

Mazina'igan

A Chronicle of the Lake Superior Ojibwe

Published by the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission

Winter 2004-05

What's in your stomach? Summit calls for change in eating habits

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen
Staff Writer

Brimley, Mich.—Some call it the white man's diet—a nutritional regime rooted in processed, fatty foods shipped into communities from hundreds, even thousands of miles, away. Regardless if you are white, black, Indian or any other group, it's a known killer, inviting obesity, diabetes and a menu of chronic diseases.

Tribal members, small farm operators and educators gathered at Bay Mills on October 22 to examine the condition of local food systems and devise ways to improve nutritional options for residents of eastern Upper Michigan.

Participants of the daylong event agreed that developing more local food production and distribution pathways is essential. Venison steaks need to take priority over drive-through cheeseburgers; fresh fruits and vegetables from

area growers should trump international imports. But the task is formidable.

"We are constantly bombarded by a well-oiled advertising machine," said moderator Steve Yanni, who oversees Bay Mills Community Colleges' (BMCC) Extension and Community Development. Yanni pointed to decades-old fast food jingles that still linger in people's memories. And the advertising blitz to eat convenient but nutritionally challenged food is more pervasive than ever.

The problem affects not only upper Great Lakes tribes, but indigenous communities across the globe as the food industry consolidates and dictates what food is made available to consumers. A shrinking pool of young people learn how to acquire and prepare traditional foods, accelerating the outflow of healthy eating habits.

Traditional perspectives

Several Bay Mills elders, including Agnes Carrick, addressed the group



Diet choices play a large role in health.

to provide some perspective on the local food economy. As a young girl in the 1930s, Carrick and her family gathered plants, trapped, hunted, and fished

for both income and food. They dug and sold earthworms to vacationing fishermen, picked princess pine for wreath-making. (See Food summit, page 19)

Language grant to produce map and guidebook of plant & wildlife species

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—Did you ever wonder what a river, lake, community or special location was called prior to the white settlement of the ceded terri-

ories? Or how about the names of the animals, plants, birds, reptiles and insects? Unfortunately, many Anishinaabe people are left to wonder, because much cultural knowledge connected with the names of specific species and places has been lost as a result of continued governmental and

religious efforts to assimilate Ojibwe people and abolish the language.

The Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) hopes to recover some of the Anishinaabe names for many species as well as locations within the 1836, 1837 and 1842 ceded territory, thanks to a three-year grant from the Administration for Native Americans (ANA). The grant began on September 30th under the direction of Jim St. Arnold, GLIFWC's ANA program director.

The first two years of the program will be devoted to research. Elders and language speakers from each of GLIFWC's member tribes who may know the names of places and various species will be interviewed. The grant plans on documenting at least 750 plant and 300 wildlife species, including animals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, and insects.

The information collected from a series of interviews over the next two years will be entered into a database and into a GIS map. "Ultimately, in the final year, the grant will produce a map using Anishinaabe names for locations, rivers and lakes, and an Anishinaabe Language Natural Resource Dictionary/Guide, which will also be available either on CD or DVD," St. Arnold says.

The dictionary/guide will not be limited to just names of species, but will also contain other culturally important information. For instance, Traditional Environmental Knowledge (TEK) may include information that a good cranberry crop is an indicator of a good wild rice season to follow, or that the song of a certain bird heard during the sugar bush season indicates that the sap will soon stop running, St. Arnold explains. Other cultural information may relate to the use of certain species, such as using sumac for sugar bush tree taps, pipe stems, tea, and medicine.

The database on species will include the Ojibwe, English and scientific names of species; note dialectical differences; identify if names differ for sex and young of species; talk about the habitat as well as the cultural significance and use of species; provide photos, and recognize tribal elders who imparted the information.

St. Arnold identifies a number of benefits to be reaped from this ambitious, three-year grant project. For one, tribes will have a language resource that strengthens their place within the ceded territories by identifying traditional locations in their own language. It will also be an ongoing resource for (See ANA grants, page 2)



Administration for Native Americans (ANA) Commissioner Quannah Courtland Stamp arrived in Odanah October 20 to award more than \$1.3 million in grants to three Wisconsin tribes and the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC). Pictured left to right: Mary Maday and Dede Maki, Bad River Boys & Girls Club officers; Jennifer Gauthier, Menominee Reservation; ANA Commissioner Stamp; Sandra Rachal, Sokaogon/Mole Lake tribal chair; Tony Phillippe, Mole Lake ANA director and James St. Arnold, GLIFWC ANA director. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

Band seeks better cooperation on Mille Lacs management

By **Charlie Otto Rasmussen**
Staff Writer

Wahkon, Minn.—In a bold move to partition the conservation agenda of the Lake Mille Lacs Association (LMLA) from its anti-Indian ad hoc committee, the Mille Lacs Tea Party, 23 tribal members joined the association prior to scheduled elections and voted in three new board members on August 21.

Joining the board are current and past Mille Lacs Commissioners of Natural Resources, Curt Kalk and Don Wedll, plus Mary Sam, community relations coordinator at Mille Lacs.

While waiting until early 2005 to begin their terms, the new board members attend regular LMLA meetings to gather information and provide input.

“The real goal is to help make this an effective, functioning lake association that’s more concerned about things like water quality issues than fighting the tribe with court cases,” Wedll said.

Along with other groups, the LMLA has petitioned the courts to eliminate 1837 Treaty rights in Minnesota and joined the recent appeal to the US Supreme Court regarding the location of the Mille Lacs reservation boundary, Wedll said.

On November 1, the high court issued a statement declining to review the case, in effect shoring up the Band’s contention that their reservation covers not 4,000-odd acres but the full 61,000 acres that appears on 19th century maps.

During an October 18 board meeting, President Joe Mahanay sought to

distance the LMLA from the Tea Party and its fundraising partner, Proper Economic Resource Management, or PERM.

“We’re not anti-Indian. PERM is a separate entity and they’ve never given us a nickel,” he said. Mahanay added that the Tea Party would not be co-sponsoring a forthcoming fundraising event with PERM. Money from PERM dinners, raffles and memberships are routinely used to fund lawsuits against the Mille Lacs Band.

But the lines between the organizations become blurred as individuals pursue active membership in both lake improvement and Indian opposition groups, Wedll said.

Board member Mike Macioch noted that local property owners and the Band are making positive strides to enhance the lake through the Lake Mille Lacs Watershed Group. Macioch said

that recent discussions have centered on establishing uniform zoning regulations for the townships, counties and the Band. Under the lead of tribal natural resources staff, the group is also looking closely at removing a dam at the outlet of Ogechie Lake to restore historic wild rice beds, he said.

“[The Band] has been a tremendous help to the watershed group,” Macioch said. “There would not be a watershed group without them.”

Wedll said he hopes that all parties can come together in the coming year and achieve meaningful protections and enhancement for Mille Lacs and the surrounding watershed.

The LMLA was originally formed in 1986 to address litter problems stemming from ice fishermen. Garbage from wintertime fishing increasingly washed on shore following the spring thaw, Mahanay said.

EPA’s Leavitt visits GLIFWC offices and Bad River tribe

Participates in water ceremony

By **Sue Erickson**
Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—It’s not often that high-ranking federal officials stop off in northern Wisconsin, much less on a reservation. However, this summer EPA Administrator Mike Leavitt stopped at the Bad River reservation on August 11th, touching base with both GLIFWC and the Bad River Tribe while on a tour through the Great Lakes region. Leavitt’s tour was designed to promote the creation of a joint federal, state, and tribal collaboration to protect and improve the Great Lakes ecosystem.

Leavitt and his entourage received a quick tour of the GLIFWC offices. He was very interested in GLIFWC’s mercury contamination studies and how that information is used to help tribal members decide where to harvest fish and how much fish to eat.

Leavitt was also honored with a brief water ceremony in the office of

GLIFWC Executive Administrator James Schlender. Sue Nichols, GLIFWC receptionist and Three Fires Society member, performed the ceremony, honoring water as a life-giver and reminding all present of the sacredness of *nibi* (water) and our responsibility to keep *nibi* pure.

Because of Leavitt’s limited time schedule, Schlender says he opted for the ceremony as a way of emphasizing the spiritual connection of tribes to the water resource as well as the tribal commitment to continue as “Keepers of the Water.” Leavitt appreciated the ceremony and the sentiments expressed during it, stating that he considered the ceremony a highlight of his regional tour.

From GLIFWC, Leavitt went on to tour Bad River’s fish hatchery facility and was also treated to a ride down the Kakagon River to learn about the value of the *manoomin* (wild rice) to the tribe and the basics of wild rice processing.

LCO elders hit the woods for balsam boughs



Frank and Neuza Lynk, Lac Courte Oreilles, gather balsam boughs in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

By **Sue Erickson**
Staff Writer

Lac Courte Oreilles, Wis.—A crisp November day brought Frank and Neuza Lynk, Lac Courte Oreilles, into the Chequamegon-Nicolet Forest to gather balsam boughs, something Frank has been doing since he was ten. With thirty-six years of marriage behind them, Frank says he enjoys picking balsam because it’s something they can do together.

For Neuza just being out in the woods is a treat for her. “I love it out here,” she says, brown leaves crunching underfoot as she heads into the forest, pointing out some wintergreen on the forest floor.

Not many balsam pickers were out that day. In fact, Frank thought the season would end early because the balsam buyers were beginning to stop buying already. He thinks there are a lot more pickers, and especially more non-tribal people gathering boughs. Consequently, the market fills more quickly.

For the Lynks gathering balsam boughs is largely an enjoyment and, as Frank points out, good exercise for someone like him battling diabetes. Besides fresh air and exercise, bough-picking also provides a little extra cash for the season.

The couple travels through the woods at a comfortable pace and rests when tired. Three years ago, Frank broke his hip, so is thankful to be out walking. Of course, Neuza points out that there was no way she was going to let him lie around the house!

Care is taken not to strip trees when gathering boughs. Frank says he only picks to the height he can reach. Neuza is concerned about pickers who strip trees, or knock saplings to the ground and hold them down with their foot. “The roots come right out of the ground,” she says, “and this will destroy the tree.” For both Frank and Neuza, their thought is for the trees’ health and for making sure their grandchildren will have an abundance of trees available to enjoy as well.



EPA Administrator Mike Leavitt and Great Lakes National Program Office Director Gary Gulezian took time out of a whirlwind tour to participate in a Water Ceremony at GLIFWC’s main office in Odanah. Sue Nichols, GLIFWC receptionist and Three Fires Mide Society member, presided over the ceremony honoring *nibi* (water). (Photo by Sue Erickson)

On the cover

Ayaabe (buck). Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen

GLIFWC enforcement veteran receives high honors

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen
Staff Writer

Lac du Flambeau, Wis.—Following his latest windfall of professional commendations, Ken Rusk murmured something about building an addition onto his Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) satellite office at Lac Courte Oreilles to accommodate the awards. He chuckled and smiled at the good-natured groans that rose from colleagues seated nearby.

Minutes earlier the 20-year conservation enforcement veteran stood at a podium, overwhelmed, having received several prominent accolades at the Native American Fish & Wildlife Society's (NAFWS) 2004 Great Lakes Regional Conference. Rusk accepted the Patricia Zakovec Conservation Officer of the Year award, a specially framed poster and a letter of recognition from the Sawyer County Sheriff's Department at the September 15 ceremony.

"Ken is a decorated combat veteran, a vigilant defender of rights and resources, and is always willing to go the extra mile," said GLIFWC Executive Administrator Jim Schlender who presented Rusk with an inscribed and framed bizhiw, or lynx, clan poster. In traditional Ojibwe teachings, bizhiw is



GLIFWC Conservation Warden Ken Rusk. (Photo by COR)

typically a community protector, both silent and observant.

Issued intermittently by NAFWS, the Zakovec award and a handful of others recognize outstanding contributions to tribal resource programs. NAFWS is a non-profit membership organization that promotes protection, conservation and enhancement of tribal natural resources.

Over the last ten years or so Rusk has collected dozens of awards from a who's-who-list of local institutions including: the Hayward Middle School, Boys and Girls Club, Sawyer County Sheriff's Department, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR), which has recognized him on seven occasions for performing annual

outdoor safety classes. His sparsely furnished office is by no exaggeration wallpapered in achievement and integrity.

That integrity received further punctuation by Chief Deputy Tim Zeigle from Sawyer County. "Deputy Rusk has always shown a willingness to assist his fellow officers no matter what the situation," said Zeigle who traveled from Hayward to present Rusk with a recognition letter from the sheriff's department.

Zeigle went on to describe Rusk's support following the shooting death of a Bayfield County policeman: "Deputy Rusk provided cover to the recovery team as they recovered the body of the fallen officer. Deputy Rusk was always there when his fellow officers needed him."

Rarely utilizing his sick leave over the past two decades, Rusk is tapping it now to take up an aggressive fight against cancer. He looks forward to signing back on the enforcement radio band with his locally renowned call number—GL40—sometime in the near future.

One of the original crop of GLIFWC wardens, Rusk joined the Commission on May 1, 1984 along with his sister Carol. His previous experience includes a 20-month combat tour in Vietnam, Lac Courte Oreilles on-reservation warden, and Sawyer County Reserve Deputy Sheriff. He holds the unique distinction of maintaining enforcement credentials from the WDNR, Sawyer County and GLIFWC since the mid-1980s.

A final tribute

As the winter edition went to press, Ken Rusk passed on at age 56 on November 14. Approximately 375 family members, friends and fellow officers attended funeral ceremonies at Pineview Funeral Home on the Lac Courte Oreilles reservation. Under escort by 50 state, county, tribal and GLIFWC law enforcement vehicles, Rusk was taken to LCO's Whitefish Cemetery and laid to rest on November 17 with a military salute. He will be missed.

Legislative briefing: *Law enforcement and CWD in the ceded territory*

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen, Staff Writer

Madison, Wis.—A Wisconsin Legislative Council study committee is considering actions to recognize Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) conservation wardens similarly to officers from other agencies. GLIFWC Policy Analyst James Zorn delivered a presentation to the Special Committee on State-Tribal Relations October 19, outlining ideas to streamline ceded territory law enforcement and emergency services through statutory amendments.

Despite 20 years of providing assistance to state and local authorities, Wisconsin's statutes do not recognize GLIFWC conservation officers as "law enforcement officers" and do not provide them with the same protections afforded to other officers, Zorn said. GLIFWC wardens, nevertheless, receive the same training that other state-certified officers do.



State capitol in Madison.

A number of GLIFWC officers are cross deputized by counties and the state Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and assist in medical emergencies, fugitive apprehension, search and rescue, and shooting incidents. Zorn explained that clarifying the status of GLIFWC officers would make interagency efforts more efficient and enhance safety for both the public and the officers who often work alone in isolated areas.

Zorn's discussion points were supported by DNR Attorney Michael Lutz and Thomas Dosch, assistant attorney general, Department of Justice, who testified that law enforcement in northern Wisconsin would be more effective if GLIFWC wardens were recognized in state statutes.

The standing of GLIFWC officers has emerged as a growing

issue over the years. Officers routinely encounter illegal activities that fall outside their primary conservation jurisdiction. The resulting loophole in enforcement authority has created opportunities for violators and criminals to avoid penalties.

CWD and the ceded territory

Jonathan Gilbert, GLIFWC wildlife biologist, also addressed the State-Tribal Relations committee to voice concerns over the threat of chronic wasting disease (CWD) infecting the northern Wisconsin deer herd.

First discovered in the state almost three years ago, the fatal brain ailment appears relatively isolated in two pockets near Madison and Beloit. The disease may lurk far to the north, however, in one of the regions many game farms. Gilbert said that infected animals that escape from game farms pose a significant danger to health of deer that Ojibwe people rely upon. Other disease transmission scenarios, including carcass transportation from southern Wisconsin and the natural progression of disease by migrating animals, are additional pathways to be wary of, Gilbert said.

Two CWD authorities were on hand to back Gilbert's analysis: Alan Crossley and Dr. Robert Ehlenfeldt. Crossley is the Department of Natural Resources CWD program manager and Ehlenfeldt is the state veterinarian, Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATAACP).

The DNR is concerned about the spread of CWD from hunter-harvested carcasses of deer or elk taken from CWD endemic areas including Wisconsin, Colorado and elsewhere, Crossley said. He suggested that rules governing the transport of carcasses are difficult to enforce and that proper disposal of carcasses may be effective in controlling the spread of CWD.

Ehlenfeldt testified that as long as game farms trade animals, it is impossible to eliminate the risk of spreading CWD by captive animals. The DATAACP strategy is to minimize the risk by instituting a comprehensive CWD monitoring program, he said.

Exploring a potential legislative solution, Gilbert asked the Committee to consider whether transmission risks might be reduced or eliminated by better controlling the movement of carcasses around the state and prohibiting the movement of live game farm elk and deer within state boundaries. Additionally, Gilbert said that purging southern Wisconsin of the disease would be an important step to protect statewide deer populations.

The Committee acts as an intermediary between tribes and state officials, bringing issues of concern to the Legislature in Madison.

Bay Mills attorney preparing for another round

By **Charlie Otto Rasmussen**
Staff Writer

Brimley, Mich.—Kathryn Tierney has been down this road before. The Bay Mills Indian Community attorney heads one of six legal teams, including five tribes and one federal team, preparing to defend 1836 inland treaty rights in Michigan.

While the courts have confirmed that Bay Mills and four other Michigan tribes retain off-reservation fishing privileges on the Great Lakes, the state hopes to convince a federal judge that

inland hunting, fishing and gathering rights are extinguished.

Tierney served as attorney for Bay Mills in the 1970s during the formative Great Lakes phase of the 1836 case. Later, a veteran of treaty battles in Wisconsin, Tierney provided legal council as a Lac du Flambeau attorney during the landmark *Voigt* Decision when a Federal District Court affirmed Ojibwe off-reservation rights were, indeed, valid in territories ceded to the United States in 1837 and 1842. Following the 1983 ruling, Tierney worked through the rest of the decade helping to define the scope of the right in federal courts.

Now a similar case is developing in Michigan with a trial date slated for January 2006. At issue is the interpretation of treaty language, which states that tribes are entitled to hunt and fish on ceded land "until needed for settlement."

"The focus of this case is: what did everyone understand in 1836? And based on what they understood, what does it mean today?" Tierney said.

Discovery, or the sharing of facts and documents between the two liti-

gants, will continue until May 2005, Tierney said. State and tribal representatives are also preparing to record depositions from expert witnesses.

Meanwhile, Tierney and her colleagues have a lot of reading to do as boxes of discovery materials roll in for analysis. Attorneys from the United States are supporting the five tribes in their treaty defense. They include: Bay Mills, Sault Ste. Marie Tribe, Grand Traverse Band, Little River Band and Little Traverse Bay Bands.



Perched atop boxes of discovery evidence, Bay Mills Attorney Kathryn Tierney is preparing for her third major Ojibwe treaty case. 1836 inland treaty rights are scheduled to go on trial in January 2006. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

Elders gather to discuss fish consumption

By **Kalvin D. Perron**
Bay Mills News

Bay Mills, Mich.—Elders from Bay Mills and Sault Ste. Marie participated in a talking circle September 21, at the Armella Parker building. The eleven elders who took part in the talking circle were treated to a whitefish and wild rice dinner, courtesy of the Bay Mills Seniors.

The elders gathered to talk about the perceived benefits and risks of eating fish from the Great Lakes. The talking circle was formed through an Inter-Tribal Council (ITC) grant, headed by ITC's Maternal Health and Child Consultant Gera Simpkins. The main focus of the talks, which also included a commercial fishermen's talking circle, was to identify where elders receive their information on the pros and cons of fish consumption.

Simpkins said there are major discrepancies in the fish advisories that people are getting throughout the state. "This conflicting information can cause much confusion on the health benefits versus risk benefits of eating fish," she said.

Simpkins added that she decided to focus on the elders first because they have been involved in the lifestyle of eating fish for the longest. The elders had many interesting comments on the subject.

Most don't worry about the risk of fish being polluted from Lake Superior, but questioned the quality of fish caught below the Mackinac Bridge. Others believe that casinos and other businesses don't care about the quality of the fish because they are only in it to make money.

The elders also believe that if there were risks to eating fish, they were outweighed by the benefits. They also agree that one of the biggest risks is for the commercial fishermen who risk their lives each day to catch it, not the people consuming it.

Simpkins concluded that the elders are still eating a lot of fish and enjoying it. She added that at a later meeting a young commercial fisherman's comments encapsulated the prevalent attitude still found in Indian Country today: "Fishing is not only a way of life for us, it is life."

(Reprinted with permission from *Bay Mills News*.)



Bay Mills Indian Community's 25-foot aluminum patrol boat, *Eganawenjikejig*. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

Tribal law enforcement bolstered through COPS grant

By **Charlie Otto Rasmussen**
Staff Writer

Brimley, Mich.—Bay Mills Indian Community and the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe are among nine Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) member tribes to receive grant awards from the US Department of Justice's COPS office in September 2004. Community Oriented Policing Services, or COPS, dollars support law enforcement departments across the United States through competitive grants.

With a \$53,000 grant award, the Bay Mills Conservation Enforcement Department is acquiring everything from basic issue equipment like weapons and uniforms to high-tech devices like night vision goggles.

Bay Mills Captain Ben Carrick said that the departments' 25-foot aluminum patrol boat *Eganawenjikejig* will also benefit with the installation of a new global positioning satellite radar unit. Five Bay Mills conservation officers enforce fishing and boating regulations in the 1836 Treaty waters of lakes Superior, Michigan and Huron.

"The new equipment and improved technology will enhance our enforcement efforts on the Great Lakes," said Carrick. "With our limited budget, the grant money allows us to make upgrades that we wouldn't otherwise be able to."

In northwest Wisconsin, the Lac Courte Oreilles (LCO) Tribal Police Department claimed its second COPS grant this year, receiving nearly

\$140,000. Police Chief Bill Morrow said his seven-officer staff is attending both basic and specialized training this year, including investigating sexual assault cases.

"It's a good start, but you can never get enough training," said Morrow, who oversees an agency created in February 2004. "We went from nothing to a fully operational department in less than a year."

Morrow said his department is acquiring three patrol cars under the latest COPS grant as well. LCO police are cross-deputized with Sawyer County along with tribal law enforcement departments at St. Croix and Lac du Flambeau.

In addition to its member tribes, GLIFWC received \$108,000 from COPS for off-reservation conservation enforcement. GLIFWC officers will take a technological step forward with digital cameras and truck-mounted cameras, along with training to use the equipment effectively. Chief Warden Fred Maulson said the new equipment adds better investigative tools to document violations.

The balance of the grant money will be invested in officer patrol vehicles, Maulson said. GLIFWC conservation wardens at Keweenaw Bay, St. Croix and Mille Lacs are scheduled to trade in their high-mileage trucks for new pick-ups, fully equipped with standard features used in law enforcement.

A total of \$24 million was awarded in September to 114 tribal law enforcement agencies in 24 states. The COPS office has provided grant monies to American Indian communities since 1999.

Mizhakwad (clear sky) christened and blessed

New boat ready for duty on Lake Superior

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—It was a clear day October 4th, but cold with a gusty north wind blowing in off the choppy surface of Lake Superior. At the second landing on the Bad River reservation, the substantial, shiny hull of a new 31-foot Heneley rested on its cradle, waiting to be blessed and formally christened “Mizhakwad,” meaning clear sky in the Ojibwe language.

The new boat was made especially for the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) to be used by both the Enforcement Division for monitoring treaty commercial fishing and the Great Lakes Section crew, who spend six weeks annually performing fishery assessments in the Michigan waters of Lake Superior.



GLIFWC Warden and Eastern District Supervisor Tim Tilson, Keweenaw Bay, christens Mizhakwad by breaking a bottle of non-alcoholic champagne on the bow. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

Replacing the Ojibwa Lady, a 26-foot Boston Whaler, the new thirty-footer boasts a hand-fabricated aluminum hull and is equipped with twin 225-horsepower Honda motors, a net puller, a radar/GPS and mapping system, a Coast Guard approved radio, and an enforcement light bar. Since she was built to GLIFWC specifications, Mizhakwad can easily accommodate assessment nets as well as respond to enforcement needs.

Eugene Begay, Ojibwe spiritual leader from Lac Courte Oreilles, arrived to do a pipe ceremony on behalf of the new boat, her crew and also the boat builders. A small group, largely GLIFWC staff, circled Begay as he lit his pipe and acknowledged the Water Spirits during his prayer. GLIFWC Executive Administrator Jim Schlender also lit and passed GLIFWC's pipe.



Eugene Begay, Ojibwe spiritual leader from Lac Courte Oreilles (far right) presents Mike Plucinski, Great Lakes fishery technician (center) with an eagle feather directing him to tie it high on Mizhakwad and keep it there until the natural elements wear it away. Also pictured is Jim Schlender, GLIFWC executive administrator (far left) and Neil Kmiecik, GLIFWC biological services director. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

Begay presented an eagle feather to Mike Plucinski, Great Lakes fishery technician, directing him to tie it high on the boat and keep it there until the natural elements wear it away. Plucinski also received a small bundle to be dropped into the water once Mizhakwad is launched as a gift to the Water Spirits.

Following the pipe ceremony, GLIFWC Warden and Eastern District Supervisor Tim Tilson, Keweenaw Bay, broke a bottle of non-alcoholic champagne on Mizhakwad's bow.

Great Lakes Section crew launched Mizhakwad the following day and took her for a maiden run by Long Island in preparation for several weeks of fall assessment work in mid-October. The fall season often presents challenging weather out on the Great Lake in terms of cold, wind and waves, but Mizhakwad should make that work a little easier and safer.

Two GLIFWC officers cross-deputized in WI

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—GLIFWC Wardens Mike Soulier, stationed at Red Cliff and Roger McGeshick, stationed at Mole Lake, were recently cross-deputized with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR). Their cross-deputization brings the total to five GLIFWC officers who are now cross-credentialed with the state.

Cross-deputization gives GLIFWC wardens the authority to make contact with non-tribal members when a violation occurs, or they think a violation occurs, according to GLIFWC Chief Warden Fred Maulson. If GLIFWC officers are not cross-deputized, they cannot enforce state laws, only obtain information from the party and report the incident to WDNR warden in that area.



GLIFWC Wardens Mike Soulier, stationed at Red Cliff (left) and Roger McGeshick, stationed at Mole Lake were recently cross-deputized with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

The process to receive cross-deputization can be lengthy, Maulson says. It requires completion of two twenty-four hour, in-service sessions with the WDNR, followed by extensive background investigations, which can be time-consuming. Ultimately, the WDNR makes the decision whether or not to issue the credentials. “The more eyes and ears we have out there, the better it is for our natural resources,” Maulson says. “Our officers are well-trained and well-equipped, so it makes good sense to use their expertise.”

Four more GLIFWC officers are currently in the process of seeking cross-deputization, including Chief Maulson and wardens Frank White, Lac du Flambeau; Mark Bresette, Red Cliff; and Chad Brugman, St. Croix. The group will be attending their second WDNR in-service in February 2005.

Two recently-hired wardens, Mike Wiggins, Bad River; and Mark Thayer, Lac Courte Oreilles, will be doing their first WDNR in-service in 2005, beginning their pursuit of cross-deputization.

In-service training typically provides a number of enforcement updates, defense and arrest training, shooting qualifications, and presentations on enforcement cases or issues.

Maulson views the in-service as an opportunity for mutual education and shared updated information on tribal codes and cases of interest with his state counterparts.

Thayer joins enforcement staff

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Lac Courte Oreilles, Wis.—Mark Thayer, a Lac Courte Oreilles tribal member and experienced law officer, officially joined the GLIFWC Enforcement staff on August 23rd. Stationed at the Lac Courte Oreilles satellite office, Thayer is working under Western District Supervisor Ken Rusk.

Thayer brings with him years of experience, including fifteen years with the U.S. Air Force's Special Forces; two years as a Lac Courte Oreilles conservation officer; and experience as a Sawyer County deputy. He continues to work with the Sawyer County SWAT Team and as a rescue diver for the county.

He comes to GLIFWC fully credentialed as a state law enforcement officer having completed state training; however, he will still have to pursue training required for cross-deputization.

His interest in conservation enforcement has been longstanding, something that perked his interest even prior to his military service. Consequently, when the GLIFWC position was posted, he applied, lured primarily by the opportunity to apply his career training and skills to outdoor work.

Outside of work, Thayer is busy raising two daughters, Anna, age 14, and Marlene, age 12. Formerly a mountain climber, Thayer also enjoys a variety of outdoor recreational activities, such as hiking and scuba diving. The latter, he describes as his passion. He enjoys diving whenever and whenever the opportunity arises.



Mark Thayer. (COR)

Eurasian bush honeysuckles: A growing threat to the northwoods

By GLIFWC Staff

Odanah, Wis.—Eurasian bush honeysuckles are a group of closely-related shrubs that have been used for decades, for landscaping, as ornamentals, and as wildlife plantings. Like many introduced species, they have escaped and spread across the landscape, altering native plant communities and even interfering with forest regeneration, explains Miles Falck, Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) wildlife biologist. Today, Eurasian bush honeysuckles are found across much of temperate North America, including the upper Great Lakes region.

Where did Eurasian bush honeysuckles come from?

Tartarian honeysuckle (*Lonicera tatarica*) is native to central and western Russia. Morrow's honeysuckle (*L. morrowii*) is native to Japan. Tartarian honeysuckle was first introduced to the United States in 1752, while Morrow's was introduced about 1875. Bell's honeysuckle (*L. x bella*) is a vigorous, fertile hybrid between Morrow's and Tartarian honeysuckles, that arises in the wild and is also being planted. A fourth introduced honeysuckle, Amur honeysuckle (*L. maackii*), originated in China. It has become a major pest in the eastern US, but has not yet reached the upper Great Lakes region, apparently because it is not cold-hardy enough to persist here.

What do Eurasian bush honeysuckles look like?

Eurasian bush honeysuckles are medium to large, multistemmed shrubs that can grow to 10 ft. tall or more. Larger, older plants tend to have shaggy-barked stems and a spreading, outward-curving vase shape. All have leaves that are smooth-edged and oppositely arranged on the stem. The leaves of Morrow's honeysuckle are softly pubescent on both sides and tend to be more oblong, while those of Tartarian honeysuckle are nearly hairless and tend to taper towards the tip. Bell's has leaves that are intermediate in shape, and sparsely to moderately hairy. All three of these honeysuckles leaf out earlier and stay green later than our native shrubs do.

Eurasian bush honeysuckles produce numerous pairs of fragrant, tubular flowers in May and June. Each pair of flowers tops a single stalk in the axils of the leaves. Tartarian and Bell's honeysuckles produce deep pink to whitish flowers that do not turn yellow with age, while those of Morrow's start out white, becoming yellow with age. The flower stalks of Tartarian honeysuckle are generally longer than those of the other two honeysuckles.

The flowers of Eurasian honeysuckles are eventually replaced with numerous pairs of small, nearly spherical, somewhat translucent and very sour berries. Tartarian and Bell's are typically bright-red, but can also be orange or rarely yellow. Morrow's are bright red.

Several honeysuckles are native to the upper Great Lakes region. Some, like wild honeysuckle (*Lonicera dioica*), and hairy honeysuckle (*L. hirsuta*), are woody vines, while others, such as fly honeysuckle (*L. canadensis*) and waterberry (*L. villosa*), are shrubs. All these native honeysuckles produce flowers and berries in pairs. All (including fly honeysuckle) have branches and twigs with solid white pith, while the Eurasian bush honeysuckles all have pith that is hollow and brown.

Fly honeysuckle is a common inhabitant of hardwood forests of our area. It is usually a low, spreading shrub to about 3-4 ft. tall, though plants can reach 6 ft on favorable sites. A true forest shrub, fly honeysuckle is more shade-tolerant than its Eurasian cousins. Its flowers are light yellow, and appear early in the spring. Its berries are opaque, dark red, and somewhat pointed towards the tips.

The Ojibwe name for fly honeysuckle is ozaawaaskined. Traditionally, the flowers of ozaawaaskined were eaten raw, and the juice from the flowers was collected and used as a drink.

How do Eurasian bush honeysuckles spread?

Eurasian honeysuckles reproduce almost entirely by seed. Large numbers of berries are produced, each of which contains several seeds. The berries are spread



Eurasian honeysuckle in flower. (Photo by E. Sutton)

primarily by birds and also by small mammals. Because most native fruit-eating birds tend to land near forest gaps and edges rather than in interior closed forest, the seeds are more likely to be dropped where they have enough light to grow. Seeds of Eurasian honeysuckles have high short-term viability but apparently only last a few years in the soil.

Where do Eurasian bush honeysuckles live?

Eurasian bush honeysuckles are tolerant of a very broad range of moisture and shade levels. Common habitats in the upper Great Lakes region include right-of-ways, fencelines, and old fields, as well as woodlands, riverbanks, and lakeshores. They frequently colonize woodland edges and open woods. These honeysuckles are only moderately shade-tolerant, relying on disturbance and their extended in-leaf period to invade forests. Only croplands and closed-canopy forests appear to be immune to invasion by Eurasian honeysuckles.

What effects do Eurasian bush honeysuckles have on the environment?

While Eurasian bush honeysuckles usually do not become established in undisturbed, closed forest, they readily invade forest that has been disturbed by roadbuilding and other activities. In eastern hardwood forests, Tartarian and Amur honeysuckles have both been shown to significantly reduce tree seedling density, as well as the diversity and cover of ground layer species. This suppression of tree regeneration can eventually change the canopy structure and composition in these forests, converting them into honeysuckle-dominated open woodlands or shrublands.

The success of Eurasian honeysuckles in invading forests and displacing native vegetation seems to be due partly to their early leaf-out and late leaf-fall. Spring ephemerals are particularly harmed, because they are dependent on high light levels available in early spring, before the native shrubs and trees leaf out.

Despite their reputation for being good for "wildlife" plantings, Eurasian honeysuckles produce fruit low in lipids compared to most native shrubs, and thus provide a relatively energy-poor, low-quality bird food. Because of this they are less attractive to birds and stay on the plants longer than those of most native shrubs. As the fall progresses and native fruits disappear, use of these fruits by birds increases significantly.

Heavy feeding on berries of Tartarian and Morrow's honeysuckles has been linked to the occurrence of orange-tipped (instead of the normal yellow-tipped) tailfeathers of cedar waxwings in the northeast US. Molts still occur normally in these birds, though, suggesting that cedar waxwings are adapted to a diet of sugary, low-protein fruits.

How can Eurasian bush honeysuckles be controlled?

Like any weed eradication effort, effective long-term control of Eurasian honeysuckles requires persistence. Yearly monitoring and treatment must continue until the local seed bank is completely exhausted.

Manual control is a good option for small infestations. Seedlings have shallow root systems and are easily pulled. Even large plants can often be dug up with a shovel or pulled with a weed wrench. Care should be taken to avoid damaging neighboring plants.

Established Eurasian bush honeysuckle plants are resistant to cutting and resprout vigorously. In moderately or heavily shaded habitats, cutting them to the ground every year for 2-3 years will kill them. In more open areas, repeated cutting or mowing over a period of several years is needed.

Fire has been used with some success. Spring burning can be useful in eliminating seedlings and controlling larger plants. Burning must be repeated every year (or at least every other year) for several years to kill established plants. Use of fire is only appropriate in fire- (See Controlling Eurasian, page 7)



Large planted Eurasian honeysuckle bush. (Photo by E. Sutton)



Tartarian honeysuckle showing paired, ripe berries. (GLIFWC staff photo)

Stalking the invaders

GLIFWC crew survey inland lakes for exotic species

By Sam Maday
For Mazina'igan

On a cold August morning, Steve Garske, GLIFWC invasive plant aid, skims the shore of the Gile Flowage near the boat landing. His head is down and his eyes search for anything that shouldn't be there. His partner, Sam

Quagon, Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) plant aid and Lac Courte Oreilles tribal member, stands on the dock putting the boat landing on his Global Positioning System (GPS). This is the summer routine for these two GLIFWC employees.

Beginning June 14, Garske and Quagon spent the summer of 2004 surveying for aquatic, invasive species in

thirty-six, ceded territory lakes, primarily in Wisconsin.

Specifically, they are looking for exotic (non-native) plants and animals such as Eurasian water milfoil, zebra mussels and spiny water fleas, but are actively looking for other possible invaders. This is important to the lakes because invasive species have a detrimental effect and can damage the ecosystem of any lake. For example, Lake Gogebic in Michigan's western Upper Peninsula had a problem with Georgia mystery snails. There were so many of the snails this year that some people resorted to scraping them off the beaches. Another example is a Wisconsin lake that used to be somewhat productive and weedy, which means perfect for perch fishing. But an invasion of zebra mussels and rusty crayfish cleared the vegetation, transforming the lake and crashing the perch population.

"No one's surveyed for all these species at once before," says Quagon, "but we've spent many cold July days on the lakes creating a system." Because the impact of invasive species can be so dramatic, GLIFWC undertook a first-of-its-kind initiative to survey lakes for multiple invasive species.

Consequently, staff used a variety of techniques when sampling to detect the various invasives that could inhabit the surveyed lakes. For example, to get a good zebra mussel sample, Garske and Quagon find a spot in open water and drop a fine-meshed plankton net five meters below the surface and then draw it straight up. A similar method is used for spiny water fleas, only the net is towed along for 100 meters. Once samples are obtained, ethyl alcohol is added to preserve them. Finally, the samples are sent to a lab for analysis.

"Things ran smoothly through the summer," says Garske. "No serious difficulties were encountered during the surveys. We're anxious to see the results, which should be ready in late fall."

The surveys targeted walleye and ricing lakes in particular. The goal of the surveys is to find out what kind of invasive species are in the lakes and which lakes are infested. It's the first step in developing a plan of action against invasive species. Once the kinds of invasives in the lakes are determined, it will be easier to develop strategies to protect the lakes from further infestations.



At the Gile Flowage, GLIFWC Plant Aids Steve Garske and Sam Quagon record information on observed invasive species. (Photo by Sam Maday)

For more information on exotic plant species visit our website at: www.glifwc.org/epicenter

Controlling Eurasian bush honeysuckles

(Continued from page 6)

adapted communities such as prairies and pine barrens, and then only under the guidance of experienced personnel.

Chemical control should only be used where other methods of control are not feasible. Whenever using herbicides to control invasive plants, care should be taken to avoid spraying nontarget vegetation and to minimize human contact. The label directions should always be followed carefully.

Summer or fall is the best time to spray. Branches can be cut off near the base, and the stumps sprayed with an appropriate herbicide. This method has the advantage of reducing the amount of herbicide needed and minimizing exposure to neighboring vegetation. Alternatively, foliar spraying can be effective. Spraying just after flowering should eliminate seed production for that year. Follow-up monitoring and treatment will be necessary, as some plants may survive and resprout.

It is always best to consult your local natural resource agency for advice prior to treating Eurasian honeysuckle infestations with herbicide.

Biological control has the potential to provide effective, long-term control of Eurasian bush honeysuckle populations across North America. Until recently, Eurasian bush honeysuckles had a reputation for being relatively free of diseases and insect predators. An Eurasian aphid (*Hyadaphis tataricae*) is a natural pest of Tartarian honeysuckle and attacks only Tartarian and the other closely-related Eurasian honeysuckle species. First detected in North America in 1976, *Hyadaphis* has since spread across much of the northern US and southern Canada, including the upper Great Lakes region. This aphid attacks the terminal branches where most of the flowers form, causing the leaves to become stunted and often killing the ends of the branches. Formation of these "witches' brooms" reduce seed production and may lower plant vigor as well.

Because of their widespread use in landscaping, research into biocontrol organisms for Eurasian honeysuckles is unlikely to be attempted in the foreseeable future. On the contrary, horticulturists are now looking for biocontrols and testing aphid-resistant strains of Eurasian honeysuckle species, in order to neutralize the effects of *Hyadaphis*.

Plant native

As with all invasives, prevention is the best medicine! Many native substitutes for Eurasian honeysuckles are available. Red elderberry (*Sambucus racemosa*), Canada elderberry (*S. canadensis*), and American highbush cranberry (*Viburnum trilobum*) all produce clusters of white flowers followed by bright red fruits, that are attractive to both wildlife and people. Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) produces



Cut twig of Morrow's honeysuckle. Note hollow brown pith. (GLIFWC staff photo)



Witches' broom caused by the aphid *Hyadaphis*. (GLIFWC staff photo)

numerous bright-red berries along its branches that persist into the winter. All these shrubs do well on moist to seasonally wet ground, in sun or partial shade. For drier, sandy ground, downy arrowwood (*V. rafinesquianum*) and "flowering maple" (*V. acerifolium*) are good substitutes for Eurasian honeysuckles. And the native fly honeysuckle (*Lonicera canadensis*) is easy to grow and is similar in appearance to its invasive cousins.

Native plants propagated from local or regional populations are the most environmentally acceptable and are most likely to do well here. If you would like more information on growing native plants and on commercial sources for these plants, contact Karen Danielsen at the GLIFWC offices.

Reporting

If you notice Eurasian bush honeysuckles on the landscape, it should be reported to the United States Forest Service (USFS), your state Department of Natural Resources (DNR), or to GLIFWC.

For more information

This article was adapted from a more detailed article posted on GLIFWC's website — see <http://www.glifwc.org/epicenter/>.

Literature references for this article are listed at http://www.glifwc.org/epicenter/Lonicera_spp/refs.html.

Links to other websites on Eurasian bush honeysuckles appear at http://www.glifwc.org/epicenter/Lonicera_spp/links.html.

Information on weed control can be found in the TNC Weed Control Methods Handbook at <http://tncweeds.ucdavis.edu/handbook.html>.

Fall lake trout and whitefish assessments help determine abundance and distribution

By Bill Mattes, GLIFWC Great Lakes Section Leader

Houghton, Mich.—The Great Lakes Section of the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission began its 19th fall season conducting spawning assessments on Lake Superior with a new crew member—Mizhakwad. The new 31' x 11.5' boat was a welcomed addition and, according to Great Lakes Technician Mike Plucinski, she handled the waters of Lake Superior superbly.

October 11th through the 29th were spent sampling one long-term study reef at Union Bay near Houghton, Michigan and two additional historic lake trout spawning reefs were selected: Agate Harbor and an unnamed reef near Betsy Bay.

While assessments are still in process at press time, 249 wild and hatchery lake trout have been tagged and released so far after being found in spawning condition at all locations—a good sign for all interested in continued lake trout rehabilitation for the lake.

During fall assessments stocks of lake trout and whitefish are sampled to determine population size, relative abundance, biological characteristics, and distribution in management units of the 1842 Treaty ceded area within Michigan waters of Lake Superior.

Tribes weigh in on Great Lakes protection agreement

Submit comments on draft Annex 2001 implementing agreements

*By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer*

Odanah, Wis.—On behalf of its member tribes, the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) recently submitted comments on draft documents that would implement commitments made in Annex 2001 to the 1985 Great Lakes Charter. The Annex 2001 commits the states and Canadian provinces to create and implement an agreement or agreements to address water withdrawals and diversions from the Great Lakes basin. In July, a draft set of implementing agreements was released for public comment.

The issue of water diversion from the Great Lakes came to the forefront in 1999 when a Canadian company proposed to export Lake Superior water to Asia. Although that proposal was dropped, basin residents recognized that the supply of fresh water in the Great Lakes is likely to be looked at longingly by water-hungry eyes outside the Great Lakes basin.

GLIFWC comments on the draft agreements were generally positive and are intended to strengthen the agreements, in recognition that environmental protection and natural resource protection are the goals. According to GLIFWC Policy Analyst Jim Zorn, "It is clear that the tribes overall preference is that no water should be diverted from the Great Lakes basin. However, we are concerned that an outright ban could be struck down under the US Constitution's commerce clause. The next best approach seems to be to subject water diversion and use proposals to stringent requirements before they would be permitted."

In fact, the Annex implementing agreements do contain a set of requirements that would have to be met before withdrawals or diversions out of the Great Lakes Basin would be permitted. Some of the highlights are as follows:

Inside the basin, any request to use five million gallons a day or more that would not be returned to lake would undergo a regional review by the Great Lakes governors and Canadian premiers. This would also apply to a current user wanting to increase water use by that much.

Any request to divert more than one million gallons a day for use outside the basin would also be reviewed by the Great Lakes governors and premiers. Approval of the proposal would be contingent on the agreement of all eight governors.

Anyone requesting water would have to demonstrate the need for water and that it couldn't be found elsewhere. They would also have to return the water to the basin after treatment and fund a project or projects that would result in an improvement to the basin.

According to Ann McCammon Soltis, GLIFWC policy analyst, "These requirements appear to make it very difficult for someone to divert water for use outside of the basin, particularly to transport the water long distances. However, some of the requirements need more definition to ensure that they are implemented in the same way across the basin."

Opportunities for public comments have been provided in each of the states, and the Council of Great Lakes governors is working on final agreements, one between the states and another between the states and the provinces of Quebec and Ontario.

Lake trout and whitefish from spawning areas along the Keweenaw Peninsula are sampled during October and November. Fish are individually tagged to estimate population size where recaptures are sufficient. Estimates of relative abundance are made from catches of lake trout and whitefish by gillnet sampling. Individual fish are measured for age composition, average weight and length. Also, eggs are collected from female lake trout and counted.



Nate Bigboy, Administration for Native Americans fisheries technician, Lauren Hidebrandt, GLIFWC fisheries aid, and Ed Leoso, Bad River Lake Superior fisheries technician set back a net near Betsy Bay on the east side of upper Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula. (Photo by Bill Mattes)



Mike Plucinski, Great Lakes technician, prepares Mizhakwad for loading and transport at Traverse Bay, Michigan. (Photo by Lauren Hidebrandt)

Michigan Sea Grant will hold HACCP workshops

Michigan Sea Grant will offer a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) training when enough interested parties sign up for a training session. Michigan Sea Grant helps Great Lakes fish processors comply with federal regulations regarding seafood safety. In 1997, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration mandated that all fish processors develop and implement HACCP plans to identify and control potential hazards throughout food processing.

Michigan Sea Grant's certified HACCP trainer, Ron Kinnunen, conducts regular training workshops for fish processors to explain HACCP principles and provide model HACCP plans. The Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority Public Information & Education Program is collecting names of tribal parties wishing to become HACCP certified.

Contact Jennifer Dale at 906-632-0043 or jmdale@chippewaottawa.org. If leaving a phone message, please be sure to include your name and a contact phone number where you can be reached.

Great Lakes whitefish focus of marketing program in Michigan

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen
Staff Writer

Changes in the United States fish industry have tribal and state commercial operators seeking new ways to market their catch, particularly whitefish. Cheap whitefish imports from western Canada have flooded the market in recent years, challenging commercial fishermen already struggling with depressed prices.

Many veteran fishermen on Lake Superior report receiving about the same price per pound today as they did four decades ago. Yet their equipment and operating costs continue to steadily rise.

"We're trying to create more outlets, rather than relying on the fish buyers," said Keweenaw-area fisherman Gilmore Peterson. "Otherwise, it's pretty hard to make it with the prices the way they are."

Peterson opened a fish shop in Hancock in 1993 to diversify his commercial fishing income. He also distributes fish to local restaurants and grocery stores. Peterson and others, however, must compete with food industry giants that dominate the market and suppress prices.

Positive changes, however, may be on the horizon. The Michigan Sea Grant Extension has launched a five-year program to help commercial fishermen and processors develop strategies to make a better return on their labors. The Sea Grant initiative is centered on specific goals, including improved quality control and creating a distinct marketplace identity for Great Lakes whitefish.

Sea Grant organizers started with a series of initial meetings last summer to collect comments, concerns and ideas from all parties involved in commercial fishing on the Great Lakes—from fishermen to processors to regulators.

"Getting everyone together was an important first step to meet the challenges posed by Canadian imports," said Ron Kinnunen, Michigan Sea Grant Extension Agent. "Many of these guys would normally be competitors and never be in the same room together."

One key to solidarity is to highlight whitefish products that are caught and produced in Michigan, Kinnunen said. The U.S. Department of Agriculture recently issued a rule requiring mandatory Country Of Origin Labeling (COOL) for fish and shellfish. Under COOL regulations, packaged fish commodities must be labeled to indicate both their country of origin and production method—raised on a farm or caught in the wild.

"Hopefully there will be an allegiance among consumers to buy the Michigan product," Kinnunen said.

The marketing program is also exploring how labels and packaging can make locally produced whitefish more attractive. Kinnunen said that for tribal commercial



Fish shops like this one at Bay Mills provide outlets for tribal commercial fishermen. (Photo by COR)

fishermen, a package that has an American Indian trademark might be attractive to customers.

Consumers, restaurant associations and chefs need to be targeted with good information on whitefish and where it comes from, Kinnunen said. The whitefish from the inland lakes of western Canada are recognized as inferior to Great Lakes fish. As the volume of these Canadian catches increasingly enters the market, prices are driven down and consumers may be turned off by poor quality whitefish, harming sales from the Great Lakes.

By comparison, imported Canadian whitefish fillets sell for around \$1.60 per pound, while Great Lakes whitefish from Michigan waters yield between \$3.00 and \$4.00 per pound.

Participants in the Sea Grant program are also looking into ways to better utilize siscowet, or fat lake trout, commonly netted by Great Lakes commercial fishermen.

Country of Origin Labeling

The USDA-AMS has posted numerous new documents and information pertinent to the Interim Final Rule for Country of Origin Labeling that will cover wild or farm-raised fish and shellfish at: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/cool/>.

Key points to know at this time are:

- regulation applies to retail sales beginning September 30, 2004 for wild and farm-raised fish and shellfish
- rule is effective six months following the date of publication—April 5, 2005
- during the 6 months after the effective date of April 5, 2005, AMS will focus on industry education and outreach
- requirements do not apply to frozen fish or shellfish caught or harvested before December 6, 2004
- only retailers defined as any person licensed as a retailer under the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act (PACA) are required to label products; USDA will identify retailers through their PACA licenses
- food service establishments are exempt including those within retail establishments (e.g., delis and salad bars)
- approximately 37,000 stores will be required to label products; butcher shops, fish markets, and exporters are excluded.
- for United States country of origin label—farm-raised products must be derived exclusively from fish or shellfish hatched, raised, harvested, and processed in the U.S. and not undergone a substantial transformation outside of the United States.

Comments on the Interim Final Rule can be submitted on or before January 3, 2005 as follows: submit via email to cool@usda.gov; fax to 202-720-3499; or mail to Country of Origin Labeling Program, Room 2092, Agricultural Marketing Service, USDA, STOP 0249, 1400 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20250-0249

IJC praises cooperation between states & agencies to finance Asian carp barrier

As an independent binational agency entrusted with assessing progress and providing advice to the U.S. and Canada regarding Great Lakes restoration, the International Joint Commission (IJC) has been advising both governments about the threat to the lakes' ecosystem posed by the Asian carp. The IJC is pleased to report that its warnings were heeded and actions are being taken to keep these hungry invaders out of the Great Lakes, protecting a \$4.5 billion sport and commercial fishery.

Asian carp are rapidly proliferating in the Mississippi River Basin, jumping out of the water when startled by boat motors, striking anglers and knocking jet skiers off their vessels.

Even worse, these voracious plankton feeders can grow to as much as 100 pounds, robbing native fish of food, and threatening biodiversity in many rivers of our nation's heartland. The Asian carp are relentlessly swimming northward, seeking the cooler waters of Lake Michigan, putting the Great Lakes ecosystem in their slimy sights.

To respond to the threat posed by the Asian carp, a coalition of governors led by Ohio's Bob Taft and Wisconsin's Jim Doyle, federal officials including EPA administrator Mike Leavitt and Army Corps of Engineers chief John Paul Woodley, city leaders like Chicago Mayor Richard Daley, members of the Great Lakes Congressional Task Force and three dozen other local, state, and federal agencies are working together for the very first time.

At the international level, both the IJC and the Great Lakes Fishery Commission continue to contribute ideas and resources to the fight. Finally, scientists from throughout the basin have provided a solid scientific foundation for critical policy decisions throughout the process.

Now, as a result of this unprecedented cooperative effort, full funding of \$9.1 million has been secured to construct the electric fish dispersal barrier in the Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, the last line of defense for the Great Lakes. The state of Illinois deserves a great deal of credit for providing \$1.7 million in critical matching funds. Mike Leavitt, as chair

of the Great Lakes Interagency Task Force, and key House and Senate leaders showed dogged determination in finding the last \$1.8 million needed to supplement the \$5 million already promised by the Army Corps. We are also grateful to the other Great Lakes states who agreed to share the burden to protect the lakes by contributing a total of \$575,000.

Despite this good news, the IJC remains concerned because another new intruder is identified every eight months. Hundreds of scientists and policy makers who gathered in Toronto earlier this month observed that invasive species were the only indicator of Great Lakes health rated as "poor and deteriorating." This evidence only strengthens our recommendation that the U.S. Congress pass the National Aquatic Invasive Species Act (NAISA) to provide a comprehensive approach to prevent invasions, screen out possible invaders and rapidly respond to outbreaks. The recent discovery of a northern snakehead in Chicago's Burnham

Harbor emphasizes the urgent need for action because NAISA sets up a "rapid response" system so that all the appropriate agencies and resources can immediately focus on eradicating this predatory invader before it can spread. Similarly, Canada is urged to implement its National Invasive Species Plan and to look for opportunities to harmonize and coordinate programs and policies with the U.S.

In both the U.S. and Canada, comprehensive action on aquatic invasive species is critical if our two nations are to meet our shared objective of restoring and maintaining the biological integrity of the waters of the Great Lakes basin.

The commission remains ready to identify approaches that coordinate and harmonize binational efforts to prevent the introduction of introduction of aquatic alien invasive species in the Great Lakes. The cooperative work battling the Asian carp provides an excellent model for future collaboration on broader, more complicated and costly restoration issues.

WI wolf recovery threatened?

By Peter David
GLIFWC Wildlife Biologist

In the Ojibwe creation story Ma'iingan (wolf) is a brother to Original man. The two traveled together throughout the earth naming all that they saw. After this task was completed, the creator said that the two had to take separate paths, but indicated that whatever happened to one would happen to the other. Each would be feared, respected and misunderstood by the people that would later join them on earth.

Given this perspective, it is obvious why the Ojibwe have rejoiced in the recovery their brother has made within the ceded territory—and why they are greatly concerned that some livestock growers and individuals who hunt bears with dogs are pushing to set that recovery back.

After being extirpated from Wisconsin soil less than a half century ago, the gray wolf has fought to regain its foothold here since the mid 70's, when a few immigrants from Minnesota arrived. Displaying a classic population growth curve, the wolves did little more than hold their own for nearly two decades before ballooning in the late 90's and reaching roughly 325 animals by 2002. (Wolf populations are traditionally measured in the late winter, when

populations are at their annual lowest; production of pups in the spring temporarily creates a substantial increase in the population, which then immediately begins to decline with pup mortality.) Since then, pup survival and the rate of increase have begun to drop, suggesting that the population is likely beginning to approach its biological carrying capacity, which biologists believe to be in the vicinity of 500 animals in the state. Before pup production this year, the population numbered about 400.

Wisconsin's wolf management plan lists 350 animals as a population goal—a figure that was a political compromise and a bit of a guess at the human tolerance level or “social carrying capacity” for the species. Tolerance, of course, varies from person to person. For some, one wolf in the state is one too many; others would like to see the population fully restored to its biological carrying capacity, allowing the species not to simply have a presence here, but to fulfill its ecological role.

Not surprisingly, some of the groups that have been negatively impacted by the return of the wolves have been the most interested in reducing the state population. Some livestock interests and the Wisconsin Bear Hunters Association are promoting a dramatic reduction in the state's wolf population, targeting a goal of 100.



Ma'iingan.

For ranchers, the loss of livestock can be a loss of livelihood. For this reason there is broad support among both pro and anti-wolf groups for providing depredation payments to individuals experiencing losses, and for conducting lethal control on farms that have verified wolf losses. Ranchers point out that not all wolf losses can be verified, but others counter that not all losses are due to wolves; lost and killed livestock have always been a part of the industry, even when wolves were extirpated from the state. If payments are

going to be made and if wolves are going to be killed, there needs to be a reasonably high assurance that they were, indeed, responsible for the losses. Fortunately, well-trained federal animal damage control specialists are available to investigate reported losses.

It also important to keep these losses in perspective. While they can be very significant to individual ranchers, they are not a threat to the industry. From July 2003 to July 2004, there were 21 cases, on 21 different farms, of verified wolf depredations on livestock in the state, involving five cows and 24 calves, two sheep and 17 lambs, and six game farm deer. This is about 1/10th of 1% of the farms within wolf range. In restitution for those losses 21 wolves were trapped and killed, and about \$24,000 will be paid out. This level of damage is on the order of magnitude of what Wisconsin dairy producers report losing in feed to starlings in a year, or the annual estimated cost to repair Wisconsin buildings damaged by woodpeckers.

And there remains the bigger question: will reducing the wolf population reduce livestock losses? The answer is likely not as straight forward as one would think, since natural systems tend to be more complex than we often acknowledge. Reducing the wolf population would likely reduce the number of livestock killed by wolves, but losses to coyotes may increase where the wolf population is suppressed—and ranchers have to absorb losses to coyotes without compensation from the state.

The Wisconsin Bear Hunters Association has also set its sights on a population goal of 100. Why? Because wolves will kill dogs, especially bear hunting dogs that are being trained—typically on large blocks of public land—in areas where wolves are raising their young. This year 14 dogs have been killed. Most (nine) were taken by a single pack of wolves.

It is not surprising that bear-dog hunters hate to lose an animal. Bear dogs usually represent a great investment in time and money, and a strong bond can form between the hunter and his dogs. Still...the very bears they pursue will also kill or injure the dogs which pursue them—losses that are considered an acceptable part of the hunt.

And bears, of course, do more than kill dogs. They also kill livestock, damage orchards, bust up apiaries, chew on cabins, destroy garbage cans, knock down bird feeders and can leave the ol' backyard “barbie” looking like discarded erector set parts. Yet I suspect (See Ma'iingan, page 17)

Tribal/Forest Service MOU annual meeting

Progress reports are encouraging

By GLIFWC Staff

Lac du Flambeau, Wis.—Representatives from ten Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) member tribes and the US Forest Service convened their annual meeting on October 6 to discuss developments in the Tribal/Forest Service Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Signed in 1998, the award winning agreement establishes guidelines for treaty gathering on National Forests within the ceded territory and serves as a sounding board for forest management issues.

Tribal representatives voiced concern over the quality and availability of birch trees in the four forests subject to the MOU: the Chequamegon-Nicolet, Ottawa, Hiawatha and Huron-Manistee. Used in the traditional construction of utilities like canoes and baskets, birch bark is a highly valued forest product.

“It's hard to come across those trees that make good canoes,” said Mark Montano, Red Cliff Vice-Chairman.

The revised Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest Management Plan includes a provision that obliges the Forest to notify the tribes on the location of forest stands to be paint-marked for timber sales. This allows tribal members to harvest birch bark before timber cuts. A similar provision will likely be included in the management plans that are currently being revised for the three Michigan National Forests.

Though a good provision, Montano explained that, “It's important to iden-

tify trees, not just how they are now, but how they will be 10 years in the future. I'm more concerned with long range planning.”

For example, birch trees too small to provide bark for canoes today may provide exceptional bark in future years. Steps to identify and protect these types of trees have been initiated on the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, though more work on this issue needs to continue.

Along these lines, GLIFWC and the North Central Research Station (NCRS) of the Forest Service reported on the considerable progress made to incorporate birch bark monitoring protocol in the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) program. This program records and analyzes long-term trends in forest ecosystems.

The bark monitoring protocol, implemented last year, will eventually provide valuable information on bark characteristics and associated environmental factors. Tribal birch bark harvesters met with NCRS staff in September to discuss birch and the importance of the bark to tribal culture.

Trouble for ash trees

Forest Service officers delivered a sober warning about the threat posed by the emerald ash borer. The one-inch beetle accidentally imported from Asia has killed an estimated 8 to 10 million trees largely in southeast Michigan. Experts predict that if the ash borer is not contained and eradicated, its impact could rival chestnut blight and Dutch

elm disease that ravaged North American forests over the last century. Discussions ensued regarding a potential partnership between GLIFWC and the Forest Service to develop and/or distribute public education materials on this issue.

Waabizhesi project

NCRS recognized Dr. Jonathan Gilbert, GLIFWC wildlife section leader, for his contribution to the noteworthy research undertaken jointly by GLIFWC and NCRS to study the energy needs and predation risks that influence the successful dispersal of waabizhesi (American marten).

Dale Bosworth, chief of the US Forest Service, had previously praised this research, presenting to co-researcher, Dr. Pat Zollner of NCRS, an early career scientist award. The tribes and the North Central Research Station both expressed strong interest in maintaining this collaboration.

Public response to MOU

The Forest Service continues to solicit requests for public comments on the MOU implementation. As with previous years, no comments have been submitted, indicating a positive to neutral public response to the MOU. Both the tribes and the Forest Service commented that, overall, the MOU implementation has been exceedingly successful and that this cooperation is expected to continue.

Oak wilt killing trees in the ceded territories

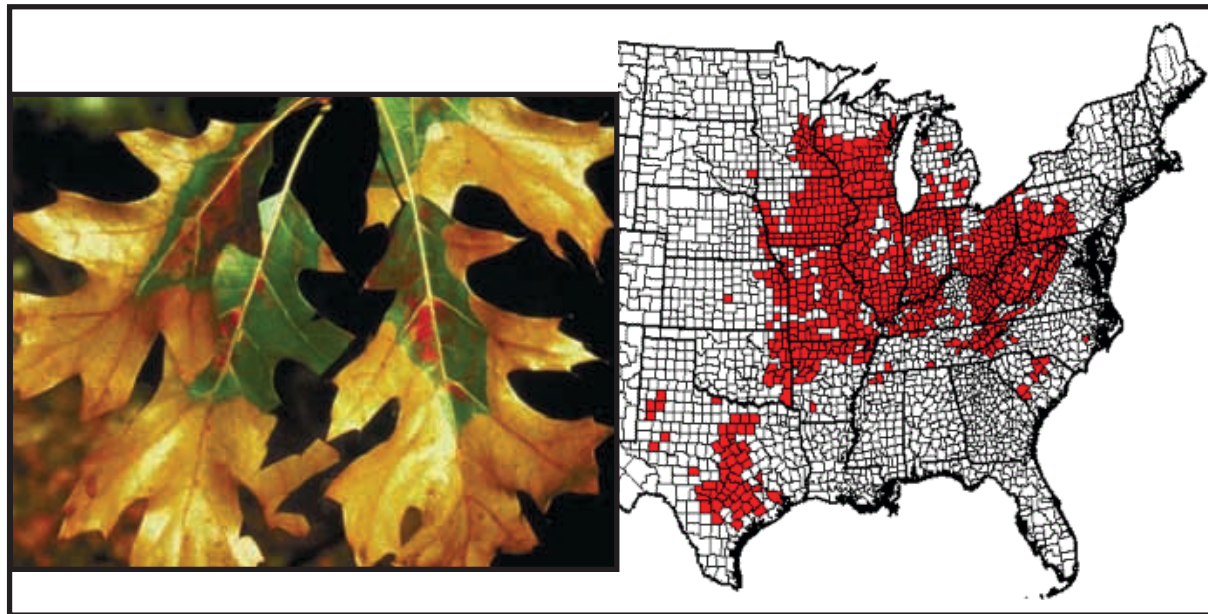
By Karen Danielsen, GLIFWC Forest Ecologist

Odanah, Wis.—A fungal disease, known as oak wilt (*Ceratocystis fagacearum*), can kill a red oak tree within weeks after the onset of symptoms. The fungus invades the water and nutrient conducting vessels, effectively placing the tree under drought conditions.

The leaves begin looking wilted and colored with patterns of dull green, bronze, yellow, and brown. Defoliation quickly follows, though some leaves may remain on the tree. Trees with fallen green leaves scattered at the base often indicate oak wilt infection.

Another indication includes fungal mats that develop beneath the bark and exude a sweet, fermented odor. This odor attracts various types of insects, which in turn serve as vectors carrying the fungus between trees.

More commonly (as much as eighty percent of the time), the fungus spreads through the roots. Roots of separate oak trees often grow together creating root grafts. Through these root grafts, infected oaks transmit the fungus to healthy oaks.



Oak leaves begin looking wilted and colored with patterns of dull green, bronze, yellow, and brown. Defoliation quickly follows, though some leaves may remain on the tree. Trees with fallen green leaves scattered at the base often indicate oak wilt infection. By 1998, oak wilt was distributed over much of the eastern United States.

Lac Vieux Desert seeks restoration of historic LVD to L'Anse trail

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Lac Vieux Desert, Mich.—Literally tracing the footsteps of the past is part of an ongoing effort to define and protect the Lac Vieux Desert to L'Anse Trail. The once well-worn trail was used by generations of Ojibwe people prior to European invasion and later by the early fur traders and missionaries as Europeans pushed inward from the Great Lakes.

Protection of the historically significant trail, which must have hosted enumerable campsites as Ojibwe people traveled inland and back to Lake Superior, has come to be a cooperative project as the Lac Vieux Desert (LVD) and Keweenaw Bay tribes along with the Ottawa National Forest (ONF) and the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission seek to better define the corridor and develop a management plan.

The current initiative to define and protect the old trail actually began in 2000 when the LVD tribe in conjunction with the ONF applied for a National Park Service Historic Preservation Fund grant to study the trail and

locate the corridor on the basis of historical accounts, according to giiwegiizhigookway Martin, LVD Historical Preservation Officer.

According to the grant proposal: "The 80 plus mile Lac Vieux Desert to L'Anse Trail played a significant role in the culture of the Ojibwa people prior to the 17th and 18th century. This trail provided access to the major water routes connecting Lake Superior in the north to the Mississippi via the Wisconsin River and Lake Michigan to the east. It is near Lac Vieux Desert that the three major watersheds meet hence the current name of the Village of Watersmeet (15 miles from Lac Vieux Desert). Earliest written accounts of the trail are from French fur traders and missionaries in the 17th and 18th centuries. Explorers, government land surveyors, miners, land prospectors and loggers also used the trail into the 1930s. Since then use of the trail declined to the point it is now known primarily in memories and stories."

Keweenaw Bay also supported the grant proposal, and funds for the project were awarded in 2001. Subsequently, the tribe contracted with U.S. West Research, Inc., Salt Lake City, Utah to provide a comprehensive report on the

trail by researching both historical and contemporary accounts of the trail.

Dr. Anthony Godfrey, U.S. West investigator, completed a draft "Ethnohistorical Report on the Historical, Cultural, and Traditional Use of the Lac Vieux Desert to L'Anse Trail" which has provided an intriguing historical account of the old trail as well as a number of historical maps showing the trail between Lac Vieux Desert and L'Anse. Troy Ferone, ONF archaeologist, constructed a composite map of portions of the trail based on earlier maps and accounts.

"Now what we want to do is protect the old trail to the extent possible, so we have defined the route with a quarter-mile buffer on each side. The tribes are working with the Forest Service to curtail projects in the corridor and have had good success," states Martin.

Martin was astounded to discover that the Forest Service had actually begun a project to protect and manage the historic trail in 1936. Forest Service documents from that time indicate the trail had been infrequently used for about 20 years, but they were interested in possibly restoring it both for its historical interest and as a hiking trail. The Forest Service actually had staff walk

and document segments of the trail in 1937. Even at that time, parts of the trail were difficult to identify due to logging and erosion. However, the project ultimately fell by the wayside. Now, nearly seventy years later, the old trail is even more elusive.

With a map of the old trail in hand, the project partners formed the Lac Vieux Desert to L'Anse Trail Inter-agency Planning Committee to develop a management plan for the identified corridor. But the process gets complicated, Martin explains, because the old trail cuts through six different districts of the Forest Service, as well as through land privately owned by corporations and individuals.

Objectives for the management plan are to: "honor Anishinaabe past, present and future trail use; protect heritage resources; maintain management options, including the restoration of native landscapes; educate the general public on the significance of the trail; preserve the traditional historic experience."

The plan should also provide for appropriate visitor use of sites and to outline an interpretative program that will relay the history and significance of the old Indian trail.

Additional information on oak wilt may be found at:
www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/fidls/oakwilt/oakwilt.htm
www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/howtos/ht_oakwilt/toc.htm
www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/Forestry/Fh/oakWilt
www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/naturalresources/DD3174.html
www.msue.msu.edu/reg_se/roberts/oakwilt

Late ricing season keeps Bad River processor going and going and going

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—Robert Leoso lives on the banks of the Kakagon River on the Bad River reservation where he grew up. That's where he learned to gather and process wild rice, known in the Ojibwe language as manoomin. Ricing season was a real family occasion back then, he explains, leaning on a large table just outside his ricing shed. Everyone in the family joined in, and everyone had their own job—drying, scorching, dancing. Everyone took responsibility for some aspect of the annual wild rice harvest. Of course, in those days the rice was processed entirely by hand.

Today, Leoso relies on a mechanized operation to produce the clean, husked grains of rice. His ricing shed, built out of salvage from the old Odanah school, houses his mechanical scorcher, thresher and winnowing machines. He built the shed and machines himself.

Opening what used to be the old school's gym doors wide, Leoso exposes the machines and the sound of the scorcher's paddles gently and methodically turning the rice. "People usually dry their own rice, then bring it to me to process," Leoso says. The scorcher, which replaces the old iron kettle over an open fire and a ricing paddle, is the first step of processing after the rice has been dried. Two paddles (smaller versions of the old steamboat paddles) rotate in a large bin. The paddles lift and turn the rice over heat. The machine scorches, or parches, the rice, making the husks dry, brittle and easy to crack. However, care must be taken not to burn the rice, or it will be ruined. It generally takes about one and a half hours in the scorcher before the rice is ready. Leoso tests it by snapping the grains to see if they are brittle and then rubs it between his hands to see if the husks crumble readily.

Once the husks are brittle and easily cracked, the rice is moved across the room to the thresher, a machine that removes the husks. This replaces the traditional "dancing of the rice," where the parched rice is placed in a pit and an individual rubs the rice with his or her feet, gently cracking the husks. And finally, the rice is moved to the fanning machine that blows the cracked husks off the finished rice, revealing clean, shiny grains of rice. The fanning machine replaces the birch bark winnowing basket used to gently toss the threshed rice up, allowing the wind to carry off the broken husks.

Leoso has been mechanically processing rice for about eight years now. He learned from Bad River elders, Skippy Wolfe and Vince Bender, as his mentors. He would spend time watching them as they processed rice in their own operations. Now he processes wild rice for anyone, Indians and non-Indians, and annually processes anywhere between one and five thousand pounds. It keeps him busy for a good month and half. While spared much of the manual labor involved in the traditional processing of rice, it's still a time-consuming process, and the rice has to be carefully tended throughout.

"When ricing season opens, I can hardly wait to hit the water, but by the end, I get pretty tired," Leoso states. "I've been at it since August 25th now. I rice with friends, relatives, people from other tribes—anyone who wants to go!" When ricing season hits, it's "every single day" gathering rice and processing rice until it's over.

He, of course, harvests rice from the Kakagon River rice beds, well known for its quality rice, but he also harvests from a variety of off-reservation lakes, including Radigan Flowage, Gaslin Lake, Little Turtle Flowage, and Totogatic Lake. The rice from the different lakes varies in size, color and even taste. "Kakagon rice yields a shorter grain, but its sweeter, tastier," he says. Off-reservation rice doesn't have the deep green color and seems to take longer for him to scorch.



Paddles keep the manoomin moving and turning during the scorching, or parching, period, which heats the rice to make the husks brittle.

Leoso found 2004 to be a good year for rice, although he thinks some lakes may have lost a lot before they were opened. He does have rice available for sale at \$12.00 a pound and will process rice for anyone interested on a cash or barter basis. He can be contacted at (715) 682-8195. His cellphone number is (715) 292-0021, which is good to know, because he'll probably be in the woods gathering balsam boughs, hunting or trapping, doing whatever is in season.



A tray of beautifully finished manoomin (wild rice) is the final product emerging from Robert Leoso's ricing shack on the Bad River reservation, where he parches and winnows rice mechanically each fall. Leoso is kept very busy during the ricing season processing thousands of pounds of rice for himself and for others.

Photos by Sue Erickson



Scorched, threshed and winnowed, this finished manoomin is ready to cook.

Wild Rice Bread

1/3 cup wild rice	1/2 cup molasses
1 package dry yeast	1 tablespoon salt
2 1/2 cups liquid (water the rice was cooked in, plus enough cold to equal 2 1/2 cups)	1/4 cup salad oil
1/4 cup brown sugar	1/4 cup potato flakes
	7-8 cups flour

Cook rice 1 hour, start in cold water (3 to 4 cups), save the liquid. Dissolve yeast in 1/4 cup warm water. Mix yeast mixture, liquid, sugar, molasses, salt, oil, potato flakes; and 2 cups of flour together, beat until smooth. Add cooked rice and remaining flour. Knead 5 minutes or so. Place in oiled bowl, let rise till doubled; punch down and let rise again; punch down and shape in 3 loaves. Let rise and bake at 350° to 375° for 45-50 minutes.

A giving year for manoomin

Maybe the Trickster just wanted to make sure we appreciate it

By Peter David
GLIFWC Wildlife Biologist

Odanah, Wis.—This past rice season will probably hold long in the memory of many manoomin harvesters. The plants were there, and plenty of them, thanks to generally favorable water levels following a dry fall in '03, and only average snow fall over the winter. But very cool and cloudy weather through much of July and August slowed plant development down.

The aerial shoots eventually formed; the tiny female flowers opened; the larger male flowers followed, and the slender, awn-tipped hulls took form. But when the usual picking dates rolled around, most of the hulls sat empty. Would they ever fill in? Or would 2004 be a year of "ghost rice," when pickers' canoes fill with weightless, empty hulls instead of heavy, mature seed?

Patience was urged. Stay out of the beds; give it some time. After all, rice was hardly the only plant to be lagging in maturation this year; and the hot,

calm weather we usually associate with the pollination problems that can lead to ghost rice certainly had not occurred.

Finally, patience paid off. Though many wild rice waters did not ripen until 2-3 weeks later than usual, eventually the hulls filled in, and this giving plant once more gifted its seed to the human and animal harvesters that cherish it. And although GLIFWC staff is just beginning the surveys of state and tribal pickers that will document this generosity, those pickers already know it was a very good year.

It also seemed to be a good year with regards to "rice worms," those little moth larvae so familiar to ricers. Although rice worm numbers appeared to be on the upswing on some waters (including Clam and Long lakes in Burnett County) from the very low levels observed in '03, they generally appeared to remain modest in abundance.

This year held a couple of special gifts as well: lakes where restoration efforts produced great results. These included Roe Lake, near Tomahawk, where an initial seeding effort responded immediately, aided by efforts of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and federal animal damage control specialists to keep the lake level favorable by keeping beaver off the outlet. Lac Vieux Desert, the headwaters of the Wisconsin River, also had the largest rice bed that it has supported

in half a century, thanks to a 10-inch reduction in the maximum operating level of the lake imposed on the dam operator, and a seeding effort by the Forest Service, the Lac Vieux Desert Tribe, and GLIFWC. Interestingly and unfortunately, nearby Crooked Lake in the Sylvania Wilderness Area had a poor crop.

Unusual years like 2004 can often teach us more than typical years. I suspect that this year was a reminder of just what a northern, weather-hardy plant manoomin is. Some recent mild winters have been followed by relatively poor rice crops, especially along the southern edge of the range. The somewhat harder, colder winters of the last two years, and the cool summer of this year, were followed by good crops. This may be not only because the rice itself does well with the cold, but that some of the other aquatic plants that compete with rice for space and nutrients do not.

It may even be that the "late" picking experienced this fall is not so late as it appears; warming trends over the last couple of decades may have jaded our perspective, which tends to be very short-sighted compared to ecological time-frames. Perhaps someday we will know, but in the meantime, at least, I know lots of folks enjoyed picking on this year's true, cool fall days—rather than under the heat of the late summer sun.



Harvesting manoomin (wild rice) in the Kakagon Sloughs. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

Spectacle Lake yields first manoomin harvest

By Calvin D. Perron, Bay Mills News Staff Reporter

Bay Mills, Mich.—A decade after the first wild rice seed was planted in the waters of Spectacle Lake, a group of Bay Mills members with assistance from Ojibwe Charter School students and staff, harvested the first batch of the indigenous species on September 23rd.

The wild rice was first planted in 1994, in small amounts, in Spectacle Lake as well as the Back Bay. The following year Terry Carrick, with help from former Bay Mills Biologists Ken and Anne Gephardt, assessed how well the seed was taking in each location. Their assessments concluded that the fluctuating water levels in the Back Bay did not provide a conducive environment for the seed and decided to concentrate all their efforts on Spectacle Lake. An assessment from a Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority (CORA) representative took water samples from several locations and also concluded that Spectacle Lake provided the best environment for the seed to flourish.

The wild rice seed was obtained from different tribes in Wisconsin and Minnesota using money from the Circle of Flight Program, initially funded in 1991 for waterfowl and wetland enhancement programs. The tribe purchased a special strain of wild rice that was proven to grow well in the waters of Lake Superior. After planting the seed, it immediately began to flourish.

This marks the first year that the wild rice was harvested. The two-to-three gallon harvest was collected by Carrick, along with Marie Cameron, Wanda Perron and Agnes Carrick. It had been left unharvested for years so the seed would replant itself.

To harvest the seed they had to paddle into the wild rice crops using canoes, and gently tap the plant with two wooden sticks. After tapping the tops of the plants, the rice fell into a bucket which they used for collection.

Preparing wild rice is a little more complicated. It first must be spread out and dried in the sun. It is then cooked, or parched, over a hardwood fire in a skillet seasoned with burnt green grass. Then, it is put into a pit lined with deer skin and thrashed. Traditionally, thrashing the rice was done by dancing on it gently, which was done to separate the husk. After the husks are separated, the rice is then winnowed, or fanned. This is done to blow all the husks away. After the rice is winnowed, it is ready to eat.

Although this year marks the first year the rice has been harvested, Carrick hopes to see much more in the future. With the Back Bay pretty much out of the question, Carrick said other areas have to be explored to plant the crop. One area of particular concern is the 460-acre wetland reserve in the heart of the Bay Mills



Terry Carrick parches the wild rice over a hardwood fire. Once completed, the husk will crack and separate from the rice. (Photo by Calvin D. Perron)

Indian Reservation. Carrick hopes someday to see some wetland enhancement projects on the reserve, which could include wild rice.

With their first wild rice harvest behind them, Carrick wants to remind people that none of this would have been possible without the support of the tribe. He added that GLIFWC was also instrumental in the project, as well as tribal Biologist Paul Ripple.

(Reprinted with permission from Bay Mills News.)

Tribes commemorate 1854 Treaty anniversary

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen, Staff Writer

LaPointe, Wis.—The Ojibwe chiefs would not budge. Meeting with Treaty Commissioner Henry C. Gilbert on Madeline Island in September 1854, the headmen understood that the United States was eager to acquire mineral and timber resources on their lands along Lake Superior. But the chiefs would make no concessions until their homelands, the ground that held the graves of their ancestors, were secure.

Wrote Gilbert: "We found that the points most strenuously insisted upon by them were first the privilege of remaining in the country where they reside and next the appropriation of land for their future homes. Without yielding these points, it was idle for us to talk about a treaty."

When the treaty was finally signed and complete, the Ojibwe retained for future generations the right to harvest natural resources throughout the ceded territories and homeland reservations in Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Michigan.

In recognition of this influential treaty, approximately 350 people from around the region gathered on Madeline Island September 27-30 for a series of ceremonies, talking circles and feasting. Firekeepers maintained a four-day sacred fire at Ojibway Memorial Park, the site of several monuments and burials. Sunrise ceremonies and teachings were conducted each day.

Sponsored by the Red Cliff and Bad River bands, the sesquicentennial event culminated on the fourth and final day with appearances by a host of distinguished speakers and a large feast at the Madeline Island Music Camp. Students from nearby Odanah, Ashland, Washburn, and Bayfield school districts made up approximately half of the attendees.

"I was glad to see so many young people there," said Bad River's Rae Ann Maday, one of a half-dozen event organizers. "For the non-Indian students it was



Henry Buffalo Jr. speaks at the 1854 Treaty anniversary held on Madeline Island in September. (Photo by Sue Nichols)

good for them to be exposed to these things, how people, our people, view the world. It's much better than reading it from a book."

Lac Courte Oreilles elder Nee-gaw-nee-gah-bow spoke at length on Ojibwe culture and traditional world views. He encouraged all Ojibwe people, young and old, to discover their Indian name and their clan. They'll need it to move on into the afterlife, he said.

"There's a brown eagle sitting in a tree by the door to the spirit world. He asks you two questions: 'what is your name?' and 'what is your clan?'" said Nee-gaw-nee-gah-bow, whose English name is Gene Begay. Anyone unsure of their clan or name can present tobacco to a medicine person and ask for help, he said.

Additional speakers included Robert and Henry Buffalo Jr., descendants of the famed 19th century leader Chief Buffalo. Two years before the 1854 Treaty, Chief Buffalo, then over 90 years old, traveled by canoe and rail to Washington DC to make clear to President Millard Fillmore that Ojibwe people were unwilling to abandon their homes and accept removal across the Mississippi River.

Northland College Professor and Bad River elder Joe Rose, Sokaogon's Fred and Arlyn Ackley, Victorian Dowd from Lac du Flambeau and Bad River's Sylvia Cloud were also among more than a dozen speakers. Representatives from each of Wisconsin's six Ojibwe tribes were in attendance, along with tribal members from Ontario and the Oneida Nation.

Traditional and modern food staples were served at the feast. A long string of tables contained walleye, whitefish, wild rice and fry bread interspersed with macaroni casseroles and baked desserts.

"It was a huge feast. I think we could've fed twice as many," Maday said. "When you do something like this, you want to make sure you have plenty of food, and no one goes away hungry."

Maday complimented the students for their assistance in preparing the dining hall for the feast.

"The kids stepped up and helped when we were preparing plates [of food] for the elders, which is the way it's supposed to be," she said. "You could see the parents are doing a good job of teaching these kids respect."

Much of the food served at the feast was donated, including fish from Red Cliff members, Maday said.

Hooked on the language

Lanugage conference emphasizes language use

By Sharon Nelis

GLIFWC Planning & Development Secretary

Carlton, Minn.—Dedicated to the preservation of the Ojibwe language, the sixth annual Anishinaabe Wi Yung (We are Anishinaabe) Conference was held at the Black Bear Casino and Lodge near Carlton, Minnesota, October 20-23. The conference, which has been growing in popularity, is funded through donations and depends on a lot of volunteer time, according to Laurie Harper, the conference coordinator from Cass Lake, Minnesota.

With the emphasis on language preservation and with a good number of 'shinabes around, it is not surprising to hear a lot of conversation in Ojibwe throughout the conference and a lot of laughter. The conference offers a variety of sessions for participants. Each session is taught in the language, but also translated into English for benefit of attendees who are just learning the language. The sessions themselves reflect many Ojibwe cultural activities including: finger weaving, birch bark crafts, jingle dress making, moccasin making, the moccasin game, Ojibwe traditional teachings, and healing the spirit.

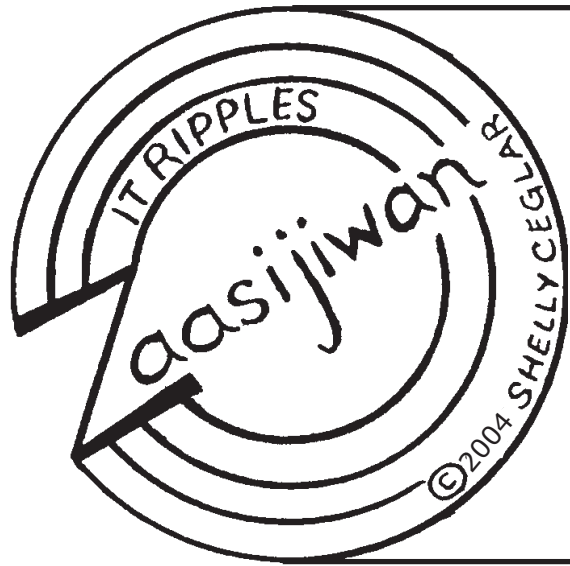
The elders as teachers are the true stars of this conference. They are helpful and encouraging for all who want to learn. They teach with humor and make the learning process enjoyable. Most of the time you don't want the sessions to end. Walking through the hallways between sessions, there is a feeling of camaraderie, and laughter fills the air. With Ojibwe being the primary spoken language spoken, it almost sounds musical as you race between sessions.

Participants were fed a continental breakfast each morning, lunch for two days and a dinner on Thursday night. "Fonjulaker" Jim Northrup kept everyone in stitches Thursday night as he provided entertainment following the dinner with his witty observations. The conference closed Friday evening with a small pow-wow and raffles in the beautiful, new Fond du Lac school.

A few Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission staff who will be working with the new Administration for Native Americans language grant were privileged to attend this year. Unlike most conferences, the Anishinaabe Wi Yung Conference doesn't have a boring, dry moment. It's atmosphere is energizing, and it accomplishes it's intent—to get Anishinaabe people hooked on their language.



The Mole Lake Drum participated in songs and ceremonies at Sandy Lake on July 28th. GLIFWC hosts an annual canoe paddle and ceremony at the Mikwendaagoziwag Memorial near McGregor, Minnesota. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)



Biboon naawaakwa.

Biboong, gidondamanokiimin. Gigotaamigiozimin.
 Gigizheb, gigwaaba'waawangwaanaan goon. Apane gibagidinise.
 Onaagoshing, gidadibaajimomin. Gigotaamigozimin. Ginaadamaagemin.
 Gibaamenimaanaanig abinoojiyag. Gijiibaakwemin. Gibiinichigemin.
 Gimazingwaasomin. Gigizhaadigemin Akiing.

It is winter in the middle of the woods.

(While it is winter, we all keep busy with work. We are all good workers. In the morning, we shovel snow. All the time we put more wood on the fire. When it is evening, we tell stories. We are good providers. We help others. We care for the children. We cook. We clean. We do beadwork. We watch over things on the land/Earth.)

Bezbig—1

OJIBWEMOWIN (Ojibwe Language)

There are 4 distinct verb classifications, each with certain rules for sound changes for meaning. This column is written in the standardized double vowel writing system of Ojibwemowin.

—Long vowels: AA, E, II, OO

Waabang—as in father

Miigwech—as in jay

Anokji—as in seen

Zoogipong—as in moon

—Short Vowels: A, I, O

Gaye—as in about

Nimj—as in tin

Omaa—as in only

—A glottal stop is a voiceless nasal sound as in A'aw.

—Respectfully enlist an elder for help in pronunciation and dialect differences.

VAI-First Person Plural—We & We all (includes you)

In the VAI (verb, animate, intransitive) verb class, conjugate for **we** (exclusive/me and others) & **we all** (inclusive/me, others & you).

- Anokii.—He or she works.
- Nindanokiimin.— We exclusive work.
- Gidanokiimin.— We inclusive work.
- Baapi.—He or she laughs.
- Nimbaapimin.— We exc laugh.
- Gibaapimin.— We all laugh.
- Minwendam.—He/She is glad.
- Niminwendaamin.— We are glad.
- Giminwendaamin.— We all are glad.

Niizh—2

Circle the 10 underlined Ojibwe words in the letter maze. (Translations below)

A. Gashkii-dibikak, goshkokaayaang, nindaazhikwemin.
 B. Apane, waabamang a'aw migizi, giminwendaamin.
 C. Waabang, onishkaayang gigiziyaabide'omin.
 D. Zoogipong agwajjiiing aangidinong ninzhoomingwenimin gema nimawimin.
 E. Mikwamiwadamong, ninzegendaamin gaye.
 F. Maazhi-giizhigak, anokiwigamigong, gigashkendaamin.
 G. Giiwendinong omaa, gidawazomin. Mii'iw, miigwech.

G I O W
 I G M I A H
 D I B I K A K
 A I K A G A B Z
 W Z G J A I B A Y
 A H C M L I Z E N S
 Z I E D A B Y I C G A
 O G K W A A B A M A N G
 M A Q E G T L W M X O I
 I K F S R A U O P V Q A
 N N I M A W I M I N B N

Niswi—3

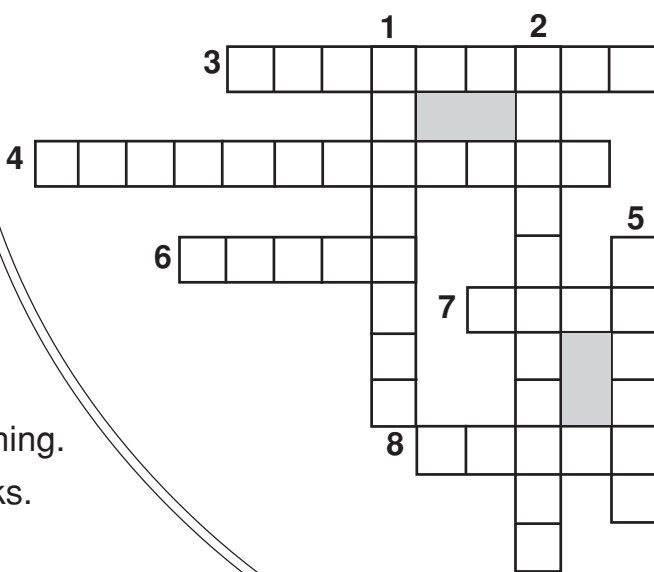
IKIDOWIN ODAMINOWIN (word play)

Down:

1. North
2. When it is evening.
5. He or she works.

Across:

3. When it snows
4. Children
6. Always
7. Snow
8. He or she dances.



Niiwin—4

VAI—We and We all A & B form

- A-form — (full sentence by itself)**
 Nagamo.—S/he sings.
Ninagamomin.— We (exc) sing.
Ginagamomin.— We (incl) sing.
B-form — (If, When, or While..., ...)
 Nagamoyaang, niniimimin.
 —When we (exc) sing, we dance.
 Nagamoyang, gimiiiminin.
 —When we (inc) sing, we all dance.

Goojitoon! Try it!
 Translation below.

1. Maamawi niimi____, minwendaagwad.
2. Zaaga'iganing biboong ____akwa'waa____.
3. Zhooshkwaada'e____, gisinaa.
4. Giiwe-biboong zhaawanong ____biboonishi____.
5. Noongom ____minwenda____, Ojibwemoyang.

Translations:

Niizh—2 A. When it is dark as night, when we are startled, we scream. B. Always, when we all see him/her, that eagle, we all are happy. C. At dawn, when we get up, we brush our teeth. D. When it is snowing outside, sometimes we smile or we cry. E. When it is icy roads, we are nervous also. F. If it is a bad day at the workplace, we are sad. G. To the north here, we stay warm by the fire. That's it, thank-you.

Niswi—3 Down: 1. Giiwedii 2. Onaagoshing 5. Anokii Across: 3. Zoogipong 4. Abinoojiyag 6. Apane 7. Goon 8. Niimi

Niiwin—4 1. Together when we all (inc yang) dance, it is fun. 2. At the lake in winter we (exc nind...min) fish through the ice with a spear. 3. When we (exc yaang) go skating, it is cold weather. 4. When it is late winter to the south, we (exc nim...min) spend the winter. 5. Now we all (inc gi...amin) are happy when we all speak Ojibwe.

There are various Ojibwe dialects; check for correct usage in your area. Note that the English translation will lose its natural flow as in any world language translation. This may be reproduced for classroom use only. All other uses by author's written permission. All inquiries can be made to MAZINA'IGAN, P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861.

Understanding ma'iingan's (wolf's) body language

How do we communicate? We talk to each other, but is there any other way to express ourselves every day. Let's see if we can give some examples: What do we look like if we are happy? Sad? Bored? Worried? Angry? Expressions on our faces and other body movements communicate our feelings in addition to our words. This is called body language.

How do wolves communicate? Have you ever watched your dog's face and body when it's playing? How about when it feels threatened? Dogs seem to express themselves without talking, and so do wolves.

A content wolf keeps its ears up, while a frightened wolf holds its ears flat against its head and shuts its mouth. A playful wolf looks as if it's smiling while it wags its tail, and an angry wolf opens its mouth and shows its fangs.

Wolves use their bodies, ears, tails and even their fur to let other pack members know how they are feeling. The highest-ranking male and female wolves hold their heads up high, their ears up high and their tails up high. When challenged by another wolf, the alpha wolf (the leader of the pack) will fluff its fur to make itself look bigger.

Other wolves normally hold their head lower, their ears back and their tail lower. A lower-ranking wolf that approaches a high-ranking wolf will drop its head, flatten its ears against its head, focus its eyes away from the other wolf, tuck its tail between its hind legs and flatten its fur to make itself look smaller. Sometimes a low-ranking wolf will drop to the ground and expose its belly. This is a submissive act that lets the higher-ranking wolf know that it does not want to fight.






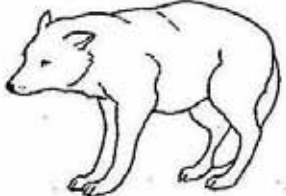


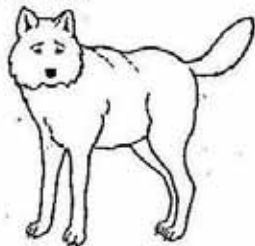



Communicating through their body language, the pack works together forming a powerful family bond. Each wolf in the pack has a unique personality. Some are shy and timid, while others are confident and bold. The leaders of the wolf pack are the highest-ranking male and female. They are the only wolves that will mate and have pups.

(Reprinted with permission, from National Wildlife Federation's (NWF) Animal Tracks Wolves Action Pack, 1999. To download NWF's Wolf Awareness Week Library Event Guide:

1. Go to www.nwf.org/greatlakes
2. Click on "Wolves"
3. Download all relevant library event guide files and fact sheets.)

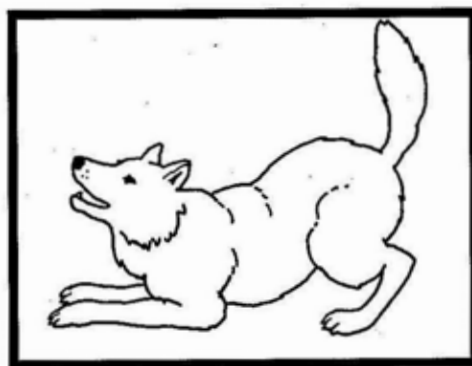


Ma'iingan.

Message	Head	Tail	Other
"I want to play."	Ears forward Play grin 	Up & wagging 	"Play bow" 
"You are my leader; You are my superior."	Head lowered Ears back Tense grin Eyes averted 	Down-often tucked between hind legs 	Fur is flat to make itself look smaller 
"I am the leader."	Head high Ears forward Mouth relaxed Direct stare 	Held high 	Fur fluffed Animal is relaxed 
"Don't hurt me; I don't want to fight."	Head down Ears back Mouth closed Eyes averted 	Low, often tucked 	Animal rolls on back and shows his belly. 

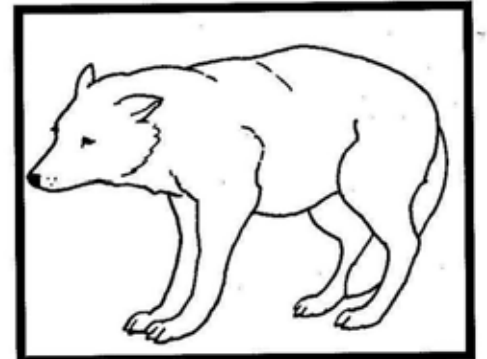
What are we saying?

Circle the correct letter for each picture.



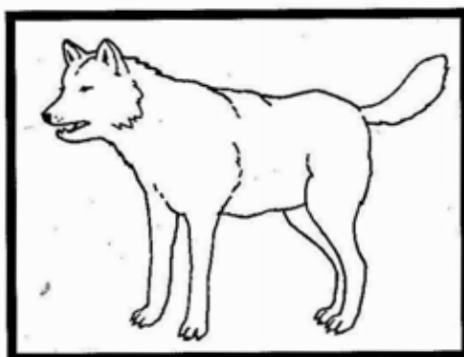
A B C D

A. Of course, we also enjoy each other's company. And it will be a fun morning when one of us gives a sign that it is time to play!



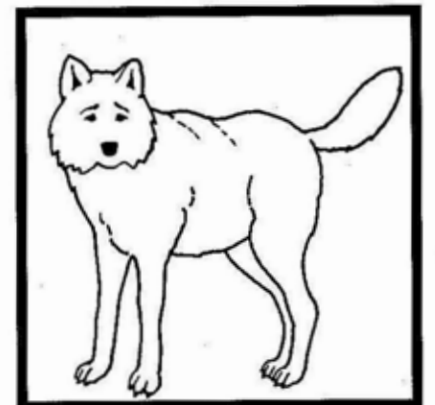
A B C D

B. When the other wolves approach me, they show that they will follow my leadership. You can tell by the way they stand.



A B C D

C. Hi, I'm the alpha wolf. I am proud and confident. As a leader of the pack, I make decisions such as when the pack will hunt.



A B C D

D. We all help each other survive. We are always ready to defend our territory and will attack to protect the pups in the pack.

Answers: (top left A, bottom left D, top right B, bottom right C)

Anishinaabe life is manifest in spirit names and clans

By *Nee-gaw-nee-gah-bow*
Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe Band elder

Years ago our Anishinaabe people regarded personal identity as very important. Of course, before the coming of European people, we did not have first and second names or first and family names as we do today. Back at that time, generations ago, we knew ourselves personally by what spiritual clan we belonged to, where we lived, and our God-given Spirit Name.

Today I would venture to say that a great many Anishinaabe people do not know their clan or spiritual name. We use last names coming from families and social symbols of Europe and elsewhere throughout the world. Today, these are our legal names and personal identification. These names have practically nothing to do with spirituality; they may, indeed, have been derived from Christianity, where we do not know their religious origin. So, it is impossible today to legally change our contemporary names to those we have used in ancient times.

The Creator purposely put diversity into the lives of all the Anishinaabe people whom He created. In fact, the Creator also included diversity in every life that He created. What I mean by this is that not all trees look alike, not all animals look alike, not all birds look alike, not all fish look alike; and all vegetation that grows on the earth is different, so are the lakes, hills and mountains of the earth different. With human beings, He divided them into separate clans, their names of which He took from various animals and plants that live and grow on the earth.

Today, anthropological researchers have identified 37 different clans still in use amongst the Anishinaabe people. However, numerous other clans have since become extinct.

The clans were divided into five different family clans. I used to hear the elders talk about the clan system and the five family clans when I was a little boy. I have since read about the five family clans in several contemporary books written about Anishinaabe culture. The five family clans are: the Fish Clan, the Bird Clan, the Four-legged Animal Clan, the Two-legged Animal Clan, and the Small Medicine Creature Clan.

I belong to the Wolf Clan. Anishinaabe people, male and female, belong to the clan of their father. They can honor the clan of their mother, but they have no spiritual connection to her clan. All Anishinaabe people belong to the clan of their father. If you are an Anishinaabe man and your father was not Anishinaabe, and therefore did not possess an Anishinaabe clan, then you automatically belong to the Wolf Clan. If you are an Anishinaabe woman and your father is not Anishinaabe, then you automatically belong to the Martin Clan.

Many Anishinaabe people today have a father from a different nationality or from a tribe other than Anishinaabe. These are the Anishinaabe that I am writing about at this time, who do not have an Anishinaabe father. When this first occurred years ago, the Creator accepted the willingness of the Wolf to be the clan of Anishinaabe men in this situation and the willingness of the Martin to be the clan of the women in the same situation.

So if you are an Anishinaabe person and you want to know your clan, you need to find out the clan of your father. Maybe some elder person in your family may know the clan of your father. When they were taking the census of the Anishinaabe people years ago, the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) sometimes included the clan next to the name of that person. Sometimes you might find your clan by looking up your father's BIA records from past BIA census programs. If all efforts fail to find your clan, man or woman, it is possible to solicit the help of an Anishinaabe Medicine Man or Spiritual Elder with the power to communicate with the Creator and other spirits of our people to find your clan.

Although it may not be legally possible to change your name, as an Anishinaabe person, man or woman, you must definitely know your clan and spiritual name. You can find your spirit name by giving an Anishinaabe Medicine Man or Spiritual Leader *asemaa* (tobacco) to find the spirit name that the Creator bestowed upon you when you were first created, and you began your life as a spirit in the Spiritual World, even before you were born of your mother here on earth. So all Anishinaabe people do, indeed, possess a spirit name, except they just do not know it at this time.

The Anishinaabe legend of life says that all Anishinaabe people are destined to go back home to the spirit world when they die here on earth. The spirit world is sometimes referred to by other cultures as heaven. The Anishinaabe legend of life does not include any mention whatsoever of hell or eternal condemnation as proclaimed in other religious cultures of the world. Therefore, no Anishinaabe

person is going to a place called hell after he or she dies here on earth. No matter what great misdeed that an Anishinaabe person may have committed against another person or the Creator, the Anishinaabe legend of life says that everything has been forgiven in that person's life.

In the Anishinaabe legend of life there is nothing that infers that we must live a good life to earn our way into heaven. Although living a good life is a virtuous aspect of life, we Anishinaabe people are instructed to live a life of *nimaajii*. *Nimaajii* means honor, dignity and respect. In addition to living a good and virtuous life, the Anishinaabe must live a life of honor, dignity and respect. This briefly means that we should always behave in a manner that should not cause us to be ashamed or regretful of what we have done.

Now, in the Anishinaabe legend of life it also says that after we die here on earth and our physical bodies are returned to mother earth by burial. Then our spirits began a four-day journey back to where we came from at the beginning of our life in the Spirit World. The Anishinaabe legend of life says that when we arrive at the Spirit World, there will be a Brown Eagle (*Kinew*) sitting on a branch of a huge tree by the door that goes into the Spiritual World. The *Kinew* will ask our spirit two questions. If you do not know the answers correctly to each question, your spirit will be sent back to the reality of life here on earth to find your spirit name and clan. The two questions that the *Kinew* will ask are: What is your name? And what is your clan? Therefore, you must know your spirit name and your clan when you die here on earth, so when you arrive at the door where the *Kinew* sits, you may enter the Spirit World.

I have spoken Ah-hoh.

(Editor's note: *Nee-gaw-nee-gah-bow* was born and raised on the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe Reservation in northern Wisconsin, is a Fourth Degree Grand Medicine Lodge (Midewin) member, Spirit Drum Chief (*Ogichidaa*), Sacred Pipe carrier, and fluent Ojibwe language speaker).

Bizhiw (lynx)



Ma'iingan recovery

(Continued from page 10)

bear hunters would raise a howl—or perhaps a growl—if any group pushed to lower the state bear population goal below its current level of 11,300, expecting others to have a tolerance for bears which is 113 times the Wisconsin Bear Hunters Association tolerance level for wolves.

I am not suggesting we lower the population goal for wolves; far from it. The bottom line: if we let those with the least tolerance establish a species' population level, we can look forward to a landscape that would be largely devoid not only of wolves, but deer, bear, coyotes, fox, beaver, rabbits, turkeys, sandhill cranes, woodpeckers, loons, squirrels, and dozens of other species that occasionally cause us grief, but which also add beauty to our lives and health to our environment. Retracting the success of Wisconsin's wolf recovery would be a failure ecologically and culturally—and perhaps no group would lose more than the Ojibwe.

GLIFWC's 2004 annual poster features *bizhiw* or the lynx. The poster is part of a series that features Ojibwe clan symbols. There will be a new poster printed each year. The artwork by *biskakone* (Greg Johnson), Lac du Flambeau Band member, reflects the role of *bizhiw* based on the teachings of the traditional Ojibwe *Mide Lodge*. Full sized (18 x 24") posters are available through GLIFWC's Public Information Office, which can be contacted by mail at P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861; by phone at (715) 685-2150 or e-mail pio@glifwc.org. One copy is available free of charge and \$2.00 each thereafter.



National museum recognizes American Indian contributions at last

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Washington, D.C.—Representatives from nine of GLIFWC’s eleven member bands joined the estimated 40,000 people gathered in Washington, D.C. to celebrate the opening of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian (NMAI) on September 21. Tribal representatives from across the nation, many dressed in full regalia and carrying tribal flags and staffs, joined in a one-half mile procession down the National Mall.

Among those present was Jim St. Arnold, GLIFWC’s Administration for Native Americans (ANA) program director and Keweenaw Bay tribal member, who described the procession as awesome. “It was truly inspiring and heart-warming to see so many Native people come together and bring to our nation’s capital all the color, songs and pageantry of its tribal nations. I was honored to be a part of the occasion. It definitely shows that Native people and nations remain vibrant today, despite a tragic history of near annihilation,” he said.

Senator Daniel Inouye, who sponsored the bill authorizing the museum, had noted a lack of recognition of the American Indian in the nation’s capitol. “In this city of monuments there was no statue, no monument, honoring the first Americans,” Inouye told the crowd assembled at the opening ceremony.

That is no longer true. NMAI now occupies a prominent spot across from the Capitol.

The museum’s design is a result of consultation with numerous tribes. Built at the cost of \$214 million, the museum currently houses 8,000 objects from North, Central, and South America. Among the artifacts displayed are paintings, photographs, weapons, masks, and jewelry.



The Museum holds 8,000 Native American objects, among them a fascinating and extensive collection of Native American dolls. (Photo by Jim St. Arnold)

The NMAI has two sister facilities, the George Gustav Heye Center, New York and the NMAI Cultural Resources Center, Suitland, Maryland, both with substantial Native American collections.

The National Museum of the American Indian website is now open, providing photos and further background information on the Museum.

GLIFWC member tribes represented during the September 21 procession include: Lac Courte Oreilles, Lac du Flambeau, Red Cliff, St. Croix, Bad River in Wisconsin; Keweenaw Bay and Lac Vieux Desert in Michigan; and Fond du Lac and Mille Lacs in Minnesota.



Keweenaw Bay tribal member Jim St. Arnold, also Administration for Native Americans (ANA) program director for GLIFWC, is ready for the procession down the National Mall in Washington D.C. as part of the festivities surrounding the opening of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of the American Indian on September 21.



The sweeping architecture of the National Museum of the American Indian was a result of consultation with hundreds of tribes. The color and lines give the structure and “earthy” feel and represent a communing with nature. (Photo by Jim St. Arnold)

Great Lakes Agency gets new headquarters



This time the Mayflower brought the Indians as they moved into the new headquarters for the Bureau of Indian Affairs’ (BIA) Great Lakes Agency last summer. The beautiful new facility, set on Highway 2 facing Lake Superior, houses all the Agency’s branches. The Agency has been housed in the U. S. Post Office building at 615 2nd Street in Ashland since 1940, when it also took on the title of Great Lakes Agency. Prior to that it was known as the La Pointe Agency, established in 1888 and located at 614 W. 2nd Street in Ashland. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)



A morning Drum Ceremony preceded an open house on August 20. The Agency welcomed the public to tour the building and enjoy some refreshments in the afternoon. While the building is stunning, the huge murals adorning the walls of several central rooms are the main attraction. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

St. Croix elder tells her story

For family, friends and those yet to come

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Turtle Lake, Wis.—A book-signing drew family and friends of Eileen Skinaway to Turtle Lake, Wisconsin on October 15th to obtain a signed copy of *Miskobineshii: Memoirs of Susan Eileen Bearheart Fowler Skinaway*. The recently completed book is truly a gift from Eileen, a St. Croix Ojibwe elder, to her family, the tribes and all of us interested in regional history.

Born in a wigwam on the then Sand Lake reservation in 1932, Eileen's eyes have witnessed many changes from when she was raised in a tarpaper shack by her grandparents, and in her memoirs she shares many of those experiences and observations.

Fortunately, for her and for us, her grandparents were "very traditional medicine people," and her Grandma Littlepipe insisted that Eileen follow traditional ways. Consequently, Eileen has been able to share throughout her life her knowledge of traditional teachings, the language, as well as traditional skills, such as tanning, beading and moccasin-making.

Over the course of several months, Eileen related her life story to Mary Tyrell, who transcribed them for the purposes of the book. The narrative touches on many topics, including questions regarding the "lost tribe" status of the St. Croix and who was or was not present at the treaty signing when the reservation should have been established.

In her book she uses the language at times, shares some stories and teachings, but mostly tells the story of herself, a young Indian girl whose traditional upbringing in a poor but loving atmosphere gave her the strength and skills to meet the many challenges, including a serious bout with tuberculosis, life brought her. Her accounts also bring to life members of her family and community who touched her life and have since passed.

Speaking at the book-signing, Eileen's niece Hazel Hinsley commented on the completion of the book, saying, "Great people dare to dream. My Aunt has vision. and she can follow through and accomplish that vision. This book is just one of those things. She has been on tribal council, a cultural and language teacher, and a great role model and mentor for the family. Sharing her story will help the family know who we are as a family and help understand our identity has Native people."

Replete with numerous pictures, *Miskobineshii* makes for a delightful, educational and entertaining read.

Eileen's book will be in the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian. She was personally greeted at the front door on the day of the grand opening and shown where her book will be placed. Also, in the museum are a pair of moccasin's made by her late sister, Margaret.

Miigwech Eileen!

Editor's note: To obtain a copy of *Miskobineshii* contact Cindy Fowler at (715) 986-4161, ext. 3159.)



Eileen Skinaway, St. Croix elder and Ojibwe culture/language advisor, signs a copy of her memoir, *Miskobineshii*, during a book-signing in Turtle Lake, Wisconsin on October 15th. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

ANA grants continued

(Continued from page 1)

the upcoming generations. The information, he says, will be archived for use within tribal historical departments, tribal schools and colleges, and tribal governments to be available for use by current and future generations.

Also, some of the information in specific names may raise some natural resources questions to be considered. For instance, why does Lake Namekagon, named for sturgeon (name' in Ojibwemowin), not have any sturgeon, and should sturgeon be restored?

Another benefit will be that a single database will be in developed, replacing piecemeal and missing information regarding different species' names. In other words, information regarding species and locations will be easily accessible to the tribal public.

The current language grant is a result of about a year and a half of planning for the grant and the hard work of the Anishinaabe Natural Resource Language Committee, whose insights provided direction for the grant. The Committee will continue to meet and provide guidance throughout the three-year project. Members of the Committee include: Doug Sam and Larry Smallwood, Mille Lacs; Dana Jackson, Bad River; Clara Beebe and Eugene Begay, Lac Courte Oreilles; Rose and giwegizhgookway Martin, Lac Vieux Desert; and Keller Paap, Red Cliff.

Mille Lacs Band launches new public television series Native Report

During the summer of 2004 public television viewers in Minnesota got some new insights into Indian issues with the premier of Native Report, an upbeat magazine-style talk show that focused on timely topics and cultural heritage and interviewed some of the most powerful and influential leaders in Indian Country.

Four half-hour pilot episodes of Native Report aired on WDSE-TV Channel Eight in Duluth/Superior. The shows, which were funded by the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe in partnership with WDSE, were also offered free of charge to WDSE's five sister stations; Twin Cities Public Television, Pioneer Public Television, Lakeland Public Television, Prairie Public Television, and KSMQ Public Television. Together, the stations reach 99% of the state's population. The Band and WDSE now hope to produce a full 15-episode season of Native Report.

The range of topics covered in the pilot episodes was broad, from local governance issues to Indian health care to the cultural significance of wild rice.

"Not only does the show provide an excellent opportunity to educate viewers on current issues and hopefully erase stereotypes and misconceptions, it is also a way for the community to celebrate our culture and heritage," said Native Report host Stacey Thunder, the Corporate Attorney for the Mille Lacs

Band's Corporate Commission and an enrolled member of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa.

Thunder's colleague Tadd Johnson, the Mille Lacs Band's Special Counsel on Government Affairs and an enrolled member of the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, interviewed several high-profile Indian leaders for the show, including Tex Hall, President of the National Congress of American Indians, and Ernie Stevens, Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Commission.

"People hear bits and pieces about subjects like casino gaming regulation, but we want to help them dig beneath the sound bites to learn the real story, with all its details and complexity," said Johnson.

With full funding, the show would visit each of the state's eleven Indian reservations to present programs that more fully represent the various perspectives, challenges and successes of Indian people. Each new Native Report would also feature a segment about tribal elders' wisdom.

"We look forward to telling more Indian stories so that Minnesotans can see and hear about the range of exciting things that are happening in Indian Country today," said Thunder.

(Reprinted from *The Woodland Voice*, a publication of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe.)

Food summit continued

(Continued from page 1)

makers, and harvested blueberries to sell along the roadside to locals and tourists.

All the food that tribal members and their neighbors needed could be found in area waters, forests and markets. "I learned all this from my mother. She loved the woods," Carrick said.

Elder and BMCC Cultural Coordinator Kathy LeBlanc stressed that an imbalance between humans and the food they eat has compromised both the health and spiritual well-being of the community. Decades ago virtually every Bay Mills family participated in picking blueberries and tending a community potato patch; ceremonies were held seasonally to give thanks to the Creator and everyone brought food, LaBlanc said.

But now, said LaBlanc: "We've separated ourselves from the rest of creation. Your pride and stature used to be how much you could give away. Now people are praying to get more. People are eating [junk] food because they are spiritually hungry. This food is replacing traditional ways."

LeBlanc encouraged people to invest more time in Ojibwe traditions lest they be lost to future generations. Natural food resources that have sustained local communities for centuries must be viewed with reverence.

"When you put tobacco down after pulling a plant or taking a deer,

you're keeping a spiritual balance," she said. Smoked from a pipe, held in one's left hand or placed on the ground, tobacco or asemaa, is a traditional medium used in prayer.

Good eats

The life experiences of Carrick and LeBlanc served as a template for summit participants to consider—a call to reverse course and strengthen nutritional ties with healthy, traditional sources. Often minimized by corporate domination, small livestock, poultry and vegetable farms offer additional dietary choices. A healthier life—in body and spirit—is there for those who break from the industrial food system.

The approximately three-dozen participants at the summit concluded that education was the key—know where your food comes from. Find out how to develop and patronize local farmer's markets; join food cooperatives; learn and expand on gardening skills; teach children not only to hunt and fish, but how to dress and prepare wild game for consumption.

Yanni said that follow-up meetings will be organized to help implement ideas and suggestions discussed at the summit. The College of Menominee Nation and Chippewa County Extension co-sponsored the conference with BMCC Extension and Community Development.

State, federal and tribal electrofishing crews team up to complete fall surveys

By GLIFWC Staff

Odanah, Wis.—Dusk. The time when the endless errands of the day melt into the stillness of night. From September through the end of October, GLIFWC's electrofishing survey crews spend that time on the water waiting for enough light to leave the sky so that they can begin their work.

When night finally falls, the generator is fired up, 500 watt halogen lights shine off the bow and the shocking begins. One crew member guides the boat as close to shore as possible, while the two standing on the bow in front scan the water for small walleye, ready to scoop them up as soon as the electric current temporarily stuns them.

After being collected, the fish are placed into a large aerated holding tank. A combination of factors including water temperature, the number of fish in the tank, and the length of the survey route dictate when and how often the crews need to stop and work up their fish. After the crews collect biological data from them, these fish are live-released back into the lake.

Walleye are notoriously erratic in recruitment success from year to year. As the newly hatched fish work their way through the web of environmental conditions and predation pressures that's dealt to them, the numbers that survive are highly variable and difficult to predict.

That's why every autumn GLIFWC brings the boom shockers out to look for young of the year and age 1 walleye in ceded territory lakes. A single trip around the entire lakeshore, or a part thereof, netting as many young walleye as possible gives a relative measure of year class strength, or the number of young walleye born that particular year, measured in number of fish per mile of shoreline surveyed.

This information is used to assist in determining whether a lake's walleye population is sustained by natural reproduction, stocking, or some combination of the two. This information also allows trends in walleye recruitment to be monitored on a regional or lake specific basis.

Ten crews participated in this year's fall survey assessments: one from the St. Croix tribe, one from Mole Lake,

one from Bad River, one from Fond du Lac, two from the US Fish and Wildlife Service and four from GLIFWC. The crews surveyed 162 lakes in Wisconsin, 19 in Michigan, and two in Minnesota, including the entire 78 mile shoreline of Mille Lacs Lake.

This year, GLIFWC and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) jointly surveyed 8 lakes including: Round L. (Sawyer Co.), Sand L. (Sawyer Co.), Lake Chetac (Sawyer Co.), Nelson L. (Sawyer Co.), Pelican L. (Vilas Co.), Long L. (Washburn Co.), Lac Vieux Desert Lake (Vilas Co.) and Red Cedar L. (Barron Co.).

The Wisconsin DNR also conducts their own surveys on a large number of ceded territory lakes each fall. Both agencies are currently entering and summarizing their fall 2004 field data. Scales that were collected from a subset of fish on each lake will be examined to deter-

mine the age of fish at various lengths. Year class strength can then be determined separately for age 0 and age 1 cohorts on each lake. The two agencies exchange their fall survey results each December as part of the established joint management of the walleye fishery.

The crew members that helped out this season are listed below. Scooping up fish with a long handled dip net seems pretty simple on paper. But accuracy, strength, stamina and quick reflexes are required to do the job well. The GLIFWC inland fisheries staff would like to extend a miigwech to all the crew members who spent weeks away from home, working long hours in sometimes cold, wet weather this season. This work is essential to the management of ceded territory fisheries resources for GLIFWC member tribes.

Top 10 lakes in Wisconsin & Michigan with highest levels of mercury

Top 10 lists of Wisconsin and Michigan's lakes with the highest levels of mercury pollution detected in fish have been released. The reports were completed by the State Environmental Leadership Program and released by Clean Wisconsin and the Michigan Environmental Council.

Emitted from coal-burning power plants, mercury is a neurotoxin that has been linked by scientists to development disabilities in children.

The new reports analyze state-collected fish tissue data samples in order to identify and rank lakes with mercury present at higher than safe levels for anglers and others who consume fish caught in the states' lakes and streams. Even though mercury is a problem for anglers on a statewide basis, some lakes have considerably more mercury in fish than others.

The reports emphasize the steps that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency can take now to abate nearly all of the mercury pollution from power plants that is contaminating the lakes and streams in Wisconsin, Michigan and the rest of the nation.

The 10 worst mercury-polluted lakes (in terms of fish tissue analysis) in **Wisconsin** are as follows:

1. Whitetail Flowage, Jackson County
2. Van Zile Lake, Forest County
3. Circle Lily Lake, Vilas County
4. Jag Lake, Vilas County
5. Deep Hole Lake, Forest County
6. Bass Lake, Price County
7. Sugar Camp Lake, Oneida County
8. Little Sand Lake, Forest County
9. Shannon Lake, Vilas County
10. Lyman Lake, Douglas County

The 10 worst mercury-polluted lakes (in terms of fish tissue analysis) in **Michigan** are as follows:

1. Deer Lake, Marquette County
2. Chaney Lake, Gogebic County
3. Carp River, Eagle Mills Pump House
4. Craig Lake, Baraga County
5. Escanaba River, Greenwood Reservoir
6. Lake Michigamme, Marquette County
7. Pine Lake, Barry County
8. Menominee River, Sturgeon Falls Impoundment
9. Todd Lake, Osceola County
10. Barton Lake, Kalamazoo County

For a full list of Michigan lakes go to www.mecprotects.org and www.pressroom.cleanwisconsin.org for a full list of Wisconsin lakes.



GLIFWC Inland Fisheries Aid, Chuck Smart, power-washes the hull of a GLIFWC electrofishing boat. GLIFWC acquired power-washers in 2004 to prevent the unintentional spread of exotic aquatic species. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

2004 fall electrofishing crew members

St. Croix

Don Taylor
Tony Havranek
Tom Frye
Marty Shutt

Mole Lake

Mike Preul
Frank Ols
Bill Carpenter
Rick Hammer

USFWS

Frank Stone

Bad River

Ed Wiggins
Joe Livingston
Dave Parisien

Fond du Lac

Brian Borkholder
Fond du Lac technicians

GLIFWC

Butch Mieloszyk
Ron Parisien Jr.
Shane Cramb
Sam Quagon
Chuck Smart
Caine Heffner
Ed White
Kris Arbuckle
Rick A. Nelis
Mitch Soulier
Bentley Brehm
Josh Johnson
Dale Corbine
Louis Plucinski
Joe Dan Rose
Nick Milroy
Michele Wheeler
Tom Houle
Ed Whitebird
Pete Bigboy
Greg Smart
Rick L. Nelis



Ceded territory news briefs

Sulfide mine plans continue in Michigan

Marquette, Mich.—Plans for a sulfide mine in Upper Michigan's Marquette County are moving ahead despite deep concerns from the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, local property owners and a number of environmental groups.

Mine developer Kennecott Minerals Company has outlined a timetable to extract nickel and copper from a 12-acre site at the headwaters of the Salmon Trout River. Should the company receive all the required permits, mine construction might begin as early as mid-2006. The mine is expected to be operational for six to eight years, plus an additional two years to remove buildings and equipment.

Among the biggest fears of Kennecott critics is major environmental degradation from acid drainage that can occur during sulfide mining operations. A community advisory group sponsored by Kennecott has received a mixed reception from area residents. They held their first meeting on October 18 in Marquette.

Michigan's National Forests ban ash firewood from quarantined areas

Escanaba, Mich.—To prevent the spread of the emerald ash borer (EAB) to Michigan's National Forests, on November 3rd the U.S. Forest Service banned ash trees and tree parts, and all firewood that comes from the regulated and quarantined areas in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana, from being transported or used on the National Forests within Michigan.

The Forest Service is concerned that hunters, other recreational users, firewood providers, and/or second-home owners could unintentionally bring the EAB to the National Forests. Left unchecked, the EAB could kill millions of ash trees across the Eastern United States, just as Dutch Elm Disease and chestnut blight virtually wiped out entire tree species in North America.

The Forest Supervisors of the Hiawatha, Huron-Manistee and Ottawa National Forests signed interim emergency closure orders to prevent wood (including logs, firewood, limbs or branches) from ash trees that came from the quarantined areas from being stored, used, or transported across National Forest System lands in Michigan. Visitors to the Forests may gather dead and downed trees on the National Forests for personal firewood use (onsite) or purchase firewood locally.

In addition to State fines for violating the rules that prohibit transporting ash trees and wood products out of the quarantine areas, hunters and other visitors who bring firewood from the quarantine areas to the National Forests could face a fine up to \$5,000 or imprisonment for up to six months or both. If the offender actually introduces the emerald ash borer to the National Forest, that person could be required to bear the cost of eradication and restoration of the infested area, which could cost thousands of dollars more.

For more information about the emerald ash borer, visit www.emeraldashborer.info.



David Bisonette, Lac Courte Oreilles Community College instructor, and GLIFWC Forest Ecologist Karen Danielsen were presenters at the Wisconsin Association for Environmental Education Conference October 28 in Cable. They explained ways Ojibwe people use traditional environmental knowledge in their everyday lives. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

Bad River Treatment as State application in review

Mazina'igan inaccurately reported that the Bad River tribe had received Treatment as an Affected State (TAS) status under the Clean Air Act in the Fall 2004 issue. However, the tribe's application is still under review. Although no problems are foreseen in being granted TAS, the Office of General Council has not yet issued a final determination.

Supreme Court decides not to get involved in Mille Lacs border dispute

Another legal victory emerged for the Mille Lacs Band in regard to the border dispute between the Band and Mille Lacs County. In a November 1 ruling the U.S. Supreme Court refused the request by Mille Lacs County to review an 8th Circuit Court of Appeals ruling. That ruling upheld a dismissal of the Mille Lacs County's request to declare that the Mille Lacs Band's reservation consisted of only 4,000 acres rather than 61,000 acres. The 8th Circuit had ruled earlier that the county and the First National Bank of Milaca did not have a standing to sue because they could not show anyone was harmed by the Band's claim of jurisdiction over the land.

Shell Lake water level dropping

Shell Lake, Wis.—Folks around Shell Lake are breathing a bit easier. Residents on Wisconsin's largest lake to lack a natural outlet faced a multitude of problems as the lake rose to the highest level seen in nearly a century in the Spring of 2003. Currently, however, the lake sits about three and a half feet below that mark, easing landowner concerns. The decline was due primarily to natural events, especially a decrease in precipitation, but it was also aided by a pipeline that was installed to divert water from the lake into the nearby Yellow River.

Due to construction problems, the pipeline did not become functional until November 2003, by which time the lake had already dropped over 20 inches on its own. Various problems with the pipeline have also limited its effectiveness; it is currently discharging water at the rate of about 12 cubic feet per second, significantly below the originally planned discharge of 20 cfs. Nevertheless, the lake is now within 16 inches of the level at which discharge must be discontinued.

Waasa Inaabidaa series recognized at Indian Summer Fest

Milwaukee, Wis.—Congratulations are due to everyone responsible for the six-part series of television documentaries, entitled *Waasa Inaabidaa: We Look in All Directions*. The program on Ojibwemowin (Ojibwe language), Part 6—Ojibwe Oral Traditions by Lorraine Norrgard and James Fortier received the Spirit Award for the best program in the entire Indian Summer film festival as well as an Award of Distinction. In addition, Part 1—*Treaties* by Lorraine Norrgard and James Fortier received an Award of Distinction. For more information on the series contact the Waasa Inaabidaa website at www.ojibwe.org/.

2004 off-reservation treaty deer harvest by tribal registration station

(as of 11/3/04)

Registration Station	Antlerless	Antlered	Totals
Bad River	49	36	85
Lac Courte Oreilles	131	76	207
Lac du Flambeau	188	95	283
Mole Lake	18	14	32
Red Cliff	51	52	103
St. Croix	58	120	178
Mille Lacs	2	2	4
Totals	497	395	892

2004 Wisconsin off-reservation treaty bear harvest

Preliminary figures by registration station

Zone	Quota	Bad River	Lac Courte Oreilles	Lac du Flambeau	Mole Lake	Red Cliff	St. Croix	Total
A	110	4	27	6	0	11	15	63
B	40	0	0	3	5	0	0	8
C	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	170	4	27	0	5	11	15	71

Tribes weigh-in on Great Lakes protection agreement

Water diversion one issue

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—On behalf of its member tribes, the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) recently submitted comments on draft documents that would implement commitments made in Annex 2001 to the 1985 Great Lakes Charter.

The Annex 2001 commits the states and Canadian provinces to create and implement an agreement or agreements to address water withdrawals and diversions from the Great Lakes basin. In July, a draft set of implementing agreements was released for public comment.

The issue of water diversion from the Great Lakes came to the forefront in 1999 when a Canadian company proposed to export Lake Superior water to Asia. Although that proposal was dropped, basin residents recognized that the supply of fresh water in the Great Lakes is likely to be looked at longingly

by water-hungry eyes outside the Great Lakes Basin.

GLIFWC comments on the draft agreements were generally positive and are intended to strengthen the agreements, in recognition that environmental protection and natural resource protection are the goals.

According to GLIFWC Policy Analyst Jim Zorn, "It is clear that the tribes overall preference is that no water should be diverted from the Great Lakes basin. However, we are concerned that an outright ban could be struck down under the United States Constitution's commerce clause. The next best approach seems to be to subject water diversion and use proposals to stringent requirements before they would be permitted."

In fact, the Annex implementing agreements do contain a set of requirements that would have to be met before withdrawals or diversions out of the Great Lakes Basin would be permitted. Some of the highlights are as follows:

Inside the basin, any request to use five million gallons a day or more that would not be returned to lake would undergo a regional review by the Great Lakes governors and Canadian premiers. This would also apply to a current user wanting to increase water use by that much.

Any request to divert more than one million gallons a day for use outside the basin would also be reviewed by the Great Lakes governors and premiers. Approval of the proposal would be contingent on the agreement of all eight governors.

Anyone requesting water would have to demonstrate the need for water and that it couldn't be found elsewhere. They would also have to return the water to the basin after treatment and

fund a project or projects that would result in an improvement to the basin.

According to Ann McCammon Soltis, GLIFWC Policy Analyst, "These requirements appear to make it very difficult for someone to divert water for use outside of the basin, particularly to transport the water long distances. However, some of the requirements need more definition to ensure that they are implemented in the same way across the basin."

Opportunities for public comments have been provided in each of the states, and the Council of Great Lakes governors is working on final agreements, one between the states and another between the states and the provinces of Quebec and Ontario.

GLIFWC developing new fish advisory maps

By Adam DeWeese, GLIFWC
Environmental Biologist

Odanah, Wis.—A series of focus group meetings were recently held to get feedback from tribal members about what information on the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mercury maps is of use when harvesting, cleaning, and consuming oga (walleye).

Several years ago the Voigt Task Force expressed concern about the health risks posed by mercury in oga being harvested by tribal members from inland lakes. This prompted GLIFWC staff to begin testing oga. From 1989-2004, GLIFWC has collected 3,304 oga from 202 inland lakes for mercury testing.

Since 1995, these data have been used to develop and periodically update color-coded GIS maps for lakes being harvested by each of the six Wisconsin tribes. These maps are intended to help tribal members select lakes and sizes of walleye that are low in mercury, thereby reducing the risks from mercury exposure while continuing to enjoy the health benefits from eating fish and harvesting them in a traditional manner.

In October 2003, GLIFWC was awarded a three-year EPA Science to Achieve Results (STAR) grant to update the color-coded GIS mercury-in-oga maps, and to determine the effectiveness of these maps in reducing risks from mercury.

The effort to assess and improve the usefulness of the advisory program is taking place in several stages, the first of which was the recently completed focus group meetings. The insights and ideas that participants shared were valuable and are appreciated. This feedback will be used when updating the GIS mercury maps this winter, and for developing other outreach materials for

use when selecting lakes and harvesting fish during spring, 2005.

The first meeting took place on October 19th in Lac du Flambeau at the Ojibwe Language Office with members of the Lac du Flambeau and Mole Lake tribes. Another meeting was held in Odanah on October 20th in the GLIFWC main conference room with members from Bad River and Red Cliff. The final meeting took place on October 21st at the tribal office in Lac Courte Oreilles. Members of the Lac Courte Oreilles and St. Croix tribes were invited to attend that meeting.

A phone survey of tribal members from the six Wisconsin Ojibwe tribes will take place in January 2005. The purpose of this survey is to assess people's current understanding of both the health risks from eating mercury contaminated fish, and of steps that can be taken to reduce exposure to mercury in fish. In addition, people's familiarity with and use of the color-coded GIS maps will be assessed. A follow-up phone survey will occur in June, 2005.

After these surveys are finished and for the next year-and-a-half, GLIFWC will be working with tribal elders, tribal harvesters, women of child-bearing age, recent mothers, pregnant women, and tribal health programs to distribute the color-coded GIS maps and fish advice to as many people as possible. Then, soon after spring harvesting ends in 2006, a final survey will be conducted to determine if this effort has been effective in changing behavior and reducing people's exposure to mercury.

GLIFWC updates the maps every two to three years. The next version will be updated this winter, 2005. These maps will be available at tribal offices, spearers meetings, and on the web at <http://www.glifwc.org>.



Gichigami.

Land use in Lake Superior basin addressed at SOLEC

By GLIFWC Staff

Toronto, Ont.—The State of the Great Lakes Ecosystem Conference (SOLEC) took place on October 6-8, 2004 in Toronto, Ontario. The conference is meant to assess the conditions of the Great Lakes ecosystem and progress towards the goals established in the binational Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

SOLEC has established a number of "environmental indicators," tools meant to monitor ecosystem change over time. These indicators are examined and presented every two years at this conference to monitor the chemical, physical and biological integrity of the Great Lakes basin ecosystem.

This year's conference focused specifically on indicators describing the physical state of the Great Lakes. For example, contaminant indicators across the basin have been rated as mixed but improving.

Many contaminant levels appear to be declining, although fish consumption advisories continue to be necessary, and there are concerns about new and emerging chemicals like flame retardants.

There were also plenary sessions focused on the status and trends of each Great Lake. Lake Superior was assessed as "mixed" with negative trends in invasive species and shoreline development and positive trends in bald eagle, wolf and lake trout recovery.

An afternoon breakout session focused on how to monitor land use in the Lake Superior basin. According to GLIFWC Policy Analyst Ann McCammon Soltis, "Given the rate of development in the basin, particularly for second homes, the biologists working around Lake Superior have agreed that land use change will be extremely important to monitor closely."

To begin the development of a coordinated, basin-wide monitoring program, the breakout session brought together experts in land use and land use change. They explained the range of parameters that could be monitored, what monitoring is already being done, and how that monitoring occurs.

According to McCammon Soltis, the next step is for state, federal, provincial and tribal biologists and others to use the results of the breakout session to develop and recommend a coordinated land use monitoring program for the Lake Superior basin.

Progress toward zero discharge

Binational program releases 2004 progress report

Editor's note: The Lake Superior Binational Program, responsible for the protection and restoration of Lake Superior and its basin, reviews its progress biannually. In 2004 the Program issued a progress report, reviewing its multi-faceted accomplishments. Tribes and GLIFWC have been actively involved in many aspects of the Program's work.

GLIFWC staff participate on four of the Program committees, including the Chemical, Habitat, Aquatic, and Wildlife Committees. Below is a review of progress made towards reducing chemical pollutants in Lake Superior and its basin. The next issue of *Mazina'igan* will look at progress in other aspects of the Program's work.

Progress toward zero discharge

The Lake Superior Binational Program is a unique activity led by governments, industries and community groups. One of our goals is to bring about zero discharge and zero emissions of certain toxic chemicals now being released in the basin. We have an ambitious set of reduction schedules to remove nine chemicals from the waste in industrial processes, municipal discharges and from consumer products by 2020.

As the first in the chain of Great Lakes, Lake Superior is cleaner than the other Great Lakes and has a smaller population and industrial base. This makes it the logical place to pioneer projects to eliminate sources of toxic chemicals for all of the Great Lakes. Since the release of the Lake Superior Lakewide Management Plan (LaMP) in 2000, many chemical reduction activities have been carried out by the program and our partners. There is a complete listing in the LaMP 2002 and 2004 updates. In the following sections are highlights showing the types of projects we are doing in the Lake Superior watershed.

Mercury

Removal of mercury in consumer products has been progressing successfully. EcoSuperior in Thunder Bay, Ontario, set up a program to recover mercury switches from automobiles. To date they have collected 1,340 switches from nine auto companies in Thunder Bay, Marathon and Sault Ste. Marie. In Superior, Wisconsin, approximately 60 cars were checked by the students from Indianhead Technical College and 38 mercury switches were replaced. The Cities of Superior and Ashland set up a program with auto dealers to replace mercury switches in vehicles before they leave the lots.

Members of the Bad River Reservation also carried out a program to survey abandoned cars and remove their switches, fluids and batteries. The Red Cliff Tribe has hired a mercury elimination coordinator. In addition to removing auto switches, cities throughout the basin have been carrying out thermometer swaps, thermostat collections and fluorescent bulb recycling.

Elimination of dental amalgam from the waste stream is also continuing. In Ontario, a 2003 regulation required that dental offices install dental amalgam separators to prevent mercury from getting into the sewer. In Minnesota, the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District, Hibbing, Virginia and Two Harbors installed amalgam separators. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has

distributed additional separators to dentists in other cities. The City of Superior, Wisconsin, has offered workshops on best management practices to dentists.

Several local governments including the cities of Duluth, Minnesota; Superior, Ashland, and Douglas County, Wisconsin have passed ordinances restricting the sale and/or banning landfill disposal of certain mercury bearing products.

Energy conservation can significantly reduce the amount of mercury released from coal fired power plants. Recent energy conservation projects include the Duluth Zoo, which installed solar hot water; photovoltaic cells; and a geothermal heat exchanger that uses the earth's crust to cool polar bear and seal pools. Not only is this a benefit for the environment, but the new equipment is projected to save about \$136,000 (U.S.) annually! At the park building at Hartley Nature Center in Duluth, solar panels cover the roof, passive heat and lighting are incorporated in the design and a geothermal heat pump is the primary heating and cooling system.

Grand Portage and the Bay Mills Tribes are assessing wind generation feasibility. In addition, Minnesota Power constructed an innovative, high-efficiency home in a northern climate with a goal of heating it for \$300 (U.S.) per year. The Millennium Star house in Duluth incorporated energy efficient design, materials and appliances.

PCBs

The phasing out of PCBs in the basin is happening in both Canada and the United States. A canvass of seven pulp and paper mills on the north shore of Lake Superior revealed that three mills (Marathon Pulp, Smurfit Stone (closed 2003) and Norampac) are entirely PCB-free and the remaining four are phasing out their in-use and in-storage PCBs. Algoma Steel Inc. in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, under its Environmental Management Agreement has already destroyed 83 percent of its PCB inventory.

In the United States, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has evaluated transformer inventories at several utilities in the basin and found roughly 700 transformers have a moderate to high risk of containing PCBs. The current phase of the project is to remove as many of the transformers as possible, starting with those that are closest to waterbodies.

Dioxin, Hexachlorobenzene, Octachlorostyrene

Dioxin, Hexachlorobenzene and Octachlorostyrene are released during the incineration process. This is particularly true during the open burning of household wastes where lower burn temperatures do not allow for materials to be completely burned. A number of LaMP partners have engaged in outreach efforts to convince people to reduce open burning of household waste.

Pesticides

Collections of waste pesticides continued in Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin and the first ever hazardous waste collections were held in two Ontario towns. Thunder Bay continued to collect pesticides as part of its hazardous waste program.

Critical habitat to be designated for threatened bizhiw (lynx)

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is just beginning the process of designating critical habitat for the Canada lynx, a species currently on the federal Threatened Species List. This will help preserve habitat necessary for the survival of the lynx. The Canada lynx was designated as threatened in 2000.

That designation was challenged in court by Defenders of Wildlife, who claimed the lynx should be listed as endangered, a status affording even more protection for the species.

The ruling from that lawsuit required the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) to review its determination as to the threatened or endangered status and to establish critical habitat for the Canada lynx.

As a result of that ruling, the USFWS did review its determination, and in 2003 concluded that the Canada lynx still does not meet the endangered species designation "because there is no evidence to indicate that the contiguous United States lynx population is in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range."

According to the USFWS, "A threatened species is one that is likely to become endangered in the foreseeable future. Once listed, a species is afforded the full range of protections under the Endangered Species Act."

Also in compliance with the court ruling, the USFWS is starting the process of designating critical habitat within the lynx's natural range. Canada lynx range in the United States includes the states of Colorado, Idaho, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New Hampshire, New York, Oregon, Utah, Vermont,



Canada lynx pair by icy stream. ©2003 ICN-RCI / Hemera (Reprinted from http://142.206.72.67/01/01a/img/extra/zoom/01a_004c_1.htm.)

Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. These states have boreal forest, which is lynx habitat. This is also where lynx are most frequently reported.

Some of the threats to the lynx cited by the USFWS include certain forest management activities and fire suppression efforts that reduce the understory vegetation in forests. Removal of understory vegetation impacts snowshoe hare, a primary prey of the lynx.

Other problems for the lynx relate to unintentional take by trappers; traffic and urban development, particularly in Colorado; and lack of "connectivity" between Canada and the U.S. lynx habitats.

In the Great Lakes region, most of the lynx habitat is within federal lands, so all federal agencies considering actions that could impact the lynx must first consult with the USFWS. Management plans for the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management will include measures to provide for lynx conservation.

The key element to lynx habitat is the presence of adequate snowshoe hare numbers. According to the USFWS, "Lynx do not successfully reproduce without an adequate diet of snowshoe hare. Habitat conditions and vegetation types that support adequate snowshoe hare populations are considered lynx habitat. In general, lynx and snowshoe hare habitats are moist boreal forests that receive deep snow and cold winters."

Slightly larger than a bobcat, the lynx has longer hind legs and large, very furry paws which help it hunt snowshoe hare through deep snow. The long tufts on its ears and a short, black-tipped tail also characterize the lynx.

(Information taken from a June 27, 2003 USFWS News Release.)



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NON PROFIT ORG
POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT # 203
EAU CLAIRE, WI

Printed by: EAU CLAIRE PRESS COMPANY, EAU CLAIRE, WI 54701

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(Pronounced Muh zin ah'igun)

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MAZINA'IGAN (Talking Paper) is a quarterly publication of the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission, which represents eleven Ojibwe tribes in Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Subscriptions to the paper are free. Write: MAZINA'IGAN, P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861, phone (715) 682-6619, e-mail: pio@glifwc.org. Please be sure and keep us

informed if you are planning to move or have recently moved so we can keep our mailing list up to date.

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Letters to the editor or submitted editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinion of GLIFWC.
For more information see our website at: www.glifwc.org.

**Ojibwe Ceded Territories and
Member Tribes of GLIFWC**

