

Park Falls Team Warden Web Report—September 2009

Warden Nerva, of Tomahawk, worked wild rice enforcement checking for license compliance in September.

Warden Nerva worked tribal hunting complaints in September. Arrests were made for shooting from a vehicle.

Warden Nerva worked waterfowl enforcement making arrests for failing to retrieve waterfowl.

Warden Nerva and Warden Peters of Merrill assisted the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department with a subject who had a heart attack while duck hunting.

Warden Nerva worked a case of an unlicensed guide.

Warden Otto, of Antigo, completed his investigation regarding turkey hunting landowner preference fraud from landowners claiming to own 50 acres or more of land, but do not own the appropriate acreage. More citations were issued.

Warden Otto observed a person driving his ATV on a roadway while packing a loaded .357 in a holster. The subject had been baiting bears and used it for protection against the bears. The subject was cited.

Warden Bayer, of Phillips, spent time enforcing recreational vehicle laws & issued numerous citations for ATV & boating violations to include citations for operating ATV in navigable water, illegal operation of ATV on HWY, operate ATV without safety certification, child on ATV without helmet. Warden Bayer also encountered an ATV that refused to stop when emergency lights and siren were activated. This subsequently resulted in an ATV OWI arrest (alcohol level was .16) & citation for refuse to stop ATV for law enforcement.

Warden Bayer also encountered personal watercraft performing slow no wake distance violations, and other boats operating without lights.

Warden Bayer also issued citations for grouse hunting without small game license, fishing without license, 5 illegal deer baiting citations & a citation to a hunter for having a loaded handgun under his truck seat.

Warden Nice, of Medford, investigated information of early and excessive baiting resulting in 3 citations being issued.

Warden Nice investigated a complaint of deer skinning and shooting in Taylor County. Nice responded and the investigation resulted in 5 individuals being

charged with several criminal complaints. The case is pending in the Taylor County D.A.'s office.

Warden Nice assisted the USFS officer investigating illegal access and early baiting information on the National Forest.

Warden Nice worked the duck opener, resulting in an over bag case and an archery case.

Warden Nice assisted Montana wardens who investigated a Trespass case which included some hunters from Taylor County.

Warden Dryja, of Langlade, issued citations for possession of lead shot and a goose tagging violation during opening weekend of waterfowl season.

Warden Dryja apprehended an individual driving a truck around on state lands closed to vehicle traffic during bear season.

Warden Dryja issued a citation to bear hound hunters for running too many dogs on a bear.

Warden Dryja apprehended a subject and companion bait sitting for bear during the dog only bear season. One of the subjects was found to be baiting bear and did not purchase a class b assist license which is required. The case if forwarded to circuit court for review.

Warden Dryja of Langlade County hosted two individuals on a youth bear hunt transfer tag program. One of the hunters, 14 year old boy who tragically lost his mother and house along with all possessions, harvested a 260 lb bear with the help of local hound hunter. A 13 year old girl diagnosed with cancer harvested a nice 250 pound bear with her 12 gauge shot gun. The Quality Deer Management Association graciously donated funds to make the hunt happen.

Warden Dryja of Langlade County stopped an unsupervised juvenile boy with 3 passengers riding an ATV along the shoulder of a busy state highway at a fast rate of speed. There was a wooden pallet chained behind the ATV with a small juvenile child laying down onto of the pallet holding on for dear life. The subject's Aunt was cited for allowing a juvenile to operate an ATV without a valid safety certificate. Warnings were given for no helmets, no ATV registration, and illegal road operation.

Warden Dryja gave presentations to approximately 300 students at the Langlade County Kids Safety Day held in Antigo. Dryja spoke about ATV and boat safety as well as why we have laws and the Conservations Wardens job.

Warden Dryja and Warden Supervisor Krueger apprehended a Langlade County Septic hauler who was improperly disposing of human waste and for failure to keep current records. The case is being reviewed for prosecution.

Warden Michels, of Park Falls, issued citations to bear hunters for shooting at bear from the road and hunting with too many dogs.

Warden Michels issued citations for operating ATV's on the highway near Clam Lake and Butternut.

Warden Michels issued citations to a local municipality and contractor for construction site storm water violations.

Warden Michels issued several citations for placing bait for deer prior to the open season, using mechanical/gravity feeders, and hunting over too much bait.

Warden Michels assisted with the Whitetails Unlimited youth field day at the public range near Blockhouse Lake east of Park Falls.

Warden Peery, of Ladysmith, was working with Cornell Warden Bowe, when they observed several fishermen fishing in a fish refuge. Several of the members were using hand lines, and were fishing without fishing licenses. Several short smallmouth bass were also in possession. Citations were issued.

Warden Peery observed several individuals fishing in a posted fish refuge. Peery contacted the individuals and cited one of them for fishing in the refuge. While running a check on them it was discovered that one subject had a warrant for his arrest. The subject was turned over to a Chippewa County Deputy.

Warden Peery gave 4 one hour long "5th Grade" joining forces talks to the annual Fall Trails End programs for the Rusk County 5th graders.

Warden Peery assisted and attended with the 5th annual "Hunt of a Lifetime" for terminally ill children. This program is done every year for two children with terminal illnesses for three days of deer and bear hunting. This year's participants were a young lady from Hayward who suffered a brain tumor and a stroke when she was 11 years old. The other was a young man from Tennessee who is battling Hodgkin's disease. We met, completed a 4-hour instructional session and then hunted deer in the evening. The program lasted three days and both hunters succeeded in harvesting animals.

Warden Peery assisted in hosting the 6th annual Rusk County Youth Outdoor Field Day. The interesting thing about this year is 5 of those first people that went through this event were back today as mentors.

Warden Peters, of Merrill, assisted wildlife staff and Pheasants Forever staff with a learn to hunt event for youth in Merrill. The event offered a classroom portion and then a pheasant hunt in the field.

Warden Peters worked on several baiting complaints and on two separate bear complaints.