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Last Updated: June 05, 2011 11:37AM

Michigan kayaker scorns life jackets before a rescue

Associated Press

Mesick, Mich.— It can be a blessing to get caught by Michigan conservation officers.

A kayaker on the Manistee River in the northwestern Lower Peninsula recently was stopped by officers who were checking canoes and kayaks for safety equipment. The Department of Natural Resources says a man was adamant that he didn't need a life jacket or any other flotation device.

Just moments later, he flipped his kayak and landed in 51-degree water. Conservation officers Steve Converse and Sam Koscinski pulled him into their patrol boat and took him to shore.

And after they warmed him up, they wrote the kayaker a ticket for no personal flotation device.



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