



Law Enforcement Division Overview

Law Enforcement Division
Jason Haines, Chief

March 12, 2025





Overview of Presentation

- Department budget
- Law Enforcement Division (LED) fit within department budget
- Law Enforcement Division budget
- Law Enforcement Division structure, staffing, and responsibilities





Law Enforcement Division Mission Statement

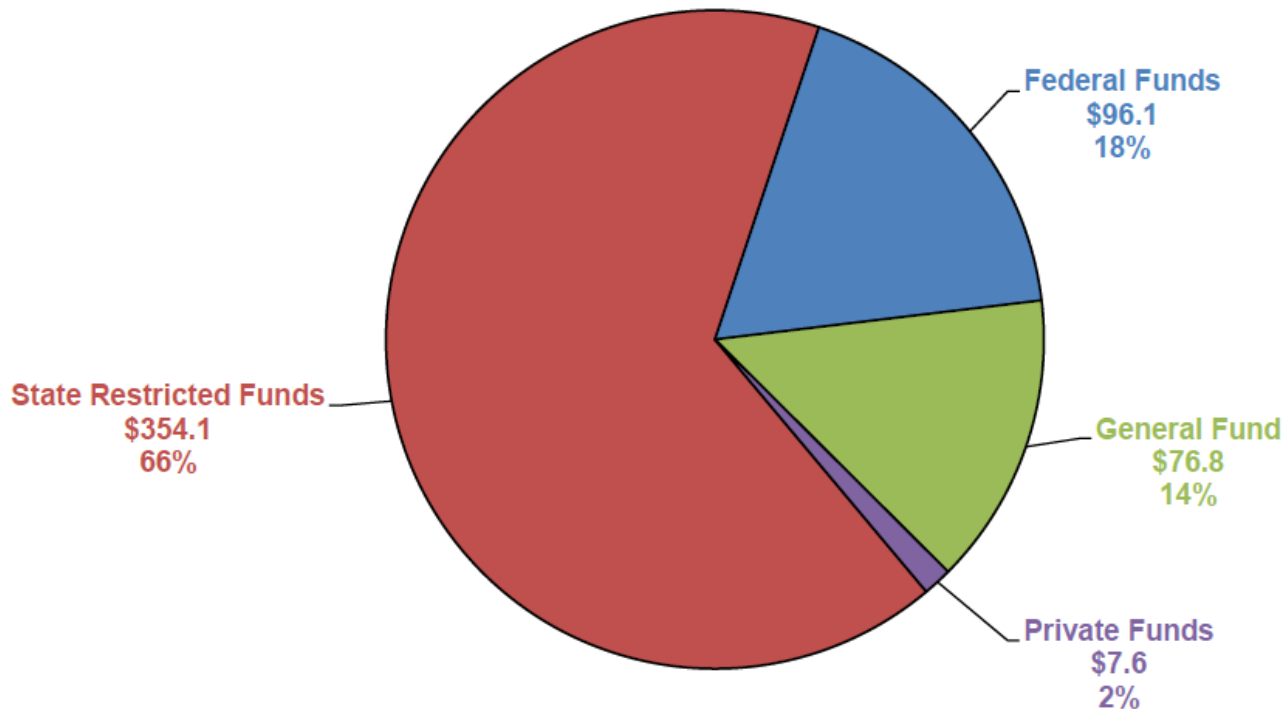
The mission of the Law Enforcement Division is to protect Michigan's natural resources, the environment, and the health and safety of the public through effective law enforcement and education.



Department Appropriation by Funding Source

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES MAJOR FUNDING SOURCES

FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025
PUBLIC ACT 121 of 2024



*Note: Figures in millions

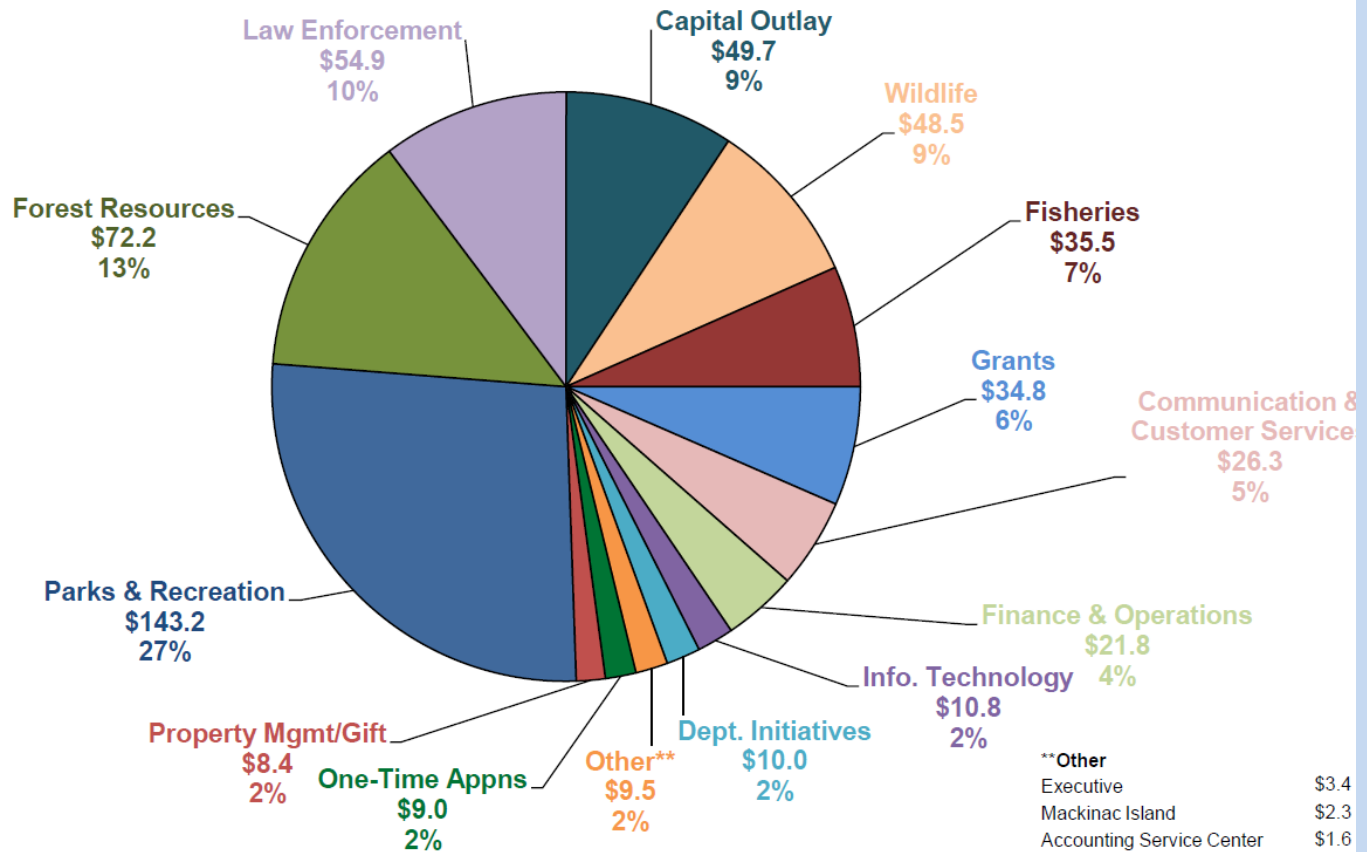
Total Funding: \$534.6 *



Appropriations Summary by Divisions

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES APPROPRIATION SUMMARY

FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025
PUBLIC ACT 121 of 2024



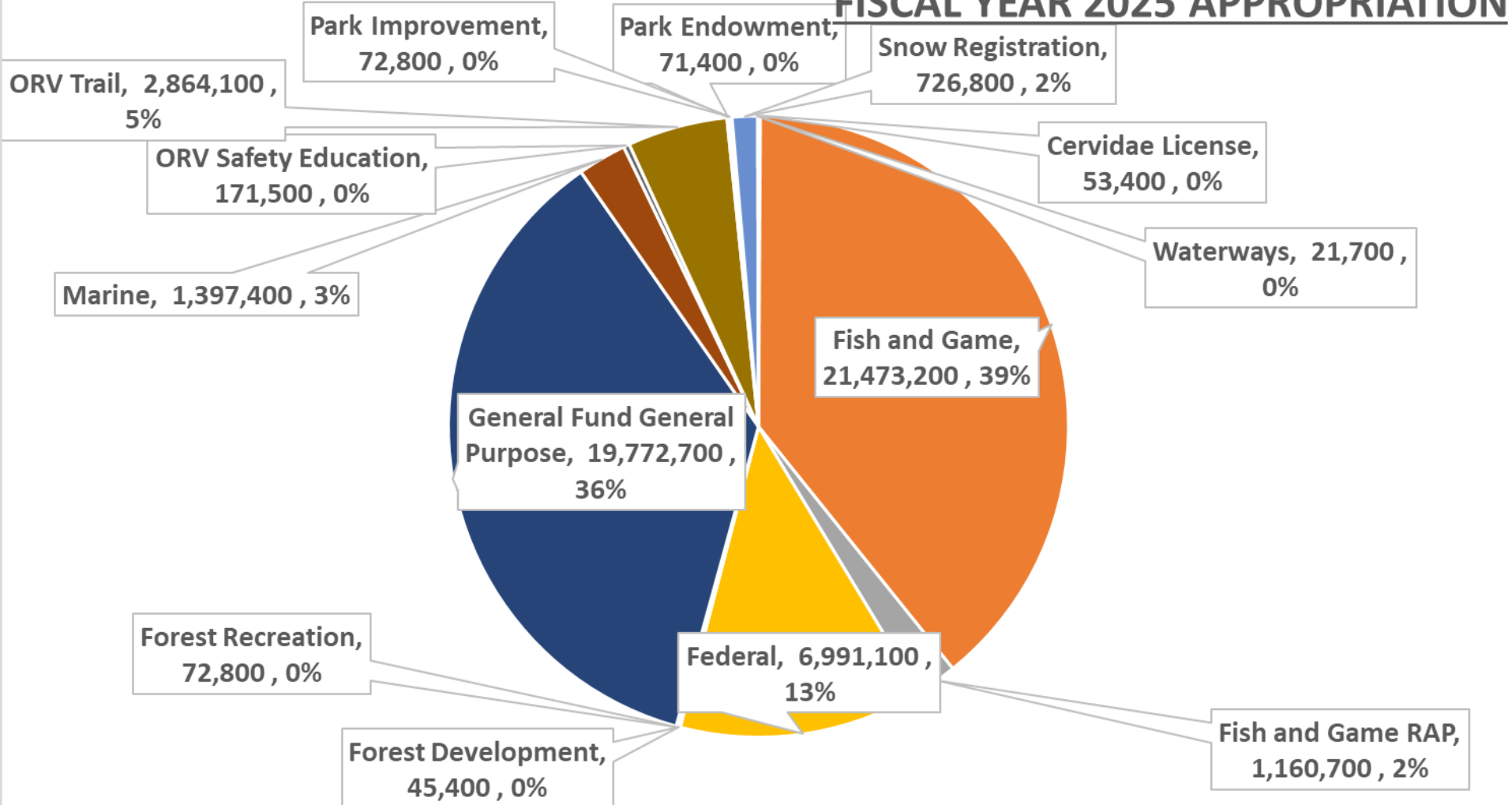
*Note: Figures in millions

Total Appropriation: \$534.6 *



Law Enforcement Division Appropriation by Funding Source

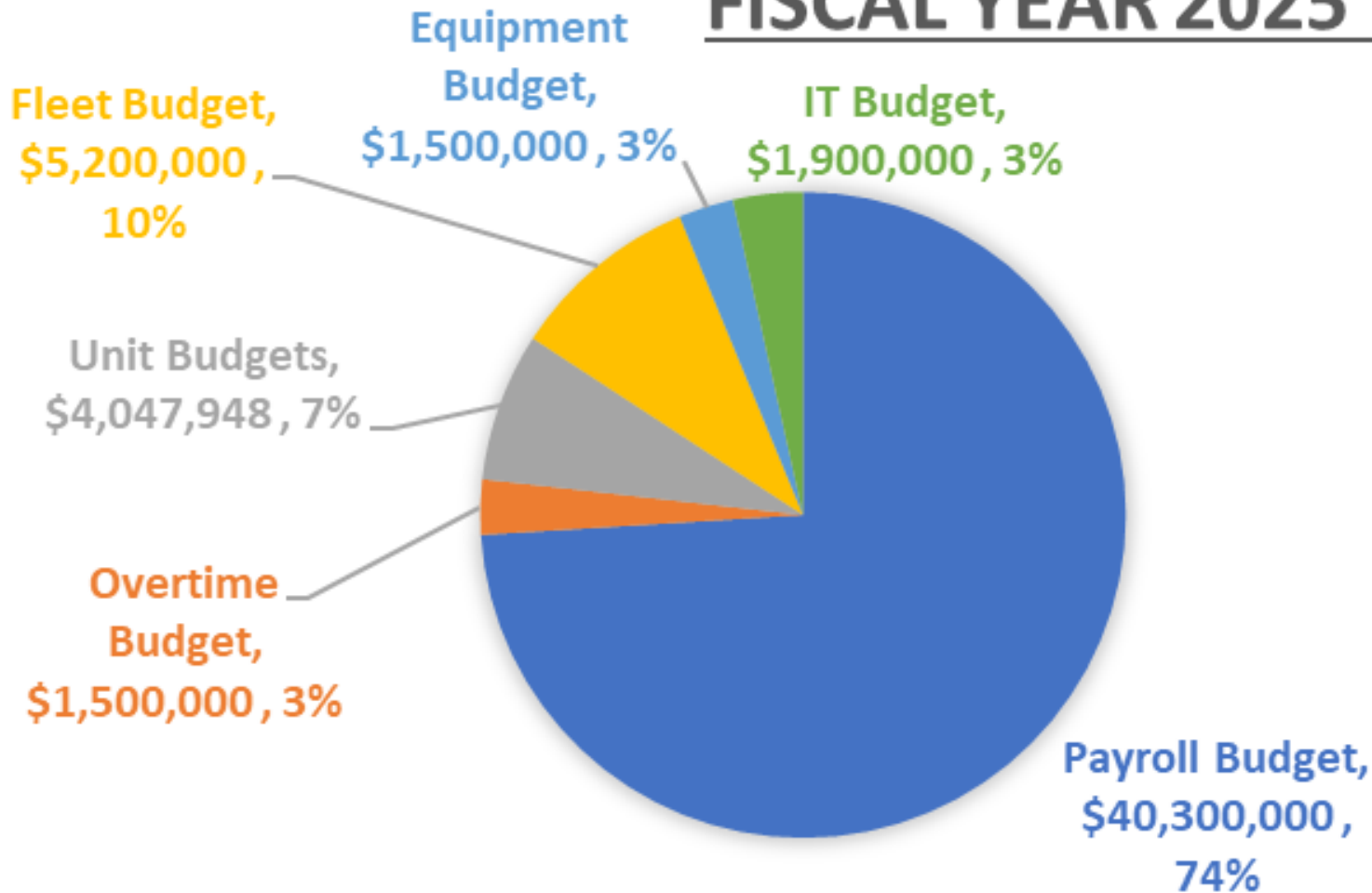
FISCAL YEAR 2025 APPROPRIATION





Law Enforcement Division Budget Expenditures

FISCAL YEAR 2025 BUDGET





Current Staffing

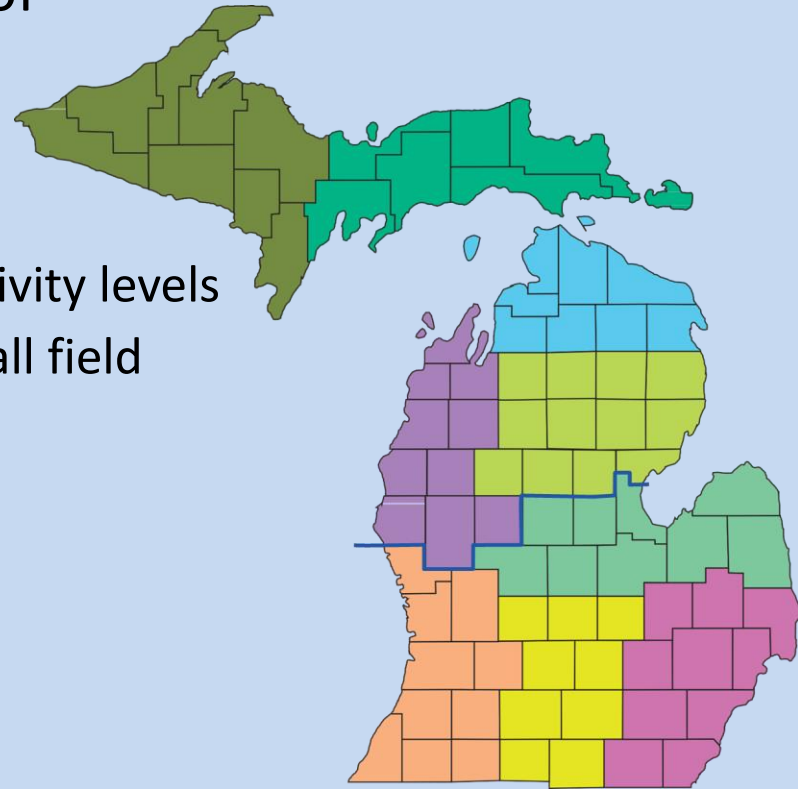
- Sworn conservation officer staff of all ranks: 236
 - Additional 16 conservation officer recruits in training academy bringing total to 252 upon graduation
- Civilian support staff: 35
 - Includes dispatchers, financial support staff, FOIA personnel, and other administrative support





Field Operations

- Nine field districts typically consisting of
 - One lieutenant district supervisor
 - Three sergeant area supervisors
 - Two conservation officers per county
 - Some variances due to geographic and activity levels
 - Two captain regional supervisors oversee all field operations
- Current field staffing
 - Conservation officers: 155
 - Sergeants: 29
 - Lieutenants: 9
 - Count does not include officers assigned other units to be discussed later in presentation





Field Operations

- In 2024, conservation officers had over 453,000 contacts with the public.



- Less than 2% resulted in enforcement action.



Field Operations

Primary Areas of Responsibility

- Game and fish enforcement
- Marine, ORV, and snowmobile safety enforcement
- Protection of public lands
- Invasive species enforcement
- Hunter education
- Marine, ORV, and snowmobile safety education





Field Operations

General Policing Responsibilities

- Often only available first responder in rural areas—multiple lifesaving events each year
- Search and rescue events on land and on the water
- Routinely provide emergency response to injury crashes, provide backup to other agencies during critical incidents, or handle routine calls when other resources are unavailable





Field Operations

Partnering with Parks and Recreation Division to Provide Safe Environment for Park Visitors

- Belle Isle operations since 2014
- Times of heavy use and special events in state parks such as summertime activity at Grand Haven State Park





Great Lakes Enforcement Unit

- Staffing
 - 14 specialists and supervisors situated in key locations around the state
- Responsible for
 - State licensed commercial fishing
 - Tribal licensed commercial and subsistence fishing
 - Aquatic invasive species
- Tribal partnerships
 - Heavily involved in tribal relations
 - Routinely partner with tribal resource enforcement agencies





Special Investigations Unit

- Staffing
 - 12 investigators and supervisors situated across the nine field districts
- Illegal commercialization of Michigan's natural resources
- Threatened and endangered species
- Organized poaching
- Technical investigations





Recreational Safety, Education and Enforcement Section

- Recreational safety programs:
 - Hunter education
 - Off-road vehicle
 - Snowmobile
 - Marine

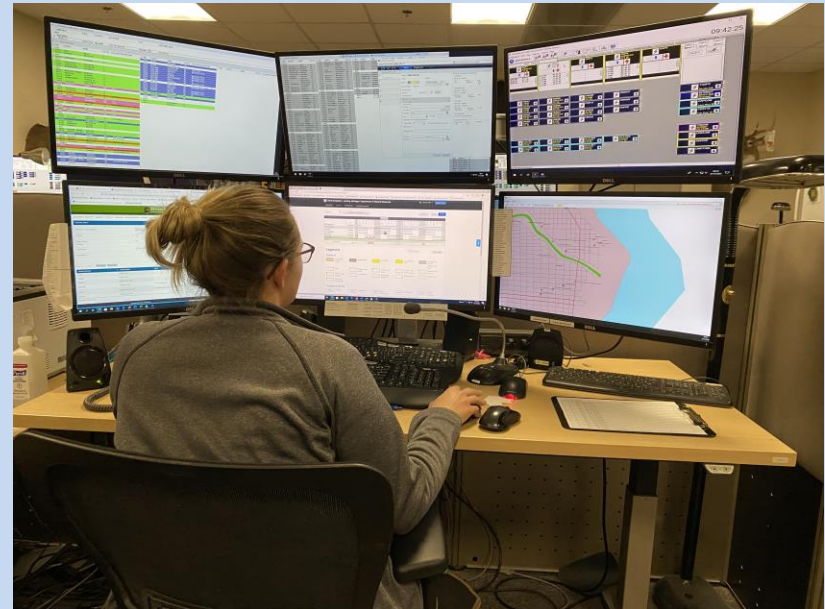


- More than 46,000 people earned a safety certificate in 2024.
- More than 1,600 volunteer recreational safety education instructors.
- Local watercraft controls.



Communications Section

- Report All Poaching Hotline is staffed 24/7/365 and is accessible by:
 - Phone
 - Text
 - Web
- In 2024, there were:
 - 43,250 calls received
 - More than 10,000 complaints generated





Partnerships

LED routinely partners with other agencies

- United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- United States Coast Guard
- Tribal resource enforcement agencies
- Michigan State Police, sheriff's departments, local police agencies
- Resource agencies from around the country





Partnerships

Examples of cooperative efforts with other agencies:

- Joint patrols
- Cross-border investigations
- Response to natural disasters
- Crimes in progress
- Training

- Providing MSP and other agencies basic and advanced marine operations training
- Providing other agencies ORV and snowmobile enforcement training





Questions?

Learn more about outdoor recreation opportunities at Michigan.gov/DNR.