

2009

**MAINE**

**G A M E**  
*ANNUAL REPORT*  
**W A R D E N**

**SINCE 1880**

**HONOR • LOYALTY • COMPASSION • TRUST**

**MAINE WARDEN SERVICE**  
**DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE.**



# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---



## 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.*

INTRODUCTION TO BUREAU OF WARDEN SERVICE .....	1
NEW EMPLOYEES, PROMOTIONS & RETIREMENTS .....	4
DIVISION SUMMARIES .....	9
FINANCIAL SUMMARY.....	17
LICENSE SALES TRENDS .....	19
FIELD CONTACTS AND INSPECTIONS.....	20
RECREATIONAL VEHICLE REGISTRATION TRENDS .....	21
CALLS FOR SERVICE .....	23
SEARCH AND RESCUE .....	25
RECREATIONAL VEHICLE CRASH DATA .....	28
VIOLATION DATA .....	31
RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY EFFORT .....	31
SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT DETAILS .....	37
SPECIALTY TEAMS.....	40
OPERATION GAME THIEF .....	49
RECREATIONAL SAFETY.....	50
RECOGNITION AND AWARDS.....	52
BECOMING A MAINE GAME WARDEN .....	56

# BUREAU OF LAW ENFORCEMENT

---

October 1, 2010

Dear Commissioner Martin and outdoor enthusiasts,

I would like to present to you the Maine Warden Service annual report that highlights the Bureau of Warden Service activities for calendar year 2009 and fiscal year 2010. Since 1880, the Maine Warden Service has been committed to serving and protecting the public and conserving Maine's natural resources. Whether enforcing Maine's fish and wildlife laws, protecting all of those who engage in outdoor activities or supporting our fellow brothers and sisters in the Maine law enforcement community we as Maine Game Wardens are dedicated, adaptable and focused in our work.

As the Chief, I am reminded constantly about the changes in policy and mission of the Warden Service, and I agree over the course of 130 years our training and focus has evolved and changed. What is most important is that we have changed and adapted to our challenges in a manner that has allowed us to still hold the title Maine Game Warden for 130 years and be able to carry out the work role we were intended for. I have had the opportunity to learn by working side by side with numerous wardens many years my senior and I have developed an understanding of where we came from. It also has provided me with clarity on issues relating to what was relevant then and now. What was relevant then and relevant now is that Maine Game Wardens have and will continue to play an important role in the model of fish and wildlife conservation. Although the words "Game Warden" produce a variety of responses it signifies someone who is a steward, protector and enforcer of the laws that manage the State's wildlife and fish populations and keeps our waterways and inland trails safe. In the State of Maine, it also means the person who finds you when you are lost or in trouble in the forest, fields, and waters of our State. Our profession is unique, always has been and always will be. This uniqueness has established a bond in our staff that makes all of us aware what it truly means to be a member of our profession.

Please take the time to learn more about our agency by viewing the details within this comprehensive report. You will be provided helpful and interesting information relating to the structure, budget, mission and work product of all who work for the Warden Service. Thank you for taking the time to read and view this report and please support your local Game Warden. We cannot conduct our mission without the valuable support and assistance of all that enjoy our rich 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 as  
otherwise provided by statute.*

# BUREAU STRUCTURE

## Law Enforcement Operations

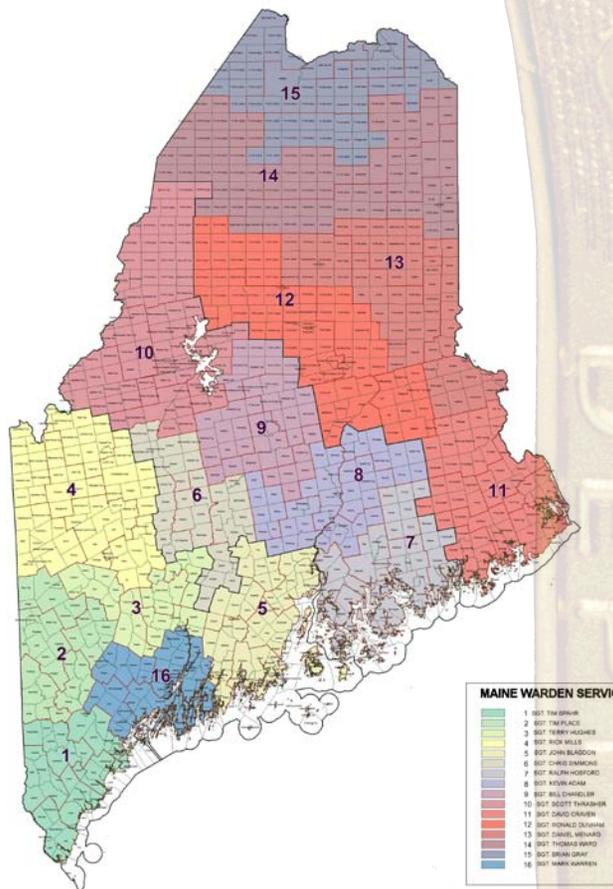
The Maine Warden Service is the law enforcement branch of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. It is equal in organizational level and status with other major organizational units within the department or its successors.

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;

## MAINE WARDEN SERVICE



- **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 seven 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 division 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 Corporal is assigned to enforcement of Maine's commercial whitewater rafting industry. In 2009, Corporal Aaron Cross took over for Warden Steve Allarie.



New for the Maine Warden Service is the position of Corporal in charge of managing outreach, education, and recruitment efforts. Corporal John MacDonald was promoted to this position in 2009 from District Game Warden in Freeport.



GREGORY SANBORN  
MAJOR SINCE JULY 2004



# NEW EMPLOYEES, PROMOTIONS, AND RETIREMENTS

## New Employees:

### Kris Barboza

I am Warden Kris Barboza and I am married with two children. I have served as a police officer in Massachusetts for the past twelve years. During that time some of my duties included being a D.A.R.E. and Radkids instructor. For the past seven years I served as a K-9 handler for search and rescue purposes. I am also pursuing my Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice.

For years, my family and I have enjoyed coming up to our camp in Maine. We have made some great friends and have experienced the beauty and adventures that Maine offers. I have been able to teach my children to respect and enjoy the outdoors just as my father taught me.

Based upon my love of the outdoors as well as my law enforcement experience I felt that being a Maine Game Warden was a perfect fit for me. With hard work and dedication I was fortunate enough to have that dream come true. I now feel that I am blessed with the opportunity to protect the very things that brought my family and I to Maine.



### Ethan Buuck

Hello, I'm Game Warden Ethan Buuck and my adventures started in the small town of Peru in western Maine. My family and I lived on fifty plus acres that contained every bit of what an outdoorsman would want. I had hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, snowmobiling and whatever else a person could ask for in my back yard. I grew up gaining those outdoor experiences and would develop a passion for the Maine woods and its wildlife.

I left my way of life in Peru, Maine as I started a new life when I entered high school at Maranacook Community High School in Readfield, Maine. Upon graduation from Maranacook in 2005, I enlisted in the United States Coast Guard Reserves. I figured there was no better way to gain a background in law enforcement and serve the country all at once.

It took a year to complete training for the Coast Guard but shortly after, in 2006 I was enrolled at Unity College majoring in Conservation Law Enforcement. While at Unity, between my junior and senior years, I was hired by the Maine Warden Service as a Deputy Game Warden to patrol Sebago Lake for boating safety. I was able to finish my Bachelor of Science degree at Unity College and shortly after graduation in June of 2010 I was hired as a full time Maine Game Warden.



### Evan Franklin

I first had aspired to be a Maine Game Warden since my early high school years. I was always fond of Maine's natural beauty, and wanted to work in the field assisting its users, and protecting the natural resources my family had taught me to respect and enjoy.

My educational experiences include a high school diploma from Brunswick High School and a Bachelor of Science degree in Conservation Law Enforcement from Unity College. I am also a graduate of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy's 13th Basic Law Enforcement Training Program.

My employment experiences include a municipal Park Ranger for the Town of Brunswick, Dispatcher for the Operation Game Thief program, Reserve Police Officer for the Town of Old Orchard Beach, and full-time Patrolman for the Town of Monmouth.



### Peter Herring

I am Warden Peter Herring. I live in Gorham with my wife and two children. I was employed with the State of Maine Department of Corrections for 18 years, most of which were spent as a full-time law enforcement officer and Criminal Investigator. I have a strong and long standing investigative background and have worked with the Moss Group out of Washington, DC teaching investigations to state correctional facilities all across the country. I commanded both a tactical team and a K-9 team for the Department of Corrections and was a certified K-9 handler myself.

As a young boy, my grandfather taught me to love the outdoors. He taught me to hunt and fish, and it is the memory of those times with him that are some of my most treasured. It is this love for Maine's outdoors, coupled with my personal and family background in law enforcement (my father is a retired State Police Detective) that made becoming a Game Warden a life-long ambition. With drive and determination, it really is never too late to begin your dream job.



### Mark Hutcheson

I really have been blessed with the chance to work with the Maine Warden Service. I, like most of the other Wardens in the Warden Service, have spent a lot of our youth in the outdoors. I have been very fortunate to have a father, like I have, that spent a lot of time with me on the rivers, lakes, streams, and in the woods of Iowa. It is really neat to look back now and see really how important those days were and how it had such



an impact on my life and starting to prepare me for today and my life as a game warden.

The years following high school took me into college and exposed me to the next building time in my life. I entered a Parks and Recreation program at a college in Cedar Rapids Iowa, and in my sophomore year totally changed directions. In the fall of 1987, I moved out to northern Colorado, helped build a guest ranch and started the hunting end of the business. There I met my wife at a rodeo in Fraser, Colorado. I started guiding elk and mule deer hunts in 1988 and continued on guiding for the Fox Ranches until 2007 when my family and I moved to Maine. We fell in love with Maine actually during the planning stages of that trip. The passion for helping protect our resources and continuing the Law Enforcement history of my wife's family is now an every day way of life.

## Rick Laflamme

I grew up in Arundel, Maine with my parents Gil and Jackie Laflamme and two brother's Bob and Ron. From the time I was a young boy I worked in our family business cutting up big game animals. My parents both worked two jobs but still made time to introduce us to hunting, fishing, camping, and enjoying the great outdoors of Maine. I will never forget the time I got my first deer when I was only ten years old. That is when I met a Maine Game Warden for the first time. His name was Don Gray. After a brief discussion with the man in green, he congratulated me and went on his way. I knew that day that I was going to be a Maine Game Warden.



As the years passed, my passion for the outdoors grew even more. I was trapping, hunting, fishing, as much as I could. When I was in High School, my father fell very ill, my brothers were gone in the Military, and I had to take over the family business with my mother. I thought my dream of becoming a Game Warden was over. When I graduated from Biddeford High School, I went to Unity College part time still trying to run the business traveling back and forth. When my brother Bob came home from the Air force, he took over the business for me. I finished college with an associates degree in Conservation Law and Applied Science. I then loaded my truck and headed to Alaska to work a seasonal position as a fisheries technician for six months.

When I returned home, I married my best friend Tammy of fourteen years now. I started a career with the Maine Marine Patrol when I was twenty-two years old. I went from being an Officer, to Pilot, and then on to Sergeant in thirteen years. I owe that to my wife and my parents. I always gave one hundred and twenty percent. The Department of Marine Resources was awesome to my family and me. I have made many friends within Marine Patrol, as well as the Warden Service, and State Police. No matter what life throws you, never give up on a dream.



## Jonathan Parker

Hi, I'm Game Warden Jonathan Parker. I grew up in the small town of St. Albans with parents Terry and Vicki Parker, and three older brothers Matthew, Jacob, and Joseph. I was very fortunate at a young age to be introduced to the Maine outdoors and what it has to offer. On many occasions, I enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, and many other outdoor activities with my family.

I graduated from Nokomis Regional High School in 1996 I graduated from Beal College with an Associates Degree in Conservation Law Enforcement in 1998. I studied and worked hard passing the test to become a Master Maine Guide. At that time I was the youngest person in the state to hold a Guide's license. I worked part time guiding for other outfitters, and myself, which increased my knowledge of the outdoors greatly. Not only did I get to enjoy the Maine outdoors, I helped many other people enjoy their first outdoor experience. I married my wife Tanya in 2000 and now ten years later we both enjoy our four wonderful children. Being employed as a Maine Game Warden affords me unlimited opportunities to invest in not only their future but the publics to experience some of my fondest memories.

In 2003 I went to work for the Department of Correction, at Mountain View Youth Development Center. I wanted to work toward my goal, and I figured the experience at the jail would benefit me greatly. I spent the next six years at this job. On June 22, 2009, my dream became reality when I was hired by the Maine Warden Service. My advise to you is don't give up on your dreams because you can make them come true.

## David Ross

I am Game Warden Dave Ross. I am currently assigned to the Fryeburg patrol and will begin working in September, 2010.

I have always had a passion for the outdoors, whether that be hunting, fishing, or camping. I grew up in the Dresden/Wiscasset area, and was always pursuing some sort of game at a very young age. My step-father was a great role model and teacher in my life, showing me the importance of the natural resources of the state. During one of our hunting excursions, I met the local game warden in my area. I was 13 years old at the time, and immediately fell in love with the job. I knew it at that time, what it was I wanted to do for a career.

I graduated Wiscasset High School in 2002, and left that fall for Unity College. I graduated from Unity in 2006 and was top ten in my class with a Bachelors of Science/Conservation Law Enforcement and received the President's Award.



In January of 2007, I was hired by the Department of Marine Resources as a Marine Patrol officer. I graduated that May from the 12th Basic Law Enforcement Training Program, and began my Marine Patrol Career in Kennebunkport. I worked for Marine Patrol for just over 3 years, and had a great learning experience with law enforcement and watercraft. They are an exceptional department; however, I never forgot my dream of becoming a game warden. When I heard the Warden Service was hiring, I knew I had to apply. I applied for the Warden Service in the fall of 2009, and accepted a position the following June.

I could not be happier where I am at this point in my life. I have no regrets, only lessons learned. I am 25 years old and through hard work, honesty, and little bit of luck, I managed to land the best job in the world.



## Eric Rudolph

I aspired to be a Game Warden at a young age, like most Maine Game Wardens. As a child, I was brought up in a family that hunted, fished, and recreated and was taught the importance of ethics and conservation by my father and uncles. Though I grew up in the Ellsworth area, my family frequently spent our summers in my mother's hometown of Madawaska.

I attended Ellsworth High School, graduating in 2002. After high school, I started to pursue my dream of becoming a Maine Game Warden by attending Unity College. I graduated

from Unity in 2006 with a degree in Conservation Law Enforcement and Wildlife. I started working for the Department my sophomore year in college when I was hired as a Wildlife Technician on the bear project. After college, I spent 3 years working in the wildlife division trapping both bear and lynx and collecting bio data on deer. While working for the wildlife division I had the opportunity to live in camps all over the state from Township 36 to Clayton Lake.

I was hired as a Game Warden in June of 2009 and graduated from the 17th Basic Law Enforcement Training Program in December. After graduation, I was assigned to the Brewer patrol for training. I am looking forward to a great career with the Warden Service.

## Jason Scott

I am Warden Jason Scott. I live in Windham with my wife and step-son. I served in the U.S. Army for eight years. I began my law enforcement career as a part time deputy for the Washington County Sheriff's Department. I have also worked for the Machias Police Department, Cutler Navy Base Police, and Windham Police Department. I have experience as a Dive Team member, an Urban Rifle Instructor, and a Pistol Instructor for the Maine Criminal Justice Academy.



I enjoy the outdoors by hunting, fishing and four wheeling. With the support and encouragement from my wife, I applied. The Maine Warden Service has always been a dream of mine which has finally come true. There is no better way to com-

bine my love for the outdoors and love of law enforcement than to become a Game Warden. I am looking forward to the new and unique challenges of being a Game Warden.



## Andrew Smart

My name is Andrew Smart. I have always enjoyed the outdoor activities that the state of Maine has to offer. I was most interested in becoming a Game Warden because I believe in the importance of protecting and conserving our state's natural resources for future generations.

My previous education includes the following: I graduated from Skowhegan Area High School in 2005 and went on to receive my B.S. degree in Conservation Law Enforcement from Unity College in 2009. I am a graduate

of the Maine Criminal Justice Academy's 17th Basic Law Enforcement Training Program.

Before becoming a Game Warden, I worked for the town of Old Orchard Beach as a reserve officer. In addition, I worked both full-time and part-time hours at the Skowhegan Police Department. I also worked as a Deputy for the Warden Service before being hired as a full-time Game Warden in August, 2009. I am currently assigned to the Clayton Lake district.

## Scott Stevens

When I joined the ranks of the Warden Service, it was as if I had arrived at a much-desired destination after a long journey. My interest in the Warden Service was sparked by my passion for Maine's outdoors and its natural resources, which was started in my youth and has never left me. My outdoors background was strong in hunting, fishing and trapping.

Business Administration from the University of Maine. I rode with some game wardens and applied once in the early 1990s but was not hired at that time. My interest in the Warden Service meanwhile led me into a career in law enforcement. I was a police officer for the town of Rangeley for three years and I was a Maine State trooper for the past 14 years. In 2005, I had the honor of being named Maine's Trooper of the Year. I am proud of my service there and gained valuable training, experience, and friendships over that time.

In my brief time with the Warden Service, it has been continually reaffirmed that this was the right career move for me. I am excited to be a part of this team and look forward to doing and seeing things that only a Maine Game Warden has the opportunity to see.



# Promotions/Transfers:



STEVE ALLAIRE  
TRANSFERRED FROM SPECIALIST  
TO GAME WARDEN



AARON CROSS  
PROMOTED FROM GAME WARDEN  
TO CORPORAL  
WHITWATER RAFTING



JOHN MACDONALD  
PROMOTED FROM GAME WARDEN  
TO CORPORAL  
OUTREACH, EDUCATION, &  
RECRUITMENT



KEVIN ANDERSON  
PROMOTED FROM GAME WARDEN  
TO INVESTIGATOR



CHRIS CLOUTIER  
PROMOTED FROM GAME WARDEN  
TO SERGEANT



MARK WARREN  
TRANSFERRED FROM  
TRAINING SERGEANT  
TO FIELD SERGEANT



TOM WARD  
PROMOTED FROM SERGEANT TO  
LIEUTENANT,  
NORTHEAST DIVISION



KEVIN ADAM  
PROMOTED FROM SERGEANT TO  
LIEUTENANT,  
CENTRAL DIVISION

# Retirements:



DOUG TIBBETTS  
9/6/1970 - 6/30/2009  
GAME WARDEN LIEUTENANT —  
NORTHEASTERN DIVISION OUT OF ASHLAND



PAT DORIAN  
7/8/1975 - 8/31/2009  
GAME WARDEN LIEUTENANT —  
CENTRAL DIVISION OUT OF GREENVILLE



BLAINE HOLDING  
2/25/1985 — 7/31/2009  
GAME WARDEN OUT OF EUSTIS



TOM JACOBS  
8/2/1976 - 7/31/2009  
GAME WARDEN OUT OF FARMINGTON



DAVE ALLEN  
1/13/1977 - 11/30/2009  
GAME WARDEN OUT OF  
CLAYTON LAKE



RICK MILLS  
10/15/1983 - 8/31/2009  
GAME WARDEN SERGEANT  
OUT OF ANDOVER

# 2009 SOUTHWEST DIVISION SUMMARY



## Southwest Division Lieutenant Adam Gormely

The Southwestern Division patrols the lower third of the state and has over half of the states population. As a result, Maine Game Wardens assigned to patrol this vast area respond to a variety of calls for service and investigate and solve many intentional wildlife crimes. They also search for and recover lost people and fill an ever increasing law enforcement roll in the communities we live in and work for. Below are some examples of the work performed by the staff of the Warden Service assigned to the Southwestern Division.



Section one game wardens responded to 2091 calls for service to the public this year and issued 201 summonses. Warden Rick LaFlamme investigated a case involving the release of a Gaboon Viper which was found in Saco. The subject who possessed the snake was identified and charged. He had also been charged with the possession of two cobras and a viper five years prior by section one wardens.

Section one wardens aggressively worked illegal deer driving with the use of fixed-wing aircraft and ground patrols. This resulted in several

intentional violators being summonsed for deer driving. This effort resulted in one group of deer drivers being apprehended twice in one week.



Warden Rick LaFlamme and Corporal Michael W Joy investigated an illegal trapping case. After several hours of investigation and surveillance, the investigation resulted in various violations from Sunday hunting, stealing traps, taxidermist without a license, unlabeled traps, and trapping without land owner permission.

Warden John Lonergan suffered a broken leg during hunting season when a convicted felon, hunting illegally eluded him. A lengthy investigation subsequently conducted by Warden Eric Blanchard resulted in the apprehension and successful prosecution of the subject.

Warden Pete Herring assisted Maine State Police in breaking up and prosecuting the subjects of a large scale stolen snowmobile operation. Shown below is a "chop shop" in Parsonsfield. All sleds in the picture are stolen.



This year, primarily in sections 1 and 2 the Warden Service employed two seasonal Deputy Game Wardens assigned to work recreational boating activities. A high number of contacts were recorded with many

# 2009 SOUTHWEST DIVISION SUMMARY

positive comments regarding our presence. Section 2 handled 1107 CFS Warden Josh Smith, Warden Tony Gray, and Warden Norm Lewis spent Saturday March 20, 2010 working an illegal trapping case. Warden Smith received a call of a fox in a trap in Bethel. Wdn. Smith was able to locate another trap with a name on the trap. The wardens conducted several interviews and were able to obtain a confession to leaving the trap out all winter and obtain the other name of a trapper who was involved... both subjects have been summonsed for trapping violations.



GABOON VIPER IN SACO

On Wednesday, December 23, 2009, Warden Norm Lewis received a complaint that a moose was caught in a guide wire on the side of Spruce Mountain in Woodstock. He requested the assistance of Dana and his son John Lewis. They had to walk up the mountain to where the moose was stuck. Warden Lewis surveyed the situation and made a plan to release the moose. He had Dana hold the light and he pulled out his handgun, took aim and fired. He shot the antler off the moose, which freed the animal. Warden Lewis is the only Warden I know who could have hit the antler and not the moose. That is one for the books.



Section 3 handled roughly 1248 calls for service. Pike fishing has become popular as the majority of our waters are populated with this species. During the fall hunting seasons, several cases of night hunting, exceeding the bag limit on deer, permit violations, and bear violations were detected and successfully prosecuted. Due to the large amount of water in the section, boating enforcement is a top priority throughout the summer months. In the winter, wardens in section 3 patrolled

frozen waters for ice fishing activity and snowmobile enforcement. Wardens in section 3 have done several speaking engagements at local schools, fish and game clubs, and frequently speak at many of our summer camps for kids.

Section 4 recorded 816 Calls for Service. After receiving a night hunting tip in the town of New Sharon, Wdns. Kris MacCabe and Dan Christianson set up surveillance on a subject's camp who was baiting deer, utilizing a motion sensor, and using night vision equipment to hunt deer. At 11:56 PM, a shot rang out from the camp, and two brothers went to a dead doe one had just shot in front of these two wardens. Both subjects were arrested, and later prosecuted.

Game Wardens have continued to work additional shifts in the Northern areas under the Federal "Stonegarden" Program. These shifts have allowed for more back-country patrols, looking for activity near the US/Canadian Border.

Wardens in Section 5 responded to 1577 documented calls for service within the section. Wardens wrote in excess of 150 cases this year ranging from hunting, and fishing to recreational vehicle violations.

In the mid coast region this past year wardens investigated several fatalities. These investigations resulted in boating related drownings to drowning resulting from snowmobiles going through the ice.

On June 15, 2010 Wardens Merrifield, Dyer, and Merrifield assisted State Police with an ongoing investigation for an attempted armed robbery investigation at Hussey's Store in Windsor on June 14. The victim was Marlene Watson a license clerk for IF&W. As the investigation progressed and a potential suspect emerged Warden Mark Merrifield worked with and assisted Trooper Fowlie reviewing tapes and conducting interviews, later Merrifield located and detained the suspect. Merrifield then drafted the affidavit for a search warrant for the suspect's residence. Wardens Merrifield and Dyer patrolled the area attempting to locate the vehicle believed to be associated with the rob-

# 2009 CENTRAL DIVISION SUMMARY



every attempt until the suspect was apprehended. Section 16 handled 1225 calls for service. The annual Sebago Lake Ice Fishing Tournament was once again well attended by anglers from across the State and beyond. There were several thousand participants and other ice fishing and snowmobile enthusiasts arriving and venturing upon the ice.

Warden Service personnel were patrolling on snowmobiles, in aircraft, and with airboats as well as being stationed at the two main access locations in order to answer questions and greet the public.

The weather was mild and the ice was somewhat tentative as the day began. As the day progressed and the temperatures rose, serious concerns began to unfold relative to rapidly eroding ice conditions, motor vehicle and recreational vehicle activity on the thinning ice and the movement of pressure ridges.

As mid-day arrived and the heat of the sun did its work, reports of numerous immersions of vehicles and people were being reported. Raymond's EMS team responded and treated a number of people who went through the ice. The tournament organizers decided to call a halt to the tournament at approximately 4:00 pm due to the seriousness of the situation.



## Central Division Lieutenant Kevin Adam

Central Division has undergone some significant supervisory staff changes in 2009. Lieutenant Pat Dorian retired back in August and the position was filled when Section 8 Sergeant Kevin Adam was promoted to Central Division Lieutenant.



### **Notable Tragic Events During the Year**

In March, Section 9 and 10 area wardens responded and initiated a search after a Greenville hotel called reporting no activity from a Pennsylvania couple. An air search of the known treacherous areas of the lake was initiated and they were found in what turned out to be a tragic snowmobile crash. The couple apparently became disorientated on Moosehead Lake and travelled into the East Outlet area with its thin ice and open water. In April, Central Division wardens initiated a large search in the Kokadjo area after a routine flight from Pilot Charlie Later and Warden Glenn Annis discovered a vehicle located in a remote area in the Kokadjo region. The vehicle belonged to William Young from Auburn Maine, who suffered dementia, and had left several days earlier from his residence. A search was organized involving game wardens and MASAR organization volunteer searchers. The following day Mr. Young was found deceased about 5 miles from his vehicle. This type of search involving Alzheimer's/ Dementia with motor vehicles has become all too common over the last few years across the entire state of Maine.



# 2009 CENTRAL DIVISION SUMMARY

## Fish and Game Violations for Year

In July and August, Dover area game wardens received an OGT call about the illegal selling of fish including Atlantic salmon. Central Division wardens along with WCID investigators, and USFW investigators used a number of different investigative techniques to identify



several people as being involved in the illegal taking, and possession of Atlantic salmon and Brook trout from the Dover Foxcroft area. This investigation resulted in major state charges and convictions to one individual and possible federal charges related to the Atlantic salmon.

Wardens Dave Georgia and Skip Bates were working night hunting activity in the Stetson area in late November when a vehicle came along spotlighting fields. After the vehicle stopped briefly, a vehicle pursuit started and the violators eventually got away that night but through assistance from other law enforcement agencies and investigative work Section 8 wardens with help from the WCID executed a search warrant at an Exeter residence later on. The violators have been identified and one was summonsed.

In December, Warden Alan Gillis received a complaint from OGT about a deer that was killed on Saturday evening in Orrington. Sgt Bill Chandler, and Wardens Justin Fowlie and Gillis went to the residence on Sunday morning and they caught the suspect in the process of cutting up the deer. This was a nice mature buck and several summonses were issued.

Central Division also has extensive crop damage issues. This deer was killed in December in Plymouth in an apple orchard that was experiencing crop damage issues at the time.

## Other Notable Incidents

During the winter of 2009, most wardens in the division experienced a common engine problem that rendered our snowmobiles useless after the switch over to ethanol gas. Because of this, the Central Division had many logistical issues related to fixing and supplying snowmobiles to field wardens.



Game wardens all indicated that deer harvest numbers were down along with the number of hunters in the field.



# 2009 CENTRAL DIVISION SUMMARY

## Northeast Division Lieutenant Tom Ward

Northeast Division is the largest of the three current divisions. The five sections in the division encompass 13,880 square miles, which is approximately 45% of the state's total area. One could fit the states of Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Rhode Island in the Northeast Division.



Throughout the division, there were several excellent cases made during the past year. I was very proud of the work the wardens performed. We were faced with some vacancies throughout the past year and this caused some staffing problems. The wardens remained diligent in their sections and the work effort never wavered.

### **Serious or Fatal Incidents**

Warden Service personnel were involved with the investigation of several fatalities in northern and eastern Maine. One included a swimmer who lost his life in Long Lake last August. Another fatal incident included a boating incident in TWP 27 on Big Lake where a 40 year-old man was thrown out of his craft after it hit a wave. The MWS Dive



Team, our aircraft, and several more area wardens assisted with that search. Game Wardens investigated dozens of serious personal injuries involving ATVs and snowmobiles, but for the first time in many years, we did not have a fatality with these recreational vehicles. Game Wardens throughout

the region were the first law enforcement officer on the scene on several accidental deaths, homicides, and motor vehicular crashes. Due to the large geographic areas and general lack of staffing in law enforcement around the region, Game Wardens are often called to assist state, county, and local police when the initial call for help goes through the dispatch center. The following are a few examples where wardens were first on the scene to assist:

- Double homicide in Prentiss TWP
- Three people killed in vehicle crash in Fort Fairfield
- Deceased subject located near vehicle in Jonesboro
- Subject killed in chainsaw accident in Whiting

Game Wardens throughout the division were busy with search and rescue efforts in the past year. The most notable was where wardens in Section 12 recently searched the Baxter State Park area for an Ohio man who was injured and missing for three days. Wardens covered numerous searches throughout the year where loved ones fail to return home after a day in the filed. Many of these boil down to the people being stuck on a woods road or a snowmobiler who broke down on a trail, but the wardens still had time involved with that incident.

Earlier this spring, a Lincoln man was seriously wounded while turkey hunting in Chester. The incident was investigated and the shooter was charged for failing to identify his target. This case is pending.



### **OGT in the Northeast Division**

Traditionally, Operation Game Thief complaints have been very low in Aroostook and Washington Counties. Over the past year, OGT complaints have increased dramatically in the Northeast Division and I believe the electronic reporting system has eased the

# 2009 NORTHEAST DIVISION SUMMARY

caller when he or she wants to report the violation. Wardens worked on several very large investigations which originated from this program, including several Class D criminal violations.

## Deer, Moose, and Bear Updates

The deer herd in northern and eastern Maine has seen significant losses over the past couple of years. Severe winters, loss of key wintering habitat, predation, and motor vehicle accidents have all played a role in this loss. The deer got a bit of a reprieve last winter with milder temperatures and less snowfall. One week last winter, eight deer were killed by snowmobiles in the Ashland area. However, spring came quickly and the deer broke out of the yards by late March and early April. Tagging station reported fewer deer registered, but the number of large deer killed was up.



Game Wardens in the Northeast Division saw their first Aroostook County Controlled Moose Hunt. This was a five-week season from August to middle September that was set up to assist broccoli growers with crop damage in nine Aroostook County towns. One hundred permits were issued to

guides and landowners and 81 animals were harvested. Few enforcement problems were encountered and the hunt is scheduled for one more year.

The bear season was a very successful one last fall. Some guides and outfitters experienced 85 to 90% success during the first two weeks. Due to the lack of natural foods, bears were very active around the baits in preparation to a long winter.

The black bear population in the Northeast Division is doing very well. Each year, Game wardens have to spend a considerable amount of time handling calls and complaints. Last year, there were 161 documented nuisance bear calls for service. Many of these calls did not require much more than a return phone call, but others take time, especially when they become a safety issue.

## Hunting Cases

Although hunting pressure seemed to be a bit off last fall, serious violations were abundant. Early in the fall, division wardens worked closely with the MWS Air Wing and developed a plan to address night hunting activity. Pilot Daryl Gordon flew multiple nights and would relay information to Game Wardens on the ground after a violation was detected. The majority of the people who were arrested (several had been using Q-Beam type lights and possessed loaded rifles) had absolutely no fear of being caught. There were at least 13 violations detected and this was a great effort by the troops on the ground and our “bear in the air.”

In January of 2010, search warrants were executed on seven residences in the Mapleton and Presque Isle area. These warrants were granted after an in-depth investigation was conducted by several Game Wardens during the fall of 2009. Nine people were charged with over 120 violations, including killing deer at night, killing antlerless deer, killing moose in closed season, and many more Class E violations, as well. This was a great stroke, as these people did not intend to comply with state wildlife laws.

Another example of an intentional hunting violation occurred over in Haynesville last November. A local person, who was under revocation for earlier hunting violations, shot an immature American Bald Eagle out of his truck. The area wardens teamed up with the USF&W officers after their investigation was completed and gained a confession. The suspect told officials that he thought it was a hawk. This case is pending trial in Federal Court.

# 2009 NORTHEAST DIVISION SUMMARY

One of the most memorable cases from last year involved a 76 year-old man in the St. John Valley and an illegal moose. He shot a cow in October and covered it with hay that evening. Game wardens located the illegal moose and sat on it all night long. In the morning, after a hard frost, the poacher returned to the field where he left the animal. He looked the field over for any sign of tracks in the frost for several minutes. After he felt confident that nobody was around, he went directly to the downed cow and started to butcher it. Two northern Maine Game Wardens announced their presence at a distance of 10 feet. In addition, this individual was apprehended in 1996 for illegal possession of four moose.



Another act of an intentional hunting violation was where a suspect shot and killed a large buck on the Sunday preceding the muzzleloading season, then tagged it the next morning as a black powder deer. This was an excellent example of several wardens working together as a team, plus some outstanding investigation.

Five individuals were apprehended in the Houlton area after they shot and killed two antlerless deer. Again, these antlerless deer have a great value to the legal hunters, as they represent the future of the declining population.

Another great case was made in Houlton after a lactating cow moose was shot and butchered on June 8th. Two local men (one already under revocation) were apprehended by area wardens and charged with six Class D and one Class E offenses, including night hunting, illegal possession, and killing moose in closed season.

There were many other examples of great warden work last fall as Game Wardens also apprehended other subjects for shooting too close

to a dwelling, killing deer in closed season, and night hunting (w/o using the plane). It was a great effort by all officers in the Northeast Division.

## Trapping Cases

Trapping enforcement continued to be on the front burner of enforcement efforts last fall and winter. Fur prices were down on most pelts, but activity was high. There was one major case in the Shin Pond area late last fall that was detected and over 15 summonses were issued for trapping violations. A search warrant was executed in central Maine and the violators were brought to justice. Another great piece of trapping enforcement was conducted in Washington County after wardens uncovered several illegal snares and the trapper was apprehended.

## Fishing Cases

Fishing in northern and eastern Maine is as good as ever in both open water and ice fishing seasons. We did see a significant drop in winter activity over towards the western part of the division, but the fishing was stellar. Large salmon, togue, trout, small mouth bass, and muskellunge were caught throughout the entire region and a couple of state records were broken. Game Wardens worked closely with regional biologists and apprehended several people who violating the sucker laws and rules. This commercial activity seemed to be on the rise, and in one case, a flagrant violation was detected in the East Grand Lake area. Wardens summonsed an unlicensed individual who blocked off several brooks with his nets and killed over ten gallons of smelts.



# 2009 NORTHEAST DIVISION SUMMARY

Several organized details were put together and an excellent effort to address smelt violations in the Fish River chain. There were some summonses issued there, but overall compliance was good.

## Other

Game Wardens participated in a very large illegal drug investigation in TWP 37. Originally, Warden Service personnel discovered marijuana and evidence of a very large growing operation. They worked very closely with MDEA, MSP, Washington County S.O., and USBP over the next few days mapping, providing logistical support, and providing expertise in this remote, heavily wooded area. When it was all said and done, an estimated 10 million dollars worth of marijuana was seized and the investigation is still ongoing. This case would not have come to fruition had the curious Game Wardens not followed up on their “hunch.”



We had two Game Wardens trained with the new FLIR unit that was installed on the MWS 172 Cessna. Wardens Gary Sibley and Charles Brown received training earlier in the year and have put this to good use, especially while searching for the lost man in Baxter Park.

Game Wardens in the northern and eastern regions continued to work along the border areas with USBP. Several mapping projects were completed that documented known illegal crossings, camps, shooting shacks, etc. and this groundwork has been invaluable to both agencies. We were able to obtain some key equipment with some of the monies attached to this program.

Some great projects were undertaken in the past year where several Game wardens “stepped up” and wrote grants, obtained equipment, or worked with the public. The Special Olympics, Torch Run events,

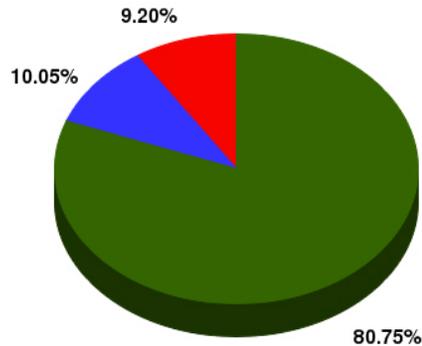
schools, and scouting groups all saw many Game Warden’s faces. The bureau has enjoyed much support because of the extra time members from the Maine Warden Service spend with the public.



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

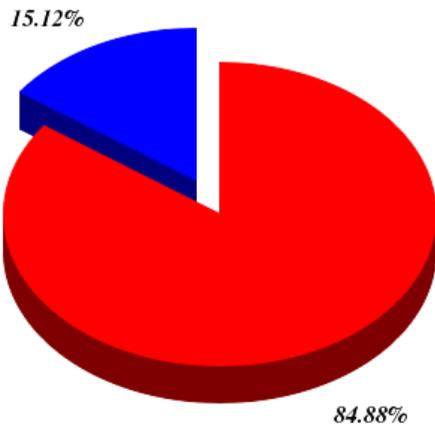
Maine Warden Service Total Funding \$15,453,308.80

■ License, Permit, and Registrations = \$12,478,491.62  
■ Federal = \$1,553,014.69    ■ Other Special Revenue = \$1,421,802.49



General Fund Breakdown: \$12,478,491.62

■ Personal Services = \$10,592,550.99    ■ All Other = \$1,886,940.63



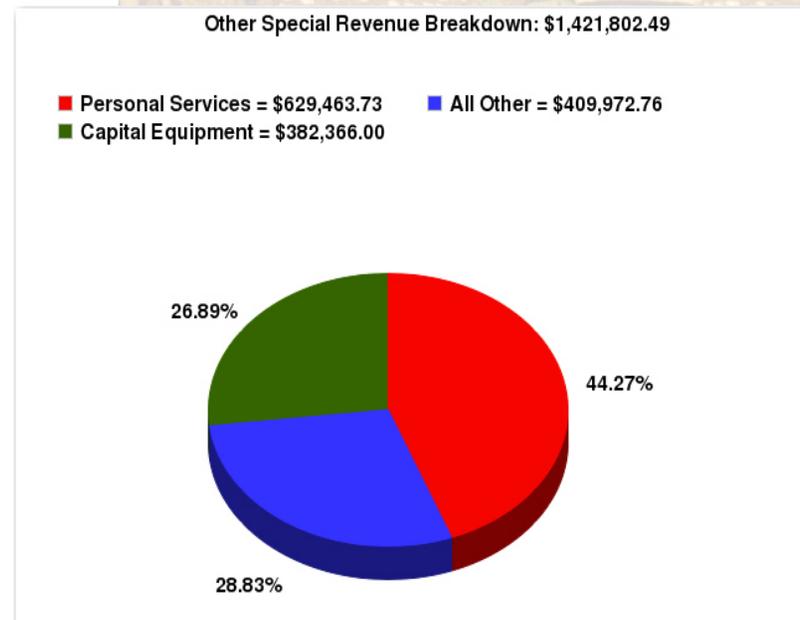
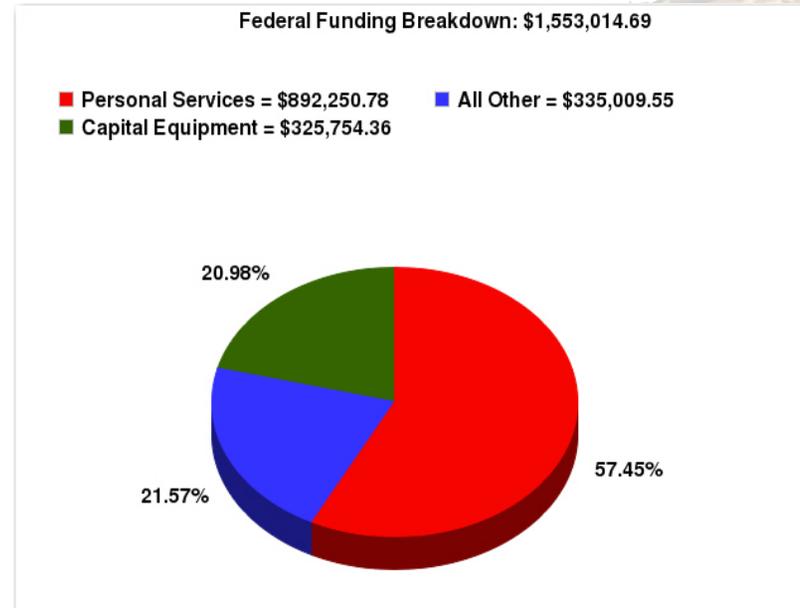
This graph represents the total law enforcement budget for the Maine Warden Service for Fiscal Year 2009. The Maine Warden Service is involved with a number of federal grant and state special revenue programs that provide financial support to our law enforcement program and unique mission.

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 \$12,478,491.62. 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.

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

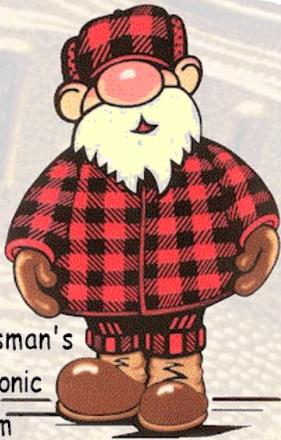
Included in this graph is a breakdown of costs in our total federal grant funding from the United States Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, and the United States Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing (COPS) program. The Maine Warden Service has worked diligently to identify and 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.

Included in this graph are other special revenue accounts that contribute to our law enforcement mission. This funding totals \$1,421,802.49. 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.



# 15 YEAR LICENSE SALES TRENDS

Maine  
Online  
Sportsman's  
Electronic  
System



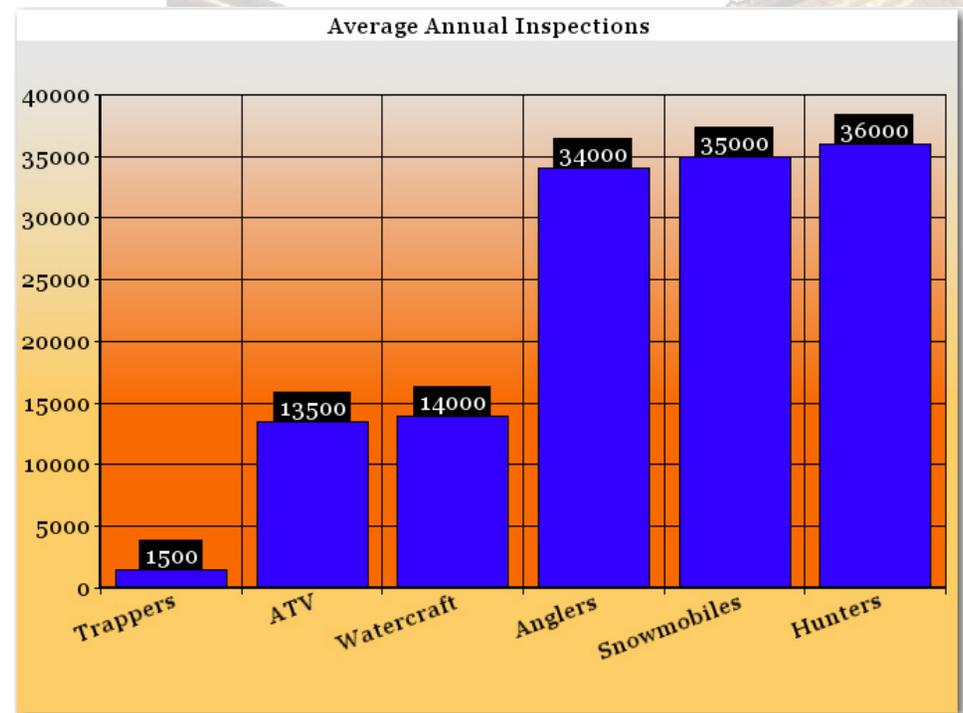
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
<b>RESIDENT</b>															
Fishing	108,207	107,995	106,511	111,452	112,929	111,809	108,242	104,324	102,619	104,232	102,188	108,447	107,963	108,343	112,656
Comb. Arch. & Fish.	505	499	544	554	558	537	532	522	905	1,041	1,188	1,473	1,113	1,166	819
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	71,355
Serviceman Comb.	531	539	504	511	499	373	327	1,015	1,376	1,711	1,880	1,653	1,553	1,378	1,361
Serviceman Fish						172	203	141	161	160	192	175	161	188	155
Serviceman Hunt						160	172	50	47	60	41	34	38	33	35
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	11,673
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	49,178
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	12,351
Small Game	960	892	878	864	898	828	857	949	1,013	1,079	931	876	861	799	967
Superpack												724	954	1,865	1,453
Apprentice Hunt														679	834
Apprentice Archery														172	179
<i>subtotal Fishing</i>	<b>186,666</b>	<b>184,349</b>	<b>180,330</b>	<b>188,086</b>	<b>190,458</b>	<b>190,621</b>	<b>186,386</b>	<b>184,761</b>	<b>181,522</b>	<b>182,214</b>	<b>180,464</b>	<b>186,351</b>	<b>185,518</b>	<b>184,715</b>	<b>187,799</b>
<i>subtotal Hunting</i>	<b>174,756</b>	<b>171,502</b>	<b>168,919</b>	<b>168,646</b>	<b>168,798</b>	<b>167,377</b>	<b>164,981</b>	<b>165,871</b>	<b>166,675</b>	<b>163,526</b>	<b>160,087</b>	<b>157,996</b>	<b>155,960</b>	<b>153,640</b>	<b>150,205</b>
<b>LIFETIME LICENSE</b>															
Fishing						203	579	830	1,568	1,932	2,484	2,941	3,527	4,172	4,851
Hunting						49	141	204	322	381	512	599	685	785	877
Combination						1,074	2,751	3,625	6,125	7,530	9,864	13,243	17,022	20,945	24,881
<i>subtotal Fishing</i>						<b>1,277</b>	<b>3,330</b>	<b>4,455</b>	<b>7,693</b>	<b>9,462</b>	<b>12,348</b>	<b>16,184</b>	<b>20,549</b>	<b>25,117</b>	<b>29,732</b>
<i>subtotal Hunting</i>						<b>1,123</b>	<b>2,892</b>	<b>3,829</b>	<b>6,447</b>	<b>7,911</b>	<b>10,376</b>	<b>13,842</b>	<b>17,707</b>	<b>21,730</b>	<b>25,758</b>
<b>Total Resident Licenses</b>															
<i>Fishing</i>	<b>186,666</b>	<b>184,349</b>	<b>180,330</b>	<b>188,086</b>	<b>190,458</b>	<b>191,898</b>	<b>189,716</b>	<b>189,216</b>	<b>189,215</b>	<b>191,676</b>	<b>192,812</b>	<b>202,535</b>	<b>206,067</b>	<b>209,832</b>	<b>217,531</b>
<i>Hunting</i>	<b>174,756</b>	<b>171,502</b>	<b>168,919</b>	<b>168,646</b>	<b>168,798</b>	<b>168,500</b>	<b>167,873</b>	<b>169,700</b>	<b>173,122</b>	<b>171,437</b>	<b>170,463</b>	<b>171,838</b>	<b>173,667</b>	<b>175,370</b>	<b>175,963</b>

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
<b>NONRESIDENT</b>															
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	17,195
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	11,089
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	19,966
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	17,204
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	3,719
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	4,536
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	4,557
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	1,030
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	18,471
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	2,033
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	1,987
Junior Hunt	120	354	542	635	729	773	768	877	959	933	961	925	925	866	830
Apprentice Hunt														97	167
Apprentice Archery														18	23
Apprentice Small Game														92	84
<i>Total Fishing</i>	<b>91,118</b>	<b>82,622</b>	<b>81,257</b>	<b>81,849</b>	<b>83,048</b>	<b>83,117</b>	<b>81,012</b>	<b>81,658</b>	<b>77,415</b>	<b>75,953</b>	<b>75,474</b>	<b>76,534</b>	<b>79,971</b>	<b>77,110</b>	<b>78,266</b>
<i>Total Hunting</i>	<b>36,488</b>	<b>37,160</b>	<b>37,238</b>	<b>37,719</b>	<b>38,870</b>	<b>40,221</b>	<b>39,920</b>	<b>40,956</b>	<b>39,704</b>	<b>39,342</b>	<b>37,925</b>	<b>36,842</b>	<b>35,301</b>	<b>31,743</b>	<b>29,182</b>
<b>ALIEN</b>															
Fishing	148	154	127	120	134	112	106	122	114	125	138	152	183	194	191
Comb. Hunt. & Fish.	43	33	39	29	33	30	19	26	31	21	40	41	35	26	19
Archery	30	17	18	8	15	12	11	13	26	12	18	9	1	4	5
Big Game	1,709	1,392	1,289	976	927	865	556	490	445	437	429	403	219	150	141
Small Game	103	79	75	58	65	79	52	53	40	38	40	32	61	69	57
<i>Total Fishing</i>	<b>191</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>148</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>210</b>
<i>Total Hunting</i>	<b>1,885</b>	<b>1,521</b>	<b>1,421</b>	<b>1,071</b>	<b>1,040</b>	<b>986</b>	<b>638</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>542</b>	<b>508</b>	<b>527</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>222</b>
<b>NONRESIDENT &amp; ALIEN SUBTOTAL</b>															
<i>Total Fishing</i>	<b>91,309</b>	<b>82,809</b>	<b>81,423</b>	<b>81,998</b>	<b>83,215</b>	<b>83,259</b>	<b>81,137</b>	<b>81,806</b>	<b>77,560</b>	<b>76,099</b>	<b>75,652</b>	<b>76,727</b>	<b>80,189</b>	<b>77,330</b>	<b>78,476</b>
<i>Total Hunting</i>	<b>38,373</b>	<b>38,681</b>	<b>38,659</b>	<b>38,790</b>	<b>39,910</b>	<b>41,207</b>	<b>40,558</b>	<b>41,538</b>	<b>40,246</b>	<b>39,850</b>	<b>38,452</b>	<b>37,327</b>	<b>35,617</b>	<b>31,992</b>	<b>29,404</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>															
<i>Total Fishing</i>	<b>277,975</b>	<b>267,158</b>	<b>261,753</b>	<b>270,084</b>	<b>273,673</b>	<b>275,157</b>	<b>270,853</b>	<b>271,022</b>	<b>266,775</b>	<b>267,775</b>	<b>268,464</b>	<b>279,262</b>	<b>286,256</b>	<b>287,162</b>	<b>296,007</b>
<i>Total Hunting</i>	<b>213,129</b>	<b>210,183</b>	<b>207,578</b>	<b>207,436</b>	<b>208,708</b>	<b>209,707</b>	<b>208,431</b>	<b>211,238</b>	<b>213,368</b>	<b>211,287</b>	<b>208,915</b>	<b>209,165</b>	<b>209,284</b>	<b>207,362</b>	<b>205,367</b>



# FIELD CONTACTS - INSPECTIONS

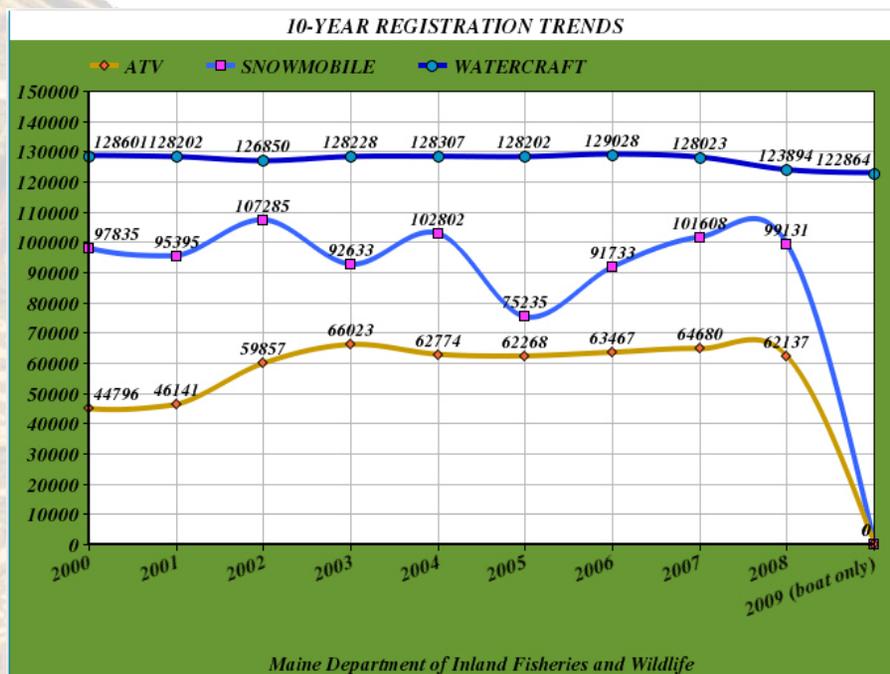
Each year, Maine Game Wardens inspect thousands of outdoor enthusiasts from trappers and anglers to ATV's and snowmobiles. Averages of 134,000 inspections are made every year. Inspection numbers sometimes fluctuate depending upon weather conditions and special enforcement efforts. The accompanying graph 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 recreational opportunity. 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.

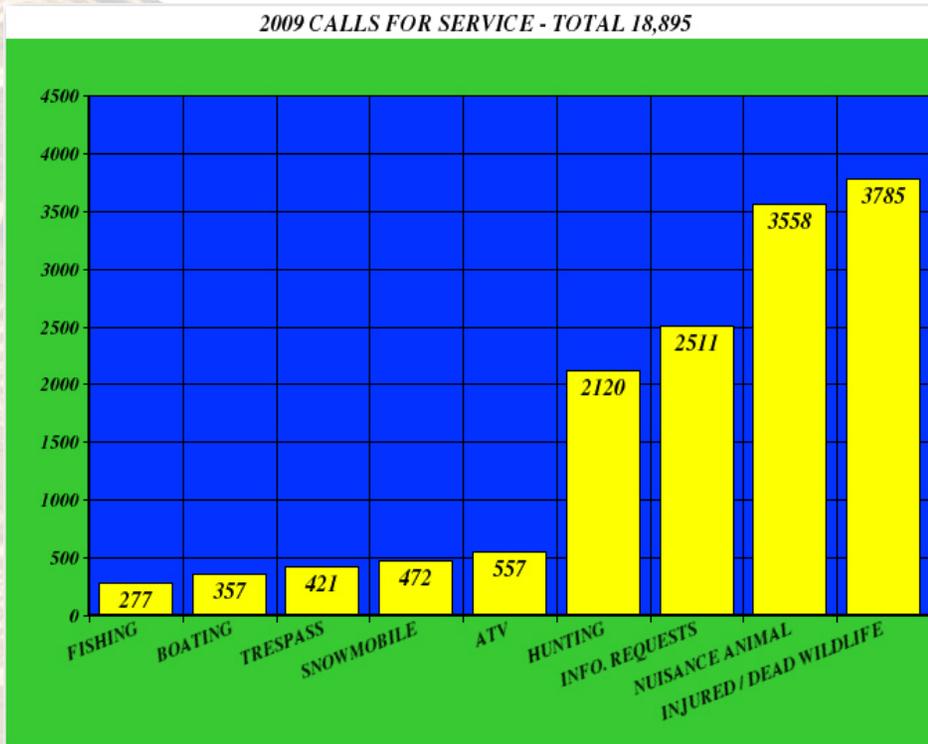
# 10-YEAR REGISTRATION TRENDS

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 14,000 miles of groomed trails that interconnect to nearly all corners of the State. Registration totals have fluctuated between a high of 107,285 in 2002 to a low of 75,235 in 2005. 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

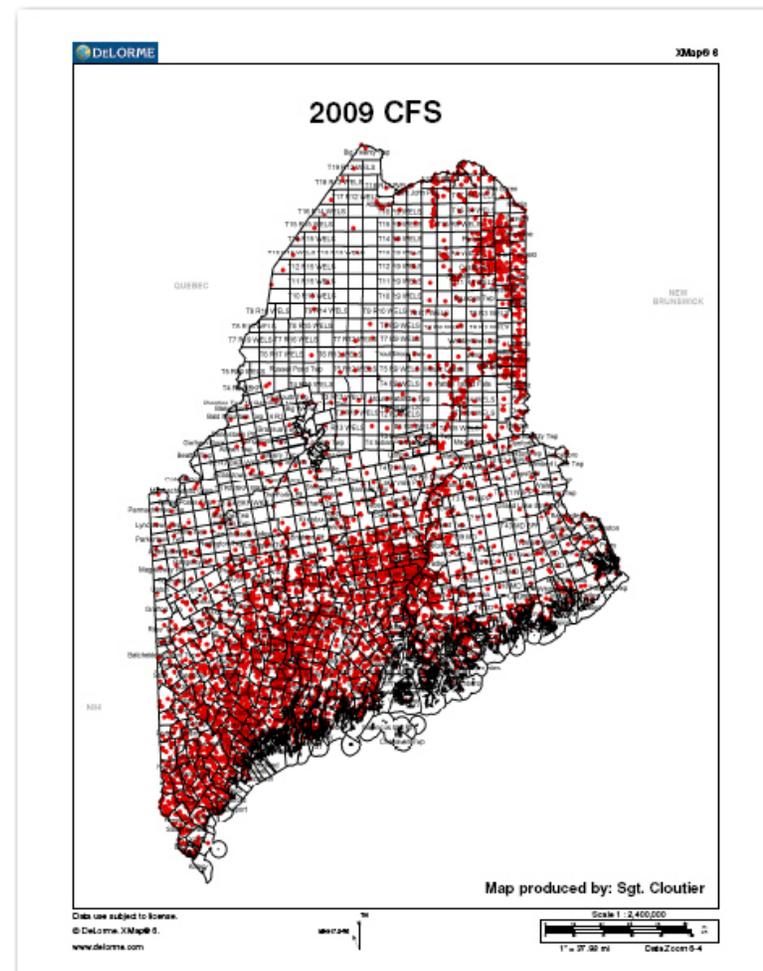


The Maine Warden Service received nearly 19,000 calls for service in 2009. Calls are generated from the public and can range drastically from a simple information request to the reporting of a fatal crash or a lost child. Calls are compiled in our Records Management System (RMS) by dispatch centers, 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 2009. 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.

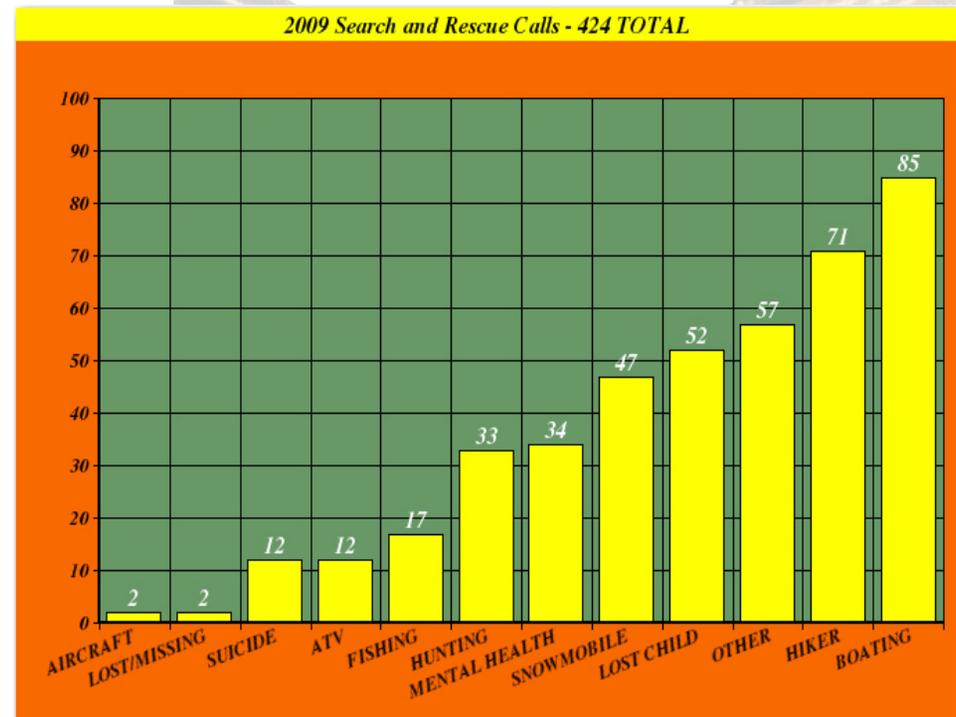


# SEARCH AND RESCUE CALLS FOR SERVICE

The majority of calls were from the southern and central portions 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 424 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.

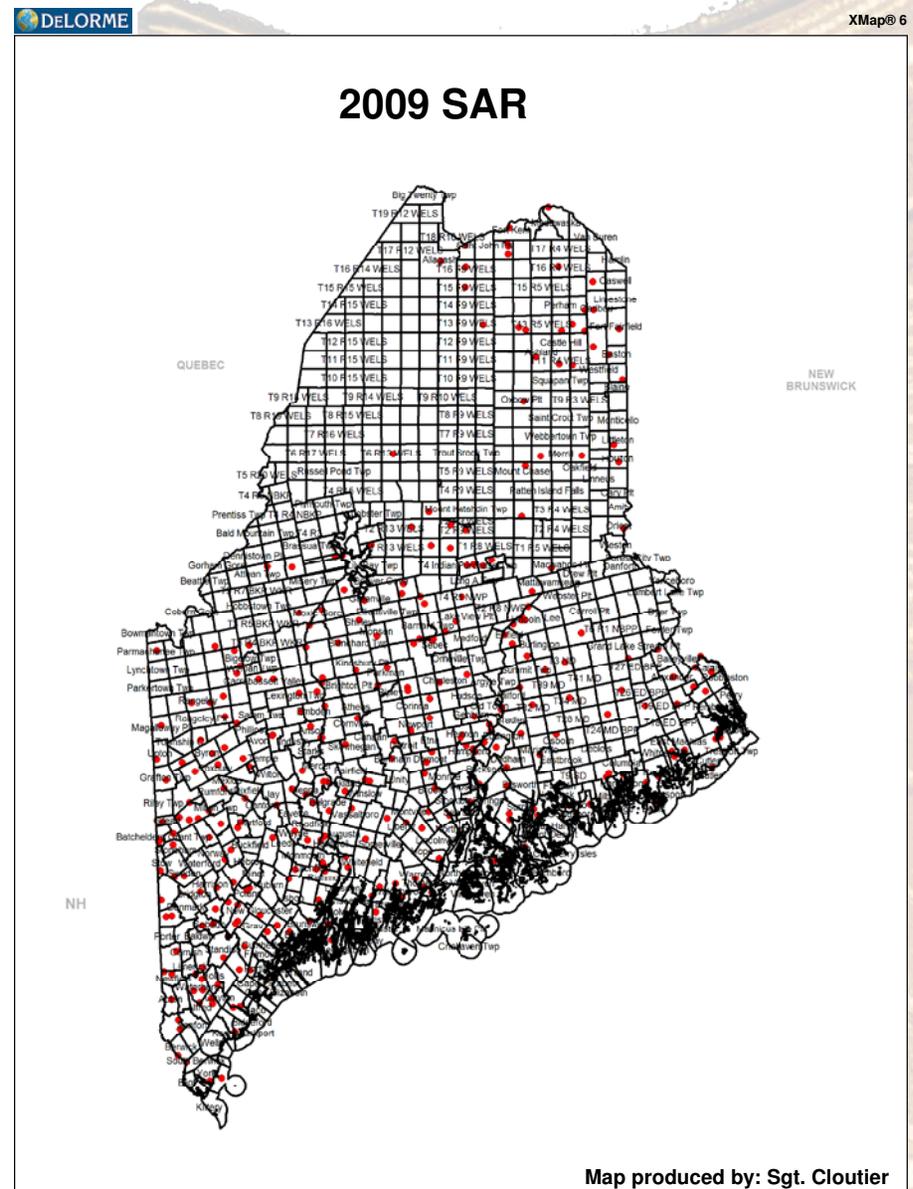
The IMT regularly provides assistance to other law enforcement agencies in the state. IMT has worked with the Maine State Police to provide assistance in missing person and homicide cases. We also provide assistance for people that are missing when a search of the area could assist in the investigation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

Boating provided the most SAR calls at 85 missions, Wardens responded to 71 hikers in need of help, 52 lost children were reported missing, and overdue or lost snowmobile riders generated 47 incidents.

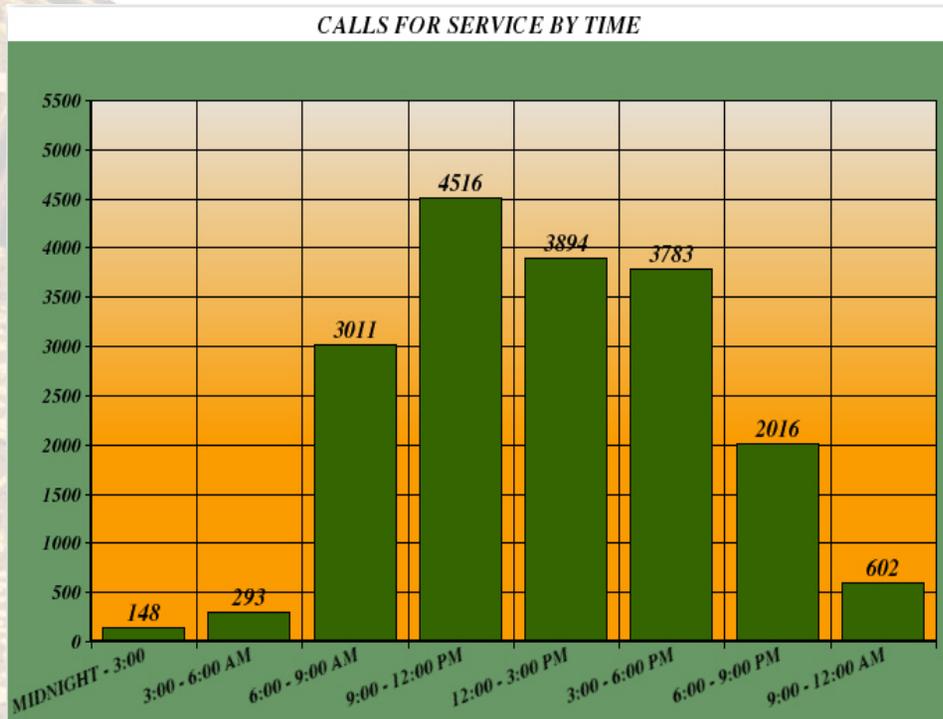
# SEARCH AND RESCUE

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 4,516 with the fewest calls occurring between midnight and 3:00 am totaling 148. Total calls for service for 2009 were nearly 19,000.

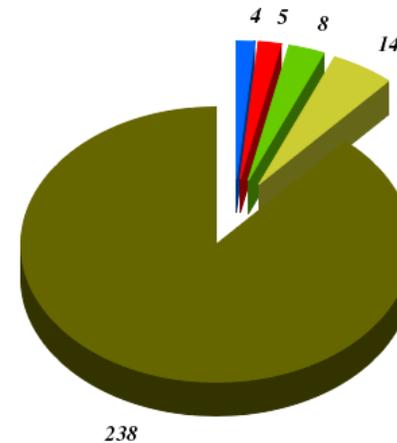
# ATV CRASH DATA

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.

2009 MAINE ATV CRASH / OUI SUMMARY

■ DEATHS ■ DRUNK DRIVING ■ PROPERTY DAMAGE ONLY  
■ NON REPORTABLE ■ PERSONAL INJURY

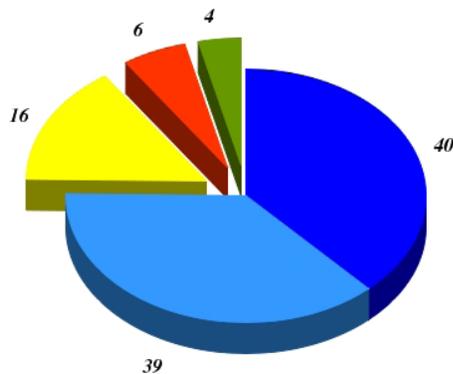


# BOATING CRASH DATA



2009 MAINE BOATING CRASH SUMMARY

■ INJURIES   ■ RECREATIONAL INCIDENTS  
■ COMMERCIAL INCIDENTS - WHITEWATER   ■ ALCOHOL INVOLVED  
■ DEATHS



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, 55 boat crashes were reported last year in Maine. Of those, 40 people sustained injuries. Four people died in boating related crashes in 2009 and six of the 55 crashes 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.

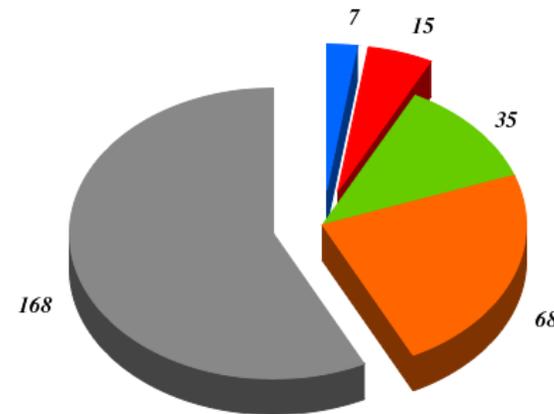
# SNOWMOBILE CRASH DATA

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.

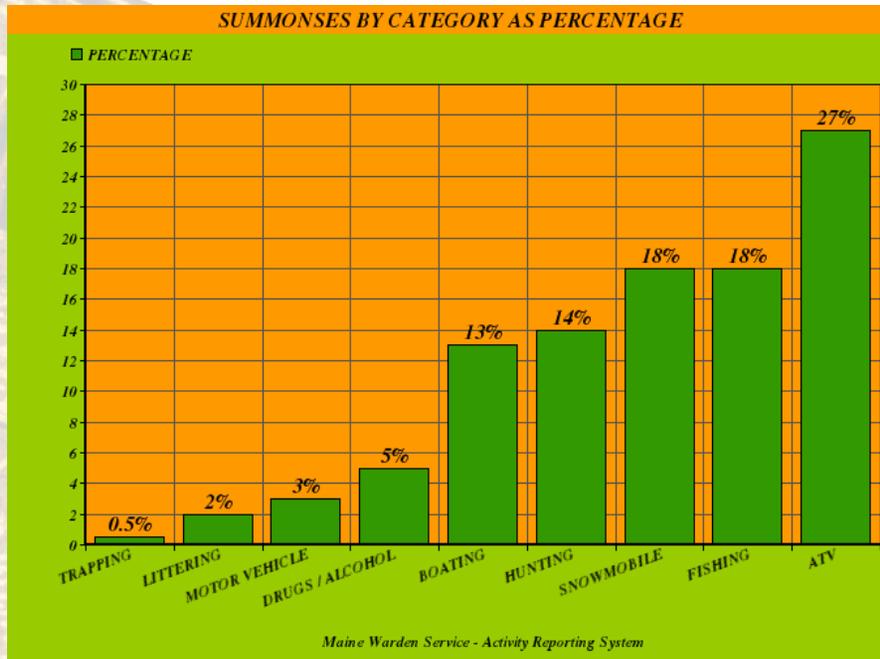
The accompanying graph shows that Game Wardens investigated a high of well over 400 crashes and nearly 350 injuries in the winter of 2001. The winter of 2006 proved to be the safest with fewer than 150 crashes reported. Unfortunately, drunk driving and crash related fatalities have remained at relatively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

2009 MAINE SNOWMOBILE CRASH / OUI SUMMARY

■ DEATHS ■ DRUNK DRIVING ■ NON REPORTABLE  
■ PROPERTY DAMAGE ONLY ■ PERSONAL INJURY



# SUMMONSES BY CATEGORY



In 2009, 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 2009, 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 14,000 mile network of groomed trails.

As indicated at left, ATV infractions proved to be the most frequent category of violations for 2009. ATV (27%), fishing (18%), snowmobile (18%), and hunting (14%) citations followed closely behind. Trapping related violations proved to be the least frequently issued summons by wardens in 2009. While trapping is still a popular activity in Maine, it falls short of the number of people involved in other licensed activities. Twenty three summonses were issued in 2009 regarding trapping violations.

In 2009 Wardens conducted over 7,000 enforcement actions with the public.

# EDUCATION

---

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.

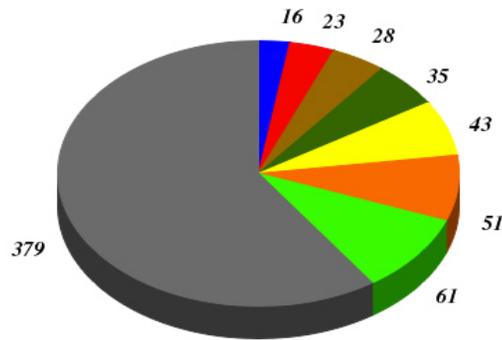
Speaking engagements create a non-law enforcement environment that establishes a relationship with the public that focuses on teamwork and the fact we all own a piece of Maine's outdoors and that we are all responsible for protecting it and making it safe.



# ATV VIOLATION SUMMARY

## 2009 ATV SUMMONS REPORT

- FAILURE TO STOP
- FAIL TO DISPLAY REGISTRATION
- UNDER 18 NO HELMET
- DRUNK DRIVING
- UNLAWFULLY PERMITTING OPERATION
- NO LANDOWNER PERMISSION
- AGE RESTRICTION VIOLATIONS
- OPERATING UNREGISTERED



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 402. The second most frequent was age restriction summonses at 61, followed by landowner permission violations at 51.

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.

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 35 summonses in 2009 to ATV riders operating under the influence of alcohol.

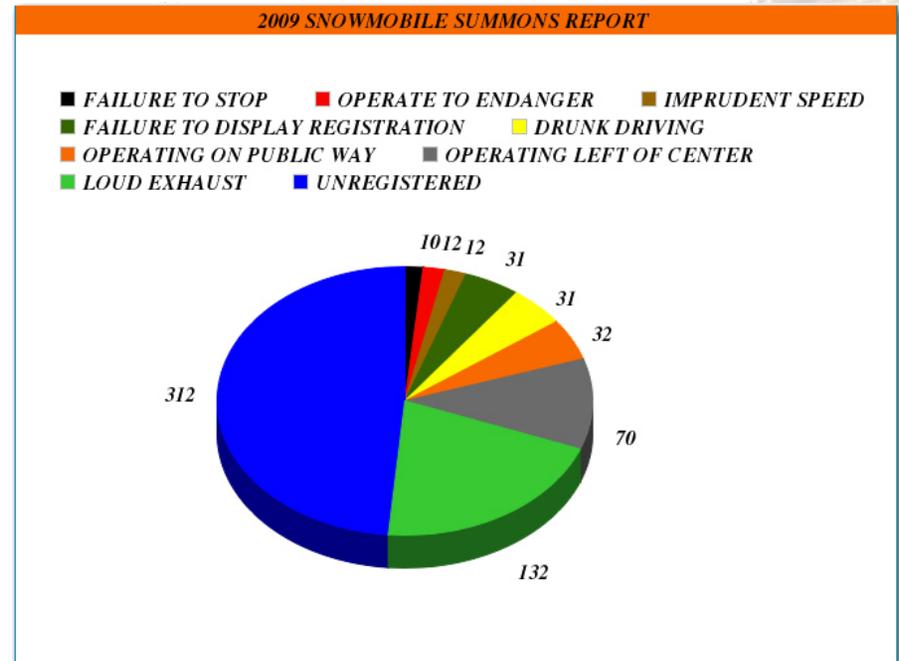
# SNOWMOBILE VIOLATION SUMMARY

The entire State of Maine experienced a great deal of snow in the winter of 2009. 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.

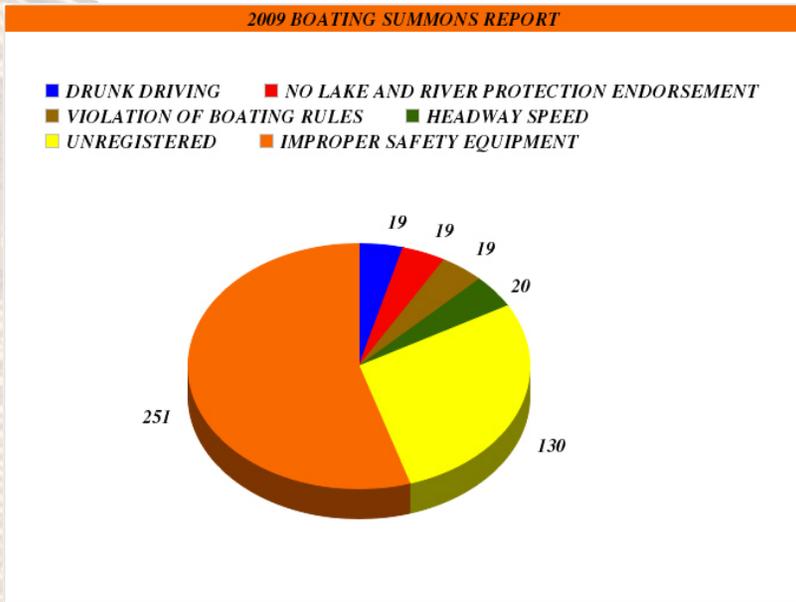
Game Wardens issued nearly 650 summonses to snowmobile riders found in violation. The most frequent of which were registration summonses at 343. Driving violations such as operating left of center, imprudent operation, operating to endanger, and reckless operation were detected and totaled 136.

Wardens strictly enforce noise requirements on snowmobiles to maintain a sense of reasonable expectations regarding loud exhausts and noise pollution. Loud exhausts accounted for 132 summonses. Thirty two 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 31 summonses to people riding snowmobiles under the influence of alcohol.



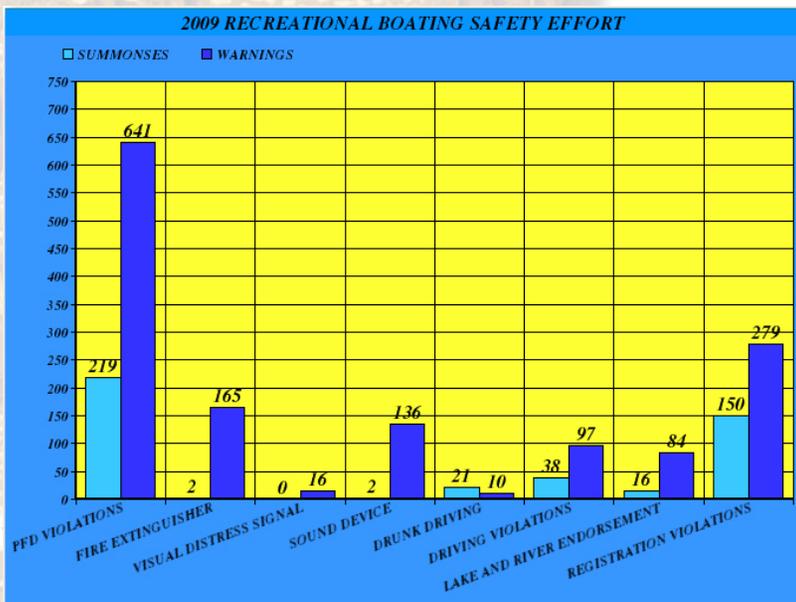
# BOATING VIOLATION SUMMARY



The following graph illustrates warnings and summonses issued to boaters in 2009. Of the 20,818 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 improper safety equipment, totaling 860. Registration violations such as expired stickers and failing to display registrations were the second most frequent at 429.

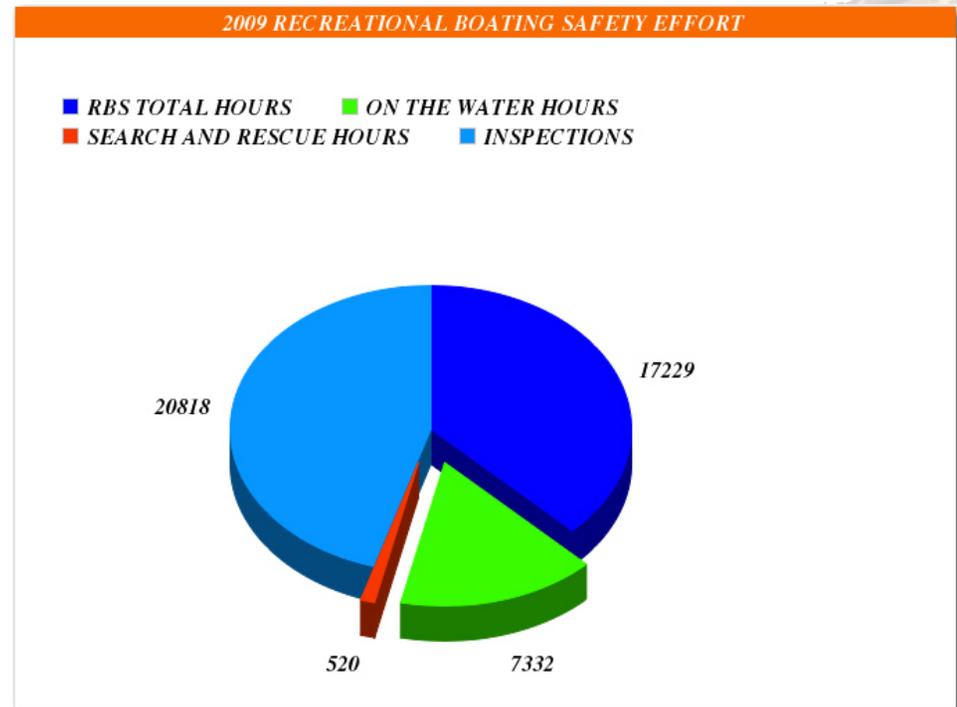
Wardens detected 135 driving violations including headway speed, towing skiers without observers, and operating watercrafts to endanger. Game Wardens detected 167 motor boat drivers who had no fire extinguishers while 138 drivers operated boats with no sound making device. Thirty one operators were warned, summonsed, or arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol.



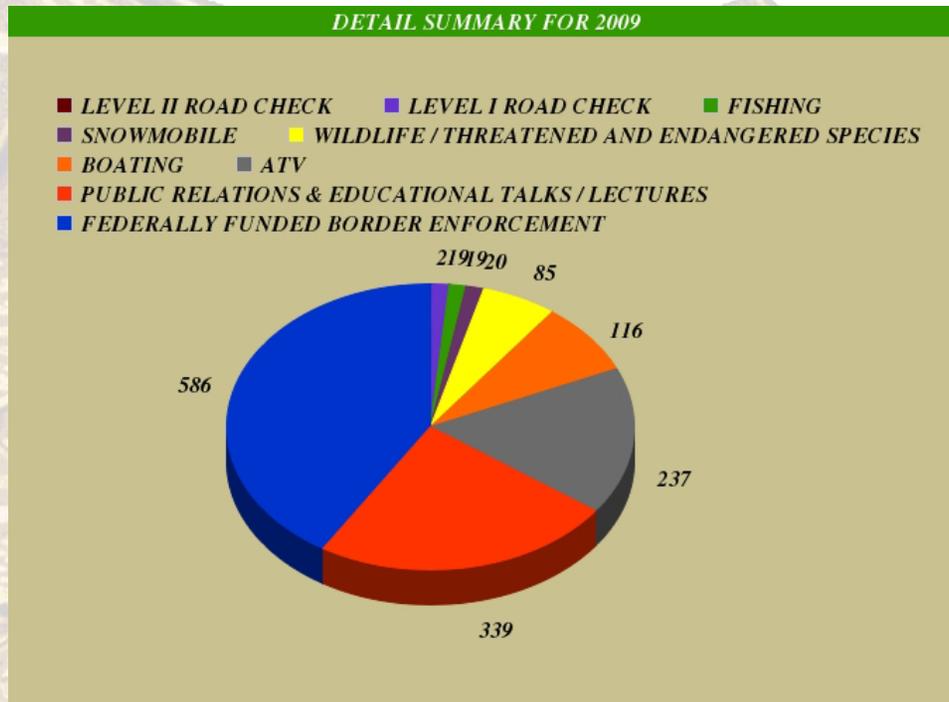
# RECREATIONAL BOATING SAFETY EFFORT

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 2009, Game Wardens put that money to good use and inspected 20,818 watercrafts. A significant amount of time was dedicated towards recreational boating safety, education, and enforcement. Total time spent on all watercraft related activity for 2009 was 17,229 hours. These hours included educational speaking engagements to schools, lake associations, and other public forums.

Of the 17,229 hours, Game Wardens spent 7,332 hours on the water enforcing boating laws to enhance public safety. One hundred and sixteen 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 1,423 details in 2009. 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.

Homeland Security enforcement details were the most common performed in 2009 totaling 586. These details were the result of Federally funded grants in cooperation with United States Border Patrol.

Public relations talks (339), ATV (237), and boating (116), 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.

# HOMELAND SECURITY

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.

Five Hundred Eighty Six special details were performed by Game Wardens regarding Homeland Security in 2009. Several critical contacts were made during these details regarding illegal entry and drug smuggling.



Firearms and drugs seized at checkpoint



Illegal ATV entry into the United States



# 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 details 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.



# SPECIALTY TEAMS

## Aviation Division

<u>Pilots</u>	<u>Aircraft</u>	<u>Air Bases</u>
Charles Later Daryl Gordon Dan Dufault	N61368 Cessna A185F N4756E Cessna A185F N724MT Cessna A185F N7901N Cessna R172E	Stobie Airport, Greenville  Eagle Plane Base, Eagle Lake



### Projects

FY 09/10 has once again been a busy year for the Aviation Division. The most notable project, which began three years ago as Project Night Hawk, was brought to fruition by members of this division.

As is typical with anything surplus, this aircraft required several repairs and improvements to bring it in line with our other aircraft. This was a slow process as the work was completed as a spare time project conducted by warden pilots.



During early spring of 2009, we approached the Maine Emergency Management Agency. This was for funding of an airborne thermal imaging system. They decided that the Warden Service would receive funding for the purchase of a FLIR 8500FW thermal imaging system as requested.

The new FLIR was installed onto this aircraft in late February, 2010. This system will be the first of its kind owned and operated by the State of Maine. Its ability to produce video images in darkness as well as daylight should prove to be invaluable in searches and other emergencies, and as an enhancement to routine law enforcement.



Ten Game Wardens gathered late in August for initial training with this new system. This training will help prepare a core group of pilots and operators to respond to situations that can benefit from this technology. Factory training began on April 27, 2010 and marks the completion of a nearly three-year project.

<http://registremblay.wordpress.com/2010/05/06/flying-with-flir/>

Another project undertaken by the division was the much-needed replacement of the seaplane docks at the Eagle Lake Plane Base. With help from Colonel Wilkinson, funding was made available to purchase materials for the construction of three 16-foot sections of new floating docks.

Warden Pilot Dan Dufault built the docks over the winter and then, with borrowed equipment from the Engineering Division, he delivered the completed units to Eagle Lake in the spring of 2010. As the photo shows, these fine docks should provide secure mooring for years to come.



# SPECIALTY TEAMS

## Operations

During this reporting period, the aviation division received 308 calls for service. Of these, 107 were for search & rescue. 85 were for wild-life surveys, 31 for fish stocking. The remaining 85 include attempts to locate, dog deer, hunting, and fishing cases, as well as, assists to other agencies, ect.



With these Calls for Service, along with routine patrol and other flights, this division flew a total of 1327.1 hours. This number is right on target with the 10% reduction of flight hours established three years ago.

Aircraft maintenance was uneventful during this reporting period, with the exception that N61368 received a new engine in August 09, and the propeller on N724MT was sent out for an unscheduled repair. I have utilized the Forestry for maintenance on three separate occasions this fiscal year.

Beginning September 1, 2009 and until mid November, I was acting Lieutenant for the Central Division. At this time, I was also racing a dead line on grant funding in an attempt to complete Project Night Hawk. During this period, I relied on the other Warden Pilots to cover much of my flight duties. Both pilots accepted this well and assisted without complaint. For this, I am grateful.

All Warden Pilots received commendations and/or letters of appreciation for their service. Wdn Pilot Daryl Gordon had an especially good fall and located several night hunters during planned and unplanned details. He received commendations from two Sergeants for his efforts. Beginning September 15, 2009, this division was able to collect direct

operating costs of the aircraft from other departments and agencies. While it is crucial that other departments have access to our aircraft, Warden Service cannot afford the cost alone. With the passing of a new law by the Maine Legislature, the funds are now deposited into an aviation account where they can be redirected to aircraft expenses. This is the first time in several years that this could be accomplished. I once again assisted the Allagash Wilderness Waterway with transportation needs for the inspection and repair of Lock and Telos Dams. Assistance to Forestry on fire detection flights continues.



## Looking Ahead

Although our FLIR is up and running, much remains to be done. During this new fiscal year, we will continue training on the unit so that we can become as proficient as possible. While some of this will necessitate dedicated training, a fair amount can be learned by incorporating the unit into routine patrols. This fall, law enforcement activity should go a long way towards this goal. My plan also includes the development of a standard operating procedures manual for the pilot and operator to increase the overall efficiency of the crew. FLIR callout and scheduling procedures will also need to be addressed. I have been corresponding with the chief pilot of an Oregon air unit with many hours of FLIR experience. His willingness to share his knowledge should prove valuable.

Capital request for two aircraft engines in the next biennium will be submitted.

# SPECIALTY TEAMS

## Canine Team



In 1978, Retired 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 currently 10 teams under the leadership of Warden Corporal Wayde Carter.



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 person's 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:** K-9'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.

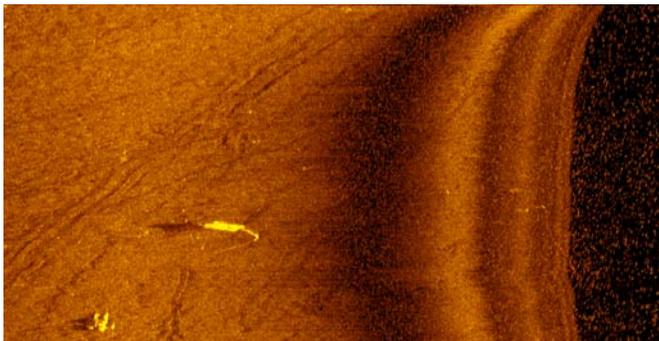
# SPECIALTY TEAMS

## Dive Team



The Maine Warden Service Dive Team is a ten-member team, under the supervision of Game Warden Corporal Michael Joy. 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 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 underwater

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 6,000 lakes and ponds as well as thousands of miles of rivers and streams. The Maine Warden Service Dive Team has the statutory responsibility for conducting the 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.



# SPECIALTY TEAMS

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 typical size of our search area that we routinely conduct dive operations in 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 recently purchased a Marine Sonic Side Scan Sonar Unit, to assist our underwater search capabilities.

## 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 disciplines 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.

## Firearms Team

The Maine Warden Service firearms team has 12 members, 1 Administrative Team leader, Game Warden Corporal Andrew Glidden, 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 qualification standards 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

# SPECIALTY TEAMS

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.

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.

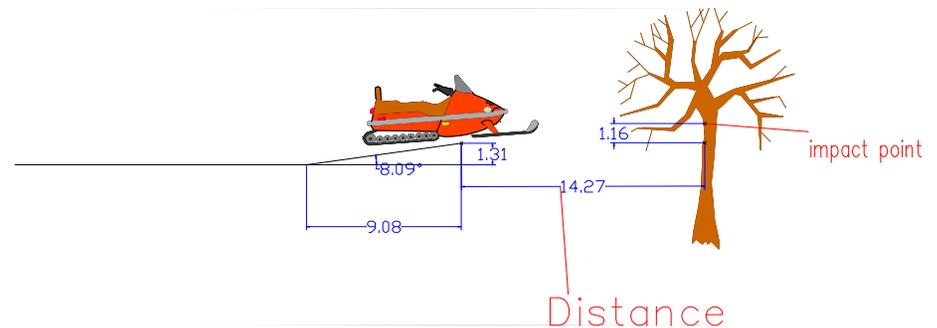
## Forensic Mapping Team

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, Sergeant Chris Cloutier, Corporal John MacDonald, Warden 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 comprised 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 teal leader whose job is to set up and coordinate the various details that the Honor Guard is called on to perform.

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 War-

den Service Honor Guard also marches with the multi-jurisdictional Honor Guard during the Fallen Officers' Memorial ceremonies annually.

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



# 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 while managing 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. 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 conducting search assignments.

## 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, 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

# SPECIALTY TEAMS

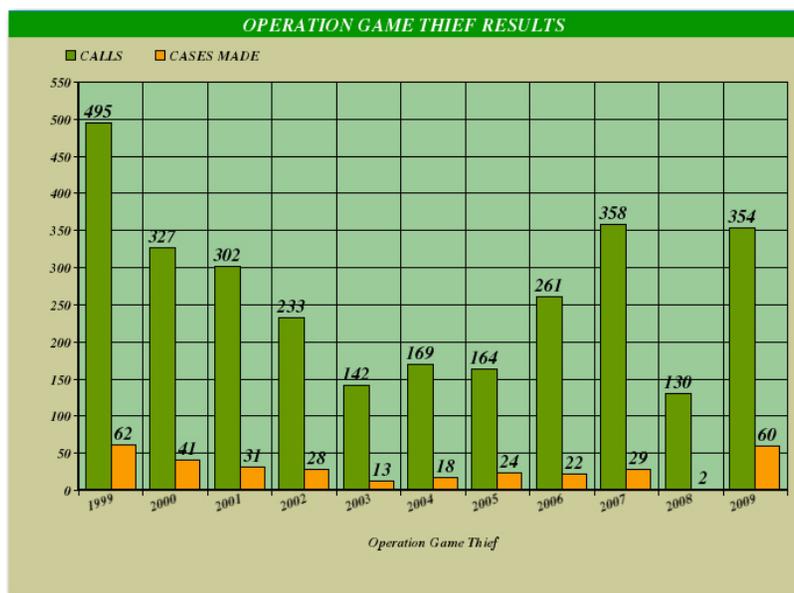
investigations when visitors of Maine violate our fish and wildlife laws and return to their home state.

Additionally they maintain a network of contacts to facilitate interstate investigations to facilitate successful prosecutions of persons who visit the state of Maine, violate our fish and game laws and then return to their home state.

In 2009 the WCID Investigators assisted field wardens with the investigation of over a half dozen fatal ATV / snowmobile crashes. They drafted more than 20 affidavits and requests for search warrants resulting in dozens of charges ranging from felons in possession of firearms to illegal stocking of fish to killing of a Canadian Lynx. They travelled to several states outside of Maine to track down and serve warrants on cases including night hunted deer and illegal possession of moose and assisted Canadian authorities with the illegal possession of a Mtn. Lion. Additional noteworthy cases included two serious personal injury boat crash investigations which resulted in felony boating under the influence cases, an extensive investigation into the illegal selling of fish, including endangered Atlantic Salmon and a two party hunting incident which resulted in a conviction for assault while hunting.



# OPERATION GAME THIEF - 2009 SUMMARY



**1-800-ALERT-US**

Maine Operation Game Thief (Maine OGT) is a private, non-profit organization that works with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's Bureau of Warden Service to pay rewards to citizens who turn in poachers. Rewards of up to \$1,000, based on severity, are paid for information that leads to the arrest or summons being issued for a fish or wildlife violation. Rewards of up to \$2,000 are paid for information that leads to an arrest or summons being issued to individuals unlawfully introducing non-native fish species into Maine's waters. In all cases, the caller remains anonymous, does not have to reveal their names, or testify in court.

Did you know...

- In the entire state of Maine, there are only 95 district game wardens so fish and wildlife needs your eyes and ears to report known or suspected violators;
- The poaching of fish or wildlife, the illegal shooting or taking of protected species, the illegal introduction of non-native fish species to Maine's waters or the abuse of private property robs legitimate sportsmen and women, conservationists and anyone who enjoys Maine of a valuable resource – our fish and wildlife.
- Poachers are nothing less than thieves. Wildlife crimes affect us all, whether we are hunters, anglers, bird watchers, or just someone who enjoys walking in the woods.
- Poachers may kill almost as many animals and fish as legitimate hunters and anglers take during legal seasons. If poachers kill only half that number each year, the problem is serious. Threatened, endangered, and non-game wildlife also are subject to the poacher.

If you value hunting or fishing or just watching our fish and wildlife resources, you owe it to yourself to report those who illegally take these resources. Remember, good fish and wildlife law enforcement is everybody's responsibility. If you see a violation, report it!

**There are two ways to report a fish or wildlife violation:**

*By Telephone:* Call 1-800-253-7887 (1-800-ALERT-US);  
out of state callers dial 1-207-287-6057

*Online:* Simply fill out our Tip Reporting Form <http://www.maineogt.org/>

Your call or report remain totally anonymous, if you wish, and you will not be asked to testify in court.

**BE A SPORT. REPORT.**

# RECREATIONAL SAFETY



In 2009, 339 public relations and educational classes were attended by game wardens. Many of those were outdoor education courses offered by the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife's Recreational Safety Unit of the Information & Education Division. The Maine Warden Service has within its mission statement the responsibility of educating the public.

Game wardens work closely with the Safety Unit, its Director Mike Sawyer and with the regional staff. With the thousands of people participating in safety courses each year (9443 in 2009) introducing the public to the Warden Service and its partnership with sportsmen and women is essential at the onset of their outdoor experience.

The Recreational Safety Unit employs eleven regional staff who assist with organizing and providing classes. They also recruit, train volunteer instructors, and answer many questions for the public along with other various duties. These courses could simply not function without the help and dedication of nearly 700 statewide volunteers who devote a large amount of their own time, often on evenings and weekends, away from their families. We owe them all a big THANK YOU.

Over the last three years, the Safety Division has administered classes to children, adult men and women, and seniors. The classes include ATV, archery, boating, crossbow, firearms, snowmobile, and trapping.

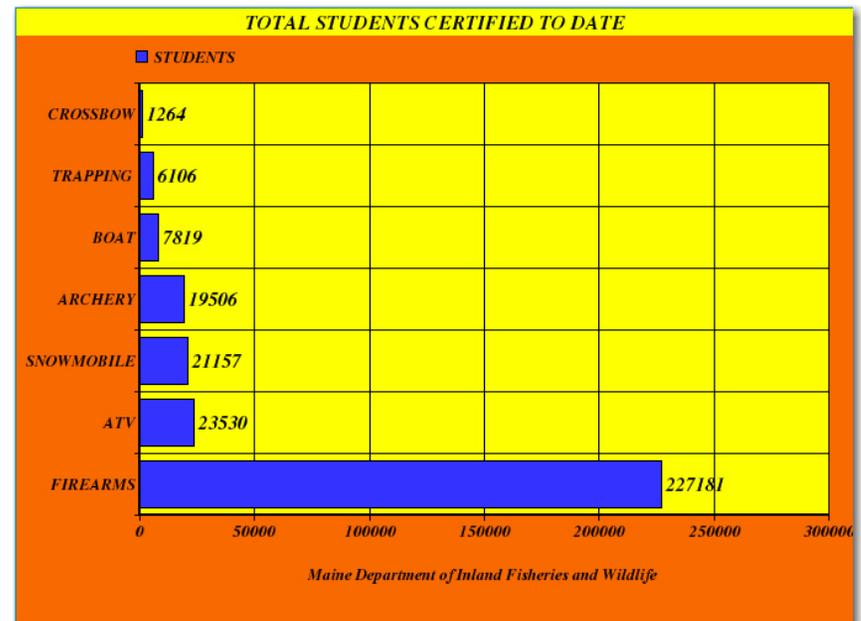
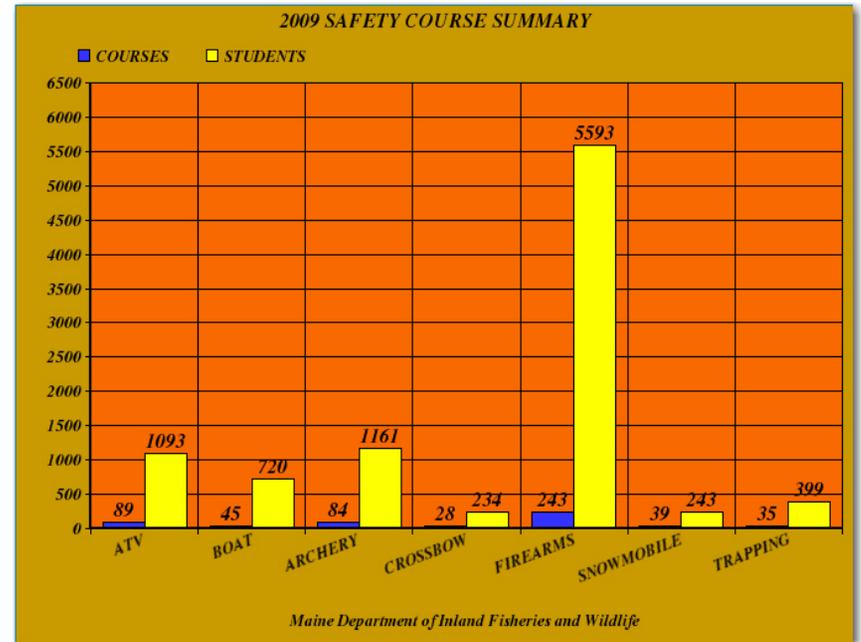
# RECREATIONAL SAFETY

The last graph shows the total number of students certified in each class since safety course instruction began. Remarkably, the total number of students that have been certified by IF&W has now surpassed a quarter of a million outdoors people, 306,563 to be precise.

Hunter education in Maine began in the 1950's under the NRA Hunter Safety program. In 1970, hunter education became a Fish & Game Department program and remained voluntary until January 1, 1986. Other courses for other disciplines have evolved over the years to their present status.

Hundreds of hours are donated by the volunteers annually in all disciplines to make the respective programs successful. The annual donation for the firearms, trapper, bow hunter, and crossbow programs are used as the in-kind match for the funds allocated by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service under the Pittman Robertson Act. This allows the department to operate these programs without using state dollars.

Maine people and those that visit here value the outdoors. The interest in those attending our safety courses clearly shows this fact. We encourage all people who want to begin an outdoor sport for themselves or a child, to give hunting, boating, snowmobiling or any other outdoor sport a try. Your reasons might be to simply relax in the outdoors or bringing home wild caught fish or teaching child patience and the skill of stalking a big game animal. You choose. Maine has a lot to offer and we can help you make your new past time safe and enjoyable. Look for a safety course near you online at [mefishwildlife.com](http://mefishwildlife.com) (click on info & education) or give the Recreational Safety Division Office a call at 287-5220.



# RECOGNITION/AWARDS

ORONO – Maine Warden Service Game Warden Mike Morrison of Charleston was recognized this year as “Warden of the Year” for his commitment to conservation law enforcement, particularly efforts to combat poaching in his district, which is one of the highest deer-kill districts in the state.

The honor, and other awards, was bestowed during the annual meeting of the Maine Warden Service in Orono. On March 19, 2010, the men and women of the 132-person Maine Warden Service and guests commemorated the 130th Anniversary of the nation’s oldest conservation law enforcement agency. On March 9, 1880, the Maine Warden Service was formed. The first violation came three days later, when two poachers were caught for killing a pregnant doe. They were fined \$71.

“Since 1880, the Maine Warden Service has been committed to serving and protecting the public and conserving Maine’s natural resources,” said MWS Col. Joel Wilkinson, Chief Game Warden. “Whether enforcing Maine’s fish and wildlife laws, protecting all of those who engage in outdoor activities or supporting our fellow brothers and sisters in the Maine law enforcement community, we as Maine Game Wardens are dedicated, adaptable, and focused in our work. We wear the title ‘Maine Game Warden’ with pride and out of respect for the people of Maine for whom we serve. Congratulations to our team on this, our 130th Anniversary.”

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.

“For the last seven years, it has been my honor and my pleasure to work with you,” said Commissioner Martin, who became head of the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife in 2003. “Although it’s been challenging, given our limited resources, it’s been an honor for me to be part of this family. The Maine Warden Service celebrates

130 years this month. It’s because of your dedication and your service to the people of the state of Maine that there will always be a Maine Warden Service.”

This year’s honorees are:



- **Warden of the Year/Shikar Safari Club Wildlife Officer of the Year Award:** To Mike Morrison, a 33-year veteran based in Greenville, nominated by Sgt. Bill Chandler and Warden Chris Dyer. During his career, Warden Morrison, the son of a retired Game Warden Grey Morrison, is recognized for his dedication to the public safety of the citizens and visitors of his district, his enforcement of Maine’s poaching laws, his commitment to youth and safety education, and his involvement in community activities. Warden Morrison helped create the Outdoor Partners Program, which shares outdoor recreation and law information at events throughout the state.

# RECOGNITION/AWARDS

Warden Morrison has served as a cadre in the training of new wardens, as a member of the Maine Warden Service Color Guard, as a member of the Overhead Search and Rescue Team, and the Dive Team. He is well respected by other law enforcement agencies in the area.

“Mike is well respected by the sporting public in his district,” said Sgt. Bill Chandler. “During his career, Mike has proven to have an uncanny ability to be in the right place at the right time. Much of Mike’s success is in catching the intentional violator. During a recent fall, Mike had received some information about some illegal deer kills. Mike went to the suspected violator’s residence and spoke with the suspect. Mike arrived and stated to the violator, ‘You know why I’m here.’ The violator hung his head and told Mike that the deer were in the barn. Mike recovered three illegal deer from the subject’s barn.”

- **Colonel’s Award:** To retired Resident Agent in Charge Christopher Dowd of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, selected and presented by Col. Joel Wilkinson, for his distinguished support and service to the Maine Warden Service and its mission.

“Resident Agent in Charge Dowd has played a key role in fostering the relationship between the USFWS and the Maine Warden Service,” said Col. Wilkinson. “This relationship is crucial in order to offer the citizens of Maine the best law enforcement service regarding the protection of natural resources. His professional approach to managing a complex investigation with various organizations is recognized by all who have had the pleasure of working beside him.

“RAC Dowd’s commitment to assisting the Maine Warden Service has lead to the successful apprehension of numerous individuals who have intentionally violated our state fish and wildlife statutes. Many of these cases have involved the illegal com



mercialization of wildlife. When an out-of-state violator leaves our state with illegally possessed fish and wildlife, we contact the USFWS and work cooperatively to complete these complex investigations that most of the time lead to subsequent federal prosecutions.”

- **Supervisor of the Year Award:** To Sgt. Mark Warren of Edgecomb. Presented by Warden Doug Kulis. For his expertise in field management, and instruction at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy.

“As a supervisor in the Maine Warden Service, Sgt. Warren uses his 22 years of experience and knowledge to create unity, trust and teamwork,” said Warden Kulis. “One of Sgt. Warren’s strongest attributes is his ability to gain the trust and respect of the wardens he supervises. Sgt. Warren has been upfront and honest, and he gives praise when it is deserved and constructive criticism when necessary.”

# RECOGNITION/AWARDS



- **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.
  - o To Warden Bruce Loring of Enfield, nominated by Warden Jim Fahey and presented by Sgt. Bill Chandler. For his efforts to rescue two men in a pickup that were stuck in snow on a snowmobile trail on 25-00-0 Road in Township 34. The rescue took approximately four hours and two trips on the trail by snowmobile because of the winter storm that was under way and the location where the men eventually were found. The snow was falling heavily, visibility was zero, trail conditions were treacherous, and Warden Loring needed to rely on his GPS unit he mounted on his sled to get to the location. “Warden Loring displayed the courage and perseverance under dire circumstances that Maine Game Wardens are known for,” according to Sgt. Chandler.



- **Exemplary Service Awards:** Given to a Game Warden who has rendered relevant outstanding service which deserves special recognition.
  - o To Game Warden Pilot Daryl Gordon of Eagle Lake, presented by Sgt. Brian Gray. For his air patrols of Maine’s woods and inland waters that direct wardens on the ground to possible fish and game law violators. “Warden Pilot Gordon was instrumental in the night hunting patrols conducted by wardens on the ground this past fall in the Northeast Division,” said Sgt. Gray. “He flew over 10 details, resulting in at least 13 cases, which could not have been made without his assistance.”



# RECOGNITION/AWARDS

- o To Warden Eric Blanchard of Lyman, presented by Sgt. Tim Spahr. For his persistence to apprehend a convicted felon illegally hunting without a valid license. The violator thought he was in the clear because he fled on foot. However, he dropped archery equipment in which he was identified as a New Hampshire resident. On the last day a search warrant was valid, the violator was found in Maine by Warden Blanchard and arrested. “Warden Blanchard’s effort in this case demonstrates an above-average technical knowledge of the law, ability to work with other agencies, and commitment to get the job done.”

- o To Warden Doug Kulis of Georgetown, presented by Sgt. Mark Warren. For his distinguished service in investigating poaching violations, particularly wild turkey and waterfowl, in his coastal Maine district.



“Warden Kulis has the discretion of a seasoned officer and understands the value of summonses versus warnings, and has earned the respect of the hunting community and the Department as a result,” said Sgt. Warren. “Not all Game Wardens are created equal. Some are very good at catching people in violation, some with public relations, some at recreational vehicle law enforcement and watercraft enforcement. Warden Kulis seems to handle the many aspects of the job with relative ease and confidence.”

- **K-9 Conservation Case of the Year Award:** To Game Warden Paul Farrington and Koda, of Springfield, presented by Corporal Wayde Carter. For their recovery of key evidence under four inches of snow during a poaching investigation of a deer kill.

- **Maine Warden Service Association Legendary Game Warden:** To retired Game Warden Donald Gray, presented by Warden Chris Dyer and Retired Game Warden Larry Grant. Walker has served the Maine Warden Service for more than 40 years. Retired Warden Gray was instrumental in forming the Maine Warden Service’s Search and Rescue Team during the winter of 1963-1964. The need for the team was demonstrated by the deaths of Ranger Ralph Heath and Mrs. Margaret Ivusic, who lost their lives on Mount Katahdin in October 1962 during an untimely snowstorm. Mrs. Ivusic thought she was taking a short cut to Chimney Pond and became stranded on a ledge. Both died during the storm. In 1964, the team went to the mountain to recover their bodies.
- **Lifetime Distinguished Service Award:** To retired Game Warden Larry Grant, presented by Col. Joel Wilkinson and Major Gregory Sanborn. Grant was instrumental in the formation of the Maine Warden Service Color Guard in the 1970s and the creation of the Legendary Game Warden Award in the early 1980s.



# ***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  
Whitewater Specialist



## **Contact us at:**

Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife  
Bureau of Warden Service  
284 State Street  
41 State House Station  
Augusta, ME 04333-0041  
(207) 287-2766

***[www.mainegamewarden.com](http://www.mainegamewarden.com)***