple snowmobiles without the required trail permit. Multiple citations were issued.

While on patrol, CO Jill Miller was at a boat launch checking angler's coming in from the Saginaw Bay. She observed a subject coming in on his snowmobile with no helmet. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jill Miller and Chad Foerster assisted the Bay County Sherriff's Department and U.S. Coast Guard in a search for a missing canoer on the Saginaw River. The canoe was located but the subject is still missing.

While on marine patrol on the Saginaw Bay and Saginaw River, COs Jill Miller and Chad Foerster issued multiple citations for slow no wake violations, insufficient personal floatation devices and no throwable PFDs.

During a patrol on the Tittabawassee River, COs Mike Haas and Josh Russell contacted a fishing boat that displayed an expired registration from 2014. After speaking with the gentlemen on board, it was discovered that there were no personal floatation devises aboard for any of the occupants and the fire extinguisher was unserviceable. A citation was issued to address the violations.

While on patrol in Montcalm County, COs Dan Robinson and Mike Haas contacted two hunters. The hunter's vehicle was observed on the road operating from one side of the roadway to the other. When contacted in a state game area parking lot, the subjects were wearing a hunter orange vest and sitting in their car. When asked if they were hunting, they said they were hunting squirrels. The subjects also had their shotguns sitting next to them in the vehicle between the seat and the door. One of the subjects had an expired standing vehicle permit, but the passenger did not have any sort of permit. After the situation was sorted out, the subjects were hunting squirrels out-of-season, hunting from a motor vehicle and possessed uncased firearms in the vehicle. Enforcement action was taken.

While on ORV patrol in Midland County, COs Dan Robinson and Mike Haas contacted two quads operating on the state land. One of the quads had two people riding on it. None of the three riders had helmets and only one of the machines was displaying a valid registration sticker. It was also discovered that one of the subjects had a warrant. The subjects were given citations for not wearing approved crash helmets on an ORV and the subject was advised of his warrant and released.

CO Joel Lundberg and PCO Joshua Boudreaux received information of a trap that had not been checked in a week by the trapper. The COs gathered the trapper's information from the trap tag and conducted an interview with the trapper. The trapper admitted he had not checked the trap and knew the trap check laws. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jay Person and PCO Kyle McQueer closed out a case of a sunken ice shanty on Wixom Lake in Midland County. The complainant called to say that the ice fishing shanty had sunk out in front of his house when the ice became thin. The complainant advised that he observed the owner ski out to the shanty, take his name plate off and put all the contents into a backpack and leave. After receiving a call from station 20 that a subject called in to report that his ice fishing shanty had blown away, as well as information obtained from CO Steve Lockwood, the shanty was found on its side a mile and a half from the original location. The complainant was advised that the shanty was located, and the owner was advised where he could find his property.

CO Jay Person and PCO Kyle McQueer were checking anglers along the Tittabawassee River when they found a fresh pile of litter along one of the access roads. Digging through the litter, PCO McQueer was able to find names and addresses to follow up on. In one day, PCO McQueer contacted the guilty party and issued a citation for litter and made sure the subject cleaned it up.

On a busy Saturday in Midland County, CO Jay Person and PCO Kyle McQueer assisted the Midland County Sheriff's Department with an overload of complaints. CO Person and PCO McQueer took a well-being check on a subject that threatened to take an overdose of pills but found her to be stable and not suicidal upon contact. CO Person and PCO McQueer were also the primary law enforcement unit on a verbal domestic call between a boyfriend and girlfriend with a baby in common. It was determined that it had only escalated to verbal threats and no assault had taken place. With a consult with the responding lieutenant from the sheriff's office, it was decided to label it as verbal and make sure no law enforcement had to respond back.

CO Jay Person and PCO Kyle McQueer responded to a large field fire in Midland County. DNR fire officers were already on the scene and attempting to knock down the fire. Due to high winds, the fire was spreading rapidly but was contained to the property owner's property. The property owner was educated on open burning safety but will receive a bill from Forest Resources Division for their time and resources for putting out the blaze.

Lt. Jeremy Payne, Sgt. Jon Wood (D5), COs Mark Papineau (D5), Joel Lundberg, Mike Haas, Dan Robinson, Jason King and PCO Joshua Boudreaux responded to Mt. Pleasant immediately after a shooting occurred in one of the Central Michigan University dormitories. The suspect is accused of shooting his parents and fleeing the scene on foot. The COs were able to assist in the search for the suspect by utilizing a patrol vessel, side by side UTV, patrol truck and having Sgt. Wood at incident command communicating with the other responding agencies. Officers were thorough in their search on the Chippewa River, Chip A Water Park, Mill Pond Park and sections of Veits Woods, including bridge and dam systems. The COs also assisted in setting a perimeter while additional searches occurred in the park system and adjacent neighborhoods. COs also responded to calls of armed persons in adjacent neighborhoods and gas station. The suspect was located during the early morning hours of the next day on the campus of CMU.

DISTRICT 7

CO Zach Bauer assisted the Berrien County Sheriff's Department along with several other agencies on a recovery effort of a drowning victim. Kayakers were kayaking on the Paw Paw River when one of the subjects overturned their kayak and was not seen again. The search is still ongoing for the victim.

CO Travis Dragomer attended a mentored youth hunt at Crane Pond State Game Area. The CO spoke to mentored youth hunters about safety while hunting and using firearms.

COs Richard Cardenas and Justin Ulberg were patrolling the power lines near Lindsey and Keller Road in the Barry State Game Area. During their patrol, the COs came in contact with multiple people operating ORVs in the game area. The Barry State Game Area is closed to any motorized/mechanical vehicles. Additional violations were found as well (no helmet, unregistered ORV, etc.). Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Page swore in a six-count warrant that included five counts of illegal deer and one count of using another's hunting license. If convicted the subject could face \$18,000 in reimbursement to the state for the illegal taking of five deer. The deer consisted of two 10-points, one antlered deer less than 8-points, and two antlerless deer.

CO Justin Ulberg followed up on a complaint in Kent County of subjects fishing in a closed stream. CO Ulberg located the suspect and upon contact it was found that he was using illegal gear (treble hook with weight attached and not baited) to catch the fish. The angler also admitted that the fish in his possession was foul hooked. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling closed streams CO David Rodgers came across three subjects fishing Indian Mill Creek in Alpine Township. Upon contact with the subjects, the first statement by one of the fisherman was, "Can we fish this stream?" After running all the individuals,

it was determined that one had a misdemeanor warrant out of Grand Rapids Police Department for assault. That subject was taken into custody and turned over to the Grand Rapids Police Department to be lodged.

CO Chris Holmes assisted the Kalamazoo County Sheriff's Department with the search warrant of a residence regarding counterfeit money and theft.

DISTRICT 8

CO Mike Drexler and PCO Tyler Sabuda received a complaint one morning as they checked into service of anglers illegally netting fish and trespassing in a closed building along the Huron River in Ypsilanti. Upon arrival, the COs discovered the original suspects had left the area; however, two subjects were found trespassing in the same building. During their investigation they found one subject was in possession of marijuana and fishing without a license. Enforcement action was taken. During this contact, the possible suspects from the original complaint returned to the area. The COs questioned these anglers and after checking their equipment determined the anglers were in full compliance of the law.

CO Mike Drexler and PCO Tyler Sabuda were pulling into a local lake to check the activity when they observed two anglers in a row boat having a difficult time getting back to the launch. The boat launch had locked up with ice and the anglers were attempting to break through using oars. The COs tossed the occupants a rope and pulled them a short distance over the ice and back to the launch.

While patrolling southern Lenawee County, CO Eric Smither observed an ORV operating on the side of a main road. Upon further observation, CO Smither found that the operator was not wearing a helmet and the ORV had no ORV decals. CO Smither stopped the ORV and while talking with the operator could smell the odor of intoxicants. Upon further investigation, CO Smither found that the operator had a revoked license and had prior alcohol violations. With assistance from COs Andrew Monnich and Chris Reynolds, CO Smither conducted SFSTs and administered a PBT which showed that the operator was over the legal limit. The operator was arrested and transported to Lenawee County Jail by Lenawee County Sheriff Deputies. CO Smither followed and administered the data master while at the jail. The individual was then lodged at the Lenawee County Jail for ORV OUIL and a report will be sent to the Lenawee County Prosecutor's Office.

One afternoon CO Michael Drexler and PCO Tyler Sabuda received a complaint of ORV trespass. The COs contacted the complainant via phone and then met the landowner at his property. At the property the COs observed and followed ORV tracks to a potential suspect's residence. No one was present at the suspect's residence, so the COs left a business card and will follow up on a later date.

CO Brandon Hartleben responded to a domestic violence incident to back up a Washtenaw County Sheriff's deputy K-9 unit. After lengthy interviews with all involved

parties, the juvenile suspect was turned over to her grandmother for temporary custody. A report is being filed by the deputy and charges will be submitted to the Washtenaw County Prosecutor's Office.

COs Andrew Monnich and Brandon Hartleben were patrolling when they noticed an ORV coming their direction down the road. The COs made contact with the driver who stated he was coming home from the store. The rider was advised of the ORV laws that were being broken such as not wearing a helmet and not registering the ORV. Enforcement action taken.

COs Andrew Monnich and Chris Reynolds conducted an interview with an individual who had shot a buck before buying his tag. After a lengthy interview, the individual stated he didn't shoot the deer but bought a tag for someone that did. The COs made contact with the individual who borrowed the tag and a confession was gained on that incident. During the investigation the COs learned of another buck that he had killed without a tag. Charges are being submitted to the Lenawee County Prosecutor's Office.

CO Troy Ludwig responded to a complaint of a pontoon that had floated away from a residence during the recent flooding on the Grand River. The CO located the boat lodged in a log jam still attached to its dock. The CO contacted the owner of the pontoon, an elderly woman who lived up steam. The owner stated that she was aware that the boat had floated away but did not have the means to recover the boat. The following day the CO and a representative from the local dock company returned to the runaway pontoon in the COs patrol boat. The pontoon was successfully recovered from the log jam and towed back to its owner undamaged.

CO Jason McCullough and PCO Johnathan Kamps were on patrol in Calhoun County when they saw an ORV leaving a convenience store. Three people were riding on the ORV, two of which did not have helmets. A stop was conducted as the three were operating down the middle of the road. Upon stopping the vehicle, the COs also observed the ORV was not registered. The COs took the 16-year-old driver and his passengers to his residence. Safety concerns were expressed to the parents of the children and enforcement action was taken.

COs Jason McCullough and PCO Johnathan Kamps were just finishing their shift when they witnessed a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed cross the center line in a residential area. The COs stopped the vehicle after it rolled through a stop sign without using a turn signal. Upon further investigation, the COs found out that the driver was driving on a suspended license, had five prior suspensions, an expired registration, and a warrant for her arrest. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason McCullough and PCO Johnathan Kamps received a complaint about a turkey that was taken without a license during a previous hunting season. The COs contacted the subject and full confession was obtained. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason McCullough and PCO Johnathan Kamps were working in an area where there have been complaints of ORV trespass. The COs made contact with two ORVs that were in the area. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jason McCullough and PCO Johnathan Kamps responded to a complaint of a vehicle that was driving down the roadway without a tire. The vehicle had a smashed front end, fender damage, and was missing a tire. The COs determined that the individual drove the vehicle approximately five miles in this condition. The COs determined from their interview and investigation that the individual was intoxicated. Due to the subject's high level of intoxication, the subject was transported to the hospital for evaluation and enforcement action was taken.

COs Jason McCullough and Johnathan Kamps conducted a public presentation at a wild game dinner at Caring Community Church where there were approximately 75 people in attendance.

CO Carter Woodwyk conducted an interview regarding a suspicious deer documented at a deer processor. The CO asked the suspect questions regarding his hunting season and his success. The hunter told the CO that he shot two bucks this past season and had pictures to prove it. The CO asked the hunter about purchasing his license after he shot the first buck. The hunter was hesitant to admit this; however, after a short moment he confessed. The antlers were seized, and charges are being sought through the Lenawee County Prosecutor's Office.

While patrolling Hillsdale County, COs Carter Woodwyk and PCO Adam Beuthin observed a Canada goose locked inside a small pen in a resident's front yard. The COs waited for the residents to come home and asked them if they were licensed rehabbers. The subjects stated they were not. They advised the goose was given to them by a friend who found it abandoned this past spring. The COs explained to the subjects that they need to be properly trained and permitted to rehabilitate wildlife. Additionally, the COs seized the goose and gave the subjects information on how to become a wildlife rehabilitator in Michigan.

CO Carter Woodwyk located a herd of four pigs rummaging through a corn field in Hillsdale County. The CO was able to determine the pigs were potbelly pigs that belonged to a resident nearby. The CO contacted the resident and advised him that his pigs escaped. It seemed apparent that this was a regular occurrence according to neighboring residents. The CO also contacted the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) who made an appearance in the area later in the week to examine the issue. The USDA agent spoke with multiple neighbors and within a few hours all the pigs were captured and hauled off to a new farm.

CO Sam Schluckbier was patrolling Eaton County when he observed an ORV driving off private property and onto the roadway. A stop was made due to roadways being closed to ORV traffic. During the stop CO Schluckbier located two loaded and uncased firearms sitting in the passenger seat. The driver stated that he just got done hunting

coyotes and he normally unloads them; however, forgot this time. CO Schluckbier also found that the ORV was not licensed. The driver was educated on the law and enforcement action was taken for the firearm violation.

CO Rich Nickols and PCO James Garrett were on patrol in Calhoun County when they observed a fire emitting dark black smoke behind a residence. The COs stopped and made contact with the individual tending to the fire. The individual admitted to not having a permit for his burn and he also admitted to burning a couch. Enforcement action was taken.

On March 3rd CO Rich Nickols along with PCOs James Garrett and Katie Stawara gave a presentation to 150 people at the Christ Is Life Church in Owosso. Chronic wasting disease and the hiring process to become a conservation officer were just a few topics that were covered during the presentation.

CO Rich Nickols and PCO James Garrett swore to and served a warrant to Facebook on a subject believed to be involved in the illegal taking of at least eight deer over the last several years.

CO Shane Webster and PCO Jennifer Hanson observed a single headlight coming towards them after dark. As the vehicle drew closer the COs realized it was an ORV being illegally operated upon the public roadway. Further, the operator was not wearing a helmet and the ORV did not bear a proper license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Thorn and PCO Katie Stawara responded to a Report All Poaching complaint of a resident feeding wildlife in a CWD zone. Upon their arrival, the COs observed sugar beets, apples, corn and mineral blocks, spread throughout the resident's backyard. An interview was conducted and enforcement action taken.

CO Todd Thorn and PCOs Katie Stawara and Jennifer Hanson attended a career fair at Lockwood Elementary in Eaton Rapids. The COs spoke with approximately 300 children and adults regarding the duties of a conservation officer and facts about Michigan's wildlife. The attendees were given the opportunity to identify various furs and ask any questions they had.

CO Chris Maher was working on his background investigation in Washtenaw County when he received a call from a field contact reference ORV trespass in a local farmer's field. CO Maher finished his interview and hurried back to Jackson County to meet with the complainant. Upon arrival, CO Maher heard what sounded like a dirt bike riding up and down a nearby street. CO Maher stood in the farmer's woods watching for the subject. A short while later CO Maher witnessed the dirt bike pull up to the farmer's field and look around. The suspect then began riding down the wood line that CO Maher was standing in. CO Maher stopped the ORV and asked if he had permission to ride in the field. The suspect stated he did not and enforcement action was taken.

CO Matthew Neterer assisted Consumers Energy with some trespassing issues at one of their substations in Ingham County. Hunters were parking at the substation and crossing consumer's property to access their hunting property. CO Neterer contacted the landowner and was assured that it wouldn't happen again.

DISTRICT 9

COs in District 9 attended the Outdoorama and talked with event attendees and gave presentations on marine laws throughout the week.

CO Jason Becker gave a recruitment presentation to students at Oakland Community College.

While on fisheries patrol in Macomb County, CO Joseph Deppen noticed a large number of anglers at a local marina. CO Deppen watched anglers catching large amounts of pan fish and only a few anglers seemed to be keeping count. As the anglers were leaving the marina, CO Deppen made contact and started checking fishing licenses. Further investigation revealed that two anglers were over their daily limit of pan fish and one angler had warrants for their arrest. The fish were confiscated, and further enforcement action was taken.

CO Ben Lasher received a complaint about a tom turkey being aggressive at an office in the City of Marysville. CO Lasher responded and advised the business to stop feeding the birds and the turkeys will likely leave the area once the food source is gone.

With the increasing temperatures, CO Brad Silorey decided to check a local hot spot for ORV trespass in Macomb County. Before entering the property, CO Silorey could see that there was recent activity and observed muddy tire tracks going onto the main road. CO Silorey did not find any trespassers when he entered; however, only several minutes later, three vehicles came ripping in through the property. The trespassers were immediately stopped and enforcement action was taken.

CO David Schaumburger and Sgt. Damon Owens were on marine patrol checking anglers in Brest Bay when they came upon a boat that appeared to have too many lines out. CO Schaumburger asked the captain how many lines he had out, and the captain replied, "Too many." The COs had the captain reel in his eight lines between two anglers and then asked the anglers for fishing licenses. The anglers looked at the COs and said, "That's also a problem." As it turned out, neither of the anglers had purchased a fishing license for the year. Since the anglers were from Ohio, the COs took bond from both subjects and citations were issued for fishing with more than three lines and fishing without a license.

CO Dan Walzak attended a job fair at John D. Dingell VA Medical Center in Detroit. Approximately 25 contacts were made with individuals interested in the conservation officer position.

While checking anglers, CO Danny Walzak contacted an angler who was very nervous when asked to produce his fishing license. Pulling out his license to show the CO, the subject was visibly shaking and was apologizing profusely for not obtaining his new license. The subject stated that he just couldn't pass up the chance to go fishing on such a nice afternoon. When CO Walzak told the angler that his license was good until the end of the month the man couldn't speak and started laughing out loud. CO Walzak left the angler with a much bigger smile than when he first encountered him.

DISTRICT 21

Detective Trey Luce reports that an Ogemaw County subject pled guilty to one count of filling a wetland without a permit in the 93rd District Court of Schoolcraft County. The violation, discovered in 2014, involved a constructed dredge and fill roadway through regulated forested wetlands on his property, located in Doyle Twp. of Schoolcraft County. The roadway was approximately 1600' long and included an unpermitted and undersized culvert. Water Resources Division staff attempted to resolve the violation with voluntary compliance, to which the subject would not cooperate. The case was referred to the Environmental Investigations Section for investigation in December of 2015. The matter was submitted to the Schoolcraft County Prosecuting Attorney in April of 2016. The prosecutor gave the subject an additional year to complete the restoration in lieu of charges; however, the subject failed to comply with this requirement and charges were refiled in January of 2018. The subject was sentenced to \$1230.00 in costs and fines and given a three-month delay of sentence. The court did not order restoration in the case and the Water Resources Division is currently seeking a civil suit through the State Attorney General's Office regarding the restoration of the violation site. The following charge was issued and pled to in this case:

One count:

MCL 324.30304 Wetlands Protection, prohibited activities. Fill, Dredge, or Make use in a wetland without a permit from the department.

BELLE ISLE

While working the day shift on Belle Isle, CO Dan Robinson witnessed a group of young people walking on the broken-up ice on the Detroit River. The subjects were at least one-hundred yards out. The temperature was around fifty degrees and the ice conditions were poor. CO Robinson contacted the juveniles and advised them that they need to get off the ice because of obvious safety reasons including the shifting ice, strong current and warm temps. CO Robinson was told by the juveniles that they would get off the ice because they were done filming anyhow. Throughout the day CO Robinson gave the same warning to three other groups who made their way out on the ice.

CO Mark Siemen was driving back from working on Belle Isle when he came across a vehicle that had lost control and went into the ditch. CO Siemen contacted the driver

who stated he was cut off by another vehicle and lost control on the ice and slid into the ditch. A tow truck was dispatched, and the vehicle was removed from the ditch.

CO Rich Nickols and PCO James Garrett worked a shift on Belle Isle. During the patrol, the COs located two subjects in the old zoo. The subjects admitted to seeing the no trespassing signs but decided to enter the prohibited area anyway. Enforcement action was taken.