

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY  
Federal Emergency Management Agency  
OPERATION STONEGARDEN (OPSG)  
OPERATIONS ORDER AND BUDGET TEMPLATE

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**Operation Order Name:** Operation  
**Operation Order Number:** Completed by CBP  
**Fiscal Year:** FY 25  
**Operations Dates:** From: Sep 1, 2025 To: August 31, 2027  
**Report Date:** 03/05/2026

**Executive Summary**

Detroit Sector (DTM) is responsible for 863 miles of international water boundary with Canada. The entire international border in the Sector's Area of Responsibility (AOR) is water, comprised of three of the five Great Lakes (Superior, Huron, and Erie), Lake St. Clair, and the Detroit, St. Clair, and St. Mary's Rivers. These bodies of water encompass over 3,800 miles of lakeshore and riverbank. The lakes and rivers that make up the international border in DTM allow unencumbered waterborne access from Canada into the United States for an average of nine months a year. During the winter, many of the waterways freeze over, leading to the probability of crossings by foot, vehicle, or snowmobile.

In order to maintain situational awareness and effectively control this vast expanse of international boundary, vulnerable shoreline, and routes of ingress, DTM partners with state and local law enforcement entities under the Operation STONEGARDEN operational grant program.

Operation STONEGARDEN (OPSG) is a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) grant that finances enhanced cooperation and coordination through the provision of funding to U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) state and local partners for law enforcement (LE) operational overtime, equipment in support of LE overtime, as well as fuel and maintenance dollars to support equipment and facilitate LE operations.

**I. SITUATION**

**A. General Situation:**

Alpena County has approximately 24 miles of Lake Huron shoreline and approximately 49 miles of international border with Canada. The proximity to the Canadian border is 76 miles from shoreline to shoreline and 39 miles to the international border. Alpena County has multiple public and private airfields, which includes the Air National Guard Base-Alpena Combat Readiness Training Center. There are also numerous public and private boat launches/marinas/harbors that can be used by terrorists/smugglers without detection.

The Alpena County Sheriff's Office currently has 17 deputies. There is a lack of Border Patrol presence in Alpena County.

**B. Terrain/Weather:**

**TERRAIN** – Alpena County is a 100% water border. The terrain is relatively flat with areas of dense forest and swamps for the majority of its coastline making access to the border difficult and inaccessible without specialized equipment. Lake Huron averages less than 30 feet in depth for the first mile from shore, gradually deepening to over 200 feet at 10 miles out. Additionally, US23 is a major route of ingress/egress through the border area that runs north and south along the Lake Huron shoreline, thereby facilitating the flow of illicit people and materials away from the border.

**WEATHER** – Mild wet summers produce heavy fog contrasting cold winters with snowfall averaging 69 inches per year. Temperatures range from upper 70s in the summer to teens in the winter.

**C. Criminal Element:**

Various TCOs, including Albanian groups, have been identified utilizing the Lake Huron area.

There have been numerous cases of reported smuggling events, both people and goods, which have taken place in the area around Alpena County. Most recently some of the groups include motorcycle clubs transporting guns and illegal narcotics.

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**D. Friendly Forces:**

The Alpena County Sheriff's Office and local law enforcement along Michigan's northern border are equipped in varying degrees with aircraft, boats, vehicles, and manpower making them an asset able to provide consistent patrol of the area. With financial aid from OPSG and coordination assistance from Michigan Homeland Security and other local law enforcement agencies on the international border can maintain a solid presence on Lake Huron and within Alpena County.

Alpena County Sheriff Department 989-354-9830

**II. MISSION**

During the stated period of performance, Alpena County will support the USBP Field Commanders by operating in and around the border area to enhance information and intelligence sharing and analysis, and cooperation with federal agencies. Taking a collaborative approach to enforcement, Alpena County law enforcement agencies will work in coordination with USBP to serve as force multipliers in a combined effort to disrupt, dismantle, and interdict transnational threats while improving communication and intelligence sharing. Essential tasks include high visibility road patrols, off-road and specialty vehicle patrols, and marine patrols. Patrols and interdiction actions will be conducted at or near the international boundary, shoreline marinas and points of potential ingress, as well as interior roads and transit nodes (bus stations, train stations). Methods of patrol will vary by season or reason, and will be adjusted as operational necessity dictates.

**III. EXECUTION**

**A. Management/Supervisor Intent:**

Purpose: Conduct enforcement activities to enhance overall border security.

Method: High visibility patrols at or near the international boundary, shoreline marinas and points of potential ingress, as well as interior roads and transit nodes (bus stations, train stations). Other methods may be utilized based upon the needs of the supported field commander (Station Patrol Agent in Charge (PAIC).

End State: Robust and sustained border security within the local jurisdiction and regionally; enhanced communication and intelligence sharing amongst federal, state, local and tribal (where applicable) law enforcement agencies; collaborative approach to identify, disrupt and dismantle Transnational Criminal Organizations (TCO), alien smuggling organizations (ASO), and provide antiterrorism and critical infrastructure patrol capabilities.

**B. General Concept:**

Alpena County will utilize OPSG funds to conduct operational law enforcement activities on an overtime basis. OPSG funding will not be utilized to pay regular full time wages. Additionally, funds will be used for vehicle and vessel fuel during OPSG activities, vehicle and vessel maintenance to address wear and tear as a result of OPSG activities, and purchase of equipment to be used for OPSG activities. Alpena County will not use OPSG funds to supplant what would otherwise be funded by traditional means.

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**C. Specific Responsibilities:**

OPSG Sector Coordinator:

1. Liaison between USBP Headquarters, the Michigan and Ohio State Grant Administrators, Detroit Sector Command Staff and Supported Field Commanders (PAICs) and their designated OPSG station coordinators. Enable successful OPSG activities through policy guidance and coordination assistance.

Supported USBP Field Commander (or Station Coordinator):

2. Responsible for OPSG core processes to include OPORD/FRAGO planning, generation, and execution. Determine when, where and how OPSG recipients can best support lines of effort within AOR; communicate needs with OPSG partners through frequent integrated planning meetings; establish and enhance intelligence sharing capabilities with OPSG partners; review and approve/reject daily activity reports germane to AOR; complete after action reports at the end of specific performance periods. Periodically verify that OPSG recipient activity is supportive of station commander priorities.

OPSG Sub-Recipient Alpena County:

3. Direct all law enforcement operational activities in support of USBP field commander priorities and in accordance with the OPSG FEMA grant guidelines. Participate in frequent integrated planning meetings with USBP field commander (or station coordinator) and clearly communicate operational intent. Coordinate with friendly forces to achieve mission objectives; maintain communication with and seek reimbursement from State Grant Administrator; operate within the parameters of the published OPORD and limit FRAGO requests to operational necessity. Limit all equipment requests to that which is necessary to conduct OPSG operations.

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**D. Coordinating Instructions:**

Alpena County will coordinate with USBP Field Commander prior to conducting law enforcement operations. A summary of daily operational activity will be reported in accordance with OPSG policy guidance.

Administration/Logistics/Budget		Narrative Justification (Computation of Items)	Federal Request
<b>Law Enforcement Operational Overtime</b> * Over 50% in OT funding needs a Personal Cap Waiver request letter			\$18,350
<b>Fringe Benefits for Law Enforcement</b>			\$7,891
		<b>Overtime and Fringe Total</b>	<b>\$26,241</b>
<b>General Equipment</b> * Justification Letter needed for \$100K or more purchases		Exterior Flood Lights for Patrol Boat	\$2,000
<b>Special Equipment</b> * Needs Justification Letter			0
<b>Vehicles, Watercraft, other type of vehicles</b> * Needs Justification Letter			0
<b>Regional Capability Building Equipment</b> * Needs Justification Letter		AEL#030E-01-ALPR	\$54,250
		<b>Equipment Total</b>	<b>\$56,250</b>
<b>Vehicle &amp; Equipment Costs</b>	<b>Fuel Cost</b>	\$	\$6,000
	<b>Maintenance Cost</b>	\$	\$4,009
	<b>Mileage Cost</b>	N/A	-0
<b>Travel, Lodging, and Per Diem</b>		N/A	- 0
<b>State M&amp;A</b>		2.5% = \$	\$2,500
<b>County M&amp;A</b>			\$5,000
		<b>Total M&amp;A</b>	<b>\$7,500</b>
<b>Indirect Costs</b>			-
<b>Unallocated Funds</b>			-
		<b>Total Funding Cost</b>	<b>\$100,000</b>

		Overtime		Fringe	
Agency name	Officers	Estimated Overtime total	Estimated Fringe Rate	Estimated Fringe total	
Alpena County Sheriff's Office		\$18,350	43%	\$7,891	
			Total	\$26,241	

General Equipment						
Agency name	Item #	AEL #	Equipment Name	Quantity	Price	Total
Alpena County Sheriff's Office		#03OE-03-LTPA	Patrol Boat Flood Lights			\$2,000

Vehicles, Watercraft, other type of vehicles						
Agency name	Item #	AEL #	Equipment Name	Quantity	Price	Total

Regional Capability Building Equipment						
Agency name	Item #	AEL #	Equipment Name	Quantity	Price	Total
Alpena County Sheriff's Office		03OE-01-ALPR	Flock Camera System	10 cameras	Yr 1 = \$30,250 Yr 2 = \$24,000	\$54,250



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**B. Travel:**

N/A

**C. Lodging:**

N/A

**D. Reception of Detailed Personnel:**

N/A

**E. Uniform and Equipment:**

As prescribed by the participating agency

**F. Special Equipment:**

N/A

**G. Alien Processing:**

Individuals in custody determined to be undocumented aliens may be turned over to the United States Border Patrol (USBP) for processing and disposition seized contraband will be processed in accordance with existing federal, state, and local policies.

**H. Medical:**

Medical emergencies will be handled by the closest available medical facility, and in accordance with established departmental policy.  
MyMichigan Hospital 1501 W. Chisholm St. Alpena, MI. 49707  
989-356-7000

**I. Detention/Transportation:**

Subjects encountered who are determined to be or believed to be illegally present in the United States may be referred to the USBP for determination and disposition. 24 Hour USBP Dispatch # 1-800-537-3220; 586-239-2161.  
The handling of state violators in USBP custody will be in accordance with existing norms.

**J. Vehicles:**

Agency issued & assigned vehicles, to include patrol vehicles, ORV's snowmobiles, and patrol boats.

**V. COMMAND/ CONTROL/ COMMUNICATION**

**A. Chain of Command:**

Detroit Sector Headquarters 586-239-2100  
Chief Patrol Agent Robert Danely 202-809-6301  
Acting Deputy Chief Patrol Agent Brad Simon 586-388-2098  
Acting Division Chief of Operations R. Alan Booth 586-239-3631  
Acting Division Chief of Programs Patrick Ashworth 586-713-6240  
Executive Officer of Programs Nathan Kast 810-989-5056

**B. Unit Command:**

OPSG participating agencies, while acting at the direction of the USBP Chief Patrol Agent or his designee, will maintain local departmental chain of command in the operational environment.

A(PAIC) Andrew Halonen 906-632-3383  
Sheriff Erik Smith 989-354-9871  
Sgt. J.P. Ritter 989-354-9863

**C. Communications Detail:**

Communications will be conducted through normal BP frequencies along with local/state channels accessed through the 800 MHZ

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Dual Band Radios and KAK 700. Cell phones will be used for secondary/backup communications.

**D. Map Coordinates:**

Notes:

Variable geographic confines of the Detroit Sector

Longitude: 45 13'12"N

Latitude: 8 23'40"W

Degrees: \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes: \_\_\_\_\_

Seconds: \_\_\_\_\_

Decimal: 45.220

Location Zone: DTM Zone

**ANNEX**

A. Administration Annex:

B. Execution Annex:

C. Command Annex:

D. Media Action Plan:

All CBP/Border Patrol inquiries will be directed to the Detroit Sector Public Affairs Office via USBP 24/7 Dispatch @ 1-800-532-3220; 586-239-2161.

Legal Review:

Participating agencies will direct legal inquiries to their respective agency legal team. Legal reviews involving USBP will be forwarded to CBP legal office.

Risk:

Initial Risk	Initial Risk Level	Mitigating Factors	Resulting Risk Level
Armed Encounters	Medium	Officer training and available tools	Medium
Assaults on Officers	Low	Officer training and available tools	Low
Injuries due to inclement weather	Low	Officer training and experience working in inclement weather	Low

Photos:

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