

# Lower Chippewa Team Warden Web Report

## October 2009

### Eau Claire County

**Warden Scott Thiede, of Eau Claire,** responded to a landowner's complaint of motor vehicles tearing up his private property along the Chippewa River. Warden Thiede contacted one subject on an unregistered ATV, and two 4x4 trucks mud bogging on the wetland area. Enforcement action addressed the illegal ATV use and the damage to a natural resource.

Warden Scott Thiede, of Eau Claire, investigated the dumping of plastic car parts in the woods near Big Falls County Park. The responsible person had sold all the scrap metal from the car, but failed to dispose of the plastic appropriately. Litter citations for over 30 gallons volume of solid waste can result in \$389.50 forfeitures.

Warden Scott Thiede checked a man fishing from the shore of the Chippewa River in the City of Eau Claire. The angler was in possession of undersize walleye. He attempted to provide a borrowed tribal membership card as identification. His true identity was confirmed by the Wisconsin ID in his wallet – no tribal membership. The subject did not qualify to engage in the exercise of off-reservation treaty rights.

Warden Scott Thiede contacted an archery deer hunter leaving the woods of a public hunting area during the herd control gun deer hunt. Darkness shrouded the hunter who was clad head to toe in green camouflage. Warden Thiede spoke to the young man about his failure to wear blaze orange during the gun deer season, for leaving his portable tree stand on the state-owned lands for several weeks, for not leaving his name or ID number on the stand, and for hunting after hours. The hunter left with a clear understanding of "his" responsibility to promote safe and ethical hunting.

**Deputy Warden Water Guard Justin Wershofen** contacted duck hunters on the Mississippi River on the duck season opening weekend to ensure compliance with invasive species control laws in regard to duck hunting boats and equipment.

**Warden Ken Thomson, of Fall Creek,** responded to a serious ATV accident where a woman was air lifted to Luther Hospital in Eau Claire. The woman's three wheeler hit a tree and then landed on top of her.

Warden Thomson picked up a dead bald eagle and transported it to the Eau Claire DNR office where it could be transported to the state wildlife health lab for necropsy and disposal.

Warden Thomson met with trappers and picked up six fisher that were caught incidentally in raccoon traps.

### Chippewa County

**Warden Cody Adams, of Chippewa Falls,** received a call from a sheriff's deputy that a man had shot a deer out of his car window early in the morning. The man shot the deer in a residential area near Lake Wissota. The suspect was contacted, where it was determined that he shot a doe on private property with a crossbow. Enforcement action was taken.

While on patrol during the October antlerless gun season, Warden Adams observed an ATV driving through the woods after hunting hours. Adams slowed his squad down and the ATV stopped and turned its lights off. Adams made contact with the hunter where the man was found to be operating an unregistered ATV, had a bow on the ATV which was not cased, was not wearing blaze orange as required, was not displaying a backtag, and was determined to have placed more than two gallons of corn and apples near his tree stand. Enforcement action was taken.

Wardens Adams and Thomson patrolled the Chippewa County Forest during the antlerless gun deer season. Citations were issued for possession of loaded firearm in vehicle and for operating an ATV on the highway.

**Warden Scott Bove, of Cornell,** took enforcement action with a Holcombe area resort for illegal piers where the resort had constructed about 80 boat slips where they only had enough shoreline to construct 12 legal slips without a permit.

Upon stopping a vehicle that appeared to be road-hunting, Warden Bove discovered that the 15 year-old driver and his 14 year-old passenger had two uncased guns in the vehicle. The boys did not even have cases in the vehicle and one of the guns was loaded. Both boys were hunter safety course graduates. Enforcement action was taken with the juveniles.

Warden Bove attended a two-day ICS-400 level class at the Stanley Fire Department where emergency services and correctional staff from the surrounding area trained on responses to various simulated incidents so they could be better prepared for the actual incidents. Conservation wardens assist in various emergency incidents because of their specialized training and equipment.

### **Clark County**

**Warden Adam Hanna, of Neillsville,** investigated an ATV crash that claimed the life of a Granton man who was driving on a road on his way to bait his tree stands.

An investigation of an undersized musky brought to a taxidermist in Dunn County led to enforcement action with a Greenwood area man.

Warden Hanna investigated a buck deer laying in a field that the landowner suspected was shot from the road.