Mazina'igan
A Chronicle of the Lake Superior Ojibwe
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From the desk of GLIFWC's Board Chairman Mic Isham

By Mic Isham, Chairman of the GLIFWC Board of Commissioners

Lac Courte Oreilles, Wis.— Aaniin! Ogimaa Benasi nindizhinikaaz. Migizi nindodem. Odawa Zaga'iganing indoonjiba.

Greetings to all from Lac Courte Oreilles. I hope everyone is well and had a great autumn.

In the last issue of ***Mazina'igan***, GLIFWC Executive Administrator Jim Zorn wrote about a question that is still being asked all over Indian Country—"How's GLIFWC doing these days?" I feel I must also address this issue.

It's been a little over a year now since the untimely death of our friend Jim Schlender. As Executive Administrator of GLIFWC since May of 1986, Jim headed up the organization for most of its existence. He is credited for molding GLIFWC into one of the finest natural resource agencies in the country.

Mic Isham. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

So when I go to meeting after meeting and I am repeatedly asked the question "How's GLIFWC doing?" I don't get upset because I understand the concern. In my mind I never imagined anyone else but Jim Schlender ever at the "helm."

But life threw us a curve ball, and we found ourselves in the difficult situation of posting Jim Schlender's position of Executive Administrator.

In February we hired long-time Policy Analyst Jim Zorn. Zorn was Schlender's right-hand man for his entire tenure and deserves credit for his part in shaping GLIFWC. The GLIFWC Board of Commissioners told Zorn exactly what we expect of him last February, and he has handled the transition in exemplary fashion.

So how do I answer that reoccurring question? I say GLIFWC is as it was—GREAT! I don't just mean as a top-notch organization but more than that. GLIFWC is great also because it represents our Ojibwe Tribal Nation. We routinely hear tribal leaders refer to our reservations as the "LCO Tribe" or the "Bad River Tribe," but we are not the tribe. We are really bands of a much larger tribe.

In fact, this is exactly why GLIFWC was formed. The treaties are titled, "The Treaty with the Lake Superior Chippewa" (our nation), and the treaties are signed by chiefs of individual bands (like states).

After we won the Voigt case, which included the acknowledged right to self governance, we had to develop a system to administer our treaty guaranteed right to hunt, fish, and gather. Rather then individual regulatory bodies for each band to implement our "treaty rights," tribal leaders chose to do it together—as a Nation, and GLIFWC was born.

Of course, great nations as well as great organizations require great leadership. We at GLIFWC are fortunate for the great leadership of Jim Schlender and have no doubts in the future leadership of Jim Zorn. GLIFWC is doing fine.

I want to also acknowledge the entire GLIFWC staff for all their dedication and hard work during the "transition." I consider the GLIFWC staff to be the best in their respective fields and challenge anyone to argue with me on the issue if they disagree.

Tribal perspective shared at International Mercury Conference

By GLIFWC Staff

Madison, Wis.—"Mercury pollution can threaten the health of people, fish, and wildlife everywhere, from industrial sites to remote corners of the planet, but reducing mercury use and emissions would lessen those threats." This quote from a press release following the Eighth International Conference on Mercury as a Global Pollutant, held August 6th-11th, 2006 at the Monona Terrace Community and Convention Center in Madison, Wisconsin, summarizes what leading scientists are saying about mercury pollution.

While this may seem like old news to those familiar with mercury and its affect on people and the environment, these words coming from the scientific community send a strong message to the world that mercury pollution must be taken seriously.

Every two to three years the world's leading scientists in the field of mercury pollution from all over the world gather together and share what they've learned about this toxic metal and how it travels through the environment. The conference was attended by over 1,000 people from 68 countries and was held in the United States for the first time since Monterey, California in 1992. The host organizations for the conference were the University of Wisconsin-Madison, UW Sea Grant, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse.

A key issue addressed at the conference was the fact that tribal members are more affected by mercury contamination than others. Conference co-organizer James Hurley, Aquatic Sciences Center University of Wisconsin-Madison, noted in the opening ceremony that "In Wisconsin, and in the Upper Midwest, we feel that the affected population here are the subsistence fishers. We felt that tribal nations mainly represented that group."

Tribal participation in the conference was significant from the beginning and kicked off with a speech by Chairman George Goggleye Jr. of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe during the opening ceremony. "It is very troubling to me that we must argue about minimizing environmental contaminants," said Chairman Goggleye. "For Indian people this argument becomes intense knowing that our children,

The Sokaogon/Mole Lake drum was part of the opening ceremony at the International Mercury Conference. Chairman George Goggleye, Leech Lake Band, joined the group for the songs. (Photo: John Karl/UW Aquatic Sciences)

including, and most specifically in the womb, are the most vulnerable to mercury pollutant impacts. Mercury emissions and the recent United States Environmental Protection Agency proposed mercury reduction rule for coal fired power plants are critical issues for all tribes. Despite significant communications and testimony regarding known impacts of mercury to human and ecological health, the EPA **(See International mercury conference, page 10)**

Letter to the Editor honors James H. Schlender Sr.

Editor's Note: ***The following letter to the editor written by Donna M. Jones, President-elect of the Nonresident Lawyers Division first appeared in the*** **Wisconsin Lawyer Magazine** ***and was also submitted to*** **Mazina'igan.**

The State Bar of Wisconsin lost an outstanding member when James H. Schlender Sr. passed away in 2005. Schlender and I were U.W. Law School classmates and friends. He was the very first recipient of the Wisconsin Law Foundation Belle Case LaFollette Award. The Wisconsin Legislature passed Senate Joint Resolution 74 in his honor in 2005. He was a member of the Lynx clan of the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa Indians and had been a tribal attorney. He served on the State Bar Indian Law Section Board and on the law school's "Friends of L.E.O." Scholarship Fund Steering Committee.

For 20 years Schlender also served as the executive administrator of the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC). Some will recall the late 1980s Chippewa spearfishing controversy that involved significant federal Indian law litigation. GLIFWC, which grew out of the litigation, is an agency "committed to the implementation of off-reservation treaty rights on behalf of 11 member Ojibwe tribes." As Executive Administrator, Schlender implemented spearing seasons, drafted tribal code, interpreted case law, negotiated with governmental agencies, and worked in Washington, D.C., on resource appropriation legislation.

When I was working for the Wisconsin Supreme Court, I realized that the spearfishing controversy was drawing national attention to Indian law, a subject that was unfamiliar to most Wisconsin attorneys. As a member of the Committee for Participation of Women in the Law, I recommended and co-chaired a mid-year convention CLE program on Indian law. This successful program became the catalyst for creating the Indian Law Section. I also was on the Board of Governors and felt this section was necessary because Wisconsin has 11 federally recognized tribes.

Schlender and I shared a mutual respect for our respective roles that grew out of the Chippewa spearfishing controversy. I last saw Jim at the 2005 Bench Bar Convention when I looked in on the Indian Law Section CLE program. Jim mentioned that it was too bad younger and newer attorneys did not know the history of the Indian Law Section. His comment stayed with me as I attended the Professional Ethics Committee and Nonresident Lawyers Division board CLE program. I went back and told Jim that I could share that history after their program break. He introduced me. In sharing the history, I emphasized that attendees could research federal court decisions, media coverage, and State Bar records.

This year's Annual Convention was different without Jim, but I know he would have greeted me with his warm smile and big hug. We would have liked that Chief Justice Shirley Abrahamson was a presenter at the 2006 Indian Law Section CLE program. And, we would have recalled that the Chief Justice also was one of the many who attended that first CLE program on Indian law. Shakespeare said, "I am wealthy in my friends." And, so it is for me. James H. Schlender Sr. was a fine lawyer, administrator, and State Bar member who also was a gem of a friend.

Donna M. Jones, President-elect,
Nonresident Lawyers Division,
Austell, Ga.

Tribes target military dumps in Gichigami

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen
Staff Writer

Red Cliff. Wis.—Stewing in the depths of western Lake Superior for the last five decades, the condition of some 1,437 drums of military waste has received only intermittent attention from state and federal authorities since 1977. That's when the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) confirmed the existence of the deep-sixed barrels filled with military ordinance like hand grenade parts and assorted scrap.

Spurred by a growing concern over water quality and negative environmental impacts, the Red Cliff Environmental Program and the Fond du Lac Cultural Resources Department are intent on raising public awareness about the obscure dumpsites hidden in 100-400 feet of water.

To date, only nine barrels have been removed from the lake. In addition to munitions scraps, toxic substances, including mercury and PCBs, were previously detected in barrel waste.

"The barrels are filled about three-quarters with substances and capped off with concrete," explained Leo LaFernier, Red Cliff elder and member of the tribe's Natural Resource Damage Assessment Committee (NRDAC).

According to primary documents acquired by the NRDAC, a Minneapolis military contractor packaged and shipped the waste barrels to Duluth by rail. From there, ships dumped the drums across a 25 square-mile area of western Lake Superior.

"This lake is our lifeblood and must be protected for the fish and all the waterfowl that are part of the chain. They are our brothers," LaFernier said.

Representatives from Fond du Lac's Cultural Resources Department based near Cloquet, Minnesota have echoed similar sentiments and have shared information with NRDAC members to draw attention to the potential dangers of allowing the military waste to remain in the lake.

No barrel o' fun

The Red Cliff Band has mapped out a strategy to better evaluate the contents and distribution of the military waste. The tribe released a strategic project implementation plan to the public on September 16 prior to a traditional feast featuring locally caught whitefish.

With sole funding from the DOD, Red Cliff's NRDAC has set a course to help make the lake environmentally safer for humans and wildlife. Ultimately, the tribe is seeking to have the dumpsites cleaned up and restored.

"This is a small step. It's going to take some time to bring more tribal communities together," said Jean Buffalo NRDAC Chair. "Lake Superior provides us with a lot of our sustenance. As Anishinaabe people, we are truly dependent on the lake."

The plan calls for a series of stakeholders' meetings over the next year, likely including other Gichigami tribes in the U.S and Canada, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, City of Duluth, and other interested parties. One of the barrel dumpsites is located less than one mile from an intake pipe that provides Duluth with drinking water.

For more information contact Melonee Montano or Laura Armagost with the Red Cliff Environmental Program at (715) 779-3650.

"This lake [Gichigami] is our lifeblood and must be protected for the fish and all the waterfowl that are part of the chain. They are our brothers."

—Leo LaFernier, Red Cliff elder

The Red Cliff Band has mapped out a strategy to better evaluate the contents and distribution of the 1,437 drums of military waste that lies at the bottom of Gichigami. A traditional feast featuring locally caught whitefish was held after Red Cliff's announcement of a strategic project implementation plan. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

Correction

The aerial photo of the Salmon Trout River on page one of the Fall 2006 edition of ***Mazina'igan*** was attributed incorrectly. The photographer was Chauncey J. Moran, ***Mazina'igan*** apoligizes for this error.

On the cover

Michigan's South Entry Light House in late October with winds blowing at 22 mph from the east. Lake Superior's late October winds made it difficult for GLIFWC's assessment crews. For more Great Lakes news, see page 5. (Photo by Bill Mattes)

Mille Lacs Band wrestles with region-wide racism

Mille Lacs, Minn.—As much as we like to think that racism is a thing of the past, recent acts aimed at Mille Lacs Band members serve as a reminder that intolerance and misinformation are still very much alive. Everything from a local, ongoing disagreement over Mille Lacs Reservation boundaries to local meetings of a national anti-Indian group have played a role in these acts, and the Band and other community groups are working to address them.

Mille Lacs county attorney denies existence of Mille Lacs reservation

Tensions surrounding the ongoing dispute over Mille Lacs Reservation boundaries were exemplified in a June 7, 2006, memo written by Mille Lacs County Attorney Jan Kolb.

She advised county department heads to "make sure all of your staff know that there is no longer a reservation in Mille Lacs County. The reservation was long ago disestablished, and what exists now are lands held in trust for the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe."

In his September 4, 2006 article, "Reservation battle fuels Mille Lacs hostility," Star Tribune reporter Larry Oakes noted that the memo "was the latest chafe point between the Band and some neighbors over whether the original 61,000-acre Mille Lacs Reservation still exists and who's in charge there on the central Minnesota land."

The Mille Lacs Reservation was established through an 1855 treaty as a permanent homeland for the Band. In 2002, the Mille Lacs County Board of Commissioners filed a federal lawsuit against the Band regarding the reservation's boundaries, which are recognized by the United States government. In 2003, a U.S. District Court judge dismissed the lawsuit, and in 2004, the United States Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals found that the county failed to show that it had been harmed by the reservation boundaries. In late 2004, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear the case.

Band veterans booed at Isle days parade

The ongoing disagreement over Mille Lacs Reservation boundaries is suspected to be the cause of boos and jeers aimed at Band veterans on a float during the Isle Days Parade in July.

In a July 12, 2006 letter to the Mille Lacs Messenger, American Veterans Post 53 commander and Band member Kenneth Weyaus Sr. wrote that the float's reception in other towns has been warm and respectful—but in Isle, the crowd's reaction was less welcoming.

According to Weyaus, "We were criticized and shunned at the beginning of the parade by a handful of people, someone threw something at the front window of the truck that was pulling the veteran's float, and at the end of the parade in front of the local Isle bar, with a group wearing red t-shirts sat a woman giving our float a thumbs down and was 'booing' the float."

The Band veterans have vowed that they will not return to Isle without an apology from town leaders and assurance that this kind of disrespect will not be tolerated. Isle Mayor Mike DeCoursey has publicly stated that he feels that the people who showed the Band members disrespect—not the city—should issue an apology.

Anti-Indian group holds meetings in Mille Lacs area

During September 2006, the Mille Lacs Equal Rights Foundation sponsored three public forums on federal Indian policy issues. The group has ties to the Citizens Equal Rights Alliance (CERA), which claims to promote "equal constitutional and civil rights protection for all citizens living on Native American reservations or harmed by tribes, tribal sovereignty or Federal Indian Policy."

Each forum had a CERA keynote speaker. The speakers and the CERA organization as a whole claim to not be anti-Indian. Rather, they are against tribal governments and the federal government entities—including the Bureau of Indian Affairs—that support them.

In addition to local community members, state senators and representatives, local county commissioners and other county staff, the Minnesota Attorney General, and U.S. Congressmen were invited to attend CERA's forums.

"What CERA members do not recognize is that Ojibwe people's system of government was in place long before the federal government came into being," said Mary Sam, Local Government and Community Relations Coordinator for the Band. "In addition, the Band provides housing, education, health care, and other services to its members that save the

(See Racism, page 22)

Waste program draws national eye to Bad River

Red Lake walleye program recognized

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen
Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—Clean living—as the saying goes—pays off. The Bad River Band is being recognized by Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government for their efforts to recycle and dispose of solid waste from approximately 670 homes across the reservation. One of only 14 finalists nationwide for the 2006 Honoring Nations Award, the tribe recently collected a $2,000 cash prize following a ceremony in Sacramento, California.

"It's a project we're proud of and a project we're going to keep going," said Eugene Bigboy, Bad River tribal chairman. "With the right people we can do anything."

Bad River operates a weekly curbside pickup program, gathering household waste along with hard and soft recyclables. An on-reservation transfer station is also open daily for community members to drop off their waste.

Deep impact

Officials from Harvard University toured the reservation July 12, visiting tribal recycling facilities and the transfer station. An afternoon panel discussion that included tribal government staff and local residents allowed Harvard representatives to better gauge the program's impact on the community at large.

"Instead of making it harder to recycle like some places I've lived in, Bad River has made it easy by hiring staff and getting this program going," said Bad River's Esie Leoso. "Otherwise, you might have to drive your recyclable material to a station."

Another tribal member living in nearby rural Iron County said organized recycling is virtually nonexistent in his township; unsorted household waste gets tossed into a dumpster including plastic, glass and newspaper.

The Bad River Tribal Council launched the waste management program in 1989, two years before the state of Wisconsin mandated recycling. In the beginning, the tribe recycled nine different materials. Today, program staff collects 30 types of recyclables including waste considered hazardous to humans and the environment like motor oil, batteries, medical waste, and a variety of chemicals.

Under ordinances enacted by the Council, tribal wardens enforce waste disposal guidelines and issue citations for noncompliance or illegal dumping. Some cases are referred to Bad River's tribal court system. As a result, roadsides are considerably cleaner and trash dumping in remote areas of the reservation is limited.

Established in 1986, Honoring Nations is administered by the Harvard Project on American Indian Economic Development. The Harvard Project's goal is to understand the conditions under which self-determined social and economic development is achieved among American Indian nations.

Shane Cramb tosses a trash bag into the tribal garbage truck on a November 2 collection in Odanah. Harvard's Honoring Nations recently recognized Bad River's recycling and waste program at a ceremony in Sacramento, California. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

"By operating the recycling and solid waste program we are exercising our rights as a sovereign government," Bigboy said.

Award finalists convened in Sacramento on October 3 in conjunction with the annual session of the National Congress of American Indians where tribal representatives made a short presentation to the Honoring Nations Board of Governors and the public. The Board selected seven High Honors and seven Honors recipients. "High Honors" received a $10,000 prize and "Honors" awardees collected $2,000

Return of the Red Lake walleye

In far northern Minnesota, the Red Lake Band and its state and federal partners orchestrated an extraordinary walleye recovery program in less than a decade.

Harvard's Honoring Nations tabbed the Ojibwe band with High Honors for taking the lead role in bringing back a walleye population decimated from a long history of overfishing by natives and non-Indians alike. The lake was

(See Red Lake, page 8)

Tribal concerns about gunfire safety zones in Lake Superior include lead based ammunition in the lake water

By Kelly McKnight, GLIFWC Policy Analyst

Unknown to many people in the Great Lakes region, the United States Coast Guard has conducted 23 live machine gun fire training exercises in the Great Lakes since January 2006. The Coast Guard has now proposed the establishment of 34 permanent "safety zones" in the Great Lakes for the purpose of conducting training exercises involving live machine gun fire, including seven zones in Lake Superior. In these zones, Coast Guard personnel would be free to engage in live fire training exercises at any time after providing proper notice.

According to the Coast Guard, live machine gun fire training is essential to ensure that it is manned, trained and equipped to take whatever law enforcement measures are necessary to prevent terrorism or other illegal activity. The proposal has generated concern in tribal communities for environmental and safety reasons.

The seven zones proposed in Lake Superior span the length of the lake and include areas near Whitefish Bay, Sault Ste. Marie, Marquette, Portage, Bayfield, Duluth and Grand Marais (see map). On average, the Lake Superior zones range from about 50 to 65 square miles. According to the Coast Guard, all proposed zones are at least 3 miles from shore and in at least 30 feet of water. In addition, all of the proposed zones are outside of commercial shipping lanes and areas generally used by recreational boaters.

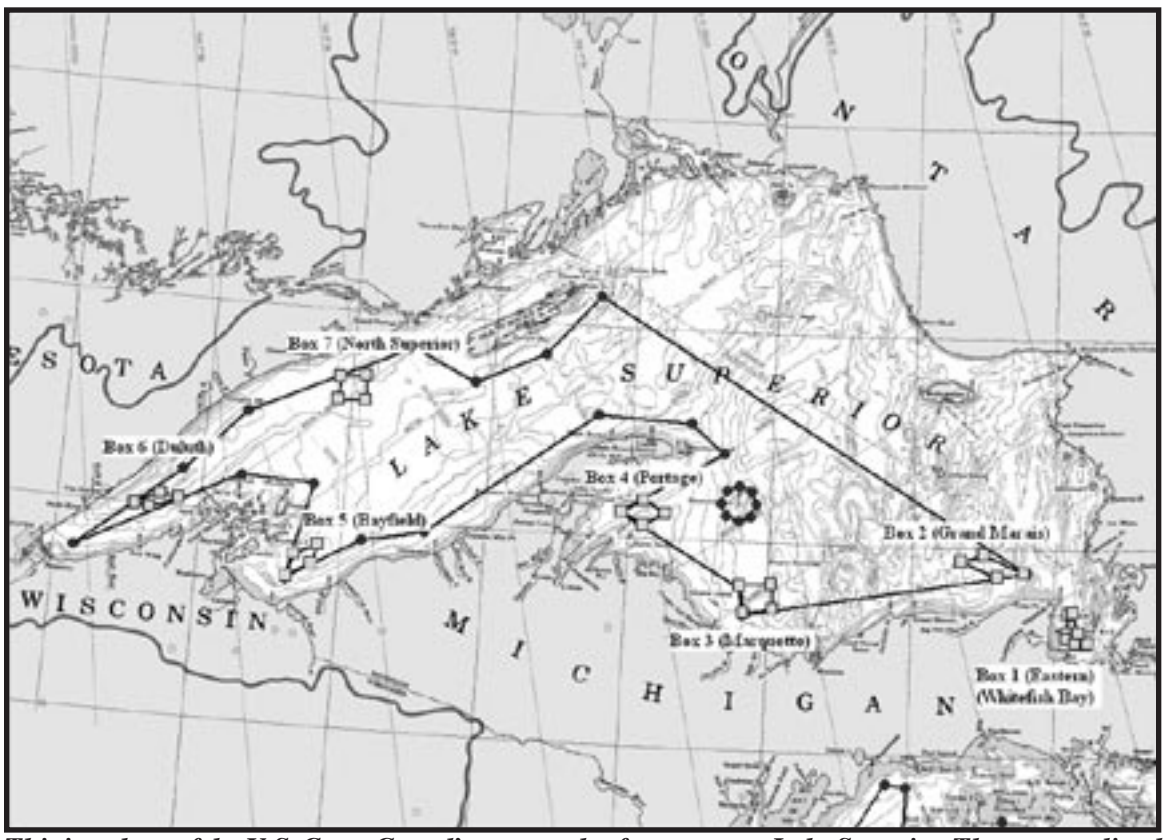
As currently proposed, each zone would be used approximately 3-4 times per year. The Coast Guard estimates that each exercise will last approximately 2-6 hours and that each zone would be used less than 24 hours per year in total. The Coast Guard would provide notice prior to each scheduled exercise by broadcasting information about the exercise in marine band radio and by notifying local governments and the media.

During an exercise the Coast Guard would monitor the zone using a safety vessel and active radar to ensure that no vessels enter the area. Should a vessel enter a zone while an exercise is underway, the exercise will be stopped immediately.

According to the Coast Guard, each exercise will result in approximately 3,000 rounds of ammunition in the waters of the Great Lakes. The ammunition that will be used in the exercises contains a mixture of metals, but is predominantly lead based. Each individual round is approximately the size of a 1/3 ounce fishing sinker.

Despite the Coast Guard's "Human and Environmental Risk Assessment," which found no elevated risks to humans or the environment from the deposit of lead in the water, tribal leaders remain unconvinced. "One of our concerns is lead going into the lake," said Red Cliff Voigt Intertribal Task Force Representative Leo LaFernier. "As hunters know, steel pellets replaced lead some time ago because waterfowl were being poisoned." Potential impacts of lead entering the water include contamination of drinking water supplies, sediments on the lake floor and poisoning of fish and wildlife.

While remaining sensitive to the Coast Guard's mission to protect national security, GLIFWC staff have submitted comments to the Coast Guard reflecting the concerns of member tribes from an off-reservation ceded territory perspective. The comments express concern about the number and location of proposed zones in Lake Superior, the Coast Guard's obligation to consult with tribes regarding the proposal, the proposed method for providing notice of the exercises, and the use of lead ammunition. After the closure of the public comment period on November 13, 2006, the Coast Guard will evaluate the comments and develop its final rule.



This is a chart of the U.S. Coast Guard's proposed safety zones on Lake Superior. The area outlined with round dots is the five-mile distance from the U.S. shores and/or U.S.-Canada maritime border. The boxes outlined with small squares are the proposed safety zones. LAT and LONG coordinates can be found in the federal register (33 CFR Part 165). These charts should not be used for navigation purposes. (Map reprinted from www.uscgd9safetyzones.com)

Bond Falls development plans on rocky road

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen, Staff Writer

Paulding, Mich.—Upper Peninsula Power Company (UPPCO) and Naterra Land have created a pro-development organization to counter efforts by citizens' groups that seek to maintain the wilderness character of Bond Falls Flowage.

With assistance from a Lansing, Mich. law firm, the Property Rights Organization for Economic Development is challenging petitions requesting that Interior Township hold a referendum on whether land surrounding the flowage should have been rezoned to make way for an extensive development project.

Naterra purchased 960 acres along Bond Falls from UPPCO in December 2005 with plans to subdivide the land into 300-400 residential parcels. The project area lies within Interior and Haight townships in Ontonagon County.

UPPCO also recently announced that it is delaying the release of shoreline management plans for Bond Falls and other reservoir lands sold to Naterra until late November.

A 30-day comment period that includes UPPCO-sponsored open houses is scheduled to follow. The Minneapolis-based real estate developer is purchasing approximately 7,300 acres from UPPCO at six Upper Michigan reservoirs in Ontonagon, Houghton, Marquette, Alger, and Delta counties.

In addition to citizen groups, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, U.S. Forest Service, and Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission have voiced concerns over the impact of the proposed project.

For more information on the web see: www.uppac.com. Press releases issued by the power company are available at www.uppco.com.

Bond Falls. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

GLIFWC crew on the lookout for returning lake trout

Gay, Mich.—Prior to sea lamprey invasion and over-fishing, twelve distinct types of namaycush (lake trout) were identified from Gichigami, and for the past six years GLIFWC staff have spent several days each fall examining the historic spawning reefs where they were once found to see if they've returned.

Lake trout, once the most abundant predatory fish in the upper Great Lakes, were nearly decimated by the invasive sea lamprey and over-fishing in the mid to late 1940's.

A successful stocking program by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, and an aggressive sea lamprey control program coordinated by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, and strict harvest guidelines which maintain low fishing mortality on recovering lake trout stocks have all led to a resurgence in lake trout numbers throughout the waters of Lake Superior.

In 2006, two historic shoreline spawning populations were investigated during October; one north of the Gay peninsula yielded five lake trout per 1,000 feet. Historically, native redfin lake trout spawned over the rocky reef, which starts in nine feet of water and extends out to waters over 40 feet deep.

Another shoreline spawning population north of the Keweenaw Waterway's south entry yielded two lake trout per 1,000 feet of gill net during the first week in October. Documented spawning occurred along this mainland shore adjacent to Traverse Island from 1917 to the 1960s with fair numbers of young lake trout found there as late as the 1950s

The reefs being examined by GLIFWC's Great Lakes section are listed in the Spawning Atlas of Lake Superior Fishes, which was put into a GIS referenced database by Esteban Chiriboga of GLIFWC's Madison office in 2001.

In addition to examining historic spawning reefs, staff continued to index lake trout numbers at spawning reefs identified and surveyed by GLIFWC since 1986.

At Buffalo reef, 101 lake trout were captured per 1,000 feet of assessment gill net set. Of these fish, 96% were wild and 4% were adult hatchery fish. The large number of wild fish is one indication of a healthy lake trout stock. Another long-term index station, Union Bay reef, in the western Michigan waters of Lake Superior off-shore from the Porcupine Mountains, also had respectable numbers of spawning lake trout. Here the crew captured 45 lake trout per 1,000 feet of gill net, with 94% being wild lake trout and 6% hatchery-reared fish.

Micah Cain, GLIFWC Great Lakes fisheries aid, looks on as Ed Leoso, Bad River fisheries technician, picks a lake trout from an assessment net at Eagle Harbor, Michigan.

Raging winds and waves whap whitefish assessment crew

Houghton, Mich.—It was a rough and windy start to the 2006 whitefish assessment season. The Mizhakwad crew captained by Mike Plucinski, Great Lakes section fisheries technician had to wait out a strong cold front which swept across Lake Superior over the Halloween holiday. Storm force winds, which were sustained at 53 mph over the open lake, kept the crew on land October 31st.

"Once the winds died back to under 30 mph on November 1st we deciced to give it a try," said Ed Leoso, Bad River fisheries technician.

The crew was able to set a quarter-mile of nets in the 3-5 foot seas. "Hopefully we'll have some fish for all this work!" stated Fisheries Aid Micah Cain, while getting his first taste of fall assessment work on Gichigami (Lake Superior), after working several years with GLIFWC's inland crews. Mother Nature gave him a rough introduction to the GLIFWC's Great Lakes section's seasonal activities.

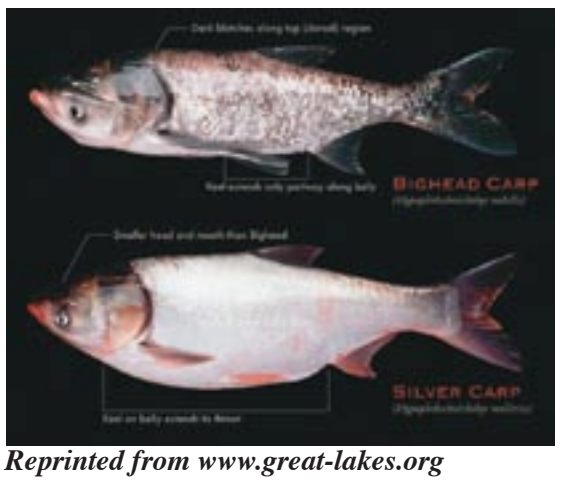
The whitefish assessment has been done annually, as funding permits, since 1986. The objectives of the study are threefold: 1) to determine the relative abundance of the spawning stock, 2) to determine the biological characteristics of the spawning population (i.e., age, length, weight), and 3) to determine where the fish travel during the non-spawning season by marking them with a floy tag, which fishermen then return to GLIFWC for a reward upon recapture.

Micah Cain, GLIFWC Great Lakes fisheries aid stands ready to deploy the first whitefish net of the 2006 assessment season near Traverse Island, Michigan.

Articles and photos by Bill Mattes, GLIFWC Great Lakes Biologist

Plan for controlling Asian carp

Odanah, Wis.—Once imported into the US as "problem solvers," Asian carp species that have escaped to or been released into wild habitat are quickly expanding their range, threatening native species and habitat. For one, as bottom-feeders, they can play havoc in wild rice beds and are unwanted inhabitants there.



Reprinted from www.great-lakes.org

Seeking to address the growing Asian carp problems, the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force has developed a draft plan, entitled 'Management and Control Plan for Asian carps in the United States,' that was released for a 60-day comment period on October 24, 2006. This plan establishes goals, strategies, and recommendations concerning the management and control of four recently introduced Asian carps—the bighead, silver, black, and grass carps. Asian carps include many species, including the common carp, which has been a destructive part of some Great Lakes ecosystems since the late-1800's.

Each Asian carp has its own story of introduction and spread throughout the United States. Each also has its own set of disruptions to the areas in which it ultimately resides. The bighead and silver carps were introduced to improve water quality in fish ponds and as food sources. Currently, both are found in the Mississippi river system as far north as Minnesota and east to the electric barrier on the Chicago Sanitary/Ship Canal. The black carp was introduced to control snails in aquaculture ponds and the grass carp to biologically control aquatic vegetation in ponds and small lakes. Currently, the black carp is only found in the southern

(See Asian carp, page 23)

Science, culture, blend at manoomin gathering

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen
Staff Writer

Watersmeet, Mich.—From management to harvest to history, the Manoomin Niikaanisag Conference had all-things wild rice covered. Experts in both the traditions and science of manoomin guided more than 100 people from around the upper Great Lakes on an in-depth examination of the celebrated "food that grows on water."

"Whether people came with an ecological perspective or a cultural perspective, the conference worked," said conference co-organizer Patrick Robinson. "I think it helped bridge a perceived information gap between culture and ecology." A mix of tribal members and non-natives attended the gathering—which featured workshops and presentations—on the Lac Vieux Desert (LVD) reservation, August 7-10.

Robinson, a University of Wisconsin-Extension environmental specialist, paired with Ferris State University Biology Professor Scott Herron to lead event planning efforts. In addition, GLIFWC and a number of local tribes were among twenty conference collaborators that included government agencies, educational institutions and environmental organizations.

Popular Culture

Robinson said the conference high points centered on workshops that passed on traditional know-how and allowed hands-on participation.

During one outdoor session, Northern Michigan University Instructor Don Chosa and LVD's Roger LaBine distributed seasoned lengths of rough-cut cedar, assisting knife-wielding participants in the fundamentals of carving rice knockers—thirty-inch sticks whittled to about the diameter of a broom handle.

Nearby another LVD member, Paul LaBine, evaluated the progress of the stick carvers, checking for weight, length and balance. "You want them to be about the same weight unless one arm is a lot stronger than the other. They should fit your hands; you want them to be comfortable," he said.

LaBine also had a hand-built ricing boat on display, painted green and featuring a flat-bottom that enabled ricers to better ply the shallow waters where wild rice thrives.

"This is the only type of boat I use anymore," LaBine said. "It's not as tippy as a canoe."

The flatboat—which resembles a squat, thickset canoe—is emblematic of how Ojibwe people have incorporated modern materials into utilities crafted for traditional pursuits over the last few centuries. Based on a design Labine attributes to Mole Lake's Chuck Ackley, the boat is put together with roofing and sheet rock nails, plywood, milled pine boards, tin scraps, glue and roofing cement. Once assembled, LaBine said he fills the interior with water, causing the wood to swell, tightening up all the joints and seams. It's a departure from old-time materials like bark, pine pitch and hand-peeled wood, but accomplishes the same task—arguably, with greater efficiency.

(See Manoomin, page 19)

Lac du Flambeau resident Leon Valliere knocks rice at Island Lake in northwest Wisconsin during the 2006 wild rice season. (Photo by COR)

Hands-on programs like carving cedar sticks "knockers" for wild rice harvesting were popular with both kids and adults at the Manoomin Niikaanisag Conference held at Lac Vieux Desert. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

GLIFWC annually purchases green or unfinished rice for reseeding programs across the ceded territory. Above, Peter David is pictured with Willie Jones after weighing sacks of rice harvested from Pacwawong Lake. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

Gifts from the ricing season

Early estimates indicate a good harvest

By Peter David, GLIFWC Wildlife Biologist

Odanah, Wis.—Advertisers claim the Energizer bunny just keeps going and going and going. I don't know about that, but it is common knowledge among the Ojibwe that manoomin is the plant that just keeps giving and giving and giving. This plant, which was so critical to survival of the Anishinaabe people, continued this fall as it has for centuries to nourish the physical and spiritual needs of those who seek it out—regardless of whether those seekers are of Ojibwe or German descent.

The satisfaction of physical needs is the simpler quantity to measure. It starts in the GLIFWC offices with reports from the field, and this year the comments ran heavily towards the positive: "Long Lake is the best it has looked in years," or "It was really falling at Mud yesterday," or "Very few worms at Phantom this year." Ricers have been kind enough to share enough of these observations each year to give us a pretty good feel for how the harvest is going as the season unfolds.

Of course, "pretty good feels" sometimes still miss the mark in the end, or are vague in their particulars. So each year GLIFWC, in cooperation with the Wisconsin DNR, conducts surveys of state and tribal ricers. The state's automated licensing system allows us to survey state licensees while the tribal permit data is still being entered into the computer data base. At this point in time, most of the state data is in, while tribal surveys will soon be beginning, but this "half of the equation" yields enough information to give a pretty good indication of where the final harvest figures will end up.

And the numbers are supporting the inferences drawn from the field reports. It looks like 2006 rebounded from the difficult conditions of a year ago—when low water, pollination problems associated with an overly-warm July and other factors combined to produce the lowest harvest in a decade. It appears that this year will be very similar overall to the 2003 or 2004 seasons—both above average years in which the combined state and off-reservation tribal harvest ran around 77,500 pounds. If 2006 ends up edging out those seasons, it will go down as the

(See Gifts, page 10)

Patience pays off in battle against purple loosestrife

By Miles Falck GLIFWC Wildlife Biologist

Odanah, Wis.—In its native range of Europe and Asia, purple loosestrife is not invasive because many insect herbivores are constantly feeding on it and keeping its population down.

Unchecked by natural enemies, purple loosestrife in North America has invaded wetland habitats, often to the exclusion of native species.

Taking advantage of these facts, scientists looked to these insect herbivores in the mid 1980's to find a biological control agent for purple loosestrife in North America. Over 150 insects were initially identified as herbivores of purple loosestrife. However, many of these insects were "generalist" species, feeding on a number of plants, and loosestrife was only one item in a broader menu.

The scientists were looking for insects that displayed "host specificity," or an insect that feeds on only one species of plant—purple loosestrife. Of the 150 insects, 15 were selected for further research, and only six were finally approved for release in North America by USDA–APHIS (U.S. Department of Agriculture—Animal Plant Health Inspection Service) in 1992 after extensive testing in quarantine facilities.

Of the six species approved for release, two beetle species *(Galerucella calmariensis and G. pusilla)* proved especially easy to rear and mass produce for the large scale release efforts that would be necessary.

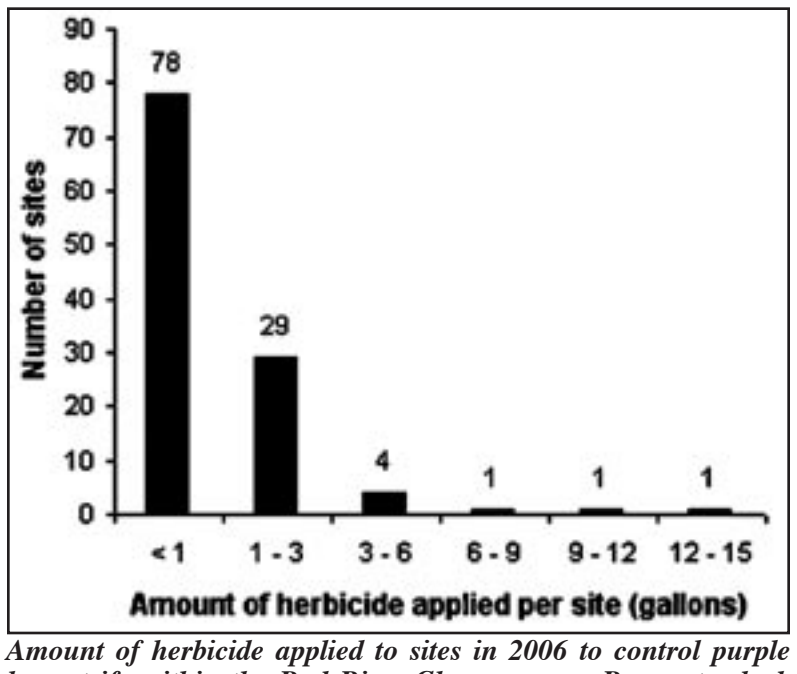
GLIFWC began rearing and releasing *Galerucella* beetles in 2000. Rearing efforts continued for four years. By 2005, enough sites had been established that beetles could be collected at local wetlands in sufficient numbers to release immediately at new sites.

Although it takes time for the beetle populations to build up in sufficient numbers to start reducing loosestrife abundance, the results have been worth the wait. Small sites can see a visible reduction in purple loosestrife in a year or two, but large sites like the one pictured below can take four to six years before the results are fully evident.

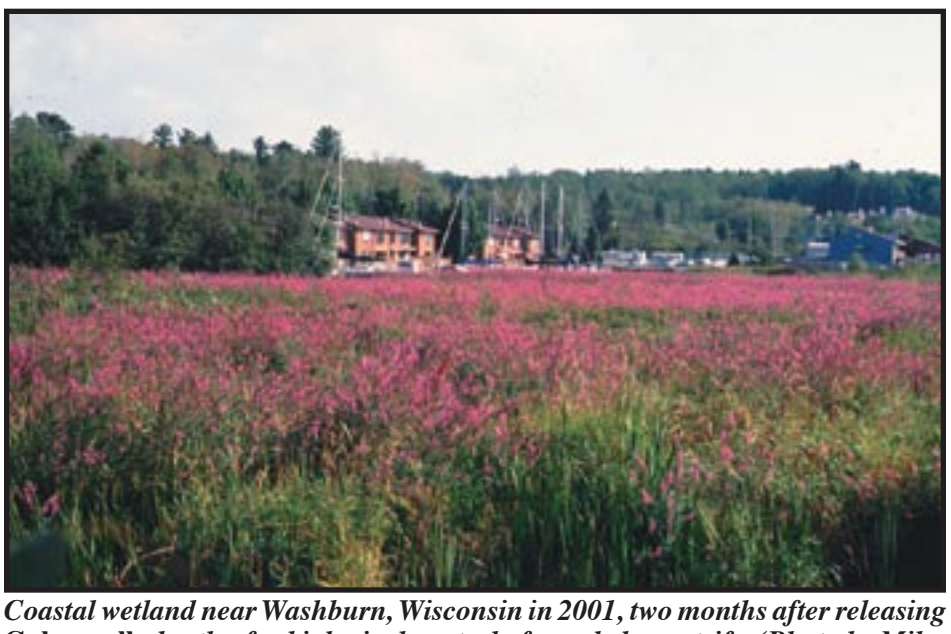
Many of the largest sites in the Bad River-Chequamegon Bay watershed have shown similar results this year, and the largest sites all have viable *Galerucella* populations established. In fact, the majority of *Galerucella* beetles collected at these sites in 2006 were distributed to lake association volunteers and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources staff for release at sites outside the Bad River-Chequamegon Bay watershed.

Although *Galerucella* will not completely eradicate purple loosestrife from our wetlands, they will reduce it by 90% or better. The use of biological control has also allowed GLIFWC staff to spend more time controlling small loosestrife infestations with herbicide before they become large unmanageable populations. The result is less time spent trying to manage large sites; more small sites get treated before they become a source for new seed, and less herbicide is used at each site (see graph).

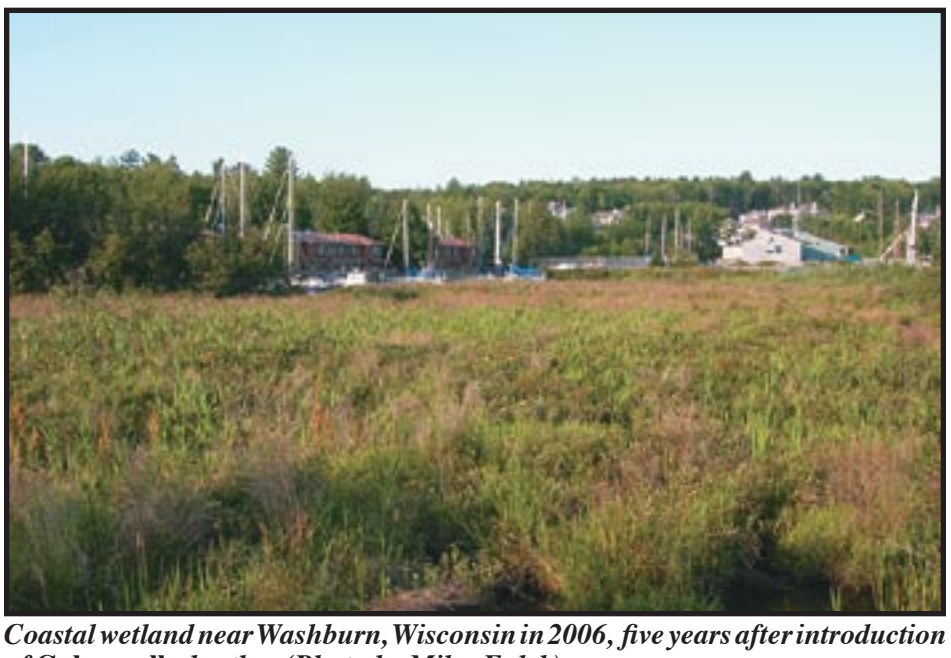
Galerucella *beetle feeding on purple loosestrife leaf. (Photo by Miles Falck)*



Amount of herbicide applied to sites in 2006 to control purple loosestrife within the Bad River-Chequamegon Bay watershed. (Graph by Miles Falck)



Coastal wetland near Washburn, Wisconsin in 2001, two months after releasing **Galerucella** *beetles for biological control of purple loosestrife. (Photo by Miles Falck)*



Coastal wetland near Washburn, Wisconsin in 2006, five years after introduction of **Galerucella** *beetles. (Photo by Miles Falck)*

Amid pest's attack, Saginaw Chippewa preserve black ash seeds for future basketmakers

By Mark Ranzenberger, The Morning Sun

Mount Pleasant, Mich.—The Saginaw Chippewa Tribe of Michigan is preserving more than 20,000 black ash seeds with hopes of someday helping the Midwest recover from the effects of a tree-killing beetle.

The seeds—frozen and dormant, vacuum-sealed in plastic—are being stored in a freezer of the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort. "The seeds are now suspended in time," said Sally Kniffen, environmental specialist for the Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe.

Kniffen led the tribe's effort to save more than 20,000 black ash seeds. The goal is to plant those seeds at some time in the future, after an exotic pest has destroyed today's trees and it's once again safe to plant.

The emerald ash borer, which feeds on the leaves and wood of ash trees, is blamed for the loss of nearly 20 million trees in Indiana, Ohio, Michigan and neighboring Ontario since it was found near Detroit in 2002.

Chemical controls might slow down the spread of the pest, experts say, but it won't stop it. Kniffen estimates that within 10 years, most of the state will be infested with ash borers, and as many as 400 million trees will die.

The ash borer—a half-inch long, quarter-inch wide insect that is metallic green—hails from China, Korea, Japan, Mongolia and eastern Russia. The borer spread to the United States, probably in crates or pallets.

The ash is hugely important to the Saginaw Tribe's culture. The tree's wood provides the splints to make ash baskets and knowledge of how to make those baskets has been passed down for generations.

Tribally-funded teams collected seeds from woodland areas and Shepherd Public Schools property. Kniffen has worked with federal experts to help evaluate the seeds. Only 10 percent are expected to remain viable over time. "It's not good odds," Kniffen said. "But our basket-makers say it's about what you get in nature, anyway."

Editor's note: *In a Letter to the Editor of the Tribal Observer, a publication of the Saginaw Chippewa, Kniffen reported that on September 26, 20,000 Black Ash tree seeds were sealed and sent to Fort Collins, Colorado to the National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation. Kniffen would like to personally thank the individuals who have contributed their time, energy, knowledge, and resources to this project.*

The invasion from below

By GLIFWC Staff

A forest heavily infested by European earthworms. Inset shows a **Lumbrius** *earthworm. (Photos by Steve Mortensen, Minnesota Department of Agriculture)*

Odanah, Wis.—Regular readers of the ***Mazinai'gan*** are well aware of the litany of introduced animals, plants, and disease organisms that certain non-native invasive species can cause. These introduced organisms hamper forest regeneration (buckthorns, garlic mustard), short-circuit food chains (zebra mussels, rusty crayfish) and displace native plants and animals (purple loosestrife). Disease organisms such as Dutch elm disease and chestnut blight have greatly reduced, even eliminated, whole species (in this case, American elm and American chestnut, respectively) from the landscape. But one of the most disruptive introductions of all are various species of .... earthworms!!!

Many people are surprised to learn that no terrestrial (land-living) earthworms are native to our region. In fact, before European settlement there were no terrestrial earthworms north of the "glaciation line." This "glaciation line" marks the southernmost extent of the advance of the glaciers during the last ice age. It runs from the Pacific Coast in northern Washington State, across the Great Plains to southwest Wisconsin, northern Illinois and Ohio, and east to the Atlantic Coast. North of this line, huge ice sheets covered the land for centuries, completely wiping out any native earthworms that may have been here before. Native earthworms survived south of this glaciation line, but all the earthworms living north of the line today came from Europe and Asia.

At least 15 species of earthworms have been introduced to the Great Lakes region, seven of which are known to invade forests. Of these seven, the common nightcrawler, *Lumbricus terrestris* (often sold for bait as "Canadian crawlers") and its smaller cousin, *Lumbricus rubellus* (sometimes sold as "leaf worms"), are probably the most destructive. If you have ever gone out with a flashlight after a summer rain in search of fishing worms, you probably know that nightcrawlers construct deep, permanent burrows. At night, with their tails still in their burrows, they stretch out across the ground in search of leaf litter, animal waste and even live, healthy seedlings. The "leaf worm" doesn't build permanent burrows, but crawls through the leaf litter and upper soil, eating as it goes. Other introduced earthworms live in the surface litter or deeper in the soil. While they may be less destructive than these two species, they still can cause serious damage to forests.

As early as grade school many people are taught that earthworms are beneficial to the soil. And they can be helpful in gardens, lawns and agricultural fields, where their burrowing can loosen soil heavily compacted by foot traffic and heavy equipment. But earthworms wreak havoc in northern forests, where they actually lower the fertility and increase the compaction of the soil.

Of all our natural habitats, moist northern hardwood forests are probably the most susceptible to earthworm invasion. These forest are dominated by sugar maple, along with yellow birch, hemlock, basswood, white ash, and ironwood. (From central UP and parts of eastern Wisconsin eastward, American beech is also a major component.) Typical of these forests is a springy "duff" layer several inches thick, made up of nearly intact leaves on top, and increasingly shredded and decayed leaves and other organic matter below. This duff layer provides critical cover for ground-nesting birds, small mammals, reptiles and amphibians, along with numerous spiders, insects, mites, snails, fungi, and other organisms that are part of these forests. The plants that inhabit these forests, from herbs to trees, typically have large seeds with lots of food reserves. Their seeds germinate slowly, developing relatively large, vigorous root systems that penetrate into the duff layer.

While a few earthworms don't eat much, when introduced into a new, favorable habitat with lots of food, they reproduce rapidly. In as little as five years, these earthworms can build up to high levels, consuming virtually the entire duff layer and leaving little on the forest floor besides logs, branches and sticks. The moss on the logs and branches is mostly gone, but on the tree trucks it's still there, ending in an obvious line a few inches above the ground, where the duff layer used to start.

With the loss of the duff layer goes habitat for birds and numerous other creatures. Instead of lots of tree seedlings and lush patches of trilliums, bellflowers, wild sarsaparilla, Solomon's seal, and other wildflowers, there is mostly bare ground. This bare ground is ripe for invasion by shade-tolerant invasive plants, including garlic mustard, garden forget-me-not, orange hawkweed and hemp nettle. Heavy earthworm infestation can even lead to soil erosion, siltation of streams, and loss of fish habitat.

Earthworms usually spread slowly on their own. One recent Minnesota study estimated their average spread at about 25 ft per year. That's less than ½ mile in 100 years! Under some circumstances they can spread much faster, such as along streams where spring floodwaters may carry them downstream. But as with most other introduced organisms, most long-distance spread occurs through human activity.

Discarding fishing worms on shore is a common way in which earthworms are spread. And anything that carries soil, mud and plant material from infested areas to areas still free of earthworms is likely to result in new infestations. Dumping of potted plants, mud carried on vehicles, construction and logging equipment, and even mud on boots and shoes can carry earthworms or their eggs to new sites. Once earthworms are established, there is no known way of getting rid of them.

Nightcrawlers and other earthworms are well-established in the upper Great Lakes region, especially in cities and towns, in agricultural areas, along roads, and around popular fishing lakes. But more remote areas are often free of them, or still have only one or two species. You can help keep it that way by taking some simple precautions when working or playing in the great outdoors:

1) Dispose of unused fishing earthworms in the trash, not in the water or on the land.

2) If you use "redworms" *(Eisenia fetida)* or other earthworms for composting, freeze your compost solid for at least one week (the longer the better) before using it. This kills the earthworms and their egg cases (cocoons). An effective and convenient way to freeze larger amounts of compost is by putting it in buckets or other containers in an unheated building for the winter. (The container keeps the worms from burrowing down below the frost line.)

3) Avoid transporting leaves, mulch, compost or soil from one place to another unless you are sure there are no earthworms or cocoons present.

4) If you use ATVs or other vehicles with tread that can hold soil, wash all soil from tire treads and from underneath the fenders before transporting the vehicle from one place to another. Boots (especially those with heavy lugs) also have the potential to spread earthworms and other invasives, and should be cleaned off before wearing them in uninfested areas.

For more information

The Minnesota DNR has a very good website about earthworms, along with a color poster you can download. See *www.dnr.state.mn.us/invasives/terrestrialanimals/earthworms/index.html*.

The Great Lakes Worm Watch of the University of Minnesota has a wealth of information on earthworm identification, biology, ecology, and current research. See *www.nrri.umn.edu/worms/*.

Environment Canada and its partners also has an excellent earthworm site, including a wild "Virtual Worm Tour" slide presentation, at *www.naturewatch.ca/english/contact.html*.

Other sources consulted for this article include:

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Red Lake walleye

(Continued from page 3)

reopened to walleye fishing this past year for the first time since 1997.

"The recovery is nothing short of remarkable," said Red Lake Tribal Fisheries Biologist Pat Brown. "This project shows that if resource managers from various jurisdictions pool their resources and knowledge together for a common good, everyone will benefit in the end."

Commercial walleye fishing first began on the lakes in 1917 under a state program to boost the availability of fish to the public during World War I. Thirteen years later the tribe took over commercial fishing operations and, along with pressure from state angling harvest, the walleye population ebbed up and down for decades until the ultimate crash in the mid-1990s.

"The reception of the Harvard award is a final chapter in the Red Lake walleye recovery story, but cooperative sustainable management in the future will allow our efforts to live on well into the future," Brown said.

The band regulates all 165,000 acres of Lower Red Lake and more than 71,000 of the 119,000-acre Upper Red Lake. The interconnected Red Lakes represent the sixth largest natural body of freshwater in the United States behind the five Great Lakes.

The forests' "little guys" more important than you think

By Jon Gilbert, PhD
GLIFWC Wildlife Biologist

Odanah, Wis.— When we envision our northern forest ecosystems, we can think of many denizens of these forests. Certainly we think of those grand mammals like deer, bear, fisher, wolf, and bobcats. If we think a bit more, we can envision raccoons, skunks and weasels. But when we imagine the forest dwellers, it is not often we think of those smaller mammals like voles, moles, mice, and shrews. Yet in many ways, these tiny forest creatures are the foundation upon which many other, more glamorous species depend.

It is these small mammal populations that compose the food base for many of the larger carnivore species. Not only mammals but also many raptors, like hawks and eagles, depend on these small mammals as food. So these small, often inconspicuous mammals are critically important to the well being of the many forest predators which feed upon them.

Despite their importance in the food chain, little is known about these small mammal populations in Wisconsin. Scientists know that there are annual changes in small mammal population sizes, and some species are known to cycle their populations, raising and falling in a regular fashion.

We also know that many predator species are heavily impacted by changes to their prey base, or the number of small mammals. For example, we know that Canada lynx reproduction and survival are reduced when snowshoe hares are scarce. This same trend applies to other carnivores that feed on smaller species.

Finally, we suspect that when populations of small mammals are low, and therefore food resources are difficult to find, predators must spend longer periods of time hunting to catch a meal. Increased time out hunting, in turn, heightens the risk of these predators being killed themselves by larger predators.

In order to understand how survival and reproduction of American martens are related to prey abundance, GLIFWC has begun a project to monitor small mammal populations in marten habitat. Wildlife Technicians Dan North and Tanya Aldred spend three weeks each fall trapping mice and voles in forests around marten territories. This trapping effort is designed to provide an index to the population of small mammals in these stands. In this way we can determine if prey populations are large or small, increasing or declining.

Once we determine this, we can see how marten reproduction and survival rates are related to small mammal population trends. For example, we know that in some years many marten dens are found with young, while in other years, few maternal dens are found. This raises a series of questions: Could the years with low denning rates be caused by insufficient food (prey or small mammals)? When prey populations recover, do denning rates increase? Or, for another example, we know that there are years when many adult martens are killed and others when none are killed. Is this change in adult mortality related to changes in prey abundance? Are martens spending more time hunting during low prey years, exposing themselves to being killed by fishers? When prey abundance increases and martens can be more efficient, are they less exposed to predation by other predators?

Through this project we hope to shed some light on how small mammal populations fluctuate over time, at the very least. This is an important piece of information which is unknown at this point. The larger purpose of this work is to help understand how these small mammals help to shape the populations of carnivores, particularly the American marten, in our northern forests and ultimately help maintain the health of these ecosystems.

GLIFWC Wildlife Technician Tanya Aldred examines a captured small mammal to determine the species and if it has been previously captured. The plastic bag is used to handle these animals. The live-trap is seen at the bottom right of the photo. All animals captured are released unharmed. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

GLIFWC developes computerized off-reservation permitting & registration

By Jon Gilbert, PhD
GLIFWC Wildlife Biologist

Odanah, Wis.— For many years the tribes have required that tribal harvesters obtain an Off Reservation Natural Resources Harvesting Permit, which includes most hunting, trapping and gathering activities.

Most tribal members recognize these permits that are filled out at the registration station and tribal members check off the seasons in which they plan to participate.

Each year all of the permits issued by the various registration stations in the ceded territories were entered into computerized databases at the end of each season.

This is a big job and actually is repetitive because the information is already recorded at the time the permit is issued. Therefore, GLIFWC pursued developing a computerized database that would be created at the time permits are issued, eliminating a step and saving time. Also, the database would hopefully streamline permit issuing in the future by saving information on tribal harvesters from year to year.

Consequently, GLIFWC began a pilot project to computerize this permit system in 2005. A prototype system was installed at the Bad River registration station. This site was chosen because of its proximity to the GLIFWC offices, making it accessible to trouble shoot any problems.

Long-time registration clerk at-Bad River, Maggie Kolodziejski, had the first opportunity to try out the new system. Although it required some computer training, the result was positive for Kolodziejski.

This prototype was very successful. Permits were issued, and the records were saved in a digital database and did not need to be reentered. The records were immediately available for surveys and permits could easily be re-issued to members who had lost their permits.

In 2006, this pilot project was expanded to include the Lac Courte Oreilles (LCO) registration station and to include deer registration as well. Now, when a deer is registered, information is entered into the computer files and need not be recorded again later, saving a step in the process and making records available much faster.

The LCO Conservation Department has really taken to this new system. In fact they have taken it another step and now include makwa (bear), mizise (turkey) and furbearer registrations. Nice Job LCO!

The information on permits is useful to wildlife managers in several different ways. For one, they are used by conservation enforcement personnel for verifying that the member is legally licensed to hunt, trap or gather.

Registration Clerk Maggie Kolodziejski completes the input for a computerized Natural Resources Harvesting Permit at the Bad River registration station. These computerized permit systems are being used at Bad River and LCO to improve services to GLIFWC member tribes. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

The permits are also used to keep track of how many people are licensed each year, an index to the number who were active.

Finally, permit information is used to help identify members for harvest surveys, a critical way of monitoring the harvest of some species. We hope to expand this project in the coming years to include all registration stations.

If any tribe is interested in putting one of these systems in place at their registration station, please call Jonathan Gilbert, GLIFWC Wildlife Section Leader at (715) 682-6619 ext. 121 or email *jgilbert@glifwc.org*.

International mercury conference

(Continued from page 1)
moved forward with their cap and trade mercury reduction rule. The cap and trade rule would reduce mercury emission from coal fired power plants by 60% in the year 2020. Whereas, the federal clean air act mandates 90% reduction by 2008. Tribes using their fishery resources are disproportionately impacted by mercury contamination, because of their generally higher fish consumption as compared to the overall US population."

Also appearing in the opening ceremony was the Sokaogon Band of Lake Superior Chippewa singers who performed two songs with Chairman Goggleye joining the group for the performance.

On the third day of the conference GLIFWC staff participated in a technical session entitled, "Mercury Contamination and Native Peoples: Cultural, Social, Ecological and Human Health." This session, organized by John Persell, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Environmental Program, and Catherine O'Neill, Seattle University School of Law, featured platform presentations by GLIFWC Environmental Biologists, Matt Hudson and Adam DeWeese and poster presentations by Rick Madsen, GLIFWC data analyst, and Esteban Chiriboga, GLIFWC GIS-Mapping specialist.

Hudson's talk, "Reducing Health Risks to the Anishinaabe from Methlymercury," introduced conference attendees to the mission of GLIFWC and the importance of the walleye harvest to tribal members. He also detailed the work that GLIFWC has done to monitor mercury levels in walleye, provide consumption advice to tribal members through GIS-based mercury maps, and outreach and education efforts accomplished through an EPA Science to Achieve Results (STAR) grant.

Chairman George Goggleye Jr. (Photo by John Karl/UW Aquatic Sciences)

DeWeese presented "Fish Consumption Rates of Select Anishinaabe Tribes," which described the five-year fish consumption study conducted by GLIFWC between April, 1997 and March, 2002.

In his talk, DeWeese described key differences in fish consumption by tribal members compared to non-native people in the United States, including a seasonal increase in consumption by tribal members during the spring months of April and May. The study was made possible because of the efforts of 241 tribal members in the 1837 and 1842 ceded territories that weighed and recorded their fish consumption for up to 12 months during the study and reported it to GLIFWC staff.

"Tribal members are more affected by mercury contamination than others. In Wisconsin, and in the Upper Midwest, we feel that the affected population here are the subsistence fishers. We felt that tribal nations mainly represented that group."

—Conference co-organizer James Hurley, Aquatic Sciences Center University of Wisconsin-Madison

Trends and variability of mercury in walleye fillets in the Wisconsin ceded territory were examined in a poster presented by Rick Madsen. He analyzed all walleye fillets collected since 1983 from a total of 416 lakes. Overall, a slight decreasing trend in mercury in walleye fillets from 1983 through 2005 was found. Of the 129 lakes with walleye fillets collected in at least three different years, he estimated that 70% of the lakes had decreasing mercury levels over time and 30% had increasing mercury levels.

The poster presented by Esteban Chiriboga, "Communicating Tribal Fish Consumption Advisories through Geographic Information Systems (GIS),"described in detail the methods used by GLIFWC to update its mercury maps used to communicate fish consumption advice to its member tribes.

A unique and perhaps one of the most useful things that has resulted from the conference is the release of a conference declaration, which is a summary of statements from 37 renowned scientists, part of four different panels, about what is known about mercury in the environment.

The declaration is not a policy statement about mercury pollution, but it is meant to inform policy makers on what the latest science about mercury pollution concludes and provide a guide for decision making regarding the mercury issue.

Each panel was given a year to review the current science and provide a statement about one of four key questions:

1) Can we ascertain the relative contributions of local, regional, and global sources, and of natural versus anthropogenic emissions to mercury deposition?

2) What is the evidence that humans, fish, wildlife, and other biota are being adversely affected by exposure to methylmercury?

3) How would methylmercury levels in fish respond to reduced anthropogenic emissions of mercury?

4) What are the socioeconomic and cultural costs of mercury pollution?

Summary of Mercury Conference Declarations

1) Sources of Atmospheric Mercury Deposition

- On average, three times more mercury now falls out of the sky than before the Industrial Revolution 200 years ago (A3)
- For the last 30 yars, emissions from developing countries have increased, off-setting decreased emissions from developed nations. (A3)
- The amount of mercury in the atmosphere is apparently not changing. Thus, new findings of a shorter atmospheric lifetime suggest greater movement of mercury to and from the earth's surface. (A4)
- Understanding of the global mercury cycle is being confounded by climate change, increasing ozone levels and other non-mercury factors that may affect how long mercury stays in the atmosphere and how and where it falls. (A7)

2) Risks to Humans, Fish, and Wildlife

- There is solid scientific evidence to show that methylmercury has toxic effect, particularly to the developing fetus. New evidence indicates that methylmercury exposure may increase the risk of cardiovascular disease in humans, particularly in adult men. (H4 and H5)
- To increase the benefits and reduce the risks, consumers should choose fish with high levels of omega-3 fatty acids and low levels of methylmercury. (H6)
- There is no evidence that selenium in the diet protects people from the neurological and developmental effects of methylmercury. (H7)
- Reductions in local and regional point-source mercury emissions have lowered mercury levels in the fish and wildlife affected by them. However, increasing mercury concentrations are now being found in a number of fish eating wildlife in remote areas. (W2)
- Methylmercury exposure may lead to population declines in birds and possibly in fish and mammals as well. (W6)

3) Recovery of Mercury-Contaminated Fisheries

- The concentration of methylmercury in fish in freshwater and coastal ecosystems can be expected to decline with reduced mercury inputs. The rate of decline ranges from years to centuries, depending on the characteristics of a particular ecosystem. (F1)

4) Socioeconomic Impacts of Mercury Use and Pollution

- Mercury use and pollution from human activities has had, and continues to have, documented adverse social and economic consequences. (S1)
- More information is needed about methylmercury contamination levels in marine fishes, the ingestion of which is the main way most people are exposed to methylmercury. (S6)
- The use of mercury in small-scale gold mining is polluting thousands of sites around the world, posing long-term health risks to up to 50 million inhabitants of mining regions and contributing more than 10 percent of the mercury in Earth's atmosphere resulting from human activities. (S3)

(Reprinted from www.mercury2006.org.)

Gifts from the ricing season

Odanah, Wis.—Advertisers claim the Energizer bunny just keeps going and going and going. I don't know about that, but it is common knowledge among the Ojibwe that manoomin is the plant that just keeps giving and giving and giving. This plant, which was so critical to survival of the Anishinaabe people, continued this fall as it has for centuries to nourish the physical and spiritual needs of those who seek it out—regardless of whether those seekers are of Ojibwe or German descent.

The satisfaction of physical needs is the simpler quantity to measure. It starts in the GLIFWC offices with reports from the field, and this year the comments ran heavily towards the positive: "Long Lake is the best it has looked in years," or "It was really falling at Mud yesterday," or "Very few worms at Phantom this year." Ricers have been kind enough to share enough of these observations each year to give us a pretty good feel for how the harvest is going as the season unfolds.

Of course, "pretty good feels" sometimes still miss the mark in the end, or are vague in their particulars. So each year GLIFWC, in cooperation with the Wisconsin DNR, conducts surveys of state and tribal ricers. The state's automated licensing system allows us to survey state licensees while the tribal permit data is still being entered into the computer data base. At this point in time, most of the state data is in, while tribal surveys will soon be beginning, but this "half of the equation" yields enough information to give a pretty good indication of where the final harvest figures will end up.

And the numbers are supporting the inferences drawn from the field reports. It looks like 2006 rebounded from the difficult conditions of a year ago—when low water, pollination problems associated with an overly-warm July and other factors combined to produce the lowest harvest in a decade. It appears that this year will be very similar overall to the 2003 or 2004 seasons—both above average years in which the combined state and off-reservation tribal harvest ran around 77,500 pounds. If 2006 ends up edging out those seasons, it will go down as the

(See Gifts, page 10)

(Continued from page 9)
best harvest year since 1997—the only year for which the combined harvest estimate reached six digits at 113,000 pounds. (All harvest estimates are of freshly harvested, unfinished rice.)

And the survey results in thus far also are confirming that when given to, manoomin gives back. The cooperative, interagency wild rice restoration program which GLIFWC has spearheaded for nearly two decades —with support from the BIA's Circle of Flight program—is leaving its mark in

Joint venture puts walleye into Lac Courte Oreilles lakes

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Lac Courte Oreilles, Wis.—Working in conjunction with the UW-Stevens Point Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility (NADF), located at Red Cliff, the Lac Courte Oreilles Band once again stocked walleye fry and fingerling into local lakes this fall.

While firm 2006 figures are net yet available, Paul Christel, LCO fisheries biologist/hatchery manager, says the stocking included about 450,000 walleye fry, 37,000 small fingerling (1.37 inch on average) and over 6,000 extended growth fingerlings (about 6 inches) from the NADF facility. This is the second year that LCO and the NADF have joined forces in rearing and stocking walleye.

A similar effort in 2005 resulted in 12,000 extended growth walleyes, according to the NADF's 2005 Walleye Project report. The walleye were raised from eggs and milt collected from walleye captured by LCO fisheries staff using fyke nets. Fertilized eggs were transported from LCO to the NADF facility for incubation in a Bell jar incubation system. In 2005, approximately 300,000 eggs were placed in McDonald style egg jars in mid-April and watched carefully until hatch-out began to occur in early May.

According to the 2005 report only strong, swimming fry were then transfered to outdoor earthen ponds at the facility at the rate of about 120,000 fry per pond in early May.

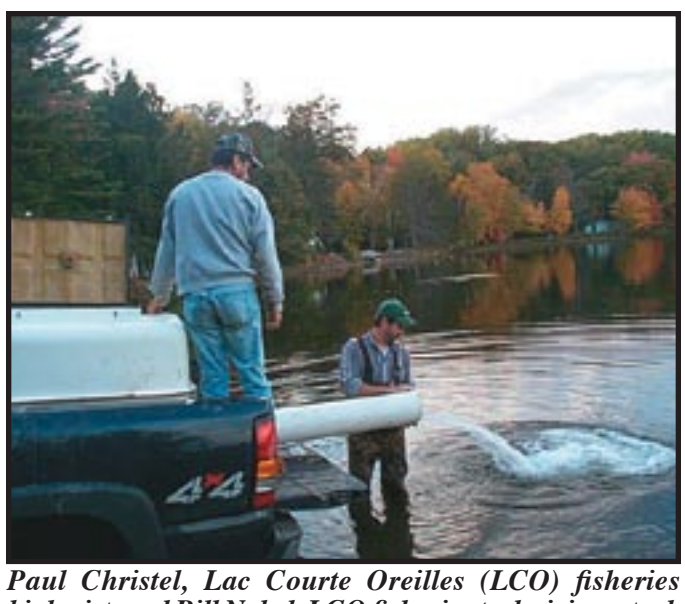
NADF staff sampled walleyes from both ponds weekly, checking for length, weight and fish condition, which continued to be excellent.

The 2005 walleye harvest from the ponds began in late August and continued through early September, when the ponds were drawn down slowly using gate valves and dam boards.

The two ponds yielded approximately 11,744 extended growth walleye weighing 511 pounds. They averaged 6 inches in length and ranged from 4.5 inches to 8.4 inches in sampled fish. The walleyes were loaded into an LCO fish distribution truck and stocked by the LCO Fisheries Department back into local lakes.

NADF estimates that the cost to produce the fish in 2005 was about 66 cents ($.66) per fish, including costs of forage, fertilizer, labor, electricity and miscellaneous expenses.

Final figures for the 2006 project will be available early this winter, according to Greg Fischer, NADF facility director, who prepared the 2005 report on the project. The full report is available from NADF at 715-779-3461 or email gfischer@uwsp.edu.



Paul Christel, Lac Courte Oreilles (LCO) fisheries biologist, and Bill Nebel, LCO fisheries technician, stock extended growth walleye into Big Lac Courte Oreilles. (Photo submitted)

Joe Grover, LCO hatchery technician, holds an extended growth walleye. Over 6,000 walleye were stocked in conjunction with the UW-Stevens Point Northern Aquaculture Demonstration Facility. (Photo submitted)

Walleye eggs being incubated at the LCO hatchery. (Photo submitted)

VHS impacts fish traffic

USDA curtails interstate & Canadian fish imports, affecting Wisconsin, Minnesota & Michigan

Washington, DC—The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) issued an emergency order in October prohibiting the importation of certain species of live fish from two Canadian provinces into the United States and the interstate movement of the same species from the eight states bordering the Great Lakes due to outbreaks of viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS).

This action is in response to the rapid spread of VHS in the Great Lakes region and the potential impact on a growing number of fish species. VHS is a destructive pathogen that produces clinical signs in fish including internal hemorrhaging and death. The disease does not pose a risk to people, but it has been found to affect a number of fish species previously not known to be susceptible including baitfish species, coho salmon and channel catfish.

In addition to prohibiting the importation of certain species of live fish from Ontario and Quebec, Canada, the interstate movement of these species will also be prohibited from New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Dead and diseased wild fish have been reported in Lakes Ontario, St. Clair and Erie as well as the St. Lawrence River. An outbreak was also reported last month in fish from New York's Conesus Lake, a body of water in the Great Lakes watershed but without direct connection to the lower Great Lakes. It is not known how this disease arrived in the Great Lakes area, but APHIS will continue to monitor the situation and take whatever actions are necessary to control its spread.

With the number of the potentially susceptible fish species still growing, new fish species affected by this emergency order will be updated as necessary to prevent the further spread of this disease. For a complete list of live fish included in the emergency order, please visit our Website at www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/aqua/.

The emergency order putting these protections in place can be found on our Website at www.aphis.usda.gov/vs/aqua/. An interim rule is anticipated to be enacted in early 2007 detailing the new requirements.

MSU Whitefish Marketing Campaign moves forward

Mackinac City, Mich.—The Michigan State University (MSU) Whitefish Marketing Campaign is going forward with two marketing initiatives—a promotional website accessible to all Michigan whitefish fishers and processors and a packaging initiative available by joining a branding group.

The two-fold move aims to promote sales and higher prices for Michigan's lake whitefish. It produces a high-end product that will spread awareness, raise prices and be available to those eligible.

A website will promote the Michigan lake whitefish product in general and offer web pages to those Michigan commercial whitefish fishers and processors who want one.

The campaign is made possible by a grant to MSU Extension. It is being implemented by Extension staffers Ron Kinnunen and Chuck Pistis, overseen by a whitefish marketing steering committee. The committee is comprised of individual Michigan whitefish fishermen and processors, tribal fishing representatives as well as Michigan Fish Producers representatives.

Newhall Klein, a Kalamazoo-based firm hired by the campaign to create marketing materials, presented websites with four basic areas to the committee:

- Educate the viewer about lake whitefish: taste, purity, freshness, nutritional benefits including low mercury and high omega-3 fatty acids and why this is significant.
- Educate the viewer about availability: where can you get lake whitefish?
- Educate the viewer about how to prepare lake whitefish: whitefish recipes.
- Educate the viewer about the fishery and its fishers: culture, heritage and history of the lake whitefish in the upper Great Lakes.

Second, a "Legend of the Lakes" brand for a high quality Michigan lake whitefish fillet is being offered by MSU Product Center staff Matt Birbeck, supply chain specialist and counselor liaison. He has secured funding to create a 2-fillet sleeve package branded as "Legend of the Lakes."

To discuss the campaign, contact Ron Kinnunen, 906-226-3687, or Chuck Pistis, 616-846-8250.

(Reprinted with permission from ***Preserving the Resource for the Seventh Generation****, a publication of the Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority.)*

From generation to generation: A fishing lifestyle continues

Tribal fishing families face challenges to keep fishing as a way-of-life

The Gurnoe connection:

Son of treaty rights defender & commercial fisherman keeps tradition going

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Red Cliff Reservation, Wis.—For Richard (Junior) Gurnoe, Red Cliff, commercial fishing has been his mainstay for most of his life. He's been fishing since he was fifteen years old, inheriting his sea legs and a love of Lake Superior and the fishing lifestyle from his father, the late Richard (Dick) Gurnoe.

His father fought hard to retain commercial fishing treaty rights in the 1970s, and a resulting Wisconsin Supreme Court decision, the Gurnoe Decision, is named after Dick Gurnoe, a named plaintiff in the court case.

Junior was too young to recall the time his dad got arrested by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, triggering the well-known court case that reaffirmed tribal treaty fishing rights on Lake Superior, but he learned a lot from him in the years that followed.

Working alongside his dad and Henry (Grunt) Daley, also of Red Cliff, Junior learned the sometimes wayward ways of the big lake as well as the skills of both running and maintaining a fishing tug and bringing in a successful catch. He also learned it isn't always easy, and no job for softies. "We damned near sunk a few times!" he says, recalling the chaos of being caught in gale force winds of 40 to 50 mph with 15 foot seas rolling across the big lake.

Junior fishes year around, setting nets for herring when the season for whitefish and lake trout are closed and setting beneath the ice when Chequamegon Bay freezes his fishing tug into its winter berth. Then it's time to rev up the snowmobile, grab the auger and a few sleds for hauling fish and head out across the ice to where the fish might be. He's been at it for about twenty-five years now.

Richard Gurnoe Jr., Red Cliff commercial fisherman, fits his tug, Gary, with a new woodburning stove in anticipation of cold days fishing on Lake Superior. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

When his father passed on a few years ago, Junior inherited Dick's tug, Marianne, which burned two years ago, cause unknown. So, he has purchased a different tug, Gary, most recently outfitting it with a new stove in preparation for the cold weather fishing season. The small woodburning stove is enough to take the chill off for the crew while working aboard the vessel in the fall and early spring seasons.

Junior markets his fish to Bayfield wholesaler Bodin's and also fills customer fillet orders on the side. He's inherited a number of his father's "regulars."

While commercial fishing has always been a challenging occupation, today's fish market hasn't been kind. Faced with a depressed market value, with prices reflective of the 1950s, and inflated operational costs, it's a squeeze to make a living.

A large influx of Canadian fish, plus imports from other countries, has deflated the local fish market prices. This coupled with an increase in fuel costs especially, put fishermen in a tight spot, according to Gurnoe. He estimates his operational cost to be $125.00 per day when running the tug.

Father of three grown children, two girls and one boy, Junior doesn't think any of them will be following in his footsteps as far as commercial fishing goes.

But undaunted by the host of problems facing the family-operated commercial fishing business, Gurnoe takes it a day at a time. For now, he's looking at a healthy population of Lake Superior herring to target. Tug Gary is readied for the cold weather, and Gary's crew is, as always, ready to roll.

Fresh fish in the hands of justice

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen, Staff Writer

L'Anse, Mich.—Consider this. If Dale and Brad Dakota represent law and order—which they do—around Keweenaw Bay, their current spin-off enterprise might include the slogan "special fish unit"—like the way networks title those everlasting television programs. Maybe, *Law & Order: SFU*.

The brothers from Upper Michigan, however, went with Keweenaw Bay Fisheries, specializing in the distribution of fresh, frozen and smoked Lake Superior fish. As tribal police chief and tribal judge, Dale and Brad have their hands full with public safety and the legal system by day, and processing Lake Superior fish by night—or whenever they can make time. More than five years into the venture, their overtime efforts are paying off. Even in the absence of the snazzy subtitle, *SFU*.

"We're building up a pretty good clientele. People know you've got a good, quality product and they come back," Brad explained as he nimbly trimmed a strip of belly fat from a fresh whitefish fillet. "We're self-taught [filleting fish], but have gotten a lot faster over the years."

The Dakotas nevertheless spend anywhere from two to six hours a day processing lean lake trout, whitefish and lake herring, plus taking care of general maintenance at their fish shop located just south of L'Anse. They landed the outlet by way of their father, Fred Dakota, himself a former Gichigami fisherman. The facility gleams under incandescent lights illuminating a retail storefront, processing area, and state of the art freezer.

Brad credits their 45-foot long freezer with helping expand their customer base that includes local residents, tourists, restaurants and wholesale buyers. Capable of "flash-freezing" vacuumed packed fillets to -15° F in two to four hours, the freezer enables the Dakotas to package an excellent product that's is remarkably consistent over time. Metal racks allow frigid air to circulate across every surface of the packaged fish.

"The secret to freezing is how fast you can get it done. The faster, the better," Brad said. "If you want to make any kind of money in the future, it has to be with frozen fish of high quality. You can guarantee the product every time."

The Dakotas' sales are about evenly split between fresh and frozen fish. Dale said some restaurants prefer fresh fish—which have a shelf life of around four days—while others seek out the convenience of flash-frozen fillets knowing the taste and texture have been preserved. Although a half-dozen tribal fishing outfits funnel a reliable supply of fish to the Dakotas' shop, the growing demand for whitefish stretches the available stock. The late autumn fishing closure to protect spawning whitefish also creates seasonal shortages.

Testing the waters

Dale first reeled his younger brother into the fishing business in the mid-1980s working on a commercial fishing tug for a summer. The vocation was, after all, something of a family affair. Twenty years earlier—before federal courts held up Lake Superior treaty fishing—their father plied the big lake on a subsistence basis, doing his best to stay one step ahead of state game wardens that targeted tribal fishermen as "violators."

The work for the Dakotas was both rewarding and difficult. For Brad, the prospect of being cocooned inside a tug dawn to dusk was nerve-wracking, and he focused his energies on college. Then, years later, the Dakotas found a seemingly ideal set-up in the form of a trawler refitted for trap netting. With a wide-open deck, they lifted and picked fish in the open air. But it would be a short-lived endeavor.

"We didn't catch a lot of fish and even when we did, the prices on the wholesale market were really bad," Brad said. An unexpected and bitter December freeze sealed the fate of four of five traps valued at around $15,000. Assisted by fisherman Cecil Peterson, the Dakotas attempted to secure the trap net lines for the winter but anchor ice hauled down the entire fishing apparatus the following spring.

"It was a hard lesson learned. At that point we really became more interested in the retail aspect of the market," Brad said. Following the creation of Keweenaw Bay Fisheries, Dale's son Brandon and stepson Justin came aboard to handle retail sales and prepare smoked and pickled fish.

The Dakotas said they plan on sticking with their current business structure for the foreseeable future. Only an incredible triangulation of events might get the brothers back on Lake Superior any time soon. Brad explained: "When we can't buy enough fish and wholesale prices go up and fuel prices go down, we'll get the boat going again."

Those conditions present a challenging case for any law and order authorities. Even a special fish unit.

For more information contact Keweenaw Bay Fisheries at (906) 524-6767.

Keweenaw Bay Tribal Judge by day, fish processor by night Brad Dakota fillets a lean lake trout. Brother and Tribal Police Chief Dale Dakota shares responsibility at their fish shop near L'Anse, Michigan. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

With the JayJayCee docked at Bodin's Fishery, Captain Joe Newago assisted by Bad River Fisheries Technician Ed Leoso, unloads boxes of iced fillets, while young Joe receives the boxes on shore. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

Family fishing business keeps several generations of Newagos active in the enterprise

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Bayfield, Wis.—Newago Fish Market greets visitors just as they enter the town of Bayfield driving up Hwy.13 from Washburn, Wisconsin. The small shop, barn red with white trim, sits on the curve next to Oly's Barber Shop.

Open seasonally, spring through the Bayfield Apple Festival weekend in early October, the shop is usually manned by Cathy Newago, shopkeeper and maker of delicious smoked fish spreads.

Cathy's husband, Alan, a Bad River tribal member and retired commercial fisherman, also helps with the shop these days, leaving the seafaring part of the business to his son Joseph Alan, named after his grandfather, Joseph Charles, a small boat commercial fisherman, who fished primarily off Madeline Island.

Alan's grandfather, Jeffery, also fished for a living, but was primarily a spearfisherman.

Fishing has long been a way of life for the Newagos, and Alan and his brothers, Joe, David and Tom, have all relied it at some point during their lives. Today, both Tom and Dave, still ply the waters of Lake Superior for fish, while Alan's son Joe runs his own tug, the JAYJAYCEE, full-time, and cousin Steve, fishes part-time out of his tug, Nori Joe. It looks like commercial fishing will continue as a Newago lifestyle in the future with Alan's grandson, Joe, already helping out substantially on the JAYJAYCEE and loving it.

Alan didn't get serious about fishing until the early 1980s. He worked in other fields primarily until then, although he did some small boat fishing to supplement his income before he purchased his first tug in 1983.

Since that time, he and Cathy focused primarily on fishing for a living, with Cathy helping out both on the boat and on the ice in those early years. The work is frequently cold and hard, but there's something about the open water, the expanse of the lake and the independence that keeps fishing families fishing.

Alan and Cathy fished out of Lake Superior's Chequamegon Bay for a number of years and then headed to Houghton, Michigan to fish in the Michigan waters of Lake Superior. It was there they started marketing their own fish through a fish shop, with Cathy running the shop, assisting with the processing and also developing some of the delicious recipes for her unique and wonderful fish spreads.

Cathy Newago mans the family fish shop, Newago Fish Market, spring through fall, selling fresh and smoke Lake Superior fish as well as a variety of fish spreads. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

Their son Joe, once graduated, came aboard the enterprise in a full-time fashion, and soon his wife, Tammy, was also helping out in the shop in the Houghton area.

(See Newagos, page 13)

Newago Fish Market

(Continued from page 12)

About five years ago, they returned back to the Chequamegon Bay area and started up their current shop with son Joe running his tug, the JAYJAYCEE, and supplying fish to the shop. All the family members involved in the enterprise have gone through the HACCP training and Cathy, along with daughter-in-law Tammy, keeps the shop gleaming.

They are able to pinbone and flash freeze the fish, using equipment available through GLIFWC's ANA grant, so they deliver a high quality fresh or flash-frozen, boneless fillet for their customers' enjoyment.

Their shop also features a variety of smoked fish—lake trout, herring, whitefish, smoked with a variety of brines—so the choices get difficult. The same is true of the fish spreads made from smoked trout and whitefish chunks. Some of the specialties include smoked fish with sour cream and chives, tomato-parmesan, jalapeño, or just plain. Joe also supplies local restaurants as well as sells to Bodin's Fishery, a local wholesale outlet.

Crewing on his father's tug, Alan's grandson, Joe, already has considerable commercial fishing experience under his belt and enjoys the fishing lifestyle. He already knows what he's going to do after high school. You guessed it. He's going to fish for a living, like his dad, Joe; his grandfather, Alan; his great grandfather, Joseph, and his great, great grandfather, Jeffery, did.

For more information during winter months call (715) 779-3416.

Fifth generation Lake Superior tribal, commercial fisherman

Keeps family lifeway alive in 21st Century

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Red Cliff Reservation, Wis.—The blood of Lake Superior fishermen runs strongly in the veins of fifth-generation fisherman Mike Peterson, son of Red Cliff' fisherman Cecil Peterson. Cecil, along with his brother Gilmore, continued to build the family's commercial fishing business inherited from their from their father, Wilfred Peterson. Wilfred grew up fishing Lake Superior with his father Martin and great grandfather, Martin Peterson Sr.

While the commercial fishing business has witnessed many changes, for better and worse, since the days Martin Sr. worked the great lake for it's abundant fish, Mike Peterson along with his wife, Joanne, and close friends Keith, Red Cliff, and Tonya Bresette, remain committed to the commercial fishing industry as a source of income and a way of life.

Both Keith and Mike, who have fished together since they were kids, learned the trade from their fathers. In Keith's case, it was from his stepfather, Larry (Bootin) Soulier. Keith began working with Mike when he was 18 years old and currently also owns a fishing tug, T & T out of Red Cliff.

Today, along with their wives and families, they are committed to meeting the challenges of a sagging wholesale fish market, caused largely by an influx of foreign fish. But like the families before them, they tenaciously hold to their way of life, seeking to solve the problems rather than give up.

In an effort to increase the market value of their catch, the two couples started the Apostle Island Fish Company in May 2006 and are actively marketing their own fish. At this point they are largely selling to local restaurants but will be seeking to expand their market, especially for Lake Superior whitefish and lake trout.

For one, they intend to emphasize the difference between fish from Lake Superior and other Great Lakes fish.

"Our market has been hurt by publicity surrounding Great Lakes fish, some of which is assumed to be highly contaminated, " Peterson states,"but Lake Superior fish, especially whitefish, make very clean, healthy eating. We have an excellent product to market."

The challenge for the fledgling company is educating the public, the buyers, and promoting their high quality product to a larger audience. In other words promoting more demand.

The Apostle Island Fish Company is located on the Red Cliff Reservation in close proximity to both the Bresette and Peterson's homes, convenient for a family-owned and operated business. With assistance from the GLIFWC-administrated grant from the Administration for Native Americans, the company is equipped with pin-boners, processing freezers and a vacuum-packer, all necessary for marketing the fillets.

In addition, the two couples have completed the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) training required to meet safety standards involved in the marketing of fish products.

While Mike is a full-time fisherman, owning and operating one of his father's former tugs, Energy, Keith currently works construction and fishes with Mike whenever he is able.

Both Tonya and Joanne also have full-time employment in the fields of accounting, so the Apostle Island Fish Company crew is frequently busy processing and marketing fish during weekends and well into the evenings as the infant company starts off.

A joint endeavor between the Mike Peterson and Keith Bresette families led to the opening of the Apostle Island Fish Company in May 2006. Located near the two families' homes on the Red Cliff reservation, the company processes and distributes it own Lake Superior fish. Pictured above are: Keith Bresette with Keith Jr., Tonya Bresette and Lindsay; Bresettes' son Cody; Amanda Peterson, Mike Peterson and Joanne Peterson. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

Fishing has historically demanded long hours, and of course, is weather dependent. But unlike unloading the fish at a wholesaler's dock, the crew must now set and lift nets on the lake, return to shore and process. This is where the work becomes a family affair, with everybody including some of the older children participating in the preparation of the fillets.

"The work doesn't end with setting and pulling nets," says Joanne. "There's picking fish out of nets, cleaning fish, processing, repairing nets, keeping the tug up to snuff, running ice, marketing and accounting." The list goes on.

While the Apostle Island Fish Company is just getting started, some Peterson family fish shops run by other members of the Peterson family are well established. On the outskirts of the Red Cliff Reservation is Peterson's Fisheries, formerly run by Wildfred Peterson and now by Wilfred's grandson, Shawn Hanson, also a commercial fisherman. In Hancock, Michigan, Cecil's brother Gilmore and his wife Pat operate Peterson's Fish Market, an established fish processing operation and retail shop.

Mike's father, Cecil is still out there fishing in the Spirit, a 55-foot tug with "all the bells and whistles," according to son Mike. Cecil also operates a grocery store in Red Cliff, Peterson's Food, where fresh and smoked fish are available, of course.

Moving ice during spring thaw can be one of the of the hazards encountered by commercial fishermen. Above, Cecil Peterson's boat, Energy (now captained by his son, Mike), was trapped off Devil's Island in 1984. Fishing with Peterson that day were Dave Curran and Larry "Bootin" Soulier, walking on the packed

A way of life, sometimes really tough

Mike recalls fishing with his grandfather Wilfred at an early age and also with "Uncle Butts," Cecil's uncle Louis. He also remembers fishing in a 20-footer with his cousin Ricky, "We were too young to have a driver's license. He'd pick us kids up and drop us off on the dock by noon. We fished all summer with him, lifting nets by hand to earn money for school clothes," Mike recalls.

Fishing can be tough, really tough, especially when sudden squalls appear on the Lake Superior horizon. In 1988 Mike lost all his nets to a storm, so he worked two boats, his uncle's and his dad's, everyday to recover the loss and start up again.

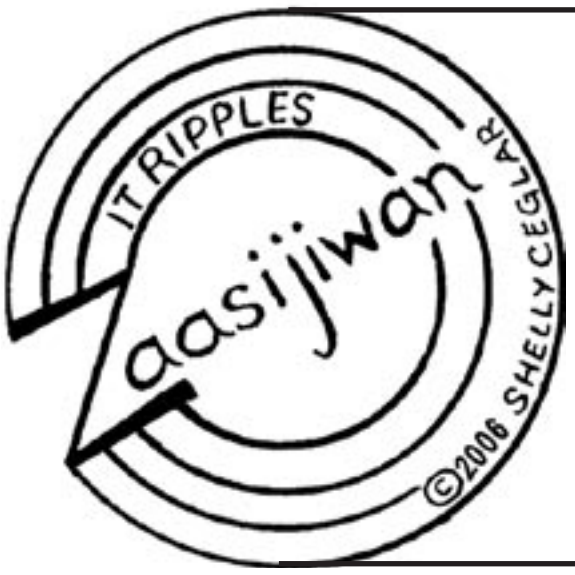
He also recalls being caught in a gale while fishing with his dad in Michigan waters of Lake Superior. A nor'wester packing 70 mph winds blew the hatches right off the tug, and the two were forced to cut the nets.

Keith also has his stories fishing with Bootin Soulier. They encountered a sudden storm while fishing near Manitou Island in the early 80's and ended up stuck on the island for three days, finding safe haven in a cabin on the island until the storm blew over.

When winter settles in and the tugs are ice bound, Mike and Keith set nets beneath the ice. There's no kickin' back for a well-deserved break. The fish and the income have to keep coming in for family needs.

Despite all the struggles that come part and parcel with fishing for a living, it's obviously the chosen way of life for both Mike and Keith who enjoy tremendous support and a strong sense of teamwork from their wives and families.

"Fishing is in the blood. Most of it is enjoyable, especially when you pull in a net with a 'mother load' of fish, but there's a lot of struggle," Mike admits with a smile, undaunted by the challenges of a fishing way of life or of the great lake herself. For information contact numbers are: (715) 209-3916 or (715) 779-0193.



Biboon—It is Winter

Gigiikiibingwash ina? Biboong anwebiwag gemaa nibaawag gakina awiiya.
Nibaawag ingiw mitigoog. Zoongingwashiwag ingiw makwag. Madwengwaamoog ina?
Amanj iidog. Naanibaayawewag. Ninaanibaayawe.
Gaye nimbizindam aadizookewaad ingiw gichi-aya'aag.' Ayaa a'aw giiwedin.
Ani-Onaabani-giizis gii-piboonagad.

(Are you sleepy? When it is winter they rest or they sleep everybody.
They are sleeping those trees. They are in a deep sleep, those bears. Do they snore?
I am not certain. They yawn. I yawn. Also, I listen when they tell traditional stories,
those elders (great-people). S/he is here, that north wind.
When it is coming up to in time, Crust on the snow moon (March), a year, it has passed.)

Bezhig—1

OJIBWEMOWIN
(Ojibwe Language)

Double vowel system of writing Ojibwemowin.
—Long vowels: AA, E, II, OO
Imaa—as in father
Miigwech—as in jay
Anokii—as in seen
Mitigoog—as in moon

—Short Vowels: A, I, O
Dash—as in about
Biboon—as in tin
Ojibwemo—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.

Biboon—Izhitwaawinan

Winter Customs VAI

Aadizooke.—S/he tells sacred stories.

Nindaadizookemin.—*We* tell sacred stories.

Manidooke./Nimanidookemin.—S/he conducts ceremonies. We conduct ceremonies.

Wanii'ige./Niwanii'igemin.—S/he traps./We trap.

Giiyose./Ningiiyosemin.—S/he hunts./We hunt.

Gashkigwaaso./Ningashkigwaasomin.—S/he sews. /We sew.

Niizh—2

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

A. Ojibwemodaa! Gidojibwem ina? Howah!

B. Ningii-noondam Ojibwemowag Onigamiinsing.

C. Ojibwemowin adoopowin. Onanda-gikendaanaawaa.

D. Biboong gekenoo'amaaged ojaanimiziwag. Ondamanokiiwag.

E. Giigidog! Bizindang! Biindigeg! Nisidotang!

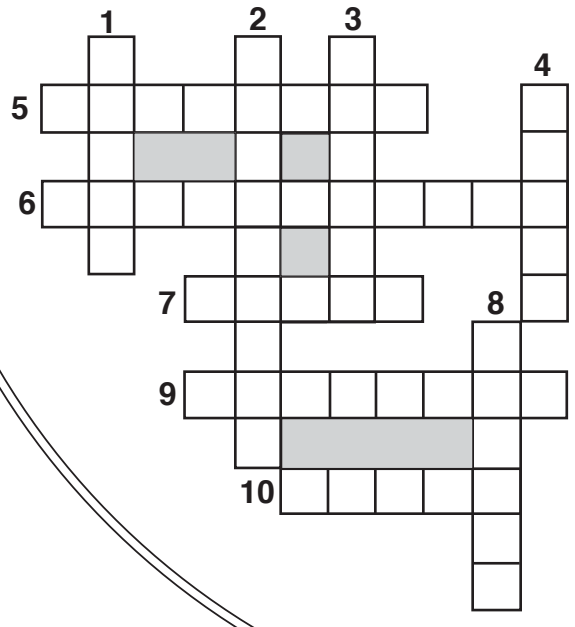
F. Bidoon miijim! Dadibaagimog! Maada'ookiig!

G. Minik gikichi izhitwaamin.

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

Niswi—3

IKIDOWIN ODAMINOWIN (word play)



Down:
1. so many
2. S/he conducts ceremonies.
3. every
4. or
8. bears

Across:
5. They sleep.
6. I listen.
7. Wow, alright!
9. S/he spears fish through the ice.
10. those (animate)

Niiwin—4

VIA—Verbs-Intransitive-Animate Root/Command VAI, then conjugated VAIs.

Anokii. Nindanokii. Gidanokii. Anokiiwag. S/he works. **I** work. **You** work. **They** work.
Bamoozhe. Nimbamoozhe. Gibamoozhe.
Bamoozhewag. S/he takes care of a child.
Akwa'waa. Nindakwa'waa. Gidakwa'waa.
Akwa'waawag. S/he spears fish through the ice.

Naagaj—later.
Goojitoon! Try it!
Translation below.

Gi...

Gid...

Ni...

Nind...

...wag

1. _____akwa'waa na zaaga'iganing imaa?
2. Eya, _____akwa'waa imaa noongom.
3. Gaye _____wanii'ige. Noondamikwe.
4. Ninoshe dash nimishoome bamoozhe_____.
5. _____giiyose dash _____gashikgwaas.

Translations:
Niizh—2 **A.** Let's all speak Ojibwe! Do you speak Ojibwe? Alright! **B.** I did hear they are speaking Ojibwe in Duluth. **C.** Ojibwe language table. They seek to learn it. **D.** When it is winter, those who teach they are busy. They are busy with their work. **E.** Speak! Listen! Come in! Understand! **F.** Bring food! Tell stories! Share something! **G.** So many we all have of certain traditions.
Niswi—3 **Down: 1.** Minik. **2.** Manidooke. **3.** Gakina. **4.** Gemaa. **8.** Makwag.
Across: 5. Nibaawag. **6.** Nimbizindam. **7.** Howah! **9.** Akwa'waa. **10.** Ingiw
Niiwin—4 **1.** Are you spearing fish through the ice on the lake there? **2.** Yes, I am ice fishing there now. **3.** Also I trap. I trap beavers. **4.** My aunt and my uncle they take care of a child. **5.** You hunt and you sew.

Anishinaabe wiinzowin
The Indian name

As told by Ogimaagwanebiik aka Nancy Jones
Transcribed by Pebaamibines aka Dennis Jones
Typed by Amber Ruel

Boozhoo, aaniin miinawaa indinawemaganidok. Gimiigwechi'ininim miinawaa gii-bi-agindameg onow gaa-aanjibii'amaan imaa mazina'iganing. Niminwendaan dazhiikamaan ini gagiikwewinan. Mii o'apii gekendamaan ezhich-igewaad giiji-anishinaabeminaaning. Mii idash gaye o'apii gekendamaan gegoo. Mino-agindaason.

Greetings again my relatives. I thank you all for coming to read what I have transcribed in this paper. I enjoy working on our teachings. This is how I learn about the things that our fellow Anishinaabeg do. In this way, I too am learning. Enjoy the reading.

Ahaw boozhoo. Niin Ogimaawigwanebiik indigoo. Wazhashk indoodem.
Greetings. My Indian name is Ogimaawigwanebiik. The muskrat is my clan.

Nigigoonsiminikaaning omaa inda-aya-endaa.
I live here in Red Gut First Nation.

Apichi indapanikaazonan.
The robin is what I'm named after.

Nookomisiban mewinzha ningii-nagadamaag owe wiinzowin gaa-ayaayaan noongom.
It is my grandmother a long time ago that left me my Indian name.

Mii wiin ingii-miinig inakeya'ii ji izhinikaanigoy-aan.
That's who gave me the name that I should be called.


Opichi.

Mii dash igo owe apane gaa-izhinikaazhid awe minik. Gabe-aya'ii ingii-wiiji-yayaawaa jibwaa ishkwaa bimaadizid.
That's the only name that she called me by as long as I lived with her.

Apane ingii-wiiji'yayaawaa nookomisiban gaye awe nimishoomishiban.
Those were the only two people I lived with, my grandmother and grand-father.

Gegaa go ingii-midaasobiboonagiz iye apii gii-wani'ag awe nookomisiban.
I was almost ten by the time I lost my grandmother.

Mii dash iwe aya'ii waa-dazhindamaan akawe.
This is what I am going to talk about now.

Owe aapichi go niminwendam owe awiiya gii-izhinikaazhid owe ezhi-an-ishinaabewinikaazoyaan.
I'm always glad and happy to be called by my Indian name.

Aanind igo awiiya indizhinikaanigoo ogowe niiji-gichi-anishinaabeg ge aanind, aanind oshki-anishinaabeg.
There are some young people and older people that still call me by my Indian name.

Iwe epiichi-gechi-apiitendaagwak owe anishinaabewinikaazowin.
It is that the Indian name is so important.

Mii iwe mii imaa wenji-gikendaagozid awiiya awenen ayaawid.
This is how we are known by the spirits, by our Indian names.

Owe manidoo apane gibizindaagonaan gii-gaagiigidoying.
The spirits are always listening to us as we talk.

Nashkech idash owe apane gii-izhi-ganoonind awiiya owe ezhi-anishinaabe-winikaazod. Mii imaa onji-gikeniminang awe gimanidoominaan gegoo ingoding gii-gagwejimang owe ji-wiiji'inang anishinaabewinikaazowinan.
When we call each other by our Indian names; this is how the spirit hears us when we are asking for spiritual help.

Nashke ge ogowe gidoodeminaanig. Onjida go apane ji minjimenimangwaa ji minjimendamang gaye giwiinzowininaan.
Using our clan as an example: we should always remember our clan just as we should always remember our Indian names.

Nashke gikenimad awiiya ezhinikaazod gidaa-gagwejimaa "Aaniin gwayak ezhibii'igaadeg giwiinzowin."
As you meet your fellow Indians, you should ask them, "How do you spell your Indian name?"

Miich ge-ozhibii'aman nashkech miinawaa waabamad mii go iye ge-izhini-kaanad owe anishinaabewinikaazowin.
So after you wrote it down, and the next time you see them, you can call them by their Indian name.

Mii ge imaa wendinang awiiya gegoo gii-bawaajiged gii-kidong.
This is how we get our spirit dreams, by our Indian names.

Mii iwe wiinzowin ezhinikaazod. Aanishinaa mii imaa wenji-nisidawinaagod onowe omanidooman awiiye gegoo gii-ayaad gii-naanaagadawendang nashke gii-nibaad ingoiji awiiya.
It's by your name that you are recognized by the spirit.

Begish gikendamaan iwe, ingodin gaye mii ezhi-bagidinaad awiiya asemaan.
When someone wants to know something for example, when you dream you put your tobacco down.

"Daga wiindamawishin owe wegonen dino owe ge-gagwegikendamaabaan."
"Could you please tell me more about this spiritual dream so that I may know?"

Mii dash imaa aabajitooyan iye giwiinzowin owe gaye ezhi-odoodemiyan.
And this is when you use your Indian name and also your clan.

Aapichi gichi-apiitendaagwad owe anishinaabe-winikaazowin.
Our Indian spiritual names are very important.

Nashke mii owe ingoding gaa-onji-ayaawaad ogowe abinoojiinyag.
This is why some of the young people today are the way that they are.

Da-gaa-giibaadiziwag gaa-onji-inindwaa gaagiibaa-diziwag gidinenimaanaanig.
We think these kids are being bad.

Gaawiin dash wiin geget. But that is not so.

Gaawiin geget gagiibaadizisii abinoojiinh.
They're not really bad, they're just missing something.

Gegoo onandawendaan owe gaa-onji-izhi-ayaad owe gaa-bizindasig.
He's looking for something, this so-called bad child.

Gemaa gaye gaawiin giwiinitaag gaawiin ginoondaagosii gaa-izhi-anishi-naaabe izhinikaanad.
He may not hear you right away as you call him by his Indian name.

Mii iye niin gaa-izhid aw nookomisiban.
This is what my grandmother taught me.

Mii go apane go ge-izhi-aabajitooyan owe gidanishinaabewinikaazowin.
You should always use your Indian name.

Gego wiikaa wanendagen. Don't ever forget your Indian name.

Nashke gaye abinoojiiyag ayaawandwaa, mii go iye ezhi-anishinaabe-winikaazowaad.
When you have children and if they have their Indian names.

Mii iye gaa-izhi-ganoonandwaa. This is how you should call them by.

Mii iye gaa izhid aw nookomisiban. That's what my grandmother taught me.

Mii dash owe geget ezhichigeyaan geyaabi go apii.
This is what I still do now.

Gakina anishinaabewinikaazowag ogowe niniijaanisag owe gaye noozhisag owe gaye indaankobijiganag.
All my children have their Indian names, my grandchildren and my great-grandchildren.

Mii dash igo owe mii iye nakeya'ii gii-waabamagwaa, mii niin izhi-gagan-oonagwaa ezhi-anishinaabewinikaazowaad.
Whenever I see them, I always try to call them by their Indian name.

Aaniishinaa ingikendaan awiiya, awiiya bizindawid owe ganoonadwaa ogowe noozhisag.
Because I know that there are spirits that are listening to me when I talk to my grandchildren.

Mii dash imaa gaa-onji-aabajitoowaan ini ezhi-anishinaabewinikaazowaad.
This is the reason why I've always used their spiritual Indian names.

Aapichi gichi-apiitendaagwad anishinaabewinikaazowin da-gichi-inendaan awiiya ayaad anishinabewinikaazod.
The spiritual Indian name is very important, you should be proud of your Indian name.

Gaawinoon ge iye oda-zhaaganaashiwisidoosiin owe odanishinaabe-winikaazowin. You shouldn't translate an Indian name into English.
(See Anishinaabe Wiinzowin, page 22)

Ojibwe names for awesiiyag (wild animals) common to the ceded territory

ANA grant seeks to inventory plants, animals, places

Compiled by Jim St. Arnold

Editor's note: The following translations were made possible with assistance from elders and speakers from Lac du Flambeau, Mille Lacs, Lake Lena, St. Croix, Fond du Lac, Lac Courte Oreilles, and the Bad River communities and funded by a grant from the Administration for Native Americans (ANA), Administration for Children and Families, Health and Human Services. The Natural Resources Anishinaabe Language Program is identifying a spectrum of natural resources in the ceded territories by their Ojibwe name and collecting additional cultural information about them.

The Ojibwe name for the wild animal is listed first. The plural of the word is shown in parenthesis. The common name is listed second, and then the scientific name. Dialects shown are central western (c/w) and eastern (e).

c/w—zhaangweshi (yag)
e—zhaangwesh (wag)
Mink (Mustela vison)

Giishpin amwaas zhaangweshi giga izhinaagos eshinaagozit bakated. Eat a mink, and you will look like him, nice and thin.

Nitaa bimatigewag, gogiiwag, akwaandawewag, waasa apatoowag ningo giizhiik. They are swimmers, divers, climbers and cover a lot of territory in one day.

c/w—nigig (wag)
c/w—zhigaag (wag)
e—zhgaag (oog)
Skunk (Mephitis mephitis)

Giishpin okawi'adwaa shigaagwag andego giizisowang wiiba wiishakagonagaa gaanwiin geyaabi' damashkawaagonewadizinoon. If you can see the skunk tracks in the spring, usually around February or March, its going to be a melting snow. There will be no more high crust snow.

c/w—manidoo waabooz (oog)
e—nepaajnikesenh (yag)
Starnose mole (Condylura cristata)

Wenji izhinikaazod. Small one with his arms on backwards. **Manimaniso' giishpin waabamad**. He brings very bad luck.

c/w—mooz (oog)
e—mooz (oog)
Moose (Alces alces)

Mewiishe ikwewag giishpin gigishka waawasot jiamwaad weweni dantawa ginaawaso gaye damashka wigi abinoojiites. Pregnant women were encouraged to eat the fetus of an unborn mooz to have an easy time giving birth and to have strong children. Adults only should eat this.

Gakina gego miijigaade aw moos booshke odawagan oshagwan basaigan akawe baan oshagwan jiwaakabatoyan. Everything on him is eatable, even the ears, eyes, nose, and bone marrow. You have to burn the nose before you eat it.

Obimwidon omashkikim magizha gaye odizhion anaam daa mikan. He carries his medicine bag under his chin.

c/w—gaag (wag)
e—gaag (wag)
Porcupine (erethizon dorsatum)

Gaaway-ag—is his quills.

Aapichi mino-pogozi. They are good eating.

Gii-mawid enitaagozi abinoojiinh. When he cries, he sounds like a baby, but it is also his mating call. They are not good mothers. Bad mothers are sometimes told "naa awe miinawaa gaag" ("there goes the ole porcupine again") in reference to the mothers leaving their babies. They have babies in the winter and often leave them.

Mashkiki aatizi gaag. The porcupine is a medicine.

Giishpin akoziyan gitaa gagiizimaa gaag giizha asemaa gitaabagitinan. When you are sick, you ask the porcupine to help you. You use tobacco a day or a week ahead. You get a blanket, and you go to see him, throw it on him, and you pick the quills out of the blanket and use the quills for medicine. They used them in so many ways. Some for offering, some for boiling, some would mix them with other medicine. Others would stick them in their skin. It depends on where you stick them.

Gii oshichigaadeg mishkaazigan gaago biiwayan abadadoon gaye waawaashkeshi ozoow' biiwayan. The soft quills are also used in the head roach sometimes combined with the tail of a deer.

c/w—zhagashkwaandawe (g)
e—zhagashkaandwe (g)
Northern flying squirrel (Glaucomys sabrinus)

Apichi noosookadowe baamaa dibikaag sagaamoog. He has really soft fur and only comes out at night.

Abadiziwan owayaanan oshichigaa-zonind midewayaanan. His pelt was used to make medicine pouches.

c/w—makwa (g)
e—makademkwa (g)
Black bear (Ursus americanus)

Baraga Dictionary includes:
nabek—male bear
noozheg—female bear

Niibowa inaabadizi. Lots of uses.

Gashkibidaagan odaabajitoon awiya gii-midewid. Using bear parts heals you.

Makwa wiiyaas omiijinaan ginoojimoshkaagon. If you eat bear meat and you are afraid of it, it will make you sick.

Boosaanikwen mako bimide jimino maajiigigin giinisisan. Use makwa bimide (bear grease) for your hair to make it shiny and grow faster.

Gaye boozigaden wiisagendaman gikanan. Rub bear grease on your sore bones (for arthritis).

c/w—ojiig (wag)
e—jiig (oog)
Fisher (Martes pennanti)

Nitaa waandawe odebibina ajiidamo' gaye agogosensa'. He climbs trees and can be seen up in a tree as he catches squirrels and chipmunks.

Abiji gagwaanisagizi gaazhaabide. It's a very vicious animal, sharp teeth.

Wazhashk (Muskrat) Ready for winter

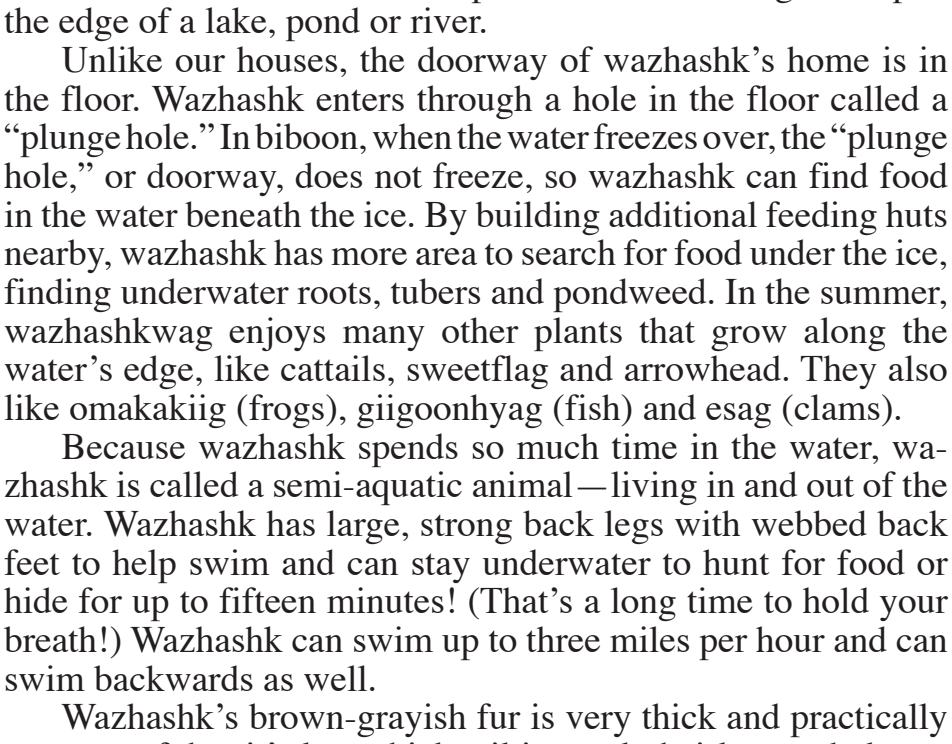
By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Biboon (winter) is close by. Mother Nature has warned us with all kinds of signs. Leaves have turned color and been blown off the tree branches. Except for evergreens, like pine trees, most everything is brown. Many birds have flown south to stay warm, while others, like the black-capped chickadee, will brave the cold winter days that lie ahead.

Wazhashk.

Some animals, like bear and skunk, have crawled into dens to sleep the winter away (called hibernate). Other animals will be up and about, trying to find food in snow-covered fields and forests or in icy lakes. One little animal that braves the long, cold winter is a rodent called wazhashk in Ojibwe and muskrat in English, but like us, wazhashk spends a lot more time indoors than out during the winter. The muskrat's English name refers to a mild, "musky" odor it gives off.

Wazhashkwag (plural—muskrats) are small animals that live in and out of the water in many northern waterways. Like amik (beaver), they build wazhashkwiish (muskrat lodges) in or along the edge of water, in some cases, making quite comfortable homes with several rooms or other, smaller lodges, called feeding huts, nearby. Their lodges, or dens, have ventilation holes that let air in the lodge. These holes are covered on the outside by shrubs and branches. The lodges are built out of aquatic plants, brush and mud and are often set on a pile of brush or a large stump at the edge of a lake, pond or river.



A miskwaadesi (turtle) lays eggs on a wazhashk lodge.(Photo reprinted from: www.pbase.com/crocodile/image/44115137/original)

Unlike our houses, the doorway of wazhashk's home is in the floor. Wazhashk enters through a hole in the floor called a "plunge hole." In biboon, when the water freezes over, the "plunge hole," or doorway, does not freeze, so wazhashk can find food in the water beneath the ice. By building additional feeding huts nearby, wazhashk has more area to search for food under the ice, finding underwater roots, tubers and pondweed. In the summer, wazhashkwag enjoys many other plants that grow along the water's edge, like cattails, sweetflag and arrowhead. They also like omakakiig (frogs), giigoonhyag (fish) and esag (clams).

Because wazhashk spends so much time in the water, wazhashk is called a semi-aquatic animal—living in and out of the water. Wazhashk has large, strong back legs with webbed back feet to help swim and can stay underwater to hunt for food or hide for up to fifteen minutes! (That's a long time to hold your breath!) Wazhashk can swim up to three miles per hour and can swim backwards as well.

Wazhashk's brown-grayish fur is very thick and practically waterproof, but it's long thick tail is nearly hairless and almost flattened along the sides. Wazhashkwag use their tails like rudders on a boat to help them steer when swimming. They can also slap their tails on the water as a warning sign, much like amik does.

Wazhashkwag are small, about half the size of a beaver, growing to one and a half to two feet long and weighing between two to four pounds. Their soft, thick fur is still valued by trappers. In the past, Ojibwe people used both the furs and the meat of wazhashk, and today some people still do enjoy eating wazhashk.

Meanwhile, the wazhashkwag, like us, have their homes ready for the long, winter months ahead. Usually more active at night than in the day, they will spend more hours inside their lodges as the temperatures lower, and winter sets in.

(Resources: Missouri Department of Natural Resources website: www.*mdc.mo.gov/nathis/mammals/muskrat* and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources website: *www.dnr.state.wis/eek/mammals*.)

Color the picture of wazhashk. (Reprinted from www.turtletrack.org/CO_Coloring/CO_ColoringBook_3.htm)

Swedes seek tribal perspective on wolf management

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—Fact finding a long way from home, five representatives with the Swedish Commission on Large Carnivores arrived on September 21 at GLIFWC's main office on the Bad River Reservation seeking a tribal perspective on managing ma'iingan (wolf). GLIFWC was one of several stops for the Commission representatives, a problem–solving team charged with analyzing the Swedish wolf population and resolving conflicts between wolves and humans. While they were at GLIFWC offices they took part in the fall solstice celebration with Commission staff.

The Swedish team sought input from a number of agencies and organizations experienced in wolf management in the US and Canada. After garnering ideas about what has and has not been effective in the eyes of their US and Canadian counterparts, as well as discussing issues at a local and regional level in Sweden, the Commission must prepare a wolf management proposal to present to the Swedish government next year.

GLIFWC staff, including Peter David, wildlife biologist, Jim St. Arnold, Administration for Native Americans (ANA) program director and Jonathan Gilbert, wildlife section leader, met with the Swedish Commission representatives to discuss the Ojibwe cultural perspective towards wolves and how that translates into management objectives.

St. Arnold provided insights into some of the important cultural ties between the Anishinaabeg and large predators, such as ma'iingan, makwa (bear) and bizhew (lynx), all important clan animals for the Ojibwe, deserving of respect and careful management.

St. Arnold noted that the Swedes seemed to be encountering many of the same issues faced in the US when it comes to resolving co-existence of humans and large predatory animals, including depredation of domestic stock animals and a longstanding, culturally-embedded fear of the wolf. Swedish stock animals include the Laplanders' reindeer herds in the far north, where wolves and other large predators are viewed negatively.

According to Gilbert, it was unusual and a bit refreshing to see people from overseas actively seeking out perspectives from people in the US on how to manage their wildlife populations. "We (the US) do not send 'commissions' from the US to seek advice from indigenous people in Sweden on how to manage wildlife. This visit provided us with a glimpse into how other countries approach their wildlife issues," he commented, adding that the visit was a good example of a cross-cultural experience.

Five representatives with the Swedish Commission on Large Carnivores visited GLIFWC's main office seeking a tribal perspective on managing Ma'iingan. Pictured above are, back row from the left, Torolf Lonnerholm, Peter David, GLIFWC wildlife biologist, Jim St. Arnold, GLIFWC ANA program director; Commissioner Ake Pettersson; Olof Akerren and Bjarne Ornstedt. Kneeling in front are, from the left, Tom Heberlein, University of Wisconsin professor and Goran Ericsson. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

Allete, band ink deal

By Steve Kuchera, Duluth News Tribune

Duluth, Minn.—Allete Inc. will pay the Fond du Lac Band of Chippewa more than $4 million over the next 29 years for Minnesota Power's hydroelectric operations in the St. Louis River watershed. Allete owns Minnesota Power.

The effort to restore wild rice in the region is one of the projects that will benefit from the agreement.

Under the agreement, Allete recently made its first payments—totaling almost $1 million—covering the years back to 1995, when the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission issued a 40-year license allowing Minnesota Power to continue operating hydroelectric reservoirs, dams and generators in the watershed.

The previous operating license expired in 1993, with relicensing efforts beginning in the late 1980s. The license issued in 1995 required Minnesota Power to negotiate with the Fond du Lac band a reasonable annual charge for the project's use of tribal lands.

Negotiations took several years. In 1999, Minnesota Power paid Fond du Lac a one-time payment of $125,000 for the band's Natural Resources Program.

Negotiating a final settlement took longer, but in late 2004 Allete asked FERC to amend the license to reflect the agreement the company reached with Fond du Lac and the Department of the Interior.

Under the agreement, Allete will pay the band:

- $100,000 a year for 25 years—beginning in 2000—and $50,000 a year for 11 years, for the band's wild rice restoration plan
- $10,000 a year for the license's first 20 years and $20,000 per year for the license's second 20 years for the use of tribal lands

Allete will also pay the band and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources $9,500 a year each to help fish populations in the watershed.

The payments will be adjusted periodically to account for inflation.

FERC accepted the agreement and issued an order amending the license on June 22. The order gave Allete between 90 days and six months to begin payments. Last month, Allete made payments of $984,000 to the band.

The payments for wild rice restoration efforts replaced an earlier requirement to have Minnesota Power develop and use test plots on Wild Rice Lake to determine where re-establishment of wild rice is most likely to be successful.

"In essence, rather than the licensee designing and implementing an experimental, stand-alone plan for Wild Rice Lake … the Band would have primary responsibility for designing and implementing a basin-wide wild rice restoration plan," John E. Estep, chief of FERC's Land Resources Branch wrote in the June 22 order. "Given that wild rice has been one of the most important resources used by the Band historically and today, I find that this solution is reasonable."

Although talks took a long time, the relationship between Allete and Fond du Lac has improved, Allete spokesman Eric Olson said.

Manoomin conference

(Continued from page 6)

same task—arguably, with greater efficiency. "Because this boat is so low in the water, you can bend more rice over the side," said LaBine. "You can get at least 250 pounds of rice into a boat like this."

LaBine and his co-instructors stressed that harvesters should never "beat" rice stalks, especially if there is considerable green, or unripe manoomin present in a bed. "Just glide the stick across the rice stalk, whatever's ripe will fall," LaBine said.

Additional workshops rooted in Ojibwe expertise included popping hand-finished wild rice, birch bark winnowing basket construction along with discussions of how manoomin fits into the traditional native cosmology and lifestyle.

Local troublemakers

While the ill effects of invading exotic species on ecosystems routinely dominate the headlines, resource managers said they must also wrangle with natives that impair manoomin habitat. Presenters from state, tribal and federal agencies highlighted homegrown challenges to maintaining wild rice beds, including expanding mats of pickerelweed and beaver activity.

"Beavers make a lot of habitat changes that can be beneficial, but there are detrimental impacts as well," said Kelly Thiel, a U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) wildlife specialist. Beaver dam construction raises water levels, drowning out manoomin plants that thrive in one to three feet of water.

Trapping and dam removal are the primary methods of managing the impacts of northern Wisconsin's estimated 93,000 beaver, Theil said. USDA beaver damage control staff currently conduct projects on 23 wild rice lakes, including Roe Lake in northeast Wisconsin where dam removal and follow-up trapping allowed a productive manoomin bed to develop.

At east-central Minnesota's Rice Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Wildlife Biologist Michelle McDowell is heading a study to determine whether aquatic mowing can be a viable tool for controlling pickerelweed. McDowell documents how long it takes for the weed to invade an area following two, three and four mowing treatments. Results from the experiment may help resource managers better decide how to protect wild rice from pickerelweed advances.

Robinson said he and other conference organizers hope the event spurs more interest in both harvesting and studying wild rice. "It's important we don't loose the historic and cultural roots of wild rice," he said.

Manoomin factors prominently in an Ojibwe story that relates a 15th Century western migration from the Atlantic Coast to the upper Great Lakes. Prophets advised that if Ojibwe people did not move, they would be destroyed. Their journey up the St. Lawrence River and through the Great Lakes to new homelands would be complete when they came upon "food that grows upon the water," or wild rice. According to the story, manoomin was revealed around the western edge of Lake Superior near a place called Spirit Island.

Winter reading for all ages

Prejudice in politics

Group Position, Public Opinion, and the Wisconsin Treaty Rights Dispute

Written by: Lawrence D. Bobo and Mia Tuan
Published by: Harvard University Press, 2006
Reviewed by: Larry Nesper, Department of Anthropology & American Indian Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison

As soon as this book was brought to my attention, I ordered it and read it shortly after it arrived, anticipating insights into the non-Indian side of what I wrote about in **The Walleye War: The Struggle for Ojibwe Spearfishing and Treaty Rights**.

I am happy to say that the book delivers, though there is a lot more theory than I think most ***Mazina'igan*** readers are looking for. As "a classic conflict of American race politics during the post-World War II period," the authors argue that the conflict that took place over the Voigt decision is not best understood "in terms of individual self-interest, individual values or individual feelings of prejudice."

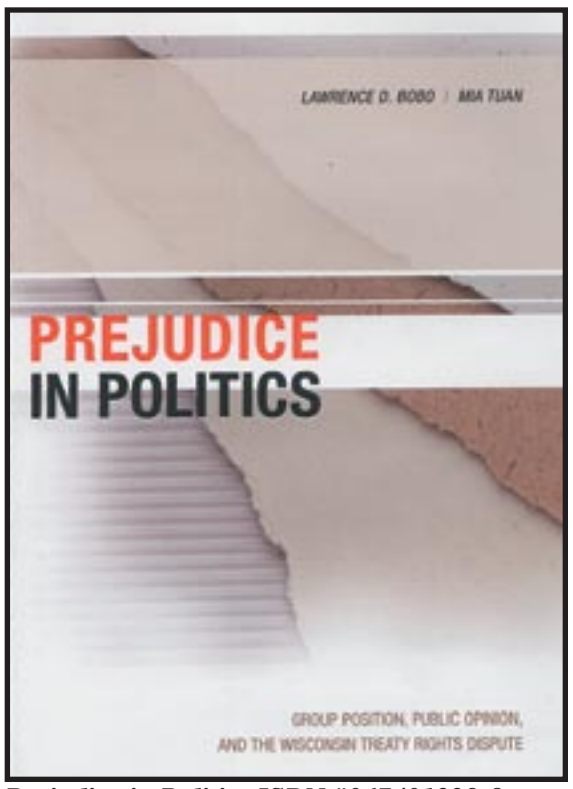
It is best understood in terms of individuals' sense of the relative positions of the groups (Ojibwes and White) to which they belong in a total social order. Being White in this context meant that you assumed you were superior; that Indians were different and alien; that you had a rightful claim to certain rights, statuses and resources; and that you were justified in feeling threatened when Indians acted like they wanted a greater share of your prerogatives, because you were entitled. It was not only how things were; it was how things ought to be. So, treaty rights threatened how Whites thought of themselves in relationship to Indians, and so they reacted with racial prejudice.

The research method used was telephone survey. The researchers phoned 345 people in counties within the ceded territories and 439 people in counties outside of them—91% of the total identifying themselves as White—and spoke with each respondent for an average of 28 minutes in 1990 asking them each 58 questions. The book is chock full of tables and figures.

Some highlights of the book: Chapter two, "Return of the Chippewa," offers a useful history informed by 'group position theory' from the fur trade period to the Mille Lacs case. They discovered that people throughout the state were very aware of the treaty rights dispute though it fell well behind taxes, environmental issues and welfare policy as "important problems" in their estimation.

Not surprisingly, they found that the more knowledge people had about treaty rights, the less likely they were to oppose them, and that ignorance about the real biological effects of spearfishing was high. The book has a lot of quotes from people surveyed that offer insight on their own.

Treaty opposition rose with increased affluence within the ceded territories but decreased with affluence outside of them. Quite surprisingly, at least to me, is the fact that a full 73% favored co-management of the resources. This includes 56% who live in the ceded territories, and 69% who are involved in sports fishing and hunting activities!



Prejudice in Politics ISBN #067401329-8.

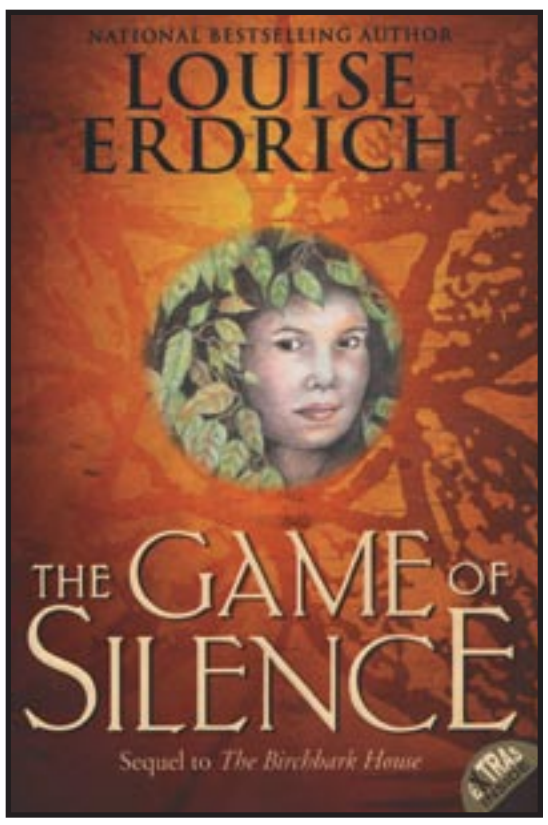
I think the book ought to be on the shelves of the public libraries, high schools and colleges in this state as well as those of state and tribal officials who have to navigate the sometimes difficult waters of relations between the groups that constitute our society.

The Game of Silence

Sequel to The Birch Bark House

Provides an educational, entertaining read for youth or adult

Written by: Louise Erdrich
Published by: HarperTrophy, 2005
Reviewed by: Sue Erickson, Staff Writer



The Game of Silence ISBN-10: 0-06-441029-3, paperback.

Life as lived and seen through the eyes of a young Ojibwe girl in the mid-1800s is once again portrayed vividly in Louise Erdrich's **The Game of Silence**, a sequel to **The Birchbark House**.

Both the sometimes chilling struggles as well as the heart-warming experiences of Omakayas (Little Frog) bring intrigue into a compelling story set on Madeline Island when the Ojibwe were faced with the potential of removal.

Numerous interesting details of Ojibwe life and survival at the time make **The Game of Silence** highly educational while also entertaining.

The reader is taken through the family's cycle of seasons and acquainted with the various skills required to maintain life on Madeline Island at this time period.

Erdrich also weaves numerous Ojibwe words unobtrusively throughout the text and includes a nice glossary and pronunciation of Ojibwe words at the end of the book.

Historically, the book presents how events that took place at Sandy Lake, Minnesota as well as the news of the pending Removal Order affected Ojibwe people faced with the prospect of leaving their homeland. As **The Game of Silence** concludes, Omakayas' family and extended family members bundle their most valued possessions and leave their long-time homeland—abandoning carefully tended garden beds, wild rice campsites, their winter cabin, pets, and the graves of family members.

The story poignantly brings home the family's powerful connection to their homeland and the pain caused by the threat of removal for reasons unknown. The reader also learns how the game of silence quickly changes from a childhood game to a matter of survival.

The Game of Silence makes compelling reader for youth (middle school) and adults alike. In addition to the story and glossary, the book contains a map of Omakayas' home and adventures on the island as well as a family tree and instructions on how the reader can begin their own family tree.

Another good thing—Erdrich indicates a third book, **Twelve Moons Running**, is in progress.

Excerpt from **Louise Erdrich's The Game of Silence:**

..."Omakayas was always to think back on the pair of bloody snowshoes proped up next to the door of their cabin. The blood was fresh, and it belonged to the messenger whose poor feet were raw with frostbite. He was a scrawny man, yellow-skinned and weak. It took a moment or two for Omakayas to recognize Cloud, who had left the island a strong and hearty young man. He sat in the warmest place before the fire and hungrily gulped hot soup. Soon more grown-ups arrived. The children were given soup and a roasted piece of weyass, [meat] but they were not allowed to talk at all. Nokomis sang the game of silence song to them low, and they listened hard for the words. The prizes were few, just a hastily made bow and some lumps of maple sugar obviously scared up for the emergency. Still, the children, including the boy cousins usually so exuberant nothing could persuade them to be quiet, did fall quiet and bundled together beyond the light of the fire.". . .

Feature film collaborates with the Fond du Lac Reservation

Explores issues related to the boarding school era

By Lorainne Norgaard
For *Mazina'igan*

Cloquet, Minn.—Tribal Alliance Productions from Los Angeles, California has set up offices in Cloquet, Minnesota and will be shooting the feature film, "Older Than America" from November 11 to December 15. The film will feature the 'boarding school era,' well-remembered by many tribal elders yet today.

Producers Christine Kunewa Walker and Andrew Peterson with Director Georgina Lightning chose Cloquet for their production because of the outstanding community support from the Fond du Lac Band (FdL) of Lake Superior Chippewa as well as from the surrounding towns of Carlton, Moose Lake, Duluth, and Thompson have also helped the production crew to find key locations and have provided other support.

The film has been described as a contemporary Native Indian thriller set in a small Minnesota town that was once home to a boarding school. "Deep secrets about the school and its dark past come to light when an unusual earthquake threatens to attract undue attention to the area," according to the film's website.

The contemporary story includes flashbacks to the boarding school era and the harsh treatment of Native Indian children during this time.

The schools were created in response to government policies designed to take away tribal culture and assimilate Native people into the dominant society. This policy caused great hardship within Indian families as children were taken away and forced to attend boarding school far from their homes.

The film intends to bring to light some of the many tragic stories from the boarding school era and how families today are still affected deeply by this experience.

Key roles in the film will be played by Tantoo Cardinal, Wes Studi, Georgina Lightning, Adam Beech, and Eric Schweig. Hundreds of people came to an Open Extras Casting Call at the Black Bear Casino Hotel on Saturday October 14. They stood in line hoping to get a small part in the important film. Once finished, the film will be shown at film festivals and eventually released.

The producers continue to seek Native Indian interns to work behind the scenes and get important experience for future projects. This film is exemplary of a collaborative effort between the company, Tribal Alliance Productions, and the Fond du Lac Reservation Business Committee. Hopefully more collaborations between film companies and tribes will follow this model so that other important stories can be told in the future.

For more information on the film and intern possibilities go to the website: http://web.mac.com/tribalalliance/iWeb/Home/Home.html or call the production office at 218-879-5464.

Jason Davis from KSTP "On the Road with Jason Davis" interviews Jim Northrup, Fond du Lac Band of Ojibwe. Tribal Alliance Productions from Los Angeles, California will be filming a very important scene from the upcoming film "Older Than America" on Northrup's land, using his fire-pit. (Photo submitted)

Thirteen Moons on Turtle's Back

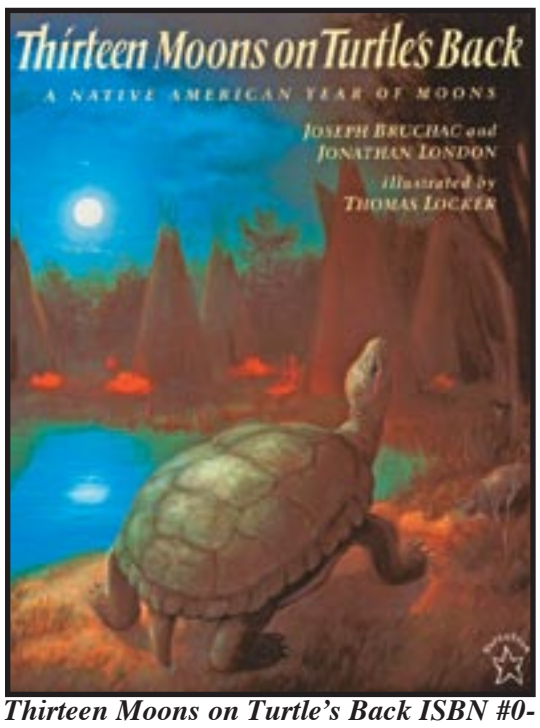
Combines beautiful imagery with Native legends

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Thirteen Moons on the Turtle's Back by Joseph Bruchac and Jonathan London will delight young children as well as acquaint them with Native American culture through legends.

Perfect for that bedtime story, this book features legends about each of the thirteen moons (months) from the traditional, tribal calendar. A full two-page spread is devoted to each month. The legends, collected from a variety of tribes across the nation, in combination with Thomas Locker's vivid artwork featuring an array of wildlife, will fascinate children and be pleasurable as well as educational reading for adults.

A PaperStar Book, published by the Putnam & Grosset Group in 1997.



Thirteen Moons on Turtle's Back ISBN #0-698-11684-8

Representatives from the U.S. Forest Service and four Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority member tribes participated in a ceremony October 30 to mark the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding. The MOU details tribal gathering regulations on National Forest lands within 1836 ceded territory. Pictured above from left are: Patrick D. Wilson, Ogema, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians; Robert Kewaygoshkum, Tribal Chairman, Grand Traverse Bay Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians; Aaron Payment, Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians; Frank Ettawageshik, Chairman, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians; Jimmy Mitchell, Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians; Forrest Starkey, Deputy Regional Forester, Eastern Region; Richard Glodowski, Special Agent in Charge of Law Enforcement and Investigations, Eastern Region. (Photo courtesy US Forest Service)

Richard Shalifoe resigned from the Voigt Intertribal Task Force (VITF) in 2006. The Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC) representative joined the Task Force in 1988 when he became KBIC tribal chairman. Shalifoe served on GLIFWC's VITF and Lakes Committee for much of the past 18 years. He is also a past member of the GLIFWC Board of Commissioners. KBIC's Joe Dowd succeeds Shalifoe on the VITF. Miigwech Richard! (Photo by GLIFWC staff)

Anishinaabe Wiinzowin

(Continued from page 16)

Manidoong inakeya'ii bi-onjiyaamagad iye wiinzowin
Because Indian names come from the spirits.

Gaawiinoon iye wemitigoozhiinh ogii-ozhitoosiin anishinaabewinikaazowin.
It is not the white man that created Indian names.

Manidoo ogii-miigiwen inakeya'ii ji izhinikaazod awiiya
They truly come from the spirits.

Manidoon ogii-miinaan iniwen ogowe gaa-ini-we'eyangwaa, gaa-giiwe'eng, gii-we'enaanig.
It is the spirits that pass the names onto our name-givers.

Manidoon ogii-miinigoon iye ji izhinikaanigooying.
They got it from the spirits to call us by that.

Ingoding ge mii imaa gii-nibaad, mii imaa ji gikendang awe ji izhinikaadaawisod.
Sometimes when a person is sleeping they dreamed of the spiritual name to give.

Nashke owe nookomisiban Noodinaanakwadook gii-izhinikaazo. Mii dash ako omaa gii-wiindamawid owe a'aw gaa-izhinikaazoyan.
Just as my grandmother she used to tell me how my name came to be.

Apichi ingii-miinig owe ji izhinikaaninaan.
She told me that it was a robin who gave her the name that she named me.

Gii-nibaayaan imaa ingii-pi-miinig. He gave it to me as I was sleeping.

Mii iye ge-izhinikaaazowin ningii-'ig.
This is what your name will be called she told me.

"Mii ge-izhinikaanad goozhis" mii gaa-izhid
"This is what you're going to name your grandchild," she told me.

Mii dash iwe wenji-miininaan iwe, Ogimaawigwanebiik miinawaa Ogimaakwewibiik gii-ikidong.
This is why I gave you this name, Ogimaawigwanebiik and Ogimaakwewibiik.

Gaawinoon gegoo zhaaganaashiiwinikaadesinoon iye gaa-ikidoyaan.
Do not translate this into English, I say.

Anishinaabemowin eta go. Use the Ojibwe language only.

Gaawiin wiikaa awiiya oda-aanjitoosiin owe wiinzowin ji zhaagaanaashiwinikaadang.
You can never change your Indian name by saying it differently in English.

Gaawiin ge, awiiya bakaan da-gagwejimaasii aaniin ekidong iye gii-ikidowin.
And you should never ask anyone else how to say your name in English.

Wiinzowin i'iw. Mii eta go ge-ikidopan. Wiinzowin i'iw.
This is all you need to say, that is my name, that's all there is to it, that's my name.

Anishinaabewinikazowin i'iw. This is an Indian name.

Nashke dash gaa-igoyaan a'aa apichi, maajaa awe gii-biboong omaa niinend gii-ayaayaang.
This is what she told me, the robin leaves in the fall for winter, here in this geographical area anyways.

Baamaa miinawaa ani-ziigwang mii o'apii degoshing.
And they do return again in the springtime.

Mii dash gaa-izhid nookomisiban, "Nitam noondawad aw apichi gii-ziigwang gii-bagamised, giga-biindaakonaa."
And my grandmother told me, "When you first hear the robin in the springtime, you should feast it."

Gegoo giga-bagidinaa, asemaa giga-bagidinaa iwidi agwajiing gemaa ge wiisiniwin giga-bagidinaa iwidi agwajiing.
You should put tobacco down and also some food outside.

Mii iye, giga-miigwechiwi'aa awe gii-miinig iwe wiinzowin gaa-bimiwidooyan wiinzowin.
And this is how you thank the robin for giving you the name that you are carrying now.

Mii dash eko izhichigeyaan, geget ingoding ishkwanjigan nabagide'igan mii iwidi izhi-apagidoowaan agwajiing.
This is what I have tried to do whenever I have porridge left over, I put it outside.

Miich dash imaa izhi-miijid awe apichi. This is how the robin gets fed.

Asemaa dash nimiinaa. Aanishinaa aapichi ningichi-apiitenimaa owe gaa-apinikaazoyaan.
I then give him tobacco because I am proud of the bird that I am named after.

Apichi ezhinikaazod. The one that is named the robin.

Wa' mii sa gonaa awe minik bangii waa-wiindamawinigog.
And this is a little bit of the story I wanted to share.

Ahaw miigwech bizindawiyeg. Thank you very much for listening to me.

Mii w akawe. That's it for now.

Ishkwaaj idash. In conclusion.

Gidaa-biindaakonaag gigichi-anishinaabemag omaa gaa-onjiiyan ji gagwejimadwaa ge izhichigeyan wii-ando-ne'aman giwiinzowin gaye gidoodem gaye gidizhi'onan.
You should offer tobacco to your own elders at your own community if you want to learn how to go about learning your Indian name, your clan and your sacred items.

Racism impacts Mille Lacs communities

(Continued from page 3)

federal government and taxpayers money. It has also supported increased tourism and business in East Central Minnesota, and has contributed millions of dollars to local charities and non-profit organizations."

Band receives community support

Although reservation boundaries remain a divisive issue, the Band has received tremendous support from Indians and non-Indians in response to the Isle Days Parade incident.

Mille Lacs Messenger Editor Mike Kallok condemned the parade spectators' actions, noting, "What [if not a war protest] then prompted this disgraceful display and why was it tolerated? It seems that the actions were motivated purely by race…I am truly disgusted!"

Others wrote in to the Messenger expressing similar feelings, and supportive letters and e-mails have come to the Band from individuals and organizations across the nation.

In addition, the Band is an active partner in the Mille Lacs Area Human Rights Commission, which co-organized the October 24, 2006, "It's Time to Talk—A Forum on Race" event with Voices of Unity on Mille Lacs, in which many Band members are involved. The event brought together local officials and business and community leaders to discuss ways to eliminate racism in the Mille Lacs area.

"I'm appalled by the racism that our veterans—and all Band members, at one time or another—have been subjected to," said Mille Lacs Band Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin. "I am grateful to the many people around the lake who have the courage to speak out against this ugly situation."

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

Asemaa for the ages

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen, Staff Writer

Does asemaa—or tobacco—have the same spiritual significance to upper Great Lakes Indians today as it did, say, 165 years ago? Most definitely. Asemaa continues to serve as a means to communicate with the Creator and spirit world, and is commonly gifted to people when requesting assistance.

Along with oral histories and teachings passed down by generations of elders, white explorers and early settlers noted tribal use of traditional items like tobacco in journals, letters and other documents. These writings supplement the oral tradition and, together, illuminate many time-honored cultural ways that the United States government attempted to blot out during the first half of the 20th Century through assimilation programs.

As part of an expedition searching Lake Superior's south shore for copper in spring 1840, Charles W. Penny traveled from Detroit by steamship to Mackinac Island and traversed the falls on the St. Mary's River near Sault Ste. Marie in a smaller boat. In his journal, he recounts the spiritual use of tobacco prior to descending a dangerous waterfall.

> *The water boils & foams around the boat which shoots along like an arrow—while through the clear water you see the eternal rocks lifting their heads as if to dash you to pieces. As we were starting from the head of the Millrace for the purpose of descending, the Indian who stood in the bow for the purpose of directing the course to be steered, asked very earnestly for tobacco. Supposing he wished a good quid, I handed him a small plug, which, instead of putting into his mouth, he laid carefully upon the end of a log which reaches out into the lake as an offering to the Great Spirit of the Falls, saying as he did so, that we should now have a safe passage down.*
>
> North to Lake Superior: The Journal of Charles W. Penny, 1840
> Marquette County Historical Society, publisher [1970]

Two years after this exploration journey began, the U.S. acquired title to mineral lands stretching from Marquette to Superior through the 1842 Treaty, oftentimes referred to as the Copper Treaty. Although Ojibwe signatories to the 1842 Treaty transferred 10 million acres to the expanding U.S., they reserved the right to live off the land, notably hunting, fishing and gathering privileges.

White Earth member Jim Merhar accepts a framed "Mikwendaagoziwag" poster from GLIFWC Executive Secretary Rose Wilmer in Odanah. Merhar has been a strong supporter of the Mikwendaagoziwag Memorial at Sandy Lake, Minnesota since the December 2000 ceremony that honored the sacrifice of Ojibwe people in the winter of 1850-1851. GLIFWC has distributed personalized framed posters to a handful of individuals annually since 2003 as a way to say miigwech. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

Letter to the Editor

Earlier this summer we were invited to participate for the second time in the Annual Paddle across Sandy Lake ceremony at the Mikwendaagoziwag Memorial and Feast.

We feel that it is an honor and privilege to be included with others who have made a special effort to respect those that have passed on as a direct result of the mistreatment of the Ojibwe people that died during the Sandy Lake Tragedy.

It is unfortunate that we can not go back in time to correct such a catastrophe and wrong doing. Thus, it is important that the memorial and annual ceremony to respect those who lost their lives will never be forgotten.

We would like to publicly thank all of those who had the vision to create the Sandy Lake Memorial and especially to the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission's leaders Jim Schlender, Jim Zorn, Gerry DePerry, Leo LaFernier and the many others that have dedicated their time and talents to make sure that Ojibwe ancestors are Mikwendaagoziwag (they are remembered).

Respectfully submitted by:
Mike & Colleen Bark, Washburn, Wis.

Rochelle Ellson: GLIFWC's new payroll manager

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Rochelle Ellson. (Photo by COR)

Odanah, Wis.—Recently joining the GLIFWC administrative team as payroll manager is Rochelle Ellson, Ashland. She started her new position mid-September, handling primarily payroll and staff travel.

Ellson grew up and attended school in Ashland. Following several years working at the Bad River Casino and the Potawatomi Casino in Milwaukee, Ellson returned to Ashland to attend Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College, graduating last spring with an associates degree in finance and business administration. Her position with GLIFWC will be the first she's had in her field since graduating several months ago.

She also put in six years with the National Guard, Ashland, as a quarry specialist, which involved primarily weekend duty, but also included a six-month, full-time stint in the state of Washington.

Outside of work, Ellson's time is occupied by her five-year old son, Nathan Smart, now a kindergartner. They especially enjoy spending time outdoors with frequent visits to the park. She also enjoys biking, sledding and ice skating.

WPT November programs honor Native American heritage month

November has been designated Native American Heritage Month in honor of the contributions the first Americans made to the establishment and growth of the United States. In November, Wisconsin Public Television (WPT) recognizes Native American heritage with special programming.

At **11 p.m. on Monday, November 13, Independent Lens** "Trudell" is a biography of Native American activist and poet John Trudell. The program reveals a complex man whose art, life and work helped shape the contemporary Native American experience.

At **9 p.m. on Wednesday, November 22, The Journey of Sacagawea** tells the story of one of the most honored heroines in American history. Using the rich oral history of the Shoshoni, Hidatsa and Nez Perce tribes, the dramatic re-enactments and scenes of the wild areas in Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, Wyoming and Oregon, this program provides both the historical account of Sacagawea and the legends told about her.

Following at **10 p.m. Ojibwe Music**, a WPT production, features traditionalist Eddie Benton-Benai who details the cultural and spiritual significance of music to the Ojibwe people.

Viewers will learn the roles that instruments such as the shaker, the flute and the drum play in Ojibwe life, and tribal members perform traditional music in the program, shot in the north woods along the shores of Lake Superior.

At **10:30 p.m. in Ojibwe History**, produced by WPT, Benton-Banai shares the legacy of his people, speaking of events such as the prophecies that led the Ojibwe from the East Coast to Wisconsin. This program offers a rare opportunity to experience the Native American oral tradition. "The true history of the Original people of this part of the world has never been written," says Benton-Benai. "It's recorded in our genetic memories and is acted out in our songs, our stories, our rituals."

In **Earl's Canoe at 9:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 29**, a traditional birch bark canoe is constructed by Ojibwe master craftsman Earl Nyholm, his mother, cousins and friends. The WPT produced program was filmed by the Smithsonian Institution under the trees of Madeline Island, the ancestral home of the Ojibwe people.

Asian carp cont.

(Continued from page 5)

whereas the grass carp is found in all the Great Lakes except Superior and in waters within all the Great Lakes states.

Biologists are unsure what the eventual impact of these species will be on the Great Lakes and inland waters. In rivers where the silver and bighead carps have become established, commercial harvests have gone from less than 1,500 pounds/year in the early 1990's to over 875,000 pounds in 2003. In these areas carp are now the most common fish found in fishery assessments, whereas in the past there was a diversity of warm water species of fishes captured. Both bighead and silver carp are competitors for plankton, which are the food native fish and mussels need for survival. Black carp feed on snails and mussels, many of which are already in decline due to other factors in the Great Lakes region.

The draft plan can be viewed at the Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force homepage at www.anstaskforce.gov.

Safety classes

Check with your local GLIFWC warden for information on upcoming on-reservation ATV and snowmobile safety classes.

Along with officers from local and state jurisdictions, GLIFWC wardens participated in a three-day water safety survival instructor course at North Central Technical College in Wausau last August. Enforcement officers were trained to apprehend and control combative subjects in a water environment. Pictured are: (back) Jim Mattson, Jonas Moermond, Mike Wiggins, Fred Maulson, Clifton Edwards, Matt Martin, Erich Zwicher, Mike Soulier, Benjamin Treml, Mark Thayer, Matt Bark, Dave Young, (kneeling) Emily Miller, Roger McGeshick, Daniel Meyer, Daren Schieldt, Jeremy Peery, and Vern Stone. (Photo submitted)

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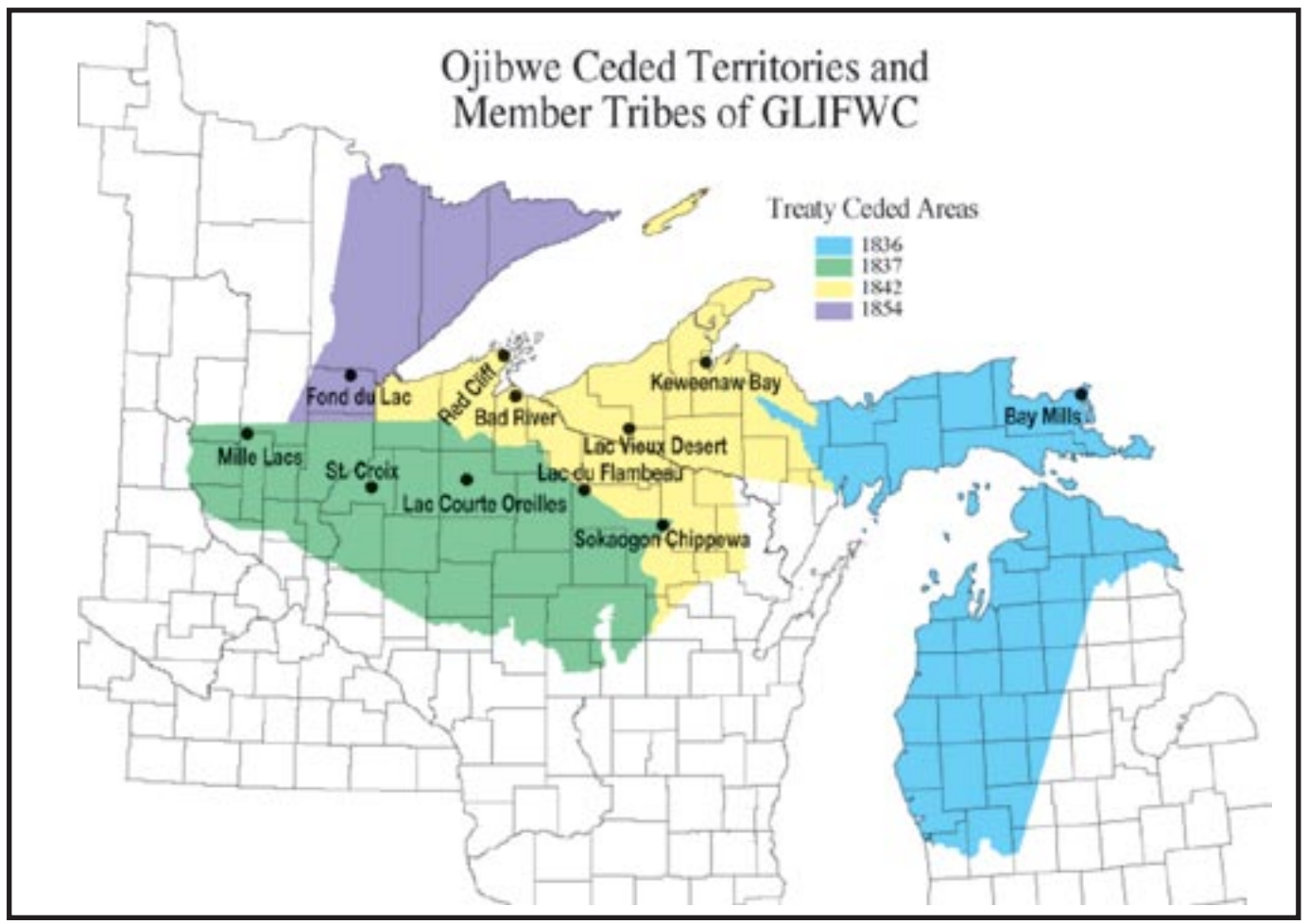

Mazina'igan

A Chronicle of the Lake Superior Ojibwe