

**Law Enforcement Division**  
**Bi-Weekly Field Report**  
**7/1/2018 – 7/14/2018**

**DISTRICT 1**

Conservation Officer (CO) Brian Lasanen was on an Operation Dry Water marine patrol on the Portage waterway when he observed a pontoon boat with one of the passengers riding on the front deck with his feet in the water while the boat was underway. CO Lasanen stopped the boat and was explaining to the operator the reason for the stop when he detected and odor of intoxicants emitting from the operator and impaired cognitive function. CO Lasanen performed sobriety tests and the driver was over the legal limit of .08%. The operator was arrested and lodged at the Houghton County Jail for operating a watercraft while intoxicated.

CO Brian Lasanen stopped an ORV that was operating illegally on a state highway. CO Lasanen spoke with the operator who advised, among other things, that his friend warned him that if he was caught riding down the highway he would get a ticket. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ethen Mapes was patrolling Lake Gogebic when he noticed two personal watercraft (PWCs) operating too close to docks at a high rate of speed. CO Mapes followed the operators to their dock and upon contact multiple violations were noted, such as failing to transfer the title within 15 days of sale, permitting a juvenile to operate a personal watercraft, and the 100' rule violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Ethen Mapes was on patrol in Bergland when a car passed him at a high rate of speed. CO Mapes noticed that the vehicle had severe damage to the windshield and a traffic stop was conducted. Upon contact, the operator stated that he had hit a turkey in Newberry, which explained the extensive damage to the windshield. The driver of the vehicle had picked out shards of glass, creating a fist size hole in the windshield and had been driving like that since Newberry. After a short discussion, the driver opted to get the car towed.

CO Ethen Mapes was patrolling Lake Gogebic when he noticed a subject operating a vessel too close to docks along the shore. CO Mapes made contact and warned the operator to stay further away from the docks and he agreed. Two hours later CO Mapes saw the same vessel again on the opposite end of the lake as it operated too close to some docks. CO Mapes contacted the operator and learned that the man had been lost for quite some time. CO Mapes was able to return him to his family.

CO Zach Painter was on patrol in Gogebic County when he received a phone call from the Porcupine Mountains State Park regarding a hiker in need of medical attention. CO Painter was the first one on scene and gave medical attention to the hiker who appeared to have sustained a broken ankle. CO Painter then assisted the Porcupine

Mountain Park staff in getting the subject back to a main road where he could be transported to a hospital.

CO Zach Painter was on patrol in Gogebic County and observed a vehicle fail to stop at a stop sign. The area was very busy due to a local firework show that was about to begin. The vehicle was stopped, and CO Painter learned that the driver had a suspended driver's license. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Zach Painter and Jenni Hanson were patrolling Lake Gogebic when they observed a single subject operating a PWC while towing a tube. The subject was contacted for the violation and it was discovered that he had not taken a safety course. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Zach Painter assisted the Gogebic County Sheriff's Department with a search for a missing subject north of Ironwood. The subject had gotten his truck stuck and was located approximately nine hours after he first got stuck and one and a half hours after the search was initiated. The subject was tired and hungry but unharmed.

COs Jennifer Hanson and Zach Painter participated in the annual Michigan State Police (MSP) Open House at the Wakefield Post.

COs Zach Painter, Ethen Mapes, Brian Lasanen, and Jennifer Hanson worked several planned patrols to inform anglers about New Zealand Mud Snails. Multiple trout anglers were contacted and given information about the invasive species.

CO Brian Lasanen investigated a litter complaint in which the complainant stated parts of a cabin had fallen off and were in the river along with other materials that could cause environmental damage to the river. CO Lasanen contacted the property owner and inspected his property. It was determined his camp was demolished from the previous area flood event. The camp was spread out for about ½ mile down river. The owner of the camp was working on getting the camp debris out of the river. He was able to retrieve a water heater, generator and other items that would have an environmental impact.

CO Brian Lasanen investigated two litter complaints. After the investigation it was determined the two litter complaints were from the same suspect. An MSP trooper had already interviewed the suspect on a related complaint and will seek charges for littering.

CO Ethen Mapes was on patrol near Bergland when he noticed a cloud of dust just east of town. When CO Mapes investigated, he discovered that an RV towing a boat had blown a tire on the boat trailer. The trailer then detached from the RV, skidded into oncoming traffic, and sideswiped a compact car before launching into a swamp. CO Mapes directed traffic while the wreckage was cleaned up. No injuries were reported.

COs Jennifer Hanson and Ethen Mapes assisted in the funeral procession for Lowell Valley who was returned to Ontonagon. Valley was one of three local servicemen to lose their lives aboard the Oklahoma during the attack on Pearl Harbor.

COs Jeremy Sergey and Brian Bacon were patrolling Lake Michigan near Menominee when they came across four fishermen who did not have fishing licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Jeremy Sergey and Brian Bacon conducted a marine patrol near the Cedar River area in Menominee County. Several vessels were checked, with warnings issued for improper registration display and failure to have a sound producing device.

CO Jeremy Sergey assisted Menominee City Police after a local citizen reported a gunshot coming from their neighbor's house. The officers were able to determine the noise was a firework.

CO Jeremy Sergey was patrolling the Forest Island ORV Trail when he contacted a group of dirt bike riders. A check of the group found one subject had failed to purchase the required ORV permit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeremy Sergey was able to close a case involving an individual who poached a 9-point buck in Menominee County in November of 2014. During the investigation, the individual was also found to be in possession of an unregistered pistol. The subject pled guilty to the illegal deer charge.

CO Jared Ferguson received a complaint from central dispatch regarding an individual pumping raw sewage into a local lake in Dickinson County. CO Ferguson responded to the address and contacted the property owner. The subject was having a problem with his well and was using a 4-inch pump to pump the water out of his basement onto the other side of his property.

CO Jared Ferguson assisted the Dickinson County Sheriff's Department and MSP with an assault at a state forest campground. CO Ferguson arrived to secure the victim in his truck and determined the suspects fled the scene. The vehicle was located a short distance due to having been rendered inoperable in a crash. The suspects had fled on foot so CO Ferguson, along with other officers, searched the surrounding area without success. Warrant requests were submitted for both males involved in the assault.

CO Jared Ferguson continues the investigation into the poaching of a 6-point buck in Dickinson County. CO Ferguson received help from COs Jeremy Sergey and Jeff Dell who responded to the original complaint. The investigation is ongoing with a suspect being sought.

CO Jared Ferguson received a call from Iron County dispatch regarding a fawn that was trapped in a basement foundation that had standing water. With the help of nearby

residents, a ramp was built, and the fawn walked itself out of the basement and back into the wild to reunite with its mother.

CO Jared Ferguson responded to a complaint of minors operating a PWC close to shore and at high rates of speed next to swimmers. CO Ferguson located the watercraft and contacted the juvenile's parents. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jared Ferguson was checking local inland lakes when he observed a boat returning to the landing with two subjects. After contacting the individuals, CO Ferguson located a cooler that was filled with blue gills. A quick count of their creel found them to be over limit. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Brett DeLonge, Josh Boudreaux and Cody Smith patrolled Lake Superior from Little Presque Isle to the Chocolay River. Several contacts were made with anglers and recreational boaters. Compliance was high with only a few violations observed including no throwable personal floatation devices (PFDs), and improper operation of a PWC. Additionally, the COs provided security for Marquette's lower harbor fireworks display and participated in the annual boat parade with the US Coast Guard and the Marquette County Sheriff's Department.

CO Brett DeLonge was conducting an ORV patrol in an area with several ORV wetland violation complaints. CO DeLonge contacted a 4-wheeler operating with two passengers on the lake. The ORV was not registered, and the passengers did not have helmets. CO DeLonge discussed the multiple violations with the operator and they included operating an ORV with two passengers, operating without a helmet, operating in a wetland, and operating an unregistered ORV. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Leadman observed two fishermen casting lures into Deer Lake in Ishpeming. Upon contact, neither subject possessed a current fishing license. Both subjects were hundreds of miles away from home and did not think they would be checked in the remote location they were fishing in. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Dave Miller set a bear trap near a residence where a bear showed no signs of fear toward humans and did not want to leave the yard. Within 30 minutes of setting the bear trap, the owners of the residence called and said the bear was inside the trap. CO Miller returned and transported the bear to a remote location where it was released.

CO Dave Miller worked an ORV patrol near the Huron River in Baraga County next to Lake Superior. CO Miller observed numerous ORVs operate down the county road and stop just short of riding onto the beach. Recently placed signs by CO Cody Smith reminding ORV operators to stay off the beach appear to be working.

CO Cody Smith observed multiple vessels over the holiday that displayed their VIN numbers instead of their MC numbers. Warnings were given for the numbers and boaters were shown the proper numbers and how to display them on their vessel.

CO Josh Boudreaux checked a pontoon on Teal Lake with two people fishing on it. Upon making contact, it was discovered that the boat was unregistered and there were no PFDs for either occupant. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Boudreaux contacted two individuals who were riding against the flow of traffic along County Road 550 in Marquette County. Both were wearing proper safety attire and had all required registration on hand. The individuals were educated on ORV operation near roadways and were given a verbal warning on improper operation.

COs Mark Leadman and Josh Boudreaux observed an ORV operating on the shoulder of M-35. As they approached the ORV to initiate a stop they noticed the most recent ORV sticker on the machine was from 2017. The COs contacted the operator and enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Boudreaux assisted a Marquette County deputy with an ORV that was reportedly flipped over on the railroad tracks in Marquette County. CO Boudreaux observed a mud-covered ORV, which according to the muddy tracks, appeared to have been driven down the railroad tracks with one tire riding on the ties before it got hung up and rolled off the tracks. CO Boudreaux noted the key had been removed from the ignition and there were footprints leading away from the ORV. Under the assumption the owner would return for their ORV, CO Boudreaux waited in the area. After some time, a couple showed up stating that their ORV had been stolen and they heard one had been in the area. After some questioning and establishing that they only had one key for the ORV, CO Boudreaux pointed out how it was strange that they possessed the only mud-covered key for the "stolen" ORV. The female finally admitted she had been driving the ORV, got it stuck, and was afraid of getting into trouble when she saw the CO. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Boudreaux observed a group of individuals fishing near County Road 550. After conversing with the fishermen for a while, CO Boudreaux began checking fishing licenses. One individual in the group did not have a fishing license and claimed he must have bought it in March right before they expired. Giving him the benefit of the doubt, CO Boudreaux checked his license purchase history and found that his last license was purchased in April of 2017. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Josh Boudreaux and Mark Leadman worked patrol on the Escanaba River in Marquette County in which they checked fishermen and educated them New Zealand Mud Snails. The snails are an invasive species that has been found in Michigan Rivers which attaches itself to unsuspecting fishermen's waders for transportation to other bodies of water. The fishermen that were contacted were unaware of the invasive species and were educated on decontamination procedures to help prevent the spread.

CO Josh Boudreaux patrolled Little Presque Isle and Wetmore Landing in Marquette County. Several warnings were given over the busy holiday weekends for various violations and a citation was issued for possessing glass bottles in a beach area.

CO Cody Smith was on patrol when he noticed two vehicles pulled off the highway in a construction zone. He contacted the operator and assisted him in getting a flat tire changed. The very thankful individuals were soon back on their way.

CO Cody Smith was heading to fuel his patrol boat when he was flagged down by two motorists at the head of the Keweenaw Bay on US-41. As CO Smith stopped, he noticed an immature bald eagle standing on the shoulder of the road. There had been multiple reports of this bird along the roadway. CO Smith captured the eagle and after making sure it was not injured released it in safer location a couple miles from the capture site.

CO Cody Smith was on patrol when he heard the L'Anse fire sirens sound. CO Smith responded to the area and helped MSP and L'Anse Police Department direct traffic while multiple fire departments extinguished the structure fire. The location was on US-41 just north of Arnheim Road. The fire started from the homeowners UTV shortly after returning home from a long trail ride. He had noticed the vehicle acting up and parked it close to the house when he returned home. The UTV caught fire and transferred to his residence shortly after.

CO Dave Miller received numerous complaints of a "wounded Golden Eagle" along US-41 near Baraga. Several attempts to catch the bird were unsuccessful as the immature bald eagle flew away when he would get near it. After the third complaint, CO Miller arrived to find three individuals feeding the eagle smoked whitefish, bratwurst, and doughnuts. The eagle was transported to a secluded location where it was released again. No further complaints have been received.

CO Brett DeLonge conducted a timber theft presentation for the Eastern Upper Peninsula Forest Resource Management Division in Newberry. The presentation consisted of training for utilizing Law Enforcement Division (LED) in timber theft cases and how to gain compliance with regulations from individuals without taking enforcement action. The presentation also included what signs and violations to look out for in timber theft incidents on state land.

CO Brett DeLonge was conducting a marine patrol on the Dead River Basin in Marquette County when he observed a vessel operating at a high rate of speed with passengers on the bow of the boat. CO DeLonge stopped the boat and conducted a marine safety check which revealed that the boat had not been registered since 2015 and there was not an adequate number of PFDs onboard. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brett DeLonge conducted a law enforcement presentation for a hunter safety class in Marquette County. Several young hunters attended the presentation and many of the adults had good hunting regulation questions. The presentation went well, and multiple individuals were interested in pursuing the career as a conservation officer.

## **DISTRICT 2**

CO Stephen Butzin was patrolling in Garden Township when he made a traffic stop on a vehicle being operated in a suspicious manner. It was discovered that the operator lacked insurance and had an arrest warrant issued for assault and battery. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Stephen Butzin was patrolling Nahma Township and observed an ORV traveling down a county road. The operator was not wearing a helmet and did not have a valid ORV registration. A traffic stop was conducted, the operator was also found to have a suspended/revoked driver's license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Stephen Butzin was patrolling in the Gladstone. He observed two dirt bikes traveling down a county road. Upon further investigation CO Butzin found that neither ORV had a valid registration. They were operated by juveniles. Contact with the parents of the children was made and a citation was issued.

CO Stephen Butzin was on patrol the Masonville Township area when he received a "be on the lookout" (BOL) for a reckless driver that was all over the road. After a short search, the driver was located. A traffic stop was conducted on the vehicle. The operator was found to be operating under the influence of liquor, was arrested, and transported to jail.

CO Robert Freeborn responded to a car vs moose accident. While no injuries were sustained to the occupants in the vehicle, the moose was deceased. CO Freeborn removed the moose from the highway while MSP handled the accident paperwork.

COs Robert Freeborn and Michael Evink were on salmon patrol in Lake Michigan when they came across a boat with too many lines. Upon contact, the fisherman stated that he was just changing out a rod and put the new one in a second ago. The COs advised the fisherman that you were only allowed three lines in the water at one time and that even if his story was true, he still had an additional line out. After the fisherman looked around his boat and counted, he agreed with the COs. A citation was issued for fishing more than three lines.

COs Robert Freeborn and Michael Evink were patrolling Lake Michigan when they observed a boat with a large amount of lines out and could only see one fisherman. As the COs approached the boat, the COs confirmed that there was only one fisherman and counted 12 lines currently fishing. Even with the large amount of lines out, the fisherman only managed to catch one fish while the boat the COs checked previously fishing near the suspect had only four lines split between two fishermen and had five fish. The fisherman was issued a citation for fish more than three lines.

COs Robert Freeborn and Michael Evink were working a salmon patrol in Lake Michigan. They observed a fisherman seated with his back to them frantically reeling in a line as the CO approached his boat. Once the COs made contact they immediately noticed a dippy rod lying in the back of the boat dripping water. The COs asked the

fisherman about the rod, he eventually admitted to fishing with an extra rod and pulled it in when he recognized the COs. A citation was issued for fishing more than three lines.

While on marine patrol, COs Robert Freeborn and Michael Evink observed a watercraft towing a tube full of kids without an observer. The COs followed the boat back to shore where it parked in front of a camp. The COs educated the driver of the watercraft on the rules of pulling tubes/water skiers and issued a citation for towing without an observer. As the COs were leaving the subjects dock, a woman at the next dock over jumped on a PWC with an expired registration. A citation was also issued for operating an expired watercraft.

While working on a popular canoe/kayak river, COs Robert Freeborn and Michael Evink observed a canoe tip over and all the occupants were briefly submerged under water due to the fast currents and not wearing PFDs. One of the occupants submerged was a toddler. After COs Freeborn and Evink made sure everyone was alright, the COs explained to the adults the reason why children under six need to wear a life jacket in a boat. The mother of the child was issued a citation for failing to provide PFD for child under six.

While stopped at a stop sign, COs Robert Freeborn and Michael Evink observed a car drive by in front of them with a known suspended driver behind the wheel. The suspect was contacted and arrested for DWLS. This was CO Freeborn's third time arresting the suspect for DWLS.

CO Mark Zitnik was working Munising Bay on a windy day when he observed a boat driving very fast through the waves with a young lady riding on the bow of the vessel. CO Zitnik stopped the boat and advised that it's unlawful to ride or sit on a portion of a vessel not designed for such activity while the boat is underway. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Justin Vinson and Mark Zitnik were working the Au Train River the day before the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday. In all over 400 contacts were made and the COs wrote six citations for various fishing and marine violations.

CO Mark Zitnik and Captain Detective Matt Waldron from the Alger County Sheriff's Office were conducting an ORV patrol in Grand Marais. Over 70 ORVs were contacted and two citations were issued for failure to purchase an ORV license and operate on a public highway.

COs Chris Lynch, Bobby Watson and Steve Butzin were on patrol on the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday conducting marine safety checks. Several boats were contacted with several verbal warnings given for minor violations and one citation was issued to an angler fishing without a license.

COs Chris Lynch and Steve Butzin were observed a subject drive to a creek and begin fishing. When contacted, the subject was found to be suspended and had a warrant out for his arrest. He was lodged in the Delta County Jail.

CO Chris Lynch was checking anglers fishing from a pier. There were two groups of anglers on the pier. One group was in possession of an undersized walleye and the other had a subject who was fishing without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Colton Gelinias and Justin Vinson were on marine patrol in Mackinac County. The COs issued several citations for expired boat registrations and failure to provide PFDs.

COs Colton Gelinias and Justin Vinson were on marine patrol in Mackinac County, when they observed a boat in distress. The COs contacted the boat operator who stated he had lost power to his boat. The wind was not helping matters, and the operator was having a tough time using an oar against the wind. The COs assisted the operator back to his cabin.

COs Colton Gelinias and Thomas Oberg assisted DNR fire personnel on a 32-acre forest fire in Mackinac County. The fire was contained quickly, and no structures were damaged during the fire.

COs Tom Oberg and Colton Gelinias responded to a wildfire near Hessel, the fire resulted in over 30 acres being burned. The COs worked to help the responding fire agencies as they attempted to locate the cause of the fire. The fire was eventually suppressed. Luckily no injuries occurred, and no structures were lost in the fire.

COs Colton Gelinias and Justin Vinson were on marine patrol in Luce County when they encountered a father pulling his 15-year-old son on a tube without a life jacket. The COs took the time to educate both the son and the father. The father was issued a citation for allowing the person being towed to not have a PFD.

COs Colton Gelinias and Justin Vinson were just leaving the boat launch after a marine patrol in Luce County when they noticed bystanders on the beach waving their arms in a panic. The COs ran over to the beach and observed a 32-year-old male lying on the ground with shallow breathing. The COs along with several EMTs on scene, provided basic first aid on the male until paramedics arrived on scene.

COs Justin Vinson and Calvin Smith patrolled the St. Mary's River during the Sault Ste. Marie firework show. The fireworks display went off without a hitch, boaters were compliant and mindful of the safety zone in place.

CO Justin Vinson responded to a forest fire in northern Luce County. It was determined the cause was an unattended brush fire. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Tom Oberg and Calvin Smith patrolled the Les Cheneaux Islands on a busy 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Several citations for marine safety violations were issued throughout the day and many of the boaters were pleased to see a law enforcement presence in the area. CO Tom Oberg received information about a fire that had started on a small island near Sault Ste. Marie. CO Oberg contacted the suspects, who admitted to burning during a burn ban and allowing the fire to escape. A report has been generated and turned over to the prosecuting attorney.

### **DISTRICT 3**

CO Andrea Albert observed a subject stumbling and falling in the water on the sandbar. Further investigation found the underage subject was highly intoxicated. CO Albert and CO Adam LeClerc arrested the subject for drunk and disorderly and he was lodged in the Antrim County Jail. The subject was also cited for minor in possession of alcohol.

COs Andrea Albert and Tim Rosochacki stopped a pontoon boat on Torch Lake being driven in circles with a subject hanging off the stern. The first indicator that the boat operator may have been under the influence of alcohol was his failure to put the boat into neutral while being stopped. Further investigation by CO Albert, found the operator was under the influence of alcohol. He was cited and lodged for the offense. Several other tickets issued for PFD violations, expired registrations and a lot of warnings.

While conducting a marine patrol on a small lake in northern Emmet County, CO Duane Budreau observed a subject operating a PWC near the shoreline. After further observation, CO Budreau noticed that the subject was operating between the docks and anchored swim rafts well inside of the no wake zone of 100 feet. CO Budreau stopped the operator of the PWC and determined that the 16-year-old operator had not taken boater safety. The subject was escorted back to shore and enforcement action was taken.

CO Duane Budreau stopped a subject operating a PWC for towing without an observer. The operator of the PWC was 15-years-old with no boater safety. The subject was towing his 16-year-old sister on a tube. The operator was so focused on the person in tow that he almost ran his machine into CO Budreau's patrol boat. Both subjects were escorted back to shore and enforcement action was taken.

CO Duane Budreau along with the U.S. Coast Guard responded to a possible boater distress call in northern Lake Michigan. The caller reported a small sailboat floating adrift with no one onboard. After locating the unmanned vessel floating a couple hundred yards off shore it was determined that it was most likely sent adrift from a nearby beach. CO Budreau towed the boat back to Petoskey and removed it from the water. The registration on the watercraft had been long expired and required further investigating. CO Budreau tracked down the registered owner information and address. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Duane Budreau and Acting Sgt. Brad Dohm responded to a complaint of subject shooting a bear in his back yard. Information was given that the subject called 911 after shooting a bear that was in his bird feeder. CO Budreau and Acting Sgt. Dohm responded to the scene and interviewed the subject that had shot the bear. The subject reported to the COs that he was trying to scare the bear out of his yard when he shot it twice with a .12gauge shotgun using 7 ½ shot. He showed the COs where the bear was standing when he shot it out the back window of his residence. The COs estimated the distance to be about 25 yards. The subject told the COs that the bear had not shown any signs of aggression, he simply did not want it in his yard. After shooting the bear he tracked it into the woods and found the bear lying dead about 40 yards from where he shot it. After locating the animal, he noticed that it had a DNR tracking collar around its neck. The subject showed visual signs of concern after CO Budreau and Acting Sgt. Dohm recovered the bear, cited him for taking bear out of season, and advised that license revocations were included in the illegal killing of the animal.

CO Adam LeClerc was heading to Torch Lake for marine patrol when he saw a car attempting to pass others on northbound US31. The driver had to abandon the attempt to pass when opposing traffic got too close, almost causing a head on collision. The driver swerved onto the southbound shoulder, where he met CO LeClerc nose to nose on the shoulder. Inside the vehicle were three occupants, including a toddler in the backseat. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Adam LeClerc was assigned to Torch Lake over the 4th of July. Numerous boaters were contacted over the holiday weekend. Multiple warnings were given for failure to display current registration. Two boaters were found to be operating with expired registration. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Adam LeClerc was notified by DNR Fire Personnel that a fire had escaped from a fire pit in Emmet County. The fire had to be put out by fire personnel and burned approximately 1.6 acres of land, including private property on both sides of the suspect property. Upon interviewing the suspect, it was determined that he was burning illegal materials and did not obtain a burn permit. Enforcement action was taken.

Acting Sgt. Brad Dohm, and COs Chad Baldwin, Adam LeClerc, and Andrea Albert patrolled Torch Lake during the busy 4<sup>th</sup> of July week. The COs contacted many boaters and swimmers throughout the week and issued multiple citations and gave several warnings for various marine and alcohol related violations. Overall the week was safe and successful as violations drastically decreased compared to years passed.

CO Chad Baldwin patrolled Lake Charlevoix during the annual Boyne Thunder Poker Run. CO Baldwin along with the U.S.Coast Guard and Charlevoix Co. Marine Deputies ensured both the participants and spectators stayed safe throughout the event by monitoring the race route and distance between spectator and race vessels. CO Baldwin also patrolled the lake for any marine violations, boating accidents, and fishing activity.

CO Chad Baldwin was patrolling down a state highway when he encountered an ORV. The rider did not have a helmet and was riding down the middle of the highway. CO Baldwin stopped the ORV and questioned the rider. The rider stated that he sees ORVs and motorcycles on the highway all the time and none of them had helmets on either. CO Baldwin explained the difference between motor vehicle and ORV law and enforcement action was taken.

CO Chad Baldwin responded to a fire burning out of control at a residence. The fire was extinguished by the fire department and CO Baldwin interviewed the home owner. The owner stated that they did not start a fire in their fire pit and was unsure how it was ignited. Due to the extremely dry conditions, the fire quickly engulfed the surrounding dry grass and continued to spread towards the house next door. A neighbor saw huge plumes of smoke and tall orange flames were getting closer to her house and called 911. Luckily, the fire was extinguished before damage to any structures had begun. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tim Rosochacki responded to a complaint of an individual experiencing a medical emergency on a remote section of the Black River in Cheboygan County. Upon arrival, the subject was located, and first responders were able to tend to the individual, and they were able to reach the waiting ambulance. It was determined that the extreme heat and alcohol contributed to the emergency.

CO Tim Rosochacki worked Burt and Mullet Lakes over the 4th of July. Numerous contacts were made with boaters on the waterway. Several warnings and citations were issued for various safety and operational issues, including towing a skier with no observer, operating greater than slow no wake in a no-wake zone, and failure to provide an adequate amount of PFDs.

CO Tim Rosochacki responded to a complaint of ducks being harassed by a PWC operator. Upon arrival, it was determined that the PWC was being operated carelessly at an unsafe distance from shore and drove through a family of ducks, stunning one of the ducklings. The duckling was returned to its family after a short while, and enforcement action was taken on the PWC operator.

CO Tim Rosochacki worked a security detail at a DEQ Public Comment Meeting in Mackinac City regarding the placement of additional supports on the Enbridge Pipeline. CO Matt Theunick and Cpl. Nick Torsky were on marine patrol in Lake Huron when they contacted a kayaker that was several hundred feet from shore without a life jacket. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Theunick was working stationary patrol on the Sturgeon River specifically looking for PFD usage. CO Theunick contacted two kayakers who were not in possession of PFDs. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Nathan Sink and Kyle Cherry were on patrol when a call came across central dispatch of a breaking and entering in progress. COs Sink and Cherry were up the road

from where the breaking and entering it was in progress. COs Sink and Cherry were first on scene and began checking the house. After a check of the house, the COs determined the house was secure.

CO Nathan Sink was on marine patrol when he spotted a boat operating with an expired registration. CO Sink conducted a stop on the boat. The individual operating the boat stated he renewed his registration and forgot to put the sticker on the boat. A check through Station 20 determined the boat had been expired for over a year. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nathan Sink was on patrol when he came across three ORVs operating on a closed snowmobile trail. CO Sink conducted a stop on the individuals. CO Sink informed them the snowmobile trail was closed to ORVs and pointing out the no ORVs signs. The individuals stated they did not notice the signs. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Eric Bottorff patrolled Cornwall Flooding in the Pigeon River State Forest and encountered a vessel with insufficient flotation devices and incomplete vessel identification numbers. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Eric Bottorff stopped an ORV in Koehler Township for operating in the middle of the county road. There were two riders on the ORV designed for one rider, neither subject was wearing a helmet, and the ORV did not have a valid registration sticker. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Cherry set up a youth booth at the Big-Ticket Festival in Gaylord. CO Cherry was able to meet many youths who were all very excited to check out the various displays.

CO Kyle Cherry handled a complaint involving a man on a dirt bike who struck a rock and was ejected onto a trail. The man was hospitalized with moderate injuries. The crash remains under investigation.

CO Kyle Cherry was conducting an ORV patrol in Otsego and Cheboygan counties, where multiple violations were encountered including unlicensed ORVs, illegal operation, operating without helmets, riding over capacity, and operating with suspended driver's licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Cherry assisted with patrols at Torch Lake over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Overall, there were no major issues and multiple comments were made by locals in the area saying the law enforcement presence was helping with the events.

Sgt Mike Mshar, COs William Webster, Jon Sklba, Paul Fox, Tim Rosochacki, Jeff Panich, and Casey Pullum, were working an ORV detail in Lewiston the weekend after the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Numerous ORV riders were contacted resulting in citations for speed greater than reasonable, operate of roadway, no ORV sticker tickets, open intoxicants,

driving while license suspended, no helmet, and operating in a closed area. Several verbal warnings were given for various other violations.

CO Paul Fox conducted several marine patrols in Presque Isle County over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July week. Several lakes were patrolled, and violations were addressed ranging from no PFDs, tow without an observer, careless operation, no navigation lights, and a sunken vessel.

CO Paul Fox responded to several forest fires and illegal burns in Presque Isle County, due to the extreme heat and dry conditions.

CO Paul Fox responded to a car vs elk accident in Montmorency County. The elk was put down and turned over to a local charity to be donated.

COs Paul Fox and Jon Sklba were patrolling Lake Huron off Presque Isle area when they observed a vessel fishing with too many lines. Enforcement action was taken. CO Jon Sklba was on patrol in Presque Isle when a vehicle began to tailgate his patrol vehicle. The vehicle followed for a distance before passing at a high rate of speed. The vehicle must not have noticed the shield on CO Sklba's patrol vehicle as it continued to speed after passing the CO Sklba's truck. CO Sklba was able to utilize a newly issued radar to obtain the vehicle's speed. The vehicle was stopped, and the driver contacted admitted to driving "close to ninety". Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Sklba contacted a subject burning a large pile of brush in Presque Isle County during a time where burn permits were not being issued. The subject stated that he wanted to take care of the brush while he had time to watch the fire. CO Sklba advised the subject of the dangerous fire conditions and the fact that there was a wildfire in the county just the day before due to the high fire danger. Enforcement action was taken. CO Jon Sklba contacted a subject fishing from a dock while on a marine patrol on Grand Lake. The subject had rented a cabin on the lake and decided to try fishing from the dock. The subject failed to obtain a fishing license prior to fishing. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Sklba contacted a boat on Grand Lake where both occupants on the boat were fishing. A license check revealed that one of the subjects failed to purchase a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sidney Collins assisted the Clear Lake State Park Rangers in an eviction notice due to the subjects being too loud and starting altercations between other campers. The subjects were involved in an assault the prior night and were evicted from the campsite. COs Sidney Collins and Jimmy Garrett were on patrol in the Au Sable River in northern Oscoda county. The COs contacted many families floating and kayaking the river. Some kayakers were issued citations for not having a PFD on board. This is a safety issue as the river is quick and kayakers may flip.

CO Sidney Collins assisted CO Bill Webster in Alpena county for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks. Several boats were contacted and kept a safe distance from the launching of the fireworks.

CO Sidney Collins went on a complaint of juveniles harassing baby loons on Tee Lake. The juveniles and their parents were contacted and educated on why it is important to not harass wildlife, especially babies. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sidney Collins assisted the Montmorency County Deputies in a complaint of a subject making threats towards other boaters on a local lake. The subject was upset that people come too close to his dock at times. The subject was explained the laws on areas with water and property owners. The subject was later arrested due to violent behavior.

COs Sidney Collins and Bill Webster were on a group patrol in Alpena county on Long Lake. Several boaters were contacted. Several warnings were given out for small fish (1/8" too short), no fishing license on person, and no navigation lights after hours. Enforcement action was taken on a boat power loading which creates damage to launches.

CO William Webster was heading to work a local lake in Alpena County when a vehicle sped past him. The vehicle passed CO Webster and continued at 15mph over the posted speed limit. CO Webster stopped the vehicle and issued a citation for speeding. CO William Webster assisted District 5 with a marine patrol on Hubbard Lake in Alcona County for a firework show. CO Webster checked numerous boats and three citations were issued for no PFDs.

CO William Webster was working Hubbard Lake in Alcona County and as he was heading to the dock he noticed a vessel operating without navigation lights. CO Webster stopped the vessel and noticed an odor of intoxicant coming from the driver of the vessel. CO Webster conducted field sobriety tests on the driver. The driver was arrested for operating a vessel while intoxicated.

CO William Webster was driving on Long Rapids Road in Alpena County late one evening when he noticed two ORVs driving very fast. A traffic stop of the ORVs revealed one ORV had expired ORV stickers. Enforcement action was taken.

#### **DISTRICT 4**

CO William Haskin responded to a fire that could have very easily been a lot worse. The local fire department was able to put the fire out without any structures or houses being damaged. The ensuing investigation revealed that the top grate had been left off a burn barrel, which allowed hot pieces of ash to escape and catch fire to the grass and leaves around it. Enforcement action was taken.

CO William Haskin conducted a traffic stop on an individual operating an ORV with no helmet or ORV sticker. The driver, after being stopped, informed CO Haskin that he was suspended. CO Haskin confirmed this through DNR dispatch and it was also discovered that he had multiple warrants. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Haskin was patrolling for ORVs when, within the space of a few minutes, an unlicensed ORV passed him with three people on the front not wearing seatbelts or helmets. A traffic stop was conducted and the individual operating the machine had a suspended driver's license, as well as multiple warrants with statewide pickup. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Rebecca Hubers responded to a 911 call at 1 am regarding a family trapped in a tent at a local campground while a bear rummaged through food items left out at the campsite. The bear had left the area upon the COs arrival. This call was the first of four bear encounter calls received by COs in Benzie County that day.

CO Hubers worked with fellow officers and other agencies on evening fireworks patrols for both Independence Day and the National Cherry Festival.

COs Rebecca Hubers and Justin Vanderlinde determined that the village of Beulah was preparing to conduct an on-water fireworks display for Independence Day and had not applied for a marine event permit. The COs located the appropriate event coordinator and assisted him with completing the required paperwork, allowing the holiday celebration to commence legally.

COs Rebecca Hubers and Patrick McManus were patrolling state land and came upon a parked vehicle with a subject nearby tending a campfire. The subject was not wearing any clothing and used a blanket to cover himself during the contact. The subject happened to have a warrant from a neighboring county for indecent exposure. The subject was able to produce bond for the warrant and was advised of a court date.

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, COs Rich Stowe and Amanda McCurdy worked a joint patrol with the U.S. Coast Guard, Leelanau County Sheriff's Department and Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Department during the firework display on the Grand Traverse Bay. Each agency was responsible for enforcing no passage into the 1,000-foot safety zone surrounding the barge. There were no major incidents throughout the event and the interagency coordination allowed for an effective patrol.

COs Pat McManus and Amanda McCurdy received a call of five kayakers on Lake Michigan who appeared to be in distress. They initiated a joint response with the U.S. Park Service as well as Sgt. Dan Bigger and CO Rebecca Hubers, who launched a vessel out of Frankfort. The U.S. Park Service was eventually able to locate the kayakers who were safe and returned to shore.

COs Patrick McManus and Amanda McCurdy responded to a complaint of a possible suicidal subject at the request of the Leelanau County Sheriff's Department. The

responding COs were told that the subject was in possession of multiple firearms and had recently sent a note to their family about their suicide plan. The COs arrived on scene but were unable to locate the subject. It was later determined that the subject decided not commit suicide due to the quick response of the COs and their concern for the subject's safety and ultimate well-being.

COs Patrick McManus and Rebecca Hubers responded to a call for help from a kayaker who had overturned their vessel inside the Manitou Passage within Lake Michigan. The kayaker had been in the water for over two hours. The COs responded on board the Great Lakes patrol vessel "Scott Averill" out of Frankfort and were in the area within 30 minutes. Just before they arrived, a passing vessel spotted the distressed kayaker and loaded them onto their boat. The COs stood by until the kayaker was evaluated by incoming medical staff from Leland Fire Department.

CO William Kinney was patrolling Lake Mitchell in Wexford County for fish and marine violations when he contacted a non-resident angler who had neglected to purchase a fishing license. He told the CO he visits Michigan only for a few weeks out of the year and was unaware he needed one to fish. In addition, the angler explained to CO Kinney that the convenience store clerk, where he had recently purchased fishing equipment, did not mention a license was needed to fish. Enforcement action was taken for fishing without a license.

CO William Kinney was patrolling Lake Mitchell in Wexford County for fish and marine violations. CO Kinney contacted a boat containing a young family of four that was lacking PFDs. It was discovered the father had neglected to put any PFDs on the vessel prior to their fishing trip. He told the CO the PFDs had been left on the dock. CO Kinney stressed the importance of the PFDs on the vessel especially with the young children. Enforcement action was taken.

CO William Kinney was patrolling Duck Lake in Interlochen on the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday. CO Kinney discovered one boat with several anglers fishing without licenses. Multiple marine violations were also discovered on top of the fishing violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Richard Stowe responded to a complaint of a rattlesnake on a porch in Grand Traverse County. Upon arrival, the snake was found to have been captured by the caller and was identified as an Eastern Hognose snake at which time it was released to a nearby woodlot.

CO Richard Stowe responded to a complaint of a nuisance bear attacking a pen of 4-H pigs in Grand Traverse County. Evidence at the scene confirmed the damage to the pen and the pigs was done by a bear. The pigs are expected to recover.

COs Rebecca Hubers and Justin Vanderlinde responded to a bear who had decided to tree himself next to a busy campground. The COs maintained a perimeter keeping the public at bay. The bear eventually came down and left without incident.

CO Justin Vanderlinde contacted a boater who had been illegally storing his boat on state land. At the time of contact, the boat was not registered or titled, the boater was operating after dark without navigation lights, no PFDs or fire extinguisher was on the vessel, and the boater was in possession of a short pike. Enforcement was action taken.

CO Brian Brosky was checking a lake in Mason County when he noticed five persons in individual kayaks fishing. After checking 4 of the 5 kayaks for licenses and PFDs, the 5<sup>th</sup> subject became belligerent and stood up saying that he had a PFD and began waving a shirt around in the air. Once contacted, the individual admitted to not having a license or PFD onboard. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky and Sgt. Grant Emery were working fishing and marine-related activity on Lake Michigan. They contacted two subjects who were fishing with 11 lines out of their boat. The subjects were questioned why they had so many lines out and the vessel's owner said that he thought they could each fish with six lines and he had always fished with that many lines in Saginaw Bay. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Brosky and Sgt. Grant Emery were working a private property parcel for ORV trespassing activity when two ORVs arrived at their location. CO Brosky contacted the first subject while Sgt. Emery made his way to the second subject. The second subject was startled when Sgt. Emery turned off the ORV. The subjects said that they didn't know they were not supposed to be there and CO Brosky pointed out the "No Trespassing" signs that they had driven past. The subjects were cited for ORV trespassing.

CO Josiah Killingbeck and Sgt. Grant Emery pulled into Idlewild Lake in Lake County where they observed a subject preparing to launch a PWC that displayed an expired registration. The COs determined that the PWC had not been registered since 2003 and the truck being driven had registration plates expiring in 2016. The COs advised the subject it would not be legal to launch. A citation was issued for the expired plates on the vehicle.

CO Josiah Killingbeck and Sgt. Grant Emery were on patrol when they observed an ORV pull onto a USFS road where ORVs are prohibited. The COs stopped the ORV and the driver told the COs that he was turning around because he knew he was not allowed on USFS roads. Further investigation revealed that the driver and his passenger were in possession of open intoxicants and the driver was operating outside his driving license restrictions. Both subjects were educated on ORV regulations and enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck and Sgt. Grant Emery responded to the Pine River in Wexford County for a call of a subject that had been ejected from a raft and was unable to move. The COs hiked into the area and directed rescue personal to the scene. The COs learned that the subject's raft had hit a rock and was then struck by another raft which

caused the victim to be ejected into the river onto another rock. First aid was provided until rescue personnel arrived and the patient was transported downriver utilizing a hovercraft.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was patrolling Big Star Lake in Lake County when he observed a boat operating well after dark with no navigation or anchor lights. CO Killingbeck contacted the boat and determined that the boat had no working lights, hadn't been registered since 2015 and was missing registration numbers. The operator told CO Killingbeck he knew his navigation lights did not work but he only brings the boat out once a year after dark to view fireworks. In addition, the boat had 12 people on board but only eight life jackets. The numerous violations were addressed.

CO Josiah Killingbeck responded to a complaint of reckless ORV operation in the Baldwin area. While sitting in the area, CO Killingbeck observed a subject operating an ORV without a helmet. A second ORV travelling behind the first was not wearing eye protection. CO Killingbeck activated the emergency lights on his patrol truck and the first ORV pulled over, but the second ORV, nearly rear-ended the first ORV, swerved onto the road, nearly struck the patrol truck and fled the scene. CO Killingbeck pursued the ORV for a short distance and before being able to make a stop. Ultimately, two subjects were lodged on alcohol, careless operation, and flee and elude violations.

CO Josiah Killingbeck was patrolling the Luther area when he observed an ORV operating that matched the description of an ORV that had been reported for operating in a careless manner. When contacted, the operator was not wearing eye protection and had ORV stickers improperly affixed to the front of the ORV. CO Killingbeck quickly determined that the operator was a juvenile who had not taken the required ORV safety course and did not have adult supervision. The operator admitted to operating recklessly in the area and trespassing on private property to ride his dirt bike. The subject's mother was contacted and asked to respond to the traffic stop location. Regulations were explained to the mother and juvenile pertaining to legal ORV operation. Enforcement action was taken. After finishing speaking with the mother and juvenile, CO Killingbeck was thanked by several area residents for addressing the ORV operator.

CO Josiah Killingbeck, while on marine patrol, observed a boat operating on Harper Lake near Irons displaying a nonresident registration that was expired. CO Killingbeck contacted the vessel and discovered that the vessel was carrying more passengers than the boat capacity was designed for. The operator told CO Killingbeck that he was borrowing the boat and had not bothered checking to see if it was legal. Education was provided pertaining to marine operation.

CO Josiah Killingbeck responded to a report of a personal injury accident where a semi had collided with a car. CO Killingbeck provided first aid until EMS personnel arrived and assisted the Lake County Sheriff's Department with the initial scene investigation and traffic control.

While on marine patrol in Lake County around the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday, CO Ryan Andrews observed a subject on a PWC repeatedly run at high speeds towards a swim raft and turn at the last moment to spray an individual who was sun bathing on the raft. Contact was made, and it was determined that the operator had not taken the required boaters safety course and the PWC was missing hull identification numbers. Law enforcement action was taken.

CO Steven Converse was on ORV patrol in Manistee County when he observed an ORV being operated at a careless speed by an adult, who also had a 3-year-old child on the ORV. Neither of the subjects were wearing eye protection and they were in a closed area. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Scott MacNeill and Sam Koscinski, were on patrol of Lake Michigan when they observed an individual fishing with an over-limit of lines. As they approached, the COs saw both individuals struggling to reel in two of their lines to make themselves legal. After making contact and a short investigation, the subjects admitted to fishing with too many lines and enforcement action was taken.

COs Scott MacNeill and Steve Converse, were patrolling Tippy Pond when they observed a boat operating recklessly. After observing two young males beach the boat in an unsafe manner, contact was made. It was quickly determined that the subjects were intoxicated. After a short investigation, the boat operator was arrested for boating under the influence, and the underage passenger was cited for being a minor in possession.

COs Scott MacNeill and Sam Koscinski, were on marine patrol on the Manistee River when a young woman was observed being swept under a log jam. She did not have a life jacket on and was pinned against the log. Friends on shore were unable to assist with her rescue as COs arrived on the scene. The victim indicated that several hooks were stuck into her, and she was entangled in fishing line leaving her unable to move her arms. With her head barely managing to stay above water, CO Koscinski was able to maneuver the jet boat, in the rushing current and changing rapids. CO MacNeill was able to secure a life jacket around her back and cut the line that was attached to the hooks imbedded in her arm. While CO MacNeill held the victim in place, CO Koscinski attempted to motor the boat forward to free her from the log that the current had her pinned against. As this maneuver was attempted, another hook became lodged into the lower portion of her body. CO MacNeill handed her a knife which she used to free herself from the remaining fishing line and officers pulled her to safety. After returning to shore, she was able to safely remove the remaining hooks from her arms and leg.

CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Nick Ingersoll were driving down US-10 when they observed an ORV driving down the side of the highway. Once the COs stopped and contacted the driver, it was determined that CO Publiski had issued the driver a warning a year ago for doing the same thing. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Nick Ingersoll were patrolling Bass Lake when they noticed a female subject fishing. Contact was made, and it was determined that she was a nonresident and had no fishing license. A ticket was issued for fishing without a license and the patrol continued. The officers next check at the other end of the lake was the female's ex-husband and buddy who were also nonresidents and they too were fishing without licenses. Enforcement action was again taken.

While patrolling towards Ford Lake on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday, CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Nick Ingersoll were passed by an ORV operator who was not wearing a safety belt. The COs conducted a traffic stop, and it was also determined that the ORV also had an expired 2015 registration. While issuing a citation, they were passed by another side-by-side where the driver and passenger were not wearing their seatbelts. The COs conducted another traffic stop. After contacting the driver, it was discovered that the driver and passenger were in possession of open containers of alcohol. They advised the COs that they did not know they couldn't have open containers of alcohol while driving in their side-by-side. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Publiski, CO Brian Brosky and PCO Nick Ingersoll were leaving the Ludington Harbor when they observed a large sailboat leaving the pier heads. As the COs attempted to contact operator of the sailboat for failing to display a registration, the sailboat operator refused to bring his sailboat down off plane. After explaining the consequences for failing to stop and some reasoning from his wife, the sailboat operator finally stopped the boat. Contact was made and after some interviewing, it was determined that the subject was operating an unregistered documented vessel. The subject, a Michigan resident, purchased the boat and docked the boat in Michigan for several years and never registered the boat, claiming it was a Minnesota boat which does not require a documented vessel to be registered. The owner of the boat was cited for failing to register his vessel and will be required to pay his registration fees and the sales tax to the State of Michigan.

CO Kyle Publiski, CO Brian Brosky and PCO Nick Ingersoll contacted several charter and recreational fisherman on Lake Michigan over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday week. Several of the boats were cited for fishing too many lines and failing to have PFDs.

CO Kyle Publiski and PCO Nick Ingersoll conducted a joint marine patrol on Lake Michigan with a Mason County Sheriff's marine deputy. The officers contacted a subject who was trolling for salmon. After talking with the angler, it was determined that he was fishing with too many lines and had no wearable PFDs on board. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Casey Varriale was on patrol on Big Lake in Osceola County where he witnessed a PWC towing tubers after sunset. CO Varriale contacted the individuals and discussed the legal and safety concerns of their activities. During an investigation, four total violations were discovered. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Casey Varriale and Jeff Ginn were on patrol on the Muskegon River in Newaygo County. Throughout the day, several contacts were made, with several kayakers not having PFDs on board. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Angela Greenway located a female subject at a state boating access site who later determined to be smoking marijuana. The female subject was cited and released for the violation.

CO Mike Wells was working on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July when he responded to a complaint of a disorderly subject on the Muskegon River. Upon arrival, he located a highly intoxicated subject who was belligerent with bystanders and the CO. He was transported and lodged at the Newaygo County Jail.

## **DISTRICT 5**

CO Mike Hearn received information from an angler who had observed a campsite with multiple undersize bass on a stringer at a remote lake in Kalkaska County. Upon arrival, a person from the campsite was in the process of filleting the fish. The fish were checked, and five bass were found to be significantly under the legal size. The fish were seized, and a citation was issued for the violation.

CO Mike Hearn responded to the scene of a car vs bear accident in Rapid River Township of Kalkaska County. The bear was mortally injured and required dispatching by law enforcement. The large male bear weighed approximately 350lbs and was donated to a local family for food.

COs John Huspen and Ben McAteer assisted the Crawford County Sheriff Department on a domestic violence complaint. The suspect had fled the scene in a vehicle and eventually fled on foot into the surrounding woods. A Michigan State Police K9 unit was called in to try and track the suspect. After tracking the suspect for approximately a half mile, the K9 unit lost the track. CO Huspen was able to assist the K9 unit in relocating the track. The K9 unit located the suspect hiding in the trees near a residence. CO Huspen and MSP troopers assisted with securing the suspect. He was eventually turned over to the Crawford County Sheriff Department.

CO John Huspen and Sgt. Brian Olsen responded to a fight in progress during a targeted patrol at South Higgins State Park on a busy holiday weekend. The COs were able to break up the fight between two female beach goers. The victim did not want to press charges at the time of the incident but changed her mind later in the day. Assault charges have been issued through the Roscommon County Prosecutor's Office.

COs Ben McAteer, Phil Hudson, Mark Papineau, Kyle Bader, Sgt. Brian Olsen, and Sgt. Bobbi Lively attended the Academy of Natural Resources at the DNR Ralph A. MacMullen Center. The COs had the opportunity to introduce conservation law to school teachers from around the State of Michigan. Teachers were instructed on the origins of the department, patrol tactics, observation techniques and conducting

interviews. During the afternoon, the group was put through scenarios to implement the techniques they had learned. The COs also talked with a group of kids from Wayne County at the end of the day as part of an urban outreach program.

COs Ben McAteer and Matt Zultak conducted a patrol on Higgins Lake with a focus on marine safety enforcement. The COs addressed the following violations: careless operation of a personal watercraft, boat operators towing individuals without an observer, operating above slow-no wake speed within 100' of anchored vessels, and operating a vessel with children under the age of 6 not wearing personal flotation devices. Education and enforcement action were taken for these issues.

While patrolling Houghton Lake in Roscommon County, COs Ethan Gainforth and Chuck McPherson checked two anglers in a boat. One angler was fishing without a license and the other angler was in possession of an undersized walleye. Enforcement action was taken.

While conducting a patrol at North Higgins Lake State Park in Crawford County over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday, CO Matthew Zultak contacted a highly intoxicated subject. Upon further investigation it was determined that consuming alcohol violated the subject's bond conditions. The subject was taken into custody and lodged in the Roscommon County Jail.

CO Jeff Panich was just finishing up a marine patrol in Lake Huron on Tawas Bay when he observed a PWC moving without anyone operating it. As CO Panich approached, he observed the PWC slowly turning to the right, gradually making large circles with no one around the machine. He scanned the bay and noticed two people in the water. CO Panich made his way to the individuals, approximately half a mile from the PWC. The boaters were wearing life jackets, but obviously tiring out. CO Panich assisted the female into his patrol boat without incident. The male subject had such muscle fatigue that he was unable to lift himself on the ladder of the boat and was assisted by CO Panich. The two Florida residents declined medical assistance. They had rented the machine, and while operating, turned too fast causing themselves to be thrown off. The operator indicated he was not wearing the cut off safety cord, so the PWC continued to run even when they fell off. With the strong winds, it kept moving further into Lake Huron away from the swimmers. They were taken back to the PWC and operated it to shore with CO Panich following.

COs Casey Pullum, Jeff Panich, Tyler Sabuda, James Garrett, and Sergeant Bobbi Lively along with United States Forest Service Law Enforcement and Oscoda County Sheriff Department, conducted a group patrol on the Au Sable River in Oscoda County. 38 citations and five arrests were made on the river during the five-hour patrol. Most of the violations were for failing to possess PFDs, minor in possession of alcohol, litter, and possession of marijuana.

CO Casey Pullum was on patrol in Oscoda County when he observed an individual on an ORV operating towards him without a helmet. CO Pullum activated his emergency lights and the individual fled in the opposite direction. CO Pullum pursued the individual

for a short distance and tracked him back to a private residence. Once at the residence, two other individuals indicated the ORV operator was in the house. With the aid of the homeowner, the operator was located hiding in a closet. He was determined to be operating under the influence of alcohol, a minor in possession of alcohol, and his driving privileges were suspended. He was arrested and lodged in the Oscoda County Jail.

CO Steve Lockwood was on a late night marine patrol in Gladwin County when he encountered a vessel that was operating without navigation lights. While explaining the lighting violation to the vessel operator, CO Lockwood noticed the operator was slurring his speech. Further investigation led to the subject being arrested for operating a vessel while intoxicated. He was lodged in the Gladwin County Jail. He was upset with CO Lockwood for "ruining his 4<sup>th</sup> of July" as he was taking his family to see the fireworks.

CO Ethan Gainforth assisted the Clare City Police Department with teaching at the Clare Youth Police Academy. CO Gainforth assisted several days with the physical training and marching exercises. In addition, CO Gainforth taught students about conservation law enforcement and job duties of a Michigan Conservation Officer.

CO Mark Papineau was contacted by Parks & Recreation Division staff due to a vehicle at the Wixom Lake Boating Access site that was displaying a possible forged recreation passport. Inspection of the license plate tab revealed what appeared to be a handwritten "P" instead of the Secretary of State printed passport designation. After verifying the license plate information through LEIN, CO Papineau confirmed that the vehicle did not have the required recreation passport. A short time later, the individuals belonging to the vehicle returned and were contacted by CO Papineau. After a brief interview, they confessed to forging the "P" on the license plate tab to avoid paying the \$16 entry fee. The forged license plate and tab were confiscated, and a warrant is being sought from the Gladwin County Prosecutor's Office for the violation.

CO Mark Papineau completed an eight-month investigation involving numerous deer taken without licenses dating back to 2015. During a taxidermy inspection in early January of 2018, CO Papineau discovered the skull cap of an 8-point buck bearing a tag that was purchased nearly an hour after legal hunting hours and validated for the same day. Further investigation revealed a second buck that was reportedly shot by the same individual's juvenile son. During a review of license purchase records, CO Papineau discovered that the juvenile son had not purchased a license for the buck, and in fact, several suspicious license purchases had been made by other family members over the course of several years. CO Papineau executed several search warrants, which resulted in additional evidence related to at least three other people that had taken deer without licenses. CO Papineau coordinated with CO David Schaumburger in Wayne County for assistance. Several interviews were conducted, and confessions were obtained. Warrants are being sought through the Gladwin County Prosecutor's Office for a total of five people involving eleven illegally taken deer, nine counts of using kill tags of another person, and several counts of hunter orange violations.

## **DISTRICT 6**

COs John Byars and Josh Russell were conducting a marine patrol on Horseshoe Lake in Montcalm County. CO Byars noticed a pontoon boat with a young child not wearing a personal floatation device while the vessel was underway. The COs made contact with the vessel and determined that the child did not have a Type I or Type II PFD and a citation was issued to the parent.

While on marine patrol on Townline Lake in Montcalm County, COs John Byars and Josh Russell noticed a boat towing a personal watercraft. The COs noticed that the person being towed was not wearing a personal floatation device (PFD) nor did they have an observer. The COs stopped the vessel and determined there were no personal PFDs on the vessel. A citation was issued for not having PFDs and warnings were issued for not having an observer and for not wearing a PFD while being towed.

In Gratiot County, CO John Byars found a camper in the Maple River State Game Area. The camper was unoccupied and appeared to have been in the game area for quite some time. CO Byars located the owner and had him meet him at the camp site. During the investigation, CO Byars discovered several issues including the camper had been on the state game area land longer than 15 days consecutive days and was also on the area during the time which camping is not allowed from May 15<sup>th</sup> to September 10<sup>th</sup>. A citation was issued for camping on a state game area during the closed time.

COs Joe Myers and Josh Russell were on a marine patrol in Montcalm County when they noticed several anglers fishing from a boat. The COs noticed that all three individuals were fishing. However, upon stopping the vessel it was discovered that only two of the anglers had fishing licenses. Citations were issued to the third individual for fishing without a license.

In Montcalm County, CO Ken Lowell checked an angler on Big Whitefish Lake fishing from a boat. The angler had a fishing license but when asked for marine equipment he was unable to locate any life jackets. The angler deducted that his kids took them off his fishing boat and put them on the pontoon boat. The angler was issued a citation for not having any life jackets on his boat.

While patrolling Crystal Lake in Montcalm County, CO Ken Lowell stopped the operator of a boat who was pulling a wakeboarder without having an observer. The operator of the boat stated that none of their other buddies were up yet and they wanted to go out so they decided to go without an observer. The boater was issued a citation for towing without an observer.

While checking anglers on Crystal Lake in Montcalm County, CO Ken Lowell located one angler who was fishing without a license. The angler stated that if he had known it was a misdemeanor to fish without a license that he would have bought one. The angler was issued a citation for fishing without a license.

CO Quincy Gowenlock was patrolling the Saginaw River from shore checking subjects fishing. While at Wickes Park, CO Gowenlock observed a male and female fishing. After watching for approximately 10 minutes he made contact. The male immediately put the pole down upon seeing the CO. When asked for their fishing licenses, neither angler could produce one. The male angler then remarked that he knew the CO had been watching him and that there was no point in denying fishing. CO Gowenlock advised that he had been watching for 10 minutes. The angler then replied, "Well, I'm glad I didn't keep anything." The subjected were cited for fishing without a license.

While patrolling the Tittabawassee River from shore, CO Quincy Gowenlock observed two subjects fishing across from Imerman Memorial Park. While watching, the CO noted both subjects were catching what appeared to be Smallmouth Bass and keeping them on a stringer a little ways up river from where they were fishing. CO Gowenlock radioed to his partner, CO Will Brickel, and requested that he make his way to the other side of the river to make contact. After making the request, the suspects saw CO Gowenlock and quickly began to pack up. As they hurried up the bank, CO Brickel arrived on scene. One subject was found to be fishing without a license and was cited for his violation.

COs Bob Hobkirk and Kyle Bucholtz were on routine marine patrol in Huron County when they observed two subjects in the water near a small boat. When contacted, the two subjects stated their boat had broken down and they were attempting to tow it ashore. The subjects were in the water without personal flotation devices and were attempting to push/pull the boat toward land. One of the subjects was unable to get back into the boat as the boat drifted approximately two miles from its original location further out into Saginaw Bay. Both subjects were brought onto the patrol boat and returned safely to shore.

CO Seth Rhodea made a traffic stop on an ORV after he observed it illegally operating on state highway late at night. Upon speaking with the operator he was showing signs of being intoxicated. After conducting sobriety tests on the operator he was arrested by CO Rhodea and lodged for operating while intoxicated.

While on patrol in Sanilac County, CO Mark Siemen stopped a motor vehicle for not having a Michigan license plate on it. During the traffic stop it was determined by CO Siemen that the operator of the vehicle was intoxicated. After the OWI investigation was complete the suspect was arrested and charged for operating under the influence of alcohol. As it turns out, this was the operator's 12th offense. Multiple other charges related to driving are also pending in court.

CO Joshua Wright was patrolling the Saginaw Bay on the Fourth of July when he made contact with a group of teenagers on a vessel. CO Wright could smell the odor of alcohol and found several empty beer and liquor bottles. None of the six passengers on the vessel were of legal drinking age. CO Wright conducted several field sobriety tests on the operator and found he was to be under the influence of alcohol. He was arrested and the other occupants, along with the vessel were turned over to a sober party.

COs Joshua Wright, Chad Foerster and Jill Miller were patrolling the Saginaw River when they noticed a vessel with several young children who did not have personal flotation devices on. During the contact, it was discovered that two of the children were under five and they did not have a Type I or Type II PFD on board that would fit the children. Citation was issued to the operator for failing to provide a PFD.

CO Jill Miller got a complaint of a subject that was shooting fox squirrels near the complainant's residence. When CO Miller arrived, the squirrel was in the neighbor's tree still alive but bleeding and not able to move. The subject was contacted, and he stated the squirrels were damaging his fence and he thought they were red squirrels, which there is no closed season on. Education and enforcement action was taken.

CO Chad Foerster was the first to arrive on scene of a possible drowning. CO Foerster located the victim and confirmed that he was in fact deceased. CO Foerster contacted the local authorities dive team and held the integrity of the scene until they arrived. The CO assisted with the removal of the victim. Foul play is not suspected.

During a marine patrol on Stevenson Lake in Isabella County, COs Mike Haas and Dan Robinson contacted a boat that was displaying registration that had expired a year prior. The operator of the boat told the COs he wasn't expecting to see any COs on the small lake. Enforcement action was taken to address the expired registration and lack of proper safety equipment.

COs Mike Haas and Dan Robinson conducted a marine patrol on Loon Lake in Montcalm County. During the patrol the COs contacted a fishing boat displaying expired registration. It was also discovered that the occupants on the boat did not have any required personal flotation devices and one of the anglers failed to purchase a 2018 fishing license. Citations were issued to address the multiple violations.

COs Dan Robinson and Mike Haas were called to an area in Isabella County where an illegal burn had taken place. The local fire department responded and found many items being burnt. When COs Haas and Robinson arrived and located the burn site, they also discovered the business where the burn had taken place was dumping their trash over an embankment and had a well-established dumping site. The illegal burning was addressed with a citation to the person who started the fire and the illegal dump site has been turned over to the DEQ for investigation.

While working Isabella County in the early hours, COs Dan Robinson, Josh Russell, and Mike Haas were patrolling an area lake for marine violations. While the COs had not seen much activity through the night, they stayed in the area knowing there were still boats on the water. The COs witnessed two vessels come across the lake operating unsafely for the nighttime conditions. While CO Russell initiated a safety check on one vessel, CO Haas contacted the operator of the second boat who was attempting to dock. As CO Haas contacted the operator of the docking vessel, it became evident that he was under the influence. CO Haas completed field sobriety tests on the operator and determined him to be under the influence. At the same time, CO Russell also determined that the operator of the vessel he was checking was under the influence and conducted field sobriety tests on that driver as well. Both drivers were arrested and lodged for operating a vessel under the influence of alcohol.

CO Dan Robinson was called to a residence in Mt. Pleasant where a juvenile skunk had fallen in a basement window well and was unable to get back out. The homeowners had called a nuisance animal company who was unable to respond. CO Robinson arrived and removed the young skunk using a catch pole. The skunk was returned to the wild without incident.

CO Dan Robinson was called to an address in Isabella County. The complainant stated that the neighbor was burning trash. At the time of the call Isabella County was under a burning ban due to dry conditions created by the lack of precipitation and hot weather. The fire department was also called to the scene. It was determined that the subject was not burning trash but was attempting to clean up her yard and was burning a large pile of pine needles and brush. The subject did have a hose nearby and had raked the ground around the fire. A warning was issued for open burning when prohibited.

## **DISTRICT 7**

COs Richard Cardenas and James Zellinger conducted marine safety patrols on Pine Lake and Gun Lake in Barry County. During their patrols they encountered a PWC operator towing two subjects without an observer, a PWC operating without a registration, a PWC being operated at a speed more than 55 mph, a PWC being operated by an individual without a boating safety certificate and two subjects fishing without licenses. Enforcement action was taken.

CO James Zellinger patrolled Duncan Lake in Barry County and observed a subject towing a skier without the required observer on board. Contact was made, and the operator claimed to be permitted as a professional skier and therefore didn't need an observer. Further discussion revealed the operator has been attending a class to qualify to tow without an observer but had not yet completed the requirements to obtain the permit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Zach Bauer was checking anglers at the Berrien Springs Dam in Berrien County. He observed two anglers fishing. CO Bauer observed them for a while and then made contact. When he asked to see their fishing licenses, they produced nonresident fishing

licenses, neither had a Michigan fishing license. Further investigation revealed one of the anglers had an open arrest warrant. CO Bauer arrested and lodged the angler at the Berrien County Jail. Enforcement action was taken on both fishing violations.

While patrolling Magician Lake in Van Buren County, CO Tyler Cole spotted a vessel with four subjects fishing. A check of the vessel was made, and it was found that all four of the subjects were fishing without licenses and did not have the required amount of personal floatation devices (PFDs) on board. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Matt Page and Travis Dragomer were working a marine patrol in Van Buren County when they observed two PWCs operating at a high rate of speed and well within 100' of several docks. The COs made contact and found in addition to the 100' rule violations, both PWC's registrations had been expired since 2016 and both operators were without boater safety certificates. Additionally, one of the individuals was not showing up when his information was ran on the radio. After chatting with the subjects further, it was determined that the operator had provided false information to the COs. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling the Grand River in Ottawa County, CO Justin Ulberg checked a couple of shore anglers. One of the anglers had an undersized bass in his bucket and claimed he didn't know that the size limit was 14 inches. A record checked revealed the same subject was cited by CO BJ Goulette for possessing a short bass a year prior. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Justin Ulberg and BJ Goulette investigated a complaint of subjects camping in the Rogue River State Game Area. The COs were able to locate the camp and during the investigation located drug and drug paraphernalia inside the tent. One of the subjects also had an outstanding warrant. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Greg Patten located two different groups of juveniles that were dropped off at the Grand Haven State Park entrance by their parents. Both groups had alcoholic beverages in their coolers. Enforcement action was taken for the minor with alcohol violations.

CO Greg Patten responded to a RAP complaint of subjects camping illegally in the Muskegon State Game Area. The subjects were located, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Greg Patten assisted Norton Shore's police with a marine event on Mona Lake. While on patrol CO Patten and Norton Shore's Police Department stopped a subject operating an unregistered personal watercraft. The subject did not have a boating safety certificate in possession as required. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Greg Patten was on marine patrol on Muskegon Lake and observed a boat with a bow rider. The person on the bow was seated with her legs extending over the side of the bow. The boat was on plane, exceeding a no-wake speed. CO Patten stopped the

boat, conducted a safety check, and found that there was no Type IV PFD available. A warning was issued for the PFD and enforcement action was taken for the bow riding violation.

Sixteen COs from District 7 assisted Grand Haven State Park staff on the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday in response to safety concerns and park rules enforcement. Over 1,994 contacts were made with beach goers, with 35 citations written for possessing alcohol in a state park. Six warnings were given for minors in possession of alcohol, one for a medical marijuana violation, and 63 were given for various park rules violations. Fifteen complaints were also responded to for various park rules violations and lost children.

## **DISTRICT 8**

COs Brandon Hartleben and Pete Purdy worked a 4<sup>th</sup> of July patrol on the Portage Lake Chain. Numerous vessels were contacted during the patrol and violations encountered included failure to provide enough PFDs, failure to display current registration, expired registration, no Type IV PFD, missing registration numbers/ lettering, and bow-riding. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Brandon Hartleben, Eric Smither and Andy Monnich patrolled on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July for the Devils Lake fireworks. Activity on the lake was high and numerous citations were issued for expired registration, child under six not wearing a PFD, and no boater safety certificate. Many vessels were also cited for not having navigation lights on while underway after sunset.

COs Brandon Hartleben and Chris Maher worked a marine patrol on the Portage Lake Chain for the fireworks detail and Base Line Lake Sandbar Party. Nearly 100 contacts were made throughout the day, with numerous citations and warnings issued for expired registration, failure to provide enough PFDs, no navigation lights after sunset, missing #'s and letters and bow-riding. COs Hartleben and Maher also assisted with crowd control and suspect interviews for an assault that occurred on the Base Line Lake sandbar.

CO Brandon Hartleben was clearing marine patrol on Ford Lake when he contacted two individuals fishing from the launch docks. During the contact he learned that neither of the anglers had fishing licenses. Further inquiries revealed that one of the subjects also had an open arrest warrant. Citations were issued for fishing without a license and bond was taken from the subject with a warrant.

CO Brandon Hartleben was at the Ford Lake boat launch when he observed a PWC with three occupants operating carelessly right in front of the launch area. CO Hartleben was able to move to the shore area where numerous PWCs were staged and make contact with the operator and occupants. A large group gathered to hear CO Hartleben explain the nuances of on the water etiquette and the laws governing safe operation of a PWC. While CO Hartleben was speaking with the group, another PWC was observed

operating carelessly just off the shore. That operator was also contacted, and citations were issued for careless operation of a PWC.

CO Brandon Hartleben was working marine patrol on Whitmore Lake when he contacted a subject fishing from a pontoon boat. When asked for his fishing license, the subject stated that he was just out messing around for a little while. A check of the RSS revealed that the subject last purchased a fishing license in 2012. Enforcement action taken.

CO Brandon Hartleben was patrolling Whitmore Lake for activity when he observed an unregistered vessel towing several tubers. As CO Hartleben approached, the operator quickly stated, "You got me, the boat isn't registered." The subject then provided a paper registration indicating that in fact the vessels registration did expire in 2016. Enforcement action taken.

While patrolling the Lake Hudson Recreation Area, CO Eric Smither was flagged down by a vehicle. Upon stopping, CO Smither was told by the passenger that he had accidentally cut his hand. CO Smither administered first aid and was able to stop the bleeding. The individual refused EMS and was taken to the hospital in Adrian by his friend

COs Andrew Monnich and Chris Reynolds were on patrol working an area with ORV activity when they observed an ORV traveling down the roadway with two individuals not wearing helmets. A stop was conducted on the ORV and enforcement action was taken. As the COs were clearing the stop another ORV was observed operating down the roadway without a helmet. That ORV was also stopped, and enforcement action was taken.

COs Andrew Monnich and Eric Smither were working ORV patrol when they spotted a golf cart driving down the wrong side of the road with a child just hanging on the back. The COs conducted a stop and spoke to the driver about children and ORVs. The driver stated that he was just out driving the road to check his traps. The COs questioned him about the traps he had set and to show them where they were. The COs located multiple 220 conibear traps without tags on them. The COs educated the individual on trapping laws and enforcement action was taken for trapping out of season and no trap tags.

COs Sam Schluckbier and CO Troy Ludwig were returning to the boat launch after a marine patrol on the Grand River when they observed a female operating a PWC. The operator made several close passes to the dock in what appeared to be an attempt to spray the individuals standing on the dock. A stop was made on the PWC for careless operation. The driver was unable to provide a boater safety certificate, which is required for all PWC operators. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Troy Ludwig and Sam Schluckbier were patrolling the Grand River when they contacted an angler shore fishing. The angler stated he had just purchased his fishing

license and was happy to present it to the officers. Upon inspecting the anglers catch the COs found that the angler was in possession of an undersized smallmouth bass. The COs educated the angler on the importance of size limits and enforcement action was taken regarding the undersize bass.

CO Chris Reynolds, while on patrol in Hillsdale County with CO Andy Monnich, heard a call from central dispatch regarding a four-car accident. The COs responded to the location and assisted EMS in providing aid. The COs also assisted with shutting down the highway while the cars and debris were cleaned up.

CO Carter Woodwyk received a complaint of a large amount of trash dumped in the Lost Nations State Game Area parking lot in Hillsdale County. The CO responded to the area and was able to locate information in the pile of litter that identified a potential suspect. The investigation is continuing.

CO Carter Woodwyk was patrolling a lake in Hillsdale County during Operation Dry Water when he observed a subject wake surfing without wearing a PFD. When contacted, the CO discovered that three of the four subjects were minors in possession of alcohol (MIP). The fourth subject, who was the driver of the vessel, was arrested and lodged for boating under the influence. The subject wake surfing received a citation for not wearing a PFD, and all three minors received warnings for MIP.

CO Carter Woodwyk was patrolling a lake in Hillsdale County when he observed a vessel operating with improper navigational lights. The CO stopped the vessel and determined the subject had the green navigational light displayed on the port side of the vessel, and the red navigational light displayed on the starboard side of the vessel. The CO explained the safety and importance of having navigational lights displayed correctly during times of low-visibility. The driver understood and stated he would get the issue fixed.

CO Jeff Goss and Acting Sgt. Mike Drexler were on marine patrol when they observed two subjects fishing. Upon making contact, CO Goss asked if they had any luck. The one man said they had caught some bass and bluegills. When they showed the COs their fish, it was obvious the three bass in the basket were not of legal size. The anglers admitted they had never measured the fish and they didn't know what the legal size was. Enforcement action was taken.

During the Youth Outdoor Day, CO Nickols was asked by Parks staff to assist with subjects illegally backcountry camping. CO Nickols and Parks Officer Dave Zmickley contacted two subjects sleeping in a vehicle in an access lot. Parks staff had removed the subjects tent the previous night when no one was there. CO Nickols spoke with the subjects and learned they were currently homeless and living out of their car. One of the subjects had two warrants for his arrest but was out of the pick-up range. CO Nickols gave the subjects some suggestions on where they could stay, and Parks staff returned the subjects camping equipment.

CO Rich Nickols conducted a marine patrol on the Portage Lake Chain in Washtenaw County. During the patrol, CO Nickols observed a boat towing a skier without an observer on board. CO Nickols contacted the operator of the vessel and asked where his observer was. The subject responded, "She just jumped in the water." The subject was referring to his Labrador Retriever who had just jumped in the lake to go for a swim. CO Nickols advised that while she may be a very good dog, she was not qualified to be an observer by law. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Robert Slick was patrolling Bennett Lake traveling into a canal when three PWC's on plane went by. CO Slick contacted the operators and asked why they were going so fast. They replied by stating it was too hot and they wanted to get some air flow. CO Slick informed them the area was all slow/ no wake. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Robert Slick and Todd Thorn were on a holiday patrol on the Grand River when they contacted a vessel that had two individuals fishing. During the contact it was determined one of the anglers had an active warrant out of Eaton County. The subject was subsequently turned over to the Eaton County Sheriff's Office and lodged.

CO Robert Slick responded to a brush fire that burned nearly 25 acres in Shiawassee County. CO Slick assisted fire crews with transportation into the fire. CO Slick is continuing the investigation to locate the origin and responsible party.

CO Todd Thorn conducted a foot patrol at Crego Park in Lansing just after the park closed and observed three males walk into the park from a trail near the Grand River. The men were unaware that CO Thorn was watching. CO Thorn observed the men light up marijuana cigarettes and kick some litter into the lake. The men were surprised to be contacted by a CO. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Nick Wellman and Chris Reynolds were on a marine patrol on Huyck Lake in Branch County when they observed a subject trolling from a pontoon boat. Upon contact, it was found that the vessel had never been registered in Michigan, the operator didn't have a fishing license or a PFD. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Wellman was patrolling southern Branch County when he noticed a small boat on Pleasant Lake with an expired registration. CO Nick Wellman contacted the two anglers on the boat and asked if they knew the boat's registration was expired. They stated they were didn't know and mentioned they did not have fishing licenses or PFDs on board either. Upon running the subjects, it was found that the female on the boat had a felony warrant for third offense OWI. The female was lodged in Branch County Jail.

CO Nick Wellman went to assist MSP with a welfare check in which a male had jumped from a moving vehicle. CO Nick Wellman was the first one on the scene and requested medical personnel to check the subject. The male stated he was not trying to hurt himself but needed to get out of the car because he was in a bad argument with his girlfriend and he didn't want things to escalate. CO Nick Wellman assisted MSP and EMS on the scene.

## **DISTRICT 9**

COs Adam Beuthin and Keven Luther were working the fireworks at Sterling State Park in Monroe County on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. The COs responded to many different violations ranging from alcohol violations and disorderly persons. The COs also returned a lost child, who was approximately three years of age, to his family. Toward the end of the night the COs observed several individuals walking back to the parking lot from the beach area, they appeared to be intoxicated. After interviewing the individuals, it was apparent they were indeed under the influence of alcohol and they admitted to drinking under the legal age. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Adam Beuthin and Dan Walzak were on marine patrol on the Detroit River when they observed a vessel violating a no wake zone next to Mud Island near Ecorse. Enforcement action was taken. Soon after this the COs observed several subjects riding on the bow of a boat traveling in their direction at a moderate rate of speed. After telling the operator to put the boat in neutral, it was also noticed that there were no registration numbers on the vessel and only one side had a 2021 registration decal visible. The COs explained the danger of the passengers riding on the bow and the severity of the situation. When asked about the lack of a properly displayed registration, the operator said, "I didn't know they needed to be on there, and only the one side with the sticker would stick." Multiple violations were addressed, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Adam Beuthin gave a presentation on the duties and responsibilities of a CO to approximately twenty children who were staying with their families at Sterling State Park in Monroe County. The children are participating in a nature program that is led each week by Explorer Guide Cody Ochs. Those who are interested in learning about different outdoor activities in the state of Michigan can participate each week for approximately one hour. The CO talked about the process of becoming a conservation officer and the different types of patrol and equipment they can use along with answering some general hunting and fishing questions the children asked.

COs Adam Beuthin and David Schaumburger were on marine patrol on the Detroit River when a PWC was observed pulling another person on a tube behind it with no observer. The COs spoke with the operator of the PWC and explained the importance of having an observer to notify the driver if the person being towed needs aid. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Joe Deppen, while working a Belle Isle shift, utilized a range finder to work 100' rule violation complaints. One PWC was stopped, operating at a very high speed, only 51 feet from a dock. Several vessels were also contacted and ticketed for slow-no-wake violations. A 42-foot vessel was stopped throwing a huge wake, 296 feet from a dock. A 29-foot vessel was stopped operating at high speed, 310 feet from a dock. The complainants and other property owners showed the COs much appreciation for their efforts.

CO Jacob Griffin was on marine patrol in Oakland County when he spotted a vessel with three subjects fishing on a vessel that had unreadable MC numbers. CO Griffin contacted the subjects and discovered that the vessel didn't have enough PFDs and one of the subjects didn't have a fishing license. The subjects were educated on marine safety and enforcement action was taken.

CO Christopher Knights received a complaint in Oakland County that a subject had observed two untagged live traps in the bed of a pickup truck that had a couple of opossums in one of the traps. CO Knights contacted the vehicle owner and the owner stated that the traps were his and he was having some vehicle trouble, so he left the animals in the bed. CO Knights advised the individual of the laws for trapping and how much time is allowed before he must release or dispose of the animals. CO Knights pointed out the fact it was ninety-five degrees outside and was no way to treat any animal. The owner acknowledged his wrongdoing and stated he wouldn't let it happen again. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Kris Kiel and Brad Silorey worked a late-night walleye patrol on the St. Clair River. One anchored vessel was contacted with three anglers aboard. The vessel owner stated that they had twelve walleyes. CO Silorey asked the other two anglers how many they had each caught. One angler said two and the other said three. The owner of the vessel said that he caught the rest. After counting the twelve fish, the COs heard the vessel owner tell the angler who had just admitted to catching two fish to change her story to five. Enforcement action was taken.

During the same late-night walleye patrol on the St. Clair River, COs Kris Kiel and Brad Silorey contacted two vessels hand-lining for walleye in the southern end of Lake Huron. One vessel possessed two short walleye and the other possessed three. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Kris Kiel and Brad Silorey patrolled the St. Clair flats channels by PWCs in response to complaints from property owners on two different channels complaining of heavy slow-no-wake violations. On these channels, vessels under 26 feet in length must be at least 200 feet from shore/dock and vessels over 26 feet in length must be at least 600 feet from shore/dock.

COs Ben Lasher and Patrick Hartsig were contacted by the Canadian Ministry of Resources reference a truck that was being refused entry into Canada due to having live red swamp crayfish on board. The COs responded to the Blue Water Bridge to contact the truck when it came back into Michigan. With assistance for U.S. Customs, COs Lasher and Hartsig seized \$7,000.00 worth of red swamp crayfish that were brought into Michigan illegally. Enforcement action taken against the driver and the company.

COs Brad Silorey and Kris Kiel worked a late night marine patrol into the early morning hours in St. Clair County. COs Silorey and Kiel were on patrol when they heard a vessel approaching but did not see any lights. At very close range, the vessel appeared, as

they were operating in the pitch black with no navigational lights on. The subject was heading towards the local boat ramp. As the suspect dock his boat, COs Silorey and Kiel docked next to the suspect vessel and enforcement action was taken.

COs Keven Luther and Adam Beuthin assisted MSP, the City of Monroe, the Monroe County Sheriff's Department and Wm. C. Sterling State Park staff with the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July Fireworks event. The two COs issued several verbal warnings and three MIP citations and one possession of alcohol in a closed area citation. After the fireworks, the COs assisted in clearing the park.

CO Justin Muehlhauser worked a marine patrol on Silver Lake in Fenton. CO Muehlhauser contacted a vessel towing a wakeboarder that had a small child walking around without wearing a PFD. The CO questioned the operator about the child's age and asked why she was not wearing a PFD. The operator stated that the child was 3-year-old and was a very good swimmer. Enforcement action was taken. While patrolling Lobdell lake, CO Justin Muehlhauser stopped a vessel where three children under six were not wearing PFDs. The occupants stated that they were thinking more about comfort than safety. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Justin Muehlhauser encountered an ORV operating on the roadway in Fenton Township. The operator was observed traveling at approximately 40-50 mph. The operator was not wearing a helmet and the ORV did not have a valid permit. CO Muehlhauser stopped the ORV and addressed the violations. Enforcement action was taken.

COs David Schaumburger and Adam Beuthin were on marine patrol when CO Schaumburger spotted a pontoon boat operating with ten passengers aboard that was not displaying any registration numbers. The vessel was stopped, and the CO conducted a marine safety check. The owner had purchased the vessel on May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 and although it was registered, the owner had no bothered to put the MC numbers on or the registration decal. The operator also was short two PFDs, stating, "The salesperson must have shorted me two life jackets." Enforcement action was taken.

CO David Schaumburger checked an angler for his fishing license and the angler stated that he did not have money to buy a license yet this year. The angler was smoking a cigarette at the time and the CO asked how many packs of cigarettes he smokes a week which he replied three. The angler was informed that if he did not buy cigarettes for two weeks, he would have enough money saved to buy a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

## **BELLE ISLE**

CO Nick Wellman was working on Belle Isle and observed a couple fishing the Detroit River. Upon making contact, both individuals stated they had their fishing licenses, but had left them at home. They then told CO Wellman they bought their licenses last year, but they might be expired. After running both subjects for licensing history, it was found

that neither of them had ever bought a fishing license in Michigan. In addition, both had suspended driver's licenses and the female had two outstanding warrants for her arrest. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Larn Strawn patrolled Belle Isle State Park on July 4<sup>th</sup> for the holiday. The park was extremely busy with several thousand vehicles and many times more people. CO Strawn continuously enforced parking violations over the entire park. Citations were issued and in many cases vehicles that were dangerously left in travel lanes causing a hazard were towed away.

While conducting a foot patrol of the beach area at Belle Isle State Park, CO Larn Strawn was waved down by a couple. The couple was standing by a young child who was crying hysterically because he was lost and separated from his mom. After a short search, CO Strawn located the parents and returned the child to his mother.

COs Dan Walzak and Kyle Bucholtz responded to a complaint of a fight on the beach at Belle Isle. The COs contacted the complainant and the suspect involved. Upon interviewing both subjects, it was found that there was no physical fighting involved – all verbal. The suspect was playing football on the beach with friends and the complainant felt that he and his friends were too close and being disruptive to others trying to enjoy the beach. With no physical contact between parties, the COs de-escalated the situation through talking to both sides and the parties left.

CO David Schaumburger was driving on Belle Isle when a vehicle passed him at approximately 50 miles per hour around a curve, swerving in an out of traffic. The CO initiated the traffic stop and the operator stated that he was on "Facebook Live" and admitted to showboating. The operator was in possession of an open can of malt liquor and had expired plates. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Keven Luther gave numerous verbal warnings and issued four citations for prohibited parking while working a shift on Belle Isle. CO Luther assisted MSP in towing vehicles out of the fire lane and cyclist path east of the main beach area. CO Luther contacted hundreds of visitors throughout his shift.

CO Keven Luther, along with several other D-9 COs, attended the 2018 Detroit Youth Day held on Belle Isle. The event had a few thousand youths participating in numerous games and events. CO Luther contacted over 300 state park visitors while he assisted with traffic control along The Strand and Vista. CO Luther aided the Belle Isle guests with directions and road crossings, as well as assisted the volunteers in locating their event tables.

CO Johnathan Kamps drove past an individual urinating in public. When the CO approach the individual he stated that he could not make it to the bathroom. CO Kamps pointed out to the individual that the bathrooms were in sight distance and less than 100 yards away from where he was standing. The CO also pointed out multiple families and people having picnics in the area. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle Cherry went to Detroit to assist other conservation officers with a patrol on Belle Isle Park during the annual display of the Detroit Fireworks. There was a large crowd present for the celebration. However, no major incidents were reported.

CO Jill Miller was flagged down by a subject stating that his mother was in cardiac arrest. CO Miller followed the subject to the area where the family was already doing CPR. CO Miller got the AED and CPR was continued. Unfortunately, despite all life saving measures, the individual did not make it.