

MASINAIGAN

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First treaty harvest underway in Minnesota 1837 ceded territory

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen
Writer/Photographer

Mille Lacs, Minn.—A light mist drifted through the skies of east-central Minnesota, shrouding the autumn landscape in shades of gray. For the native people of Mille Lacs, it was a grand day.

On an historic white-tailed deer hunt November 8 & 9, Mille Lacs band members exercised their 1837 treaty rights in the Minnesota ceded territory without encumbrance from state authorities.

Leonard Sam, Mille Lacs band member and Voigt Intertribal Task Force Representative said he was pleased by how the season began in the traditional hunting grounds of Minnesota.

"It definitely felt good to be out there," said Sam. "Our hunters got out to public lands and harvested some deer."

Before the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals lifted a ban which prevented the off-reservation harvest of resources like deer and fish, Mille Lacs band members were restricted to tribal property and the 1837 Wisconsin ceded territory.

Don Wedll, Mille Lacs Natural Resources Commissioner, has been involved in the 1837 Minnesota treaty rights litigation since 1990. After many years of negotiation and litigation, including a failed settlement agreement, Wedll felt it was time for the issue to be resolved.

"I think it's appropriate," Wedll said after the court announced its decision.

"There is no reason to refuse the tribe rights they justifiably have."

Band members are permitted two deer harvest tags at a time. While they are eligible to receive additional tags upon using the originals, the total harvest is regulated by quotas for each management unit.

Sam said that tribal members are being cautious as they start hunting public lands in the ceded territory. Hunters often carry maps of new areas to avoid private property, which is off limits to the treaty harvest.

GLIFWC conservation wardens Brett Haskin and George Felix traveled throughout the western portion of the 1837 Minnesota ceded territory on the deer hunting opener. They checked tribal harvest permits in the field and answered questions for both band members and non-Indians.

Wedll and the GLIFWC wardens agreed that there has been little reaction from the general public since the off-reservation harvest ban was lifted.

"People are not in an uproar—it's not a big event," said Wedll. "We were able to learn from the extreme controversy involved in the Wisconsin experience and avoid some problems that occurred there."

Through interaction with the non-Indian community, GLIFWC wardens perform an important role in public relations. They provide accurate information on how the treaty harvest is conducted and regulated.

One common point of misinformation among non-Indians is that band mem-



Mille Lacs band member David Sam harvested this forked-horn buck west of Lake Mille Lacs. His wife Mary (right) joined him on the historic deer hunt on November 8th. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

bers take all the allowable surplus of fish and game. Many people don't realize that the treaty harvest is closely monitored so that everyone can share the resource without harmful depletion, Haskin said.

"Tribal members understand the importance of wisely using the resource," Wedll said. "They have always had a deep respect for the environment."

Mille Lacs and Fond du Lac leaders, along with Ojibwe headmen from Wisconsin, signed a treaty with the United States 160 years ago at St. Peters Agency, in present-day Minnesota. In the treaty, Ojibwe leaders ceded land to the developing United States, but reserved the right to harvest traditional resources.

"It's really significant that Indian leaders put these treaties together in 1837 and they have held up over time," Wedll said. "There has been a lot of misunderstanding about treaty rights. For the tribes, it is clearly a way of life."

At the turn of the last century, interest in outdoor recreation grew among many non-Indians. Urban residents found that

undeveloped areas that offered hunting and fishing opportunities were highly appealing.

In the following decades, sportfishing became increasingly popular and the tourism industry expanded dramatically. Competition for fish and game made it difficult for the Mille Lacs band to meet their nutritional needs.

"Up through the 1940s, tribal members kept a substantial amount of these resources in their diet," Wedll said. "But in the 1950s, the state cornered the use of resources making them into a commercial commodity. Essentially, there was no surplus left for the tribe to provide for a traditional diet."

The recent court ruling clears the way for Mille Lacs band members to increase their consumption of fish and game.

"It's important to get these resources back into the tribal diet for the health and welfare of the people," Wedll said.

Sam added that band members will do some spearing through the ice this winter, and hunt other game like cottontail rabbits in the Minnesota territory. □



George Felix (left) and Brett Haskin, GLIFWC wardens stationed at Mille Lacs monitored the first off-reservation deer hunt in the Minnesota 1837 treaty ceded territory. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

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Off-reservation gathering attracts more tribal members

By *Charlie Otto Rasmussen,*
Writer/Photographer

Odanah, Wis.—While fish and wildlife are among the most conspicuous natural resources utilized by band members, hundreds of Ojibwe people are going afield in search of another, less-elusive inhabitant of the north country—plants.

Interest in acquiring off-reservation vegetation is on the rise among GLIFWC member tribes. The number of band members gathering plants from national forests has increased for the third straight year, said John Gilbert GLIFWC Wildlife Section Leader.

In conjunction with the USDA Forest Service, GLIFWC personnel are monitoring the off-reservation gathering of plant species like balsam fir, princess pine, and ginseng.

Like the harvest of fish and game for personal consumption, a permit is required to remove plant species from federal land in the ceded territory. Band members may utilize two types of licenses to gather plants: a general harvest permit or commercial plant harvest permit.

According to John Heim, GLIFWC Wild Plant Technician, both permits are available from GLIFWC offices or respective reservations, generally at deer registration stations. Heim added that commercial permits are valid only on federal forest lands in the ceded territory.

Up until several years ago, tribal members were required to obtain the permits directly from the Forest Service. Heim said the recent initiative to distribute permits tribally has made it more convenient for gatherers to receive off-reservation authorization, contributing to the increase in wild plant harvests.

GLIFWC technicians distribute plant harvest surveys to permit holders and tally the responses in order to estimate how much is being taken from national forest lands. These questionnaires ask for the quantity harvested, where tribal members were operating, and if plants were gathered for commercial purposes.

Gilbert said that the surveys will help GLIFWC and Forest Service personnel determine how gathering affects forest communities.

"The tribes pride themselves on documenting the harvest," said Gilbert. "They seem very conscientious on knowing what is being taken."

Plants are valued by Ojibwe people as a source of income, nutrition and for the medicinal qualities inherent in many of the species.

Princess pine, a low-growing perennial herb, is used as packing material for shipping bulbs, a holiday decoration, and even food, included in salad dishes.

Although ginseng has the most commercial value by weight, it is often difficult to find and available in limited quantities.

Balsam fir trees, however, are abundant and attract the majority of tribal gatherers. In the months preceding the holiday season, band members clip low-hanging balsam boughs from younger trees. Local manufacturers purchase the boughs for around \$.18 a pound and craft holiday wreaths.

Bad River tribal member Mark Pero expanded his smoked fish operation this year to include holiday balsam wreath sales. Along with family members, Pero has gathered balsam boughs from both reservation and federal lands.

"Gathering is an important right," said Pero. "We make a living from it."



Many tribal commercial gatherers sell their balsam bough yield directly to wreath manufacturers. Others, like Mark Pero, craft and vend their harvest from on-reservation outlets like the one pictured above at Bad River. Small wreaths retail for \$10 and large wreaths fetch \$35. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)



Traditionally plants were gathered and used as dyes for items such as the sash being woven by Mrs. Mustache at Lac Courte Oreilles. Gathering plants for use in ceremonies, for food and for medicine has long played an important role in Ojibwe life. (Photo from the Minnesota Public Museum Archive)



Wisconsin Chippewa bands reject the state's effort to negotiate treaty rights/sovereignty for gaming compacts

Editor's note: The following statement was presented by John Wilmer, former chairman of the Bad River Band of Chippewa, on behalf of all six Wisconsin Chippewa bands represented at a press conference at the Turtle Lake Casino on November 6, 1997. The statement as well as the resolution are a firm response to the continued effort of Governor Tommy Thompson to negotiate gaming compacts as a trade for treaty-reserved rights of the Chippewa and tribal powers of environmental regulation.

St. Croix Reservation, Wis.—The Wisconsin Chippewa Tribes, all signatories to the 1837 and 1842 Treaties which retained off-reservation hunting, fishing and gathering rights, soundly reject the State of Wisconsin's attempt to compromise those court-affirmed treaty rights as part of Class III gaming compact negotiations.

Spoken in native Ojibwa, the answer to the state's efforts to negotiate our legal rights and sovereign authority is plainly "gaawiin," or no!

All six Chippewa Tribes represented here are a signatory or successor to the Treaty of 1837 and the Treaty of 1842 in which our forefathers reserved the rights to hunt, fish, and gather on ceded lands. All six Tribes are also party to *Lac Courte Oreilles vs. State of Wisconsin*, the lengthy lawsuit which ultimately reaffirmed those treaty rights.

After many, many years of prevention and unjust regulation by the State of Wisconsin, our tribal members are finally able to exercise those treaty rights under an orderly and conservative system of tribal control and regulation.

The struggle to exercise our legal rights has been too long, too hard and our legal rights are too precious to be eroded by political pressure such as the State of Wisconsin is choosing to employ in totally unrelated matters of Class III gaming compacts. On May 20, 1991 the six bands of Lake Superior Chippewa announced that they would not appeal Judge Barbara Crabb's final judgment in the Voigt litigation.

A statement addressed to the people of Wisconsin at that time read that the tribes "do this as a gesture of peace and friendship towards the people of Wisconsin, in a spirit they hope may someday be reciprocated on the part of the general citizenry and officials of this state."

But today the reciprocation of that goodwill is a continued effort by the State of Wisconsin to reduce and/or eliminate our court-affirmed treaty rights outside of the courtroom by bringing our treaty rights onto the negotiating table for renewal of Class III



Representatives of six Wisconsin Chippewa bands issued a press statement rejecting the State of Wisconsin's continued effort to place Chippewa treaty rights and issues of tribal sovereignty on the negotiating table for renewal of Class III gaming compacts. Pictured above at a press conference held at the Turtle Lake Casino, Turtle Lake, Wis. are, from the left: David Merrill, Vice President St. Croix Tribal Council; John Wilmer, former Bad River tribal chairman; Joe Dan Rose, former Bad River tribal council member; Arlyn Ackley, Mole Lake tribal chairman; George Newago, Red Cliff tribal chairman; Mic Isham, Lac Courte Oreilles tribal council; and Thomas Maulson, Lac du Flambeau tribal chairman. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

gaming compacts. The State also insists that as part of gaming compact negotiations, the Tribes agree to forego or reduce the exercise of tribal sovereign authority in matters of environmental regulation.

The six Wisconsin Chippewa Tribes view these demands as inappropriate and clearly representative of bad faith negotiations. The State has no authority to alter our treaty rights. These were agreements between the Tribes and the Federal Government which federal courts have held to be the legal, usufructuary rights of the tribes.

While the Tribes respect the sovereign authority of each individual Tribe to negotiate in the best interest of its tribal members on off-reservation treaty issues outside of the Class III gaming compact renewal negotiations, the Tribes have unanimously passed a resolution rejecting the State's insistence that certain off-reservation resource harvest be reduced or eliminated or that the Tribes eliminate or reduce environmental regulations as preconditions to Class III compact renewals.

History shows the Tribes have already lost and given up far too much. History also shows that the Tribes have extended their hand in goodwill towards the people of this State. Now we must remain strong to preserve what we have. So, today, we strongly and as one voice tell the State of Wisconsin, "gaawiin," we do not accept your conditions.

Open letter to 'Watch Me'

Dear Governor:

This letter is in response to an article in the November 26, 1997, Ashland Daily Press on Indian gaming. You are quoted to say "I'm ready to say no more compacts" and when asked how you could shut down tribal casino games your response was "watch me."

How arrogant of you. It must be nice to know that your future is secure and chances are slim that you will find yourself at the end of an unemployment line. What about the thousands of casino employees—both tribal members and non-tribal members who are employed because of Indian gaming? Do you think of the undo stress these statements relay? Of course you don't.

Mr. "Watch Me," consider the increase in your W-2 caseloads if you follow through with these ridiculous challenges. Think about the Food Stamps, Medical Assistance and other social program costs. Think about the reality that child abuse and neglect increases are common in areas with high unemployment. How arrogant of you, sitting in a mansion, making these statements.

If any other business in the State of Wisconsin employed as many people as the casinos do, chances are they would receive recognition as assets to the State of Wisconsin. You're not prejudiced, are you, Mr. Watch Me?"

**Beth Meyers
Bayfield**

Eighth circuit denies rehearing of 1837 Treaty appeal

St. Paul, Minn.—The recently affirmed 1837 Treaty right in Minnesota remain intact after the Eighth Circuit District Court of Appeals denied petitions for a rehearing of the appeal on November 17th.

In August a three-judge panel of the Eighth Circuit upheld the federal district court decision affirming the treaty rights of the Chippewa in the 1837 Minnesota ceded territory. Defendants then sought a rehearing before the full the Eighth Circuit, which was denied.

The only remaining recourse for the defendants is to petition for a review by the Supreme Court. A petition for review must be filed within 90 days of the appellate court judgment, and the review is a matter of discretion for the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court may accept such a petition or deny it.

Meanwhile, the stay which prevented the implementation of the 1837 Treaty rights has been lifted and band members have begun exercising their treaty rights for the first time in the 1837 Treaty ceded territory.

(The special Masinaigan supplement covering the 1837 Treaty litigation is still available through GLIFWC's Public Information Office. Call (715) 682-6619 or write: GLIFWC, PIO, Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861.

Trappers promote ethics and tradition

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen
Writer/Photographer

Red Cliff, Wis.—Mike Gustafson cringed when the fisher bit down into his foot through his thick rubber waders. Not because it hurt that bad—but those were new waders, and now there was a hole in them.

After four years in pursuit of northern Wisconsin furbearers Gustafson and his partner, Curt Basina, have become avid trappers. While both are Red Cliff members, entitling them to trap throughout public lands in the ceded territory, the duo also purchased state permits giving them access to private property.

The fisher that chomped on Gustafson's foot was caught on private land; since he did not have a state carcass tag, he was obliged to release it.

Using a forked stick, Gustafson pinned the animal down and freed it from the trap. But before fleeing into the woods, the enraged fisher left behind a set of teeth marks. For his commendable adherence to game laws, Gustafson was rewarded with a series of rabies shots.

Still, the incident didn't seem to phase Gustafson in the least. He and Basina are more concerned with ensuring the future of trapping for the next generation. "I'm glad we have these rights," Gustafson said. "That's why I don't abuse them."

After purchasing essential gear like traps, wading boots, and lures, Basina and Gustafson began trapping on the reservation and ceded territory in 1993. Since that time they have learned how significant trapping is as a cultural pursuit.

"It's terribly important to keep the trapping tradition alive," said Basina. "This is what our people did hundreds of years ago and it's fantastic that we can do it as well."

When the fur trade began in the seventeenth century, European traders relied on the skills and know-how of native trappers to acquire furs. Trapping was vital to the Ojibwe economy for many generations, providing important trade goods like gun powder and

weapons used in overpowering the Dakota Sioux in the prime hunting lands of Wisconsin and eastern Minnesota.

While few people make a living from trapping today, Basina said it's important to

get younger band members involved to give them a greater appreciation for the outdoors and steer them away from social evils.

"Trapping is more than harvesting a resource," Basina said. "It gives young people an opportunity to learn about our heritage."

Even though they are employed full-time, Basina and Gustafson make time to trap after work and on weekends. Each tends to a 45-mile trap line daily, where they target furbearers like raccoon and fisher with conibear traps.

Conibears—known as kill traps—are situated in a five gallon plastic box between a small opening at one end and a bait on the closed end. With the use of specialized scents to attract furbearers, these "cubby" sets are designed to avoid domestic animals, like hunting dogs, that may be in the forest. In addition, the restrictive hole that allows access to the trap makes it difficult for nontarget animals to gain entry.

In a thick, mixed forest composed of balsam fir and hardwoods, Gustafson caught a light-colored fisher in one such cubby set; he will share the profit from the sale of that fur with Basina. Like the cost of maintaining trapping supplies, all dividends are evenly split.

Through their involvement with state and national trapping organizations, Gustafson and Basina have learned many trade secrets.

"We've met a lot of great people in the Wisconsin Trappers Association and elsewhere," said Basina. "They have shared how-to information that has helped us be more successful."

During mid-winter, the twosome plan on using some of that knowledge to harvest other furbearers like beaver, fox and river otter when their fur is prime.

Off-reservation treaty trapping in Wisconsin runs through March 31.



Mike Gustafson attaches an off-reservation harvest tag on an adult fisher. Using a conibear "kill" trap, Gustafson caught the animal on public land in Bayfield County, Wisconsin. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)



Stable fisher populations have given tribal members good trapping opportunities in the ceded territory. Above, Red Cliff tribal member Mike Gustafson examines some fisher pelts that he and his partner, Curt Basina, plan to sell this winter. Basina and Gustafson trade with local buyers and also ship some furs, like fisher, to North American Fur, a Canadian-based firm. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

Special deer harvest provides venison for Red Cliff tribal elders

By **Charlie Otto Rasmussen**
Writer/Photographer

Red Cliff, Wis.—For the ninth consecutive season, Red Cliff band members went afield on a special hunt designed to provide venison for tribal elders. Approximately thirty hunters participated in the 1997 Red Cliff Elder Hunt, a two-day event that produced seven white-tailed deer on October 28 and eleven deer on November 12.

"Some people don't have the means to get a deer, so we take a few days off of work to hunt," said Gerry DePerry, GLIFWC deputy administrator and Red Cliff band member. "It's a good gesture."

As a traditional foodstuff, venison represents one of the most important segments of the Ojibwe diet. The eighteen deer harvested will supply around 850 pounds of venison for Red Cliff elders this winter.

Like other tribal members, DePerry hunted primarily in public lands throughout Wisconsin's Bayfield Peninsula. In this region—part of the 1842 ceded territory—Red Cliff hunters have access to federal, state, and selected managed forest land.

As in past years, the November hunt was more productive than the first which was held in late October.

According to Red Cliff member Mark Duffy, good weather conditions, a light snow cover, and the rut—or white-tailed deer breeding season—all factored into a successful mid-November hunt.

During the rut, bucks travel extensively and are highly-focused on finding does to breed, making them more accessible to hunters. As a result, bucks comprised a majority of deer bagged on the recent outing.

"Overall, Red Cliff hunters have seen a lot of bucks this year," said Duffy who bagged a spike and eight-point buck for the

elderly. Throughout the 1990s, the Red Cliff community has worked together to coordinate the harvest, processing, and distribution of venison to the elders.

After deer are tagged and recorded at the GLIFWC registration station in Red Cliff, Ron Nordine accepts the carcasses for processing. Nordine and his family have volunteered to cut and package venison obtained during the elder hunt for the last five years.

"The whole family helps out," said Nordine who oversees processing at his home in Red Cliff. "And we're trying to get more young people involved in helping our elders."

Nordine added that most people prefer steaks, roasts, and stew meat. When the meat is packed and wrapped, GLIFWC wardens coordinate distribution of the venison through the Red Cliff Elderly Program. Members are allotted a quantity of the meat and may opt to have it delivered through the tribal meals-on-wheels program. The

remaining portion of the harvest is utilized at the Red Cliff Elderly Center where meals are cooked in a communal setting.

Inspired by the success of the annual elder hunt, Nordine and his family have started another event in honor of all elders, including non-Indians. In early October the Nordines sponsored the First Annual Harvest Moon Feast held at the Red Cliff Elderly Center.

According to Nordine, 55 people showed up for the banquet and an additional 150 enjoyed dinner at home with the help of Jack Deragon, driver for the meals-on-wheels program.

The Nordines prepared a variety of traditional Ojibwe foods including, potatoes, venison, fish, wild rice, and bread. "We were in a position to help out," said Nordine. "It was time to do something more."

With some hunting excursions to the southern reaches of the ceded territory in the spring, Nordine plans on expanding the menu next year to include wild turkey.



With the help of his wife and children, Ron Nordine of Red Cliff contributes to the success of the annual elder hunt by processing deer free of charge. Above, Nordine prepares a strip of fresh venison for packaging. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)



Mark Duffy is assisted by Larry Deragon, Red Cliff, (right) and GLIFWC Warden Mark Bresette, while gutting a downed buck during the Elderly Hunt in 1996. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

Ojibwe artists wanted

The Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) Public Information Office is looking for Ojibwe artwork to be used in Masinaigan and in other publications produced by GLIFWC.

Interested persons can contact Sue Erickson or Lynn Plucinski at GLIFWC, P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861, phone (715) 682-6619 or e-mail us at pjo@win.bright.net.



Harvest opportunities ahead Upcoming off-reservation, treaty seasons

For specific information and dates regarding any off-reservation treaty seasons, tribal members should contact their reservation conservation department or the on-reservation Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission satellite enforcement office or registration station.

Seasons may vary some from state to state, or from tribe to tribe. However, some of the opportunities for off-reservation hunting, fishing and gathering in January through March 1998 are as follows:

Wisconsin 1837, 1842 Treaty ceded territory

- Trapping
- Small game hunting, season vary by species
- Firewood gathering in national forests
- Wild plant gathering, except ginseng
- Maple sap gathering
- Winter ice fishing in inland waters: unattended lines/spearing through the ice
- Home use ice fishing in Lake Superior

Minnesota 1837 Treaty ceded territory

- Small game hunting
- Trapping
- Winter ice fishing in inland waters: spearing/netting/hook and line

Michigan 1836 Treaty ceded territory

- Small game hunting
- Trapping
- Winter ice fishing in inland waters: spearing/hook and line
- Firewood gathering in national forests

Treaty commercial fishing in Lake Superior, Michigan and Wisconsin waters
(Consult with tribal codes for specific quotas, units, and dates)



Honored by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for ten years of volunteer service to the Wisconsin Hunter Safety Program, Ken Rusk, GLIFWC warden at LCO and Carol Wielgot, formerly a GLIFWC warden at LCO, are both hunter safety instructors who initiated the on-reservation hunter safety training at Lac Courte Oreilles. Wielgot, who retired from GLIFWC due to a back injury, continues to instruct a variety of safety training programs, including ATV and snowmobile safety courses. Rusk received a plaque from the WDNR during the summer, and Wielgot received a plaque this fall during the on-reservation hunter safety class. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

ATTENTION TREATY TRAPPERS

Zone A for fishers in Northwest Wisconsin was closed as of December 1, 1997 because the tribal quota of 100 has been filled. Since the quota for state-licensed trappers is also 100, representing a 50-50 split, no more opportunity will be available for this season.

Attention tribal, off-reservation hunters: Hunting on private lands could be subject to both tribal and state court prosecution

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—Tribal members hunting off-reservation may need to double check boundaries on private lands where they are hunting. A Wisconsin Appellate Court recently ruled that off-reservation hunting on private land "is not an activity recognized and protected by the Chippewa Treaties..." and that tribal members hunting on private land can be subject to conviction by both tribal and state courts.

The case involved a St. Croix tribal member who shot a deer off-reservation on non-enrolled private land when the off-reservation, treaty hunting season was open, but the state season was closed.

The hunter was convicted in tribal court and fined \$300.00. However, the State also charged the hunter under state

law. The case was first heard in Burnett County Circuit Court and was dismissed.

The Circuit Court found that even though the offense was prosecutable, prosecution in state court following prosecution and conviction in tribal court would amount to unconstitutional double jeopardy.

The district attorney appealed the Circuit Court's decision. In August the Appellate Court overturned the circuit court's ruling, agreeing that the offense is prosecutable in state court but rejecting the ruling that prosecution in state court after a conviction in tribal court is unconstitutional double jeopardy.

Therefore, tribal members apprehended hunting off-reservation on private lands could find themselves facing prosecution and conviction in both tribal and state courts—a potentially expensive situation.

Off-Reservation tribal deer/bear harvest Preliminary figures as of 12/5/97

Tribe	Antlered	Antlerless	Bear
Bad River	95	163	6
Lac Courte Oreilles	259	530	0
Lac du Flambeau	275	565	3
Mole Lake	70	199	4
Red Cliff	180	191	5
St. Croix	173	341	1
Mille Lacs*	23	62	0
Wisconsin Totals	1075	2051	19
Minnesota 1837 treaty deer hunt	25	39	—

*Mille Lacs and Lake Lena registration stations



1997 Wild rice season a great success!

By Peter David
GLIFWC Wildlife Biologist

Odanah, Wis.—As rapidly shortening days and freezing temperatures pull us into winter, it almost seems impossible that just a few months ago we had the chance to enjoy the warmth of the late afternoon sun, to pole through dense rice, to flush rails and waterfowl and to listen to the rhythmic swishes of the knocker and the steady rain of rice into the canoe. For many of those who managed to get out and enjoy this activity, the memories of the 1997 season will be especially fond.

Aerial and ground surveys of wild rice beds conducted by GLIFWC on over 80 Wisconsin waters confirmed what many harvesters already knew in their bones; the Great Spirit had been especially generous with this spirit food this year.

An overall index to rice abundance, which is compiled from the 40 waters which are surveyed annually, indicated that 1997 was the best year for manoomin in nearly a decade.

As usual, some waters were down. Washburn county and southern Oneida county beds were generally below average, and the stands in the Kakagon Sloughs on the Bad River reservation appeared to be hurt by high water levels in Lake Superior.

But other waters had exceptional crops. Two very important beds for harvesters, Totogatic Lake in Bayfield county and Rice Lake in Forest county, on the reservation of the Sokaogon Chippewa, both bounced back from near busts in 1996 to have excellent beds. And though harvesting began somewhat later than usual, weather during the harvest was very cooperative. Few beds were damaged by high winds or rain, and the season seemed to stretch out longer than in most years, providing plenty of harvesting opportunity.

Although final harvest estimates will not be available for several months, it is suspected that the off-reservation harvest estimate will be the highest since surveys were started in 1987.

Generally, harvests have increased with increased abundance. Preliminary indications are that state license sales may have increased. The good crop and favorable weather



Mark Bisonette, Lac Courte Oreilles, knocks rice into the bottom of his canoe at Totogatic Lake. (Photo by Mark Bresette, GLIFWC warden)

encouraged harvesters to make multiple trips. And there were reports of some individuals harvesting more than 40 pounds of rice an hour during the peak of the season.

The excellent crop and the harvesting effort also helped make the 1997 wild rice reseeded effort a record breaker. In a highly cooperative effort between GLIFWC, its member tribes, the Wisconsin and Michigan DNRs, the National Forests, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and local sportspersons groups, over eight tons of rice were planted in Wisconsin and Michigan waters. The amount planted in Wisconsin in 1997 was over 10% of the total estimated 1996 harvest.

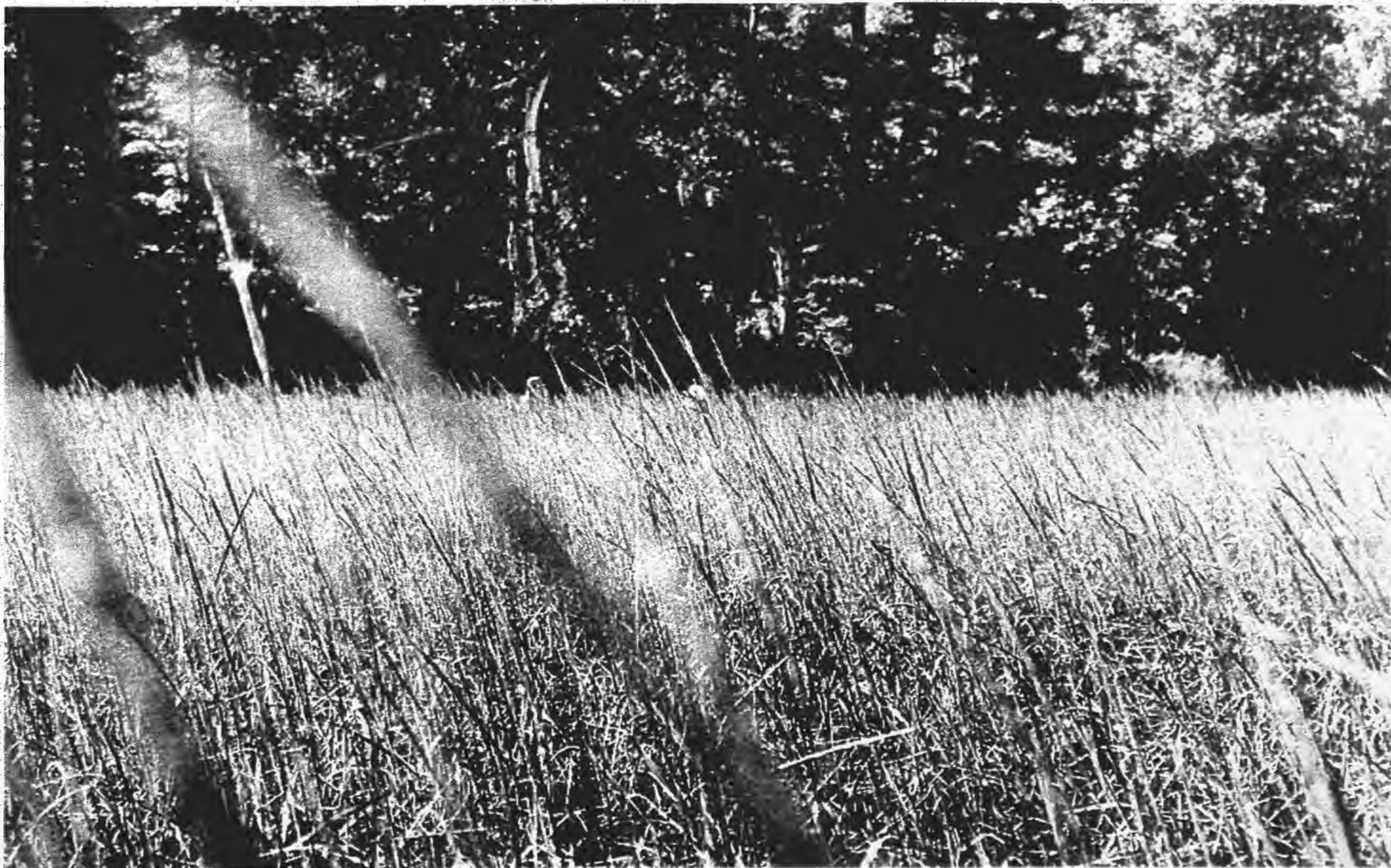
This program to restore historic rice beds and to introduce it to new sites such as artificial flowages is adding new successes each year. Although many seedings are done primarily to provide habitat for waterfowl or for other ecological reasons, harvesters have benefited as well.

Nearly 10% of the harvest reported by respondents to the 1996 harvest survey reported harvesting from sites where rice had been introduced or restored. This year, some Burnett county harvesters reported that the best ricing they have had in years came from an introduction site.

As the limited amount resources in the northwoods come under increasing pressure, it is rewarding to see instances where we have been able to bring back some of what we have lost.

Wild rice is a part of the ecology, history and the culture of this area. Although many of the historic rice beds of the area are probably lost forever, it is encouraging to see the new appreciation that is developing for this unique resource, and the growing commitment to keep manoomin—a viable and significant part of our landscape and our lives.

Note: GLIFWC would like to thank all of those who contributed to the rice seeding efforts this past fall. From our member tribes to our natural resource agency partners, to the individuals who sold us their hard-earned seed, the contributions of all of you are appreciated. Miigwetch!



The heads of ricers are barely perceivable in the field of wild rice found at Totogatic Lake, Bayfield County. (Photo by Mark Bresette, GLIFWC warden)

Some like it plain

A modern day ricer

Article & photos by
Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

The steady, soft sound of the rice thresher going round and round breaks the quiet of autumn afternoons in Gary Tainter's backyard. Tainter looks out on the vast expanse of the Chippewa Flowage in back of his home, sips coffee and enjoys a cigarette while waiting for a load of rice to be threshed in his homemade thresher.

1997 is the fifteenth year that Tainter, a Lac Courte Oreilles tribal member, has harvested and processed his own wild rice. It was also one of his best years. He estimated having 400 lbs. of finished rice, when all is parched, threshed, winnowed, hand-cleaned, and bagged. In 1996 he finished 300 lbs. of the delicate grain.

It takes know-how, time, and lots of patience between knocking the rice from the stalk to canoe-bottom until it appears clean, finished and nicely packaged to cook. Tainter learned on his own after returning as a veteran from Vietnam. He learned by watching others and by trial and error.

The solitude of ricing and processing the rice suits his life-style now, Tainter says. The impact of the war and war injuries has made it difficult for him to socialize. Ricing, hunting, and fishing absorb much of his time and energy instead. It's not surprising that he likes his wild rice plain and natural, just as it is without any extra seasonings.

Tainter spent nearly a full month harvesting rice this season, a total of 26 days between the end of August and October 1st. He rices a variety of lakes within a forty mile radius including Totogatic, Dilly, Little Mud, and Big Mud lakes. It can take from three to six hours to fill the boat, depending on the density of the rice.

But gathering is only the first step in having wild rice to put in his soup or sell to the neighbors. Once home with freshly

knocked kernels, Tainter spreads it out on a tarp to dry and begins parching to complete the drying process. He uses black, iron kettles. It's important to parch it quickly, Tainter says, as parching preserves the rice.

The trick to parching is keeping a steady temperature and watching that the kernels don't burn. Tainter believes that parching brings out the flavor in rice in a way sun-drying does not achieve. He parches about six pounds of rice at a time.

The next step is threshing the parched rice to remove the husks. In the old days, someone "danced" the rice, cracking the dried husks with their feet. Now, a mechanized thresher like Tainter's is usually used. About 100 lbs. of parched rice yields about 80 lbs. of threshed rice, Tainter estimates.

From the thresher the rice goes into the winnowing pan or basket. Currently, Tainter uses shallow metal pans for winnowing, his birchbark baskets having disappeared. Winnowing requires gently shaking the rice up and down, so the wind can catch the loose husks and remove them from the kernels.

Tainter also mills his rice to remove cracked kernels, which he reserves for soups. Finally, he hand-cleans it on his kitchen table, picking out any remaining bit of husks or debris before packaging the rice.

Wild ricing provides quality food in his pantry for the coming year. He uses it in soups and stews, but prefers it just plain, enjoying the wholesome natural flavor of the grain. He also sells what he cannot use, which generally pays expenses for going out harvesting and processing the rice.

Probably the biggest benefit of wild ricing for Tainter is the relief from anxiety and stress the experience provides. For him it's a pressure release, a form of therapy. Out on the water ricing, his mind is freed from worries and he can take life, like he prefers rice, just plain.



Parched rice is put into the thresher, which removes the hulls.



Milling the rice through a bucket with small holes in the bottom removes broken kernels of rice. Gary Tainter uses the broken kernels for soups.



Gary Tainter, Sr., Lac Courte Oreilles, hand cleans finished wild rice, as a last step in processing.

Inland fisheries updates

Assessed lakes show sound reproduction for 1997 juvenile walleye recruitment surveys

Odanah, Wis.—GLIFWC inland fisheries staff completed the year's round of electrofishing assessments this fall, ending the intense, nightly tour of 106 lakes with a sigh of relief on October 31st, according to Glenn Miller, GLIFWC inland fisheries biologist.

All-in-all, Miller reports assessments, which began on August 15, went quietly and indicated decent recruitment of juvenile fish in the lakes sampled. Nothing alarming was noted.

Fall sampling focuses on young-of-the-year and Age 1 walleye. The assessments are a mechanism to check that the stock is reproducing adequately. Significant changes in population numbers alert biologists to potential problems within the fishery.

The total number of lakes assessed this fall included fourteen in Minnesota, eighty-five in Wisconsin, and seven in Michigan. Six electroshocking boats were used to complete the scheduled assessments, including four from GLIFWC and one from the St. Croix tribe and one from the Bad River tribe.

St. Croix river appears clean from zebra mussels

Odanah, Wis.—A search for zebra mussel in the Upper St. Croix river happily came up empty-handed on October 7th. Glenn Miller, GLIFWC inland fisheries biologist and member of the St. Croix Zebra Mussel Task Force, participated in the day long search for evidence of the exotic mussel after the Northern States Power Company (NSP) had lowered the water level six feet to expose possible mussel populations.

Miller says the search was scheduled because about fifty veligers (juvenile zebra mussels) had been found on a sampler by the National Park Service upstream from the NSP dam last summer. Biologists became concerned that the creature had made its way to the St. Croix.

The tiny mussel, once present, spreads quickly, killing off native mussels, infesting large areas including beaches, and causing damage to drain pipes and engine props. It is often transported on bottoms of boats.

The Task Force and volunteers scoured a little over ten miles of the exposed river shoreline north of the NSP dam on both sides. They checked surfaces where the mussels are most likely to colonize, but found nothing.

Miller hopes that this is indicative that the Upper St. Croix is free from the unwanted mussel. The Task Force, an interstate organization formed to address the rapid spread of zebra mussel, will be considering a similar search next year.

Meanwhile, boaters are asked to continue checking and scrubbing their boats if they transport them from waterway to waterway in order to inhibit any further spread of the zebra mussel.



Sixteen electroshocking boats participated in the joint assessment of the Flambeau Flowage. (Photo by Amoose)

Winter creel surveys slated for ice fishing season:

Chippewa Flowage, Grindstone, Lac Courte Oreilles lakes

Odanah, Wis.—Creel surveys designed to monitor winter spearing pressure and any changes in fishing trends will be performed by GLIFWC this winter on the Chippewa Flowage, Grindstone lake, and Lac Courte Oreilles lake, GLIFWC Inland Fisheries Biologist Glen Miller says.

Creel surveys of winter fishing pressure are required every five years, according to Miller. Similar last surveys were performed in the 1992-1993 fishing season.

Ken Featherly, GLIFWC fisheries aide, will be in charge of the creel surveys this winter. Surveys will focus on walleye, muskellunge and northern pike harvests.

Sturgeon management plan in the works

Odanah, Wis.—Fishery managers hope to fill in gaps in their understanding of the ancient fish species the lake sturgeon, known as name in Ojibwa. Very limited studies have been performed on name outside of the fishery in the Lake Winnebago system, according to Glenn Miller, GLIFWC inland fisheries biologist.

Miller has been working with a Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Committee, along with representatives from the Lac du Flambeau tribe, the Wisconsin Conservation Congress, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, private hatcheries, the University of Wisconsin system, and the general public in formulating a ten year

sturgeon management plan that may be ready for review this month.

While little attention has previously been given to the status of name in Wisconsin and little data is available, Miller notes there is a harvest of approximately 100 sturgeon by state licensed anglers every year. Sturgeon along with walleye are also impacted by hydropower dams which can block migrations to spawning grounds.

Lake sturgeon is the variety found in Lake Superior as well as in lakes throughout the state. Shovelnose sturgeon, a smaller variety growing to 26"-28" long, is found in the Mississippi river, and the lower Wisconsin, Black and Chippewa rivers.



Underwater logging may occur in inland lakes

By Ann McCammon-Soltis
GLIFWC Policy Analyst

Rib Lake, Wis.—GLIFWC and its member tribes are very concerned about the possibility of submerged logging on ceded territory lakes, according to James Schlender, GLIFWC's Executive Administrator.

"We have learned about the significant problems that log removal in Lake Superior can cause. "Those problems may be significantly greater in the much smaller inland lakes," he said.

Applications for submerged logging permits have been submitted for five lakes in the Wisconsin ceded territory. They are, Star lake and Big Arbor Vitae lake in Vilas County, Rib lake in Taylor County, and Katherine lake and Boom lake in Oneida County.

However, under a new state law, only three inland lakes, Star, Boom, and Rib, are singled out as permissible sites for underwater logging operations.

The Lac du Flambeau tribe has taken fish from Star lake and Big Arbor Vitae lake under off-reservation treaty harvest rights reaffirmed in federal court. The Bad River tribe has declared fish in Rib lake in recent years.

The community near Rib lake is the first to pursue state and federal permits for underwater logging. In late October, GLIFWC objected to WDNR Secretary George Meyer and Stephanie Thorn, Executive Secretary of the Wisconsin Board of Commissioners of Public Lands, when tribes realized that several logs were scheduled to be lifted from the lake.

The tribes cited issues related to treaty rights and possible impacts on the Rib lake fishery. In light of tribal interest in the fishery, GLIFWC requested that tribes be notified in advance of any such operations in the future and be provided an opportunity for input.

GLIFWC received an opportunity to provide that input and learn more about the proposal at a meeting on December 3, 1997. The applicant for the underwater logging permits in Rib lake is the Rib lake Development Foundation, a local, community-based, not-for-profit organization that is working closely with local units of

government as well as the Rib Lake Fish and Game Club.

The Foundation wants to find out if removing the logs can improve the fishing and the aesthetic quality of the lake and does not want to undertake activities that will harm the fishery or worsen water quality, according to Arlyn Albrecht, a UW Extension agent assisting in the project.

Albrecht indicated that the stated priority for any proceeds from log raising is the improvement of Rib Lake, which was damaged by contamination from a sawmill that operated from 1882 until 1948 and from a tannery that operated on a Rib lake tributary.

GLIFWC and its member tribes have not yet taken a position on the Rib lake underwater logging proposal. GLIFWC's Voigt Intertribal Task Force has directed that staff monitor developments and keep the Task Force informed.

"Of primary concern is the resuspension of sediments and effects on the fishery," according to James Zorn, GLIFWC policy analyst. The sediments deposited on the lakebed by the sawmill and tannery may contain high levels of heavy metals and other pollutants, according to preliminary data gathered by the Rib Lake Development Foundation. "A key concern is what will happen when any pollutants contained in the sediment are disturbed during the log removal process," Zorn said.

Red Cliff and Bad River tribal representatives also attended the Rib Lake meeting. Both tribes are involved in the underwater logging permit process on Lake Superior.

Shannon Swanstrom, Red Cliff tribal attorney noted a major difference between the Rib Lake proposal and submerged logging efforts in Lake Superior. "Rather than a pure profit motive that seems to be common to companies pursuing logging permits in Lake Superior," Swanstrom said, "the Rib lake community's motive seems to be concern for the environmental well-being and the future of the lake."

Submerged logging will not take place in Rib lake until state and federal permits are obtained, according to Zorn. "It is not at all clear that logs can be safely removed or if the project is economically viable," he said. "The tribes will weigh in when all the information is available."

Menominee objects to WDNR board approval of new mining rule

Keshena, Wis.—On December 3 the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) adopted a new rule relating to mining which maintains a 1200' compliance boundary around mines and mine waste dumps, and a 150' mandatory intervention boundary.

The mandatory intervention boundary does not require remediation (cleanup). The major chemical of concern has been identified as sulfate.

Sulfate is extremely difficult to remove from groundwater as well as mine wastewater, and when sulfate reaches 150' from the mine site or waste dump it's

already to late. The department should have implemented a Mandatory Remediation Boundary and should not contain natural attenuation as an option.

The mandatory intervention boundary is no more than a defined monitoring location, and would allow mining companies to continue to pollute.

When the prevention action limit or enforcement standard is exceeded the responses should mandate remediation (cleanup).

Testifying before the WDNR board, Menominee Nation Tribal Chairman Apesanahkwat requested the provision



The Bad River Natural Resources Department was recently honored for their outstanding work on the local government level by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Several natural resources staff members are pictured with the Walter B. Jones Memorial and NOAA Excellence Awards for Coastal and Ocean Resource management: from left to right are Doug Tutor, Mark Miller, Tom Doolittle, and Kim Ford. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

Underwater logging to operate under new rules

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—Several GLIFWC member tribes have expressed concern regarding the impact of underwater logging operations on the fisheries in Lake Superior. However, to date tribes have received little satisfaction regarding their concerns.

New regulations governing underwater logging operations in Wisconsin were passed in conjunction with the Budget Bill this fall, none of which address the environmental concerns expressed by tribes and others who have participated in local hearings.

The new legislation requires applicants for underwater logging permits to submit a business plan to the Board of Commissioners of Public Lands for approval by the Wisconsin Department of Commerce. They must also post a \$10,000

performance bond. The price of permits was escalated from \$50.00 to \$500.00, but the permit was extended to include five years rather than one year of operation. The size of permitted sites also increased from 40 acres to 160 acres.

Several inland lakes were also named within the new law as permissible sites for salvaging underwater logs. These include Star lake in Vilas County, Boom lake in Oneida County, Rib lake in Taylor County and the Fox river. (See related story, Underwater logging proposed in inland lakes)

In Lake Superior, over one thousand applications were submitted this year to the Wisconsin Board of Commissioners of Public Lands. About 30 permits for "priority sites" were issued this summer, with operations centering around Roy's Point, between Red Cliff and Washburn, WI. Permits were required from the state and the Army Corps of Engineers, according to Ann Soltis, GLIFWC policy analyst.

Permits may also be required from the National Park Service if underwater logging operations are proposed within one-quarter mile of the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore.

While the logging goes on, requests for an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to address the impacts of logging in Lake Superior meet with little success.

An EIS has been requested by the GLIFWC's Lakes Committee, the Bad River and the Red Cliff bands of Chippewa, the National Park Service, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the U. S. Geological Survey, and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Soltis says. However, the Army Corps of Engineers does not feel that an EIS is necessary.

Regulation Section 15. NR 182.08 (2)(e) 9 be eliminated.

"The exemption regulation should be removed from the regulations because within a assessment, if it is not technically feasible, the DNR can grant an exception for Exxon.

This exemption is written so mining companies will not be forced to actively remediate the groundwater."

For more information contact Ken Fish, Menominee Nation Treaty Rights & Mining Impacts Office, P.O. Box 910, Keshena, WI 54135 or phone (715) 799-5620.

Issues of human health and injury brought to IJC board

Niagara Falls, Ont.—Preceding the ninth biennial meeting of the International Joint Commission (IJC) in Niagara Falls, Ontario this fall, a roundtable discussion was held to develop recommendations for presentation to the IJC Board during the public forum.

Roundtable participants represented a broad cross-section of interests including: agriculture, communication, education, environmental non-government, government, industry, labor, Native Americans, research, social and economic. Among the participants was Ann McCammon-Soltis, GLIFWC policy analyst, representing the interests of GLIFWC's eleven member tribes on Lake Superior issues.

Soltis says that themes running throughout the roundtable meeting as well as the public forum component of the IJC meeting were 1) need for increased accountability; 2) need for more action and less talk. As in previous years, tribal representatives at the IJC meeting repeated the need for tribal representation on the IJC Board, recommending a Native American representative from Canada and one from the U.S.

The specific issue before the roundtable was the continued evidence that certain persistent toxins, such as DDT and PCBs continue to adversely affect human health in the Great Lakes Basin.

Health related problems include: a disruption of reproductive functions; neurobehavioral developmental deficits

occurring in newborns and school-age children due to utero exposure to PCBs and other persistent toxic substances (PTSs); PCBs may be associated with liver disease and diabetes; and PCB exposure may increase cancer risks.

The roundtable was presented with the task of identifying ways to address this issue and advise the IJC on priority actions. The priorities for action identified through the roundtable discussion were as follows:

Evaluate existing programs. The IJC should evaluate current programs, such as the existing RAPs and LaMPs to determine both strengths and weaknesses and measure progress toward goals in light of existing social, economic and environmental factors.

Establish a "Just Transition" process. The IJC should facilitate a process of bringing stakeholders together to address the social and economic implications of bans and phase-outs of specific PTSs and begin transition planning, possibly using mercury as a pilot study for transition planning.

Develop creative partnerships for clean-up. The IJC should help facilitate the development of partnerships and creative financing arrangements and follow through by communicating success stories to other areas of concern.

Establish a framework for greater government accountability. A framework would include a tracking system for loadings, specific indicators of

human health and environmental quality and requirements for Parties to report on progress based on these indicators. The IJC should maintain a role as a lead advocate for accountability and provide specific recommendations for action by governments.

Public Education and Communication. The IJC should develop communication campaigns with information for the public on the injury issue.

Put humans back in the ecosystem. The IJC should encourage the Parties to include human health issues as part of RAPs and LaMPs.

Economic Analysis of costs and benefits. Demonstrate the costs of injury and the benefits of health in economic terms.

Atmosphere deposition. The IJC should urge the Parties to ensure that measures to address other persistent toxic substances are included in international fora and agreements.

The above recommendations were presented to the IJC Board during the meeting and will be considered by the International Joint Commission as it prepares its Ninth Biennial Report in 1998.



✓ Decreased traditional resource-based activities has had effects on the well-being of First Nations people because of the social and cultural significance of the activities and the need to maintain strong ties with the land for cultural survival.

✓ Interviews suggest that First Nations people consume much less fish and wild game than previously, but are likely to consume more freshwater fish than non-tribal people who are categorized as high consumers. First Nations people consuming a lot of contaminated fish could be at risk.

✓ Four pilot communities have a larger percentage of younger people than the general Canadian population with half of the female population in the range of 15-44, or childbearing age. This raises a concern regarding fetal exposure to environmental contaminants, particularly considering the trans-generational effects of contaminants.

✓ Studies suggest that average levels of contaminants in blood/serum from First Nations people are comparable to those

reported for other North Americans, and are on the average less than levels associated with adverse physical health effects. It is likely that levels used to be much higher because historically consumption was much higher.

✓ Traditional healers, traditional medicines, and Elders continue to be very important to the way of life for many First Nations people because they have retained a community-based cultural knowledge including knowledge of traditional medicines and healing.

✓ Contaminants may be associated with a high incidence of diabetes in First Nations people due to the decreased consumption of traditional foods and the replacement with foods of less nutritional value.

While EAGLE has gone a long way in providing the foundation for significant studies, further work needs to be done to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the impacts of contaminants on the Indigenous population

EAGLE project studies impact of environment on aboriginal people in Canada's Great Lakes Basin

Niagara Falls, Ont.—Following seven years of research, the EAGLE project provided a comprehensive report on its research into the impact of the Great Lakes environment on its indigenous people. The report was made available at the ninth biennial meeting of the International Joint Commission in Niagara Falls this fall.

EAGLE stands for "Effects on Aboriginals from the Great Lakes Environment" and is a partnership of the First Nation committees in Canada, the Assembly of First Nations and Health Canada.

EAGLE had its roots in the implementation of the Canadian Federal Green Plan which stated that the "Government will undertake a comprehensive study in cooperation with native people. It will assess the health risks that contaminants pose for Native people in living in the Great Lakes Basin, and will develop mechanisms to protect their health."

At present 45 of 63 native communities are participating in the EAGLE project which has also collaborated with over 50 Canadian and U.S. agencies or organizations involved in environmental/health issues.

The project first set about to answer three basic questions: 1) Which contaminants are First Nations people exposed to?; 2) What are the levels of contaminants in First Nations' people?; and 3) Are there any health effects in First Nation people associated with exposure to contaminants?

Within the first seven years, EAGLE developed six major research programs to answer the above three questions. Those included: 1) the Eating Patterns Survey; 2) The Freshwater Fish and Wild Game program; 3) The Contaminants in Human Tissue Program; 4) the Health Survey; 5) The Socio-cultural Program; 6) The Geographic Information System. Conclusions from the studies are presented in the seven year report. Several conclusions drawn from the studies and published by EAGLE are:

✓ Industrial and urban development and resulting environmental contamination has impacted the quality of life for First Nation people and communities.

✓ Consumption of traditional foods such as fish and wild game has decreased as has traditional resource based activities due to decreased access to traditional homelands and the threat of contaminants.

Mining moratorium passes committee

Final vote in January, 1998

By Representative Spencer Black

Supporters of the Mining Moratorium Bill (Senate Bill 3) scored a big victory on November 11 when the bill was approved by the Assembly Environment Committee on a vote of 6-4. The bill to protect the Wolf and Wisconsin Rivers from mining damage has already passed the state Senate by a 29 - 3 vote. The final step for the bill is a vote by the full State Assembly which is now scheduled for the middle of January.

The vote in the Assembly is likely to be close and success will depend on strong citizen involvement—citizens calling their state representatives and telling them to vote for the moratorium. Passage of the Mining Moratorium Bill is up to you.

The Mining Moratorium Bill will prohibit the opening of a new mine in a sulfide ore body until a similar mine has been operated elsewhere for at least 10 years without significant environmental damage. It only makes sense to delay mining until it can be shown by example that EXXON's Wolf River mine will not pollute our rivers, lakes or drinking water.

When the bill comes to the Assembly floor, we expect EXXON to try to substitute a "toothless" version of the bill in the place of the mining moratorium. EXXON backers tried this tactic in the Environment committee, but they failed. We expect they will try this same tactic again when SB3 comes before the full Assembly in January. The Exxon substitute will take all the teeth out of the mining moratorium bill.

Our message when we call our Assembly representative should be clear:

- **Pass SB 3 with no amendments**
- **Vote for the real mining moratorium—not the EXXON substitute**

Our current mining laws are not strong enough to protect our environment because they are vague and contain many loopholes. For example, mining is the only industry in the state that does not have to follow the strict standards of the state's Groundwater Law—the law that protects our drinking water. Mines follow separate, but weaker, rules. Our

Crandon Mining pipeline gets go-ahead from county

Rhineland, Wis.—Crandon Mining Co. got a boost from the Oneida County Board, which approved the company's proposed pipeline through the county and cleared the way for the county to negotiate a mining agreement.

But environmentalists opposed to the mine say the board violated open meeting laws to do it.

The board voted on November 11 to support the proposed 38 mile pipeline that would carry treated wastewater from a mine site in Forest County to the Hat Rapids Dam on the Wisconsin River near Rhineland.

State law requires the mining company to get local agreements from governments affected by the mine. The company already has signed agreements with Forest County and some town governments near the mine site.

"It is a show of support," Chairman William Korrer said. "If they can meet all the state and federal standards, go for it, just like a knickknack shop down the street."

However, Melanie Kirsch, executive director of the Northwoods Alliance, has objected to how the board acted, saying it reached a decision without "meaningful public discussion." The group has complained to the district attorney's office.

District Attorney Patrick O'Melia didn't immediately return a telephone message Wednesday for comment. Supervisor Jack Sorensen said they didn't violate the open meetings law.

The board also voted to repeal an August 1996 ordinance that barred them from negotiating a local agreement with the mining company until an environmental impact statement was complete.

An environmental impact statement has not been done yet.

County Clerk Bob Brusco said the ban was passed in the "best interests of the county at the time."

"Now, the inactive mining impact committee of the county can start acting again," he said. "The committee can at least open a channel of communication with the mining company."

Crandon Mining, a Wisconsin partnership formed by two international mining firms, Exxon Coal and Minerals of Houston and Rio Algom Ltd. of Toronto, is seeking state and federal permission to remove 55 million tons of mostly zinc and copper ore from an underground mine just south of Crandon.

The board switched their position because "we can't stick our head in the sand. The fact that the mining company is here and they are here to stay, we are not accomplishing anything by not talking to them," Korrer said.

Crandon Mining spokeswoman Mary Kay Grasmick was pleased by the County Board's actions because it allows "us to resume dialogue with the county. It's important that the pipeline discussions be separate from the mine."

(Reprinted from the Associated Press)

mining laws have been further weakened by changes two years ago that made the DNR a politically controlled agency and that eliminated our environmental watchdog, the public intervenor.

Conservationists are concerned that the DNR may make mining decisions based on political influence. DNR has a great deal of discretion regarding how the mining laws are applied and DNR can even decide to waive key environmental laws at the request of the mining company. This is especially worrisome now that the DNR is a politically controlled agency. The change to a politically controlled DNR was made in 1995 under strong pressure from lobbyists representing the mining industry.

We have seen the new political DNR do things very differently than the former, independent DNR. For example, DNR recently reversed itself on key conservation issues such as wetlands protection and the raid on the recycling fund. Perhaps the most telling example of political influence is the use by the DNR Secretary of his title and agency name to sponsor a partisan political fundraiser. That would have been unthinkable under the previous, non-political DNR.

The mining moratorium bill is needed to make sure that scientific evidence, not political influence, determines whether EXXON can build a sulfide mine at the headwaters of the Wolf River.

EXXON and other mining companies have unleashed a multi-million dollar lobbying and public relations campaign to defeat the moratorium. EXXON said at a recent legislative hearing it will spend "whatever it takes to defeat the moratorium." With your help, we can overcome EXXON's millions and pass the Mining Moratorium Bill.

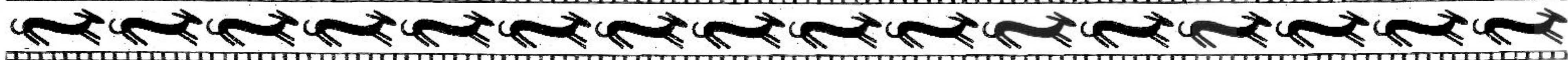
Write or call your state representative and ask them to vote for the mining moratorium bill.

The Mining Moratorium Bill is a common sense approach to prevent mining operations from polluting our drinking water and rivers and lakes. After all, our greatest wealth in Wisconsin is not copper or zinc—it is our plentiful supply of clean water.

(Representative Spencer Black is the Assembly author of the Mining Moratorium Bill.)



Tribes and citizen groups concerned about the impact of mines in Wisconsin manned tables in the environmental tent at the Indian Summer Festival in Milwaukee this fall. Indian Summer weekend draws thousands to the festival grounds so provides a good opportunity for public education on mining issues. (Photo by Sue Erickson)



Lead poisoning of water birds

A trumpeter swan found dead in a Bad River reservation slough fell victim to an ailment that affects waterfowl across the Upper Great Lakes—lead poisoning. Since there were no visible wounds, the Bad River Natural Resources Department had the bird x-rayed, revealing 14 pellets of lead in the gizzard. The emaciated swan was one of four birds released on the reservation this year.

The following article describes the impact of lead on waterfowl. Although the article is from Canada, the problem crosses boundaries and affects waterfowl in both the U.S. and Canada.

Lead shot

People use shotguns for hunting and for skeet or trap shooting. Shotgun shells used for hunting ducks and geese contain about 280 lead pellets, weighing about 35 grams in all. A hunter usually fires five or six shells for every bird that is hit. Only a few of the pellets actually hit the bird. The rest—more than 1000 pellets—fall to the ground or into the water.

Canadian hunters shoot about 2000 tons of lead shot each year into the environment (one ton equals 1000 kilograms). Lead shot builds up in the bottom sediments of popular hunting marshes and lakes. Lake bottoms may contain 40,000-180,000 lead shot pellets for every hectare (one hectare equals 10,000 square meters). That's like finding 20 to 80 pellets in an area the size of a 2 meter x 2 meter sandbox. One heavily hunted lake in Manitoba has as many as two million pellets in every hectare of its bottom, the same as 800 pellets in a sandbox.

About 260 tons of lead shot falls to the ground each year around clay-target shooting ranges in Canada. Depending on where the ranges are located, some of this shot falls into wetland areas where it can be swallowed by water birds.

Lead sinkers and jigs

Recreational anglers often attach lead weights to their fishing line to sink the hook and bait or lure in the water. They may also use lead jigs, which are weighted fish hooks. Fishing sinkers come in all shapes and sizes.

Sometimes people accidentally drop loose fishing sinkers or jigs into the water. Sinkers and jigs may also be lost in the water if the hook or line gets tangled and the line breaks or is cut. Scientists estimate that about 500 tons of lead sinkers and jigs are lost in Canadian waters every year.

Birds at risk

Many species of birds can get lead poisoning because of the food they eat or the way they find it. In Canada, these birds include surface-feeding ducks, loons and grebes, sea ducks, cranes, herons, geese, swans, birds of prey, and scavengers.

Waterfowl and other water birds that dig in the bottom of lakes and ponds for their food are at the greatest risk. For example, you often see dabbling ducks such as Mallards tipped down in the water with

their tails poking up while they are feeding. They may swallow lead shot pellets when they probe the bottom for food, mistaking them for food items like seeds, molluscs (small snails or clams), and insects.

They may also mistake them for grit, which is small stones that they eat to help them grind up food in their gizzards. The species that are most commonly poisoned by lead shot are Mallards, Black Ducks, Northern Pintails, Canada Geese, Snow Geese, and Tundra Swans.

Lead poisoning

Because lead is poisonous, Canada controls how much of this metal is allowed in water, air, soil, food, and manufactured products like gasoline and paint. When a bird ingests lead shot or sinkers, they are usually trapped in the gizzard, which is a muscular part of the stomach that grinds food. As it grinds the food, it also grinds the lead pellets or sinkers, breaking them down into small pieces. The acid in the gizzard dissolves these pieces, and the lead moves into the bird's bloodstream.

The blood carries the lead around the body, and it accumulates in the bones and the vital organs, like the kidneys, brain, and liver. If enough lead builds up, these organs can be damaged. If a bird swallows more than about six lead pellets, it will probably die very quickly—in a few days. This is called acute lead poisoning.

If the bird swallows a smaller number of pellets, it may gradually become very weak and die of starvation. This happens because the digestive system becomes paralyzed, and food cannot move through the system and be digested. This is called chronic lead poisoning.

Signs of poisoning

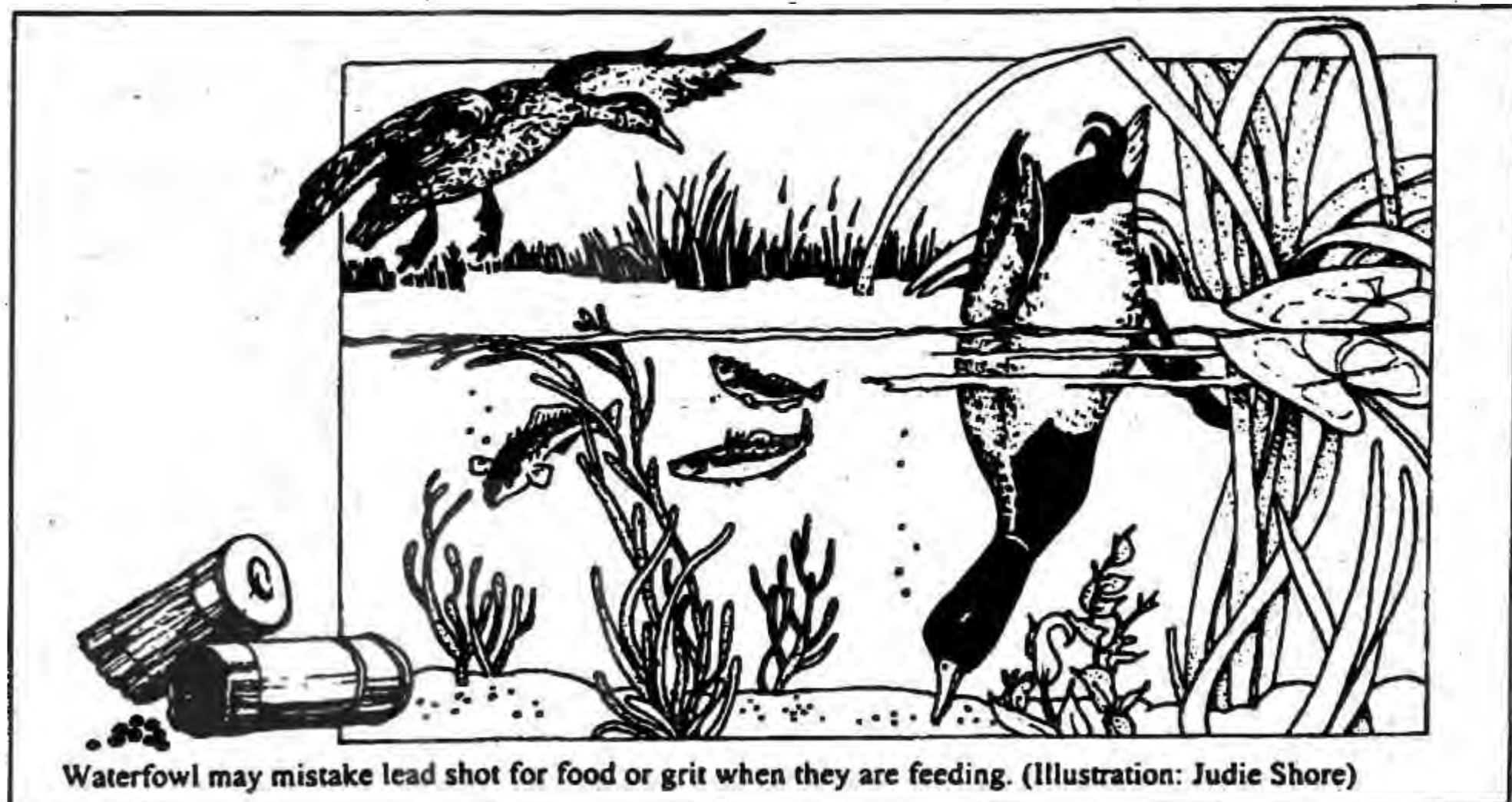
A bird that has lead poisoning acts very strangely. It may fly poorly and have crash-landings or may stagger around the ground. As the poisoning gets worse, it may not be able to fly or walk at all. It eats very little and hides away by itself, staying behind when other birds have migrated. Because of its weakness, it may have trouble fighting off other diseases and escaping from predators. A lead-poisoned bird may lose a lot of weight, get droopy wings, and have green diarrhea.

Even when there are no clear signs of lead poisoning, a bird may still be in trouble. It may not be able to find food, mate, build a nest, lay eggs, or care for its young properly.

Time and place

Lead shot and sinkers generally take decades to break down in the environment. This means that water birds can be poisoned long after the shot or sinkers first fell to the ground or water.

Lead poisoning of water birds can happen at any time of the year, but most ducks and geese are poisoned by lead shot during and after the hunting season. Waterfowl hunters often hunt along migratory paths, where large flocks of ducks and geese gather in the fall.



As a result, lead shot often builds up in the very areas that water birds use as resting and feeding stations during migration.

Lead sinkers are found in areas that are fished, like along the shorelines, rocky places, and piers of lakes, ponds, and streams. These areas often overlap with the breeding and feeding grounds of water birds. Water birds can swallow lead sinkers or jigs any time the water is open (not frozen).

Lead in the environment

Lead shot and sinkers can break down in the environment, transferring lead to the soil and water. The soil at some clay-target shooting ranges contains enough lead to be classed as *hazardous waste* under Canadian guidelines.

Lead breaks down most quickly where the soil and water are acidic and full of oxygen. When it is attached to soil particles, lead can be moved to new places by erosion. Lead that is dissolved in water can run off into nearby water or move down through the soil into the groundwater. It can also be taken up from the water or soil by plants.

Seriousness of the problem

About 50 to 60 million waterfowl migrate to and from Canada each year. Thousands of these birds die of lead poisoning. Many others suffer from a milder form of the disease.

The actual number of birds poisoned by lead is not known. Poisoned birds often hide themselves and die in out-of-the-way places where they are never found. They are also eaten by predators, like Bald Eagles, and scavengers, which leave no trace of their prey.

Depending on the location, poisoning from swallowed lead sinkers or jigs accounts for up to half of all Common Loons found dead in eastern Canada and the USA.

No one knows for sure how many animals die of *secondary poisoning* (getting lead poisoning by eating an animal with lead in its body), but the numbers are high for some species. For example, in recent years about 15% of Bald Eagles found dead in British Columbia and the Prairies died of lead poisoning.

Dealing with the problem

Lead poisoning of waterfowl has been studied for many years in Canada. The Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) has collected samples of waterfowl from across the country and measured the amount of lead in them. Because CWS researchers know where these birds come from they can identify areas of the country where lead poisoning of waterfowl is a problem.

In 1991, Canada banned the use of lead shot in some "hot spots" across the country (places where lead-shot poisoning of waterfowl was known to be a problem). But this restriction is hard for wildlife conservation officers to enforce, because lead shot can still be used in all other hunting areas. Also, researchers now know that lead poisoning is more widespread than they first thought.

So, in 1996, Canada banned the use of lead shot for hunting in National Wildlife Areas. A further ban on the use of lead shot for hunting all migratory game birds throughout Canada is planned. This ban will be carried out under a federal law called the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*.

The new ban will help to control the problem of lead poisoning of waterfowl by cutting down the amount of lead shot entering the environment by about 40%. Federal regulations do not deal with target shooting or hunting of upland game birds and mammals, which are all covered by provincial laws.

Canada is also banning the use of lead fishing sinkers and jigs weighing less than 50 grams in its National Wildlife Areas and National Parks starting in 1996 or early 1997. This ban is carried out under the Canada Wildlife Act and the National Parks Act.

(Reprinted from Environment Canada.)



Lead sinkers and jig. (Illustration by Michael Cooper)

KKK in the heart of Indian Country:

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Ironwood, Mich.—Two walls of wire fence with a row of armed enforcement officers between them separated members of the American Knights of the Ku Klux Klan (KKK) from about 150-200 spectators during a KKK rally this fall in Ironwood, Michigan.

The community had prepared for the KKK to hold a public rally, but did not welcome it. Many members of the community attended alternate activities such as prayer vigils or "love gatherings" during the time of the KKK rally.

The KKK managed to firmly implant a definition of a "hate group" by the time its cloaked members marched off the stage after an hour and three quarters of sincerely felt invective was leveled in vulgar terms at almost every minority group in the U.S.

C. Edward Foster, Grand Dragon from Pennsylvania whose opening remarks struck at the "hook-nosed Jews" set the tone for the event early on. Either he or a fellow Klan member managed to berate Blacks, Jews, Mexicans, women, homosexuals, and Indians.

The terms used were foul. Pointing at one woman in the crowd, Foster said, "All you are is a pile of grease saturated defecation... if you don't understand that big word... shit."

On the subject of Indian people, Foster had this to say: "How many Indians have we got out there? I thought we'd have some Indians—spear-chuckers, anyhow... Those old spear-chuckers are probably up there taking all the fish from us. Well, that's what its all about, you know. How many fish did you spear today? Why don't they go spear a nigger, because them niggers

breed with them Indians and they look the same, you know. There ain't much difference between them, anyhow..."

"Didn't we do the Indians in? You're damn right we did genocide with 'em. And that's what we gotta do with niggers and them Jews today—the same type of genocide that was performed upon the American Indians... Get 'em out of our country - shipped out and gone..."

KKK members, including one woman, wore their traditional robes minus the hoods. The impact of seeing and hearing the KKK in the northwood's back yard, served as a grim reminder that racism is a problem yet to be fully and adequately addressed in the north.

Across the border and south a few miles in Mercer, Wisconsin the KKK maintains a state office with Michael Novak, alias Michael McQueeny, Realm of Wisconsin Grand Dragon, as spokesperson. The KKK is here.

Between the vulgarity and hate-mongering at the rally, the KKK also voiced a political agenda and was obviously seeking membership. The agenda was based on "white power," a rallying phrase frequently shouted during the Ironwood gathering. The white supremacist line was both racist and sexist.

Extensive quoting of the Bible by various Klan speakers was an obvious appeal to the radical right movement. Identifying Klan members as "Christian warriors," Jeffrey Berry, National Imperial Wizard, used the Bible to support its separatist, racist agenda. Foster told the crowd that "if you are against the Klan, you are against the Christian religion."

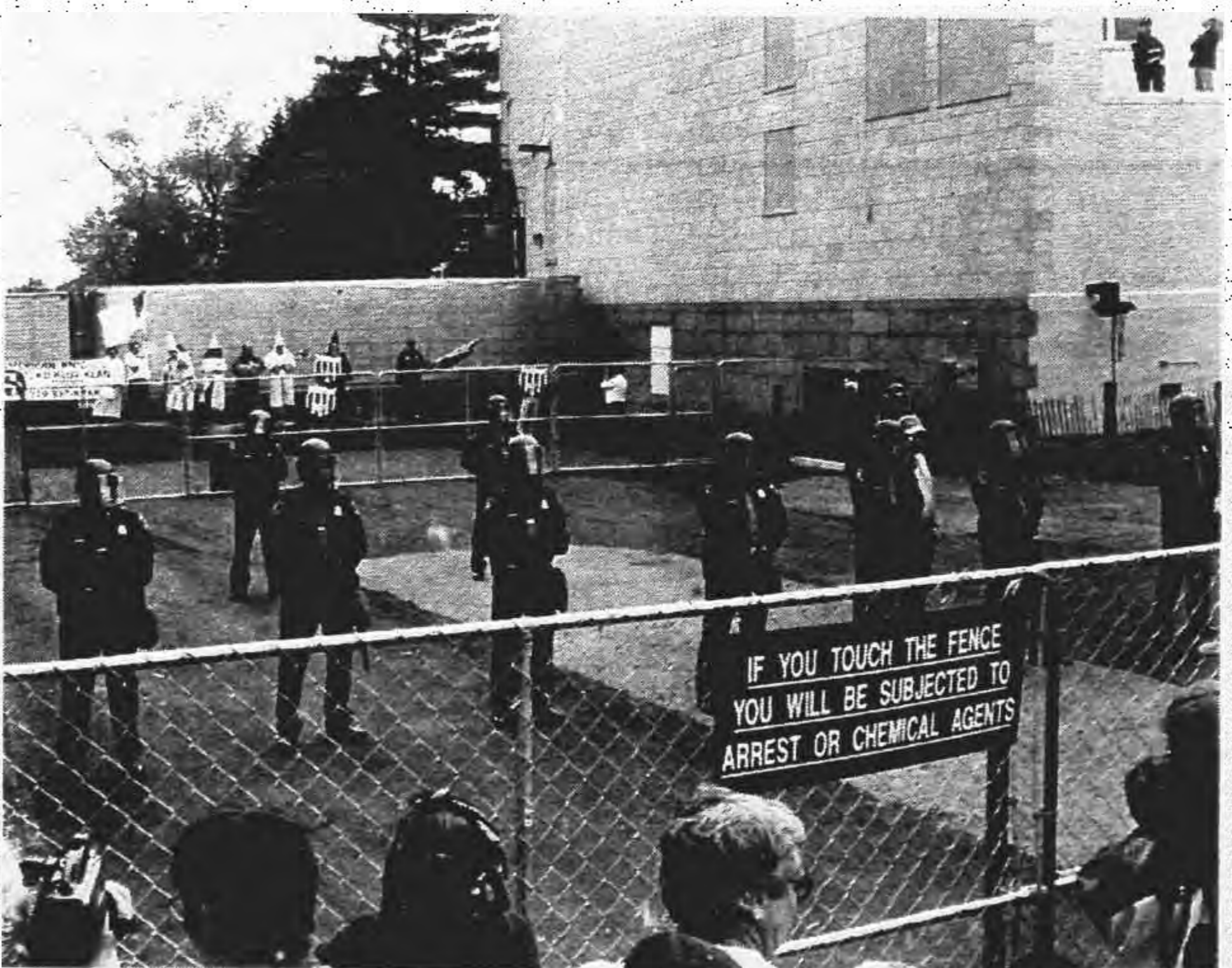
The Klan is anti-abortion, anti-welfare, anti-gay, and anti-affirmative action. Underneath the hatred, rang complaints of (See Mercer headquarters, page 15)



Introduced as Mr. Sheldon, KKK Grand Dragon of Michigan, stands center in the photo. His comrades were not introduced by name. (Photo by Al Bonanno)



Not all KKK leaders on the speakers' platform were introduced by name. Above, center, the leader wears a tee-shirt with the address for the KKK in Mercer, Wis. (Photo by Al Bonanno)



A stoic line of enforcement officers between chain-link fences separate KKK leadership and the crowd during the KKK rally in Ironwood, Michigan. (Photo by Sue Erickson)



Mercer headquarters for KKK realm

(Continued from page 14)
 injustices to the white male, whose status is threatened by members of a minority or women. For instance, KKK speakers claimed that the white Christian men have lost their rights and that women just have to sign their name, have a few kids and receive \$30,000/year from the government as a welfare hand-out.

"When Hate Groups Come to Town," a handbook produced in 1986 by the Center for Democratic Renewal, provides information for communities who are confronted with hate groups such as the KKK, including suggestions on how to respond to public rallies like the one held in Ironwood, Michigan recently.

Interestingly, the handbook notes an upswing in Klan membership since the 70's as well as in the number of organized hate groups other than the KKK. There has also been an increase in racially/religiously-oriented violence or acts of harassment.

The handbook suggests that KKK or neo-Nazi activity may only be symptomatic of a broader racism within the society which is more subtle and easier to ignore:

"As the Klan is only one manifestation of the hate/violence problem, so are racial and religious violence only a symptom of broader racism. There may be only 10,000-12,000 Klansmen and a handful of Nazis but these figures do not fully account for the 54,000 North Carolinians who voted for Nazi Harold Covington in his bid for state attorney general in 1980; the 45,000 Californians who supported Klan leader Tom

Metzger's campaign for Congress; the 45,000 who voted for Klan/nazi leader George Carlson in his race for Attorney General of Michigan; nor the 17,000 who supported convicted church-bomber J.B. Stoner for Georgia lieutenant governor.

Those who support such candidacies—or who practice their racism in segregated corporate board rooms, country clubs or church sanctuaries—may not be card-carrying members of the Ku Klux Klan or nazis, but their racism differs primarily by the form it takes, not in essence. One type of racism is more socially acceptable or more sophisticated than the other, but they are vines of the same root. . .

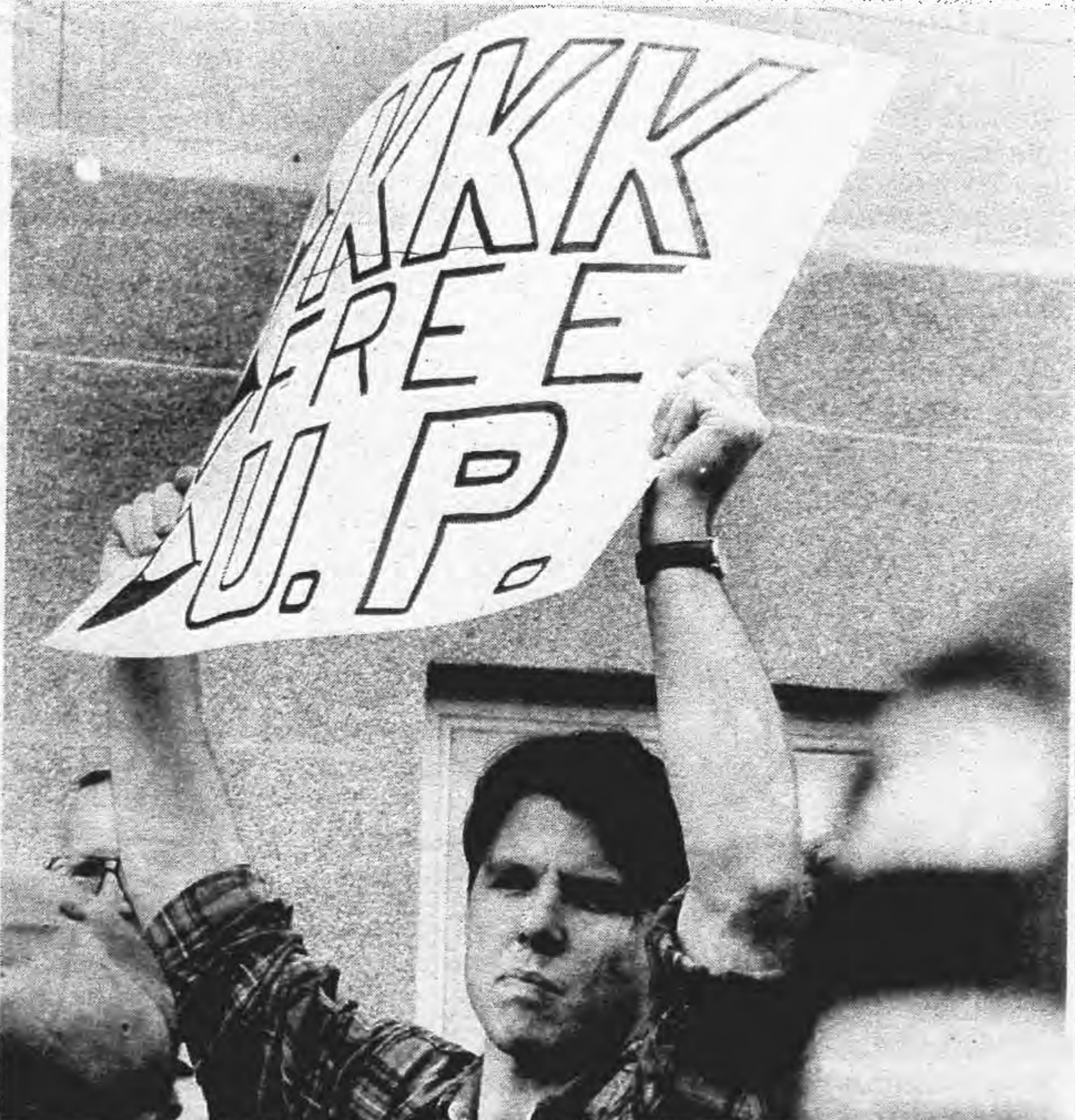
One thing seems clear: a major reason for ignoring the Klan is to avoid having to face the uglier side of racism in ourselves and in our society. It is easier to characterize extremists as misfits than to face the larger problem of widespread racism."

The KKK did not disappear from the northwoods, even though its rally concluded and local enforcement officers escorted the eerie entourage to the city limits. The KKK may not be in our immediate thoughts, as in September; it may seem that the whole event was a fluke, a one-time occurrence and over.

And we haven't had to look at or listen to anybody in weird, white, wizard outfits since then. But as C. Edward Foster reminded the crowd with a shake of his staff, the KKK will not go away.



Many people in the crowd at the KKK rally in Ironwood, Michigan this fall were protesting the presence and philosophy of the KKK. (Photo by Al Bonanno)



KKK supporters mixed with protesters in a crowd of about 150-200 people. (Photo by Al Bonanno)



An alternative to hate—a gathering in an Ironwood town park during the KKK rally stressed peace, love and tolerance as a response to the hatred and bigotry being expressed just blocks away. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

Derogatory use of 's' word

Editor's note: This is the story of two young Anishinabe women, Dawn Star Litzau and Angelene Losh, who lobbied to change derogatory placenames in Minnesota.

In February 1994, Angelene and Dawn, students at Cass Lake-Bena High School campaigned to change the names of Squaw Point and Squaw Lake, which are located on the Leech Lake Reservation in northern Minnesota.

By writing letters to their congressman, tribal officials and newspapers they explained the term as being a vulgar reference to the female genitalia. The term is considered offensive and derogatory to Native American Women. This expression would be the equivalent of referring to all females in Western Society by the 'c' word.

The next stage taken by Dawn and Angelene was to circulate a petition, at their school, for students to sign. Following a positive response from students, concerned citizens, legislators and tribal officials formed the Name Change Committee (NCC) at the Cass Lake-Bena High School.

Both Tony Kinkel, Minnesota State Representative and Senator Harold Finn replied with letters of support, with Senator Finn sending a copy of the state laws regarding changing place names and offered his help in sponsoring legislation for a statewide ban.

Resolutions of support were passed by the Cass Lake-Bena local Indian Council, Leech Lake Tribal Council, Cass Lake-Bena School Board and the Minnesota Indian Affairs Council. At the 1994 National Indian Education Conference held in St. Paul, the momentum continued when another petition was circulated and signed by 300 people.

Further action taken by the NCC was to educate elementary students about the derogatory meaning of the term Squaw and encouraged students to stop using the word and included a bulletin board to create awareness of this demeaning term.

Angelene obtained the necessary signatures of voters from her home area of Oak Point to change the name. To achieve this she required a minimum of 17 signatures—the response was overwhelming. The next stage was to formally request a public hearing with the Cass County Commissioners.

A fund-raiser was held to provide the expenses for such a hearing. The outcome of this public hearing was that the County Commissioners voted unanimously to alter the name from Squaw Point to Oak Point.

Having enlisted the support of Minnesota Senator, Harold Finn, the Committee began its campaign in earnest to eradicate the word statewide. It was with the assistance of Minnesota DNR that all the offending placenames were identified. Senator Finn's support prompted him to sponsor a bill to eliminate the word from all geographic locations, inappropriately named, by July 31 1996.

Following the testimony made by Dawn, Angie and Muriel Litzau (NCC Advisor) before a Senate and House Committee, both voted overwhelmingly to support the bill.

CERA and the alliance for America

HONOR is continuing to monitor the anti-Indian movement and bring information about it to its "Digest" readers. One umbrella group which includes many smaller anti-Indian groups is the Citizens for Equal Rights Alliance (CERA).

CERA Board members spoke on a panel entitled "Federal Indian Policy" in Washington, DC in early June. Part of a week of activities called the "Fly-In For Freedom," a convocation of over 400 property rights groups from all over the country, this panel targeted Indian Policy as anti-individual rights.

HONOR learned that all the panelists were CERA board members including CERA President, Jim Mitchell and Howard Hanson (Minnesota); and that the prime topic was again land rights and tribal jurisdiction issues.

Politicians listed on the agenda as speakers or panelists include former U.S. Senator Malcolm Wallop, Rep. David McIntosh (R-IN), Rep. Richard Plomb (R-CA), and Becky Norton Dunlop (VA Secretary of Natural Resources). Bruce Vincent, President of Alliance for Ameri-

can and member of Committees for a great Northwest (Libby, MT) and Brian Bishop, member of Wise Use (Exeter, RI) were event coordinators.

One panelist espoused the theory that the promotion of Indian sovereign status advocated by President Richard Nixon allowed large corporations access to natural resources without stringent regulations! Three panelists were tribal members at odds with their respective tribal governments. One panelist owned land within reservation borders. Their consensus was that tribal sovereignty is a myth and very dangerous to individuals.

As part of the weeks activities CERA members and the "partner coalition" folks visited Congressional offices to push their agenda of removal of Indian land and legal rights.

HONOR has obtained handouts from this meeting as well as a list of the affiliate organizations. The list runs two pages long. If you are interested in having a copy and learning if some of your own local organizations are members please contact HONOR at 202546-8340.

The law states that on or before July 31, 1996, the commissioner of natural resources shall change each name of a geographic feature in the state that contains the word "squaw" to another name that does not contain this word. The commissioner shall select the new name in cooperation with the county boards of the counties in which the feature is located and with their approval.

This was signed into law on April 18, 1995 by Governor Carlson. As of October 1996, 16 out of 19 geographic place names in Minnesota have been changed. Currently two counties have, stubbornly, failed to comply with the law.

Throughout their campaign Dawn and Angelene encountered negative attitudes and prejudice. Among these, men would tell Dawn that she should be proud to be called a "squaw" and that it is an honor for her people. Like many Native women, Dawn was taught that the term "squaw" was a put down—not a word meaning Indian women as the dictionaries claim. It was not a word to be proud of.

Due to the dedication of both of these campaigners significant progress has been made to overcome blind prejudice but there is still work that remains to be done; such as the two counties that are refusing to comply with the law. The NCC has also met with the Squaw Lake Village Council and are focusing their efforts and actively encouraging them to alter the offensive town name which is located within the boundaries of the Leech Lake Reservation and the only town within the State of Minnesota to have this name.

In recognition of their concerted and admirable efforts, Dawn Litzau and Angelene Losh received a "Vision Award—1997," presented by Hennepin County Children and Family Services.

Not the only ones objecting. . .

The U.S. Geological Survey's Board on Geographic Names have found 1050 lakes, creeks, towns and other 'places' with the 's' word a part of it. This compares to 143 place names named "Nigger" and 26 place names named "Jap"—both were outlawed by this Board in 1967. The address for this Board appears at the end of this article.

With Minnesota setting the precedent, an important and significant consensus of opinion is being reached nationwide with residents in Arizona, Montana, and California, all objecting to the use of the "Squaw" word. They are looking towards Minnesota's experience for ammunition in their own respective campaigns.

It was four years ago that moves were originally made by Calvin Goode a Phoenix City Councilman, who objected to the use of the word on geographical features but at that point in time, support was not forthcoming. As Minnesota has now passed a law banning the use of the 's' word for placenames, Calvin Goode now hopes Arizona will follow the example set by Minnesota.

The National Gazetteer, a publication of the U.S. Geological Survey identifies 73 locations in Arizona that would require the name altered. The Associated Press reported that State Representative Jack Jackson (Navajo) has introduced bills since 1992 to ban the use of the "s" word. State Representative Jack Jackson "was called oversensitive and criticized for political correctness" the AP reported.

You might find that name changes are needed and these efforts are in need of support in your own backyard. Our backyard is the pristine Apostle Islands National Lakeshore. There are two local locations, "s" Point and "s" Bay, along with many roads in need of change. We have been supporting the local leaders of this grass roots effort in addition to those that may contact us from other places.

HONOR realizes that there are so many out there doing your part to raise awareness. (See 's' word, page 27)



Issues related to the use of the 's' word were part of a discussion at a convention of the National Organization for Women in Minneapolis this fall. A presentation and discussion period were part of the agenda for the conference. (Photo by Kathryn Balber)



Rez Talk



Do you think gambling issues and treaty rights should be related?



Mark Pero
Bad River tribal member

Treaty rights and gambling have nothing to do with each other. They are separate issues and shouldn't even be related. Our treaty rights are more important than gambling. Treaty rights can't be given away—they belong to all generations.



Philip Gordon
Red Cliff tribal member
Red Cliff Vice-Chairman

We look at it from the standpoint that the federal government gave us our rights and the state has nothing to do with it. Whether we have gaming or not, our treaty rights will never be for sale. We've negotiated in good faith but when you read a newspaper it says the opposite.



Leo LaFerner
Red Cliff tribal member
Gaming Compliance Officer

Treaty rights are an issue that should not be involved in gaming renewal. We've never closed the door on discussing any issue, but treaty rights and gaming should not be related.



Jeff St. Germaine, Lac du Flambeau
Tribal Member & American Indian
Studies Major, UW-Eau Claire

I don't believe its right that the state of Wisconsin is using treaty rights in compact negotiations. We've lived through the racism at the boat landings. I think Governor Thompson is not negotiating in good faith. He's using treaty rights to get what he needs. We need to stay strong as a Chippewa nation—all bands should unite. Treaty rights are not for sale. The state wants us divided and Chippewa people have to stay together. I'm totally against seeing treaty rights mixed with gambling. I want my boy to learn how to make rice, maple sugar, and spear fish at a lake near to him. They are asking for too much—I don't want my tribe negotiating away my treaty rights because of gambling.



Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

As a professional forester I read James Meeker's columns in the summer and fall issues of Masinaigan with a great deal of interest. I disagree with many of his statements and claims about forests, forestry and forest ecology.

I had planned a long letter detailing the specific points I dispute, citing evidence from research and from my own observations through 9 years of field forestry work; for example, why single-tree fall gap formation as the dominant regenerative process in the pre-settlement forest makes no sense ecologically.

But instead, I believe it would be more enlightening to just compare James M's own vision of what our forests are, should be, and might be in the future, with what is actually happening on our public forest lands.

The main point I get from reading the 2 columns is that Dr. Meeker believes the only way biodiversity will be preserved is to set aside more large tracts of forest land. The many millions of acres already exempted from forest management such as our parks, reserves and wilderness areas just aren't sufficient.

The summer column points out a crisis situation in the Porcupine Mts. State Park, where an old growth hardwood preserve is failing to regenerate in canopy gaps. It is an "island of the living dead," Dr. Meeker tells us. I was astonished to read this. I have never heard nor seen anything like this on managed forests.

On the Sawyer County Forest (SCF), where I work, canopy gaps, whether created by natural processes or harvesting, are alive with young trees, shrubs and forbs. There is no problem with hardwood regeneration. The Sawyer County forest is alive and well. Currently, our public forests are growing 30% to 40% more wood each year than is harvested. This is no accident. This is the result of the best knowledge we have about our forests being applied to the management of our forests.

Jim Meeker's vision of the set-aside forest of the future was described in the fall column through the eyes and thoughts of Sylvia, a fictitious visitor. She is extremely fortunate to be able to go there at all, as only a few lucky people from the general public are allowed to set foot on the forest each year. She had to wade through a mile of red tape to get the permits necessary to spend a few hours on the forest, and pick a few wild onions. Dr. Meeker makes it clear that the set aside forest of the future will require huge inputs of money, energy and intensive management to maintain it in the state the preservationists desire.

Contrast this to the current situation on our public managed forest. I'll use the SCF for an example, as it is fairly typical and I am most familiar with it. The SCF provides a sustained harvest of wood, a renewable raw material used to make hundreds of things we all need to survive. In doing this, it makes a significant contribution to the livelihoods of many people in NW Wisconsin, to the local economy and to the Sawyer Co. general and resource development funds. At the same time, the multiple use mandate in the County Forest State Statute provides for the protection and enhancement of the other important values.

Watersheds are protected by the presence and good management of the SCF. Wildlife populations are managed for the benefit of humans and animals. The SCF is home to an astonishing diversity of wildlife, both game and non-game species. Hunting and fishing opportunities abound, and are open to all people following state regulations. No species of plant or animal that anyone knows of is being threatened by good forestry management practices in the Great Lakes States.

Since our public forests have begun to be managed wisely, starting about 1930, several species which had been extirpated in WI have made remarkable comebacks. Fishers are thriving throughout, and several pairs of bald eagles nest on the SCF. The SCF is currently home to two wolf packs.

The SCF is free and open to everyone, everyday, for a wide variety of recreational activities. Hunting, fishing, hiking, biking, skiing and snowmobiling are but a few. Everyone is free to pick berries, mushrooms or collect any of the dozens of species of edible and medicinal plants (yes, including wild onions) which grow on the SCF in profusion. For a nominal fee, anyone is permitted to gather boughs, firewood, ginseng roots or cut a Christmas tree.

I believe if, as a society, we make the decision to continue to manage our forests wisely, using the best scientific knowledge we have, that all these benefits will continue into the future, and that our forests will continue to improve. If, however, we choose to lock up our public forests in the name of biodiversity, the world of Sylvia could possibly become a reality, and our forests may truly become "islands of the living dead." As we all have a stake in the future of our public forests, the choice ours.

Sincerely,
Peter Sievert,
Sawyer County Forestry Technician

Agencies hold "surf & turf" get together

Lake trout stocking experiment performed in Lake Huron

Article and photos by:
Jennifer Dale, Editor
Bay Mills News

Cedarville, Mich.—Great Lakes tribal and federal agencies pitched in equipment and personnel for a cooperative lake trout stocking effort in Lake Huron Oct. 28-30. The eggs, sandwiched in Astroturf bundles, were taken 16 miles offshore to Spectacle Reef where they will hatch next April.

Biology staff from Chippewa Ottawa Treaty Fishery Management Authority (COTFMA), Alpena and Green Bay USFWS Resource Offices, Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians (GTB), Bay Mills Indian Community and Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians met at the COTFMA-owned dock and boathouse during the calm morning hours to prepare over two million 25-day-old eggs. Bundles were loaded on leased commercial fishing boats Oct. 30 and deployed over the reef.

Several years ago, Lake Michigan and Lake Huron Lake Committees agreed to stock surplus hatchery eggs on historic offshore spawning reefs, either in Astroturf "sandwiches" or as newly hatched fry, according to Inter-Tribal Fisheries and Assessment Program (ITFAP) Director Tom Gorenflo. The Lake Committees are made up of tribal, state, federal and Canadian agencies working on the Great Lakes.

Spearheaded by ITFAP, the experimental stocking tests the theory that lake trout are not reproducing well because they spawn in the wrong areas, he said.



Eggs were unpacked and measured by volume to calculate how many would go between each layer of turf. Eggs were then scooped into shakers made from recycled peanut butter jars.

The long-term experiment will tell biologists if eggs hatching on the reef will "home" on the reef as spawning adults. ITFAP, represented on the Lake Committees, recommended Spectacle/Reynolds reef site as the best location for the Huron experiment.

USFWS Biologist Rob Elliott, Green Bay, Wis., has confidence in the experiment. "The Astroturf strategy works in Lake Superior and will be used in Lakes Michigan and Huron alternating years," he



Clifford Parish, ITFAP, (right) and Tom Callison, Grand Traverse Band Biological Services Department assemble the astroturf crates. Eggs had to be kept wet throughout the entire process, so finished crates were tied to the dock and lowered into the bay.

said. The next Lake Huron stocking will take place in 1999.

Lake trout stocked in an early life stage imprint to their habitat, the USFWS biologist said. The hatching site becomes the location they choose for spawning when they are adults.

Elliott has stocked the Astroturf-cradled eggs twice in Wis. waters of Lake Michigan, in '94 and '96. Most of the equipment used in this experiment comes from Elliott's Green Bay Office.

Pendills Creek hatchery provided one million of its Superior-Marquette domestic strain eggs, said Project Leader Mark Ebener, ITFAP assessment biologist. Another million from a wild strain called "Lewis Lake" came from Saratoga National Fish Hatchery. An 80 percent hatch rate is expected, Ebener said.

According to USFWS Fisheries Biologist Technician Heather Enterlane, lake trout in general are difficult to raise in a hatchery. Strains like Lewis Lake are even more difficult because they retain their wild characteristics. So, said the Alpena Resource Office-based technician, the wild strain ought to do well in their new home.

The crew of 14 spent the day loading about 100 crates filled with six Astroturf and egg sandwiches. The process was labor intensive. Eggs were unpacked from Styrofoam cartons and measured by volume (they change size throughout their development) to calculate how many would go between each layer of turf. Scooped into shakers made from peanut butter jars, the eggs were handed off to workers waiting with Astroturf soaking in large tubs filled with water scooped from the bay.

Layer after layer of eggs were carefully sprinkled onto six layers of Astroturf. Each bundle was pushed into a frame tight enough to hold and protect the eggs until they hatch. Anchors and buoys were attached to keep crates upright and anchored to the reef.

Eggs had to be kept wet throughout the entire process, so finished crates were tied to the dock and lowered into the bay. As the day wore on, workers got wet and cold, and crates ringed the dock.

On Oct. 30, the interagency crew loaded the crates on the gill net tugs "Eagle," owned by Barbeaux Fisheries, and "Clipper," owned by A1 Lothrop, to transport the bundles. All the crates had to be linked together before deployment over the reef.



Personnel involved in the cooperative project were, front row (l-r): Mark Ebener, ITFAP; Tom Gorenflo, ITFAP; Tom Callison, GTB; Erik Olsen, GTB and Brett Fessell, GTB. Second row: Rob Elliot, USFWS; Mike Ripley, ITFAP; Heather Enterlane, USFWS; Tracey Brown, BMIC and Clifford Parish, ITFAP.

Commercial fishery for sea lamprey opposed by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission

Despite progress made by the Minnesota Sea Grant Program to develop markets for sea lamprey, the Great Lakes Fishery Commission will not sell them. Further, the Commission does not support the establishment of a commercial fishery for sea lamprey in the Great Lakes.

Their rationale is that the *Convention on Great Lakes Fisheries* directs the Great Lakes Fishery Commission to "eradicate or minimize the populations of sea lamprey." The sale of sea lamprey surplus for the control needs of the Commission, even to fund ongoing control efforts, could create or be seen to create a conflict of interest situation for the Commission.

The approval for establishing a commercial fishery for sea lamprey is clearly the responsibility of the individual states, the province, and some tribes. Throughout the Great Lakes Basin, the states, the tribes, the province, and the federal governments are committed to minimizing the sea lamprey populations in the Great Lakes, consistent with established fish community objectives.

In contrast, however, a commercial fishery for sea lamprey would create an industry striving to maintain or to establish a continuing harvestable surplus of sea lamprey—perforce given that start-up investment would be high, with the need to develop new fishing gear and fishing techniques, as well as develop new markets and infrastructure.

Also, because of the success of the control program, the number of sea lamprey currently in the Great Lakes is likely insufficient to support a viable commercial fishery. The implementation of new control technologies in the St. Mary's River will effect a further significant reduction in the sea lamprey populations. An additional constraint to a commercial fishery is that the potential European market is based on live sea lamprey and it is illegal to transport live exotic species including sea lamprey in many states.

But Minnesota Sea Grant has shown that frozen sea lamprey could be acceptable for the European market. Moreover, the Great Lakes Fishery Commission is increasing sea lamprey trapping in an effort to capture the additional adult sea lamprey required for the full implementation of the Sterile Male Release Technique. This effort is critical to achieving the Commission's vision of increasing the use of non-chemical control. A commercial fishery for sea lamprey would clearly conflict with this effort.

A commercial fishery for sea lamprey in the Great Lakes is not sustainable. Further, a commercial fishery for sea lamprey would conflict with sea lamprey control efforts and runs contrary to the achievement of fish community objectives. The Great Lakes Fishery Commission, therefore, does not support a commercial fishery for sea lamprey in the Great Lakes.



GLIFWC has been involved in sea lamprey trapping for the past 11 years. Above, Branda Long, Northland College intern displays a lamprey caught in a cage set on the Bad river. (Photo by Sarah Sattler)

Articles reprinted from Commercial Fisheries Newsline

Status of ruffe populations in the periphery of their range

The good news this past year has been that no range expansion of ruffe has been detected. The current range in Lake Superior is from Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada to Ontonagon River, Michigan. In the west shore of Lake Huron no ruffe have been detected outside the Thunder Bay River area of Alpena, Michigan.

The bad news is that ruffe abundance has increased in one peripheral colony and colonies within the known range. One new discovery was made in Taconite Harbor, Minnesota, which is within the known range. Ruffe numbers have increased in Ontonagon River, Michigan, and in Saxon

Harbor, Bad River, Kakagon River, and Chequamegon Bay which are all in Wisconsin.

Although additional bottom trawling effort continues in an attempt to reduce ruffe populations in some interior colonies as well as peripheral colonies, all colonies are likely to increase in abundance and range expansion is likely to continue especially in Lake Huron.

It is hoped that population reduction efforts with bottom trawling will help slow anticipated expansion until research can identify more effective environmentally safe control methods.

KB hosts training on regulations for seafood processors aimed at prevention of health risks

Keweenaw Bay, Mich.—A new regulation called the Seafood Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) regulation is aimed a prevention of health hazards in seafood and becomes effective mid-December. Seafood processors must be prepared to comply.

To assist processors in implementing the new regulation, the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community will be hosting a training session at the Ojibway Casino Resort, Baraga, Michigan on January 13-15 for fish processors affected by HACCP.

The new regulation requires that fish processors perform several specific functions to comply. Essentially, the HACCP requires processors to: 1.) identify safety hazards; 2.) identify where safety hazards

occur; 3.) monitor hazardous points; and 4.) record the results. Compliance with HACCP will require daily monitoring of the identified critical points.

Processors may either hire trained independent contractors to perform the required tasks, or train one of their own employees to do the job.

The training at Keweenaw Bay will provide a standardized, three-day AFDO/Seafood Alliance HACCP training course, training materials, and trained instructors. Participants will receive a certificate of course completion.

A course fee of \$90 will be charged. Anyone interested in attending should contact Ron Kinnunen at 906/228-4830 prior to the training.

Lake herring and deep water fat lake trout workshop

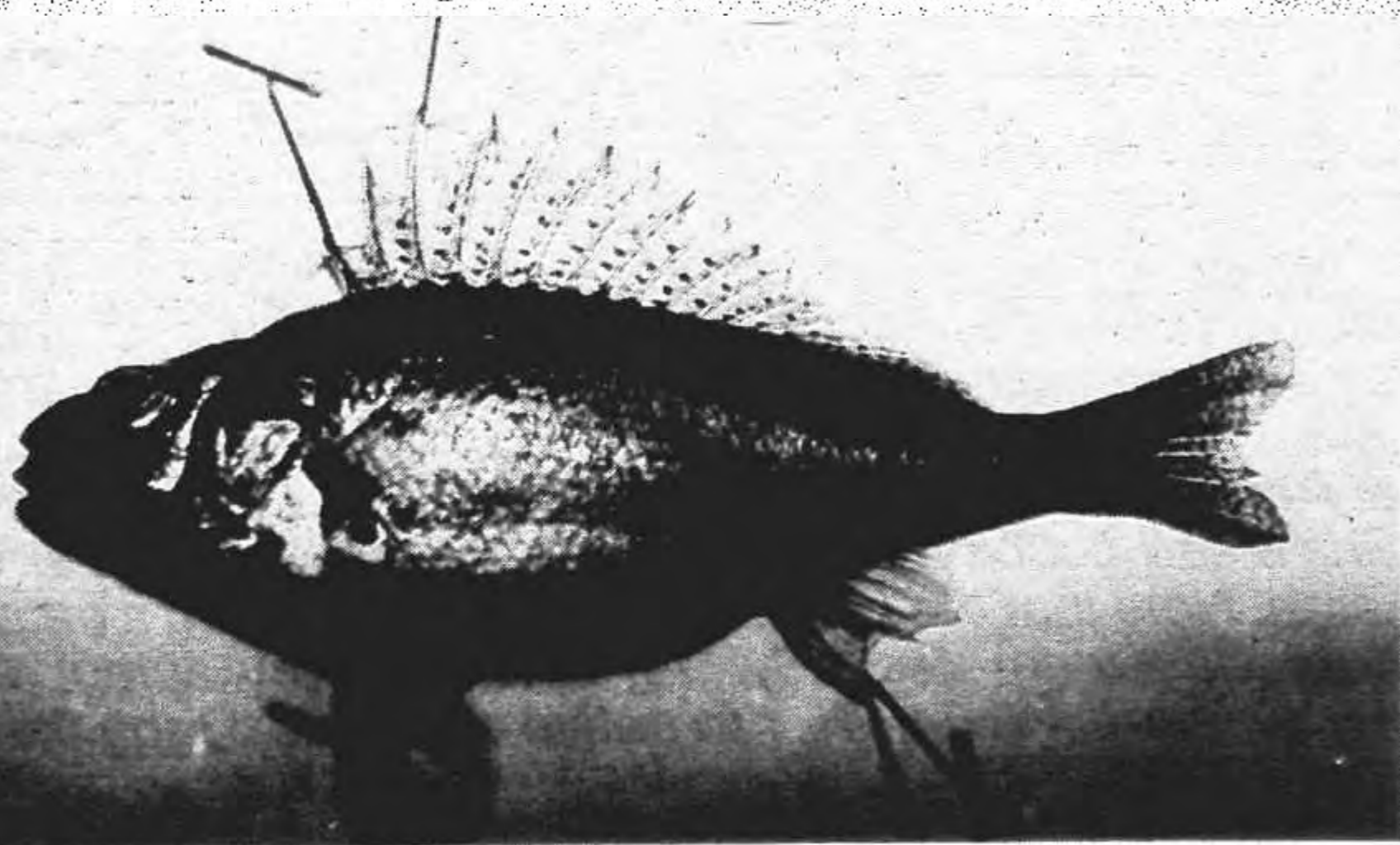
A workshop focusing on Lake Superior lake herring and deep water fat lake trout (siscowet) has been scheduled for January 20, 1998 at the Holiday Inn in Marquette, Michigan. Fishermen or processors who handle lake herring and or siscowet from Lake Superior will find this workshop of interest as you will learn about the realities of marketing these fish.

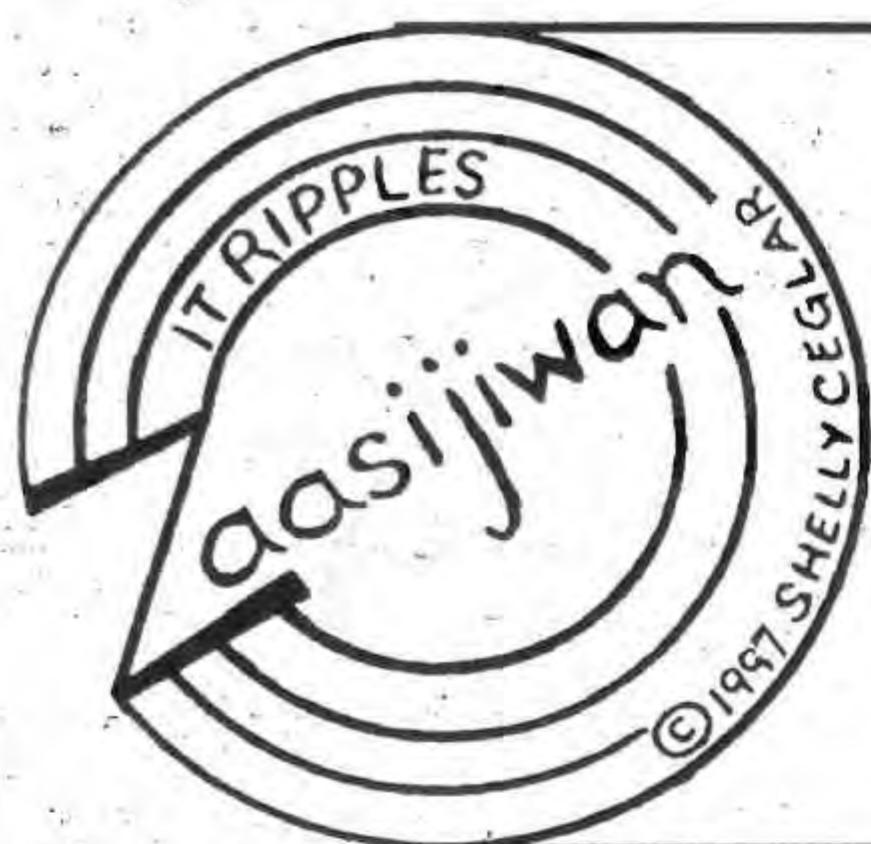
Both the Mich. and Wis. Sea Grant Programs have been involved with product and market development studies of lake

herring and details of these studies will be presented.

Presentations will be made on the status of lake herring and sixcawet populations in Lake Superior, the viability of these fish as a commercial product, and the potential and requirements for value-added processing including processing requirements.

For more information: Ron Kinnunen, MI Sea Grant (906) 228-4830, Harvey Hoven, WI Sea Grant (715) 394-8472, or Jeff Gunderson, MN Sea Grant (218) 726-8715.





Biboon — It is Winter

Zoogipon, Goon, Ishpaagonagaa, Zhakipon,
Mamaangadepon, Zhakaagonagaa, Maajipon,
Ishkwaapon, Biiwan, Onaabanad

*(It is snowing, Snow, It is a deep snow, It's a heavy wet falling snow,
It's snowing large flakes, There is a soft snow, It starts to snow,
It stops snowing, It's a blizzard, There's a crust on the snow)*

Bezhiig—1

OJIBWEMOWIN (Ojibwe Language)

Double vowel system of writing Ojibwemowin

Alphabet vowels: A, AA, E, I, II, O, OO

Consonants: B, C, D, G, H, J, K, M,
N, P, S, T, W, Y, Z, glottal stop'

Double Consonants: CH, SH, ZH

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

—Generally the long vowels carry the accent.

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

DOUBLE VOWEL PRONUNCIATIONS

Short vowels: A, I, O

Agwajiing— as in about

Iwidi — as in tin

Owidi — as in only

Long Vowels: AA, E, II, OO

Maajaan — as in father

Awesiiyag — as in jay

Miinikaanan — as in seen

Naboob — as in moon

Niizh—2

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

A. Gidashamaag ina ingiw waawaashkeshiwag?

B. Iwidi nindashamaag ingiw bineshiiyag gaye.

C. Owidi gisinaag, ingiw awesiiyag bakadewag.

D. Nimiijin naboob giikajiyaan.

E. Agwajiing omiiinaawaan miinikaanan azhigwa.

F. Miinawaa odamwaawaan mandaaminan.

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

Niswi—3

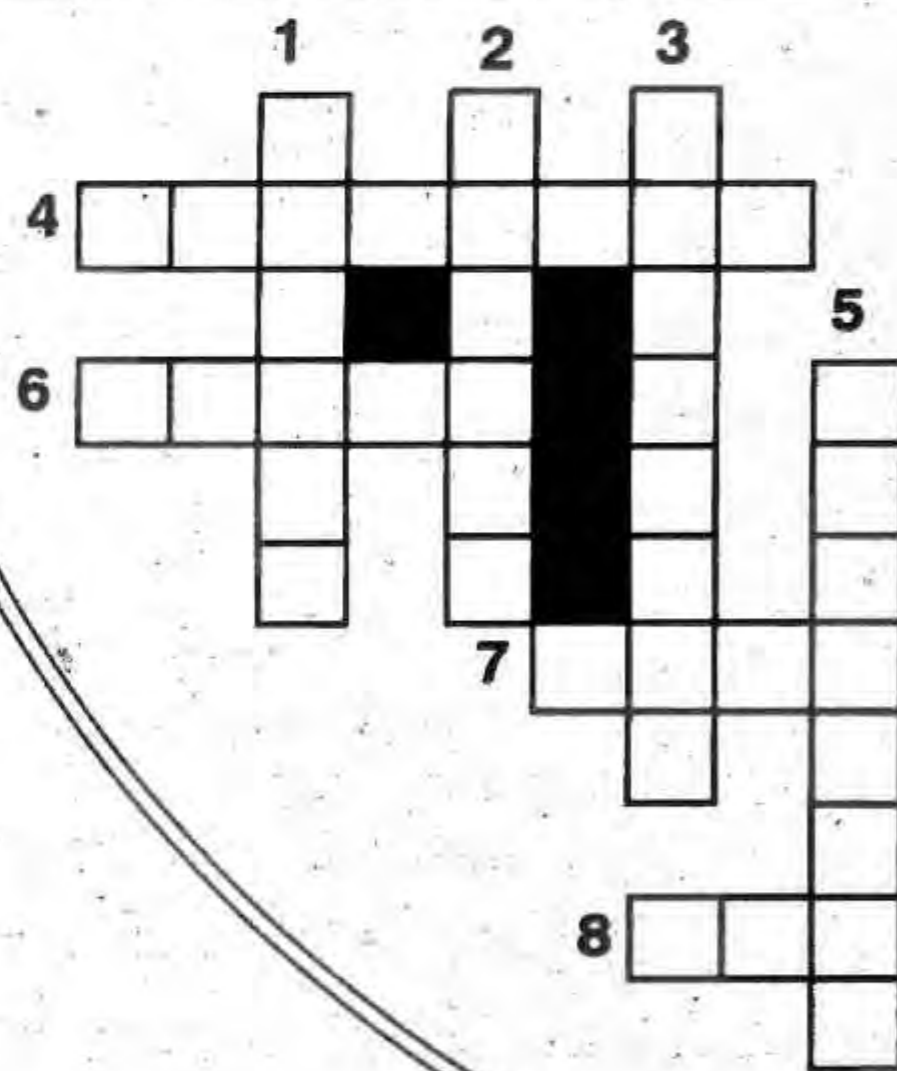
IKIDOWIN ODAMINOWIN (word play)

Down:

1. It's peaceful.
2. It's a blizzard.
3. It's snowing.
5. Also, And, Again.

Across:

4. It's a heavy wet snow.
6. Those (animate things)
7. Snow
8. Question marker



Niiwin—4

Ojibwemowin

1. Bibagaakwadin!
2. Bangan.
3. Minawaanigozin!
4. Gashkendam.
5. Maajaan!
6. Biindigen!
7. Ojibwemon!



Translations:

Niizh—2 A. Do you feed them, those deer? B. Over there I feed them those birds, also. C. Over here when it is cold, those wild animals they are hungry. D. I eat it soup when I am cold. E. Outside they are eating them seeds already. F. Also they are eating him/her corn.

Niswi—3 Down: 1. Bangan 2. Biiwan 3. Zoogipon 5. Miinawaa Across: 4. Zhakipon 6. Ingiw 7. Goon 8. Ina

Niiwin—4 1. It's frozen thin! 2. It's peaceful. 3. Be Happy! 4. He or She is sad. 5. Leave! 6. Welcome (Come in!). 7. Speak Ojibwe!
There are various Ojibwe dialects, check for correct usage in your area. Note that the English translation will lose it's natural flow as in any foreign language translation. This may be reproduced for classroom use only. All other uses by author's written permission. All inquiries can be made to MASINAIGAN, P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861. *To native speakers: Daga find others and use this to teach!

GLITC seeks to make traditional foods/healing more accessible to tribal communities

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Lac du Flambeau, Wis.—Access to traditional foods and healing can particularly be a problem for tribal elders, who are often unable to hunt, fish or gather for themselves and have limitations on the ability to travel. Foods, such as wild game, are not available in grocery stores nor available for sale.

In an effort to address problems confronted by the tribal public in obtaining

traditional foods and healing, the Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council (GLITC) Elder's Program sponsored a conference for elders last fall at the Lac du Flambeau reservation. Entitled "Traditional Diet and Healing Through Shared Visions," the conference focused both on the benefits of traditional foods and medicine and on problems with its inaccessibility to the tribal public.

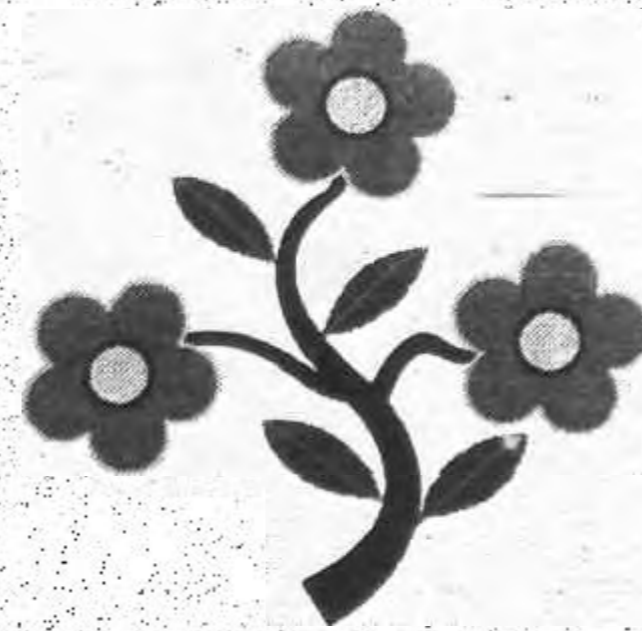
While obtaining traditional foods can be difficult, problems are only compounded when dealing with traditional medicines and healers. Many native healers are re-

mote; may not be well known; and clinics generally offer only a western perspective on healing. This has made traditional healing unobtainable for many tribal members.

In an effort to resolve the problem, a pilot project at the Lac du Flambeau reservation was initiated. As explained by Leon Valliere, GLITC, the project seeks to bring credible providers of traditional healing into the community. The process can be time-consuming. Foundation blocks for such a program include first locating credible traditional healers, developing community trust, and obtaining support from the tribal council. With those in place, a system for the provision of traditional care can begin to be developed.

The emphasis of the day's conference was the benefits of a traditional diet and healing and the need to restore them to tribal communities for the overall, improved health of the people. The conference concluded with a gift of a sweet grass plant provided by GLIFWC.

Included in packets for conference participants was the article reprinted below regarding the merits of traditional foods and a number of recipes for preparing foods in a healthy manner, which Masinaigan is also reprinting.



Griddle fry bread

2 cups flour
1 tablespoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon sugar
2 tablespoons nonfat dry milk
1 tablespoon oil
3/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons warm water

Mix the dry foods. Add water and oil. Stir until soft dough forms. Form the dough into 8 balls. Flatten each ball to 1/4 inch thick and 4 to 5 inches across. Spray griddle or skillet with non-stick cooking spray or wipe lightly with oil. Preheat on medium heat (350 degrees if using electric griddle or skillet). Cook breads on hot griddle until lightly browned. Turn and broil other side. Makes 8 servings.

—Taken from *Honor the gift of food*, Portland Area Diabetes Program and the Northwest Indian College Nutrition Assistant Program, Bellingham, WA

Stuffed Acorn Squash

10 ounces sweet pickle relish
6 ounces cubed stuffing mix
1 onion, minced
2 stalks celery, minced
1 small green pepper, minced
1/2 cup chicken broth
4 acorn squash

Combine relish, stuffing mix, onion, celery, green pepper and chicken broth. Cut squash in halves and scoop out seeds. Stuff squash with the mixture. Bake for 40 minutes in a moderate oven (350°), covered. Serve with pickle fans and carrot curls. Serves 8.

Pumpkin Spice Cake

vegetable cooking spray
2 eggs
2/3 cup sugar
3/4 cup pumpkin, cooked and mashed
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
3/4 cup all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
1 tablespoon powdered sugar, sifted

Coat a 9 inch round cake pan with cooking spray; line bottom with wax paper. Coat wax paper with cooking spray; set aside. Beat the eggs with an electric mixer at high speed for 2 minutes. Add sugar, 1 tablespoon at a time, beating 2 additional minutes until thick and pale. Add pumpkin and vanilla, mix well. Combine flour and next 5 ingredients in a bowl, stir well. Add to pumpkin mixture, stir well. Spoon batter into prepared pan. Bake at 375° for 20 minutes or until a wooden pick inserted in center comes out clean. Cool 5 minutes in pan on a wire rack, then remove from pan and cool completely on wire rack. Sprinkle powdered sugar over the top of cake. Serves 8.

—Squash and cake recipe taken from *Native Cookbook*, Center for American Indian Research & Education, Berkeley, CA



John Heim, GLIFWC wildlife technician prepares to pass out a sweet grass plant to conference attendees at the Elder's conference in Lac du Flambeau last fall. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

Risks of today's new foods

By Annette Cornelius,
Oneida Tribal Member

Historically we ate foods that were for strength and resilience. Now for most people it is for taste and comfort. For many people the spirit to spirit connections to food is missing. This needs to be reclaimed so that we can have healthy bodies once again.

For example berries are for digestion, which is fire, so if you looked at that metaphorically the Iroquoian culture talks a lot about fire, our personal, family or clan, community and nation fires. When we eat berries, this helps to build that fire.

Another example would be corn and beans, when ate together, they are a complete protein. Proteins do a lot of things, one of them being to help build muscle which is strength, which could be looked at as a spiritual, mental, physical or emotional strength.

Many of the foods eaten today are lacking in nutritional value and is an added stress to our bodies on top of the stress we have in our lives. White flour products,

(pasta, bread, cakes, donuts, cookies, etc.) White rice, sugar, dairy and hydrogenated oils make up a good portion of the western diet. All of these "foods" (with the exception of dairy) have been altered from their natural state leaving them with little or no nutritional value. These foods are a recipe for degenerative diseases.

When they are eaten, the body has a hard time digesting them or most turn to sugar because of the lack of nutrients. For most people the enzymes needed to digest dairy is lacking, so they are unable to digest it. What happens is the immune system treats it as a foreign invader and tries to rid the body of it. Sinus problems, allergic symptoms, gas or bloating usually occurs.

Hydrogenated oils are almost impossible to assimilate and have been linked to many health problems, such as obesity, heart disorders, hardening of the arteries, cancer of the colon, breast, and prostate.

In the processing of the oil it is heated to a temperature which changes the chemical structure and destroys the essential fatty acids in it. There are also many different chemicals added to it to prolong shelf life. Because of this process we no longer rec-

ognize the food and again do more damage than good.

Fats are an important nutrient we need to sustain life, but they need to be in their original form just as all of our food does, with the spirit still in tack and with life in it. Try to switch to cold pressed oil, eat more fish, leafy green vegetables, seeds and nuts to get what is termed as "good fat" omega 3, alpha-linoleic, and omega 6 linoleic acid.

For optimum health we require, vitamins, minerals, carbohydrates, fats, proteins, and water. If any one of these is missing, our health deteriorates and then we begin to look for the instant cure also known as medications. Which for the most part only suppress the symptoms and damage other parts of the body.

The body has an amazing ability to heal itself if fed properly. So try to begin to make healthier food choices your body will be much happier.

Thirsty? Try water, or herbal tea, the average twelve ounces can of soda has nine teaspoons of sugar in it and usually contains caffeine, which is only going to make you thirstier and add to the recipe of illnesses.



8th Annual Poster Contest

The Wisdom of the Elders




Wisconsin Education Association Council
Human Relations Committee 4th Grade Poster Contest

Entries must be submitted by January 22, 1998

The purpose of the poster contest is to address the issue of native American racism and to promote the celebration of the Native American culture. The theme chosen for this year's contest is **The Wisdom of the Elders**. This will be an opportunity for your students to express their thoughts and feelings artistically.

Poster Contest Rules

- ✓ Theme description: The "**Wisdom of the Elders**" reflects the reverence and respect accorded to Elders in the Native American culture. Possible resources are: Wisdom Keepers—meeting with Native American Spiritual Elders; The Shaman's Circle, poems by Nancy Wood; The Book of Elders, The Life Stories & Wisdom of Great American Indians, Johnson/Budnik.
- ✓ The contest is open to all fourth grade students in Wisconsin public schools. Each poster must contain working and/or imagery which convey the contest theme.
- ✓ Artwork can be presented in any two-dimensional media. Size must be 12" x 18" (vertical or horizontal). Lamination of entries is encouraged, but not required.

- ✓ To facilitate anonymity in judging, the following information must be clearly printed on the back of each entry:
 - student's full name and address
 - student's school name and address
 - school district
 - teacher's name and address
- ✓ Entries will not be returned. Teachers may want to make copies for their students prior to submission. The original art work must be submitted.
- ✓ Entries must be sent to Local Association Presidents by January 22, 1998 for judging.
- ✓ The top three posters at the local level must be sent to UniServ Presidents by February 5, 1998.
- ✓ After judging at the UniServ level, the top three posters must be sent to the WEAC Brookfield office by February 26, 1998. (WEAC, Attn: Anne Waukau, 13805 W. Burleigh Road, Brookfield, WI 53005).
- ✓ Three artists will be chosen by the Human Relations Committee to receive a \$100 savings bond and book. The Human Relations Committee will award medals to the artists of the three entries submitted by each UniServ.
- ✓ The WEAC Human Relations Committee encourages Locals and UniServs to recognize participants at their individual levels.

TEACHERS: Please send suggestions for future themes for this contest to:
WEAC, Attn: Anne Waukau, 13805 W. Burleigh Road, Brookfield, WI 53005.

"We are not gone—we are still here"

Always a People reveals perseverance and pride among today's Woodland Indians

ALWAYS A PEOPLE: Oral Histories of Contemporary Woodland Indians, edited by Rita Kohn and W. Lynwood Montell, with reproductions of oil portraits by Evelyn J. Ritter, was published on October 24 by Indiana University Press.

In this beautifully crafted volume, 41 elders and leaders from 17 tribes representing 11 nations testify to the vibrant traditions of Native Americans of the Woodland Nations, who live across almost a third of the United States, from Oklahoma to New York and into Ontario, Canada.

The stories of the Woodland Indians have not been as widely disseminated as those of the Plains and Southwest Indians. This book corrects much of the misinformation on the Woodland peoples contained in mainstream cultural accounts.

The Woodland tribes were the first to feel the impact of European expansion and arguably the hardest hit. The oral histories collected here tell of the power of collective will and an ongoing commitment to a shared heritage.

The nations represented are the Chippewa, Delaware, Iroquois, Miami, Oneida, Ottawa, Peoria, Potawatomi, Sauk and Fox, Shawnee, and Winnebago.

Although the experiences of the people depicted in this book vary greatly, a common thread emerges from their narratives: the interrelationship of land and language in sustaining a common identity.

Michael Pace reports his ambivalence at being welcomed "home" to four different states from which the Delaware people

"I understand why we were called Indians in the very beginning when we were The People. But Indian is what I grew up with, even though it's something that Columbus hung on us. Native American is just something that the government is doing—changing things around, labeling people all over again, I know who I am, and I'm proud of who I am."

—Sharon Burkybile, Miami Nation

had been driven. "The thing I remember leaving Muncie . . . to return to Oklahoma was that I could not imagine my mother having to walk that distance. What would have happened to her? . . . And I really didn't know what to think about coming back to Indiana the next time I was asked to return."

Pace's mother, he reports, was one of many victims of a school system that worked to assimilate Indian children into white American culture. In public schools during the first part of this century, Indian children were not only taught English as their primary language but were forbidden and often punished for speaking in their native tongue.

Helen Rameriz (Elder, Absentee Shawnee Tribe) recalls having her mouth washed out with lye soap: "I was like a little young rooster trying to crow; you know how they try in that little broken voice."

Today the Woodland peoples feel strongly about the importance of language in maintaining a distinct cultural tradition. In the words of Grace Thorpe (District

Court Judge for the Sauk and Fox; daughter of the great Olympic athlete, Jim Thorpe), "If you can speak your language, you are thinking in the language. [If you can't] it would change your whole thinking. Lots of words, lots of phrases, lots of ways of doing things, the old way of life would soon be diminished."

Furthermore, according to such leaders as Charles Dawes (Principal Chief of the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma), knowledge of the language is essential for participation in ceremonies. Without knowing the language, the people cannot understand and respond in ceremonial prayer. Tribal leaders cannot name babies or bury their dead.

R. David Edmunds contributed a helpful introduction that places the narratives in their historical context. Reproductions of specially commissioned paintings by the gifted artist Evelyn J. Ritter accompany most of the oral histories.

Taken together, the stories and portraits contained in **ALWAYS A PEOPLE** will help preserve and transmit important

memories and traditions of America's Woodland Indians.

About the Editors:

Rita Kohn is Adjunct Professor at the Indiana University School of Journalism in Indianapolis. Among her many publications are four books about the Woodland Nations. W. Lynwood Montell is Emeritus Professor of Modern Languages and Intercultural Studies at Western Kentucky University. R. David Edmunds is Professor of History at Indiana University.

Book Information:

ALWAYS A PEOPLE: Oral Histories of Contemporary Woodland Indians, collected by Rita Kohn and W. Lynwood Montell. Introduction by R. David Edmunds; Project Consultant and Associate Editor, Michelle Mannering. Oil portraits by Evelyn J. Ritter. 320 pages, 6 1/8 x 9 1/4, 36 color photos. Cloth; ISBN: 0-253-33298-2; Price: \$35.00. Published by Indiana University Press. Available at bookstores or by calling 1-800-842-6796.





ANA youth project teaches traditional harvesting skills



Instructing the Bay Mills youth on the construction of gill nets is Paul Baragwanath pictured above with his daughter Amie. Instruction in traditional harvesting skills is part of a youth program funded through the Administration for Native American (ANA) which is coordinated by Jim St. Arnold, GLIFWC ANA director. The needle is now ready to sew a gill net. (Photo by Jim St. Arnold)



At the Bay Mills Indian Community, Michigan, Matthew Baragwanath winds twine into a shuttle-like needle in preparation for net making. (Photo by Paul Baragwanath, GLIFWC warden)



One in the bag! Dogs, kids and ANA youth project instructor Ed Shepard took to the field for grouse hunting as part of the ANA youth program designed to teach youth hunting, fishing and gathering skills. Pictured above are, from the left: Ed Shepard, instructor; unidentified visitor; Wayne Parish and Carl Perron. (Photo by Paul Baragwanath)



At the Fond du Lac reservation in Minnesota, fall brought the youth to the lakes and rice beds to learn more about harvesting manoomin (wild rice). Joe Martineau instructed participants in the ANA youth program at Fond du Lac. (Photo by Joe Martineau)

GLIFWC helps build better wetland habitat through Circle of Flight program

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—Like laying bricks one by one to complete a building, the tribal Circle of Flight program has been contributing annually to the enhancement of wetlands and waterfowl habitat since 1991.

Each year specific projects throughout the upper midwest are designated, funded and completed through the Circle of Flight initiative and contribute towards

the building of an improved wetlands habitat.

Coordinated through the efforts of Robert Jackson, biologist with the Minneapolis Area Office (MAO) of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Circle of Flight is an inter-tribal program spanning the states of Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota.

Twenty-one reservations, two inter-tribal organizations including the 1854 Authority and GLIFWC, and the MAO are participants in a program responsible for a diverse waterfowl and wetlands initiative in a reservation and ceded territory land

base of over 62 million acres, according to Jackson.

GLIFWC has worked with the Circle of Flight program since it began. In 1997 GLIFWC's Circle of Flight activities were diverse.

Ranging from studies of wild rice genetics, to massive wild rice restoration efforts, to the replacement of worn out structures in significant waterfowl management areas, the 1997 projects add another layer of "bricks" to the overall enhancement of wetland habitat.

In 1997 GLIFWC handled a record of over seven tons of manoomin (wild rice) seed, which provided seed for planting over 40 waters in Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, according to Peter David, GLIFWC waterfowl biologist. The reseeding efforts of GLIFWC and its member tribes have been assisted through the Circle of Flight program.

Manoomin (wild rice) has historically been a very significant food for the Ojibwe people, and it is also an imprint food source for waterfowl, so tribal interest in the enhancement of existing rice beds and restoration of historical beds is natural.

Many of GLIFWC's wild rice restoration efforts were done cooperatively between the Circle of Flight program and other organizations or local groups, such as the Wisconsin and Michigan Departments of Natural Resources, the Nicolet/Chequamegon and Ottawa National Forest, the Silver Creek Sportsman Club, and the Halsey Lake Owners Association.

GLIFWC also cooperated with seeding projects conducted by six of its member tribes.

Circle of Flight was also instrumental in GLIFWC's production of a new brochure on manoomin, which focused on the technical aspects of wild rice restoration and harvest. The brochure has been well-received and widely distributed.

Other Circle of Flight projects in which GLIFWC has participated include the Nicolet National Forest Bluegill Creek Impoundment. 1997 found the engineering and permitting process completed and the groundwork laid for construction in 1998. Other partners in this project include the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, Ducks Unlimited, National Forest Foundation and Wisconsin Conservation Corps.

In Forest County, Wisconsin, a dam built in 1936 at Little Rice lake needed repair. The lake hosts a 1,200 acre impoundment, which is highly attractive to waterfowl due to its large bed of manoomin. It is also used for breeding by sandhill cranes, loons, eagles and ospreys, and supports a great blue heron rookery.

Circle of Flight funding through GLIFWC in conjunction with funds from the WDNR and Ducks Unlimited were used to complete the reconstruction of the dam in this remote site in 1997.

Similarly, water control structures at the Spring Creek waterfowl management area in Price County, Wisconsin were identified as a project for Circle of Flight dollars in combination with funds from the WDNR. The area supports a healthy 200 acres of wild rice, is a nesting area for osprey and is used by eagles. 1997 has seen the initiation of the permitting process for the necessary repairs with completion in sight for 1998.

Spur lake in Oneida County, Wis., also benefited from Circle of Flight funding with the addition of a second culvert at its outlet. Spur lake is viewed as an important wildlife/wild rice lake. However, managers thought a second culvert would help to reduce the flashiness of water levels following storms, which can be detrimental to the delicate wild rice plants.

In Burnett County, Wis., GLIFWC has been working through Circle of Flight to convert 100 acres of agriculture fields at the Amsterdam Sloughs Wildlife area to dense nesting cover. The area is near an impoundment site previously funded and in the Crex Meadows Wildlife Area two failing water-control structures were replaced.

At the Fond du Lac reservation, a project overseen by Mike Shrage, Fond du Lac tribal biologist, has been seeding wild rice, developing common tern habitat management and erecting waterfowl nesting structures.

In addition to initiatives at various sites, GLIFWC has continued to be involved in wild rice genetic studies. Genetic analysis of wild rice is currently underway in cooperation with the UW-Madison Botany Department. The UW is applying a new DNA measuring technology to the rice samples collected and to ten additional sites which were first sampled in 1997.



Maintaining sufficient, healthy wetlands for use by breeding waterfowl is a first step to maintaining waterfowl populations.

Red Lake Band receives \$50,000 grant

The Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians received a \$50,000 North American Wetlands Conservation Act grant to restore and enhance wetlands and uplands at Red Lake Farms, near the Red Lake Indian Reservation.

Joining the Red Lake Band in this effort are the Minnesota Waterfowl Association, Ducks Unlimited, Inc., and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The partnership contributed \$117,500 toward the project.

Taking advantage of the Act's recently established Small Grants Program, partners will use the funds to restore 204 acres of high quality wetlands, restore and enhance 160 acres of associated uplands, and construct and place 59 songbird and waterfowl nesting structures on the Red Lake lands.

To receive Small Grants Program funding, certain criteria must be met: Grantees must never have received an Act grant before; a partnership must support the work; project proposals must meet certain biological criteria established by the Act; the project must be completed in 2 years; and the grant amount requested must be matched on at least a 1:1 ratio.

While Federal agencies may participate in and financially contribute to a project, Federal dollars will not count toward the required dollar match. Native American Education and Self Improvement Act funds, or "638" funds, are not considered to be a Federal funding source under the Act.

The Small Grants Program has a project funding cap of \$50,000, currently with a total of \$250,000 available. In the program's first year, 1996, eight of the 148 proposals received originated from Native American groups: the Red Lake Band of Chippewa, the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, the Hualapai Tribe, the Pueblo of Laguna, and the White Mountain Apache Tribe.

Only 10 proposals received funding in 1996. The Red Lake Band of Chippewa and the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe proposals were among them. In 1997, no small-grant proposals were received from Tribal entities.

The Small Grants Program is expected to continue in 1998, with a formal announcement being made in the Federal

Register in early January. The deadline for proposal submissions will likely be early-April.

Information about the program can be obtained by contacting the Small Grants Coordinator, North American Waterfowl and Wetlands Office, Suite 110, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22203, or by phone at (703) 358-1784, or by fax at (703) 358-2282, or by electronic mail at r9arw_nawwo@mail.fws.gov.

The Act also supports a Large Grants Program with a project cap of \$1 million. In 1998, approximately \$40 million will be available for wetlands conservation work.

The two grant programs have similar requirements, except that grantees in the Large Grants Program may have received other Act grants and its application process is more complex. Information about the Large Grants Program can be obtained by contacting the Large Grants Coordinator at the same address as above.

For general information about the North American Wetlands Conservation Act, surf through the Act's World-Wide-Web home page at <http://www.fws.gov/~r9nawwo/homepag.html>.

McCuddy to retire after 31 years with Great Lakes Agency

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Ashland, Wis.—Looking back on a career that spans over 31 years, Chuck McCuddy, Great Lakes Agency, Bureau of Indian Affairs, can see dramatic, positive changes in Indian Country and feel good about having a hand in significant parts of that change. Chuck is due to retire this spring from his position in the Agency's Land Operations Office where he served as Branch Chief for over twenty years.

McCuddy has worked closely with tribal natural resource programs over the past several decades, encouraging the expansion of tribal resource management capabilities. He has encouraged the hiring of needed professional staff, particularly supporting the growth of reservation environmental and water resources capacities.

In August 1977 when the Land Operations Office for the Agency first began it was a one person branch with a budget of \$68,000, McCuddy recalls. In 1997 the Branch budget was \$6.7 million with 98.3% of the funds going to tribes or GLIFWC.

Besides seeing active, state-of-the-art natural resource programs develop from almost nothing on many reservations in the Great Lakes area, McCuddy is particularly pleased with the growth of tribal hatcheries, such as at Lac du Flambeau, Red Cliff, and Bad River.

Another highlight of involvement for McCuddy was the formation and growth of the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC).

McCuddy worked with the tribes since GLIFWC first formed as the Great Lakes Indian Fisheries Commission in 1982 and worked closely with GLIFWC and tribal leaders during the traumatic early years as tribes began to participate actively in off-reservation natural resource management.

But the pride and joy of McCuddy's career has to be the comprehensive fire rescue training program he brought to Great Lakes tribes and non-tribal communities. It's a one-

of-its-kind program in the BIA that McCuddy began fourteen years ago.

He has succeeded in bringing topnotch fire rescue training programs, equipment and instructors to reservations and surrounding communities. These programs offer diverse training, including classroom and hands-on instruction.

The most recent fire training in Oneida county had 172 fire fighters attend representing seventeen fire departments. The program has assisted the six tribal fire departments in developing the skills and technology required to effectively serve their tribal communities.

Interest in fire rescue training may have stemmed from McCuddy's very first job, which was a fire control aide in northern Idaho. He worked for 85 cents an hour at the time and got his first taste of the mountains, as well as living without electricity or modern conveniences.

McCuddy, who graduated from Purdue University with a degree in forestry, worked for the State of Wisconsin as a forester in Vilas county for eleven years. His first job with the BIA started in June 1968 when he took a position as BIA forester at the Mescalero Apache reservation in New Mexico.

In 1973 McCuddy moved to Florida where he was assigned to the Seminole Agency as a forester for about a year. Then, it was up to the Great Lakes Agency, Ashland, Wisconsin in July 1974 where he worked as the Bad River and Red Cliff forester for one year.

In 1975 he was promoted to assistant agency forester, and in August 1977 he opened the one man Land Operations Office at the Great Lakes Agency Office. There he stayed and actively worked with the development of tribal natural resource capabilities.

McCuddy and his wife, Tonna, live in the rural Ashland area. They have one daughter, Kelly, who also lives and works in the area.

As McCuddy looks towards a spring retirement—April 3, 1998 to be specific—he has several goals in mind, like fishing, which he hasn't done for the last eight years, and growing a big garden again, and maybe even completing his "schoolhouse" project, which is the old schoolhouse he has been converting into a home.

McCuddy was recently honored at the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society's annual conference for his outstanding service, an award which recognized 23 years of service to the development of tribal resource programs, fire training, the protection of Indian hunting, fishing rights, commitment to tribal environmental issues, conservation enforcement and safety programs.

At the time, he also received a Certificate of Commendation from the State of Wisconsin for his work with the Joint Assessment Steering Committee in the development of the "Casting Light Upon the Waters" television and video production. In 1997 McCuddy also received his seventeenth straight Outstanding Performance Certificate from the BIA.

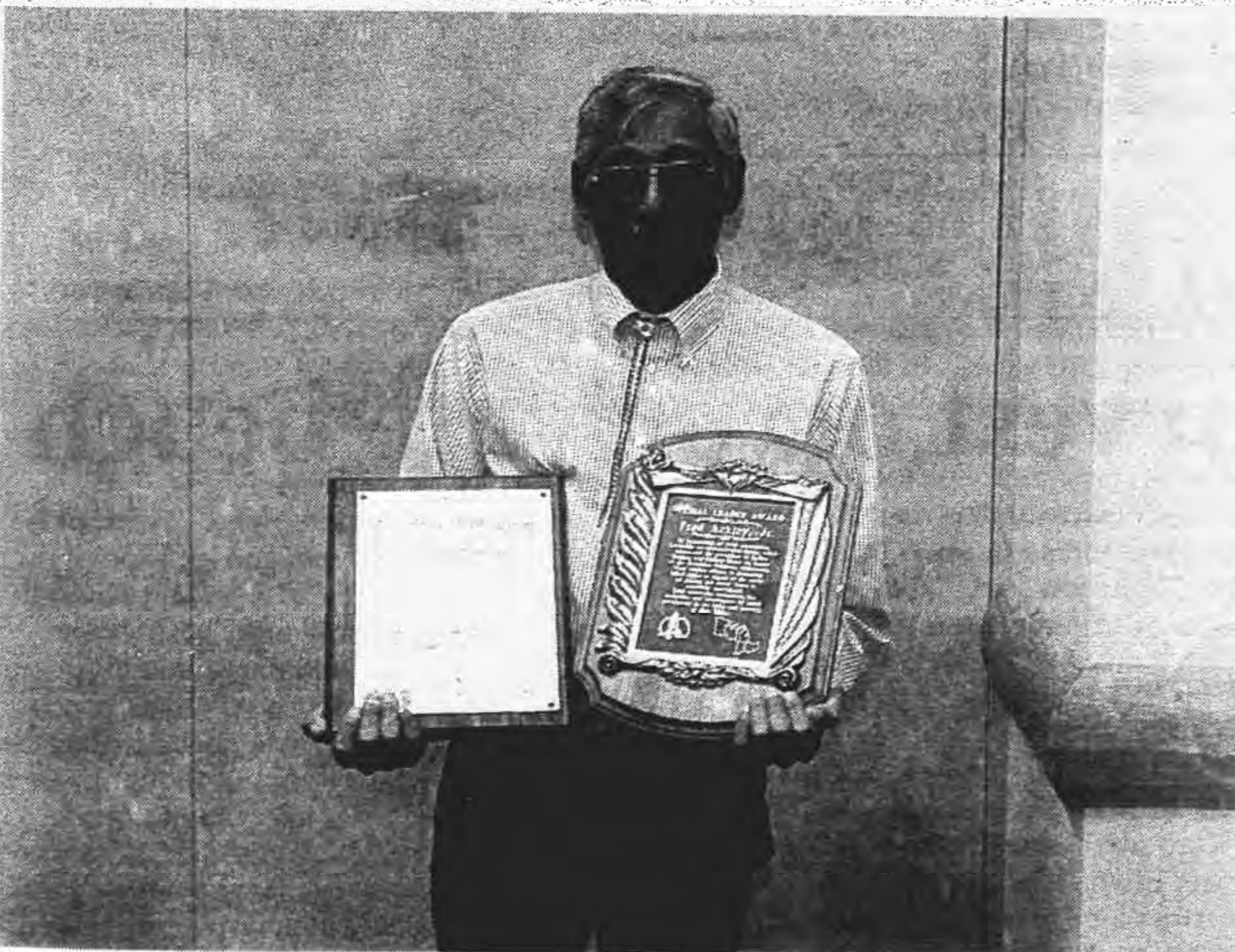
For many who have worked with McCuddy, it can be said it has been good having him as a friend and partner in facing the many issues which contemporary tribes face, particularly in terms of natural resource management.

Thanks for the commitment, patience, and resolve, and best wishes for dynamite fishing!



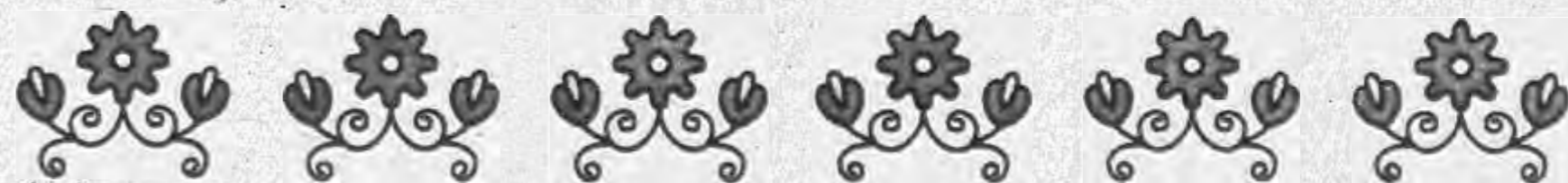
Chuck McCuddy, Great Lakes Agency of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, received recognition from the NAFWS and the State of Wisconsin. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

NAFWS honors Great Lakes leaders



At the annual conference of the Great Lakes Region of the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society (NAFWS) in Lac du Flambeau this fall, recognition was given for leadership in a variety of areas. Among those recognized was Fred Ackley, Mole Lake band, pictured above, who received the Tribal Leader of the Year award. Ackley has served on the Voigt Inter-Tribal Task Force of GLIFWC and provided a great deal of leadership to the entire tribal community on mining and environmental issues. He also received a Certificate of Commendation from the State of Wisconsin for his work with the Joint Assessment Steering Committee in the production of the "Casting Light Upon the Waters," video which aired on many television stations last spring.

Also recognized as Tribal Biologist of the Year was Joe Dan Rose, formerly fisheries specialist with the Bad River band and currently GLIFWC inland fisheries section leader with the Biological Services Division. (Photo by Lynn Plucinski)





Legislative Update, 105th Congress

BILL No.	SPONSOR	TITLE	LAST ACTION
H.R. 1270	Upton	A bill to amend the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982	10/21/97, reported to House from the Committee on Resources with amendments. H.Rept. 105-290
H.R. 1476	Diaz-Balart	Miccosukee Settlement Act of 1997	10/1/97, measure failed to pass in House under suspension of the rules, roll call #488
H.R. 2203	McDade	A bill making appropriations for energy and water water development for fiscal year ending 1998 and for other purposes	10/13/97, Public Law 105-62; 10/17/97, line item veto by President (Presidential Cancellation Numbers 97-57 through 97-64); 10/21/97, referred Presidential message to House Committee on the Budget and Appropriations
H.R. 2655	Hoekstra	A bill to repeal certain federal educational programs	10/9/97, Referred to the House Committee on Education and Workforce
H.R. 2663	Metcalf	A bill to provide technical corrections to the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, to improve the delivery of housing assistance to Indian tribes in a manner that recognizes the right of tribal self-governance and for other purposes	10/9/97, referred to the House Committee on Banking and Financial Services
H.R. 2665	Pastor	A bill to improve Indian reservation roads and related transportation services and for other purposes	10/9/97, Referred to House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
S. 714	Akaka	A bill to make permanent the Native American Veteran Housing Loan Pilot Program of the Department of Veteran Affairs	10/7/97, Committee on Veterans Affairs. Ordered to be reported with amendments favorably.
S. 1079	Dorgan	A bill to permit the leasing of mineral rights, in any case in which the Indian owners of an allotment that is located within the boundaries of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation and held in trust by the United States have executed leases to more than 50 percent of the mineral estate of that allotment	10/6/97, hearings held by Committee on Indian Affairs
S. 1159	Murkowski	Kake Tribal Corporation Land Exchange Act <i>(Reprinted from American Indian Report)</i>	10/7/97, reported to Senate from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, amended, S. Rept. 105-100

Historic tribal shellfish harvest on private beach

By Doug Williams
NWIFC News

The oysters served at the Skokomish Indian Tribe's annual elders' honoring picnic might not have looked or tasted any different than those of past celebrations, but they were unique. They were harvested Aug. 15 by tribal members, from private tidelands whose owner wanted to prove that treaty shellfish harvest rights and private property rights can co-exist.

William Matchett, a retired University of Washington English professor and member of the Hood Canal Environmental Council and Kitsap County Planning Commission, went to tribal representatives to work out a sharing agreement for the clams and oysters on his Hood Canal tidelands. He said he was eager to prove to his neighbors that tribal shellfish harvests on private tidelands could occur without problems.

Less than two hours after Tom Strong and brothers John and Arthur Gouley landed on Matchett's sheltered beach south of

Seabeck in Kitsap County, 100 dozen oysters were loaded into the tribe's boat for the picnic. Skokomish Fisheries Manager Dave Herrera monitored the harvest and discussed the agreement—and the possibility of future shellfish enhancement agreements—with Matchett.

"I've been looking forward to this for some time," said Matchett just as the harvest was concluding. "They took all of those oysters today, and it seems like they didn't even make a dent on this beach."

"This harvest is the starting point of trying to work with tidelands owners," said Herrera. "This shows we can work out agreements with private tidelands owners and exercise our treaty rights."

Matchett began forming his plan to work out an agreement with local Indian tribes through a local forum that brought Hood Canal watershed residents together to discuss a multitude of issues.

"There were tribal representatives on that body, and we spent a great deal of time talking about how we could bridge con-

flicts—for instance, how to protect property rights and Indian treaty rights at the same time," Matchett said. "The more I thought about it, the more it seemed to me the way to solve this was through a contract."

He met with shellfish biologist Lisa Veneroso with the Point No Point Treaty Council, the fisheries management consortium of the Skokomish, Port Gamble S'Klallam, Jamestown S'Klallam and Lower Elwha Klallam tribes. Matchett and the tribes agreed that they could develop a harvest management plan that would provide a framework for treaty shellfishing on his tidelands.

Veneroso conducted a thorough survey of Matchett's tidelands and concluded that 15,000 oysters—7,500 for Matchett and 7,500 for the tribes—could be harvested each year from the property. This harvest level ensures healthy oyster populations for the tribes and Matchett year after year.

Each off-reservation shellfish harvest is preceded by a tribal regulation issued to

the state and property owner. The regulation lists the date, time, and location of the harvest, the amount and types of species to be harvested, and any other restrictions.

Plans are developing for additional tribal shellfish harvests on other private Hood Canal tidelands. Matchett said he has been talking with neighbors about his successful management agreement.

Matchett's beach could be enhanced through the harvest management agreement. Efforts could include placing netting down over what are now low-density clam beds to help prevent predation. Matchett is also interested in reintroducing Olympia oysters—the region's only native oyster—onto his tidelands.

"If people would be willing to cooperate with the tribes, they might even be able to make some money themselves," he said.

The tribes' treaty-protected right to harvest shellfish from all usual and accustomed areas—including private tidelands—was re-affirmed in 1994 by U.S. District Court Judge Edward Rafeedie.

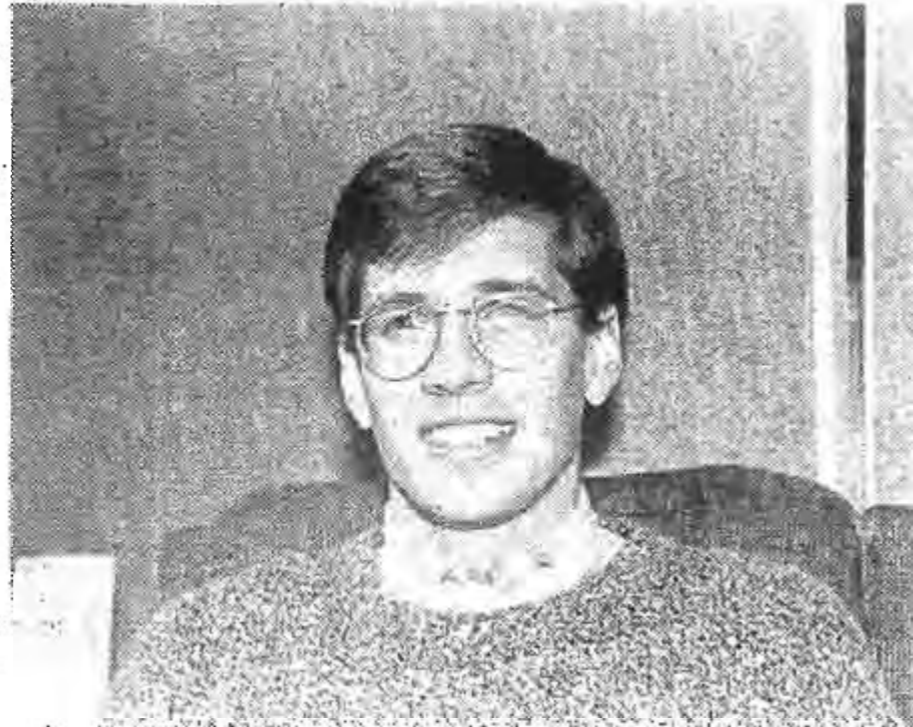
GLIFWC's new staff



Leander Cloud
Network Administrator

Leander (Lee) Cloud joined the GLIFWC staff in September as an intern network administrator. He is working on a part-time basis while completing course work in microcomputer electronics at the Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College, Ashland. He will complete the course this spring at which time he will advance to a full-time schedule with GLIFWC. Lee is a member of the Bad River Band of Chippewa and is graduate of Breckenridge High School, Breckenridge, Minnesota.

To date Lee's work has largely involved fixing computer problems encountered at the main office. However, he has also worked in developing GLIFWC's new web homepage which makes information about GLIFWC accessible on the World-wide Web.



Kory Groetsch
Environmental Biologist

Kory Groetsch joined the Biological Service Division in August as a full-time, temporary environmental biologist. Kory is working on environmental projects specific to a one-year Coastal Environmental Management (CEM) grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). His position is focusing on issues related to the Binational Program's LaMP Committee and the impacts of mining.

Kory arrived at GLIFWC from Jupiter, Florida where he was employed as an environmental consultant in aquatic toxicology. He graduated from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio with a Master of Science Degree in zoology and an emphasis in aquatic toxicology. He is a native of Stoddard, Wisconsin, so is not totally unfamiliar with life in the north.

Kory, his wife Debbie, and their 21/2 year old son John live in Ashland. Outside of work, Kory enjoys racquetball, softball, jogging and reading in rare spare moments.



Charles Otto Rasmussen
Writer/Photographer

Charles (Charlie) Rasmussen joined the Public Information Office staff in November as a writer and photographer. Charlie recently graduated from the University of Wisconsin—Eau Claire with a Master of Arts in American history.

He worked two years as a graduate research assistant under Dr. Ronald Satz, researching and inventorying historical documents related to Great Lakes Ojibwe and documenting recent Ojibwe treaty issues.

His masters thesis was a historical account of the Sylvania Wilderness in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. He has also worked as a freelance writer and photographer for outdoor publications.

At GLIFWC Charlie is working on drafting a publication relating to the history of the Chippewa Flowage and providing stories and photos for publications such as the Masinaigan and treaty rights booklets produced by the Public Information Office.

Charlie and his wife Melissa live in Ashland and are expecting their first baby this spring. Charlie is an outdoor enthusiast and enjoys hunting deer and small game.



Joe Dan Rose
Inland Fisheries Section Ldr.

A familiar face to GLIFWC became part the Biological Services Division staff in October. Joe Dan Rose, formerly the fisheries specialist with the Bad River band, is the Inland Fisheries Section Leader for Biological Services. Joe Dan just had to walk upstairs to the 2nd floor of the Bad River tribal administration building to change jobs. As a Voigt Task Force representative for the Bad River band from 1989 to 1997, Joe Dan is a veteran of the Chippewa treaty rights battles in Wisconsin.

Joe Dan received his Bachelor of Science Degree in biology from Northland College and in his former capacity as fisheries specialist with Bad River has worked extensively with inland and Lake Superior fisheries issues in both the technical and political arenas for twelve years.

Since joining staff, Joe Dan has been familiarizing himself with the inland lakes program and focusing on getting the biological monitoring system for the Minnesota 1837 treaty fishery in place.

Joe Dan is also a former member of the Bad River Tribal Council. He and his wife Jackie live on the Bad River reservation and are active participants in the community. Joe Dan was recently recognized by the NAFWS for his professional contributions to Native science and resource management. He was presented the Bill Eger Tribal Biologist of the Year Award.

'S' word continued

(Continued from page 16)

The staff at HONOR is with you. We are currently taking the issue to heart and are hoping to produce a pamphlet to distribute. Your financial support of this project will assist HONOR with this issue. Awareness is key. People tend to act, acting with conscience when they are aware.

Contact: US Board on Geographic Names, Domestic Names Committee, Domestic Geographic Names, US Geological Survey, 523 National Center, Reston, Virginia 22092

What does it really mean?

At least three Native languages have words with a similarity to the pronunciation of the word "squaw," all of them are considered offensive. Several linguistic specialists agree that the term is a derogatory term for Indian women. To express this word out loud is unacceptable, and demeaning to Native women. To use this word devalues the whole culture, race and principles of Native people, where Native women are held in such high regard as the bearers of life.

The origin of this term is believed by many to have been derived from the French corruption of an Iroquois word "otsiskwa" meaning vagina or female genitals.

"In the Mohawk language the similar word 'ge-squaw' means a female reproductive organ and is very offensive" according to Tom Porter, Chief of the Mohawk Nation.

Dr. Bea Medicine, (Hunkpapa-Lakota) and professor of Anthropology, said she found in her research that the term comes from the Algonquian languages. In an April 1993 editorial appearing in Indian Country Today, Dr. Medicine adds "It is a very derogatory term for Indian women. Native women as a whole resent it terribly. It's a reference to an anatomical part of a woman. There is a whole connotation there."

An alternative source of reference is, Jamie Sam's "Sacred Path Cards" in which she identifies the term as originating from a word screamed by native women when they were being raped and translated as "No Penis"! Therefore, to refer to a native woman by this term would be to call her a penis and cause tremendous offense.

Not only women have been subjected to this offensive expression, men living with or marrying native women were commonly referred to as "squaw men," consequently proliferating and de-sensitizing people to this derogatory phrase.

GLIFWC hits the World Wide Web

<http://www.win.bright.net/~glifwcis/>

GLIFWC's home page currently includes the following information:

- What is GLIFWC?
- GLIFWC staff directory
- Price list for educational materials by GLIFWC
- Youth publications
- A listing of scientific Administrative Reports
- Links to other sites providing information on treaty rights and natural resources of the Great Lakes



Ethnobotanical Thoughts

The choice between deer and cedar: Can't we have both?

By Dr. James Meeker
Associate Professor, Northland College

Entering the fourth week of November in Wisconsin things are fairly predictable. Football fans must decide whether or not watch the Packers or hunt. Turkeys get nervous. Down "south" in corn country the orange armies conduct their drives through the isolated woodcuts guiding the well fed deer to their freezers. In Madison (perhaps in other large cities too), animal rights performers dress up like deer (antlers and all) and drive around the downtown with orange clad hunter-mannequins strapped down to their trunks and hoods.

Up north here, both hunters and deer (and perhaps animal rights folks) are in slightly lower supply. We get our exposure to this hunting "discussion" from talk radio. In this radio format the hunters and the animal rights people both claim the moral high ground, depicting the other side as a bunch of crazies.

Animal rightists paint for us a picture of the slob hunter, cruising the landscape in a decked out ATV (like Arnie) with a gun in one hand and a bud (no wissy import) in the other. Avid hunters, for their part, suggest that to not take one's own meat is irresponsible. They paint for us a picture of "airy-fairy" group of humanity that live primarily on air, herbal tea and tofu, with their heads in the clouds, perhaps waiting for the next comet. Can you tell that I am frustrated with this debate?

How many times in the last several years have you heard any discussion of the legitimate debate revolving around deer management and healthy habitat? How many deer can be supported on a landscape and still allow all of nature's creation to thrive? These questions take the focus away from the hunting/non-hunting debate (i.e. arguing whether or not Aldo Leopold would still be hunting if he were alive today, or some such nonsense!). Somehow, we've come to believe deer are managed solely by increasing or decreasing the goals, without suggesting that the way we manage the land is the over-riding factor. We need to begin monitoring the health of the ecosystem, not just deer numbers.

To show how far we still have to come in this regard, I passed a billboard on my way to Ashland inviting me to join Deer Unlimited, apparently a group dedicated to assuring hunter success. My problem with this group is in the title, "unlimited", which, to me, shows a complete lack of ecological understanding. There are limits to all of our activities. How can anything be unlimited?

Imagine if we were to continue to go in this direction, providing a deer behind every bush. We would have woodlots as deer yards, with winter thermal cover provided by large shelters (such as the ginseng growers use) dotting the landscape, replacing the locally extinct evergreens. We would have to artificially feed these unlimited herds, especially during severe winters.

Does this seem far-fetched? Remember last winter in Minnesota when the wildlife biologists recommended that no artificial feeding program be initiated? They were over ridden by the political forces pandering to votes (perhaps lobbied from organizations like



Dr. James Meeker

Deer Unlimited). On the other hand, there are many examples of public pressure from the other side that are just as short-sighted. In forest preserves throughout the country, public officials are kept from shooting surplus deer in high density areas, a cost effective measure. Instead, they are forced to transport surplus deer (at a cost of \$500 per deer), to other areas, only to have them live several more months before being hit by a car.

You might be asking, how does a plant ecologist charged in this column to write about native uses of plants, get so far afield? My breaking point was two years ago, during the tail end of winter when deer are the most vulnerable. I saw several 80-100 year old white cedars severed by near sighted individuals looking out for the interests of deer.

Although anyone seeing starving deer can feel for these creatures, what does this activity accomplish? It perhaps allows deer to live, what, an extra 3-5 days? How is that site going to provide winter cover for the deer of the future? What about our children and grandchildren? Are they relegated to hunting feed lot deer? Trees will grow, you might answer. Well, show me places on the landscape where young cedar are taking their place!

Remember, cedar must make it past the snow line, through the 4-5 feet of susceptible growth stage, before it is unaffected by deer. This stage may take 15-30 years. Have we had any time in the past several decades when the deer count was down to an acceptable number for these forests to regenerate?

Keep in mind that I have presented just the most commonly held concern land managers have on the interaction between deer and the landscape. This view suggests that the winter browse period is the critical time for woody conifers. This is also when deer numbers are at their annual low, just after the hunt.

However, we shouldn't forget about the mid-summer effects that deer have on the landscape, at a time when deer numbers are twice their goals (with the birth of fawns). We have no idea how high deer numbers may be influencing the survival of herbaceous plants. In a number of areas I have seen species of woodlands plants where more than 75% of all the flowering stalks have been eaten by deer.

So, all deer management issues don't relate to merely a discussion of hunting. If we continue to manage for a landscape dominated by forever young, aspen forests, deer densities near these areas will be great. We will continue to proceed in the direction of woodlots as deer yards. I resent having to choose between deer and cedar. We can have both. To achieve this, we have to discard any ideas of "unlimited" resources as an ecologically bankrupt concepts, whether it be deer, trout, or grouse.

All management is a balancing act. If we are going to manage some areas for maximum aspen, hence deer and grouse, then additionally we need to manage other areas for conifers, including cedar, hemlock and Canadian yew. Let us begin this real debate, and more importantly decide how we can monitor for the effects of deer on the landscape. Next semester here at Northland College, we will begin to design such a plan for our region. If you would like to discuss these ideas, get in touch.

MASINAIGAN STAFF: (Pronounced MUZ IN IAY GIN)



Susan Erickson Editor
Lynn Plucinski Assistant Editor
Charlie Otto Rasmussen Writer/Photographer

MASINAIGAN (Talking Paper) is a quarterly publication of the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission, which represents eleven Chippewa tribes in Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. GLIFWC's member tribes are listed to the right.

Subscriptions to the paper are free. Write: MASINAIGAN, P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861, phone (715) 682-6619, or e-mail: pio@win.bright.net. Please be sure and keep us informed if you are planning to move or have recently moved so we can keep our mailing list up to date.

MASINAIGAN reserves the right to edit any letters or materials contributed for publication as well as the right to refuse to print submissions at the discretion of the editor.

Letters to the editor and guest editorials are welcomed by MASINAIGAN. We like to hear from our readership. The right to edit or refuse to print, however, is maintained. All letters to the editor should be within a 300 word limit. Letters to the editor or submitted editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinion of GLIFWC.

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