

**Law Enforcement Division
Bi-Weekly Report
9/9/2018 – 9/22/2018**

DISTRICT 1

Conservation Officer (CO) Doug Hermanson received a complaint of a deer gut pile that was found where a vehicle had been parked in Houghton County. A vehicle description was provided, and the hunters were contacted. The deer had been lawfully taken as part of the liberty hunt.

CO Doug Hermanson assisted Keweenaw County Sheriff's Deputy Matt Eberly in locating a hiker who had gotten lost while hiking near the Gratiot River in Keweenaw County. She was located across the river then directed by voice to the river mouth where an easier crossing was made.

CO Ethen Mapes responded to the complaint of bear hunters arguing alongside the road. When CO Mapes arrived, the arguing had subsided. CO Mapes talked with both parties and was able to clear up some misconceptions about what rights a dog owner has when it comes time to retrieve their dogs from private property.

CO Ethen Mapes assisted the Ontonagon County Sheriff's Office with a complaint they received about a lost or stolen boat on Lake Gogebic. The officers attempted to search the lake, but the conditions caused the search to be cut short. The Sheriff's Office was able to send a deputy out the next day in more favorable conditions and locate the boat that had floated adrift.

CO Ethen Mapes answered many questions and assisted in finding information during the liberty hunt. The weather was not ideal throughout the weekend.

CO Ethen Mapes investigated the report of over baiting in Ontonagon County. CO Mapes concluded that there was a mistake in identity and the complainant was looking at a bear bait with sweets and candy rather than deer bait with corn.

CO Ethen Mapes assisted the local golf course obtain a nuisance beaver permit to help with the flooding along their course.

CO Ethen Mapes was patrolling the Porcupine Mountain area when a report of a lost hiker came in. CO Mapes worked with Park Ranger Justin Farley to assess the situation. The hiker was inexperienced and had never been to the area. It was reported that the man had not been seen for three hours but had food, shelter, and water. A plan was devised, and park employees hiked into the back country the next morning. The hiker was found in good condition and the group was reunited.

COs Zach Painter and Jennifer Hanson attended a meeting to talk about laws and safety in the upcoming Ironwood City archery only deer hunt. The hunt is put on by the City of Ironwood to help control the population of deer within the city limits.

CO Zach Painter worked several planned patrols targeting bear hunters. Multiple guides and hunters were contacted with no violations observed.

COs Zach Painter, Jennifer Hanson and Josh Boudreaux patrolled Gogebic County near Watersmeet. The COs were targeting ORV and small game activity. Multiple contacts were made by the COs and verbal warnings were given for no seat belt and for operating an ORV on a public highway.

CO Brian Lasanen was following a vehicle on the highway in Houghton County. CO Lasanen observed the vehicle he was following pass a vehicle in a no passing zone and on a curve. CO Lasanen performed a traffic stop on the vehicle. Law enforcement action was taken for passing in a no passing zone.

CO Brian Lasanen and Sgt. Marc Pomroy attended the pledge of land at the Houghton Douglass Falls. The land, located near Calumet in Houghton County, is now under state of Michigan ownership. Over 150 people attended the ceremony to dedicate the land purchase to veterans who have served this country.

CO Brian Lasanen observed a side-by-side fail to stop at two intersections along the ORV trail. CO Lasanen conducted a stop of the side-by-side. CO Lasanen contacted the operator, and after talking with the operator, a strong odor of intoxicants was detected emitting off his person. CO Lasanen conducted standardized field sobrieties test on the operator. The operator was arrested for operating an ORV while intoxicated and lodged in the Houghton County Jail.

CO Brian Lasanen teamed up with a deputy from the Houghton County Sheriff's Department for a joint ORV patrol. Very little activity was observed.

CO Jennifer Hanson received a complaint that numerous people were using large treble hooks to snag salmon on a local river in Gogebic County. These people are also known to have harassed other anglers on the river. A subsequent investigation with the help of COs Zach Painter and Ethen Mapes led to the discovery of three individuals snagging steelhead after dark. The COs addressed violations including snagging/attempting to snag, possession of snagging equipment, possession of two foul hooked steelhead and failure to display fishing license. Further investigation of the suspect's vehicle revealed an illegally possessed deer. The suspects claimed the deer as roadkill but failed to notify authorities before placing it in the trunk of their car. One of the individuals also had numerous misdemeanor and felony warrants. Enforcement action was taken regarding the fishing violations, the illegally possessed deer and outstanding warrants. COs Jennifer Hanson and Zach Painter attended multiple safety meetings for the Ottawa National Forest staff at a local Forest Service Office. The COs briefed the staff

on new hunting regulations and answered questions to help prepare the staff for what they may encounter working in the National Forest this hunting season.

CO Ethen Mapes attended the Reid Interviewing and Interrogating School. The class focused on finding the truth in crimes through conversation and nonverbal skills.

CO Ethen Mapes assisted the Ontonagon County Sheriff's Office in serving an arrest warrant. The individual was taken into custody without incident.

CO Ethen Mapes patrolled Ontonagon County on the opener of bear season. Temperatures were high, and the number of bears taken was low. Multiple hunters were checked with no violations.

CO Ethen Mapes contacted a group of ATVs near Ewen Michigan. Three of the riders were not wearing helmets but had them strapped to their cargo racks. CO Mapes educated the riders on why wearing a helmet was important and the riders agreed to wear them from then on.

COs Jennifer Hanson, Zach Painter, Cody Smith and Josh Boudreaux attended Waterfowl Enforcement Training in Bay City.

CO Jennifer Hanson patrolled the Bergland Management Unit during the second season bear hunt. CO Hanson contacted numerous bear hunters and houndsmen who were found to be compliant.

CO Jennifer Hanson received two complaints pertaining to hunter harassment and potentially stolen game cameras. Both parties had contacted the DNR at separate times to report their sides of the story. Ultimately no cameras were stolen and both parties were advised to find new locations to hunt.

COs Zach Painter and Jennifer Hanson conducted a small game enforcement patrol in Gogebic County. A check of two hunters led to the discovery of an untagged turkey that had recently been harvested. Both hunters had a fall turkey license, but they were for a unit in the Lower Peninsula. The hunters admitted to harvesting the turkey on private property and the driver of the ORV was a juvenile and was not in possession of his ORV certificate. The turkey and turkey license were seized, and the case has been forwarded to the Gogebic County Prosecutor for review.

CO Zach Painter worked several planned patrols targeting ORVs and small game hunters. Violations including permitting a juvenile to operate an ORV without supervision, operate an ORV without eye protection, and no seat belt on ORV. CO Painter contacted several small game hunters but saw very little success.

COs Cody Smith and Josh Boudreaux patrolled Baraga Plains and noticed an individual driving a vehicle with no seatbelt. A traffic stop was made and upon questioning it was found that the individual was heading to their bear blind. The individual was reminded that shooting hours were soon over. After checking to make sure the individual's gun

was properly unloaded and cased they were given a verbal warning for their seatbelt and wished good luck for their hunt.

CO Cody Smith was patrolling the Sturgeon River Sloughs when he observed three waterfowl hunters in a field. CO Smith observed the hunting party as they concluded their hunt. Upon contacting the individuals, it was discovered that one of them had an unplugged shotgun. After checking to make sure the rest of their hunt was legal, CO Smith issued a ticket for the unplugged gun.

CO Brian Lasanen observed an ORV operating on the highway. CO Lasanen stopped the operator to also address failing to have a taillight after dark. Further investigation found that the operator had not purchased ORV stickers. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brian Lasanen and Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) Officer Steve Amsler walked into a property where the land owner noticed two blinds on his property and an ORV trail. CO Lasanen located the blinds and noticed they had not been used in a few years. CO Lasanen reported back to the land owner who advised that he had purchased the property a couple years ago and never really walked the whole property.

CO Brian Lasanen patrolled for ORV activity and small game hunters on the opening day of small game season. Activity was high for ORV riders enjoying a nice fall day. CO Lasanen contacted a large group of riders dressed in clown costumes. One of the riders advised they are from a snowmobile club out of Baraga and every year they have a themed ride. CO Lasanen advised the riders that it was the first contact he had with subjects dressed up in clown costumes out riding.

CO Brian Lasanen was working small game activity when he contacted a subject who was road hunting. A check of the vehicle found seat belt violations along with open beer and an uncased shotgun. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeremy Sergey witnessed an individual pull out of a gas station on their side-by-side and proceed to drive down state highway US-2 in Menominee County. CO Sergey conducted a traffic stop on the individual. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeremy Sergey responded to an injured Great Blue Heron on M-35 in Menominee County. CO Sergey discovered that the heron was hit by a car and it was deceased. CO Jeremy Sergey responded to a bald eagle that was hit by a car on US-41 in Menominee County. The eagle was deceased, and CO Sergey turned it over to the Wildlife Division.

CO Jared Ferguson followed up on an illegal bear bait in Iron County. CO Ferguson located the individual at his summer residence. The individual was unaware he wasn't allowed to use grains in his bait that was accessible to deer in August. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jared Ferguson was called to a deer hanging in the back yard of a residence. CO Ferguson traveled to the residence and located the deer in the tree. CO Ferguson made contact with the owners and he showed CO Ferguson his car / deer permit which was signed by a Sheriff's deputy. CO Ferguson advised the owner that the deer would most likely rot hanging in the tree in 70-degree weather. He stated he does this all the time and the meat is more tender this way.

CO Jared Ferguson was patrolling Dickinson County when he came across three bird hunters entering the road way. CO Ferguson made contact with the hunters and found two of the hunters did not have their base license and one of the hunters who admitted to shooting a woodcock did not have the woodcock endorsement. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jared Ferguson was patrolling northern Iron County when he observed two individuals exiting the woods onto the two track he was traveling. CO Ferguson made contact with the elderly gentlemen and his 8-year-old grandson. The gentlemen stated his grandson shot a deer and they couldn't drag it out of the woods. CO Ferguson assisted the hunters by locating the downed deer, displaying how to properly attach a tag, and field dressed the deer. CO Ferguson gave the hunters assistance in dragging the animal to their truck and the young hunter was more than excited to get his first buck. He stated now he can concentrate on ice fishing season.

CO Brett DeLonge received a complaint from the Forest Resource Division regarding an unpermitted log skidding & decking operation on state land in northern Marquette County. CO DeLonge investigated the complaint and contacted the suspected loggers while the unpermitted activity was in progress. The violations were addressed, and a citation was issued.

CO Brett DeLonge received a complaint of a sick fox near the K.I. Sawyer area in southern Marquette County. CO DeLonge was able to locate the red fox and determine that it was too sick to attempt to rehabilitate it. CO DeLonge was able to safely dispatch the fox and send it to the disease control lab at Michigan State University.

CO Brett DeLonge received a complaint of traps being set in the water and out of season near Big Bay. CO DeLonge located a trap tag attached to one of the traps and pulled the sets. Investigation is ongoing.

COs Josh Boudreaux, Jennifer Hanson and Zach Painter patrolled the ORV trails and USFS roads around Watersmeet in Gogebic County. During the patrol, the COs contacted several individuals out riding their ORVs and hunting ruffed grouse. An individual was given a warning for not properly displaying his ORV sticker and another was given a warning for not wearing his seatbelt while riding in his side-by-side ORV. The high winds and dense tree cover likely kept many hunters at home, but activity is expected to pick up in the coming weeks.

CO Josh Boudreaux was patrolling Marquette County when he heard a radio report of an ORV crash with injuries on Bryan Creek Road. CO Boudreaux and a Marquette County deputy responded. Upon arrival on scene, officers discovered a female lying at the base of a tree with a significant head injury and back pain. Along with a first responder, officers rendered first aid until the arrival of the ambulance. The operator of the ORV was not wearing a helmet at the time of the crash.

CO Josh Boudreaux and Sgt. Brian Bacon were patrolling Hemmings Lake Road in Marquette County when they contacted the driver of a vehicle who wasn't wearing a seatbelt. In the bed of the truck were three woodcock and a cottontail rabbit. When CO Boudreaux asked the individuals who possessed the rabbits, they stated that they belonged to their friend who owned the truck who was back at camp. The COs followed the truck back to the camp where they contacted the subject. The individual at camp stated he shot them yesterday, then quickly changed his story when CO Boudreaux pointed out he didn't have a license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Josh Boudreaux and Sgt. Brian Bacon contacted a group of bird hunters on Perrin Brothers Road in southern Marquette County who got a little turned around while pushing through the thick brush of the grouse enhanced management (GEM) site trails. The individuals stated their GPS was not working and asked if the COs had seen their truck. The COs had passed their truck a short time ago and directed them toward the truck. The individuals were incredibly thankful and looked forward to the remainder of their hunting trip.

DISTRICT 2

CO Bobby Watson was returning to his residence after working the weekend of the second season bear opener when he observed a vehicle attempting to pass a semi-truck, motorcycle, and his patrol truck all at the same time. CO Watson allowed the vehicle to pass, then observed the fast-moving vehicle attempt to pass yet another vehicle further down the road while forcing the oncoming traffic to slow down in order to avoid a head-on collision. CO Watson conducted a traffic stop and after a short conversation, issued the driver a citation for careless driving.

CO Bobby Watson was patrolling in a local hotspot for grouse hunting activity when contact was made with a young pair of hunters who were driving in their truck. CO Watson was able to observe through the window a shotgun lying on top of a fully open gun case in between the driver and the passenger. CO Watson addressed the uncased firearm and enforcement action was taken.

While on routine patrol COs Robert Freeborn and Bobby Watson observed two ORVs traveling along a state highway. After stopping the ORVs and talking with the drivers, it was determined that they had been doing this all summer. A citation was issued for operation on a highway.

COs Robert Freeborn, Michael Evink, Bobby Watson and Cpl. Mike Hammill located a bear hunter that was driving cross country on commercial forest land to go around a closed road barricade enter on federal forest land. The hunter was running over several trees in a new pine plantation causing the trees to become up rooted or snapped off. CO Freeborn has had similar incidents in years past with this hunter driving an ORV around a blocked road. When the hunter was asked about the incident, he denied ever doing so. Once CO Freeborn advised he was on camera, the hunter changed his story and stated that he did drive cross country but had permission from the land owner to do so. CO Freeborn then made a call to the forester that the hunter stated gave him permission. The forester advised that he only gave permission to retrieve a bear if they had shot one, but not to bait a stand and haul barrels in and out on a weekly basis. The hunter had not shot a bear and had been baiting his stand for several weeks prior to season start. A citation was issued for operate in a closed area.

COs Mark Zitnik and Robert Freeborn checked a group of kayaks with subjects fishing. Upon checking the fishermen, it was determined that one was short a personal floatation device (PFD) and another did not have a current fishing license. Enforcement action was taken on the fishermen.

COs Robert Freeborn, Michael Evink and Lt. Skip Hagy participated in CN Railroad/ United States Coast Guard Mock Disaster training regarding response to an oil spill in a river flowing into Lake Michigan. The COs learned the proper way to install and maneuver an oil slick boom with a patrol boat while Lt. Hagy was involved in the logistics of the command center during the incident.

CO Mark Zitnik was patrolling on the opening of bear season when he came across a side-by-side UTV with occupants who had open intoxicants. The two subjects were from out of state and thought it was legal to drink and drive in an ORV. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Zitnik was checking a hunter on opening day of bear season. When CO Zitnik arrived at the hunter's blind he observed no hunter orange on the hunter. When the CO was spotted by the hunter he tried to put his hunter orange on. At the end of the 15-minute conversation the two had, the hunter decided to tell CO Zitnik he had a concealed weapon permit and where his weapon was. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Jerry Fitzgibbon and CO Mark Zitnik were patrolling Alger County during the opener of second bear season. Most hunters were in compliance with the law and happy to see the COs.

Hunter safety instructor Dan Hinsa, Norm Balco, Sgt. Jerry Fitzgibbon, and CO Mark Zitnik along with help from Cody Norton and Don Brown, instructed the hunter safety class at Superior Central Schools. Twenty students attended the class and received their hunter safety certificates.

CO Mark Zitnik was patrolling to a hunter safety class when he observed a side-by-side UTV operating on M-28. A traffic stop was made, and CO Zitnik asked the driver why he was operating on the highway? The operator of the side-by-side replied, "How else do I get to the ORV trails?" Enforcement action was taken.

COs Chris Lynch and Steve Butzin were on patrol when a sheriff deputy near their location requested back up due to a subject fleeing on foot from him. The COs responded to the scene, which was a rustic campground, where the deputy had two other subjects detained for possession of illegal drugs. While CO Lynch was interviewing one of the detained subjects, he observed slight movement in a pop-up camper nearby. CO Lynch knocked and announced his presence several times on the door of the camper with no answer. A look through the screen window of the camper revealed a red sleeping bag in the shape of a human figure lying on the bed. CO Lynch advised the subject to come out but got no response. CO Lynch continued to shine his light on the subject and repeated his commands to go to the door. This time a face popped out of the sleeping bag with a subject pretending to have just woke up. After a short conversation it was determined he was the subject who ran from the deputy due to having a warrant out for his arrest. The subject was lodged in the Delta County Jail on his warrant and enforcement action was taken on the other two subjects on scene for possession of illegal drugs.

COs Chris Lynch, Bobby Watson, and Cpl. Mike Hammill attended the annual Youth and the Outdoors event held in Escanaba. The COs interacted with the public attending and the COs received several comments from people that they were glad to see the COs at the event.

CO Stephen Butzin was patrolling Masonville Township when he received a complaint that several ORVs were taking up the roadway and creating a traffic hazard just up the road from his location. CO Butzin located two young ORV operators who did not have valid ORV registration, nor had they taken an ORV safety course. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Stephen Butzin and Justin Vinson attended the Waterfowl Enforcement training in Bay City. The COs are taught enforcement techniques and how to identify the variety of waterfowl that pass through the state.

COs Colton Gelinis and Calvin Smith were on ORV patrol in Chippewa County when they observed a set of ORV tracks illegally entering onto commercial forest land. The COs followed the tracks and located two men setting up a bear hunting blind. The COs educated the two men on ORV laws. Law enforcement action was taken for failing to wear a helmet on an ORV.

CO Colton Gelinis was working in Mackinac County when he was dispatched to a report of a wolf/dog conflict. CO Gelinis responded to the location and discovered that two bear hunting dogs had died from injuries they had sustained. A third dog was injured and another dog missing. CO Gelinis assisted the hunters getting their gear out

of the woods and search for the missing dog which was located away from the area and ok that evening. CO Gelinas turned the information over to DNR Wildlife Division.

CO Colton Gelinas was dispatched to a dead wolf alongside of M-28 in Chippewa County. CO Gelinas responded to the scene and observed a dead female wolf that appeared to have been hit by a car. CO Gelinas turned the wolf over to DNR Wildlife Division personnel.

CO Calvin Smith located a bear hunter on national forest lands. The hunter had hung bait from a tree and had also cut numerous trees to create a shooting lane. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Calvin Smith assisted during the annual Tahquamenon Canoe Race. Participants from across Michigan and surrounding states took part in the race with no incidents reported.

CO Tom Oberg was on patrol when central dispatch put out a call of an accident involving injuries on a road that CO Oberg was just passing at the time. CO Oberg responded to the accident where the vehicle had left the roadway and hit a tree. CO Oberg assisted with first aid until EMS arrived on scene.

CO Tom Oberg was on patrol when he noticed a 4-wheeler coming towards him. As the 4-wheeler passed him, CO Oberg observed that the rider was not wearing a helmet, the 4-wheeler did not have ORV stickers, and the rider was not operating on the extreme right of the roadway. CO Oberg initiated a traffic stop on the ORV. CO Oberg explained the multiple violations to the rider and enforcement action was taken.

COs Colton Gelinas, Tom Oberg and Justin Vinson worked several patrols along the mouth of the Two Hearted River checking salmon anglers. Numerous fishermen were located with minimal success. All reports show the salmon are staged in Lake Superior just before they head upstream. Fishermen able to get a boat into Lake Superior near the river mouth report good catches of salmon.

DISTRICT 3

COs Chad Baldwin and Adam LeClerc patrolled a popular bear hunting location in Charlevoix County prior to the season opener. The COs had reports of several hunters running dogs during the quiet period leading up to the Red Oak Bear Management Unit opener as well as assisting tribal hunters during the closed state season. The COs worked in conjunction with three conservation officers from the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians to cover more territory. The joint patrol located several groups of hunters which were running dogs and assisting tribal members. Law enforcement action was taken by both the state and tribal COs.

COs Adam LeClerc, Chad Baldwin, and Tim Rosochacki responded to a call about a sow bear that was killed by a car, but two cubs were still in the area. When the COs

arrived, they located the two cubs hanging out in the treetops of some nearby pine trees. The mother was removed from the area to allow the survival of her cubs and the safety of motorists on the roadway. The cubs were old enough to survive on their own without the assistance of their mother.

CO Adam LeClerc attended hunter safety field days at the Charlevoix Rods and Gun Club and Harbor Springs Outdoors Club. Approximately 75 participants received their hunter safety cards. Numerous questions were fielded by CO LeClerc including season dates, safety zones and hunter orange requirements.

CO Andrea Albert gave a DNR law update presentation at the annual Michigan Magistrates Conference held at Bay Harbor. CO Albert covered new laws and legislation and answered the magistrates' questions on law matters during a round table discussion.

CO Andrea Albert assisted District 2 and District 3 with fall ST training.

CO Andrea Erratt and Sgt. Bill Webster patrolled the Boyne River for illegal fishing activity. CO Erratt issued tickets to two fishermen for using treble hooks on the Boyne River. She also warned three young fishermen for fishing with two hooks and using oversized single hooks larger than the 3/8 inch from point to shank restriction.

CO Andrea Erratt of Charlevoix County received a Report All Poaching (RAP) complaint about an excessive bait pile on East Jordan City property by a pop-up blind. On Saturday morning of the youth liberty hunt, CO Erratt checked a sixteen-year-old who was deer hunting by himself over a huge bait pile of apples and corn. He said he thought he was on state land and had baited the blind with a 50-pound bag of apples and a 45-pound bag of corn. The juvenile said his mother knew where he was hunting, and she came to pick him up. CO Erratt ticketed the mother for allowing her son to hunt unsupervised and warned him for hunting over more than two gallons of bait.

CO Andrea Erratt of Charlevoix County observed a side-by-side driving down M-66. CO Erratt initiated a traffic stop and as she walked up the operator stated, "I'm not supposed to be here, am I?" CO Erratt ticketed the man for operating an ORV on a state highway.

Sgt. Bill Webster, CO Andrea Erratt, and CO Chad Baldwin of Charlevoix County patrolled the Boyne River for illegal fishing activity. CO Erratt ticketed one fisherman who had snagged three salmon in the dorsal fin. The three fish weighed 58 pounds total. The fisherman apologized and said he knew he should not have kept the foul hooked salmon.

CO Tim Rosochacki assisted the Emmet County Search and Rescue with an overdue kayaker on the Maple River. The kayaker was unfamiliar with the river and underestimated the river's difficulty. A good samaritan located him just before the search team's arrival. The kayaker was in good health but tired from his excursion.

CO Kyle Cherry assisted the Otsego County Sheriff's Department in response to a report of an autistic man who jumped out of a moving vehicle on the freeway. Otsego County deputies, CO Cherry, and EMS were able to get the man safely transported to the hospital with no life-threatening injuries.

CO Eric Bottorff followed up on an early bear bait located on August 1st by contacting a bear hunter at the location on the opening weekend of bear season. In addition to the early bait, the hunter was not in possession of his kill tag, and several tree stand violations were encountered. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Eric Bottorff investigated a report of a possible cub bear that was shot in Cheboygan County and brought to a check station to register. It was determined that while the bear was relatively small, the animal was a legally harvested yearling.

CO Sidney Collins worked the second part of the elk season. Several elk were taken. CO Collins assisted a hunter in tracking a wounded bull elk for several hours. A dog was brought in to assist but they had no success in finding the bull.

CO Sidney Collins and CO Kyle Cherry attended the Elk Lodge in Gaylord for the 100th anniversary of elk returning to Michigan. The COs interacted with the public talking about the elk seasons.

CO Sidney Collins received a complaint about trash being dumped in the Lewiston area. After sifting through the trash, a pay stub was found. CO Collins went to the subject's house and obtained a confession that the subject had cleaned out his truck bed onto state property. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sidney Collins received another complaint about household items being dumped in the Hillman area. CO Collins was able to find a homeowner in the area the trash was dumped who was remodeling a cabin. CO Collins interviewed them about the trash, to which they admitted was from them. They were instructed to clean up the trash. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Sklba, CO Paul Fox, and Sgt. Bill Webster executed a search warrant in Presque Isle County stemming from an investigation from New Mexico Game and Fish. A Michigan resident was alleged to have taken a bull elk with a resident license in New Mexico. The search warrant was conducted, the evidence was located and was turned over to the investigating agency.

CO Jon Sklba received a complaint of a large pile of litter on state land in Presque Isle County. CO Sklba was able to track down the responsible party and enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Sklba utilized his issued radar to determine the speed of a vehicle traveling out of Onaway in Presque Isle County. The vehicles speed was 94 MPH in a posted 35

MPH zone. The vehicle was eventually caught up to and the subject contacted. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Sklba contacted an ORV operator that had been speeding down the roadway without a helmet. The operator of the ORV stated he was unaware of the allowable speed for ORVs in the county, nor that ORVs were not allowed on the traveled portion of the roadway. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jon Sklba attended an event at a local Meijer store that was providing free deer licenses to youth. CO Sklba reported that a lot of positive contacts were made, and that a lot of families took advantage of the free offer.

Sgt. Michael Mshar responded to an overturned vessel in Lake Huron near Swan Bay in Presque Isle County. The small sailboat was upside down with no occupants around. It was determined that the owner was safe at home and that the vessel had broken free from its mooring during heavy winds.

Sgt. Michael Mshar received several complaints in Otsego County where a local elk guide was trespassing onto other people's property and who was also interrupting other hunters during their hunts. Contact was made with the guide who stated he really didn't know he was on someone else's land. He further advised that he also had permission to hunt where the other hunters were and that it was all just part of hunting. Enforcement action was taken for the trespass.

CO Paul Fox attended a youth hunt at a local shooting preserve in Presque Isle County. The hunt was coordinated by a local Ruffed Grouse Society chapter. Kids were introduced to upland bird hunting and were taught firearm safety in the field.

Sgt. Michael Mshar and CO Paul Fox investigated an illegal bear in Presque Isle County. The person who shot the bear did not have a tag and instead used a relative's kill tag. The bear was seized, and enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 4

CO Rebecca Hubers assisted Benzie County Sheriff's deputies on an animal neglect complaint resulting in the seizure of horses, goats, and a dog from a single residence.

CO Rebecca Hubers answered multiple fishing related complaints, patrolled multiple hours and made multiple arrests on the Betsie and Platte Rivers of Benzie County.

COs Justin Vanderlinde, Rebecca Hubers, Will Kinney, Richard Stowe, Patrick McManus, Amanda McCurdy and Sergeant Dan Bigger conducted a group patrol on the Betsie and Platte Rivers. Numerous citations were issued over the course of the 3-day, around the clock patrol. Enforcement efforts focused on over-limits of fish, snagging, retaining foul hooked fish, gear restrictions and fishing without a license. The

coordinated effort among COs allowed for an effective patrol during one of the busiest fishing weekends of the year.

COs Justin Vanderlinde, Will Kinney, Patrick McManus, Amanda McCurdy, along with Lt. John Jurcich, Sgt. Dan Bigger and National Park Ranger Jamie Westenfelder conducted an overnight patrol on North Manitou Island. This event afforded officers the opportunity to get familiar with a portion of Leelanau County that historically has seen minimal enforcement efforts.

While on patrol at the Crystal River, CO Amanda McCurdy conducted numerous angler checks, particularly at the mouth of the river. Two individuals were found fishing without a license and citations were issued to both anglers.

While on patrol, CO Patrick McManus observed a vehicle driving erratically along M-72 in Leelanau County. Upon further observation, CO McManus watched the vehicle swerve recklessly passed several other vehicles in a no-passing zone, almost causing a major head-on collision. When an attempt to stop was made, the vehicle attempted to elude CO McManus for approximately a mile before pulling over to the side of the road. Upon contact with the driver, and performing a field sobriety tests, It was determined that the operator was four times the legal limit for BAC, who was subsequently arrested for operating while intoxicated. Furthermore, the subject was driving on a suspended and revoked driver's license and has been convicted of four other alcohol related traffic crimes, as well as seven other operators' license crimes. The subject was lodged at the Leelanau County jail.

CO Patrick McManus was on-hand at one of the Traverse City Meijer store locations during the "free youth hunting license" days. CO McManus spoke with numerous families and young hunters; answering questions as well as connecting with the future generation of deer hunters in the area.

CO William Kinney has been patrolling the Betsie River in Benzie County for fishing activity. With a busy salmon run, CO Kinney has issued several citations for violations such as fishing without a license and fishing with illegal gear on the trout stream.

CO William Kinney received a complaint of an individual burning illegal materials in Wexford County. CO Kinney interviewed the homeowner and it was discovered that he was burning materials that were being removed for a trailer demolition. Enforcement action was taken against the homeowner for burning without a permit and the burning of solid waste.

CO Rich Stowe assisted a hunter education instructor and youth hunter by providing the field training needed to complete his hunter education course prior to the liberty hunt.

CO Rich Stowe investigated a nuisance beaver permit request in the presence of a local high school environmental science class and discussed the need for control of the animals and the part hunting and trapping play in wildlife management.

CO Justin Vanderlinde worked the free junior license event at the Traverse City Meijer Store answering several legal questions and interacting with young hunters and parents.

While checking a stream in Lake County, CO Brian Brosky was watching individuals fishing for salmon and checking licenses. After checking several anglers, enforcement action was taken for fishing without a license, one other individual for attempting to snag fish, and a third subject for littering after he was observed throwing his cigarette butts in to the river.

COs Brian Brosky and Kyle Publiski arrived at an access point along the Pere Marquette River in Mason County and watched as an individual was walking across the road with a roll of toilet paper toward private property. The individual told his fishing party that the COs were arriving. As CO Brosky exited the patrol truck, he noted a woman who removed an illegal treble hook from her fishing line and threw it in to the river. CO Brosky told the woman to pick up what she just littered. CO Brosky took enforcement action for the littering violations. The individual seen crossing the river trespassing onto posted private property to relieve himself was contacted by CO Publiski. CO Publiski asked the man if he thought it was a good idea to continue his way past the private property signs and he asked the man how he would like it if someone trespassed into the man's backyard to relieve themselves. The man apologized and said he never really thought of it like that and he would not appreciate someone doing the same thing if he owned the property.

CO Steve Converse and Sgt. Grant Emery were on patrol when they located a vehicle hidden off the road near a small stream. A spear was found hidden along the bank along with some personal items, so the COs took up surveillance of the area. Shortly after dark, a light was observed up stream and the COs watched as a subject speared a fish with a second spear. Contact was eventually made with two subjects. A salmon that had been speared was recovered and enforcement action was taken for the illegal taking of the salmon and possession of illegal gear along a trout stream.

CO Steve Converse was on a late-night patrol at Tippy Dam when he observed a subject grab a fish by hand that had swam into shallow water. The CO listened to the subject brag to his buddy how he had just caught a fish. The subject then proceeded to tie on an illegal lure and attempted to snag fish. CO Converse contacted the individual and discovered that the subject had numerous warrants for his arrest, including a felony warrant. Enforcement action was taken, and the subject was lodged in the Manistee County Jail.

CO Josiah Killingbeck received a complaint from a private property caretaker that a bear bait and tree stand had been found on the private property. CO Killingbeck located the site and later contacted a hunter on opening night of bear season. The hunter was dressed in full camo while hunting with a rifle and did not have his bear license in his possession. The hunter claimed that he believed he was on public land because a friend told him that the barb wire fence and "No Trespassing" signs were improperly

placed. CO Killingbeck asked the hunter if he believed he was on public land why was there processed wood, plastic containers and no name or address on his stand. The hunter said he had not looked at regulations pertaining to bear hunting prior to hunting. Numerous violations were addressed, and enforcement action was taken.

CO Josiah Killingbeck followed-up on a bear bait that had screw in steps, no name or address and a large amount of live cut limbs on public land. CO Killingbeck contacted the hunter who now had bags of marshmallows hanging in trees. The hunter told CO Killingbeck that his friend told him to put the bags of marshmallows in the trees and admitted to not educating himself on bear hunting regulations. The hunter also admitted to the same violations at another site. The hunter was educated on basic bear hunting regulations and enforcement action was taken.

CO Scott MacNeill responded to multiple calls of snagging on the Manistee River throughout the last two weeks. While patrolling, there were handfuls of illegal gear confiscated and citations issued for people found attempting to snag fish.

CO Scott MacNeill was patrolling Tippy Dam State Park when multiple individuals flagged him down stating there was a drunk driver who had shot a pistol out the window of a van. CO MacNeill was able to locate the suspect vehicle and conduct a traffic stop. After a short investigation, the driver was found to be intoxicated and the passenger admitted to shooting a pistol out of the passenger side window within the park. With assistance from the Manistee County Sheriff's Office and Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Public Safety, both individuals were lodged on multiple violations. After a vehicle search was conducted, several additional firearms, some of which were loaded were found. Enforcement action was taken.

While working the Pere Marquette River in Mason County, CO Kyle Publiski located three subjects standing on downed trees along the river attempting to snag salmon with illegal gear. Because the subjects were on the opposite side of the river in an inaccessible spot, CO Publiski had to find a more shallow area to cross the river to access the location at which the subjects were snagging. CO Publiski, now wet, managed to get across the river and locate the subjects still snagging salmon. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Kyle Publiski and Brian Brosky patrolled the opener of early antlerless deer season checking the remote parts of Mason County targeting subjects that might be road hunting deer. Several traffic stops were made on vehicles with moving violation, looking for loaded firearms in the vehicle. Although no loaded firearms were located, the COs did locate vehicles with expired plates, no insurance, out of state warrants, and open intoxicants. Enforcement action was taken.

While working the Pere Marquette River after dark, COs Kyle Publiski and Brian Brosky located two individuals attempting to snag salmon. The COs watched as the suspects used their headlamps to locate the fish and then used a weight below an oversized treble hook to snag the salmon. Contact was made and enforcement action was taken.

COs Sam Koscinski and Steve Converse assisted the Manistee County Sheriff's Department with the search and recovery of an experienced female windsurfer who died while on Bear Lake. Strong wind and large waves are believed to be a factor.

CO Mike Wells attended the annual Meijer's free license day in Big Rapids and answered questions regarding laws and CWD procedures.

CO Mike Wells gave a presentation at a local hunter safety class discussing laws and ethics with 17 students. He also assisted in teaching the students the correct operation of crossbows.

COs Mike Wells and Jeff Ginn gave a presentation at a local hunter safety class discussing law and ethics with approximately 80 students.

CO Mike Wells, CO Casey Varialle and Sgt. Mike Bomay conducted marine patrol on the Muskegon River/Hardy Pond assisting in the security of annual watercraft races.

Sgt. Mike Bomay attended a hunter safety field day at the Barryton Rod and Gun Club. The class had 30 students and was well attended with parents. Sgt. Bomay educated the participants about CWD regulations and discussed laws and ethics with the group.

COs Ben Shively and Troy VanGelderren were checking federal land in Oceana County for bear hunters when they located three subjects small game hunting. One subject was hunting without wearing any hunter orange. When asked where his hunter orange was, he stated that it was in the truck, but figured he was okay since the other two hunters were wearing it. The subject was also small game hunting without a license. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Ben Shively and Troy VanGelderren observed a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed and driving in the oncoming lane of traffic in northern Oceana County at 11:30 am. CO Shively clocked the vehicle on radar at 78 mph in a 55-mph zone. As they were catching up to the vehicle, it again went into the oncoming lane and then drifted back and almost completely off the roadway. A traffic stop was conducted, and sobriety tests were administered. The female driver was arrested for operating while intoxicated with a blood alcohol content three times the legal limit.

CO Casey Varriale was on patrol in downtown Hersey in Osceola County when he witnessed an ORV operating without a sticker. CO Varriale made a traffic stop and cited the individual for failure to license an ORV.

CO Jeff Ginn responded to a call for assistance from the Oceana County Sheriff's Department at approximately 3:30 a.m. of an intoxicated subject who had shot a rifle at his neighbor and barricaded himself in his residence. Newaygo and Oceana Sheriff's Departments as well as MSP had a lengthy response due to their geographical locations. CO Ginn was the first unit on scene, met with the complainant and obtained the initial information. CO Ginn assisted with perimeter security and drove a team of

officers to the rear of the adjacent property to search an old abandoned farm house. The suspect was not located, and everyone eventually cleared without incident.

DISTRICT 5

CO Mike Hearn observed a group of ORVs operating illegally in a state gravel pit in Kalkaska County. When the group noticed his patrol vehicle, they fled in opposite directions out of the gravel pit. One operator was unable to make it up a steep hill and was forced back down to CO Hearn's location. Upon contact, the operator provided information for the other riders. With assistance from the Kalkaska County Sheriff's Department, the other riders were later located. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mike Hearn patrolled an area of Kalkaska County that has had multiple complaints regarding ORVs doing damage to the county road. While in the area, CO Hearn observed a four-wheeler leave the ORV trail and operate into the intersection of the county road. The operator began aggressively doing donuts for an extended amount of time. Once the dust settled, the operator was able to observe CO Hearn sitting in the road with the patrol vehicle lights activated. A citation was issued for careless operation of an ORV.

During a recent Jeep ride event in Crawford/Kalkaska Counties, CO Mike Hearn contacted nearly 100 people operating unlawfully in and around the Camp Grayling area. The Jeeps were climbing hills, operating unlawfully on utility right of ways, and operating cross country running over trees and vegetation. Citations were issued to address the various violations.

CO Ben McAteer was following up on complaints of excessive speed by ORV operators along a roadway in Crawford County. While running radar for ORV violations, CO McAteer observed a flock of turkeys crossing the road. As the flock crossed the road, a vehicle approached and increased its speed while swerving wildly to hit the turkeys. A traffic stop was initiated, and the vehicle operator stated that he was just "messing around and being stupid." Violations of careless driving, attempting to take a turkey during the closed season, and possession of marijuana were addressed. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Craig Neal responded to a complaint at Reedsburg Dam of anglers using cast nets to fish. Upon arrival, CO Neal noticed two anglers with a long yellow rope going into the water. CO Neal contacted the anglers and asked the purpose of the rope. The anglers stated they were using it as a stringer and pulled it up with four bluegill on it. When CO Neal asked the anglers for their fishing licenses, they advised they didn't have ones. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Zultak responded to a complaint of recreational trespass in southern Roscommon County. CO Zultak was able to locate a hunting stand placed on private property and a bait pile well over the two-gallon limit. CO Zultak followed a trail to the

neighboring property and conducted an interview with the homeowner. The neighbor admitted to the trespass and bait violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Matt Zultak and Sgt. Brian Olsen responded to a complaint of ORVs operating in a wetland and causing erosion on state land. Contact was made with ten subjects; all of them were operating in a closed area. Three of the subjects were also operating in the Denton Creek Wetland. Enforcement action was taken.

COs James Garrett and Casey Pullum were working the opening day of bear season in Oscoda County where they had previous knowledge of an illegal bear bait. The COs walked into the bait station where they found an individual hunting with a firearm. The COs contacted the hunter and explained to him that the bait he was hunting over was illegal because of the bacon grease and cake frosting spread on several trees around the bait. Enforcement action was taken.

COs James Garrett and Casey Pullum, along with US Forest Service Law Enforcement Officer Mike Phillips, responded to a complaint of an overdue small game hunter in Oscoda County. The COs met with the wife of the overdue hunter at her vehicle on state land. She said she dropped her husband off to hunt while she sat in the vehicle to read a book. He was only supposed to be gone for two hours. By the time she called it had been six hours. CO Garrett and US Forest Service LEO Phillips checked a nearby trail activating their sirens while CO Pullum stayed with the wife and used the PA system in his patrol truck to call for the subject. CO Garrett heard a gunshot in the area they were searching. He responded to the approximate area of the shot and located the elderly subject sitting down at the bottom of a hill along a powerline. CO Garrett indicated the subject was weak and unable to walk out of the woods. CO Garrett assisted the subject into his vehicle and returned to the command center where EMS evaluated and released him. COs interviewed the hunter and he indicated he has glaucoma and couldn't read his GPS, so he got turned around. In addition, he is diabetic which led to his weakness and inability to find his way out of the woods.

CO Steve Lockwood received a complaint about marijuana plants growing on state land. CO Lockwood responded to the area and located the marijuana. Within five minutes of locating the marijuana, a subject strolled in to check the plants. CO Lockwood was able to secure the evidence and then walked the subject back out of the woods to his nearby residence. The subject and his marijuana were turned over to the Gladwin County Sheriff's Department.

COs Steve Lockwood and Ethan Gainforth were checking a piece of state land for activity when they met a truck coming out of the woods. There were three fresh cut cedar poles in the bed of the truck. The subject stated that he had cut the poles for elevating a deer blind. The subject said that the trees had blown over in a recent storm. However, after locating the stumps, it was very clear that the trees were not blown over, and that they were very much alive when the subject cut them down. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Papineau received a tip on some subjects that were baiting deer prior to September 15 along with numerous other violations. CO Papineau was directed to the area where the subjects had been observed hauling bait into the woods. After a foot patrol of the area, three illegally baited blinds, along with several tree stand violations were discovered. It was also discovered that the subjects had used ORVs to create new trails "cross country" to access their tree stands. The following weekend, CO Papineau received a tip that the subjects had returned to the area to re-bait the stands. CO Papineau contacted the individuals and they confessed to the multitude of violations. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Mark Papineau received a complaint from the Gladwin County Sheriff's Department regarding two jeeps tearing up a stream in Billings Township. According to the complainant, the two Jeeps were trespassing on private property and intentionally tearing up a stream, causing one of the vehicles to get stuck. CO Papineau responded to the area and discovered large amounts of damage to the watershed; however, both vehicles were gone. CO Papineau was able to follow the vehicle tracks and mud trail to a nearby residence where contact was made with the Jeep operators. CO Papineau obtained a confession from both individuals and a citation was issued for operating an ORV in a river/stream.

CO Mark Papineau was contacted by DNR Wildlife Division staff regarding a subject self-reporting a game law violation at the deer check station. Upon arrival, CO Papineau was met by a subject who had been hunting during Gladwin County's first early antlerless hunt. The subject, a first-time hunter, had accidentally shot a three-point buck in velvet, thinking it was an antlerless deer. The man had tagged the buck with his regular combo tag brought the deer to the check station and surrendered himself for the violation. CO Papineau spent some time speaking with the subject and provided a little education and a verbal warning. The deer was seized and donated to a needy family in the community. The subject, expecting a citation for his errors, left with a positive outlook and learned that honesty was the best option.

CO Mark Papineau was dispatched to reports of a baby bobcat that had been abandoned on the caller's property. According to the caller, the baby bobcat was abandoned days earlier and the mother had not returned. Immediately upon arrival, CO Papineau determined that the baby bobcat was in fact a domestic cat. After a half-hour of the subjects using "Google" and "YouTube" to try and prove their claim, animal control was contacted and also identified the feline as domestic. The subject still refused to accept the determination and advised they were taking their claim to a "higher power."

COs Steve Lockwood and Ethan Gainforth observed two anglers standing on a bridge overlooking the Cedar River in Gladwin County. Upon approach, a third subject was located standing along the stream bank below the bridge. While checking fishing licenses, the subject down on the bank informed COs that he was not fishing. However, it did not take the COs long to locate the fishing pole that he had tried hiding under the bridge. The subject admitted to fishing and then tried to convince the COs that he did

not know he needed a license. Enforcement action was taken for not having a fishing license.

DISTRICT 6

CO Ken Lowell stopped an ORV operator for operating along the roadway without a helmet. The operator was operating with a suspended license and had two warrants out for his arrest. The operator was advised and released per the court on the warrants but was cited for failing to license his ORV.

CO Joe Myers was on patrol when a Carson City PD officer requested emergency assistance with a foot pursuit. CO Myers called Montcalm County CO Josh Russell and both COs responded to assist. The COs arrived on scene and assisted Carson City PD with an area search to locate the known felon. The suspect is still at large.

COs Josh Russell and Michael Haas were patrolling Flat River State Game Area when they noticed a vehicle parked off the trail in the field. The COs contacted the individuals in the vehicle. A citation for parking off a designated trail was issued.

CO Josh Russell and Ken Lowell were patrolling the Flat River State Game Area when they encountered a hunting group preparing for the youth waterfowl season. The COs contacted them and asked to check their licenses and firearms. One subject pulled a gun out of his vehicle that was not cased. The subject did not have a case for the firearm. A citation for uncased gun in a motor vehicle was issued.

CO Jason A. Smith was checking some early teal/goose hunters. One boat that was contacted had several marine violations including an expired registration, no personal flotation devices, no fire extinguisher, and no navigational lights. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Seth Rhodea was patrolling in Sanilac County when he observed a large plume of black smoke several miles away. Upon locating the fire, CO Rhodea found tar paper and other illegal items burning. A citation was issued and the subject burning the illegal items extinguished the fire.

A boat was dumped on state land in Midland County and was investigated; however, the boat owner was deceased, and no additional owner could be located. A subject who hunts the area near where the dumped boat was located contacted CO Jay Person and volunteered to remove the boat if the CO could find a place to dispose of it. CO Person contacted the local landfill and explained the situation. The landfill supervisor advised they would take it free of charge and dispose of it.

CO Jay Person was contacted by Midland County 911 at his residence to back up a deputy on a traffic stop just north of his house. The deputy was calling for at least two cars to respond to his location due to the actions of the driver involved in the stop. CO Person responded to the location in two minutes and was the first back up unit to

arrive. The suspect driver was initially pulled over for speeding, but when stopped claimed sovereign citizen and was not complying with commands from the deputy. The suspect driver was being verbally combative and reaching throughout the vehicle. Once CO Person arrived on scene, the suspect got out of his vehicle and was placed into custody without further incident and was determined to be driving on a suspended license.

CO Jay Person was called to assist the Midland County Sheriff's Office with a female subject who had attempted to overdose and ran into the woods. CO Person responded with his ORV in case it was needed to track the subject through the woods. Just before arrival, the female subject emerged from the woods and a deputy was able to tackle her and take her into protective custody. She was transported to the hospital for a mental evaluation.

While contacting a group of anglers fishing along the Chippewa River, COs Mike Haas and Dan Robinson noticed one gentleman place down his fishing gear and attempt to avoid conversation with the officers. When asked to present his fishing license, the man stated he had not had time to buy his license yet this year. Upon checking the man's license purchase history, it was discovered that the man had never purchased a fishing license in Michigan. A citation was issued for fishing without a fishing license.

COs Mike Haas and Dan Robinson received a complaint that a farmer had located a dead bald eagle in one of his farm fields. CO Haas collected the dead eagle from the farm field and delivered it to a US Fish and Wildlife Service officer. It is suspected that the eagle died from lead poisoning, but the cause of death will be verified once a necropsy of the animal is completed. Birds of prey are highly susceptible to lead poisoning and can often be infected after eating deceased animals that contain lead bullet fragments.

While patrolling through central Isabella County, CO Mike Haas recognized a truck parked at a gas station. The truck and owner of the truck had been involved in a variety of driving violations just the week prior. CO Haas circled the block and parked down the road from the truck. After a short time, CO Haas witnessed a man enter the truck and drive onto the roadway towards him; CO Haas recognized the man and knew that he had a suspended driver's license. The man noticed CO Haas as he drove by him and pulled over before being prompted to do so. Upon speaking with the man at his truck it was verified that he was still suspended and had an uncased bow in his back seat. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Josh Russell and Mike Haas were patrolling through southern Isabella County when they spotted a large cloud of black smoke a short distance away from their location. The COs tracked the smoke back to a residence and located an unattended fire. The fire pit contained tires, appliances, televisions, furniture, and other items that should not have been disposed of by burning. The subject responsible for the fire was located nearby and cited for the unlawful disposal.

During an ORV patrol through the Flat River State Game Area, COs Mike Haas and Josh Russell contacted a gentleman and his daughter driving through the state land preparing for an evening deer hunt during the youth deer season. An uncased crossbow was located on the back seat of their vehicle and a citation was issued for the violation. The man stated he had just got done telling his daughter to be sure to follow all the DNR laws but admitted that he evidently didn't know all the DNR laws.

While patrolling through western Montcalm County, COs Mike Haas and Josh Russell encountered a group operating 4-wheelers down a roadway. The group pulled into a gas station and the COs contacted them to advise them of their violations. The machines were being operated down the middle of the road, none of the machines were licensed, not all the operators were wearing the proper safety equipment, and one machine was carrying too many passengers. Enforcement action was taken.

During the 2018 youth deer season, CO Mike Haas located a small buck at a meat processor in Isabella County that was displaying a harvest tag from 2017. CO Haas tracked down where the hunter who had harvested the deer and contacted her and her father. The family was surprised to see the CO and were not aware they had placed a 2017 tag on their 2018 harvested deer. The young girl produced her 2018 deer tag and explained that she had been so excited with her first deer that she must have grabbed the wrong license from the envelope containing her licenses and attached the incorrect license to the deer. The girl's father admitted that they had both been so caught up in the moment that they didn't realize their mistake. The young hunter's 2018 tag was validated and brought back to the meat processor and attached to the deer. The family was embarrassed for their mistake, but relieved they received a warning for the tagging violation rather than a citation.

CO Dan Robinson was called to a location where an individual was burning items and creating a lot of black smoke. Upon arrival, CO Robinson and the fire department members located a pile of household items that was on fire. The pile included a flat screen TV, a couch, insulation and carpet from a vehicle and several other unidentifiable items. The individual was cooperative but was upset that the neighbors didn't mind their own business and that he didn't have the fire "hot enough" to keep the smoke whiter. The subject was educated on items that can and cannot be burned in an open pit and was issued a citation for illegal disposal of solid waste.

While on patrol COs Mike Haas and Dan Robinson were working Isabella County when CO Haas noticed a cloud of black smoke. The COs followed the smoke and located the source. They found a large fire and an individual sleeping next to it leaning against a post. The fire contained parts and pieces of a camper that the subject was tearing apart and burning. The materials included laminated and particle boards, metal pieces and parts, insulation, and other unidentified materials. The subject was given a citation for illegal disposal of solid waste.

COs Dan Robinson and Mike Haas were traveling eastbound on US-10 in Bay County when they were passed by a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed. The COs

attempted to catch up with the vehicle and even at close to 100-MPH the COs were unable to catch up with the car until it got trapped by other motorists in both lanes. CO Robinson activated the emergency lights and sirens and followed the vehicle for another two miles until the vehicle came to a stop, but not before throwing what looked and smelled like a marijuana blunt out the window. The COs searched the car and located several empty jars of marijuana products, and a jar of unusable plant parts. The driver was a Medical Marijuana card holder, but indicated he understood that smoking and driving under the influence is not an exception for card holders. The subject denied smoking that day, but said he smoked the night before in the car and stuck to the story. The marijuana use, careless driving, and littering issues were addressed, enforcement action was taken.

COs Dan Robinson and Mike Haas hosted a "Coffee with the Cops" event at the Mt. Pleasant Cops and Doughnuts-Central Precinct. The event was well received, and the COs had a chance to answer questions from hunters and fishermen. Many of the questions related to the new changes regarding CWD management. Several of the attendees came with questions prepared.

COs Dan Robinson and Mike Haas attended Project RED, a rural education day presented by the Michigan Farm Bureau. The COs led a station where they were able to talk to 4th grade students from Isabella and northern Montcalm Counties. The COs focused on ORV violations, safety issues, and most importantly helmet use. Almost 400 students, parents and teachers attended the event and got a chance to listen the COs and the other presenters throughout the two-day event.

CO Dan Robinson was patrolling northern Isabella County when an ORV passed by at a high rate of speed. CO Robinson caught up to the machine and conducted a traffic stop. The operator had registration stickers and a helmet but was traveling too fast on the county roadway in the normal traffic lane. It was also discovered that the driver had a suspended driver's license. A citation was issued for operating an ORV while suspended and warnings were given for the operation violations.

CO Dan Robinson was talking to a group of youth hunters in Isabella County when an ORV passed by at a high rate of speed. A stop was conducted on the ORV and the driver admitted to having an open container of beer in the cupholder. The driver also admitted to drinking several beers before leaving home. Field sobrieties were conducted, and the subject was found to be under the legal limit. CO Robinson addressed the open intoxicants with a citation.

CO Chad Foerster was working waterfowl hunters when he came across a boat with numerous hunters. During a check, it was determined that there were several violations from failure to purchase federal waterfowl stamp to unplugged shotguns. Education and enforcement action were taken.

DISTRICT 7

CO Travis Dragomer observed an ATV traveling Southbound on M-140 in Pipestone Twp., Berrien County without a helmet or eye protection. CO Dragomer conducted a traffic stop on the ATV and found that the subject failed to get an ORV license as well. Enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling a gear restricted stream (single hook only) in Van Buren County, CO Tyler Cole checked a fisherman using a treble hook. The fisherman stated that he had no idea that there was a restriction in that area. After checking licenses, it was found that the subject lived less than a mile from where he was checked and has lived there for quite some time. After speaking to the subject further, it was found that the subject was aware of the restriction and chose to ignore it. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tyler Cole was patrolling near Gravel Lake, Van Buren County. CO Cole observed one vessel with two subjects actively fishing near sunset. It was observed that the vessel did not have navigation lights and operated after it was almost completely dark out. CO Cole waited for the vessel to return to the launch to check their catch, fishing licenses and to also address the violation for navigation lights. Upon contact, it was found that only one of the subjects had a fishing license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Tyler Cole was patrolling near the Cornish State Game Area and observed a subject at his vehicle in a designated parking area. Contact was made with the subject, who stated he was small game hunting. During the contact, a loaded and uncased shotgun was observed in the back of the vehicle. The subject stated that he was not aware of the law and thought that if the firearm was not within reach of the driver that it was okay. A current hunting guide was given to the subject and enforcement action was taken.

While patrolling a lake in Cass County during the youth waterfowl weekend, COs Micah Hintze and Jeremy Cantrell observed multiple groups of hunters set up and actively shooting. The COs were watching a youth and their guardian both taking multiple shots at passing ducks. While they were observing a youth and guardian, both hunters shot at a single wood duck each. Contact was made with the individuals and they both admitted to each killing one of the ducks. Being the youth waterfowl weekend, no one other than youth hunters may harvest or attempt to harvest ducks, other than teal. Further it was found the guardian was in possession of and actively using toxic shot. Evidence was seized and enforcement action was taken.

CO Kyle McQueer was patrolling the Three Rivers State Game Area when he observed an ORV operating on the roadway. Upon making a traffic stop on the ORV, CO McQueer observed a male with his two young children riding without helmets. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Stephen Mooney and CO Jeff Robinette were patrolling in Cass County on opening day of small game season. The COs saw a vehicle parked on a piece of commercial forest property. The COs stopped to look around and were contacted by a hunter standing just inside the woods. The hunter was not wearing any hunter orange. When

the subject approached, CO Robinette recognized the subject from several previous encounters. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol along the Grand River system in Ionia County, CO Cary Foster and Sgt. Jeff Rabbers located six subjects along the mouth of a small trout stream attempting to net coho salmon. After a lengthy observation period, one of the subjects was successful in netting a fish. When contacted, one subject attempted to throw a fish back but was apprehended by CO Foster. The investigation revealed a total of six coho salmon, all netted illegally, that were hidden nearby. None of the subjects even had a fishing pole in possession. A record check revealed that two of the subjects had been arrested by CO Foster two years ago for taking a deer illegally from a motor vehicle. One subject also had an outstanding warrant. Enforcement action was taken for the fishing violations and the subject with the warrant was lodged at the county jail.

While on patrol in Ionia County, CO Jeremy Beavers spotted a subject riding an ORV on M-91, a road where ORVs are not permitted. As CO Beavers got closer, it was clear the subject was going faster than 25-mph and was not wearing a helmet. Once the subject turned off M-91 to a side road, CO Beavers stopped the subject. After contact was made, CO Beavers explained the rules and regulations regarding ORV use in Ionia County. The subject stated he was aware but was not going very far. CO Beavers explained that distance does not matter and ORVs may not be operated on any state or federal highway, including M-21, M-44, M-66, and M-91. The subject was cited for the helmet violation and given warnings for the remaining violations.

During a patrol in Ionia County, CO Jeremy Beavers checked activity in the Saranac Lowell State Game Area for hunters targeting small game. While checking a parking area, CO Beavers noticed a vehicle with two empty gun cases in the back of the car. During his check, CO Beavers noticed the vehicle registration sticker on the vehicle expired in February. After confirming the registration was expired, CO Beavers attempted to determine who was driving the vehicle. During this time, CO Beavers was assisted on scene by Sgt. Jeff Rabbers. While the two were checking the area, they spotted a subject in the woods who was not wearing orange and appeared to be carrying a shotgun. The subject was walking towards the vehicle when he noticed the CO truck and stopped in his tracks, turned around and began to walk in the opposite direction. At this point CO Beavers and Sgt. Rabbers entered the woods to make contact. While walking to the subject, they spotted another person running with a firearm and no orange. At this time CO Beavers announced their presence and instructed the subjects to stay where they are located. After making contact it was discovered the subject did not have hunting license, with only one subject wearing very little orange. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Jeff Rabbers and CO Justin Ulberg worked a late-night patrol along the Grand River in Kent County. Contact was made with an angler who had failed to obtain a fishing license. Further investigation revealed the subject also had an outstanding warrant. Enforcement action was taken.

On opening day of the early teal season, CO Ivan Perez received a RAP complaint indicating that there were hunters on the refuge island adjacent the Grand Haven State Game Area and is off limits to all hunting activity. CO Perez contacted the complainant who was at the DNR launch closest to where the suspects were located. As he was arriving to the launch, CO Perez noticed a vehicle towing a duck boat leaving the launch. CO Perez motioned the vehicle to stop to see if they had witnessed anyone in the refuge. When the driver rolled down his window and said, "Yeah, it was me", CO Perez learned that these were the individuals who were hunting within the refuge. The suspects stated they were from out of town and did not see the refuge signs in the darkness. CO Perez then conducted a license, firearms and shell check and asked if the party had any success in harvesting any teal. The suspect responded they had shot one Canada goose and one teal. However, a check of the birds revealed one Canada goose and one wood duck. A citation was issued for the wood duck out of season and several warnings for hunting within the refuge.

While on patrol near the Manistee National Forest, CO Greg Patten spotted an ORV driving on a public road where prohibited. The ORV operator was carrying a passenger in excess of the ORV capacity, did not have eye protection, and the ORV was unlicensed. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Greg Patten received a RAP complaint about an illegal deer baiting in the Manistee National Forest. CO Patten met the reporting party who showed him an area baited with corn. There was a trail camera overlooking the corn and a blind constructed with man-made materials nearby. There was no name or address of the blind owner attached as required on a man-made blind. No suspect information was found so CO Patten removed the trail camera and left a note to contact him. CO Patten returned to the area the following day and found a pickup truck parked near the baited area. CO Patten recorded the truck's license plate number but did not find the owner. Later in the day CO Patten contacted the owner of the truck that had been parked near the baiting site. The truck owner confessed to baiting the area with corn, putting up the trail camera, and building the blind. The subject admitted to baiting the site all this year. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Greg Patten met an off-road motorcycle going in the opposite direction on a county road where ORV operation is prohibited. CO Patten turned around but could not locate the motorcycle. CO Patten continued patrol in the area. CO Patten was driving through the same area about an hour later and encountered the same motorcycle returning to the area. This time CO Patten was able to stop the motorcycle. The motorcycle did not have a license plate or an ORV license. The operator said that the only reason he was driving on the road was because he needed to go to the hardware store for items to repair a vehicle. CO Patten checked further and found that the motorcycle was not titled. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 8

COs Daniel Prince and Michael Drexler attended the third annual C.O.P.S. event (Concerns Over Police Safety) held at the Wind Walker Farms in Fenton in Livingston County. Over 200 people attended the event. The event is geared towards shedding a positive light on law enforcement, their families and the sacrifices that law enforcement personal make every day.

CO Pete Purdy contacted an angler who was anxious to show off the thirty-inch northern pike that he had just caught. CO Purdy congratulated the angler on his success and asked to see his fishing license. The angler advised that he had left his license at home. A radio check revealed the angler did purchase a 2018 fishing license and it was also discovered the angler had two misdemeanor warrants for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Eric Smither and Andrew Monnich responded to a Hunter Harassment complaint in Lenawee County. Upon arrival the COs were told by the complainant that they were hunting an easement across the street and shot a doe earlier in the morning. They stated that as they were tracking the deer on the neighbor's property, which they had permission to track, when another neighbor came out of his house and started yelling at them. The COs made contact with the neighbor who stated that he has had problems with the individual in the past trespassing on his property. Upon further investigation and talks with other neighbors the COs found multiple violations on the complainant including trespassing and exceeding bait quantities. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Andrew Monnich was working the early youth season trying to locate an individual on state land who had been baiting since August. COs Monnich and Eric Smither were patrolling the area early in the morning and located a father and son near the stand. The COs contacted the hunters and found out it was their bait and the stand was not marked with the required contact information. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Brandon Hartleben attended a monthly membership meeting at the Chelsea Rod & Gun Club. CO Hartleben spoke to approximately 80 members in attendance about regulation changes, specifically CWD regulations, and answered numerous questions. The presentation went very well, and the club was very grateful that CO Hartleben spoke at the meeting.

CO Brandon Hartleben was travelling northbound on Whitmore Lake road just past the N. Territorial intersection when he was passed in a no passing zone by a motorcycle travelling at a high-rate of speed. The motorcycle passed three other vehicles before returning to the proper lane of travel. CO Hartleben activated his emergency lights and sirens and caught the motorcycle before it got onto US-23. CO Hartleben was able to initiate a stop at 6 Mile and Whitmore Lake Rd. Upon making contact with the operator, CO Hartleben learned that the individual had left their wallet at home and did not have an operator's license on them. The operator also did not have proof of insurance or a registration for the motorcycle. CO Hartleben addressed the entire suite of issues with the operator: reckless operation, speeding, passing in a no passing zone, no operator's license on person, no proof of insurance and no registration. Enforcement action taken.

Acting Sergeant Mike Drexler and CO Brandon Hartleben spent the morning of the youth waterfowl opener checking hunters on Winnewana Lake. During one check, the COs found a hunter in possession of an unplugged shotgun. The adult responsible for the group and the unplugged firearm was found to be operating an unregistered boat only a few weeks prior by CO Hartleben. Enforcement action was again taken.

While patrolling state land, CO McCullough contacted ORV operators in a prohibited area. CO McCullough advised the operators to leave the area, after a couple hours CO McCullough heard more ORVs approaching. CO McCullough stopped the ORVs and realized it was the same group. This time enforcement action was taken.

CO Jeff Goss received a RAP complaint about a possible illegal taking of wild turkeys. The complainant was driving down the road, heard a gunshot and witnessed multiple turkeys flopping around on the ground. The man drove home and called the RAP hotline and agreed to take CO Goss back to the area. Although he was unable to identify the exact house, he was able to point the officer in the right direction. CO Goss collected evidence at the scene and noted that the two suspects were hunting next to the bird feeder in the front yard. CO Goss went to their house for an interview and upon arrival he asked them if they had a successful hunt, both men agreed but there was some confusion as to how many turkeys they shot. After separating the two men, one of them decided to be honest. A short while later they led CO Goss to a freezer in the basement where he located four fully feathered untagged turkeys. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Nick Wellman was on patrol in Branch County when central dispatch sent local units to an attempted suicide. CO Nick Wellman was not far from the home and responded to the call. Just prior to law enforcement's arrival to the home, the subject took off on foot to the property behind the home. Along with Branch County Sheriff's Department and the Michigan State Police, CO Wellman searched the area for over an hour trying to locate the subject. Later that evening, the subject returned home and started an argument with his family. The subject began to become violent, so the family called and reported a domestic in progress. Again, CO Wellman was close to the home and was the first to arrive on scene. As CO Wellman arrived, dispatch notified him that the subject had made his way into the home and was becoming more violent. CO Wellman made entry into the rear of the home and placed the subject into custody without incident. The subject was turned over to MSP and was taken to the hospital for an evaluation due to his attempted suicide earlier in the day.

CO Chris Maher received a call of an individual who accidentally shot a spike deer while hunting during the early antlerless deer season. The father of the 18-year-old man called the RAP Hotline to self-report his mistake. COs Chris Maher and Shane Webster responded to the location. While talking about the incident, CO Maher asked the subject why he did not see the small antlers. The hunter stated he did not have his binoculars. After a lengthy discussion about bringing proper equipment and other hunter responsibilities the COs asked the hunter to field dress the deer. The deer was then donated to the Beef Barn in Jackson County for the Hunters for Hunger program and

the young hunter was educated and learned a valuable lesson on properly identifying his targeted game.

During waterfowl patrol, CO Joshua Jackson noticed dark smoke on the horizon. CO Jackson located the fire burning very close to a home. CO Jackson made contact with the homeowner who was using a garden hose to cool the siding on the house. The fire was hot enough to catch nearby corn stalks on fire. Once the fire was under control, CO Jackson noted vinyl, carpet, mattresses, and other household waste had been burning. A citation was issued for burning household waste.

COs Chris Maher, Chris Reynolds and Nick Wellman worked a booth at the Hillsdale County fair and ran the hunter's safety laser shot trailer. The COs also answered several questions related to hunting, fishing, marine, and ORV laws for hundreds of the fair's attendees.

CO Carter Woodwyk received a five-count arrest warrant from the Hillsdale District Court from an illegal deer case stemming in 2017. The suspect was arrested and lodged in the Hillsdale County Jail.

CO Carter Woodwyk received a complaint from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Parks and Recreation Division of four cow carcasses that were dumped at a public boating access site in Hillsdale County. The CO located the carcasses and was able to get two ear identification tags off of the carcasses. The CO followed up at the location a few days later and spoke with a subject who was just leaving the access site. This subject stated he could not believe someone would go as low as to dump cow carcasses on a state public access site property. Additionally, this subject stated his son was working with another CO to figure out who did it. After further investigation, the CO made contact with this same subject at his farm near the access site. While speaking with the subject, the CO noticed a live calf that had the exact same ear identification tag and markings on it as the one the CO pulled off the carcasses a few days prior. The CO began questioning this suspect and received a written confession to dumping the carcasses on the public access property. The suspect stated he was lazy and did not want to properly dispose of them. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Carter Woodwyk received a complaint of a subject hunting geese in his back yard, too close to other residences in Hillsdale County. CO Woodwyk arrived at the suspect's residence and observed him sitting on a lawn chair in his back yard, overlooking a lake, with a shotgun leaned up against the chair next to him. When the CO asked the suspect what he was doing, he advised he was waiting for another boat who he expected a confrontation with. The suspect advised the firearm was for his protection. Further investigation revealed the suspect was indeed goose hunting. A citation was issued for hunting within a safety zone.

CO Todd Thorn and Sgt. Rich Nickols observed some individuals fishing at Lake Highfields near Onondaga. Four individuals were present and two were found to be fishing without licenses. Upon further investigation, and after being told that no fish had

been caught, Sgt. Nickols located two undersized pike on stringers. The COs interviewed the fishermen and gained confessions from two of the individuals who stated that they each had caught and kept an undersized pike. One of those individuals was also found to have five traffic warrants out of Detroit. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Todd Thorn and Acting Sgt. Mike Drexler were patrolling the Waterloo Rec Area when they were flagged down by a woman who was asking for help. She stated that she was lost and didn't have any water. The COs provided water and had her sit in the patrol truck. The COs learned that the woman had gone for a trail run and was about five miles away from her planned destination. The woman was returned to her vehicle.

COs Todd Thorn, Troy Ludwig and Sam Schluckbier patrolled a section of the Lakeland State Trail from Coon Hill Rd in Jackson County to the Pinckney area in Livingston County. Several contacts were made, as well as the locating of trash dumped on the trail that led to further evidence for local law enforcement regarding a stolen vehicle from Owosso.

CO Todd Thorn was tipped off about a large amount of household trash dumped in the Dansville State Game area. Evidence leading to a suspect was found by searching the garbage and the suspect was then contacted. The subject admitted to dumping the garbage and then cleaned up everything that he had left. Enforcement action was taken.

While on his way to the district office, CO Todd Thorn was passed by a pickup truck driving at a high rate of speed. A traffic stop was conducted, which led to CO Thorn learning that the driver was suspended, had no insurance on the vehicle and had warrants for his arrest. Enforcement action was taken, and the vehicle was impounded.

CO Todd Thorn patrolled an abandoned railroad on his issued dirt bike and found a couple of bait piles. He also found a deer head with a kill tag attached, which led to a confession from a local resident that the 11-point antlered deer was taken illegally. A warrant request report will be submitted to the Mecosta County Prosecutor's Office in regard to the illegally taken deer.

While on routine patrol, CO Todd Thorn checked on a vehicle that was parked in a cornfield and partially hidden by trees. CO Thorn found that the registered owner did not have any current hunting licenses, there was a crossbow case in the bed of the truck, and there was a fresh pile of corn beside the truck. CO Thorn followed tracks to a spin cast feeder and then found two individuals hunting in a tree stand nearby. Neither of the two hunters were wearing orange. Enforcement action was taken.

While on his way to a hunter safety class, CO Todd Thorn observed a young man operating an ORV on the roadway. CO Thorn followed the man at a close distance, without his knowledge, to his residence. At the residence, CO Thorn contacted the operator and found that he was only 14-years-old and had driven nearly seven miles on

the roads from his grandparent's house. CO Thorn left and then returned when the father arrived at home. While at the residence, CO Thorn observed a hunter in a nearby field and, upon contact, observed that he was hunting over bait. Enforcement action was taken in both cases.

CO Todd Thorn patrolled an area in north Lansing that is owned by the Board of Water and Light which frequently has trespassing issues. While speaking with the security guard stationed there, a vehicle pulled into the field nearby. The vehicle had passed at least half a dozen "no trespassing" signs to get to that location and was loaded with spruce branches. CO Thorn made contact with the occupants of the vehicle and found that the driver was suspended, and the passenger had 10 warrants for his arrest, two of which were for aggravated assault. Enforcement action was taken including lodging the passenger at the City of Lansing jail.

COs Troy Ludwig and Sam Schluckbier investigated a complaint of an individual baiting deer in Clinton County which is banned due to chronic wasting disease. The COs contacted a father and son hunting in a ground blind in front of the bait. The father admitted to placing the bait and knowing it was illegal. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Troy Ludwig and Sam Schluckbier were on patrol when they observed a man riding an ORV on a city street without a helmet. The man then rode the ORV on a city sidewalk and pulled into a residence. The COs contacted the operator and asked where he was headed. He stated that he was at the current residence to fix the pool and only lived a couple streets away. A check with dispatch showed that the man had suspended driving privileges and could not operate any vehicles upon the roadway. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sam Schluckbier checked a father and son hunting in Eaton County during the youth waterfowl season. The juvenile had a successful morning harvesting a wood duck. During the check, CO Schluckbier found that the juvenile was not properly licensed. The father argued that his son didn't need a license or federal stamp to hunt as a 16-year-old. CO Schluckbier educated both individuals on the requirements for youth hunting. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Sam Schluckbier received a complaint that shotgun BBs were hitting the roof of a residence in Eaton County and were coming from the neighboring property. CO Schluckbier immediately responded and located four waterfowl hunters on the adjacent property. The hunters were outside of the safety zone but failed to direct their shot in a safe direction. Further checks found that two hunters were using unplugged shotguns, had an extra loaded firearm and were not properly licensed to hunt waterfowl. The hunters were apologetic for the shot that had fallen on the neighbor's house. The hunt was terminated, and enforcement action was taken for the additional violations.

CO Katie Stawara and CO Joe Myers responded to a BOL regarding a reckless driver. The COs located the vehicle and conducted a stop. Upon contact, the COs observed a suspected meth pipe on the center console of the vehicle. A search resulted in an

additional pipe and multiple baggies of suspected crystal meth. A field test confirmed the substance was positive for methamphetamines. The vehicle was seized/towed, and the occupant lodged on felony charges.

CO Katie Stawara was on patrol when she observed a subject walking in a field with hunter orange on. She contacted the individual at his vehicle parked nearby. The suspect was carrying an unloaded .450 Bushmaster with ammunition in his pocket. He stated he was checking deer stands and merely carried the firearm for fun. While securing his firearm in the vehicle, the CO noticed an uncased bow in the backseat. A check of the individual's history returned with two prior violations for baiting & taking deer no license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Stawara was patrolling the Rose Lake State Game Area when she came across a vehicle parked in an access site. While inspecting the vehicle, the CO heard multiple gun shots nearby. She contacted two 17-year-old squirrel hunters who both provided expired hunting licenses. The individuals believed the tags were good for a year from the date of purchase and were unaware they had expired. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Stawara responded to a self-reported complaint regarding an antlerless deer hunter who harvested an antlered 3-point whitetail. The suspect was hunting next to a corn field and said he didn't see the antlers. He called the DNR immediately after he realized his mistake. The hunter was new to hunting and extremely remorseful. The deer was seized, and enforcement action taken.

CO Robert Slick was on patrol in Shiawassee County when an ORV passed him at a high rate of speed. CO Slick turned around and stopped the ORV. When CO Slick walked up to the ORV and asked why they were traveling so quickly, the individual stated he didn't have a speedometer. CO Slick told him even without a speedometer he should have been able to tell that he was going too fast. Enforcement action was taken.

DISTRICT 9

COs Adam Beuthin, Nick Ingersoll and Keven Luther worked the Pointe Mouillee Waterfowl Festival on September 15th and 16th held at the state game area. The COs had contact with more than 500 visitors over the course of the event while operating the hunter education laser shot trailer and answering questions from the public.

CO Nick Ingersoll was just starting his shift, when he observed a vehicle with expired tags pass him. CO Ingersoll initiated a traffic stop and was advised the plate on the vehicle did not match the vehicle it was on. CO Ingersoll contacted the driver and asked why she had an improper plate on her vehicle. The driver stated that she did not want to get in trouble for not having a plate because she had just purchased the vehicle a couple days prior. CO Ingersoll ran the driver and was advised that she had a suspended driver's license. The driver also had a warrant out of Huron Twp. CO Ingersoll lodged the individual for her warrant.

CO David Schaumburger was contacted by a homeowner concerned with a waterfowler hunting an inland waterway. The CO contacted the hunter and explained that since he was inland, and in the township of Brownstown, he could not discharge a firearm due to a local hunting control. The hunter argued with the CO that he was wrong because he was on the surface of the water. The hunter was given a choice to receive a ticket and have a judge explain it to him or take the CO's explanation that he was in violation. The hunter chose to receive a ticket.

CO Christopher Knights got a call from CO Jacob Griffin regarding a cormorant that was shot down near CO Knights' location. CO Griffin stated that Oakland County Sheriff's deputies were out with the suspect and requested DNR assistance. CO Knights responded to the subdivision in Clarkston and met up with the deputies. CO Knights received the dead bird from the deputies and proceeded to interview the suspect. The individual stated he shot the bird because the home owner's association just spent thousands of dollars stocking the lake with fish. CO Knights advised the individual that it was illegal to shoot cormorants because they are not game birds. CO Knights also advised him of the safety zone law and pointed out that he was also well within the safety zone. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Christopher Knights was patrolling the Holly State Park in Oakland County when he passed one of the locked gates and noticed bathroom fixtures and building materials behind the gate. CO Knights stopped and noticed there were around ten bags of drywall and an entire bath insert. CO Knights went through the bag and with help from the park staff were able to find a box with a name and an address on it. CO Knights and CO Jacob Griffin went to the residence and spoke to the home owner. CO Knights asked if she had redone her bathroom recently and if she had any information about her entire old bathroom being found on state land. The woman was shocked and immediately stated it was done by a contractor. CO Knights met up with the contractor to address the violation. The contractor was first surprised and then got upset about the trash on state land. He stated to CO Knights that he met a man with a trailer that agreed to take the trash to the landfill for \$100. The man then dumped the items on state land. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Christopher Knights was patrolling in Oxford, Oakland County when he came across some ORV tracks going from a closed area onto private property. CO Knights stayed in the area just in case the ORVs decided to come back. After a few minutes, CO Knights could hear multiple ORVs heading his way, but this time using the main road. CO Knights noticed the ORVs stopped at an intersection having a conversation. CO Knights witnessed two ORVs take off in the opposite direction and one ORV head towards him. CO Knights activated his lights and was able to get the operator to stop. CO Knights advised the individual it's against the law to operate ORVs on a public highway in Oakland County. The operator advised he was headed back to his residence. CO Knights also noticed the operator didn't have an ORV license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Justin Muehlhauser was patrolling during the liberty hunt. The CO checked two hunters participating in the youth hunting season. During the encounter, the CO asked the young hunter what kind of firearm he was using. Much to his surprise the youth said that he was using a .243 centerfire rifle. Being in the limited firearm zone, this was an obvious violation. The young hunter claimed that he was unaware of the limited firearm deer zone. The CO directed his attention to the experienced hunter who was accompanying the youth. The man said that the youth was his nephew and that he picked him up early that morning. He said that he never checked to see what type of firearm he was using. The CO found the story hard to believe and explained that it should have been a topic of discussion. Enforcement action was taken for the use of a restricted firearm in the limited firearm zone.

While on routine patrol, CO Danielle Zubek observed a vehicle parked by a gated property that frequently has problems with trespassers. CO Zubek was able to approach the property from an alternative entrance. While searching the property, CO Zubek located two adults and four children operating ORVs and made contact with the adults in the group. Neither adult had permission from the land owner to be on the property. While talking with the adults, it was determined that the group drove onto the property with a truck and trailer loaded with three ORVs. CO Zubek explained the laws and regulations to the group and enforcement action was taken.

CO Danielle Zubek and Sgt. Jason Becker were notified by dispatch of shots fired at a hiker and his family on the trails of Seven Lakes State Park. The COs contacted the complainant for further details on a description and location for the incident. The complainant stated that two hunters fired off warning shots to several hikers in the area when they would approach the area being hunted. The COs were able to obtain a location on where the hunters were firing shots and searched the area on foot. The COs were unable to locate any hunters in the area.

Sgt. Jason Becker was checking Highland Recreation Area during the Liberty Hunt. Sgt. Becker followed a well-worn path into the woods and found a ten-year-old hunting in a tree stand by himself. The young hunter led Sgt. Becker to the ground blinds where his father and uncle were hunting. Sgt. Becker gathered the two adults and three young hunters to address violations. Sgt. Becker educated the subjects on hunter orange requirements for the Liberty Hunt, maintaining close and constant contact with young hunters, and cutting trees on state land. Enforcement action was taken.

Sgt. Jason Becker was checking an area frequented by ORVs. While looking for fresh signs of activity, Sgt. Becker observed a subject nearby resting next to his ORV. Sgt. Becker contacted the subject and stated that his friend was also on the property that is closed to ORV use. Sgt. Becker contacted the second subject, who had an entire campsite set up on the private property. Sgt. Becker advised the subjects that they were on private property that was also posted with no trespassing signs. The subjects packed up the campsite and enforcement action was taken.

CO Jessie Curtis was patrolling the back roads of Hadley Township in Lapeer County, looking for ORV activity when an ORV turned on the road ahead of her. The ORV was traveling at a high rate of speed and down the middle of the roadway. CO Curtis activated the emergency lights of her patrol vehicle and conducted a stop. Upon further investigation the ORV had no ORV license. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Jessie Curtis received a call from a volunteer at the Lapeer shooting pit that a subject was shooting at two 4-foot-tall, plastic Christmas Mickey Mouse decorations. In the Lapeer shooting pit people must target shoot at a paper, cardboard, or commercially-produced portable target designed and manufactured for the specific purpose of target shooting. CO Curtis arrived on scene and noted that the subject was indeed shooting at Mickey Mouse decorations. CO Curtis contacted the subject and explained the laws. Enforcement action was taken.

While on ORV patrol, CO Joseph Deppen was checking a local area known for ORV activity in Macomb County. CO Deppen observed an ORV enter the gravel pit and a traffic stop was conducted. The driver was operating on a suspended license, no headlamps or tail lights, no helmet, and the driver was also trespassing. Enforcement action was taken.

While on ORV patrol in Macomb County, CO Joseph Deppen contacted multiple ORVs trespassing in a local area. The operators were cited for multiple violations including no helmet, unregistered ORV, ORV trespass, and railroad trespass. Each operator was contacted and educated on their ORV Operation. Enforcement action was taken.

While checking small game hunters in Macomb County, CO Brad Silorey and Joseph Deppen were checking hunters coming out of the woods. When one vehicle failed to return both COs walked the state land to find the hunters. The hunters were observed shooting at waterfowl well after shooting hours had ended and were also in possession of lead shot and loaded firearms after legal hunting hours had ended. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Raymond Gardner and Jessie Curtis were on patrol and stopped at the Lapeer Shooting Pit to check on the target shooting activity. While there, COs Gardner and Curtis observed individuals shooting bowling pins and golf balls. Due to the items not being approved targets to shoot at, enforcement action was taken.

COs Raymond Gardner and Jessie Curtis were on patrol in search of ORV activity in Lapeer County. CO Gardner spotted a side by side being operated and followed it to see if it had an ORV license on it. CO Gardner found the location of the ORV and noticed that there were three people in the side by side. COs Gardner and Curtis then contacted the operator and noticed that all the occupants in the side by side were not wearing their seat belts. They also checked and determined the side by side was only designed to carry two people at a time. Due to the multiple violations, enforcement action was taken.

COs Kris Kiel and Brad Silorey were on a waterfowl patrol when they received a tip of an exceptional amount of shooting coming from goose hunters in an area of Macomb County. The COs arrived in the area and observed a subject walking around a pond picking up downed geese. The COs contacted the hunter and found that he did not have a plug in his shotgun and did not have any of the required licenses to hunt waterfowl. Two other subjects were found sitting on an island in the middle of the pond. CO Kiel borrowed the hunter's canoe and paddled over to check them. One subject had an unsigned federal stamp and ten geese had been taken by the hunters in total. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel was checking waterfowl hunters during the youth waterfowl weekend when he contacted two adults and a youth hunting from the dyke in the St. John's Marsh. A check resulted in an unplugged shotgun for an adult. The subject stated that he was checked by "officer Joe" (CO Joseph Deppen). CO Kiel asked the subject if he had received a citation from CO Deppen for the violation. The subject said that CO Deppen gave him a warning and told him to get it plugged. CO Kiel immediately called CO Deppen to verify the story. CO Deppen said that no such check had taken place. When confronted with the real story, the subject admitted that he had lied to CO Kiel and apologized. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel stopped an ORV on the roadway near Wetzel Recreation Area. Along with operating on the roadway, the subject was not wearing a helmet and failed to register the ORV. The subject stated that he thought that the law had changed and that on motorcycles you did not have to wear a helmet. CO Kiel informed him that indeed that was true if the motorcycle was also registered with the Secretary of State and pointed out that he was riding a four-wheeler. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Kris Kiel checked three, 19-year-old small game hunters on the 25 Mile Mini Game Area in Macomb County. Two subjects failed to wear any hunter orange. The third subject had an orange hat on that was not "hunter orange" and had failed to take a hunter safety class. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Kris Kiel and Brad Silorey responded to a RAP complaint in St. Clair County of a skunk in a live trap for four days. The trap was in the front yard of a residence with a carpet mat over the top of it. The home owner came out and asked the COs if they were there to rescue him. He stated that he was trying to come up with a plan on how to release the skunk. CO Kiel asked him why it took four days and he still had not come up with a plan. CO Kiel told the subject that the skunk would not spray him if it could not see him and to stand on the side of the trap and open the door. The subject did so quite easily and a couple minutes later, the skunk came out and ran into the woods. The subject removed the trap and enforcement action was taken.

COs Kris Kiel, Brad Silorey, and Joseph Deppen worked a problem ORV area in Macomb County, multiple times over the week. Many contacts were made, and enforcement action was taken for ORV trespass, railroad trespass, no helmet, and unlicensed ORV.

COs Brad Silorey and Kris Kiel were checking waterfowl hunters that were returning to the access site after the morning hunt. COs Silorey and Kiel contacted a father and son who were participating in the youth waterfowl hunt. CO Silorey first contacted the happy young hunter who stated that he got two ducks. The young hunter held up a drake mallard and another bird in which he thought was a coot. COs Silorey and Kiel informed the father and the boy that they had taken a grebe, which is a protected species. COs Silorey and Kiel addressed the father and explained the gravity of taking a protected species. Rather than issue a citation to the father, COs Silorey and Kiel decided to take enforcement action in the form of seizure of the illegal species and education to both the new youth hunter and the father. COs Silorey and Kiel explained the importance of species identification and never to shoot if you are unsure what you are taking.

COs Brad Silorey and Joe Deppen were on patrol checking state land in Macomb County just prior to dusk. The COs located a vehicle parked off the road on state land and attempted to locate the hunters to see if they were successful. As it was past legal hunting hours, the COs hear several shots coming from nearby ponds on the state land and watched several geese take off from the area of the pond. CO Silorey made contact with the hunters as they returned to their vehicle. After questioning, the subjects stated that they did shoot at some geese just after shooting hours. In addition to hunting waterfowl after hours, neither subject had ever taken hunter safety, and one subject had multiple rounds of shotgun slugs on his bandolier. Enforcement action was taken.

COs Brad Silorey, Kris Kiel, and Sgt, Todd Szyska were on patrol checking hunters on state land in Macomb County. The COs located a vehicle parked off the roadway and observed a hunter not wearing hunter orange move from the brush to the vehicle and back. A second hunter was also observed near the brush where the first hunter was seen. When contact was made, both hunters stated they were squirrel hunting and acted suspiciously. While Sgt. Szyska searched the area, the subjects became increasingly nervous as Sgt. Szyska inspected an old cement drain pipe. Two freshly killed hen wood ducks were recovered from the drain pipe and presented to the subjects. One subject stated that he was not aware that the season for waterfowl was not open, but that he just recently hunted the pond behind his home for ducks as well. In addition to taking waterfowl out of season, the subjects also were using toxic lead shot, and using an unplugged shotgun. Enforcement action was taken.

CO Pat Hartsig was patrolling for ORV activity in St. Clair County, when a side-by-side nearly ran a stop sign and went halfway into CO Hartsig's lane of traffic in front of him. A stop was conducted, and it was found that there were three juveniles in the machine. The boys were escorted back to their residence to the care of their parents. The machine was unregistered, being carelessly operated without ORV safety certificates. Enforcement action was taken.

BELLE ISLE

While working on Belle Isle, COs Chris Maher and Mike Hearn received a call from Station 20 about a suicidal subject threatening to jump off the MacArthur Bridge. The COs quickly responded to the area, securing the bridge. Unable to locate the subject, the COs advised dispatch to try and call the subject. Dispatch was able to get the individual on the phone and tracked his location to an area not on or by the island.

While patrolling Belle Isle, CO Andrea Erratt of Charlevoix County checked numerous fishermen and talked to several families, many of whom said they were happy about the island being a state park. They said they felt safe on the island due to the 24-hour DNR and MSP law enforcement patrols. CO Erratt came across six anglers on the island who did not have fishing licenses during her patrol. Enforcement action was taken.