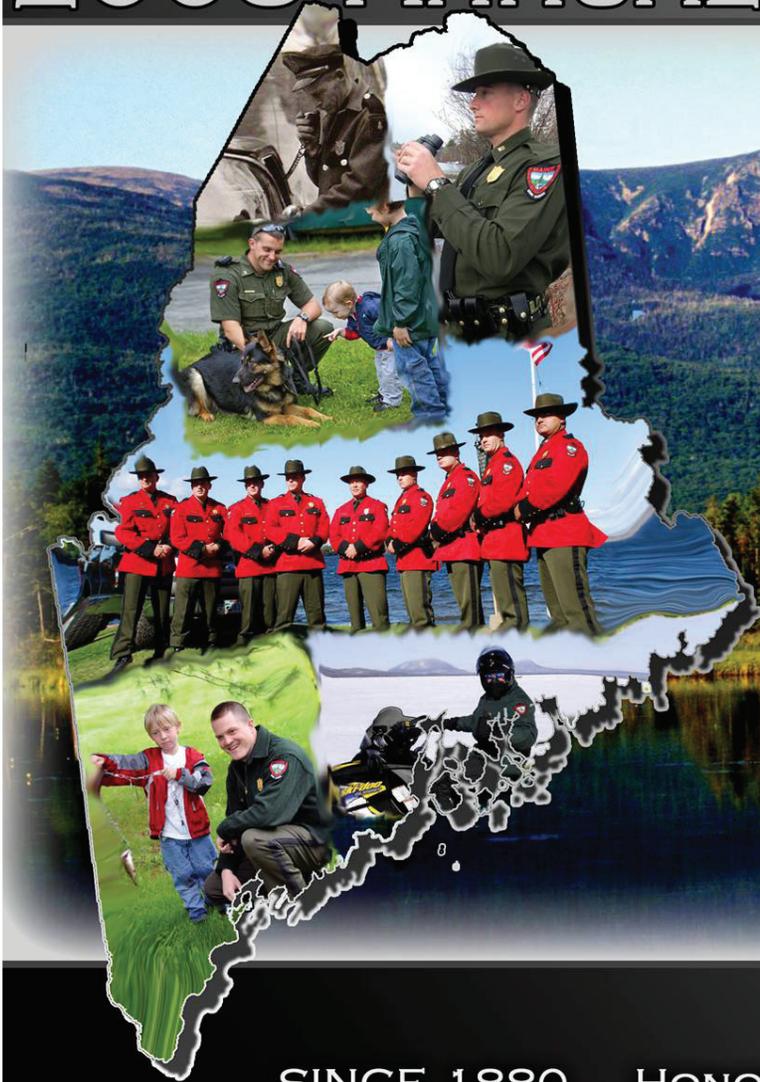


MAINE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE,
BUREAU OF WARDEN SERVICE

2008 ANNUAL REPORT



MAINE WARDEN SERVICE

SINCE 1880 HONOR • LOYALTY • COMPASSION • TRUST



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OUR MISSION

*Through education,
community involvement,
professional law enforcement,
and search and rescue practices,
we serve and protect the public
while conserving Maine's fish,
wildlife, and other natural resources.*

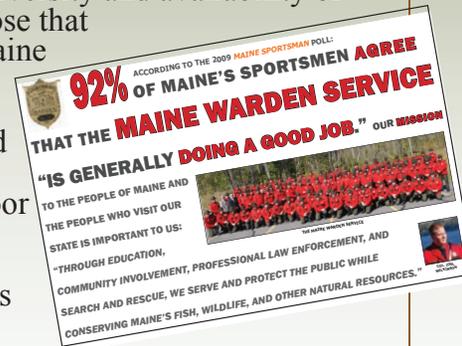
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BUREAU OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

September 1, 2009

Dear Commissioner Martin and outdoor enthusiasts,

I would like to present to you the 2008 Maine Warden Service annual report. The men and women of the Maine Warden Service have a long standing proud tradition of commitment to the citizens and visitors of the great State of Maine. An estimated 2.4 billion dollars of the State's economy depends on the diversity and availability of Maine's fish and wildlife resources and the safety of all those that enjoy our many outdoor recreational opportunities. The Maine Warden Service was established in 1880, and still today, nearly 130 years later, through education, community involvement, professional law enforcement, and search and rescue practices, Maine Game Wardens are committed to protecting and preserving Maine's quality of life and outdoor activities. Because of our commitment to public outreach and quality enforcement practices, we were given a 92% approval rating from a 2009 *Maine Sportsman* poll that was provided to the organizations members.



As the Colonel, I am honored to lead Maine's Game Wardens in their unique and challenging profession. We are faithful to our heritage, yet flexible and adaptive to change. Maine Game Wardens are progressive and highly motivated and recognize the tremendous responsibility we have in providing the highest level of professional conservation law enforcement and search and rescue services to all who venture into Maine's woodlands and inland waterways. Our job is to enforce, educate, and assist all in their compliance with our laws. We have no compromise for willful acts of poaching that steal from all who enjoy our unique and vast natural resources.

Please take the time to learn more about our agency by viewing the details within this comprehensive report. You will be provided with helpful and interesting information relating to the structure, budget, mission, and work product of all who wear the red coat. Thank you for taking the time to read and view our 2008 annual report and please support your local Game Warden and the Bureau of Warden Service. We cannot conduct our mission without the valuable support and assistance of all who enjoy our outdoor heritage.

Thank you,

Colonel Joel T. Wilkinson



JOEL WILKINSON
COLONEL SINCE MAY 2008

GAME WARDEN COLONEL

*The Director possesses
full authority and responsibility
for administering powers
and duties of the bureau,
subject to the direction
of the Commissioner and except
as otherwise provided by statute.*

BUREAU STRUCTURE

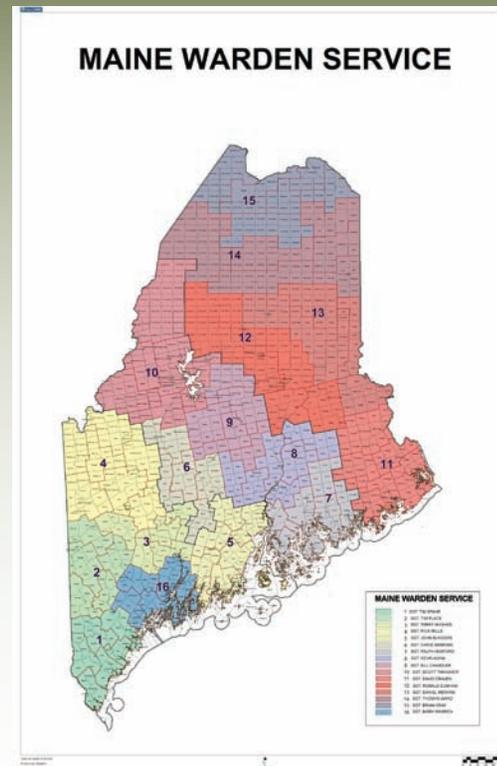
Law Enforcement Operations

The Maine Warden Service is the law enforcement branch of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. It is equal in organizational level and status with other major organizational units within the department or its successors.

The bureau is administered by a Director -- Game Warden Colonel -- who is immediately responsible to the Deputy Commissioner.

The responsibilities of the Bureau include, but are not limited to:

- General enforcement. Enforcement of laws or rules as designated by this part, or as specified;
- Wildlife and fisheries enforcement. Enforcement of laws and department rules pertaining to the management and protection of inland fisheries and wildlife resources;
- Snowmobile, watercraft and all-terrain vehicle enforcement. Enforcement of laws and department rules pertaining to the registration and operation of snowmobiles, watercraft, and all-terrain vehicles;
- Investigations of hunting-related shooting incidents and recreational vehicle crashes;
- Search and rescue. The coordination and implementation of all search and rescue operations;
- Safety. Assistance with programs for hunter safety and for the safe operation of snowmobiles, watercraft, and all-terrain vehicles;
- Data collection. The collection of data as needed for the management and protection of the inland fisheries and wildlife resources; and
- Other. Such responsibilities as specified in state law.



The Maine Warden Service is made up of a field operations branch and special services branch that provides support services to the overall law enforcement mission. The Maine Warden Service has 125 sworn law enforcement officers and 7 non-sworn civilians in administrative support functions for a total compliment of 132 staff. The main office headquarters is located in Augusta, with the three division offices located in Gray, Greenville, and Ashland.

Field Operations:

The field operations divisions are supervised directly by the Game Warden Major and are made up of three Game Warden Lieutenants that supervise three divisions with a compliment of 109 uniformed law enforcement officers. These 109 law enforcement officers are broken into five sections within each of the three divisions. Each section is supervised by a Game Warden Sergeant who is the field supervisor for seven to eight districts which are the responsibility of the Game Warden assigned to the district.

BUREAU STRUCTURE

Special Services Division:

The special services divisions is made up of eleven sworn law enforcement officers and two civilian employees that provide critical law enforcement support functions to the Maine Warden Service.

These services include:



The Investigations Division, Training Program, Landowner Relations program, Specialty Teams and Internal Affairs program all fall under Game Warden Captain Dan Scott. The Investigations Division is made up of four Game Warden Investigators that are stationed throughout the state. The Investigators are responsible for the criminal investigation of all death related incidents resulting in prosecution that the Maine Warden Service is responsible for. Additionally they investigate the circumstances surrounding lost or missing persons and violations of the commercialization of fish and wildlife resources.

The specialty teams, technology, grant, and training programs are supervised by Game Warden Special Services Lieutenant Shon Theriault, who reports to the Game Warden Captain. Lt. Theriault manages the Maine Warden Service technology and grant programs to include records management (RMS) and activity reporting systems. Additionally, this Lieutenant is responsible for the supervision, policy development, and budget oversight for the K-9 Team, Dive Team, Evidence Response Team, Incident Management Team, Firearms Team, Forensic Mapping Team, and Forensics Lab.



The Aviation Division is comprised of one Chief Game Warden Pilot. Chief Pilot Charles Later is directly responsible for the air operations program to include supervision of pilots, policy development, maintenance, training and budget oversight, and two Game Warden Pilots. This division provides critical support to the search, rescue, and law enforcement mission of the Maine Warden Service. Chief Game Warden Pilot reports directly to the Major.

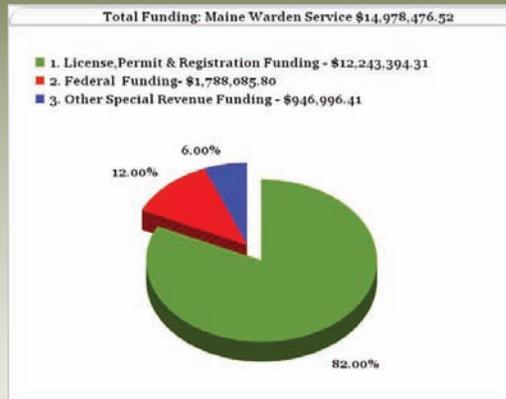
Whitewater Enforcement Program. One Game Warden Whitewater Boating Specialist is assigned to enforcement of Maine's commercial whitewater rafting industry. In 2008, this position was held by Warden Specialist Steven Allarie.



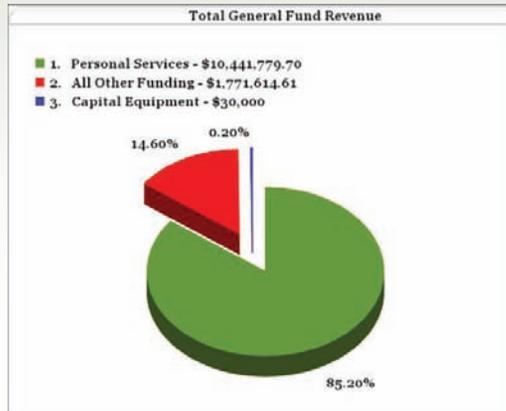
GREGORY SANBORN
MAJOR SINCE JULY 26, 2004



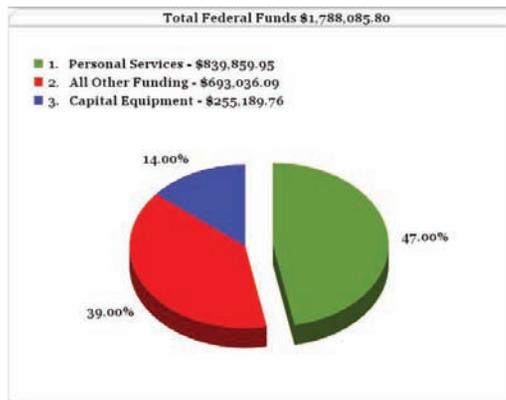
FINANCIAL SUMMARY



This graph represents the total law enforcement budget for the Maine Warden Service for Fiscal Year 2008. The Maine Warden Service is involved with a number of federal grant and state special revenue programs that provide financial support to our law enforcement program and unique mission.



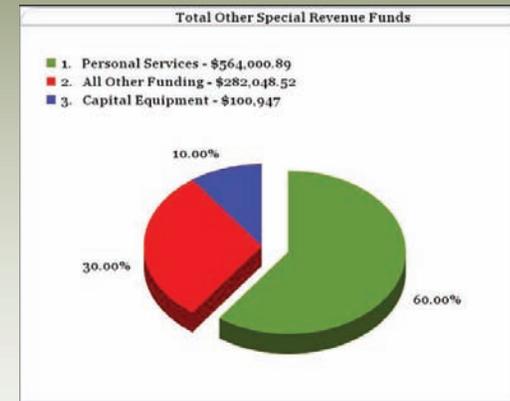
This graph represents a breakdown in our general fund revenue to the Maine Warden Service from our license, permit, and registration funding that is constitutionally protected and totals \$12,243,394.31. Personal Services represents the total fully burdened costs for our entire sworn and non sworn staff. It includes salary, overtime, insurance, and retirement costs and represents the largest portion of our budget. All other funding includes the costs for our entire vehicle fleet, annual training costs, headquarters maintenance costs, uniforms, issued equipment, and general daily operating costs. Capital Equipment costs reflect all purchases of equipment exceeding a five thousand dollar value.



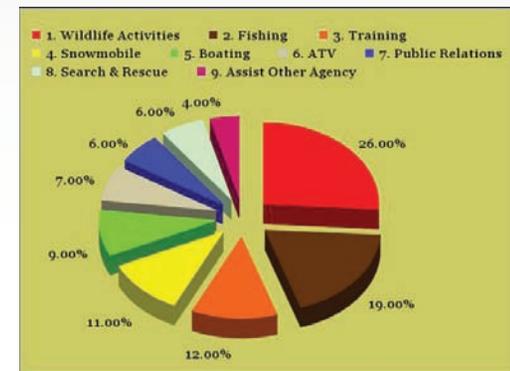
Included in this graph is a breakdown of costs in our total federal grant funding from the United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security and the United States Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing (COPS) program. The Maine Warden Service has worked diligently to identify and participate in federal grant opportunities to provide necessary financial support to our critical law enforcement role. These opportunities have allowed use to acquire vital capital needs for our field staff to include snowmobiles, all terrain vehicles, trailers, computers, and various technology needs. These federal grant opportunities have been an opportunity for the Warden Service to deal with the structural under funding that we have faced due to no general fund capital allotment being approved in past budgets.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Included in this graph are other special revenue accounts that contribute to our law enforcement mission. This funding totals \$946,996.41. They include a portion of the non-resident snowmobile registration, a portion of the lake and river protection sticker fee, a portion of the whitewater rafting head and allocation fee, a portion of the ATV enforcement grant program, and a portion of the supersport license designation. These funds pay for equipment, training, and personnel costs related with the regulation, licensing, and enforcement of activities that generate the funding.



This chart represents a broad breakdown of our enforcement personnel's work activities. Public relations are representative of any event in which our staff educates the public and promotes our mission. Examples would include hunting, trapping, or recreational safety courses, hooked on fishing not on drugs seminars, school outreach programs, or recruitment events. We are routinely asked by other law enforcement agencies, educational facilities, and community groups to speak about our mission and role in conservation law enforcement and search and rescue. Training activities include career development opportunities and mandatory certification requirements of our 125 sworn law enforcement officers.



Due to our unique mission, we have numerous specialty teams that train routinely in the disciplines necessary to make them the very best in the professional roles within the bureau. As state law enforcement officers we are called upon to support municipal, county, and state law enforcement agencies in their public safety missions and that is represented in our activities by our assist to other agency categories. The remainder of the categories would represent response to complaints, compliance inspections, and criminal and civil investigations relating to the specific activity.

15 YEAR LICENSE SALES TRENDS

Maine
Online
Sportsman's
Electronic
System



	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
RESIDENT														
Fishing	108,207	107,995	106,511	111,452	112,929	111,809	108,242	104,324	102,619	104,232	102,188	108,447	107,963	108,343
Comb. Arch. & Fish.	505	499	544	554	558	537	532	522	905	1,041	1,188	1,473	1,113	1,166
Comb. Hunt. & Fish.	77,423	75,316	72,771	75,569	76,472	77,902	77,082	78,709	76,414	75,010	75,016	73,879	73,774	71,775
Serviceman Comb.	531	539	504	511	499	373	327	1,015	1,376	1,711	1,880	1,653	1,553	1,378
Serviceman Fish						172	203	141	161	160	192	175	161	188
Serviceman Hunt						160	172	50	47	60	41	34	38	33
Archery	11,731	11,128	10,689	10,029	9,976	9,792	9,541	10,636	13,165	12,991	12,838	12,277	12,494	11,536
Hunting	68,450	68,245	68,452	65,706	64,561	61,848	60,317	56,525	56,224	54,701	52,273	51,846	50,824	50,659
Junior Hunting	15,156	14,883	15,081	15,413	15,834	16,097	16,325	17,515	17,578	16,993	15,920	15,234	14,349	13,578
Small Game	960	892	878	864	898	828	857	949	1,013	1,079	931	876	861	799
Superpack												724	954	1,865
Apprentice Hunt														679
Apprentice Archery														172
<i>subtotal Fishing</i>	186,666	184,349	180,330	188,086	190,458	190,621	186,386	184,761	181,522	182,214	180,464	186,351	185,518	184,715
<i>subtotal Hunting</i>	174,756	171,502	168,919	168,646	168,798	167,377	164,981	165,871	166,675	163,526	160,087	157,996	155,960	153,640
LIFETIME LICENSE														
Fishing						203	579	830	1,568	1,932	2,484	2,941	3,527	4,172
Hunting						49	141	204	322	381	512	599	685	785
Combination						1,074	2,751	3,625	6,125	7,530	9,864	13,243	17,022	20,945
<i>subtotal Fishing</i>						1,277	3,330	4,455	7,693	9,462	12,348	16,184	20,549	25,117
<i>subtotal Hunting</i>						1,123	2,892	3,829	6,447	7,911	10,376	13,842	17,707	21,730
Total Resident Licenses														
<i>Fishing</i>	186,666	184,349	180,330	188,086	190,458	191,898	189,716	189,216	189,215	191,676	192,812	202,535	206,067	209,832
<i>Hunting</i>	174,756	171,502	168,919	168,646	168,798	168,500	167,873	169,700	173,122	171,437	170,463	171,838	173,667	175,370

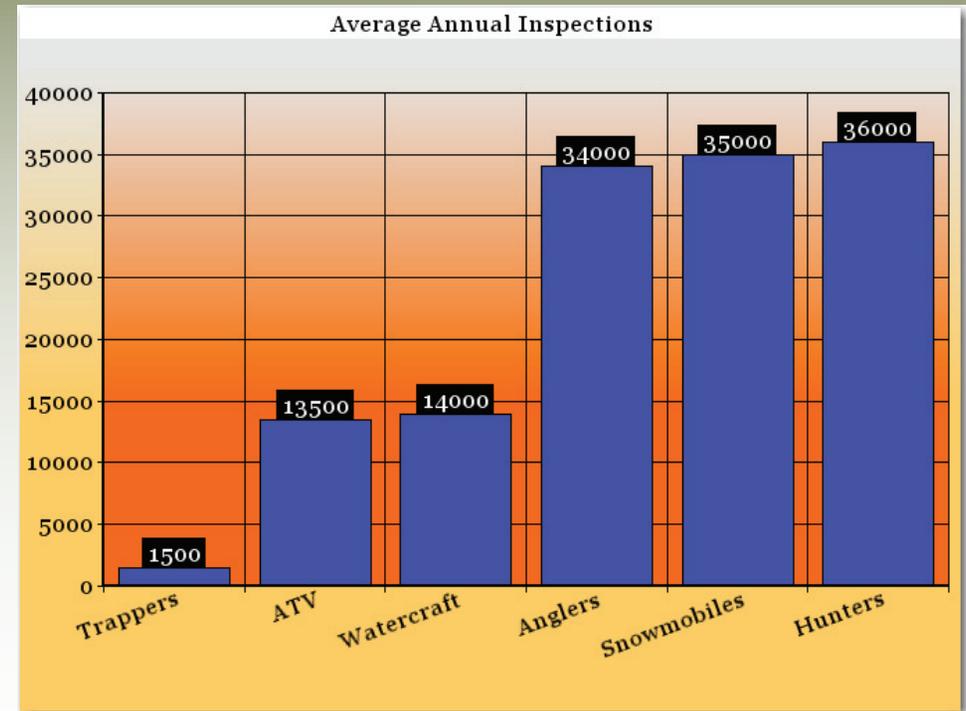
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
NONRESIDENT														
Season Fishing	12,926	12,724	12,765	13,137	13,979	14,412	14,621	15,106	14,933	15,537	15,992	16,266	16,804	16,805
1-Day Fishing	25,293	18,576	17,821	17,240	16,908	15,718	14,321	13,755	12,507	11,161	10,594	10,577	11,264	10,390
3-Day Fishing	24,507	23,299	22,763	22,675	22,697	22,882	22,110	22,385	20,405	20,121	19,865	19,686	20,471	19,457
7-Day Fishing	15,962	15,499	15,324	15,894	16,516	16,971	16,884	17,216	16,592	16,234	16,537	17,044	18,065	17,490
15-Day Fishing	4,325	4,607	4,702	4,806	4,467	4,443	4,371	4,006	4,072	3,854	3,607	3,757	3,760	3,712
Junior Fishing	5,327	5,293	5,230	5,356	5,456	5,350	5,160	5,249	5,155	4,939	4,628	4,685	4,842	4,580
Comb. Hunt. & Fish.	2,778	2,624	2,652	2,741	3,025	3,341	3,545	3,941	3,751	4,107	4,251	4,519	4,765	4,676
Archery	1,124	1,199	1,139	1,044	997	1,099	1,115	1,152	1,227	1,292	1,297	1,310	1,275	1,115
Big Game	29,654	29,871	29,775	30,069	30,666	31,398	30,579	30,676	29,509	28,861	27,189	26,067	24,103	20,878
Small Game	2,078	1,870	1,645	1,602	1,775	1,895	2,051	2,293	2,083	2,179	2,223	2,089	2,232	2,101
3-Day Small Game	734	1,242	1,485	1,628	1,678	1,715	1,862	2,017	2,175	1,970	2,004	1,932	2,001	1,900
Junior Hunt	120	354	542	635	729	773	768	877	959	933	961	925	925	866
Apprentice Hunt														97
Apprentice Archery														18
Apprentice Small Game														92
<i>Total Fishing</i>	91,118	82,622	81,257	81,849	83,048	83,117	81,012	81,658	77,415	75,953	75,474	76,534	79,971	77,110
<i>Total Hunting</i>	36,488	37,160	37,238	37,719	38,870	40,221	39,920	40,956	39,704	39,342	37,925	36,842	35,301	31,743
ALIEN														
Fishing	148	154	127	120	134	112	106	122	114	125	138	152	183	194
Comb. Hunt. & Fish.	43	33	39	29	33	30	19	26	31	21	40	41	35	26
Archery	30	17	18	8	15	12	11	13	28	12	18	9	1	4
Big Game	1,709	1,392	1,289	976	927	865	556	490	445	437	429	403	219	150
Small Game	103	79	75	58	65	79	52	53	40	38	40	32	61	69
<i>Total Fishing</i>	191	187	166	149	167	142	125	148	145	146	178	193	218	220
<i>Total Hunting</i>	1,885	1,521	1,421	1,071	1,040	986	638	582	542	508	527	485	316	249
NONRESIDENT & ALIEN SUBTOTAL														
<i>Total Fishing</i>	91,309	82,809	81,423	81,998	83,215	83,259	81,137	81,806	77,560	76,099	75,652	76,727	80,189	77,330
<i>Total Hunting</i>	38,373	38,681	38,659	38,790	39,910	41,207	40,558	41,538	40,246	39,850	38,452	37,327	35,617	31,992
GRAND TOTAL														
<i>Total Fishing</i>	277,975	267,158	261,753	270,084	273,673	275,157	270,853	271,022	266,775	267,775	268,464	279,262	286,256	287,162
<i>Total Hunting</i>	213,129	210,183	207,578	207,436	208,708	209,707	208,431	211,238	213,368	211,287	208,915	209,165	209,284	207,362



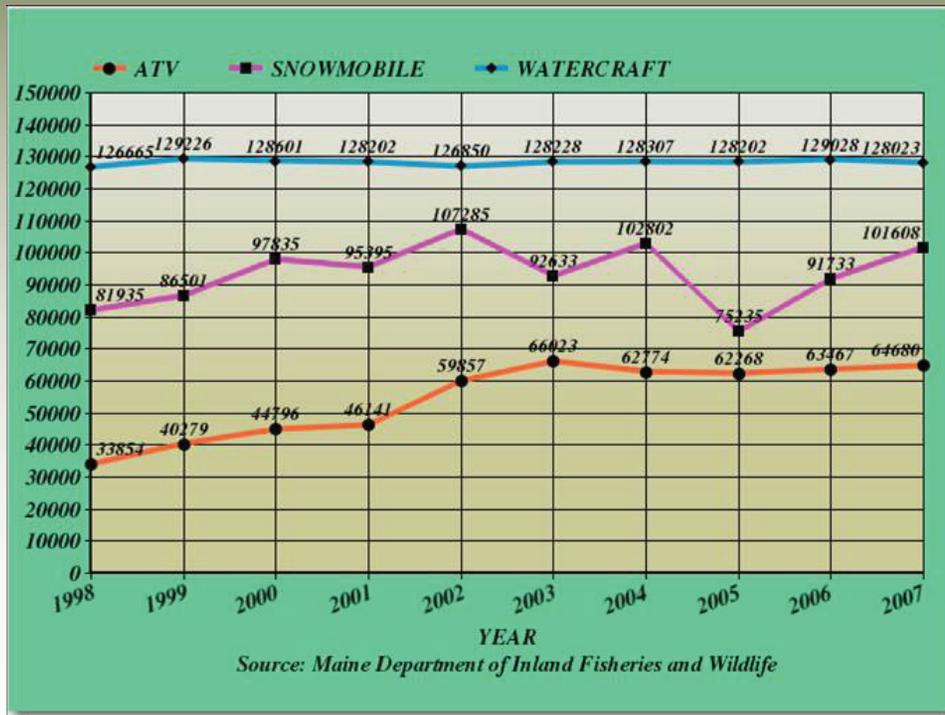
FIELD CONTACTS - INSPECTIONS

Each year, Maine Game Wardens inspect thousands of outdoor enthusiasts from trappers and anglers to ATV's and snowmobiles. Averages of 134,000 inspections are made every year. Inspection numbers sometimes fluctuate depending upon weather conditions and special enforcement efforts. The accompanying graph clearly illustrates our most frequent inspections. Trappers represent the fewest amounts of inspections made by Wardens while anglers, snowmobiles, and hunters share nearly equal inspection data every year. As registration trends continue to increase for ATV's, the amount of inspections will likely begin to increase proportionally.

Game Wardens are essentially the front door for the Bureau of Warden Service and often provide the only opportunity for sportspeople to engage in conversations with an IF&W employee. Inspections are critical to the mission of the Warden Service for both public relations and enforcement purposes. Both share an equally important role for the future of the bureau.



10-YEAR REGISTRATION TRENDS



Game Wardens spend a great deal of time enforcing laws related to recreational vehicles. Maine has approximately 6,000 lakes and ponds, and hundreds of miles of ATV and snowmobile trails. Combined, Maine registers approximately 300,000 recreational vehicles every year. Maine residents and riders from all over New England choose Maine as their destination for snowmobiling, boating, or ATV riding due to our vast waterways and trail systems.

Over the last ten years, registrations have remained consistent for watercraft, totaling nearly 128,000 annually. Boating in Maine remains a very popular recreation. All motor boats are required to have a Maine registration, although we do honor registrations from boats registered from other states. These motor boats include all motor propelled pleasure crafts, personal watercraft, and electric powered boats and canoes. Hand and wind powered vessels do not require registrations in Maine. However, they do account for a significant portion of our recreational boating traffic as they too enjoy all of Maine's lakes, ponds, rivers, and our 3,500 mile coastline.



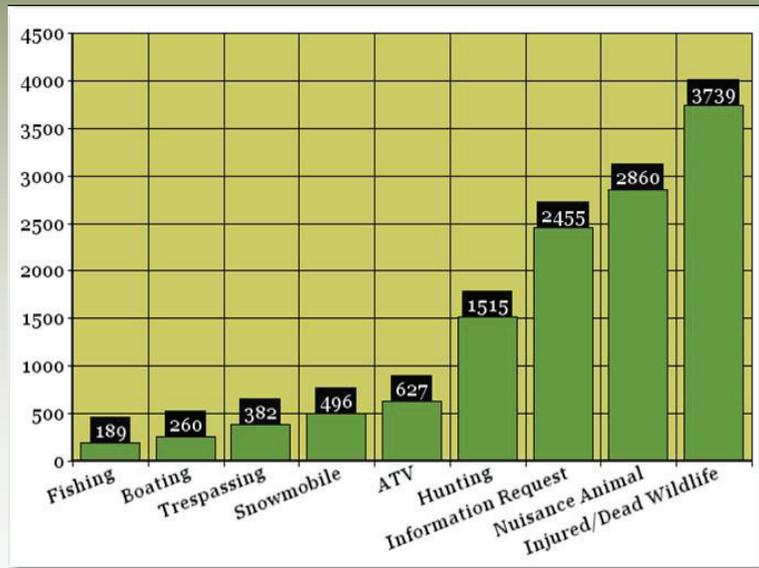
10-YEAR REGISTRATION TRENDS

Snowmobile registration numbers are the least predictable. They are often proportionally related to snow depths found across the state each year. Northern and Western portions of Maine consistently receive moderate amounts of snow, often totaling well over 150 inches of snow each year. When southern Maine finds itself in a light snow year, registrations will often be fewer as well. Non-residents from all over New England choose Maine as their favorite place to ride. Maine offers over 13,500 miles of groomed trails that interconnect to nearly all corners of the State. Registrations totals have fluctuated between a low of 75,235 in 2005 to a high of 107,285 in 2002. That is a difference of over 32,000 registrations in just 3 years.

ATV registrations are clearly trending toward higher numbers. In 2003 there was a peak of over 66,000 registrations in Maine. With the exception of that year, ATV registrations have shown a steady increase since 1998 and totaled 64,680 last year. The registration trend can likely be attributed to both the ability of four-season riding and the continuing effort to create and maintain good quality ATV designated trails. Additionally, ATV models have become very user specific. Some are now equipped with tracks for snow, camouflage for hunting, and two passenger versions for longer, more comfortable trail riding.



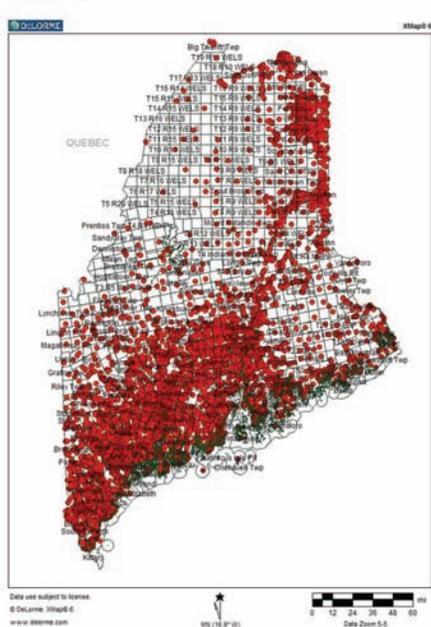
CALLS FOR SERVICE



The Maine Warden Service received nearly 19,000 calls for service in 2008. Calls are generated from the public and can range drastically from a simple information request to the reporting of a fatal crash or a lost child. Calls are compiled in our Records Management System (RMS) by dispatch centers, regional headquarters, and from Game Wardens. Much of the information contained within this report was taken directly from the RMS.

Calls for service are displayed in several graphs, illustrating quantity of calls, their type, and the time reported. Calls regarding information requests and nuisance wildlife topped our list for number of calls received in 2008. Hunting and recreational vehicle calls are also frequently dispatched to Wardens. Calls vary by season and generate a great deal of work for Wardens due to follow up telephone calls, emergency responses, and complex investigations.

The following map illustrates that most calls for service are generated from Maine's larger population centers. In this map, each town that generated a call for service received a red dot.

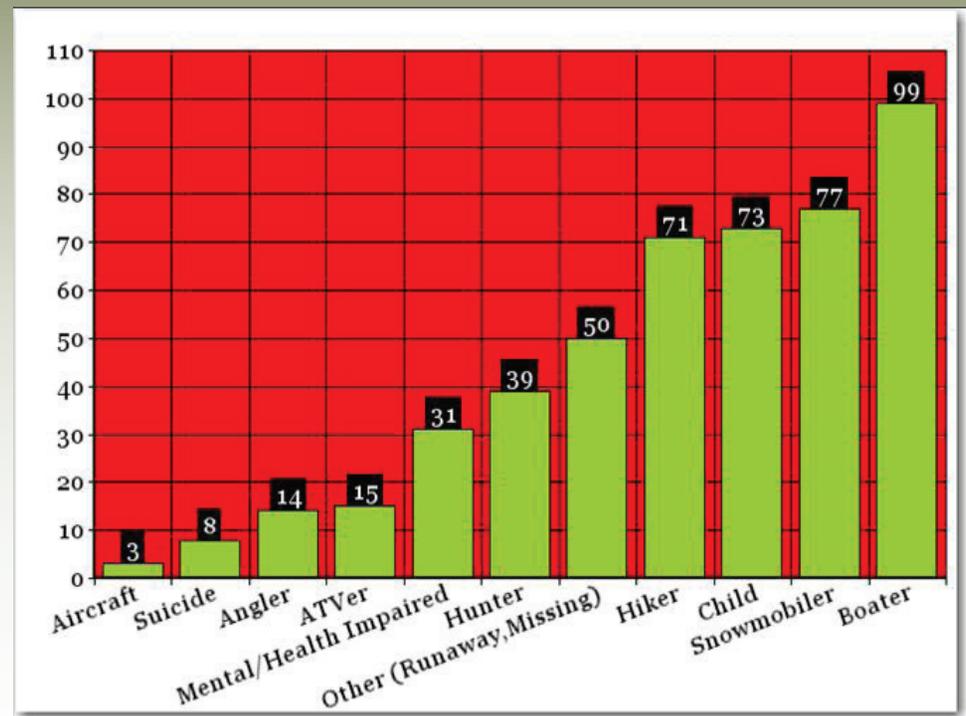


SEARCH AND RESCUE CALLS FOR SERVICE

The majority of calls were from the southern half of the state, however, due to the remoteness of some patrol areas, even sections of northern and western Maine that are virtually uninhabited produced several calls for service either from campers, hunters, fishermen, or sporting camps.

The Maine Warden Service has statutory authority to search for and manage resources whenever any person has gone into the woodlands or onto the inland waters of the State on a hunting, fishing, or other trip and has become lost, stranded, or drowned. The Warden Service exercises this authority and takes reasonable steps to ensure the safe and timely recovery of those persons.

In some cases when search and rescue missions become prolonged and resources beyond a district Game Warden are needed, the Maine Warden Service Incident Management Team (IMT) will oversee and manage these incidents. The IMT was created back in the 1980's to manage large scale and high priority searches occurring in the state of Maine.



SEARCH AND RESCUE



The Maine Warden Service received 480 calls for service last year related to search and rescue. Typical searches that Game Wardens respond to include lost children, overdue hikers, missing Alzheimer persons, lost hunters, and fisherman, overdue snowmobilers, and missing despondent individuals. The IMT is deployed for about 10 -15 searches a year based on the priority of the search or when it gets too large for local wardens to manage effectively.

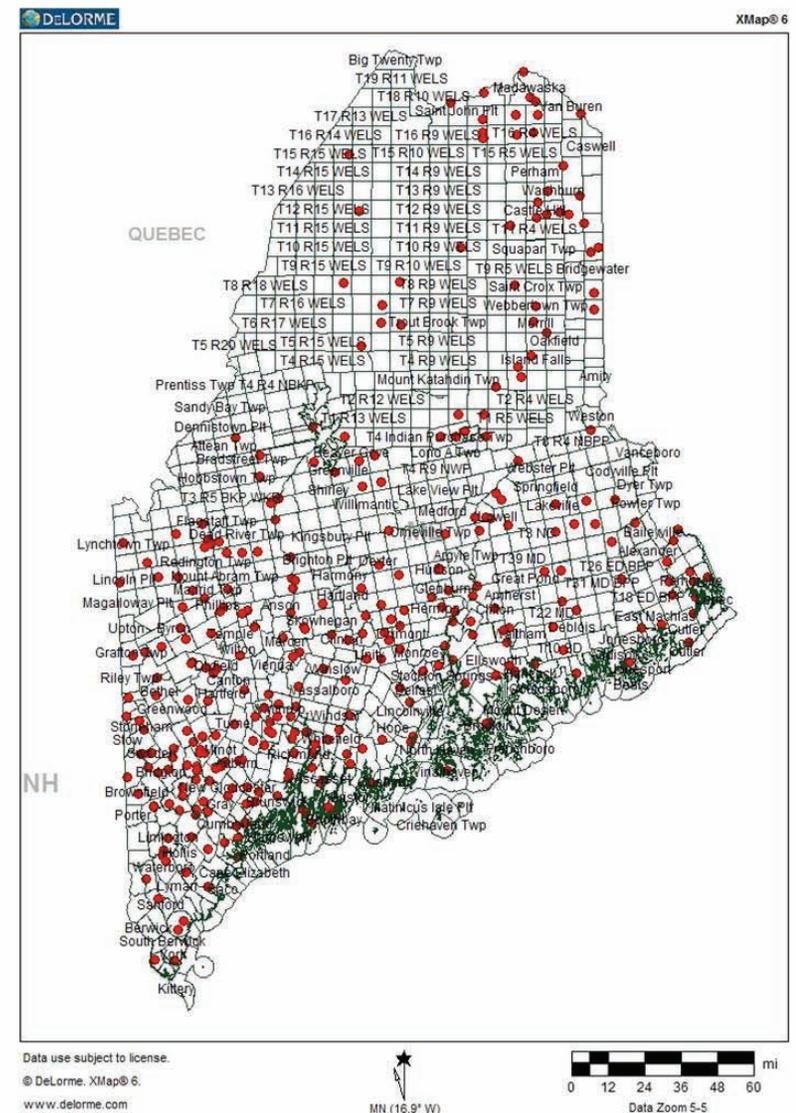
The IMT regularly provides assistance to other law enforcement agencies in the state. IMT has worked with the Maine State Police to provide assistance in missing person and homicide cases. We also provide assistance for people that are missing when a search of the area could assist in the investigation to better determine the location of that person.

Boating provided the most SAR calls at 99 missions, missing or lost snowmobile riders generated 77 incidents, 73 lost children were reported, and Wardens responded to 71 hikers in need of help.

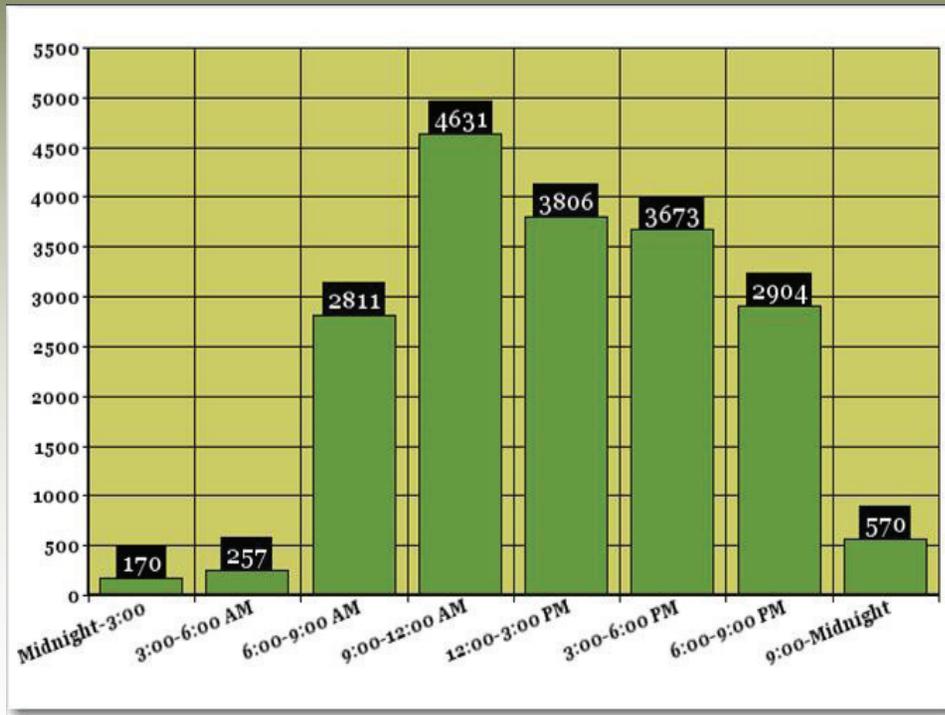
SEARCH AND RESCUE

As is the case with the calls for service map, we highlighted each search and rescue call as indicated by a red dot on the map. Game Wardens conduct and manage searches in Maine at any hour, location, and weather condition imaginable.

Search and/or rescue calls can vary greatly and include lost or overdue hikers, hunters, fisherman, boaters, snowmobilers, and ATV riders. Wardens also conduct missions to locate missing Alzheimer patients, nursing home residents, and assist in off road searches for victims or suspects related to other serious crimes.



CALLS FOR SERVICE BY TIME



Maine Game Wardens are available to the public for response 24 hours a day and 365 days per year. Calls are received at all hours of the day and can range greatly regarding call type. Wardens are the primary agency in Maine responsible for investigating fish and wildlife crimes, recreational vehicle crimes and crashes, conducting and managing search and rescue missions, and hunting related shootings. Additionally, Wardens respond to calls regarding information requests, law interpretations, as well as many other inquiries from the public covering a broad range of topics.



As shown in the following graph, calls occurring between the hours of 9:00 am and noon were the most frequent at 4,631 with the fewest calls occurring between midnight and 3:00 am totaling 170. Total calls for service for 2008 were nearly 19,000.

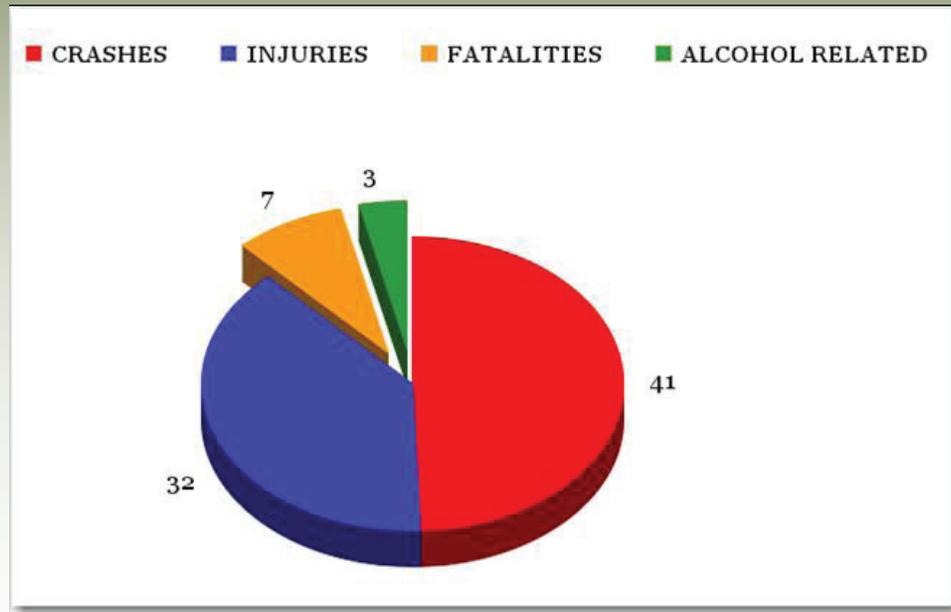
ATV CRASH RELATED DATA

A significant amount of effort has been placed on ATV law enforcement by Maine Game Wardens. Landowner complaints coupled with increasing registrations created a situation in the late 1990's in which the Warden Service had to re-evaluate its law enforcement presence and approach regarding ATV's. Many Game Wardens now have ATV's issued to them to assist in patrol. Funding has been secured in recent years to pay for special enforcement details to help combat localized areas of complaints. These details allow Wardens to focus specifically on ATV issues and have become an important factor in reducing complaints from the public regarding ATV's.

Trail systems have continued to grow and landowner cooperation is becoming easier for ATV clubs to use and maintain trail systems in many areas of Maine. The trails have provided a completely new adventure for the ATV rider, allowing clear access and hundreds of miles of riding opportunities. Due in part to the increased traffic, Game Wardens continue to respond to ATV crashes that involve either property damage, personal injury, or in some cases death. Wardens are responsible for investigating ATV crashes to gather crash statistics. They determine if violations of law have occurred that may have contributed to the crash. Drunk driving continues to be a contributing factor in many ATV rider fatalities. Totals for both ATV deaths and drunk driving have remained quite steady every year since 1998. Crashes and injuries however have trended downward since 2002.



BOATING CRASH DATA



Game Wardens are the primary law enforcement agency responsible for investigated watercraft crashes on the inland waterways of the state.

With more than 120,000 motorboats and tens of thousands of canoes, kayaks, and sailboats operating on Maine's waters, crashes involving injuries and property damage keep Wardens very busy during the summer boating season.

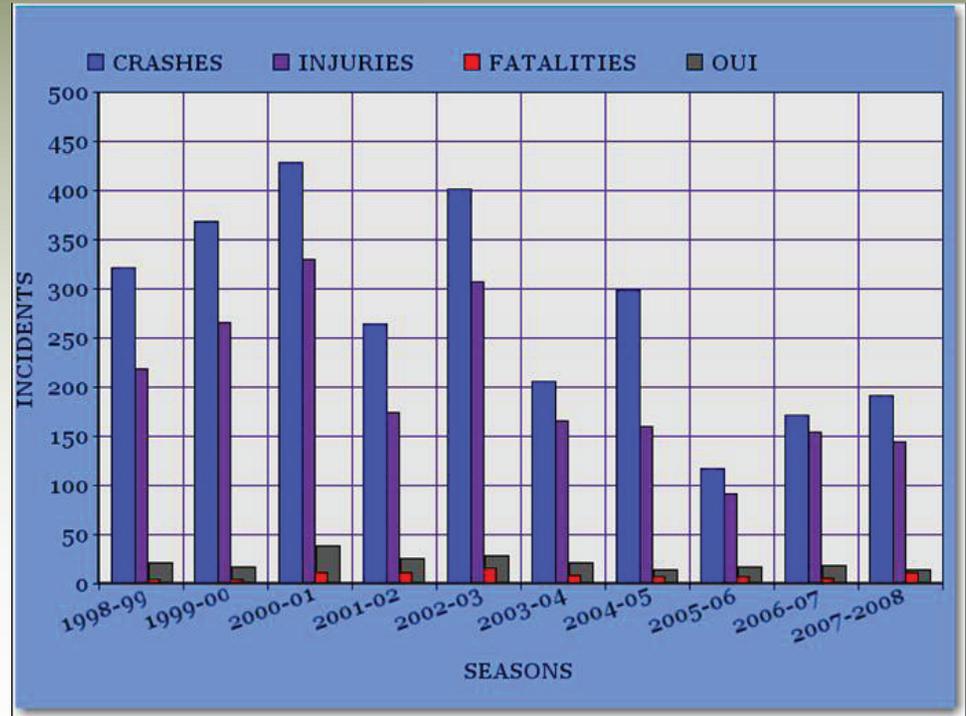
As indicated in the following chart, 41 boat crashes were reported last year in Maine. Of those, 32 people sustained injuries. Seven people died in boating related crashes in 2008 and three of the deaths were related to the use of alcohol.

Overall, boating in Maine is a very safe form of recreation and crashes as a percentage of all recreational boating traffic represents well below one-half of one percent.

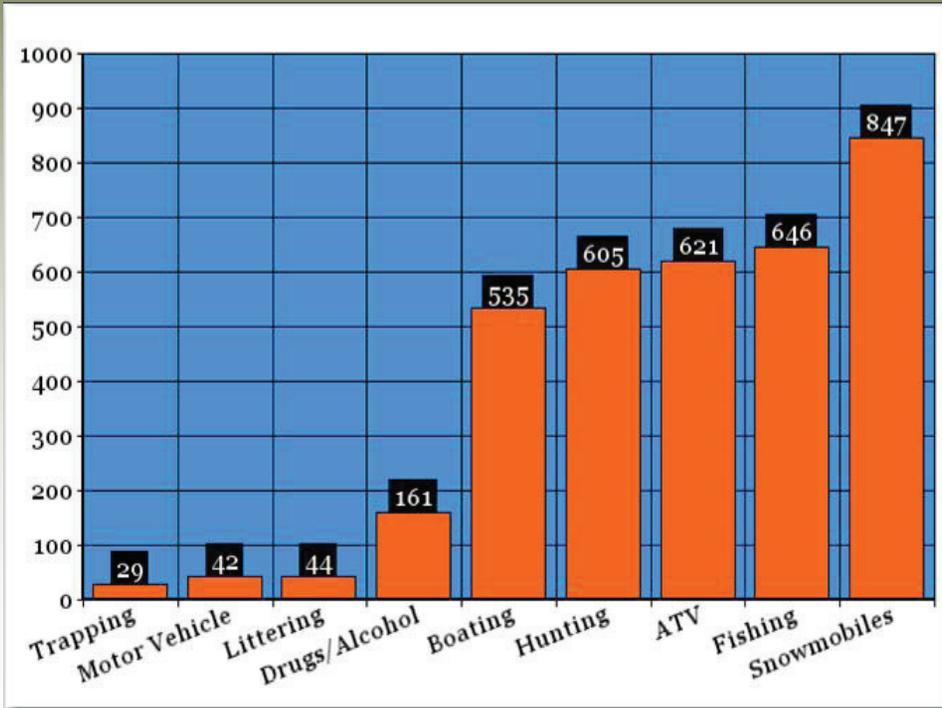
SNOWMOBILE CRASH DATA

As is the case with snowmobile registrations, yearly snowmobile crash totals can fluctuate dramatically from year to year depending upon snow depth. To help reduce the amount of snowmobile crashes and provide a safe sport for approximately 100,000 snowmobiling enthusiasts, Maine Game Wardens make snowmobile law enforcement one of their highest priorities during the winter, dedicating thousands of hours toward law enforcement and education. Wardens work from their snowmobiles, out of their patrol vehicles at trail crossings, and at snowmobile club meetings to help ensure snowmobile law compliance.

The accompanying graph shows that Game Wardens investigated a high of well over 400 crashes and nearly 350 injuries in the winter of 2001. The winter of 2006 proved to be the safest with fewer than 150 crashes reported. Unfortunately, drunk driving and crash related fatalities have remained at relatively consistent levels since 1998.



SUMMONSES BY CATEGORY



In 2008, Game Wardens issued more summonses related to snowmobiling than any other activity. This was due in part to an increased effort regarding security along Maine's border with Canada. Both federal and State funds were made available for border security. While inspecting border crossings for illegal activity during the winter of 2008, Wardens encountered thousands of snowmobiles in the course of their surveillance. In addition, Maine continues to attract thousands of U.S. residents to ride our 13,500 mile network of groomed trails.

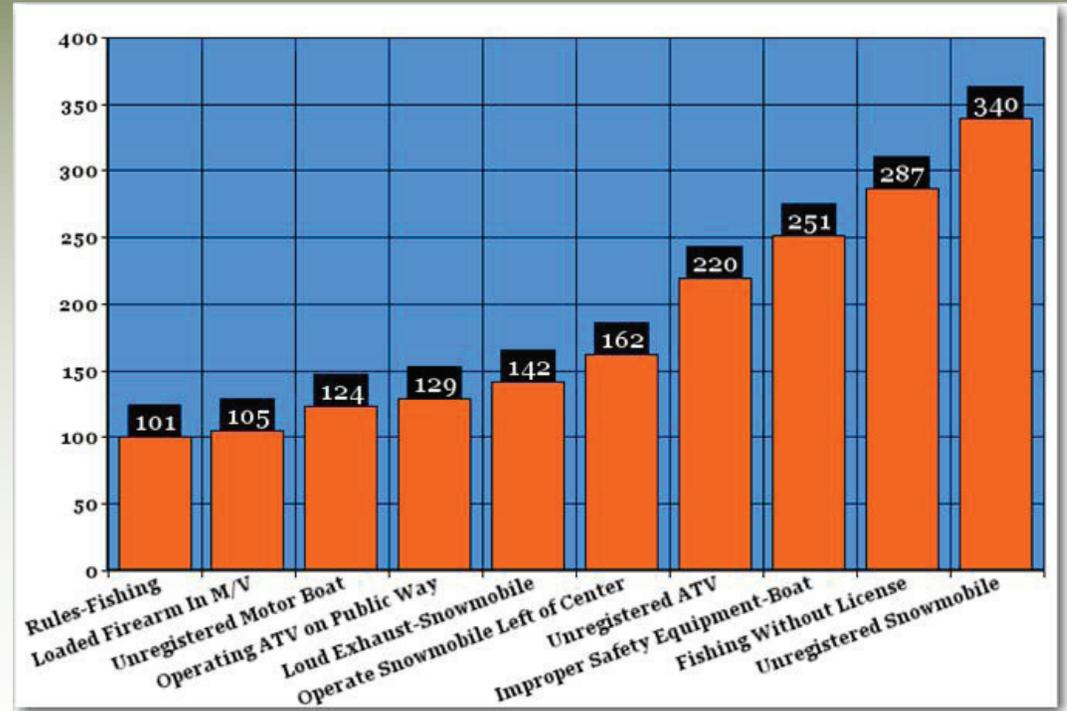
As indicated at left, snowmobiling infractions proved to be the most frequent category of violations for 2008. Page twenty one breaks down the violations into more detail. Fishing (646), ATV (621), Hunting (605), and Boating (535) citations followed closely behind. Trapping related violations proved to be the least frequently issued summons by Wardens in 2008. While trapping is still a popular activity in Maine, it falls short of the number of people involved in other licensed activities. Twenty nine summonses were issued in 2008 regarding trapping violations.

10 MOST FREQUENT SUMMONSES OF 2008

In 2008 Wardens issued well over 4,000 summons. Of those, we have provided the ten most frequently issued summonses by Game Wardens last year.

As indicated in the following graph, snowmobile violations topped the list. Specifically, operating an unregistered snowmobile was the most frequent summons issued last year by Game Wardens at 340. Fishing without a license was second at 287, followed by improper safety equipment in a watercraft at 251.

Although insufficient safety equipment includes fire extinguishers and other equipment, lifejacket violations were the most common.



ATV VIOLATION SUMMARY



Although ATV owners can find places to ride year-round in Maine, late spring and early summer is the unofficial start of the ATV season for Wardens. With almost 65,000 ATV's registered last year, Wardens inspected thousands of ATV's. All but a few ATV riders are very responsible and operate in compliance with Maine laws. During routine patrols and enforcement details last year, Wardens issued almost 600 citations to ATV riders operating in violation.

The graph that follows breaks down the summonses issued by type, of them the most frequent were registration violations at 243. The second most frequent was operating on roadways at 138 followed by helmet violations at 52.

Some parents or guardians continue to permit underage riders (less than 16) to operate ATV's. When an underage child is allowed to ride an ATV unaccompanied, Game Wardens can summons the parent or guardian. Fifty citations were issued last year regarding underage operation.

In some cases, unaccompanied children are operating with very little experience, without helmets, operating oversized machines, or may be riding beyond their capabilities. Furthermore, they run the risk of delayed emergency aid if they become lost or become involved in a crash. Game Wardens issued 15 summonses in 2008 to ATV riders operating under the influence of alcohol.

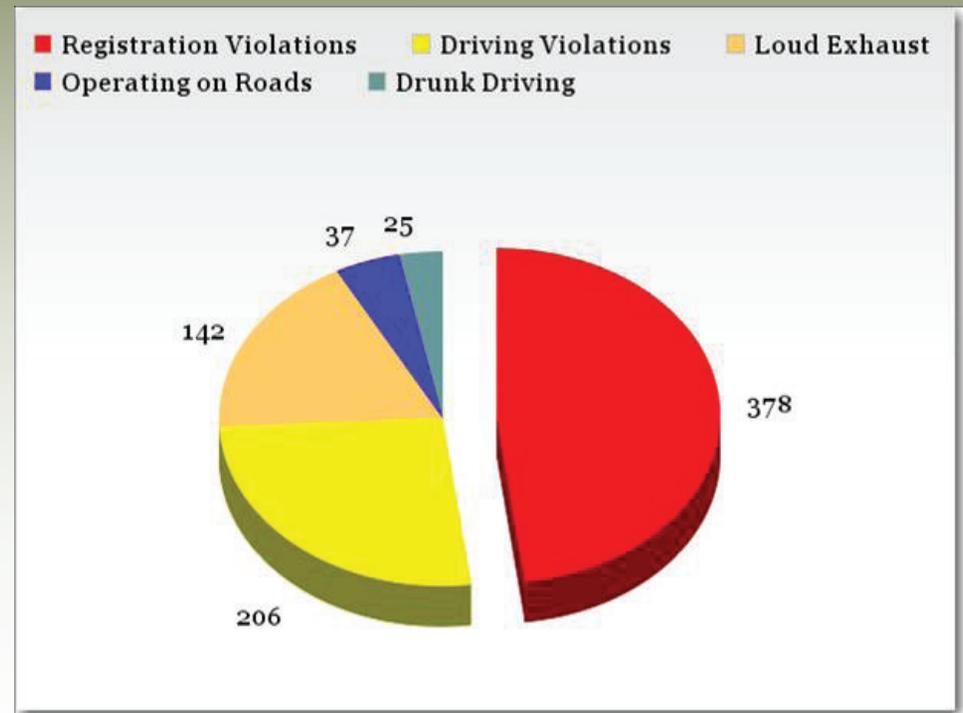
SNOWMOBILE VIOLATION SUMMARY

The entire State of Maine experienced a great deal of snow in the winter of 2008. Snowmobile registrations topped nearly 102,000 and Wardens were on patrol in force. Work was performed day and night and included special details from the Canadian border to the southern coast.

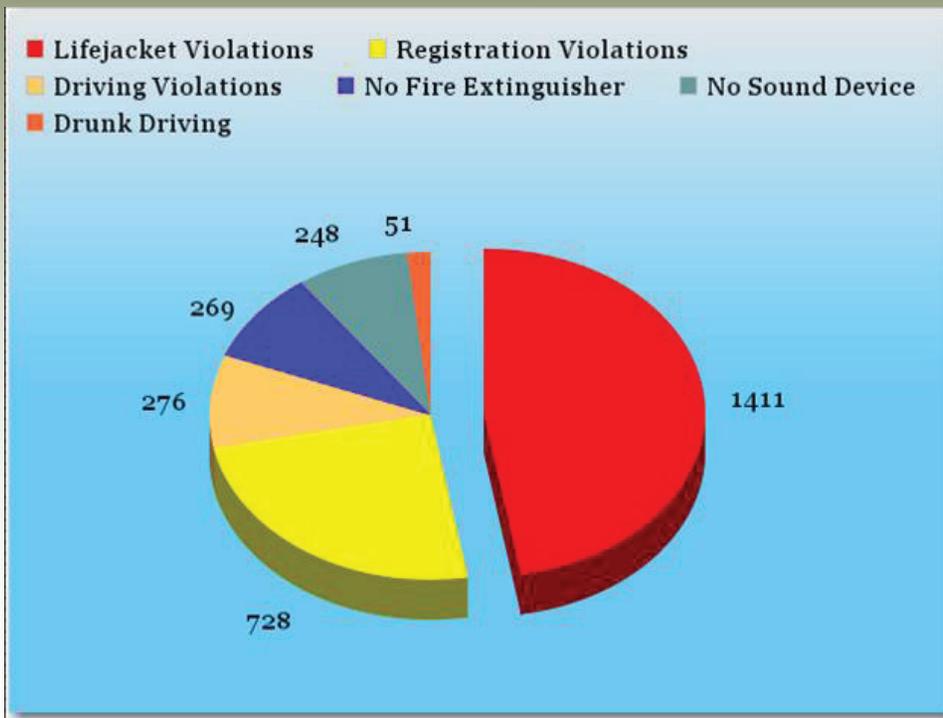
Game Wardens issued nearly 800 summonses to snowmobile riders found in violation. The most frequent of which were registration summonses at 378. Driving violations such as operating left of center, imprudent operation, operating to endanger, and reckless operation were detected and totaled 206.

Wardens strictly enforce noise requirements on snowmobiles to maintain a sense of reasonable expectations regarding loud exhausts and noise pollution. Loud exhausts accounted for 142 summonses. Thirty seven summonses were issued to snowmobile operators who either exceeded the distance limitation of 500 yards on Maine roads or they operated on plowed roads.

Wardens issued 25 summonses to people riding snowmobiles under the influence of alcohol.



BOATING VIOLATION SUMMARY



The following graph illustrates the total warnings and summonses issued to boaters in 2008. Of the 23,707 inspections performed by Wardens, six categories of violations are highlighted as being the most common detected.

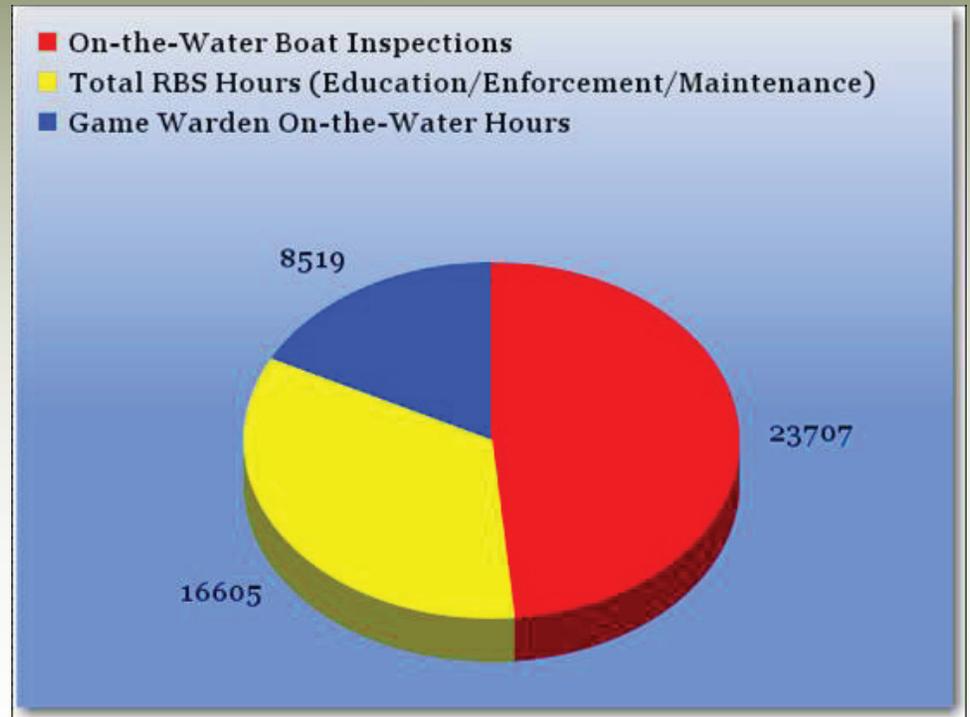
The most frequent encountered violations last year pertained to lifejackets, totaling 1,411. Registration violations such as expired stickers and failing to display registrations were the second most frequent at 728.

Wardens detected 276 driving violations including headway speed, towing skiers without observers, and operating watercrafts to endanger. Game Wardens detected 269 motor boat drivers who had no fire extinguishers while 248 drivers operated boats with no sound making device. Fifty one operators were summonsed and/or arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol.

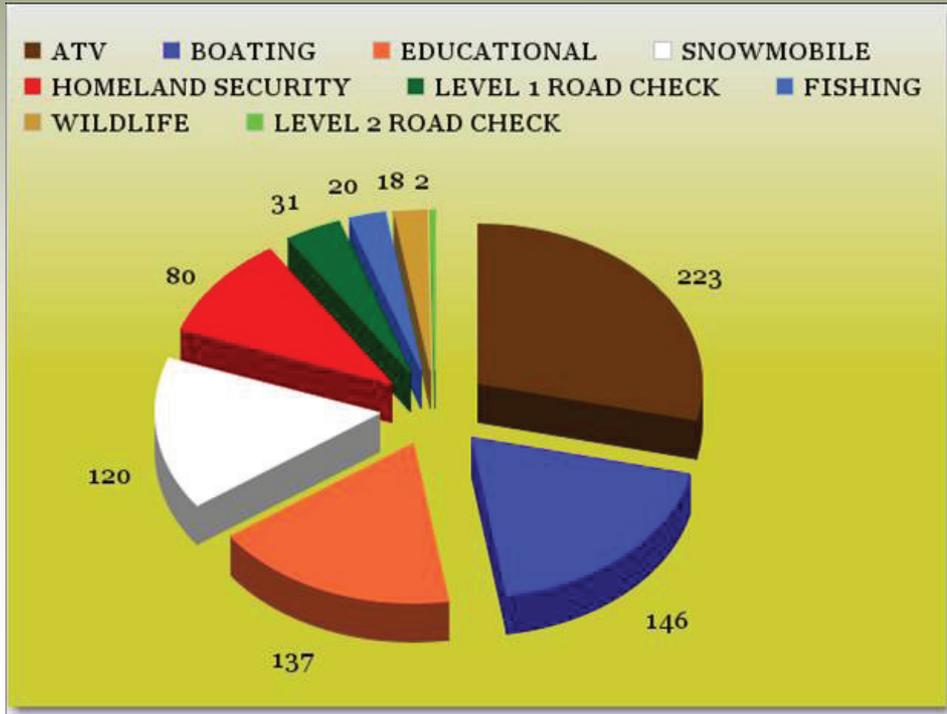
RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY EFFORT

In addition to State funding, the Maine Warden Service receives federal U.S. Coast Guard dollars that greatly aids inland recreational boating law enforcement efforts. In 2008, Game Wardens put that money to good use and inspected 23,707 watercrafts. A significant amount of time was dedicated towards recreational boating safety, education, and enforcement. Total time spent on all watercraft related activity for 2008 was 16,605 hours. These hours included educational speaking engagements to schools, lake associations, and other public forums.

Of the 16,605 hours, Game Wardens spent 8,519 hours on the water enforcing boating laws to enhance public safety. One hundred and forty six boating details were performed by Wardens in a combined effort to reduce drunk driving and promote compliance with all of Maine's boating laws.



SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT DETAILS



As part of an effort to focus attention on issues regarding education, resource protection, and public safety, Maine Game Wardens performed 777 details in 2008. The intent of a special enforcement detail is to focus attention on a particular issue and dedicate workforce efforts toward a particular goal. Details have proven very effective and compliment the general law enforcement efforts of day-to-day Warden work.

ATV enforcement details were the most common performed in 2008 totaling 223. Many ATV details were the result of State funded grants intended to reduce ATV violations and/or complaints in towns or clusters of towns. An enforcement detail usually takes place on weekday afternoons or on weekends during hours of peak ATV activity.

Boating (146), educational (137), and snowmobile (120) details were the next most frequently performed respectively. Boating and snowmobile details are performed similarly to ATV enforcement details. Wardens make thousands of contacts with recreational vehicle operators during these details over the course of a year.

Wardens spend hundreds of hours each year educating schoolchildren, the public, and other law enforcement agencies regarding regulated outdoor activities.

Hunter education and recreational vehicle safety courses are attended regularly by Game Wardens. Public outreach of this nature influences those who enjoy outdoor recreation for life. Education at this level will often influence someone's understanding and behavior regarding outdoor sports in ways that will last a lifetime.

Speaking engagements create a non-law enforcement environment that establishes a relationship with the public that focuses on teamwork and the fact we all own a piece of Maine's outdoors and that we are all responsible for protecting it and making it safe.



HOMELAND SECURITY



Firearms and drugs seized at checkpoint



Illegal ATV entry into the United States

Wardens work closely with the United States Border Patrol and participate regularly with enforcement efforts to enhance public safety along Maine's border with Canada.

Eighty special details were performed by Game Wardens regarding Homeland Security in 2008. Several critical contacts were made during these details regarding illegal entry and drug smuggling.



Illegal border crossing

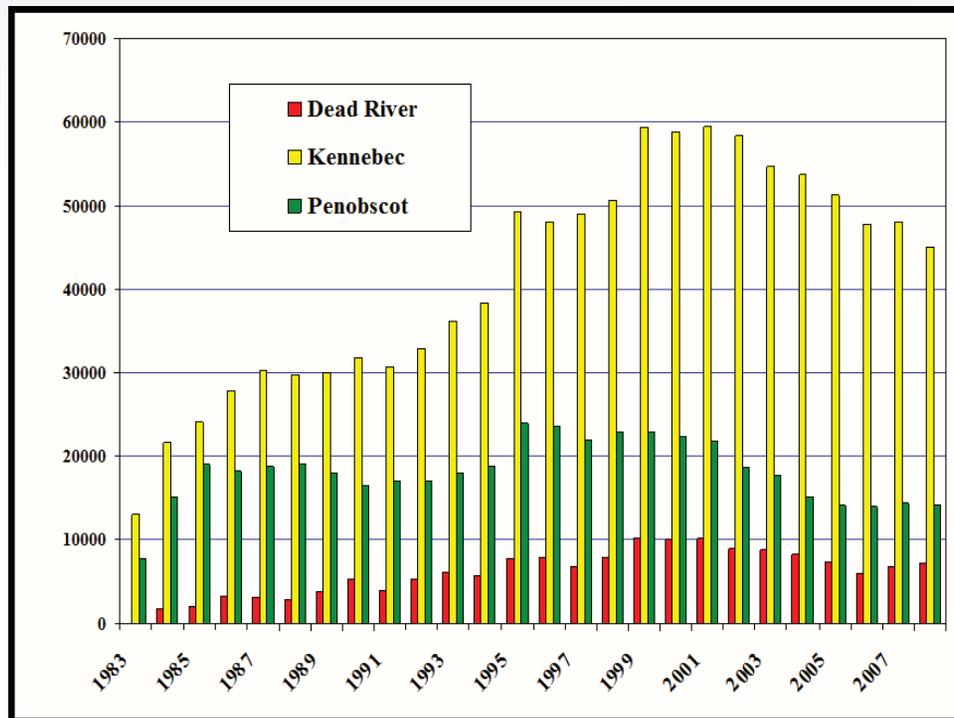
FISH AND WILDLIFE CHECKPOINTS

Fishing and wildlife details were performed at times and locations specifically focused on apprehending violators of Maine's fish and wildlife resources. Of those details, some are in the form of roadway checkpoints. Level one checkpoints consist of preplanned roadblocks on secondary roads. Level 2 checkpoints are performed less frequently and are executed on major roads.

In both cases, the checkpoints are used to stop and talk with hunters and anglers, in an effort to collect critical data and enforce fish and wildlife law. Every year, Game Wardens seize large amounts of illegally obtained fish, wildlife, and drugs and investigate hundreds of cases resulting from special details. Wardens work tirelessly to enhance and protect Maine's unsurpassed fish and wildlife resources.



WHITewater RAFTING INDUSTRY



Fiscal Year	Revenue	County 10%	Conservation 25%	IF&W Dept. 65%
2005	139,917.98	13,991.72	34,979.31	90,946.21
2006	94,503.22	9,450.32	23,625.81	61,427.09
2007	95,732.78	9,573.27	23,933.20	62,226.31
2008	90,869.00	9,086.90	22,717.25	59,064.85

The Whitewater industry in Maine catered to approximately 66,452 commercial rafting passengers during the 2008 rafting season (January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2008).

The commercial Whitewater rafting industry is a tremendous economic asset to the State of Maine. The industry is complex and requires an extensive investment of time by the Department to fulfill the responsibilities required by the State. In 1999, the Department hired a full time Game Warden to work as a Whitewater Boating Officer to enforce whitewater rafting rules and regulations and complete administrative duties associated with whitewater rafting. Since 1999, the creation of this full time position dedicated to Whitewater activities has led to a significant increase in the monies both budgeted and expended within the Warden Service Whitewater account.

Title 12, section 10259-B; states that all monies from the fund shall be expended solely for purposes related to river recreation, with primary emphasis on those activities which relate to whitewater trips, including, but not limited to, administration, regulation, safety education, enforcement, mitigation of environmental and safety problems, and mitigation of any adverse effect on competing use of the river. The fund shall not be used to pay the cost of administering the whitewater outfitters' license program or the guide license program.

During the whitewater rafting season the Department Whitewater Boating Officer spends the majority of time at the Dead, Kennebec, and West Branch of the Penobscot Rivers enforcing whitewater boating rules

WHITEWATER SUMMARY

and regulations, and working with outfitters, guides, private boaters, and Florida Power and Light employees. In addition to weekly river enforcement duties, the boating officer must spend time weekly, dealing with administrative tasks out of the boating office located in Augusta. During the rafting off-season, the boating officer contributes approximately 40 hours a week completing administrative responsibilities, such as meetings with the outfitters, Whitewater Guides Board, and other tasks associated with Whitewater rafting program.

FY 2005 – 2008

Whitewater Rafting Fund Report for the Legislature

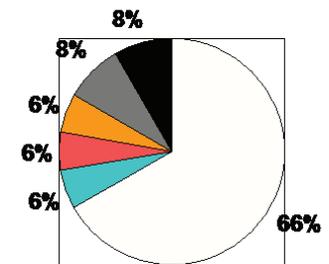
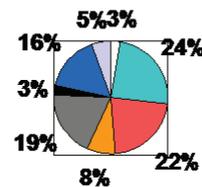
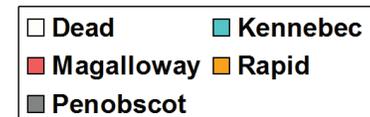
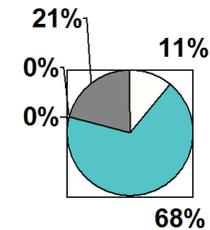
Fund Established Title 12 Section 10259-1:

1. There is established a Whitewater Rafting Fund to be used by the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, the Department of Conservation, Bureau of Parks and Lands, and the affected counties and municipalities to fund activities related to river recreation with primary emphasis on those activities which relate to whitewater trips.

Justification Statement:

The Whitewater rafting fund is intended to mitigate environmental problems and any adverse effect on competing uses of rivers and to promote safety, education, and enforcement on the rivers. This program dedicates sixty-five percent of the revenue to remain with the Department for administration and enforcement of the whitewater rafting laws and rules, twenty-five percent is dedicated to the Department of Conservation, and ten percent to the affected counties.

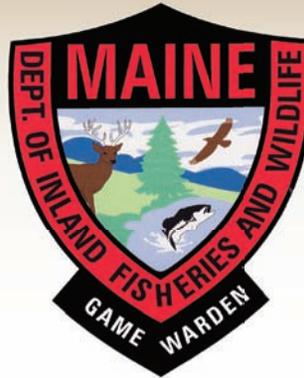
Total Passengers Carried per River



2008 SECTION REVIEWS



2008 SECTION REVIEWS



Section One

Warden Mike Joy and Sgt. Tim Spahr conducted an investigation that led to a night hunting confession and charges. It turns out that a Kittery police sergeant was parked along a road when a hunter shot a large buck only several hundred feet away 30 minutes past legal time. Warden Joy's follow up investigation included finding the deer the next morning and subsequently locating and interviewing the subject who confessed to the violation.

Warden Mike Pierre and Sgt. Spahr conducted an interview per OGT information of a subject who had killed two buck and only tagging one. In the initial interview, the subject denied the charges but by the week's end called in to confess. He had in fact killed a buck early in the season without tagging it and only tagged the second buck.

Warden Eric Blanchard surprised two duck hunters who expected him to have been working deer hunters on Saturday. Warden Blanchard watched the two hunters on an island in the Saco River for several hours knowing at least one was hunting with an unplugged shotgun. Warden Blanchard waited for the tide to drop low enough to access the island and confirmed the violation. There was also lead buck shot found within the steel shot.

Warden Mike Pierre apprehended three salmon poachers on the Presumpscot River.

Wardens Eric Blanchard and Chris Cloutier investigated a moose kill in which the subject stated he had mistaken the 500 pound moose for a doe deer.

Warden John Lonergan was successful in working with the Portland Press Herald in getting a front-page story on three moose illegally killed in Acton over a three year period. All three moose have been killed within a two mile radius making Warden Lonergan to suspect all three may have been killed by the same poachers.

Warden Eric Blanchard investigated a shooting incident where a man was shot while bird hunting. The incident involved two hunters with dogs. One hunter apparently shooting at a flushed ruffed grouse hit his hunting partner. The victim suffered bird shot wounds to the face, shoulder, abdomen, and leg.

Warden John Lonergan and Sgt. Tim Spahr responded to a complaint of a turkey being shot on a paved road. Upon arriving at the scene, the two wardens not only observed turkey blood on the road but piles of corn around the subject's residence. Upon questioning the subject, he stated that he was baiting to keep wildlife near his house and that he was helping them by feeding them. The subject shot the turkey from the corner of his house. Another turkey had been shot at his residence earlier that day. The subject claimed that his wife shot it in her pajamas. He was summonsed for hunting turkey over bait.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Sgt. Spahr was awarded the 2008 Conservation Award by the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve. They cited his long-standing work on stream and river protection.

Wardens Norm Lewis, Chris Cloutier, Dave Chabot, Jeremy Judd, Mike Joy, and Sgt. Tim Spahr responded to an incident where a man swam to his moored sail boat on Sebago Lake. After tending his boat, he was then witnessed going under the water and not returning to the surface. Wardens Lewis and Sgt. Spahr located the subject in 15 feet of water and recovered him.

Wardens Eric Blanchard, John Lonergan, Jason Luce, Norman Lewis, Sgt. Timothy Place, Lt. Adam Gormely, and Sgt. Tim Spahr, all participated with presidential security. President George W. Bush visited Kennebunkport and while visiting, enjoyed several mountain bike trips in the Massebesic National Forest. During the last several years, the U.S. Secret Service has called upon the Warden Service to provide specialized protection for the President. In the past wardens have been called upon to secure utility facilities like power lines and bridges as part of motorcade security.

When the President visited the Wells National Estuarine Reserve several years ago to celebrate Earth Day, no less than 10 wardens secured the forested perimeter around the President during his speech. More recently, the President has enjoyed mountain biking when visiting Maine and again, the Maine Warden Service has been called upon as the lead assisting agency to the Secret Service in planning and securing the President's cycling and running.

Wardens Eric Blanchard, Mike Pierre, Chris Cloutier, Warden Pilot Dan Dufault, and Sgt. Tim Spahr responded to a report of a 2 to 4 year



old child that had allegedly disappeared. Two parks and recreation workers sitting in a truck observed a small child arrive at a swing set along the Saco River in Saco, get off his tricycle and go to the swing set. Waiting several minutes without seeing adults follow the child, the workers got out of their trucks only to observe that child missing. The tricycle was traced back to a household that owned the tricycle and a small child.

After several hours into this search, all of the aforementioned wardens responded to a drowning at Highland Lake in Windham. Two men traveling in a high speed boat jumped off the boat while moving. One man did not surface and subsequently drowned. Several days of searching by Warden Service Dive Team assisted by Maine State Police and Maine Marine Patrol Divers located the victim in approximately 60 feet of water.

Warden Blanchard and Sgt. Spahr investigated the unusual death of five goats in Waterboro. Most of the goats were killed without being consumed by the predators. Investigation into the matter found coyote hair caught on several areas along a barbed wire fence indicated the sheep were killed by coyote.

Warden Mike Pierre assisted on two boating related rescues, one on the Saco River in Brownfield and one on Sebago Lake. The rescue on the Saco River resulted in two canoes capsizing and the canoes becoming stuck on some trees. Wdn Pierre used an airboat to retrieve the canoeist, upright their canoes, and retrieve their gear. Inexperience was the cause of the incident. On Sebago Lake, three 19 year olds capsized a mile off shore in the high wind conditions with no lifejackets. Wdn Pierre assisted in the rescue and then issued the three canoeists summonses for no lifejackets.

On July 4 at 9:30 A.M., Warden Eric Blanchard conducted a safety inspection of a watercraft on Arrowhead Lake. Determining that the boat operator was impaired by alcohol, Warden Blanchard arrested the subject and had him transported to the Alfred State Police Barracks for intoxicilyzer. The subject came back with a blood Alcohol level of 0.24 or three times the legal limit. Just a week before, Warden Blanchard observed the same subject, with his wife, anchored in a cove near their camp and both were intoxicated. Not observing operation, Warden Blanchard terminated their

YEAR IN REVIEW

boating activity and towed them to shore. He returned a week later to find the man operating. This time the operator's trip was not back to his camp but to the York County Jail.

Warden's Kevin Pelky, John Macdonald, and Sgt. Tim Spahr assisted South Portland P.D. in the recovery of a probable suicide victim last Wednesday. The subject was last seen purchasing duct tape at the Home Depot in South Portland and security cameras showed him walking towards Clarke's Pond Point which is located directly behind Home Depot. An exhaustive two-day search, to include Warden Pilot Dan Dufault and MSAR dogs, did not locate the subject until he was finally found in a drainage pipe. The Three wardens were subsequently awarded "Official Commendations" from South Portland PD for their involvement in this case.

Warden John Lonergan and Sgt. Spahr assisted Maine State Police in searching for an assaultive ATV rider. The ATV rider was confronted by the landowner at which time the assaultive subject punched the landowner in the face causing him to fall and sustain head injuries and be transported to Southern Maine Medical Center. Wardens assisted Maine State Police but did not locate the subject.

Warden Eric Blanchard observed a subject exceed the bag limit on brook trout on Ossipee Lake. After observing the subject for several hours, Warden Blanchard watched the subject take one extra brook trout back to his camp, a total of three fish, and then return to continue fishing. When Warden Blanchard confronted the subject, he denied having caught any other trout for the day. After further questioning, however, the subject confessed to keeping three brook trout and took Warden Blanchard to his camp. The subject was summonsed for over the limit on Brook Trout.

Warden Blanchard and Sgt. Tim Spahr investigated a report of a turkey hunter on posted property. A subject in a truck had crossed posted signs and drove into a field firing twice at the turkey. The subjects missed the turkey and fled. After several hours of follow-up investigations, Warden Blanchard and Sgt. Spahr located the subject in an apartment complex in Saco. At first the subject was deceptive about his actions that morning but soon confessed. He was summonsed for Criminal Trespass.

York County Sheriff's Office contacted Warden Service this weekend requesting assistance in looking for a missing 15 year old female. The Girl was described as having gender identification issues and may have been suffering from depression due to those issues. Section One wardens offered assistance; however, there was no indication that the girl was lost. All information indicated that she had run away. She was located the next day and she had run away.



Wardens Eric Blanchard, Mike Joy, John Lonergan, Mike Pierre, and Sgt. Tim Spahr attended Jet Ski training at Sebago Lake. Sections one and two received jet skis for law enforcement patrol through a loan program offered by a regional Jet Ski dealer. To operate jet skis in law enforcement situations, wardens must undergo at least eight hours of specialized training in the operation of this watercraft. All wardens successfully completed the training and are now utilizing this new craft as a tool in law enforcement boating enforcement.

Sgt. Spahr and Warden Neal Wykes responded to a 911 call of two missing swimmers in Sebago Lake off Raymond Beech. Three teenage males swam off shore shortly after nightfall with one turning back. After waiting a while for his friends to return, the returning teenager called 911 concerned that his friends may have been in trouble. Shortly after the wardens had responded, the two other teenagers returned to shore uninjured.

The Southwestern Division had a very busy Memorial Day weekend. In approximately an hour and a half the Officer of the Day received the following complaints:

1. A missing 70 year old man with Alzheimer's.
2. A snowmobile and man in the water on Long Lake. The man attempted to cross Long Lake on the sled.
3. A suicidal Oxi Contin addict with a gun on an ATV.

YEAR IN REVIEW

4. A capsized boat on Sebago Lake with two men in the water, later reported to have been intoxicated and uncooperative.
5. Two Life Flight ATV medical evacuations.

Warden Mike Pierre and Sergeant Tim Spahr assisted Gorham P.D. in investigating a fatal dirt bike incident. The original report indicated that the 15 year old operator was off the road. However, upon arriving, law enforcement determined that he was operating on a paved public road, lost control and ran into a telephone pole just off the road. Warden Service assisted Gorham P.D.



Warden Eric Blanchard along with Wardens John Lonergan, Mike Joy and Sgt. Tim Spahr executed a search warrant in Shapleigh for firearms and an illegally taken turkey. The turkey had been shot within 100 yards of a home with both a 410 and 12 gauge shotguns. The discharge most probably took place very near the paved portion

of the road. Further investigation also discovered that the turkey taken had been falsely registered. Firearms and the turkey were seized.

Warden Blanchard assisted State Police where multiple ATV operators entered a working and posted gravel pit in Dayton. The ATVers proceeded to harass the owner stating they would ride there and there was nothing he could do about it. As Warden Blanchard and SP units entered the gravel pit, all ATVs sped away into the woods. Warden Blanchard then pursued on foot until he located the subjects at a rally point. He then came from around a tree and took their picture stating "you can run but I have your pictures". No one ran and they were summonsed for multiple violations.

Wardens John Lonergan and Eric Blanchard along with Section Two Wardens John MacDonald and Kevin Pelky conducted a brook fishing detail in the Parsonsfield area identifying five fishing without license violations, one use of worms in an ALO water, and one possession of a short trout.

Wardens Eric Blanchard, John Lonergan, Mike Joy and Sgt. Tim Spahr responded to a report of a missing man in Biddeford. The man was last seen on a train bridge that crosses the Saco River. The man last seen by his friend was believed to have been intoxicated and a continued search of the river is being conducted. The body of the man who had been searched for by Warden Airboat teams was located deceased near one of the Biddeford/Saco industrial dams. Further investigation to the cause of death is being conducted by Biddeford P.D. and the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner.

Wardens John Lonergan, Mike Joy and Sgt. Tim Spahr along with Wardens Neil Wykes, Toni Gray, Investigator Dan Scott, and Deputy Warden John Baron, conducted several salmon details on Sebago Lake this week identifying two subjects who had exceeded their bag limit on salmon.

Warden John Lonergan and Sgt. Tim Spahr conducted an investigation of several Mountain Lion photographs that were reported to have been taken in Acton, Maine. After investigating the general area the Puma was reported sited, and after consulting Regional Biologist Scott Lindsey, the wardens learned that the photographs they had received were originally taken in Wyoming. These photos were found on the internet. The report was a fraud.

Warden Eric Blanchard and Sgt. Spahr investigated a report of an owl that was trapped with a leg-hold trap and in captivity. Upon arriving at the location, both wardens observed the owl in a cage. The subject who trapped the owl raised chickens and pigeons and admitted to trapping two owls over the last several months. The owl was transported to a wildlife rehabilitator.

Warden Lonergan also investigated a criminal trespass case in which a turkey blind had been removed by a land owner two years ago. The owner of the turkey blind had come forward accusing several other hunters of stealing his blind. Warden Lonergan advised the subject that his blind was taken by the landowner who did not want him hunting on that property. Warden Lonergan closed the investigation with a written warning.

Wardens Lonergan, Eric Blanchard, Mike Joy, and Sgt. Tim Spahr responded to a complaint of three deer being butchered in a garage in Wells.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Upon arriving at the location and conducting the investigation, the wardens discovered that the deer were fallow deer legally taken at a deer farm in New York State. The deer were all tagged with USDA tags.

Warden Eric Blanchard and Warden John Lonergan are investigating a deer kill where the remains of the deer were strung on the door of a regional sporting club

Wardens Luce, Lonergan, and Sgt. Tim Spahr investigated a snowmobile incident where two men lifted up the rear of a snowmobile while the machine was being powered up. The track broke and nearly severed one leg of each man. The men were rushed to the hospital and fortunately the legs were saved.

Wardens Eric Blanchard, Mike Joy, and John Lonergan responded to a fatal snowmobile crash. The incident involved a single snowmobile and the operator died at the scene. Speed was the apparent cause of the crash.

Warden Joy, along with members of the Warden Service Dive Team conducted a dive on Arrowhead Lake. Sgt. Tim Spahr and Warden John Lonergan initially investigated the scene and observed two snowmobiles through the ice with two additional holes in the ice. Divers confirmed that no persons were in the water and that one sled was stolen.

Warden John Lonergan and Sgt. Tim Spahr responded to a fatal snowmobile crash in Sanford. The victim appeared to have collided with a steel gate located at a road crossing suffering severe head injuries. He was traveling with two other snowmobilers who were apparently following him at a considerable distance. Alcohol did not appear to be a factor.

Warden Eric Blanchard convicted a subject involved in a fatal boating incident of a Class C Aggravated OUI. The subject has began serving his sentence of nine months incarceration. The Subject was sentenced to five years all but nine months suspended. This incident originated back in the summer of 2006 and involved a hit and run fatal boating/swimmer collision.

Section Two

It has been a very busy year for section two wardens. The section handled 1632 calls for service and during that time wardens responded to 55 search and rescue calls.

Nineteen watercraft, 12 child, 1 fisherman, 11 hikers, 4 hunters, 2 snowmobile, 1 suicide, and 5 other. The section as you can see is a very busy one. In the summer the watercraft traffic on Sebago and Long Lake can be very congested at times. Wardens do a very good job working the traffic and responding to complaints from the public.



On Christmas day Warden Neal Wykes responded to Lewiston for an injured eagle. He captured the eagle and took it to Avian Haven in Freedom. The last Neal knew the eagle was treated for lead poisoning and responded very well to the treatment.

We also encountered a commercial feeder that was set up in Sebago and a hunter had a stand in a tree overlooking the feeder. The subject was summoned to court for the violation, but the court lost the report and summons and the subject was not recharged. This was a decision from the court that the subject would not be recharged not Warden Service.

We also responded to a situation that happened during the Sebago Lake fishing derby. There are many fishermen on the lake and the prizes are substantial. This subject made a threat towards another group of fishermen. He stated he had a gun in his truck and he was going to go get it. This was because he felt that they setup to close to their traps. This earned the subject a ride to jail.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Section Three

During 2008, Section 3 consisted of 6 district wardens covering several Maine counties including Kennebec, Sagadahoc, Cumberland, and Androscoggin County. Each season challenged wardens in section three to enforce hunting, fishing, trapping, and all aspects of recreational activities. Most districts consist of large urban cities and towns and are high use areas for recreational vehicle use, tourism, and out of state seasonal residents. Wardens in Section three spend several hours each workweek responding to calls for service ranging from sick and nuisance animals to recreational vehicle trespass and abuse. During the hunting seasons, turkeys are abundant in central maine resulting in several cases of illegal hunting and trespassing. Deer season is very busy in our section and several apprehensions were made.



Each Warden reports being very busy between calls for service, technology, and the commitment of belonging to specialty teams. We have two dive team members, two firearm instructors, two forensic mapping, and several wardens in section three assisted with the training academy of our new wardens hired in 2008. We had 2 FTO's and also a vacancy in Augusta while warden Anderson was assigned to the academy. Several intentional violators were apprehended during the year 2008 while wardens also participated in Homeland Security details along our Canadian border. There is very little down time for wardens in section three due to geographic,



high profile, and large populated areas. Wardens in section 3 conducted, assisted, and investigated several lost or overdue subjects, major boating fatality (Long Lake), and several personal injury snowmobile and all terrain vehicle incidents.

Section Four

These efforts were initiated in addition to our regular efforts of addressing fish and wildlife resource enforcement within the section

Ice fishing details were conducted at Spring Lake and Lufkin Pond. Increased snowmobile enforcement was conducted during Snowdeo weekend, Polar blast weekend, and February School vacation week. Our efforts were directed at addressing speed, registration, and OUI violations. Trail checks were conducted with local clubs.



Spring smelt enforcement details were conducted with smelt runs prioritized to provide coverage where smelt and fisheries resources are most vulnerable. Spring fishing enforcement was enhanced with level 1, and 2 checkpoints. We also prioritized brook-fishing enforcement as an expectation during peak times of activity.

Summer enforcement directives were initiated towards recreational watercraft enforcement. Details were conducted at high use waters and two details were carried out with agencies from Border water states. Section four also assisted in watercraft details carried out in other sections within the Southwest Division.

YEAR IN REVIEW



Section four conducted a dozen recorded searches during the year and most were related to hikers, canoeist, and children. During the year, we provided personnel for sporting shows and public events in and out of state.

Our increased efforts during the fall were directed at the moose season and moose hunting in general. The

following cases are a short list of violations addressed during the year by section four wardens.

1. Closed season Moose
2. Over limits salmon and brook trout, smelts
3. Short salmon and brook trout
4. Recreational vehicle OUI
5. Exceeding bag limit on deer
6. Hunting after already killed deer
7. Hunting over bait
8. Keeping fish alive.
9. Violation of gear restrictions
10. Night Hunting



Section Five

Section five in the southwestern Division is a six-Warden section. Going into the fall the China district became open. Section 5 has two K-9 handlers Mark and Michelle Merrifield, a firearms instructor Chris Dyer, an Resource Protection Unit covert investigator and Incident Management team member Mark Thompson.

2008 kept wardens busy dealing with numerous nuisance, sick, rabid, and dead wildlife complaints. Wardens also responded to numerous requests for searches within and outside of the section.

2008 also saw a sharp rise in the number of hunters in pursuit of coyote utilizing dogs. This type of hunting led to increased incidents of conflicts between hunters and landowners that wardens responded to. Issues were trespass, roaming dogs, discharging firearms to close to dwellings and shooting from roadways

YEAR IN REVIEW

Hunting cases this past fall varied. Warden Merrifield investigated a complaint of illegal hunting that led to a confession from the respondent that he had shot three deer the evening before and illegally bow hunted two other deer from the same seat and registered the deer as expanded kills. The hunter was summonsed for exceeding.

Warden Lefebvre and Merrifield also apprehended three night hunters, one subject was charged with two violations from the investigation.

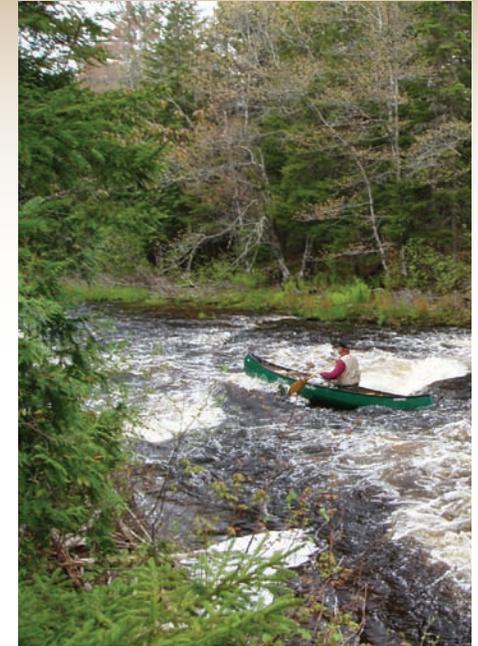
In November, Warden Kulis responded to a complaint of a tractor being shot by a hunter in Dresden. At the landowners request Warden Kulis responded after the Sheriffs Department closed out their investigation. Warden Kulis investigated and gathered information. On December 29, 2008, Warden Kulis executed a Search Warrant on the suspect's residence. The warrant resulted in the seizure of (2) 30-30 rifles, a 30-06 rifle, 20 gauge rifle, as well as ammunition for 30-30, 30-06, 20 Gauge and a .38 special. The suspect that Warden Kulis had developed was summoned for Criminal Mischief and for Defacement of notices.



Fishing activity in section five varies from the enforcement effort on the commercial alewives and sucker fishery each spring. Section five also boasts several drainages that are managed by the Atlantic Salmon Commission. This offers enforcement issues both during the open water season and from ice fishing. Section 5 may not be in the North Country, but there is a good sport fishery. This fishery produced several good trout cases this past season.

Several years ago the department obtained land and a camp on Merry Meeting Bay in Dresden. The camp was in dire need of repair. Warden Kulis this past year spent countless hours repairing and maintaining the camp for department use. The camp is often used for waterfowl details, section meetings, and department training.

Wardens in section 5 responded to 4 recreational vehicle fatalities. Three of the four fatalities were on the road accidents. Two of the fatalities were snow sleds, the first was in March on the Fowler Road in Bremen, the operator was traveling at a high rate of speed and left the road striking a tree. The second fatal snowsled accident was in Cushing when a sled being operated at high speed struck a vehicle. In Dresden in April of 2008 a 15-year-old girl lost control of the 4-wheeler she was driving striking a tree, she died at the scene before EMS arrived. The second 4-wheeler fatality occurred in October in the town of Rockland when a 4 wheeler failed to negotiate a turn leaving the road way striking several objects. The operator, who was deceased, was located several hours after the accident by a passing motorist as daylight broke.



Section Six

Section 6 covers the Kennebec Valley starting from Waterville to Bingham, over to Harmony and the Hartland area.

Personnel for Section 6 include Wardens Steve Couture, Aaron Cross, Josh Bubier, Jared Herrick and Rick Clowry.

Section six's focal points during Spring and Summer would be the Kennebec River. The bulk of the area is artificial lures only, one fish limit. During this past year, approximately 100 summonses were issued for fishing violations and that again as many warnings.

Recently added to the section would be the Bingham district, with Warden Rick Clowry and the Waterville district, with Warden Steve Couture. These districts have numerous special regulation waters along with being very active fall districts.

Section 6 receives numerous night hunting complaints each fall along with an abundance of daily hunting and trapping complaints. Section 6 has both big woods and the farming community. We have a significant amount of non-resident hunters in our area with an increase in the past couple of years.

This is a very active ATV, snowmobile, and boating section; however, Section 6 is more of a day trip and local community recreational vehicle activity area.

Section Seven

Wardens assigned to Section 7 in 2008 included Wardens Deborah Palman, Phil Richter, Scott Osgood, David Simmons, Brian Tripp, Shannon Fish, Justin Fowlie, and Josh Tibbetts and they were supervised at different times by Sergeants Patrick Devlin and Ralph Hosford.

Warden Deborah Palman retired after a long and distinguished career (30 +/- years) with Warden Service. She had been assigned to the Aurora District, which is located in Northern Hancock for her entire career. During her career, she was instrumental in the formation of the K9 team and the in-house forensics lab. She was also a recipient of many K9 awards, exemplary service awards, and the Warden of the Year honors.

Sergeant Patrick Devlin retired after 23 +/- years, with the last 12 as a sergeant in Hancock County. Sergeant Devlin was very active in Search and Rescue (SAR) operations, enjoyed working in the field with wardens, and was a past recipient of Supervisor of the Year recognition.

Section 7 is located in Hancock and western Washington Counties and is made up of 41 towns and 10 unorganized townships. During 2008,

wardens responded to 1157 calls for service: including 21 SAR operations, 4 personal injury snowmobile accidents including 2 snowmobile fatality investigations, 13 personal injury ATV accidents including 1 ATV fatality investigation, 16 public relations events, 6 level 1 road checks, and 6 search warrants being executed.

SAR efforts were highlighted by a two-day search in September in Brooklin for 80-year old Suzanne Sandifer, who had walked away from her residence and spent the night in the woods during a tropical storm. Brooklin received nearly 7 inches of rain over night during the SAR. Ms. Sandifer was located by Warden Mark Merrifield and K9 Aspen. She was treated for hypothermia and released from the hospital.

The two-snowmobile fatalities occurred on frozen bodies of water where the operators left the ice and struck trees. Alcohol was involved in both accidents.

Wardens David Simmons and Justin Fowlie are both members of one of the Warden Services' newest teams: the Evidence Recovery Team (ERT). There are four other wardens on this team. They have trained alongside the State Police ERT Team and are working toward international certification. They have responded to numerous scenes to assist in processing and collecting evidence.

Warden Phil Richter continues to be an active member of the Dive Team and has been deployed several times throughout the year: the most notable SAR effort was the recovery of two drowning victims at Buttermilk Pond in Bowerbank.

Warden Brian Tripp and K9 Marley have represented WS by attending many public relations events and assisting at road checks. They have also maintained all appropriate certification. Warden Tripp had a major poaching investigation culminate in 4 search warrants being issued for illegal game. Charges are still pending against each of the defendants for

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violations ranging from night hunting, exceeding the bag limit on deer, to fraudulently obtaining a license.

Warden Shannon Fish investigated a moose poaching case by utilizing information that was being posted in a chat room on the internet by the hunter. The subject was charged and convicted of hunting moose without a license.

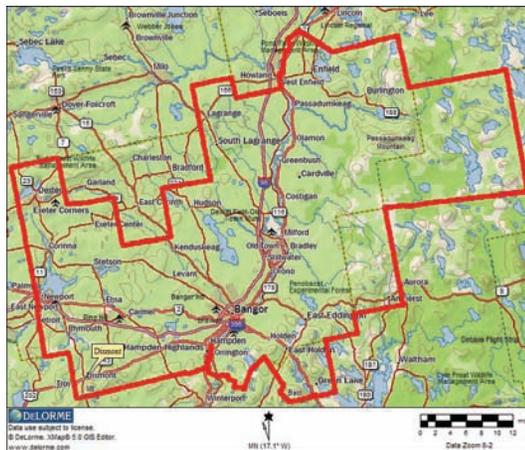
Warden Scott Osgood spent a good deal of 2008 on an unpaid leave of absence fulfilling his military obligation with the National Guard. He did return to work in October and had a successful fall apprehending night hunters and cases regarding exceeding the bag limit on deer.

Warden Deborah Palman apprehended a man in August who was posing as a fisherman and when he returned to his van Warden Palman was waiting to check his license and fish. He did not want Warden Palman near his van as he had actually been tending his marijuana plants.

Warden Josh Tibbetts has been working his first district (Aurora) and produces several cases.

Section Eight

Section 8 is comprised of 39 towns and 9 townships in Southern Penobscot and Northern Hancock Counties. Section 8 geographically varies greatly from large urban cities, suburban towns, farmland, and rural wooded areas. Wardens in this section handle many complaints associated with human wildlife interac-



tions (nuisance wildlife & crop damage), recreational vehicle complaints and crash investigations (ATV, snowmobile, and watercraft), poaching of fish and game resources, and search and rescue on a variety of different user groups.

Section 8 handled 1758 calls for service last year which is fourth in the state out of approximately 19,000 calls for service overall.

The game wardens in this section include Alan Gillis (Brewer area), Rick Ouellette (Levant area), Skip Bates (Newport area), Dave Georgia (Milford area), Jim Fahey (Bangor area), and Bruce Loring (Passadumkeag area).

For 2008, section eight warden's attained goals in recreational vehicle enforcement by not having any fatal ATV, snowmobile, or watercraft crashes in the section. This was attained through education such as attending ATV training classes and actual field enforcement to discourage crash related activities such as excessive speed and OUI events. Section 8 still has work to accomplish though as the section had 21 ATV-PI crashes in 2008 and 14 snowmobile-PI crashes. Section 8 wardens will need to reevaluate its current strategies to try to achieve lower crash numbers. Watercraft crashes remain very low in the region with only one PI incident.

Wardens worked on and prosecuted many great fish and game cases throughout the region.

Warden Skip Bates turned a report of a person finding one trap during the closed season into finding 10 more through out the area and obtained a confession that night from the perpetrator.

Wardens Georgia and Gillis, with assistance from Warden Farrington and his K-9 were able to solve a deer being illegal killed just before dark during November on the University of Maine at Orono land.

Warden Georgia also was able to use some camera technology that was donated to the department in obtaining a picture of a trapper who was setting illegal sets in the area. After obtaining the picture Warden Georgia was able to do an investigation which identified the trapper and learned other area wardens were looking for him.

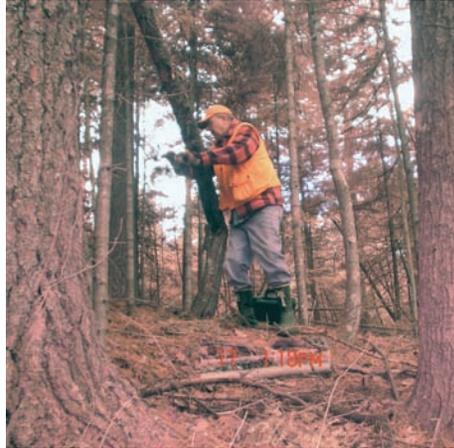
YEAR IN REVIEW

Warden Ouellette and Tibbetts were able to catch a felon hunting near a baited area in Kenduskeag. The subject was caught and confessed.

Early in the year, Warden Fahey worked on a 7 deer case and was able to secure a confession from a hunter who never registered this deer in the fall of 2007.

Warden Bruce Loring was able to turn a boot print in the sand into a suspect and then a confession on a shooting to close to a dwelling complaint in October.

Warden Allan Gillis continues to cover a busy district and was the primary for two fatal crashes in adjoining sections. Allan also won the 2008 NASBLA boating award for the state of Maine.



Section Eight also hosted the staff meeting held at the Nicaitous Lake Lodge for all Sgt's across the state as well as command staff.

Section Nine

This past year has been a busy year for Section nine. Section nine handled 684 calls for service this past year. Of those calls for service, 58 were calls for injured wildlife, 68 were calls for nuisance wildlife, and 25 were calls for search and rescue.

The 25 search and rescue incidents that occurred in Section 9 this past year included:

Wardens responded to a search for an overdue hiker in Gulf Hagus. Tiberious Thorn, AKA Wayne Parker, AKA "Ty the Animal Guy," from the Lewiston area, was reported missing by his wife, Taylor Thorn. Tiberi-

ous Thorn is bi-polar and had been off his medication since January when "God" told him that he was cured. Thorn is obsessed with breaking the Guinness Book of World Records for the highest free dive from waterfalls. He was looking for a new location to attempt this. Mrs. Thorn informed us that Tiberious often dresses in a lion suit when he heads out in the woods. Tiberious had not donned the lion suit on this occasion. He had painted his face using the "Batman" theme. When asked about why he paints his face, Mrs. Thorn explained that he does it for the people. A large search effort was started and Thorn was located by Chief Pilot Charlie Later. Thorn was spotted lying in the middle of a logging road not far from where he had been dropped off on the prior day.

Conducted a search for a missing mountain biker in the Elliotsville/Bodfish Valley Area. The subject had been missing since the prior evening and had been out over night. The subject was eventually located by a Game Warden on a logging road and returned to the camp where he was staying.

Conducted a rescue of a female subject that had broken her ankle while hiking on White Cap Mountain. The subject had to be carried off the mountain. An outdoor class from Brewer High School assisted with the effort.

Conducted a search and rescue effort for a 55-year-old man from Beverly, Massachusetts. The subject suffered from various health issues and had to be rescued from a remote section of the Appalachian Trail near Mountain View Pond. The subject was air lifted from the remote area by the Maine Forest Service.

Conducted a search for an over-due female snowshoer in Elliotsville Township. Wdn. Annis and Wdn. Guay tracked the subject on snowshoes for over 10 miles. The subject was eventually located in the early morning hours by Chief Pilot Charlie Later on Little Wilson Stream. Wardens were able to get to her location from the Bob Young Road in Shirley. She was able to start a fire using a flint and steel that she has in her pack.

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Significant Events:

During the past year there were numerous significant events that occurred in Section 9.

Double drowning on First Buttermilk Pond in Bowerbank Township. Four subjects from the Dover-Foxcroft area attempted to boat across the pond in a small 12' boat. The boat took on water and swamped. Kevin Stitham and David Perkins were able to make it to shore. Robert Pomeroy and James Brown did not make it to shore. A large recovery effort ensued and both subject's bodies were recovered after two days of searching.

Fatal hunting incident in Beaver Cove Township near Elephant Mountain. On the final day of the open firearms season on deer, wardens received a report of an over-due hunter. Wardens responded to the area that the subject had been hunting in and located the body of Ernest Russell. The investigation revealed that Russell died from an accidental self-inflicted gunshot wound to the head.

Enforcement Effort:

This past year has been a busy and productive year as far as the enforcement effort in Section 9.

Spring and summer fishing season, Section 9 Wardens address numerous violations on the Piscataquis River in the Guilford/Sangerville/Dover-Foxcroft areas. Numerous fishing violations were addressed including over-the-limits and worming in Artificial Lures Only (ALO) waters.

Section nine Wardens worked diligently to achieve their 200-hour boating expectation. Section 9 documented 1231.5 boating hours.

Warden Dan Carroll and Warden Glenn Annis were working an evening watercraft enforcement detail on Schoodic Lake in Lakeview Plantation. At approximately 2150 hours, they attempted to perform a compliance inspection on a boat near the middle of the lake. As they identified themselves and attempted to speak with the subjects in the boat, the operator accelerated and sped off traveling to the north end of the lake. The suspect's watercraft was far faster than the warden's. They were able to get a good description of the boat and its occupants. The wardens had observed where the subjects had originally come onto lake from so they had a good idea where they would be looking to return to. The wardens waited in the area of Knights Landing. The suspect boat returned from the north end of the lake and they again attempted to stop the subjects. The subject accelerated and sped off towards the south end of the lake, failing to stop for a second time. The wardens turned off their lights waited for the subject to return. They observed at a distance as the suspect traveled along the far shore of the lake operating without lights. The wardens then located a camp owner that agreed to assist them. Warden Annis traveled up the lake with this camp owner. When the suspect saw them, he sped down the lake and returned to his camp. The suspect did not know that Warden Carroll was waiting for him at the adjacent camp. Warden Carroll approached the subject and identified him as the boat operator. He placed him under arrest. He plead guilty on trial day.

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During the fall of 2008, Section 9 Wardens located and worked an unprecedented number of baited tree seats and stands. It appeared that people felt that they needed a little edge after the hard winter had taken its toll on the deer herd. There were many violators apprehended and prosecuted for hunting over bail throughout the fall.



Warden Mike Morrison and Warden Jim Babiarz were working night-hunting activity on a November evening in the Corinth area. They were set up in a series of fields where Warden Morrison had located signs of recent activity. They observed a pick-up truck enter the fields and slowly travel along the field roads. The vehicle turned around and met Warden Morrison and Warden Babiarz in the roadway. When the wardens approached the truck, they discovered that the operator was a 13-year old. They also noticed that the boy had his father's .270 caliber rifle. After further inspection of the rifle, they found that it was loaded. The boy admitted that he was looking for deer. The boy had taken his father's truck and rifle without permission and had gone out hunting.

In November, Warden Jeremy Kemp and Warden Eric Dauphinee responded to a complaint in Atkinson. A nonresident had been hunting from a tree stand on his property. He left to take a break for a while and then returned to find another hunter hunting from his stand. The owner began to express his displeasure to the subject in the stand. The subject in the stand came down out of the stand and the owner continued to express his displeasure towards him. The owner of the stand stated that the next thing he could recall was waking up on the ground with numerous bumps

and bruises. While investigating the incident, Warden Kemp and Warden Dauphinee noticed that another subject in camp had tagged a doe deer. After a short interview with this subject, it was apparent that he did not kill the deer. It came out that the subject that owned the tree stand had killed the doe deer without a doe permit and had his friend tag the deer.

Both subjects were issued summonses and the deer was seized. The investigation into the assault is still open.

Section nine Wardens were very busy during this past winter season. The Schoodic Lake Ice Fishing Derby was the highlight of the winter. Section nine Wardens as well as numerous Wardens from neighboring sections worked the derby. There were many violations addressed during the derby including a short togue, an ATV OUI, 11 unattended line violations, and numerous unregistered snowmobile violations.

On Memorial Day, the Central Division conducted a Level 2 Road Check at the MDOT Lot in Shirley. Twenty six wardens participated in the check. Twenty eight summonses and 20 warnings were issued, of which 16 summonses and 18 warnings were for fishing violations.

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Section Ten

Wardens in Section ten have been managing well with the vastness of the area and with two open districts (Jackman West and Greenville). Section 10 has had a variety of calls for service and good cases being made over the past year. Section 10 has seen some personnel changes as well.

Eric Dauphinee has joined Section 10 after Warden School. Wdn. Dauphinee spent the fall and winter working in the southern areas of Section 10 and in Section 9. He permanently went the St. Zacharie district in early May. Scott Thrasher was promoted in late July and took over in Section 10 when Sgt. Ralph Hosford transferred to Section 7.

From June 1, 2008 to June 1, 2009, Section 10 has had a total of 501 calls for service. Of note, there were 22 Search and Rescue calls, 29 PI snowmobile accident calls, 1 snowmobile fatal, 8 ATV PI accident calls, 18 calls for criminal hunting violations, 36 informational requests, and 50 calls for injured wildlife.

Wardens in Section 10, along with assistance from Wardens in other sections, worked 40 "Stonegarden" details. These details ranged from working in the fall through late winter. Wardens utilized new handheld computers to map along the boundary, noting all hunting shacks and buildings. Numerous snowmobile patrols were executed, giving high visibility on the snowmobile trails. The snowmobiling



public has commented on seeing many wardens throughout the winter. This no doubt kept the trails safer.

Section ten apprehended three sets of night hunters during the past fall. They were apprehended on Rte 15 north of Greenville, on the Golden Road just west of Comstock, and on Rte 201 in The Forks. All violators plead guilty.

Numerous fishing cases were made during the last year. One of the more interesting fishing cases was made on the first day of the Moose Hunt. After receiving a tip, Wdn. Troy Dauphinee and Sgts. Thrasher and Simmons apprehended a couple using bait in ALO waters and over limit of fish on the Kennebec River below Harris Dam. Also of note is the tremendous effort to apprehend illegal night time ice fisherman on Moosehead Lake. Numerous summonses were issued for unattended cusk lines. Wardens spent many cold hours on the lake in the dark. First year Warden Eric Dauphinee got a 14 brook trout over the limit case on three subjects fishing a stream. The fisherman had some of the trout stashed up the road in a bog.



Several snowmobile OUI cases have been made. One of note was a drunken snowmobiler in the middle of the day on Kineo. This non-resident spent the morning drinking on his way to Maine. Before registering his snowmobile, he decided to go for a ride, encountering Wardens Miller and Morrison.

Section ten unfortunately investigated one snowmobile fatal. A husband and wife couple from Pennsylvania drove their snowmobiles into open water at night at the East Outlet. This was in late March.

All Wardens in Section ten made the 200 hours of boating enforcement. These hours were spread out on the numerous bodies of water in the section.

Although occurring in Section nine, Wdn. Babiarcz of Section 10 was the primary on the Ernest Russell Fatal hunting incident. This incident occurred the last day of the regular firearms season on deer.

The biggest search of the year occurred in April in Spencer Bay Twp. A subject with Dementia drove the back roads getting stuck, then striking out on foot. This started with Pilot Charlie later and crew spotting the vehicle

and recalling a description of the vehicle put out by email. A two-day search ensued, with Wardens Tom McKenney and Eric Dauphinee locating the body off a winter road. Although the man was deceased, this was a great find, given the vastness of the area, and the road they were searching.

Section ten will likely see some changes over the next year, with Wdn. Jim Babiarz transferring out of Greenville, and Sgt. Thrasher returning to the Skowhegan Area.

Section Eleven

Wdn. Grant received a complaint of shots fired in Addison in an area where deer are known to frequent and where he has caught night hunters in the past. The next night, on the eve of Thanksgiving, he and Sgt. Craven went to the area, and set up surveillance. They were later joined by Wdn. Dave Simmons, and eventually Wdn. Scott Osgood. Sometime later a vehicle approached and turned in the road so that it's headlights illuminated the field. The driver shot out the window at what appeared to him to be a deer. The subject was taken to the Washington County Jail. While enroute to the jail another call came in that shots were fired in front of a residence on the Gardner's Lake Rd. in Whiting. Wdns. McBrine and Carter responded. It appeared whoever had fired the shot was still in this dead end road system. When Wdns. Grant, Simmons, Osgood, and Sgt. Craven cleared the jail they responded with the other units to search the maze of roads in the area.

Sgt. Craven and Wdn. Carter inspected the complaint site and in the frost they could plainly see blood, footprints, and where a deer had been



dragged out to the road. Wdn. Osgood checked the other end of the road system and confirmed that it was not passable and no one had gone out that way. He then left and returned to his residence. All other units searched the side roads for a vehicle but found none. Incredibly Wdns. McBrine and Simmons were able to locate a blood spot in the road which lead them to a gut pile and a freshly killed lamb deer that had been covered over. As we knew that the suspect still had to be in this road system we elected to wait them out. All units took up positions and waited until day break. Wdn. Carter set up a road check point out near the beginning of the road where the deer was shot. In the morning a subject came out and Wdn. Carter stopped him. The back of his pick-up had been scrubbed and bleached. All units converged and quickly found deer hair that the suspects were unable to get out of the vehicle. The driver confessed, as did three others that were interviewed in this case. All five night hunters from this case plead guilty.

Sgt. Craven received a complaint of illegal trapping and passed this on to Wdn. Carter. Wdn. Carter began the investigation, and was eventually assisted by many other Wardens. A search warrant was executed in Clifton which resulted in critical evidence recovery, and the bonus arrest of a violent sexual predator who was wanted. Two subjects plead guilty to a variety of trapping violations. The felony cases are still pending. Wardens Carter, McBrine and Sgt. Craven apprehended a subject on opening day of



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deer season for shooting an illegal antlerless deer too close to an occupied dwelling, out the truck window.

Wdn. McBrine had some good cases in the fall including the one from Gardners Lake mentioned above, and used good interview techniques to get a confession from a subject who illegally killed a doe with a muzzleloader. He solved an ongoing landowner complaint by catching a subject for shooting on posted property. He also did many positive public relations events including setting up swift water SAR training, and he got local fire and EMS personnel involved with a mock snowmobile incident on the railbed.

In addition he applied for a OHF grant for a side by side ATV to work the Sunrise Rail Trail. He hopes to get the ATV in the next round. Wdn. McBrine is very involved in the Gard-



ner's Lake alewife weir which seems to be a perennial problem. He works with Atlantic Salmon, DMR, and East Machias town officials as well as the permittee to try to resolve conflicts and problems.

Wdn. Gardner was the primary officer on the Bell search in Edmunds Township where two 7 and 8 year old children were lost in the woods with deep snow near Cobosocook Bay. Wdn. Gardner also worked with Wdn.

Martin to successfully apprehend a subject for illegally killing a moose with a bow. Moose parts were also buried with a backhoe but the Wardens just chose to photograph the hair and blood on the backhoe rather than dig up the parts as they had plenty of evidence and a confession at that point. The subject who was already in jail on other charges confessed.

In addition to the moose case with Wdn. Gardner, Wdn. Martin was chosen as the 2008 "Warden of the Year". A well deserved honor for a great career.

Wdn. Martin was the top producer in the section this year with the most documented violations detected. Wdn. Martin served on the mission, vision, and values committee and the Commissioner's MAT committee.

Wdn. Yaws apprehended an individual for night hunting on a complaint that was called in from the Kennebec area. She worked on the Cherry case where a registered guide was apprehended for bear bait violations, LURC violations, Forrestry violations, and a large marijuana grow. The suspect is facing felony charges in the case which is pending trial at this time. Wdn. Yaws also made a recovery on a double drowning at Buttermilk Pond.



Wdn. Richard did an excellent job starting with very little evidence at the scene of an illegally killed moose. Eventually a warrant was executed, and a Baileyville man confessed to shooting the moose. Wdn. Richard had another search warrant in Princeton where he obtained parts from a piebald deer and a firearm that had been possessed by a prohibited person. Wdn. Richard put a lot of effort and time into the locked moose horn taxidermy project, and that is now completed.

Section 11 lead by Wdns. Richard and Martin have maintenance days where we service all our capitol equipment. We take pride in being leaders in this area, as well as good stewards of the equipment we are issued. Section 11 had a number of SAR incidents including a search behind University of Maine at Machias that we received notes of thanks for. The Sunrise Trail is a big issue in this area. Warden Service has been involved to try and mitigate problems that have arisen. Overall the wardens in this section had a very successful year with high quality cases, successful missions, and accident investigations. We also worked proactively to try to uphold a professional image. Wardens in this section participated in statewide technology initiatives, and are adapting well. Some have even taken a leadership role to instruct, and provide help to others who are challenged in this area.

Section Twelve



Section 12 Wardens have worked diligently during this year. Some highlights include the apprehension of an individual who killed a lynx in a trap, failed to report it and then discarded the animal. Wdn. Jim Davis, with help from United States Fish and Wildlife and other Maine Game Wardens apprehended a trapper from

Pennsylvania, and he faced several State and Federal charges.

During the fall hunting season the most common violation detected was loaded firearms in motor vehicles. Wdn. Farrington apprehended 12 hunters for this violation alone. Wdn. Farrington and his K-9 Koda had a successful find of a lost person this year and helped on several illegal hunting cases where the team located evidence that was key in the investigations.

Wdn. Johansen became a member of the ERT team and used his evidence collection skills at several crucial scenes.

Wdn. Boyer and Sgt. Dunham apprehended a night hunter on a cold wet evening in November. The deer season was fairly quiet otherwise, with poor weather dictating activity to a large degree. Wdn. Boyer spent most of the winter at Maine Criminal Justice Academy as a member of the Cadre staff.

A great closed season deer case, which began with an OGT complaint, led to a conviction of a Howland man. The subject shot a doe deer in February and an investigation led many of us to his doorstep one cold winter evening. A great team



effort gathered the necessary evidence that was overwhelming. Lt. Tibbetts, Sgt. Dunham, Wdns. Fahey, Loring, Boyer, and Investigator Livezey all deserve equal credit.

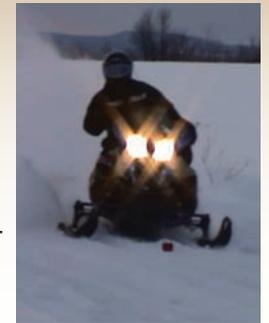
Winter brought safe conditions and good fishing and snowmobiling. Section 12 Wardens took pride in protecting the safety of snowmobilers and we can report Zero fatal accidents on trails for the last three seasons. This was due in part because of proactive and effective law enforcement. However, we did have some “close calls” when snowmobilers ventured off trail and onto thin ice, or a tree. We utilized Life flight for a rescue of a man that hit a tree shortly after leaving his camp to go fishing. His bait bucket stuck the throttle on the sled sending him into a tree. This was the first year we used video technology to document snowmobile violations. The videos allowed for still photos to be captured, fully illustrating the illegal operation.

Section 12 Wardens worked during the winter on several Stonegarden details, enhancing snowmobile safety.

Early open water fishing efforts brought on several special details to the region. Information received through informants and past history led us to organize these special efforts. The operations did not yield any significant violations detected, but did reveal that those who frequent the area expect to get “checked by the Warden.” This undoubtedly saves some fish and game from poachers.



Section 12 Wardens have continued their good maintenance practices of their issued equipment, and have had good service with few breakdowns. They all realize the importance of this work and take pride in keeping some antiquated machinery in service as well as newer equipment.



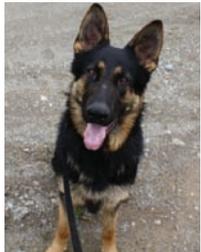
YEAR IN REVIEW

Section Thirteen

Section 13 is located in the Southern portion of Aroostook County and the Northern part of Washington County. Section 13 is staffed by Wardens Charles Brown, Alan Curtis, Ben Drew, Durward Humphrey, Scott Martin, and Sergeant Daniel Menard. Section 13 has maintained its coverage responsibilities in the Haynesville District, as it has been vacant for the past year and a half. During 2008, section 13 Wardens responded to 811 calls for service from the citizens of the state of Maine.

Wardens Humphrey and Curtis joined Section 13 at various points in the past reporting period. Both Wardens were eager to begin work in their new assignments.

Warden Drew became a member of the Maine Warden Service Dive Team and accepted a role as cadre at the 2008 Advanced Warden Service Academy.



Warden Curtis was a member of the Evidence Recovery Team, but has since resigned to take a position with the Maine Warden Service K-9 Team. He recently met his new working partner, Cruiser.

Wardens Brown, Martin, and Drew investigated a snowmobile fatal that occurred last winter in the Town of Island Falls. The Webb fatal involved speed and alcohol.

The two more remarkable cases that were made within the section last year occurred during the 2008 hunting season. One involved a trapper who repeatedly and intentionally violated Maine's trapping laws. The trapper eventually caught and killed a lynx illegally, after which he attempted to

discard the carcass. Wardens Martin and Davis led an investigation that included fellow Wardens and Federal authorities that saw the trapper charged with killing the lynx illegally.

The second case originated from a short anonymous call that tipped Warden Drew to the illegal harvesting of two moose. This case involved four men that killed multiple deer and moose in the Bancroft and Danforth areas. This case involved a week-long investigation that spurred several search warrants, including a search warrant that involved the use of an excavator to unearth illegal deer and moose parts that were buried in the suspect's yard. In the end, 20 Class D fish and wildlife violations were cited. As this investigation was going on, Warden Drew also seized two large bucks that were falsely registered in his district.



Ice fishing season saw great fishing on East Grand for both Togue and Cusk. Warden Curtis and Farrington apprehended a father and son fishing on Spednic Lake while their fishing privileges had been suspended.

Deer populations continue to be a concern as the second difficult winter in a row has taken its toll.

Bobcat populations seem to be healthy with numerous complaints and concerns coming from residents of Northern Washington County.

Section Fourteen

Section 14, the largest geographic section in the state, is a very diverse area. Approximately two-thirds of the section is in remote industrial forests, while the other one third is in agricultural lands or mostly rural areas. This diversity allows for many recreational activities that the Maine Warden Service is responsible for regulating.

Currently, there are five wardens patrolling this section and I have one vacancy (Clayton Lake). The section includes Wardens Dave Allen,

YEAR IN REVIEW

Alan Dudley, Ed Christie, Preston Pomerleau, and Kevin Pelkey. These men have a broad range of experience, but compliment each other very



well. They are all team players and do not hesitate to help each other. Wardens Allen and Christie are involved with the MWS Firearms Team, while Warden Dudley is a member of the newly formed Forensic Mapping Team.

This group of officers worked on several major natural disasters last year including the May Day Flood up in the St. John Valley (2008) and the flood this past spring over towards Fort Fairfield, Washburn, and Caribou.

The group was involved with two snowmobile fatalities in Portage and Oxbow. Wardens Milligan and Pomerleau worked on one and Wardens Pomerleau, Pelkey, and Brown worked on the other.

Although our deer herd suffered high winter mortality, the section investigated a high number of illegal moose kills. We were able to solve quite a few of these cases and one of the defendants was jailed and paid significant fines for killing two additional moose after the legal moose was shot. Several other class D moose violations were written and the section did a good job in that area.

Warden Pomerleau investigated and summonsed a bear hunter after he shot two bears. He was charged with exceeding the bag limit on bear.

Warden Allen summonsed one man for eight grouse over his limit. Many more grouse violations were recorded and these included shooting from a motor vehicle, shooting off a paved way, and a very high number possession of loaded firearm in a motor vehicle.

Wardens Pomerleau and Milligan spearheaded an excellent trapping case where a man was summonsed for 88 different trapping violations. He paid significant fines and will likely lose his trapping privileges over these intentional acts. Several other apprehensions were made and the wardens took advantage of the lack of deer hunting pressure and concentrated on trapping enforcement.

Wardens Christie and Fitzpatrick followed up on information obtained by Pilot Daryl Gordon after he located an ATV on a remote brook. This individual was summonsed for 49 brook trout over his limit and lost his fishing privileges.

Warden Allen received an Exemplary Service Award for aid rendered to a man who collapsed while moose hunting in the Clayton Lake area. Dave called Life Flight, performed CPR on the victim, and assisted the family in this incident. Sadly, the man went into cardiac arrest and passed away shortly after being arriving at EMMC in Bangor.

As I stated before, although this group of wardens possesses different experience levels and we were one warden shy in the very large section, each one of them worked very hard in the past year. They worked well alone, but also functioned well as team players. They did not ever hesitate to help each other or respond to a call where they were needed, even on their days off.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Section Fifteen

Warden Gary Sibley and Warden Adrian Marquis responded to, organized, and executed a search for a missing 19 year old, on Square Lake February 27, 2008. After sorting out snowmobile tracks, they were able to locate the crash scene. Warden Sibley and Warden Marquis followed Messer's tracks 30 yards into the woods and started yelling for him. After several attempts, a man responded and was fading in and out of consciousness. Sibley gave the man his snow pants, and Marquis wrapped him in blankets and other clothes. The victim was then transported by sled 12 miles to an awaiting ambulance. The teen had been missing for several hours and was lightly clad in only shorts, boots and a Pea coat.

Wardens in Section 15 did excellent work throughout the fishing season. Warden Ryan Fitzpatrick and Warden Ed Christie apprehended a man over the limit of brook trout on Daigle Brook in Van Buren. He was 49 trout over, and of those 28 were shorter than the 6 inch length requirement. The man received fines totaling \$2,238 and a 5 year license revocation.

The second case involved Warden Gary Sibley and Warden Chad Abbott where they apprehended two fishermen from Allagash on 5th Pelletier Pond with over limit of brook trout. Warden Sibley was working with Warden Chad Abbott in the remote area of his District, comprised of many special regulation ponds in the Deboullie area. The wardens observed a one way track leading into 5th Pelletier Pond. As they followed the track they observed that whoever was at the pond had done much work to clear the old road and drag in a canoe.

The wardens surveilled the pond and later when checking the fishermen found them to be in possession of 11 Brook trout. The pond has an S-4 designation; use or possession of live fish as bait prohibited. The pond and tributaries is designated S-19; daily bag limit on trout: 2 fish. The violators were issued summonses for 3 and 4 fish over the limit respectively.

Apprehension of individuals who intentionally and repeatedly violate fish and wildlife laws is the cornerstone of effective enforcement for all Maine Game Wardens.

Warden Pomerleau had been alerted by Warden Skip Bates to be on the lookout for a trapper from his area who was headed North to string some steel. On December 1, 2008 Warden Milligan and Warden Pomerleau started checking traps in T11 R11 and worked their way north on the Blanchet Road to T13 R12. The wardens found some traps that were labeled with the name of the violator. Warden Milligan and Warden Pomerleau took at least one picture of every trap that was set in violation they also recorded the location of the violation with a GPS coordinate. The wardens located approximately 60 traps on 12/1/08 and encountered 66 trapping rule violations. All of the violator's traps that were found were marked with a dark pink ribbon on the side of the road. All of the violator's trap were set in a similar fashion. The violator used a black plastic plant pot above his trap to put his bait in. He used wire to secure the top of the pot and a nail at the bottom, skunk paste above the trap. The violator also secured all his traps to the tree using a large staple, along with the same color ribbon as on the road.



Warden Milligan and Warden Pomerleau seized 37 traps and 5 marten and left all legally set traps as they were (6-10 traps). When Warden Pomerleau got home the night of 12/1/08 he made contact with Warden Sibley and Spencer and asked them to help Warden Milligan and Pomerleau to locate traps in the area.

On the day of 12/2/08 Wardens Milligan, Sibley, Spencer, and Pomerleau documented an additional 21 trapping violations and seized 17 more traps. In total the wardens documented 87 trapping violations and seized 54 traps and 5 marten.

YEAR IN REVIEW

I believe that Warden Milligan's and Warden Pomerleau's enforcement of the trapping rules in proximity to the Lynx study area and handling of the traps that were in violation may well have averted the taking of non target species.

On 9-8-08, Warden Gary Sibley, Chad Abbott and Jeff Spencer were called to the scene of a dead moose in T15 R10 near mile 12 of the St. Francis road. The moose was in the road dead. Upon further investigation, two .30 caliber bullets were taken from the chest of the moose. The moose, about a 36" bull, appeared to have been dead for several hours and the wardens agreed that it was most likely shot during the evening of 9-7-08. While searching the area for evidence, Wardens Abbott and Sibley located five, 30-30 caliber shell casings south of the moose. They were evenly spaced and laying in the roadway and all within 100 yards of the moose. The location of the casings was consistent with someone shooting out of the window of a moving vehicle.

The wardens conducted an exhaustive investigation including interviews, road checks, and checking with reliable informants they had developed over the years. On October 12, 2008 Warden Spencer and Abbott interviewed a person of interest and were able to elicit a full confession. Warden Spencer worked throughout the evening to write a search warrant and had the Judge sign it late that night.

Warden Sibley, Abbott , Spencer and Marquis executed the search warrant at a residence the next day and secured evidence and seized contraband. It is easy to overlook the excellent work that wardens in Section 15 do on a daily basis. A closed season moose case is never easy to solve. These experienced Wardens closed this case in a quick manner by coordinating their effort and working as a team. Each one of them brought special talents to the field, whether evidence recovery, interview skills, search warrant preparation, or the ability to lead a diverse group.



SPECIALTY TEAMS

Airwing Division



Within the department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife, Bureau of Warden Service, is the Aviation Division. This division was created several decades ago for the purpose of enforcing Maine's fish and wildlife laws. It was in the late 1930's that an aircraft's speed and vantage point was recognized as an efficient, and sometimes the only method, of detecting activity in a state

as unique and remote as Maine.

This tradition continues today. A Warden Pilot can quickly locate areas of activity and pass this information on to a District Warden. This information allows wardens to more efficiently plan their day. The resulting savings in time and vehicle miles allows the Warden Service to concentrate their efforts in areas of high resource usage.

The Aviation Division is comprised of three aircraft and three full time pilots. Each pilot is also a sworn Game Warden. As our aircraft are seasonally equipped with wheels, pontoons, or skis, a Warden Pilot can oftentimes land on Maine's several thousand lakes, rivers, ponds, and suitable roads, to address fish and wildlife law violations.



Search and rescue is a large component of today's Bureau of Warden Ser-

vice and the Aviation Division is no exception. Warden Pilot's are the most often called resource within the state. This is primarily due to their extensive geographical knowledge of the state from the air, and additionally, their ability to respond to remote areas on a year round basis. Warden pilots fly upwards of 250 hours a year on such calls and have been responsible for saving many lives within our woods and cold waters.

Resource management flights are another important responsibility of a warden pilot. The Aviation Division stocks more than 195 lakes and ponds with live trout and salmon annually. Game Warden pilots will release more than 182,000 fish, or over 28,000 pounds, into Maine waters each year. Aerial stocking of fish has proven over the years to be the least stressful method of delivering fish to inaccessible or distant locations.



Other resource management flights involve the bald eagle census and deeryard surveys. Telemetry flights of radio collared black bear and lynx are conducted throughout the year. As are, summer and winter angler surveys to determine the fishing pressure on our inland waters.

Aircraft are an important aspect of the day-to-day operations of IF&W and to Maine's outdoor resource, its citizens, and those that visit here.

Canine Team



SPECIALTY TEAMS



In 1978, Game Warden Specialist Deborah Palman researched training police K-9's to assist wardens in conservation law enforcement. In 1980, warden service administration recognized that K-9's were useful in conservation law enforcement at which time The Maine Warden Service K-9 program began.

The Maine Warden Service K-9 program expanded greatly in the 1990's to 10 teams under the leadership of Specialist Palman.

In 2008, Warden Specialist Deborah Palman retired. At this time, the K-9 unit was restructured to include two leadership positions. Warden Wayde Carter (K-9 Trainer) took over the position of Administrative Team Leader and Warden Roger Guay (K-9 Trainer) took over the position of Training Team Leader. Over the years, the Maine Warden Service K-9's have been an invaluable resource to the department. They are responsible for finding countless lost persons and having solved numerous fish and game cases. We also assist other agencies with criminal investigations. Maine Warden Service K-9 teams have earned a reputation of being successful and because of that we are often requested to travel abroad to assist other states and countries. One of the biggest human remains recovery missions was conducted in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina.



Maine Warden Service K-9's and handlers train a minimum of 320 hours under the direct supervision of a Maine Criminal Justice Academy certified

trainer and must complete a field test to get their initial certification with the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. They must continue to train under the direction of a trainer a minimum of 16 hours per month and complete a field test annually to maintain certification. Maine Warden Service K-9's are trained in the following areas:

1. Tracking: Following the trail of a person by using that persons individual scent.
2. Evidence: Location of items containing human scent, gun powder residue or any other trained scent.
3. Hasty search: Using the air to locate persons along natural barriers such as trails, wood lines, ditches, streams, and roads. The dog is trained to use the wind to follow human scent to locate injured and lost people.
4. Fish / Wildlife: K9's trained in the detection of fish and wildlife to locate illegal fish or wildlife that are hidden by poachers.
5. Cadaver K-9's are trained in the detection of human remains. This is necessary when a search has been ongoing for a period of time in which the person is probably deceased.

Dive Team



The Maine Warden Service Dive Team is a ten-member team. The members are a highly trained group of divers each holding numerous scuba certifications. Of the ten-member team, three are Padi Master Scuba Diver

SPECIALTY TEAMS



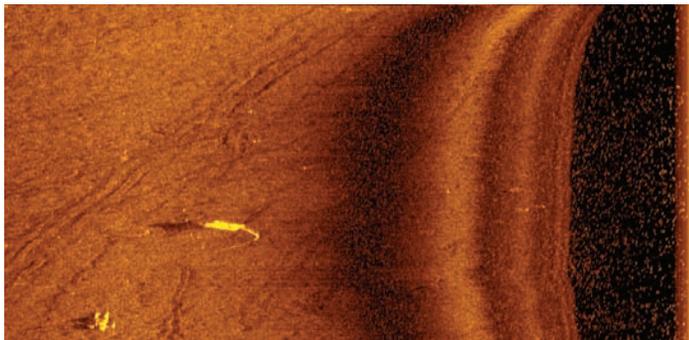
Instructors, one Padi Scuba Instructor, and three Padi Dive Masters. In addition to the high level of scuba certifications, one of the team members is an Emergency Medical Technician.

The Maine Warden Service Dive Team utilizes specialized equipment in fulfilling the mission. We have a thirty-foot gooseneck trailer that contains support equipment that responds to every operation. The trailer is equipped with an air

compressor and cascade system this allows for the team to have unlimited air supply. This is extremely important to accomplishing our mission, because we are commonly called to conduct a search in remote areas of the State of Maine. The temperature in the State of Maine can be well below zero degrees Fahrenheit to above ninety degrees Fahrenheit. The team conducts operations in these extreme conditions.

Due to the extreme conditions, the trailer is equipped with a propane heater as well as an air conditioner. This is imperative in providing comfort to the divers while conducting dive missions in freezing temperatures to the hot humid summer temperatures. The trailer is also equipped with two under-

water scooters that are used in searching for drowning victims. In addition to the specialized equipment used in conducting searches, the trailer also



equipped with oxygen and other first aid gear.

The State Of Maine has over six thousand lake and ponds as well as thousands miles of rivers and streams. The Maine Warden Service Dive Team is statutory responsible for conducting any search for any person presumed to have drowned or drowned in the inland waters of the state. The water in the state is typically considered black water with limited to no visibility. In addition to the poor visibility, the water in Maine is cold even in the middle of summer. We currently conduct dive operations in water depths from six feet to one hundred feet. These environmental factors make dive operations physically and mentally demanding on the team members.

The size of our typical search area that we routinely conduct dive operations is several acres in size. Because of this, we conduct searches with the use of a GPS from a custom-made 20-foot aluminum boat. We pull two divers behind the dive boat and use the GPS capabilities to ensure that we systematically cover the search area. We are currently in the process of purchasing a Marine Sonic Side Scan Sonar Unit to assist our underwater search capabilities.



During 2008, the Maine Warden Service Dive Team conducted 10 dive operations.

- These 10 dive operations resulted in 78 hours of bottom time and 89 tanks of scuba air being used.
- Over 50 % of the operational dives were multi day operations.
- Four of the team members obtained the level of Padi Dive Master.
- Successfully utilized side scan sonar in locating a body in 60 feet of water.

SPECIALTY TEAMS

Evidence Recovery Team



The Maine Warden Service Evidence Recovery Team was formed in 2008. The team presently has six active evidence recovery technicians trained in the discipline of crime scene processing and issued the most modern equipment. Within the crime scene processing discipline are more specific disciplines involving DNA handling, blood spatter analysis, and crime scene photography to name a few. The Warden Service ERT team is an associate member of the State Police Evidence Recovery Team. Members routinely train with other members of the State Police Evidence Recovery Team to stay on the cutting edge of CSI.

In the fall of 2008, Warden Service ERT was called to a hunting fatality incident in Northern Maine. The scene location was processed and documented by a Maine Warden Service ERT. Evidence gathered at the scene was critical in determining the cause of death.



Firearms Team

The Maine Warden Service firearms team has 12 members, 1 Administrative Team leader, 1 Training team leader and 10 instructors. The members of the firearms team have received training from the Maine Criminal Justice Academy, Sig Arms Academy, Action Target, Street Survival training, and the Maine State Police Tactical Team, just to name a few.



The firearms team trains 125 members of the Warden Service and assists with the training of local police departments, state law enforcement agencies, and federal law enforcement agencies.

The firearms team conducts many hours of firearms training for warden service each year. This training ranges from handgun / shotgun training and qualification to interactive use of force training. The handgun / shotgun training and qualification consist of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy qualifications and participating in tactical training.

The firearms team also uses interactive use of force training which is a scenario-based training and utilizes specialized safety equipment and firearms that are converted to fire, non-lethal, colored marking rounds. The scenarios range from a simple license check of a hunter to a take down of a robbery suspect. During these scenarios, the warden is evaluated in several different areas ranging from verbal communications to controlling the suspect during an arrest.



SPECIALTY TEAMS

Some of the benefits of using this type of training are the ability to cover all levels of use of force and real life scenarios. This will in turn give the Game Warden the skills, knowledge, and attitude he/she will need for officer safety while performing his/her law enforcement duties. The latest addition to the firearms team's responsibilities will be the implementation of a rifle-training program for Warden Service.



Forensic Mapping Team



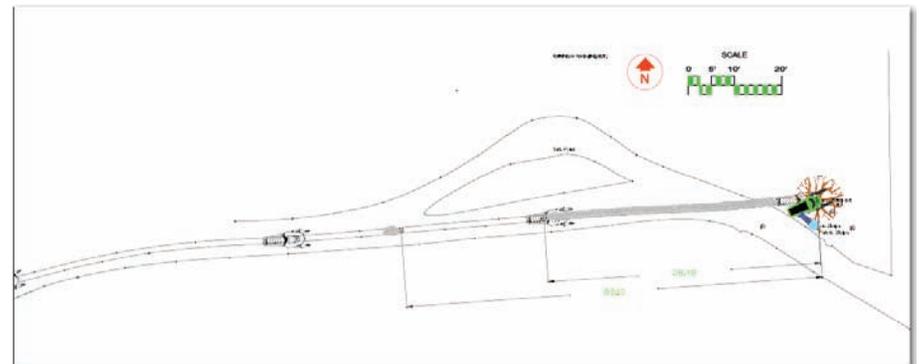
The Maine Warden Service Forensic Mapping Team is a specialty team made up of Game Wardens with special training in the use of Forensic Mapping Equipment and MapScenes Diagram Software. The Forensic Mapping Team utilizes Leica Total Stations and MapScenes Archer Data Collectors to capture data points at serious crash and crime scenes. The mapping equipment permits the mapping specialists to capture



precise distances and angles. Forensic Mapping Specialists map recreational vehicle crash scenes, fish and wildlife violation scenes, hunting incident scenes, motor vehicle crashes and other crime scenes. The Maine Warden Service Forensic Mapping Team assists local police departments,

sheriff departments, and other state law enforcement agencies with crime and accident scene mapping. The Forensic Mapping Team works closely with the Maine State Police Traffic Crash Analysis Unit, Forensic Mappers and Accident Reconstructionists.

Team members include Warden Investigator Kevin Anderson – Administrative Team Leader, Warden Eric Blanchard – Training Team Leader, Warden Chris Cloutier, Warden John MacDonald, Warden Specialist Steve Allaire, Warden Investigator Jason Luce, Warden Josh Smith, Warden Alan Dudley, and Warden Ryan Fitzpatrick.



SPECIALTY TEAMS

Honor Guard



The Maine Warden Service Honor Guard is set up to consist of up to 16 Game Wardens. Rank is not a consideration as the current Honor Guard membership consists of District Game Wardens, Sergeants, one Lieutenant and the Major. The Warden Service Honor Guard is divided into two teams consisting of a Northern Team and a Southern Team. Each team is headed up by a Commander whose job is to set up and coordinate the various details that the Honor Guard is called on to perform. The current Southern Team consists of:

Neal Wykes: District Warden, Commander
Gregg Sanborn: Major
Shon Theriault: Lieutenant
Steve Allarie: White Water Specialist
Brock Clukey: District Warden
Pat Egan: District Warden

After over 25 years of service with the Warden Service and Honor Guard, Sgt. Rick Mills and Warden Blaine Holding just recently retired.



The various functions of the Maine Warden Service Honor Guard are to honor retired Wardens who have passed away by sending a detail to attend their funeral, take the lead in organizing any memorial services for a Warden that has died in the line of duty, attend Warden School graduation, conduct the opening ceremonies to the Warden Service's Annual Awards ceremony, attend funeral services for other fallen officers from other agencies, march in various parades when requested, participate in the annual Special Olympics ceremonies held each year at the University of Maine in Orono, and lead the Wardens attending the annual Fallen Officers' Memorial. One member of the Maine Warden Service Honor Guard also marches with the multi-jurisdictional Honor Guard during the Fallen Officers' Memorial ceremonies.

The Warden Service Honor Guard has sent members to New Jersey, Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire to attend funeral services and sportsmen shows. Several years ago, the Honor Guard was invited to conduct the opening ceremonies of a Portland Seadogs game at Hadlock Field in Portland.



Some of the details that members of the Southern Team have participated in during the past year are:

Funeral services for Lt. Adam Gormely's father
Funeral Services for retired Warden Duane Lewis
Funeral services for a fallen Portland Police Officer
Annual Fallen Officers Memorial in Augusta
Annual Warden Service Awards ceremonies
Maine Special Olympics at the University of Maine at Orono
Warden Service Fallen Officers' run with the last graduating class of Game Wardens
Annual Blue Mass ceremony in Lewiston
Moose lottery drawing at Kittery Trading Post
Dirigo Boys State graduation at Thomas College.

SPECIALTY TEAMS

Incident Management Team

The Maine Warden Service Incident Management Team was created back in the 1980's to manage large scale and high priority searches that occur in the state of Maine. The IMT practices the ICS/NIMS principals when running search incidents.



The Maine Warden Service received almost 500 calls for service last year related to search and rescue. Typical search calls game wardens respond to include lost children in rural areas, overdue hikers, missing Alzheimer persons, overdue snowmobilers, and missing despondent individuals. The IMT is deployed for about 10 -15 searches a year based on

the priority of the search or when it gets to large for local wardens to manage effectively.

The IMT regularly provides assistance to other law enforcement agencies in the state. IMT has worked with the Maine State Police to provide assistance in missing person cases detectives from which the CID unit are involved. We also provide assistance for people that are missing where a search of the area could assist in the investigation into the whereabouts of that person.

The Incident Management Team members attend nationally recognized training programs designed specifically towards search and rescue tactics. Over the last 15 years, the IMT has evolved from using 24k topo maps, with compass and pacing techniques to now combining GIS based mapping software with field resource deployment using GPS technology. This combination allows more concise placement of resources that are deployed in the search area and better documentation of where those resources actually searched while doing search assignments.

A recent IMT deployment:

The Maine Warden Service was notified on Saturday evening (9-27) around 9:30 pm that a 80 year old woman was missing from her residence on

Route 175 in the Brooklin Maine. The Hancock County sheriffs department sent several officers to the scene and the Brooklyn Fire Department responded along with a K-9 from the Ellsworth Police Department. Information gathered from relatives and people in the area determined that Suzanne was last seen at about 9:30 in the morning on Saturday as she walked across a field onto a footpath that would eventually connect to town. Suzanne was interested in getting a package from the post office in Brooklyn which is about 1.5 miles from her residence.

The Incident Management Team responded along with game wardens from all across Hancock County, Maine Search and Rescue Dogs (MESARD), and Mount Desert Island Search and Rescue (MDISAR) The weather at that time was very hard rain and worse weather was predicted throughout the night. The storm dropped 7" of rain that night in the Brooklyn area. K-9 and hasty search teams were deployed all night and searchers came back literally drenched from the heavy downpour of rain that occurred in the region from 10:00 pm on. We were all very concerned about Suzanne's health in this extreme weather.

Starting at 6:00 am on Sunday morning, K-9 resources from MESARD, and the Maine Warden Service K-9 Team were deployed



SPECIALTY TEAMS

along likely areas of interest. Wardens Mark Merrifield and his K-9 Aspen and Warden Brian Tripp and his K-9 Marley were given an assignment along a woods ATV trail that runs west from route 175 and was south from Suzanne's residence. The IMT members realized that Suzanne would have needed to cross this trail to get to town. They theorized that if she made a wrong turn, she would have become lost very quickly due to the number of side trails. Warden Merrifield's assignment was to search the main trail and follow the side trails. At around 7:25 am K-9 Aspen started alerting to human scent and then led Warden Merrifield to Suzanne who was sitting in an old clear cut. Suzanne was very wet and hypothermic. She was conscious and alert though. She was immediately brought out to a waiting ambulance. Suzanne was located about $\frac{3}{4}$ of mile from her residence.

Special Investigations Division

The Maine Warden Service's Wildlife Crimes Investigation Division (WCID) is supervised by the Game Warden Captain who reports directly to the Major. The unit consists of four Game Warden Investigators and one Office Associate II administrative support person. Investigators are promoted from within the ranks of district game wardens. Each of the Investigators is responsible for supporting the efforts of four sergeants and approximately 24 wardens.

The focus of the WCID is to coordinate investigations into serious personal injury and fatal hunting related incidents as well as ATV, snowmobile, and boat crashes. They provide resources and support to district game wardens managing these incidents, and offer assistance with more complex fish and wildlife investigations. They assist with the preparation and execution of search warrants, gathering suspect information, researching criminal histories and provide investigative support during extensive search and rescue operations and serve as a liaison to our federal counterparts, US Fish and Wildlife Special Agents. Additionally, they maintain a network of contacts to facilitate interstate investigations when visitors of Maine violate our fish and wildlife laws and return to their home state.



RECOGNITION/AWARDS

Maine Warden Service Game Warden Jim Martin Jr. of Calais was recognized today as “Warden of the Year” for his honesty, consistency, and strong work ethic during his 20-year career.

Maine Warden Service Col. Joel Wilkinson, Chief Game Warden, and Major Gregory Sanborn, Deputy Chief Game Warden, presented Warden Martin with the honor, and recognized others for exemplary service during the Maine Warden Service’s annual meeting today in Winslow.

“The significant achievements we honor speak volumes about the commitment, courage, and core values of Maine game wardens,” said Col. Wilkinson. “These awards do not single out any warden as being the best warden in Maine, but rather honors individual wardens who represent the excellence of game wardens statewide. We take pride in our peers’ achievements, and their recognition is reflective of the agency’s entire work ethic.”

Added Col. Wilkinson, “In the face of recent developments relating to the state budget, it would be easy for all of us to let the current economic situation drive negativity and deflate the spirit towards our professional obligations. But I am confident that Maine Game Wardens will meet these challenges with the same determination, dedication and spirit by which our agency has been known in its 129-year history.”

Today’s annual meeting was attended by Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Commissioner Roland “Danny” Martin, IF&W Deputy Commissioner Paul Jacques, members of the IF&W Advisory Council, the IF&W Legislative Committee, and other guests.

“Folks that you connect with, from sportsmen and sportswomen to outdoor enthusiasts, appreciate what you do,” said Commissioner Martin. “A recent survey in an outdoors publication stated that 92 percent of the people believe you’re doing a good job. I do, too. I congratulate you and thank you for all that you do for the people of Maine.”

Warden of the Year/Shikar Safari Club Wildlife Officer of the Year



Award: To Jim Martin, a 20-year veteran based in Calais, nominated by Sgt. David Craven. Warden Martin is recognized for his dedication to the public safety of people within his district, his enforcement of Maine’s poaching laws, his commitment to safety education by wardens, his work with local, state, federal and international law enforcement officers and agencies, and his representation of game wardens through union efforts to negotiate contracts.

“Jim is as honest a person as you will find,” according to Sgt. Craven. “His integrity is above reproach, and the ethics and professionalism he displays in the performance of his duties serve as a model to all who work around him. Jim is a steady year-in and year-out performer; no flash, no big talk, just consistent results. This comes from old-fashioned pride in doing his job well, and conducting himself as a man of honor.”

“The Colonel has asked me to say a few words,” said Warden Martin, upon receipt of this honor. “I will keep it few. I am proud to serve.”

Colonel’s Award: To the Cumberland County District Attorney Stephanie Anderson, Deputy District Attorney Jennifer Norbert, and the Cumberland County District Attorney’s Office, selected and presented by Col. Joel Wilkinson. For their unwavering support and steadfast commitment to the prosecution of Robert Lapointe, who last fall was convicted of aggravated operation of a motorcraft while under the influence in the deaths of two people on Long Lake in 2007.



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RECOGNITION/AWARDS

“A critical component to successful prosecution of major cases is early involvement and support from the Prosecutor’s Office,” said Col. Wilkinson, who detailed the extraordinary level of time and attention to detail given to this case. “Ms. Anderson and Ms. Norbert successfully argued to have the jury view the boats and their associated damage in person, an impressive sight indeed. They examined dozens of witnesses and argued unceasing objections. They pressed forward through the shock of Lapointe’s emotions as he broke down when he described seeing his damaged boat. They remained cool under pressure as they navigated the ebb and flow of trial emotions.”

“To the people of the State of Maine, the Long Lake investigation demonstrated that the Maine Warden Service will not tolerate people operating watercraft recklessly or under the influence of alcohol or drugs on our inland waters,” said Col. Wilkinson. “To the Maine Warden Service, it demonstrated the positive results that can be achieved with teamwork and partnerships such as the one developed between our investigative team and the Cumberland County District Attorney’s Office.”

2008 NASBLA Boating Officer of the Year: To Warden Alan Gillis of



Orrington, presented by Col. Joel Wilkinson and the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators. Throughout the last year, Warden Gillis conducted more than 400 watercraft safety checks and documented 63 violations, has participated in search and rescue missions and poaching investigations, and has spoken to area schools, sportsmen’s clubs, and sportsmen’s shows.

“Warden Gillis rarely misses an opportunity to educate the public about recreational boating safety, a task he takes seriously and one in which he represents the Maine Warden Service very

well,” said Col. Wilkinson. “He is dedicated to ensuring the safety of those who recreate on Maine’s waters.”

Supervisor of the Year Award: To Chief Game Warden Pilot Charlie



Later of Greenville. Presented by Major Gregory Sanborn. For his expertise in aviation, fiscal responsibility, and supervision of two MWS pilots who provide all of the aviation needs for the MWS throughout the state.

“Chief Pilot Later is never satisfied with the status quo,” Major Sanborn said. “He is constantly recommending training for his division and applying for grant money to increase the capabilities of the air wing. Just recently the division was able to get a ‘free’ airplane from the federal government. Being free, there was plenty of work to be done on it. Once completed, this additional aircraft will help provide additional air resources to our missions.”

Special Recognition Awards:

To Jody Breton of Livermore Falls, former director of the Natural Resources Service Center, presented by Col. Joel Wilkin-



son and Major Gregory Sanborn. For her tireless and outstanding support during recent budget reductions to ensure that the Maine Warden Service continued to meet its obligations to the people of Maine. Ms. Breton also was made an honorary member of the Maine Warden Service.

RECOGNITION/AWARDS



To the Piscataquis County Sheriff's Department, presented by Sgt. Chris Simmons and Col. Wilkinson. In the Fall of 2007, Sheriff John J. Goggin and the Piscataquis County Sheriff's Department formed a partnership with the Maine Warden Service to handle dispatch calls for service in Piscataquis County, and for Operation Game Thief, a statewide program that allows anonymous individuals to report alleged poaching operations.

"This service provided by the staff of the Piscataquis County Sheriff's Department to Operation Game Thief has been nothing short of excellent," said Col. Wilkinson. "Their efforts play a major role in the overall protection of our natural resources. We thank them for their commitment and dedication to this program and to the members of the Maine Warden Service."

To U.S. Fish and Wildlife Agents Eric Holmes and Robert Roth, presented by Game Warden Joey Lefebvre. For their surveillance assistance over a period of time in the apprehension of a convicted felon and others who were operating a poaching operation behind the felon's home, as well as growing marijuana plants, hunting without a license, and possession of a firearm.



To Dave Blake, Jeff Coon, Chris Davidson, and David Minott—four members of the Maine State Police garage presented by Lt. Shon Theriault and Warden John MacDonald. For their invaluable assistance in bringing the Maine Warden Service and its Mobil Data Project online.

Meritorious Service Award: Given to a Game Warden for conduct above the ordinary course of duty when, because of initiative, courage and diligence, the Game Warden places himself in danger while performing his duty.



To Sgt. Bill Chandler of Greenville, presented by Lt. Pat Dorian. For his selfless efforts to subdue a suicidal man brandishing a loaded firearm at Indian Hill Trading Post in Greenville. "Sgt. Chandler used personal knowledge of the man and his family to negotiate with him, encouraging him not to hurt himself. The subject eventually laid the weapon down and agreed to walk over to Sgt. Chandler with his hands over his head," according to Lt. Dorian.

Exemplary Service Awards: Given to a Game Warden who has rendered relevant outstanding service which deserves special recognition.

To Captain Dan Scott of Hampden, Investigator Phil Dugas, Investigator Jason Luce, Warden Kevin Anderson, and Warden Jeremy Judd presented by Lt. Adam Gormely. For their investigation that led to the arrest and conviction of Robert Lapointe for aggravated operating under the influence for the deaths of two boaters on Long Lake in 2007. This investigation was the most comprehensive undertaken by the Maine Warden Service to date.

RECOGNITION/AWARDS



To Warden Specialist Steve Allarie of Farmingdale, presented by Lt. Shon Theriault. For sound judgment and fiscal responsibility in coordinating a relocation of the Maine Warden Service administration into a new, centrally located office at the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife headquarters in Augusta.



To Warden John MacDonald of Pownal, presented by Lt. Shon Theriault. For distinguished service and project management in coordinating and placing mobilized data equipment in all Game Warden vehicles. The daunting task included working with the state Office of Information Technology, other law enforcement agencies, contractors and vendors to ensure the software worked with current operating systems and could be used throughout the state.



To Warden David Allen of Ashland, presented by Sgt. Tom Ward. For offering wilderness first aid and twice stabilizing a moose hunter who was suffering from cardiac arrest at Clayton Lake before the hunter was transported by LifeFlight to Bangor.



To Warden Rick Clowry of Harmony, presented by Sgt. Bill Chandler. For investigating a trespassing complaint in Palmyra that led to the shutdown of a poaching operation, with convictions and fines for four subjects and jail time for a fifth individual.



To Warden Mike Pierre of Gorham, presented by Sgt. Tim Spahr and Lt. Adam Gormely, for his fish conservation efforts, including the protection of native landlocked salmon and smelts, by investigating and apprehending poachers in southwestern Maine.



To Warden Ben Drew of Houlton, Warden Durward Humphrey of Benedicta, and Warden Scott Martin of Patten, presented by Lt. Doug Tibbetts. For their investigation that led to 25 summonses for illegal moose and deer hunting, and illegal drug possession.



K-9 Conservation Case of the Year Award: To Game Warden Paul Farrington and Koda, of Springfield, presented by Warden Wayde Carter and Warden Roger Guay. For their recovery of key evidence to apprehend deer poachers on Marsh Island in the fields at the University of Maine.



K-9 Search and Rescue of the Year Award: To Game Warden Jeff Spencer and Bridger, of St. Francis, presented by Warden Wayde Carter and Warden Roger Guay. For their search of a suicidal female subject who was missing and armed with a handgun. Warden Spencer and Bridger located the subject, who had a gunshot wound to the chest, deep in the woods and administered first aid until an ambulance arrived.

RECOGNITION/AWARDS



Maine Warden Service Association Legendary Game Warden: To retired Game Warden Don Walker of Bingham, presented by Warden Chris Dyer. Walker served from 1954 to 1975. For being “gritty and persistent” and for his efforts to start up and supervise the Maine Warden Service’s search and rescue operations. Retired Warden Walker continues to participate in dive team and other MWS training programs.

Maine Warden Service Association Merit Awards: Given to volunteers and other individuals who help the Maine Warden Service perform its mission. To Rick Michaud of Crouchville, Lance Wheaton of Forest City, Jack Knight of Bridgton, and Pam and Brian Wells of Old Town.



Thank You.

Honoring the Past



Cherishing the Present



Planning for the Future

Becoming a Maine Game Warden

*Since 1880 Honor • Loyalty • Compassion • Trust
Become a member of our 130 year tradition!*

Have you considered a career as a Maine Game Warden?
Let us tell you about the advantages.

It is challenging! When you go to work, you never know what you will be doing that day. It could be educating the public regarding laws, investigating crimes, finding a lost or missing child, arresting a wanted person, or any one of a thousand other things. There is certainly no routine in this job.

It is rewarding! If you like to help people, this could be the job for you. You are often called to assist people in a time of crisis. They turn to you for the help and advice they need. You can make a tremendous impact on their lives. You can help a young child learn to stay safe if lost and you can help people make their outdoor experiences safer and more enjoyable. Every day, you will go home knowing that you have made a difference in someone's life.

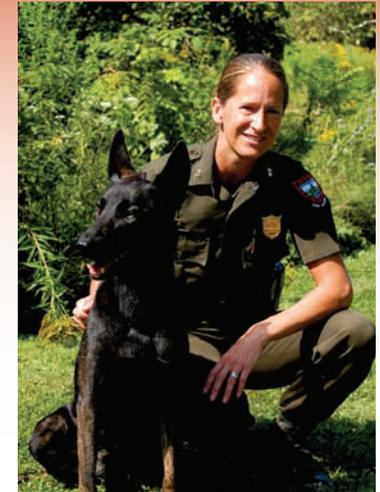
It is secure! A job as a Maine Game Warden provides a great deal of security. In addition to job security, the pay is good, the benefits are usually very good, and there is an excellent pension and a career ladder. With a variety of specialty teams, the Maine Warden Service is sure to provide you with a career full of excitement and challenges.

It is prestigious! Most people trust and respect Maine Game Wardens. As a Game Warden, you will earn respect as a person who enforces the law, protects our natural resources, protects the public, and protects the freedoms guaranteed by the United State Constitution.

Great Career Opportunities...

Airboat Operator
Canine Handler
Covert Team
Dive Team
Division Investigator
Evidence Recovery Team
EVOC Instructor
Forensic Mapping Specialist
Field Training Officer

Firearms Instructor
Honor Guard Member
Hover Craft Operator
Incident Management Team
Pilot (Air Wing)
Police Academy Cadre Member
Police Academy Instructor
Warden Academy Instructor
WhitewaterSpecialist



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