

Hubbard County Coalition of Lake Associations

Nick Baum | Conservation Officer (Park Rapids)

Biography / About Myself

- Started working for the MN DNR in 2016 as a Parks Worker at St. Croix State Park in Hinckley, MN
- Graduated Minnesota State University, Mankato in 2018 with a Bachelor of Science in Resource Management
- Hired by the Enforcement Division in 2018 as a CO Prep
- Completed Conservation Officer Academy in 2019
- Currently serve in the Minnesota Army National Guard with the 2-147th Assault Helicopter Battalion out of St. Paul
- I enjoy everything outdoors – hunting, fishing, boating, hiking, working, and riding recreational vehicles
- I am currently in my 9th year of service with the MN Army National Guard



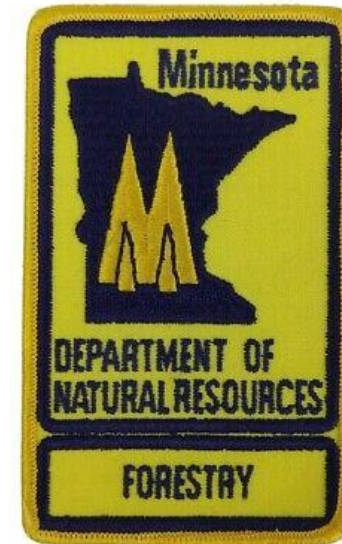
Working with Other Agencies

- State Law Enforcement Agencies
- Sheriff's Office / Local Police
 - Daily patrol / Recreational Vehicle Patrol (ATV, Snowmobile, Boat) / Assisting
- DNR Divisions (Eco / Water, Fish / Wildlife, Forestry, Lands / Minerals, Parks / Trails)
- County Environmental Services
- County Forestry
- Volunteer / Non-Profit Organizations



Which Agency Enforces What?

- Conservation Officers
 - State Laws
- Foresters
 - Limited to specific violations related to Forestry
- Park Rangers
 - Limited to specific State Park Violations
- Sheriff's Office



When to Call What Agency?

- Anytime there is concern for the environment or public safety
- Call the subject matter expert
- Turn In Poachers Hotline
 - **800-652-9093**
 - <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/enforcement/tip.html>
 - **Download the MNTip app**



Support DNR Conservation Officers

- Call the MN DNR, if you see something, say something
- Ask questions when we are out working on the lake
- Continue to promote healthy lakes
- Clean-up efforts



AIS Inspector and Conservation Officer

- Ask questions – we may not have the answer, but we will find it
- See something, say something
- Communication and documentation is key



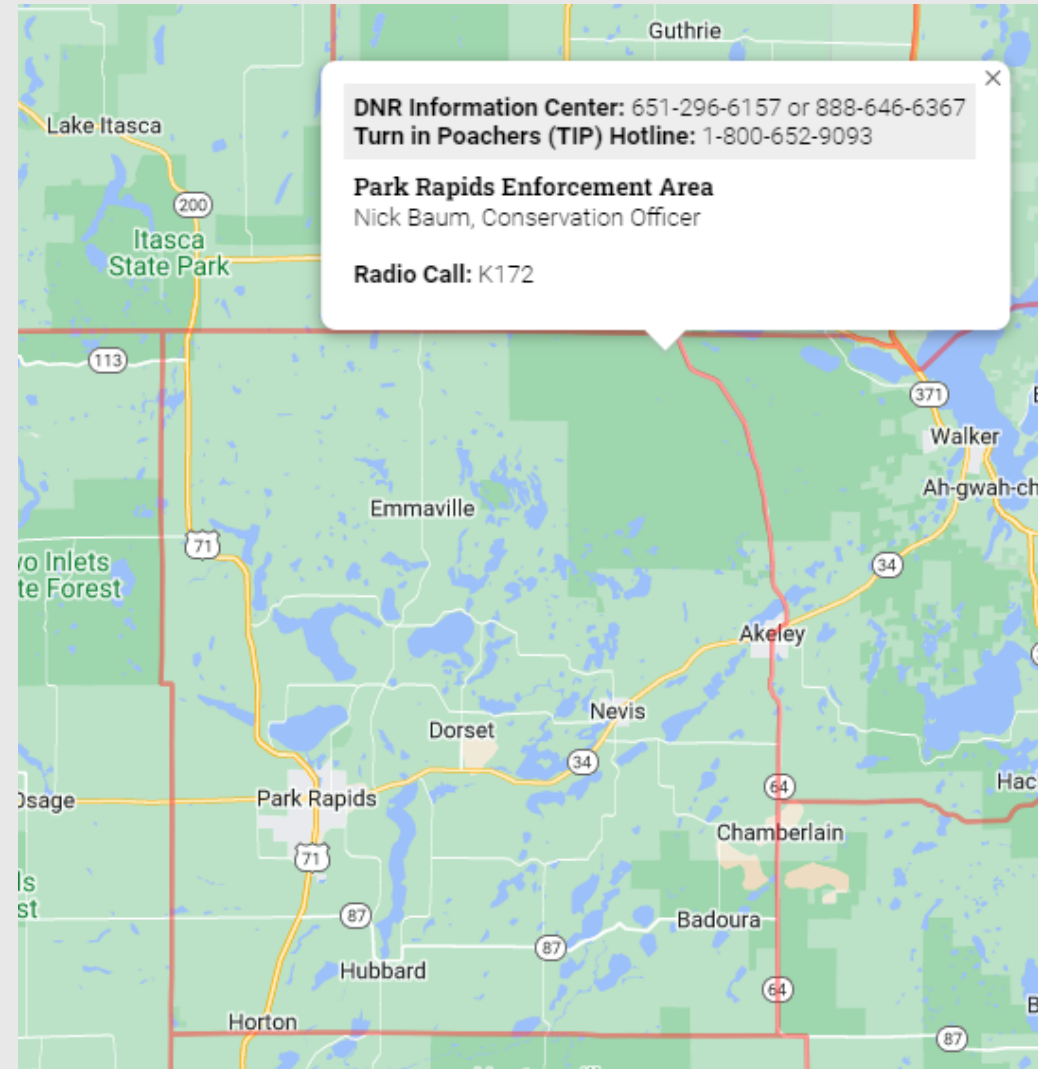
AIS in New Body of Water

- Enforcement's role
 - Investigate possible suspects
 - Citations / Civil Citations / Warnings
 - Monetary to watercraft license suspension
 - Transfer information to subject matter experts



Resources the MN DNR supports / Covers

- Waters
- Forest
- Wetlands
- Parks
- Trails
- Wildlife
- Fish



Ongoing Efforts

- Communication is key
- Stay patient
- Continue to promote
- Be visible to lake goers
- **DO NOT STOP CARING**



Questions?

Conservation Officer Nick Baum

Nicholas.baum@state.mn.us

651-253-7971

Thank You!

Conservation Officer Nick Baum

Nicholas.baum@state.mn.us

651-253-7971