

Masinaigan

A Chronicle of the Lake Superior Ojibwe

State trapping jeopardizes fisher population Tribes recommend stricter controls

By Sue Erickson & Jim Zorn
GLIFWC Staff

Odanah, Wis.—State fisher harvest levels are jeopardizing the fisher population in Wisconsin and tribal harvest opportunity, according to James Schlender, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) executive administrator.

Calling the 1997 state-licensed harvest excess of 1,687 fisher over quota "unconscionable and unacceptable," Schlender said the state must adopt stronger regulatory measures to allow the fisher population to recover and a harvest that can meet tribal needs.

Schlender voiced the concerns of the Voigt Intertribal Task Force (VITF) in a July 22nd letter to Steve Miller, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) Lands Division leader.

During the 1997 season, state-licensed trappers exceeded their fisher quota in all four management zones, taking nearly 40% of the fisher population. The total harvestable surplus available to state and tribal trappers was 1,850 fisher. The total harvest was 3,663. Of that, the tribal harvest was 226.

As a result of the excessive harvest by state trappers, the fisher population estimate dropped below the population goal of 9,000 fisher. Biologists took

responsible action by reducing harvest quotas in the 1998 season for both state-licensed and tribal trappers.

Zone A, where the state-licensed harvest exceeded biological quotas significantly in both 1996 and 1997, is of special concern because the zone's population was low initially, said Jonathan Gilbert, GLIFWC Wildlife Section leader. Zone A has also been a popular zone for tribal trappers.

The 1997 tribal off-reservation season in Zone A was closed after the first five weeks of a five month season because the tribes had reached their quota of a 100 fisher in the zone, Gilbert says. Had the tribal season remained open, Gilbert speculates that the tribes could have taken approximately 200 fisher from Zone A.

In his letter, Schlender said that the tribes should have the opportunity in 1998 to "meet their demonstrated need at a level closer to where the 1998 quota would have been," had the state been able to control state-licensed trapping season.

Tribal trappers are facing reduced harvests in all zones as a direct result of state quota overharvest. The tribes have declared 160 fisher in Zone A, based on demonstrated tribal need and the capacity to harvest.

Schlender said that the reduction in fisher population will probably lower tribal harvest success rates in other zones

during the 1998 season and may result in lower tribal harvests.

A major concern of the VITF is prevention of further harvest in excess of biological quotas. "The state has failed to demonstrate that they can adequately control the harvest of fisher by using a quota system, permits and success rates," Gilbert said. "We saw this in 1996 when the state took 60% more than their quota in Zone A."

The tribes voiced their concern to the WDNR in 1996 regarding management of the state-licensed fisher harvest. The state responded with assurance that a better job would be done determining state trappers' success rate in 1997.

However, the 1997 season did not get better, it got worse, Gilbert said. The quota wasn't just exceeded in Zone A, but in all four zones.

As a result, the tribes again expressed their concern to the WDNR, and again they have been told the state's management will improve in 1998. However, Gilbert worries that the margin for error has become small, and the situation for the fisher population is much more critical than in the past.

GLIFWC will be making several technical recommendations to improve state management of fishers, Schlender said in his letter. Recommendations will address population estimate techniques, documentation of unregistered kill, determination of population density, and research on fisher reproduction.

The goal is to protect the fisher population and provide a managed harvest opportunity. "It does absolutely no good to have conservative quotas only to have them drastically exceeded again," Schlender said.



GLIFWC Deputy Administrator Gerry DePerry harvests blueberries in a northern Wisconsin meadow. See *Blueberry Moon*, page 23. (Photo by C.O. Rasmussen)

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Tribes prepare for Supreme Court review of 1837 Treaty right issues

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—Tribal attorneys from potentially affected Ojibwe bands and Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) legal staff are once again busy preparing for continued litigation on 1837 Treaty issues in Minnesota.

This time they will be going before the U.S. Supreme Court which recently announced its intention to review an appeal from the State of Minnesota on the 8th Circuit Court's decision in *Mille Lacs Band v. State of Minnesota*.

Initial briefs for the case are due on August 6th from the State and response briefs from the United States and the Tribes are due 30-45 days after that.

The Minnesota 1837 Treaty case affects only the Minnesota portion of the ceded territory. The case involves not only the Mille Lacs band in Minnesota, but also the Fond du Lac band and six Wisconsin Ojibwe bands who were also signatory to the 1837 Treaty. The Wisconsin bands are the Bad River, Red Cliff, St. Croix, Lac Courte Oreilles, Lac du Flambeau, and Sokaogon (Mole Lake) bands of Ojibwe.

The decision to review the case does not mean the Supreme Court overturned any lower court decision nor does it signal how the Court will ultimately decide, according to GLIFWC Policy Analyst James Zorn.

"The decisions in both the Mille Lacs case and the Voigt case remain in force, were decided upon well-established principles of law, and they accu-

ately reflect the historical circumstances and understandings surrounding the 1837 Treaty," he said.

The Court's review will address three specific issues presented by Minnesota, including: 1) the 1850 Removal Order; 2) the 1855 Treaty; and 3) the Equal Footing Doctrine.

The Equal Footing Doctrine question asks the Court to consider whether treaty rights to hunt and fish on ceded lands are extinguished when a state assumes statehood on an equal footing with the original thirteen states.

The 1855 Treaty issue refers to language in the 1855 Treaty which the State believes abrogates reserved hunting and fishing rights in previous treaties. The 1855 Treaty issue affects only the Mille Lacs band in the Mille Lacs case because Mille Lacs was the only

signatory to the 1855 Treaty.

The 1850 Removal Order issue asks the Court to consider if President Zachary Taylor legally revoked the bands' hunting and fishing through the 1850 Removal Order.

Appeals were also submitted to the Supreme Court by the landowners and the counties, also party to the Mille Lacs case. However, the Court has not responded to those appeals to date.

Zorn expects oral arguments to be heard by the Supreme Court during the fall session this year, with a decision possible early in 1999.

Meanwhile, the bands continue to exercise their 1837 Treaty rights in the Minnesota ceded territory and related resource management activities, such as lake assessments and enforcement, continue on a "business as usual" basis.

Summer surveys track fish populations in eastern Minnesota

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen
Staff Writer

Mille Lacs, Minn.—As part of a joint effort with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), a GLIFWC fishery crew recently surveyed lakes in Aitkin, Pine, and Sherburne Counties. Select lakes are studied on a four to five year rotation established by the MDNR to determine trends in the fish population.

GLIFWC conducted surveys on three 1837 ceded territory waters, while the MDNR studied an additional ten lakes this summer. Using coordinates provided by the state agency, the GLIFWC crew situated nets at the same location that the MDNR had in 1994.

Nets were set in the evening and pulled the following morning, allowing GLIFWC staff to identify and measure each fish.

Inland Fisheries Biologist Carl Reese explained that both fyke and gill nets are utilized in Minnesota surveys. Fyke or trap nets are used primarily to catch juvenile fish in shallow water near shore. Deep-water surveys that target large walleye and northern pike require gill nets which cover a wider area.

The use of gill nets often results in the loss of some fish. Reese said that all live fish are returned to the lake and the rest are distributed to tribal elders in the Mille Lacs and Lake Lena Indian communities.

"Considering how often this survey is done, it's not damaging fish populations," Reese said. "It's nice we can get our fish to people who really appreciate it."

Nevertheless, some vandals were apparently vexed by the survey methods and cut through several nets to free fish. Another net was dragged more than fifty yards from its original position.

In order to get a more comprehensive understanding of walleye populations,



Summer lake assessments give fisheries managers a good profile of fish populations. Above, GLIFWC Inland Fisheries Biologist Carl Reese, center, and Fisheries Aide John Mojica remove a white sucker from a survey net on Big Pine Lake, Minnesota while Mitch Soulier records the catch. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

GLIFWC researchers will return to these same lakes this fall to conduct walleye recruitment surveys. Unlike the summer assessment which includes all variety of fish, the fall survey is conducted with electrofishing boats and focuses on young, three to six inch walleye.

After all the data is collected the state and tribal agencies will pool their findings, giving fish managers a better understanding of the Minnesota ceded territory fishery.

The fate of ma'iingan debated once again

USFWS proposes de-listing and down-listing from "endangered"

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Forest Lake, Minn.—With populations on the rise in the Great Lakes region, ma'iingan, wolf, has once again become a controversial figure.

The recent announcement by Secretary Bruce Babbitt, U.S. Department of Interior that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) will be proposing to remove the gray wolf from the endangered species list in the Great Lakes region and down-list it to a threatened status in two other regions, brings ma'iingan center stage for an upcoming debate.

At a June press conference held at the Wildlife Science Center, near Forest Lake, Minn., Babbitt said he views the growing number of wolves in the Great Lakes region as indicative that the Endangered Species Act (ESA) works. "Perpetual protection is not the goal; seeing species reach the point that they can survive in the wild on their own, is," he said.

USFWS Director Jamie Rappaport Clark said that a formal proposal to de-list the gray wolf in the Great Lakes region and reclassify other populations in the northwest and northeast as threatened will be published in the Federal Register this winter. Following that, the proposal will be open for a lengthy period of public comment.

The Great Lakes region currently has an estimated 2,500 gray wolves, with about 2,200 in Minnesota alone; 180 in Wisconsin; and 140 in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Babbitt believes these figures indicate that ESA recovery goals have been met.

If the wolf is removed from federal protection in the Great Lakes region, the management of wolf populations will fall on the tribes and states. The decision to de-list the wolf will not occur until states provide management plans, and changes are not likely to occur prior to 1999, Clark said.

In Minnesota, a wolf management plan is in the process of being developed through a Wolf Roundtable, composed of 32 representatives with varying affiliations and opinions.

In Wisconsin the Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) has been working with a citizen's committee for two years to develop a management plan for Wisconsin wolves and has conducted eight public hearings regarding a draft management plan.

Speaking at the June press conference, GLIFWC Executive Administrator James Schlender noted the significance of ma'iingan to Ojibwe people (see story).

Although tribes have not announced a formal position on wolf management, Schlender said that GLIFWC wildlife biologists have been involved with wolf management committees in all three states and with the Federal Wolf Recovery Team. Tribal input into the decision-making process will continue to occur (See The fate of ma'iingan, page 13)



GLIFWC Executive Administrator James Schlender talked about the significance of ma'iingan, wolf, to the Anishinaabe people as part of his presentation during a USFWS press conference on the proposal to remove the wolf from the endangered list in the Great Lakes region and reclassify to threatened in two other regions. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

The fates of Anishinaabe and ma'iingan intertwined

(Editor's note: The following is excerpted from a presentation by GLIFWC Executive Director James Schlender, June 29, 1998 at the USFWS press conference on the proposed delisting and reclassification of ma'iingan.)

In Anishinaabemowin, our native language, we refer to the wolf as Ma'iingan. In our culture, the wolf is regarded as a brother, a clan symbol and a partner.

In our stories, we are told that Ma'iingan and the Anishinaabe were to travel their paths together for our fates were intertwined. Sadly, our paths parted, and the populations of both ma'iingan and Anishinaabe declined.

Today, the Anishinaabe populations are on the rise. So, too, are the wolves. Curiously, both rises are the products of changed federal policies.

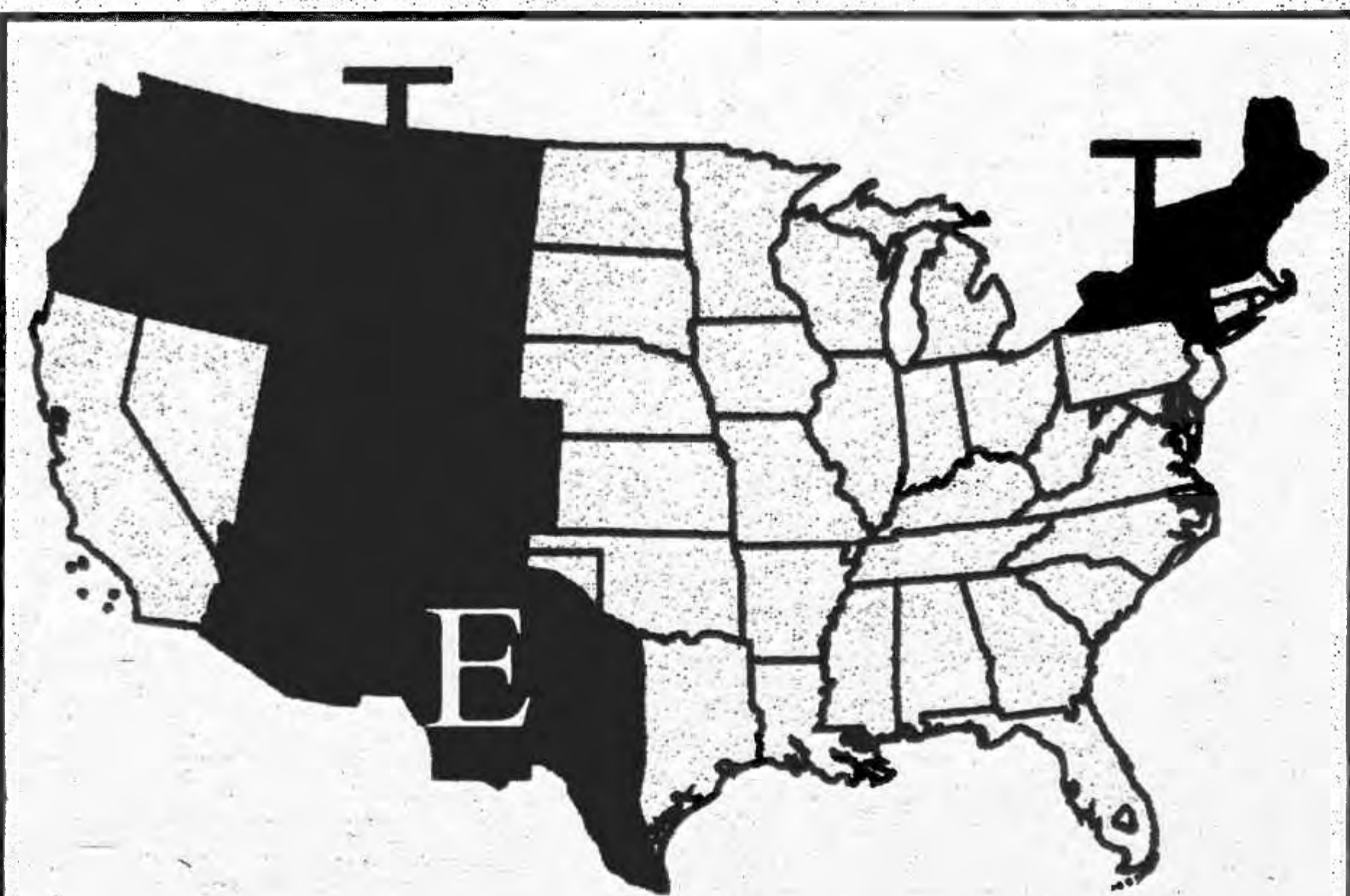
Tribes and wolf packs had to look squarely into the eyes of extermination.

Some did not survive. Misguided policies of "extermination," "removal," and "termination" have been replaced by laws created from ideas of justice and humanity.

Self-determination is at the core of tribal government and provides the vehicle for co-management of natural resources. The tribes' intertribal, off-reservation management efforts are a direct result of Public Law 93-638, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act. These laws were a product of the same Congress that passed the Endangered Species Act.

GLIFWC, through a combined effort of staff biologists and tribal leaders, have participated on three state wolf committees and on the Federal Wolf Recovery Team.

The Endangered Species Act of 1973, and the more recent 1997 Secretarial Order #3206, are examples of (See The significance, page 13)



The above map illustrates the levels of federal protection if the new proposal for de-listing and/or reclassifying the wolf is passed. T = regions to be reclassified from E (endangered) to T (threatened); E = region remains classified as endangered; Others = no federal protection under the Endangered Species Act. (Map courtesy of the USFWS)

Hunting bill: A congressional circus act

By Billy Frank, Jr.
NWIFC Chairman

Olympia, Wash.—“The Deer and Elk Protection Act,” HR 3987, recently proposed by U.S. Rep. Linda Smith is an obvious effort to build political momentum on the backs of tribal members. Once again, hypocrisy echoes in the halls of the capitol big top.

The truth is trampled upon like sawdust underfoot and the act is performed in center ring, starring the Third District congresswoman who would be senator.

The bill, referred to the U.S. House Committee on Resources, actually might not even get a hearing. But the very fact that it has been introduced speaks volumes about the priority assigned to such concepts as truth and justice where politics is concerned.

The tribal hunt comprises about five percent of the total legal hunt in the state of Washington. It is overwhelmingly outnumbered by the state-sanctioned sports hunt, let alone the massive non-tribal poaching problem. But perhaps the most hypocritical omission

from this bill is the enormous impact that habitat loss has on deer and elk resources, i.e., poor logging practices and conversion of natural areas to subdivisions.

When tribes entered into treaties with the federal government, they gave up millions of acres of land for settlement. But we kept the right to hunt on ‘open and unclaimed’ lands throughout the region, as well as the right to fish, harvest shellfish and gather traditional plants.

Each treaty tribe, as a sovereign government, develops its own hunting regulations governing tribal members. Seasons are set based on the needs of our people and the ability of the resource to support harvest.

If a tribal hunter is found in violation of tribal regulations, he is cited into tribal court. Penalties can include fines and loss of hunting privileges, and our enforcement is exemplary.

Tribal members do not hunt for “sport,” but rather to meet ceremonial and sustenance needs. Deer and elk are elements of feasts that are part of traditional tribal ceremonies. Tribal members also depend on deer and elk for

food throughout the year.

Unemployment is high on many reservations, which means deer and elk provide important nutrition to many families, just as they have for thousands of years.

The tribes and state Department of Fish and Wildlife work closely to share information and discuss management and enforcement needs. Tribes also conduct and participate in a variety of cooperative efforts, such as population surveys and habitat enhancement projects, that aid wildlife management in the state.

The proposed bill does nothing to help the resource. It does not protect habitat. It does not encourage cooperation to address the many needs of our wildlife resources. It only serves to di-

vide people and make the job of managing these resources more difficult. It also increases the likelihood that we will have to resolve these issues in federal court.

Congresswoman Smith says the bill is aimed at protecting and conserving deer and elk in the state by requiring treaty tribal hunters to follow state regulations while hunting off-reservation.

In truth, HR 3987 is just another attempt to rewrite the treaties to accommodate the greed of a few non-Indians. It imposes a federal solution, when no problem exists.

(Editor's note: As chairman of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission (NWIFC), Billy Frank is the spokesman for 20 western Washington treaty Indian tribes.)

Omaashkooz, elk, returns to Wisconsin successfully

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Clam Lake, Wis.—Residing in the heart of Wisconsin's northwoods is a small, but growing herd of elk, a species once native to the state. The original herd of 25 is now estimated to be around 45 in number.

However, their residence in Wisconsin is on a “probationary” basis, with a determination from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) expected in 2000.

Bernie Lemon, Wisconsin state chairman of the National Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and Elk Wisconsin, is enthusiastic about the success experienced with the reintroduction project.

“We know we have been successful because we have accomplished our goals and more, but we have a five year window to perform under the state permit. Following five years, around January 2000, the WDNR will determine if we go forward or not.”

Lemon believes the success of the project is more than just good luck and hard work. He believes it is a miracle and thanks the Anishinaabe people who welcomed the elk home with spiritual ceremonies. “The Spirits are here with us,” Lemon said. “Those blessings are making this successful.”

Researchers and elk supporters have been carefully monitoring the herd which involuntarily took up Wisconsin residency when eighteen cows and seven bulls from Michigan were reintroduced near Clam Lake, Wis. in May 1995.

Summer 1997 witnessed the birth of eight or nine calves, according to Ray Anderson, director of the elk re-introduction project. Several of those calves have been radio-tagged. One died as a result of bear predation, and one from unknown causes.

In 1998 the herd contained 17-18 eligible cows in good calving condition and produced 14 calves, eight of which were radio-tagged. To date one calf has died from bear predation and another died of unknown causes, Anderson said.



Key players in the Wisconsin Elk Reintroduction Project pose in front of the new sign welcoming the elk back to the Chequamegon National Forest. Pictured above, from the left, Mich. DNR repr. sentative Gary Bouschelle; volunteer leaders Bernie Lemon and Bill Hunyadi; Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation President and CEO Bob Munson; State Representative Barb Linton; WDNR Secretary George Meyer; past State Senator Joe Strohl; USFWS Chief Mike Dombeck; and USFWS District Ranger, John Vrabec. (Photo by Drew Danner)

Of the original herd, two males and two females have died. One cow was shot by a deer hunter in 1995. One bull died in June 1995 due to stress from trapping/relocation. A second young bull died in March 1996 due to winter stress and liver flukes, and a young cow died in October 1996 due to anemia and unknown causes.

The herd is monitored on a daily basis year around under the supervision Anderson, who is stationed at Clam Lake. Researchers use radio-tagging (ear tags and collars) and telemetry to track the herd. If signals cease, the likelihood is strong that an elk has died.

Much of the herd has remained near and around the original release site at Clam Lake, but some have roamed eastward near Butternut, Wis. and others westward near Spider Lake.

Lemon also sits on the elk project's advisory committee, which has representatives from the U.S. Forest Service, UW-Stevens Point, the WDNR, and the Wisconsin Elk Foundation.

Lemon is enthusiastic about the public support received for the project and especially about the tribal participation and involvement.

The Wisconsin Elk Foundation has raised funds to finance the project and has been able to meet the needs to date. Lemon is encouraged by the stories related to him by those who have sighted elk in the forest. People are elated, he said, and experience a “thrill of a lifetime.”

For Lemon to see the elk, to hear their bugle is “a gift,” one which he hopes his grandchildren will also enjoy as a result of people “taking Mother Nature's hand.”

Fall flight forecast mixed

By Peter David
GLIFWC Wildlife Biologist

Odanah, Wis.—As tribal members prepare for another fall waterfowl season, the forecasts coming off the major breeding grounds are mixed. In the prairie pothole region of the U.S. and Canada, where most of North America's waterfowl nest, things are generally, well, ducky.

Back in May, as the ducks were settling in from their northward migration they found the potholes looking much drier than they had been the year before, and the number of ducks breeding declined about 9% from 1997, according to preliminary data collected by U.S. and Canadian biologists.

Despite the decline however, the breeding effort remained about 20% higher than the average level observed over the last 40+ years. And by the time broods were hatching, unusual late spring/early summer precipitation had improved conditions significantly for brood rearing.

The preliminary estimate for the total-duck fall-flight index is 84 million birds, down from 92 million a year ago, but still a very good year for ducks.

News from the northern breeding grounds of Canada geese, however, presents a totally different picture. The most important population of Canada geese for tribal harvest in the ceded territories is the Mississippi Valley Population (MVP). MVP geese nest in northern Ontario, especially along the lowlands associated with James Bay and Hudson bay.

They migrate primarily through Wisconsin and western Michigan towards southern Illinois. Spring population estimates for the MVP flock showed a marked decline from 1997, falling approximately 40% to approximately 444,000 birds.

It is a decline that biologists are not sure is fully real, and it reflects the challenges biologists face in managing these populations. Prior to 1989, this population of geese was counted on the wintering grounds.

But MVP geese mix with birds from other populations on the wintering grounds, including "Giant" Canada geese—whose populations are expanding rapidly in the portions of southern Canada and the US where they nest. This led biologists to shift their efforts to count geese on the breeding grounds, where relatively little population mixing takes place.

However, the breeding grounds are remote and cover a vast area; only a small percentage of the breeding grounds can be intensively surveyed. Surveys are carefully designed to help ensure that the areas being checked are representative samples, but the surveys still yield population estimates which have broad "confidence intervals."

Statistically speaking, the spring population estimate for 1998 is 444,048 +/- 80,950 geese. This means we are not sure exactly what the population levels is, but there is a 9.5% chance that the population is somewhere between 363,098 and 524,998 geese.

Typically, biologists assume the population is near the midpoint of 444,048, and set harvest objectives accordingly, but in reality it may be higher or lower. For 1998, biologists are confident that the population declined from 1997, but many wonder if the decline is as large as the population estimate suggests.

Harvest objectives last year were set to encourage the population to expand, not decline. Harvest control is another challenge to biologists. However, and the estimated harvest (which is again estimated, not precisely measured) was nearly 30% above the objectives which were set.

Nevertheless the level of over harvest, about 57,000 birds, fails to account for the level of decline that was estimated for the spring population, which declined by about 290,000 between years.

There are a host of possible explanations. It is possible that last year's estimate was too high; an error that would be compounded by over harvest. It is also possible that the 1998 estimate is too low.

It may also be that our harvest estimates are too low, and perhaps have been for several years.

Biologists also noted that the nesting effort was the earliest on record in 1998. Birds that are usually only partly way into nesting most years were near hatching in 1998.

At this time the adults become very secretive, and are much more difficult than usual to observe; they may have simply been missed in the survey.

In the middle of all this uncertainty, biologists must make decisions about harvest quotas for this fall. This uncertainty is pushing biologists to be conservative.

Although many feel the spring estimate is low, and production this summer is anticipated to be above average, biologists would like to see this population rebound next year.

They are also being conservative because they know the chance of harvests exceeding the objectives is increased when populations are lower. (See proposed regulations, page 7)

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 August through October 1998 are as follows:

Wisconsin 1837, 1842 Treaty ceded territory

- Waterfowl hunting
- Wild plant gathering
- Wild ricing
- Deer/Bear hunting
- Trapping
- Small game hunting, seasons vary by species
- Firewood and balsam bough gathering in national forests
- Netting
- Hook and line fishing

Minnesota 1837 Treaty ceded territory

- Waterfowl hunting
- Wild plant gathering
- Wild ricing
- Deer/Bear hunting
- Small game hunting, seasons vary by species
- Trapping
- Netting
- Hook and line fishing

Michigan 1836 Treaty ceded territory

- Waterfowl hunting
- Wild plant gathering
- Wild ricing
- Deer/Bear hunting
- Small game hunting, seasons vary by species
- Trapping
- Netting
- Hook and line fishing
- Firewood and balsam bough gathering in national forests

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



Nandawishibe (hunt ducks). (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

The ricing moon approaches

'98 crop good overall, but down from '97

By Peter David
GLIFWC Wildlife Biologist

Odanah, Wis.—In the heat of July it is a bit hard to imagine that ricing season is looming right around the corner. But the season is rapidly approaching, and if blueberries and other wild crops are any indication, the beds could be ready to harvest 10 days to two weeks early.

In fact, GLIFWC summer wild rice interns were amazed to see rice grains filling out on one body of water in mid-July, well ahead of normal.

The interns, Brian Johnson and Valena Hofman, have been busy visiting rice beds to monitor rice abundance since the rice plants first began emerging from the floating leaf stage. At each site, they estimate the acreage of the rice beds, and measure their density. Before the summer is over, they will have visited over 40 waters as part of an annual survey.

Additional rice waters were surveyed from the air in mid-July. The rice abundance information gathered from these surveys will be summarized, and made available to people interested in

ricing off-reservation. Although it is impossible to be sure that a rice bed will provide a good harvest before the cedar meets the stalks, this abundance information can help direct ricers to the stands with the best potential and hopefully prevent long trips to beds that were unproductive this year.

Preliminary indications are that Wisconsin's 1998 rice crop will be below 1997's but still above the average compared to the past decade. A relatively dry winter and spring resulted in fairly low water levels, and above average spring sunshine and temperatures warmed these shallow waters and encouraged the early development of the plants.

Although growing conditions were good, some waters are down. Totogatic Lake in southern Bayfield County, had a bumper crop in 1997, and produced an estimated 28% of the off-reservation harvest in the state.

This year the beds are down markedly, and though some good harvesting should still be provided, the total harvest will be greatly reduced.

Final information on rice abundance on many area waters, and harvesting regulations, can be picked up



Assisting with wild rice surveys, Brian Johnson, GLIFWC summer intern, carefully paddles through emerging stalks. (Photo by Hans Veenendaal)

when you obtain your off-reservation harvesting permit, or by contacting GLIFWC's Wildlife Section in Odanah at 715-682-6619.

Educational and restoration efforts underway

The interns and John Denomie, GLIFWC Wildlife Technician, have been busy posting the boat landings at various wild rice waters with informational signs.

These signs inform boaters that rice is present on that body water and ask them to use care when boating near the beds, especially while the rice is in the floating-leaf stage.

This is part of a two step educational effort. Next year property owners around selected rice waters will be given informational packets describing the ecological and cultural significance of rice.

Most people are appreciative of wild rice beds near their property, even if they don't harvest, they enjoy the wildlife that the rice beds support. However, every year we notice a few locations where rice has been removed, or find new property owners who are unaware what this weed is that is growing in front of their cabin.

Hopefully, by giving these property owners more information on the value of this plant, they will develop a greater interest in preserving and protecting it.

GLIFWC will also continue its highly cooperative wild rice seeding program in 1998.

Partners in this effort have included GLIFWC's member tribes, the Wisconsin and Michigan Departments of (See Wild rice, page 11)

The role of rice chiefs

In Wisconsin, many of the better rice lakes are regulated as to which days they are open for harvesting. The authority to open these lakes is shared jointly by the state and tribes.

Each of the regulated lakes is assigned to a tribal rice chief from either the St Croix, Lac Courte Oreilles, Lac du Flambeau or Sokaogon Chippewa Tribes.

These assignments were based on traditional harvesting sites.

In theory, the tribal rice chief works with a WDNR representative, usually a warden, to make a joint decision about the opening of the lakes. In practice, the decision may be made jointly, or one party may agree to defer the decision to the other on particular lakes.

In any circumstances, the lake must be posted at the boat landings, and both parties must be aware of the decision to open a lake at least 24 hours in advance of its actual opening.

At unregulated waters, the harvesters may rice whenever it is ripe. However, all other regulations, such as length of boat, length of ricing sticks, ricing hours, etc., still apply.

These regulations are part of state and tribal harvesting codes and cannot be altered by the Rice Chiefs on off-reservation waters.



In an attempt to save wild rice beds from disruption by boats and motors, signs have been posted on boat landings of lakes where wild rice is growing. (Photo by Hans Veenendaal)

U.S. Forest Service moves to protect Wisconsin goshawk

By Hans Veenendaal
HONOR Intern

Odanah, Wis.—The U.S. Forest Service took action this spring to protect the rare goshawk in the Chequamegon National Forest. On May 19, Lynn Roberts, Forest Supervisor announced "a Forest Closure Order on the legal take of eyas goshawks (nestlings) by falconers on the Chequamegon National Forest this year."

In a letter to GLIFWC Wildlife Biologist Peter David, Roberts states that the primary reason for her decision is the dramatic reduction of active goshawk territories on the Chequamegon: seven sites in 1997 down to two in 1998.

Lexington man sentenced for killing bald eagle

Kansas City, Mo.—Steve Hill, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced on June 30th that a Lexington man received the maximum federal sentence of one year in jail for killing an American bald eagle with a hunting rifle in November 1995.

Brian K. Young, 36, must surrender to the Bureau of Prison on July 27, 1998, to begin serving his jail sentence, under terms imposed on June 30th by Chief U.S. Magistrate Judge John T. Maughmer. Young must also spend one year under supervised release after he gets out of jail, the court ordered.

Young pleaded guilty to one count of shooting a bald eagle, a federal misdemeanor offense, in an appearance before Judge Maughmer on March 10, 1998, said Assistant U.S. Attorney Carla B. Oppenheimer, who prosecuted the case.

By pleading guilty, Young admitted that on November 15, 1995, near the Lexington Marina on the Missouri River, he used a .270-caliber deer rifle to shoot and kill the eagle.

An agent from the Missouri Department of Conservation found the bird's carcass floating in some debris near the marina on November 18, 1995, Oppenheimer said. A forensics examination by the National Fish and Wildlife Service showed that the bird, an immature female American bald eagle,

Information about active nesting sites is scarce, and what little data is available is often guarded among both researchers and falconers using goshawks in their sport. Efforts to combine data from the Wisconsin Falconers Association, the WDNR, and other groups are being made in order to gain a clearer picture of actual numbers and distribution.

According to Roberts, the one-year emergency closure will allow the Forest Service to gather more information on goshawks in order to determine whether further action is necessary.

David, however, doubts the moratorium will yield much additional information. Even if surveys showed double the number of known sites, he says, the resulting numbers would still



Migizi (bald eagle).

had been fatally wounded by a high velocity gunshot. The day before the eagle's carcass was found, the Conservation agent had received an anonymous tip that Young was responsible for killing the bird.

Questioned later, Young told investigators that he thought the bird was a buzzard because it had no white feathers on its head, Oppenheimer said.

The case was investigated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Missouri Department of Conservation.



suggest that any taking might be problematic. Only in unusual cases could nestlings still be gathered.

The possibility of a single nest site containing four or more young is an example of such a case, says David. In this situation, it would be unlikely that all nestlings will survive. Therefore, the removal of one or two young could be granted.

According to falconer Tom Doolittle, Bad River Natural Resources, goshawks are a popular bird in falconry—they have been used since the time of Mongol Empire. Eyas goshawks (the term eyas refers to the young birds of the year) are gathered straight from the nest or taken during their first fall migration. Goshawks can be productive for many years, even though, re-

marks Doolittle, they tend to become temperamental as they grow older.

For Doolittle, the goshawks' current situation in northern Wisconsin appears "dismal." After checking thirty-five possible locations for productive nests in the Chequamegon, Doolittle found none that would yield new birds this year.

Two active sites (sites showing recent use by goshawks) were found in the Chequamegon, but they had either been preyed upon or had failed for other reasons. For the first time this year, Doolittle reports finding dead eggs in a nesting site.

The decline of goshawks is not due to over-gathering by Wisconsin falconers, says Doolittle. In fact, there are only slightly more than one hundred falconers in the state, just five or six of which use goshawks. According to Doolittle, the hawks primarily are threatened by forest fragmentation, predation of nests, and competition with other species for food and nesting sites.

Participants in the goshawk issue have agreed to meet again in the fall to discuss the information compiled during the spring and summer. The Forest Service assures it will conduct government-to-government consultation with the tribes before any important decisions are made.

Proposed tribal waterfowl regulations

(Continued from page 5)

Proposed regulations

Because of their small harvest and corresponding biological impact, tribal off-reservation waterfowl hunting regulations have not varied significantly in recent years.

Regulations proposed to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are the same as last year. The season for ducks and geese would run from September 15 to December 1. In Wisconsin and the 1837 Treaty Area in Minnesota, the bag limit for ducks would be 20, with additional restrictions on mallards, black ducks, redheads, canvasbacks and pintails.

In Michigan, the bag would be 10, with corresponding species restrictions. The proposed bag limit for geese (all species combined) is 10 in all areas.

There will also likely be an early September goose season of 10 days in portions of Michigan, paralleling the state's early goose season.

State licensed hunters in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Michigan will likely have a 60 day duck season with a six bird daily bag limit, with several species restrictions. Goose harvest objectives will be markedly curtailed. Wisconsin and Michigan's proposed regulations, for example, are intended to decrease their harvest of MVP birds by about 45% from last year.

For copies of final, approved regulations for off-reservation hunting, contact GLIFWC at (715) 682-6619 or write to P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861 or your local tribal conservation department prior to the season.

Have a safe and successful hunt!

Honoring the warriors of the lost Ojibwe village, Pahquahwong

By **Charlie Otto Rasmussen**
Writer/Photographer

Lac Courte Oreilles, Wis.—As part of the annual Honor the Earth Powwow, Lac Courte Oreilles (LCO) hosted a day of commemoration on July 17 to mark the 1971 Winter Dam occupation and 75th anniversary of the Chippewa Flowage.

Nearly a dozen speakers were on hand at the Lac Courte Oreilles school to explain how the construction of the Winter Dam, which created the Chippewa Flowage in 1923, devastated the Ojibwe village Pahquahwong (Old Post), flooding homes, natural resources, and cemeteries despite impassioned protests from tribal members from 1912 to 1921.

Included among the orators were participants of the 1971 Winter Dam takeover who reflected on how their act of civil disobedience—directed at government policymakers—shaped the history of LCO and had ramifications throughout Indian country.

LCO members Eddie Benton, Marilyn Tribble, and Mike Tribble recounted their involvement in the Au-

gust 1971 event and explained how they sought to bring justice to their ancestors displaced by the flooding of Pahquahwong.

As a result of the three-day occupation by tribal members and American Indian Movement (AIM) supporters, state and federal leaders assisted LCO in their campaign to secure overdue compensation from Northern States Power Company for the flooding of Ojibwe lands. In addition, protesters forced lawmakers to address environmental concerns in regards to the management of the Chippewa Flowage.

Environmental advocate and White Earth Anishinabekwe Winona LaDuke delivered the keynote speech and encouraged tribal members to continue opposing the exploitation of northern woodlands.

LaDuke said that a long-range vision was necessary to achieve results in environmental protection, including the reacquisition of culturally important areas, like gravesites, back into tribal land holdings.

Photographer Dick Bancroft wrapped up events at the school with a narrated display of snapshots from the dam takeover.



American Indian Movement cofounder Vernon Bellecourt at the LCO school during the 1998 Honor the Earth Homecoming Celebration. Bellecourt and his brother Clyde, White Earth Anishinabe, participated in the 1971 Winter Dam occupation. (Photo by C.O. Rasmussen)



Lac Courte Oreilles Vice Chairman Mic Isham and Winona LaDuke, White Earth Anishinabekwe, were featured speakers at the environmental seminar held at the LCO school—part of the 1998 Honor the Earth Homecoming Celebration. (Photo by C.O. Rasmussen)

The Chippewa Flowage—more than a tourist destination

The 15,300-acre Chippewa Flowage engulfed approximately 6,000 acres of Ojibwe land and Lac Courte Oreilles' second largest village, Pahquahwong (pah-QUAY-wong), in 1923. Along with one of the regions most prolific wild rice beds, floodwaters inundated sugar-producing maple groves, hunting and trapping grounds, and cemeteries containing an estimated 700 Ojibwe graves.

LCO received little compensation for their losses, inspiring the three-day Winter Dam occupation in 1971. Fourteen years later, after lengthy negotiations with Northern States Power and federal officials, the tribe secured 4,500-acres of land adjoining the reservation along with a \$250,000 cash settlement.

Currently, the USDA-Forest Service, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and LCO Ojibwe are the largest Chippewa Flowage property holders. The collective agencies are drafting a management plan to protect the shoreline from further development and enhance the reservoir's wilderness character.



The Chippewa Flowage in northwest Wisconsin. Map by Jon Gilbert.

GLIFWC press presents *Where the River is Wide* an historical account of the flooding at Old Post

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—Hot off the press at GLIFWC is *Where the River is Wide: Pahquahwong and the Chippewa Flowage* by Charlie Otto Rasmussen, GLIFWC writer/photographer.

Rasmussen completed the historical account of events surrounding and following the flooding of Old Post, an Ojibwe community on Lac Courtes Oreilles reservation, in time for events commemorating the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Chippewa Flowage.

Celebrated today for its beauty and bountiful fishery, the Chippewa Flowage was founded in struggle. Beneath its dancing waves lie the remnants of homes, yards, gravesites, wild rice beds, and a once diverse ecosystem reluctantly and sadly left by families as the flood waters rose.

Rasmussen's highly readable and documented account of the Flowage's creation and the struggle of Old Post

residents continues through the take-over of the Winter Dam in 1971 and ultimately a negotiated settlement between Northern States Power (NSP) and the Lac Courtes Oreilles band in 1984.

Well illustrated with black and white photos, the seventy-two page book provides a look at historical events as they occurred, some which have been overlooked or forgotten as the region enjoys the benefits of the Chippewa Flowage as it is today.

Reaching beyond regional significance, *Where the River is Wide* poignantly illustrates the sacrifices required of Indian communities throughout the United States in the face an advancing non-Indian society. Their losses should not be forgotten.

Where the River is Wide: Pahquahwong and the Chippewa Flowage is available for \$12.00 (including postage & handling) through the Public Information Office at GLIFWC. For information or ordering, call (715) 682-6619 or e-mail to pio@win.bright.net.

GLIFWC boosts efforts to control purple loosestrife

By Hans Veenendaal
HONOR Intern

Odanah, Wis.—GLIFWC is expanding its efforts to control purple loosestrife within the ceded territories. In a program coordinated by the wildlife section, data on loosestrife populations will be posted on the internet, and GIS images showing up-to-date loosestrife distribution will be available to the public and to other organizations through GLIFWC's website.

Purple loosestrife was first imported from Europe and Asia in the 1800s as an ornamental landscape plant. Cultivation or distribution is now illegal in Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota, but it has already invaded many wetland ecosystems in these states.

Since it is so aggressive, purple loosestrife quickly disrupts the balance within wetlands. As it spreads, loosestrife displaces native wetland plants and the wildlife that depends on those plants for food and nesting.

Loosestrife is becoming prevalent in the ceded territories—eastern Minnesota, northern Wisconsin, and Upper Michigan.

According to Miles Falck, Wildlife section, there are three main aspects to GLIFWC's program to control Purple Loosestrife: education, coordination, and control.

GLIFWC and other environmentally focused organizations have been gathering data on purple loosestrife in the ceded territories for several years, said Falck, and some of the information is out of date.

Seasonal aides, such as Christopher Defoe and Omar Gonzalez, are busy this summer surveying present populations. The data they obtain from the field will be compiled at GLIFWC's main office in Odanah, Wis.

That information will be used to create educational materials such as brochures, presentations, and internet documents to increase public awareness on the loosestrife problem. This comprises the educational front of the program.

Once compiled, information will then be made available to GLIFWC member tribes and other organizations working on loosestrife control.

Along with this data, GIS maps depicting loosestrife distribution will be posted on GLIFWC's website to which individuals and organizations will be able to add their own observations. This database will help to coordinate control efforts throughout the ceded territories.

There is still time to keep loosestrife from becoming permanently entrenched in wetland habitats. Up-to-date information will assist in prioritizing control sites and will help deter-

Where the River is Wide *Pahquahwong and the Chippewa Flowage*

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Address _____

City, State & Zip _____

Phone # () _____

Price: \$12.00* each
(includes shipping)

Quantity ordered: _____

Order total: \$ _____

Mail your check or purchase order, along with this order form to:
GLIFWC, Public Information Office, P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861
or phone (715) 682-6619

*Contact GLIFWC for education and retail discount information

"*Where the River is Wide* presents a telling account which chronicles the struggle of a people attempting to hang on to their homeland ... it is important that we recognize at what cost this sprawling body of water was created."

—John Dettloff, Sawyer County Historian

What can I do to help stop the spread of purple loosestrife?

- ✓ Early detection is important. Monitor likely colonization sites in your property—disturbed moist soils such as shoreline and roadside ditches are prone to infestation.
- ✓ For small infestations, dig out the entire plant, including the roots—any root fragments left in the soil can develop into new plants the following season. Dry and burn (where permitted) the removed plant.
- ✓ For larger infestations, contact GLIFWC for advice on the use of herbicide or biocontrol methods.

mine which type of control to use. With coordinated efforts, the spread of purple loosestrife in the ceded territories can be successfully contained and its distribution significantly reduced.

To report purple loosestrife in your area, call GLIFWC's wildlife division at, (715) 682-6619, with the size and location of the infestation, along with the name of the property owner if possible.

Keep checking GLIFWC's website, <http://www.win.bright.net/~glifwcis/>, for updates on loosestrife control.



Purple loosestrife graphic courtesy of Wisconsin Lake Management Program.

One cast beyond

Tribal fishery management

By J.Z. Grover
Freelance Writer

If all the reservations, ceded territories, and usual and accustomed areas fished and hunted by Native Americans were combined into a state, they would constitute the fifth largest in the Union.

Over 10,000 miles of streams and rivers and 730,000 acres of lakes and impoundments make up Indian Country, waters mostly managed by tribal and intertribal fisheries and wildlife agencies.

These agencies employ university-trained fishery biologists who use the same state-of-the-art methods used by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and state agencies.

Indian and state-federal agency cooperation is widespread and deep. For example the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission works closely with the state natural resources agencies of Washington, Oregon, and British Columbia, as well as Canadian and U.S. federal agencies to implement the 1991 wild Stock Restoration initiative for salmon.

And the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission works with state and federal fisheries on lamprey control and restoration of native Great Lakes species.

But tribal fisheries have no unifying management objective. For the White Mountain Apaches of Arizona, a robust trout fishery primarily brings in tourist dollars; for the Salish and Kootenai tribes of the Flathead Indian Reservation in Montana, healthy bass and trout waters indicate their ecosystem is working as it should; for the Blackfoot of Montana, their celebrated rainbow trout fishery is managed to produce income from guiding and license sales to off-reservation anglers.

This particular story, an example of the type of comanagement occurring throughout North America, is from the Northwoods of Minnesota and Wisconsin, the scene of violence during the "Walleye Wars."

It's a story about restoring native fisheries of coaster brook trout and lake sturgeon and of enhancing fisheries lost through logging, commercial fishing, and mining. It's a tale of cooperation and mutual aid between tribal, USFWS,

"There's a great deal of fear that tribal harvests will deplete resources, but the tribes are interested in protecting, restoring, and enhancing resources. Those fears are unfounded."

—Thomas Busiahn, USFWS

and Minnesota-Wisconsin DNR fisheries biologists.

Tom Busiahn, supervising fishery biologist and project leader at the USFWS Ashland Fishery Resource Office in Wisconsin, puts it succinctly: "There's a great deal of fear that tribal harvests will deplete resources, but the tribes are interested in protecting, restoring, and enhancing resources. Those fears are unfounded."

Busiahn and Lee Newman, fishery biologist at the same USFWS facility, have worked for years with Lake Superior Chippewa bands on cooperative ventures that annually stock 100 million fish in over 900,000 acres of the Great Lakes, reservation lakes and rivers, and Ceded Territory waters.

"Some people regard the tribes purely as rival user groups," Busiahn says. "But the tribes are important partners in fishery management. All the Lake Superior bands employ professional fishery biologists, and tribal interest in the restoration of native fish is significant."

Four purposes

Tribal fishery programs have four purposes, each of which maintains a different weight from band to band: (1) subsistence fishing, (2) commercial fishing, (3) recreational fishing, and (4) restoration of heritage fish—fish that were part of the tribe's culture and that swam in its lakes and rivers before European conquest.

Walleyes figure prominently in subsistence and commercial purposes, and the bands are putting more time and money into walleye production today than they are taking out.

"The bands recognized the danger of overfishing walleyes," Busiahn says, "and a need for population information to avoid doing that. So mark-and-recapture population estimates have been conducted on over 300 lakes. The bands have taken a leadership role in monitoring lake fish for mercury, in analyzing samples, and in providing information about the lakes in Geographical Information Systems format."

Newman adds, "Some of the discoveries the tribes have made on walleye rearing are impressive. Minnesota's Grand Portage Band hatchery used

walleye eggs gathered from the lower Pigeon River until they discovered a low-cost, more-effective solution.

Now, they hatch the eggs in a restored wetland adjacent to the river, avoiding the transfer of fish, introduction of diseases, and importation of nonnative strains."

The Bad River Band (Wisconsin) hatches 10 to 14 million Kakagon River walleye eggs each year and rears them in ponds, returning them as fry to the Bad and Kakagon rivers to supplement the band's subsistence fishery. The Lac Courte Oreilles, Red Cliff, and Bad River bands also are involved in culturing walleyes to supplement lake populations.

Restoring the natives

Tribal recreational and heritage fishery programs are far smaller than subsistence and commercial programs, but two initiatives have excited biologists from several agencies.

Greg Fischer, hatchery manager at the Red Cliff Band's hatchery, has for four years supervised raising Lake Nipigon (Ontario) strain coaster brook trout obtained from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources' Dorion Fish Culture Station.

"Our goal in 1997 was to collect 250,000 eggs from our broodstock; by the year 2000, we hope to have 7 million eggs to distribute to all the Lake Superior state, provincial, and tribal agencies," Fischer says.

Red Cliff's coasters are the first known Nipigon broodstock raised in the U.S. Their availability stateside will be a plus for agencies participating in the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission's Lake Superior Technical Committee, which will be issuing coaster rehabilitation plans this summer.

"We see ourselves as providing valuable research on a number of fish of concern to biologists and anglers," Fischer explains. "Because tribal fishery programs are small, we can work with fish that are specialized and small in numbers. We have no tribal fishery for coasters, for example, but they're a native fish and a fish easily caught by youth, two big reasons for the band to start raising them."

(See Tribal, page 30)



Future fishermen observe future fish during a tour of the Bad River Hatchery in the spring when the Bell jars are full of walleye eggs ready to hatch. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

GLIFWC to participate in Chippewa Flowage musky study

By Joe Dan Rose, GLIFWC Inland Fisheries Section Leader

Odanah, Wis.—In response to a request from the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe, the Voigt Intertribal Task Force formally authorized GLIFWC staff to participate in the Chippewa Flowage Musky Study.

This population study will be developed and implemented through a cooperative partnership that is spearheaded by the Lac Courte Oreilles Community Development Corporation and includes representatives from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, University of Wisconsin Extension—Superior, Lac Courte Oreilles Conservation Department, and Hayward Area musky guides who are familiar with the Chippewa Flowage.

The intent of this project is to develop and implement scientific studies designed to collect biological and population data to determine and describe the status of the Chippewa Flowage musky population. Starting this year, radio-telemetry equipment will be used to observe the movement and behavior of approximately 35 musky and five northern pike. Project participants hope to radio-tag and track approximately 40 additional fish during each subsequent year from 1999 through 2001.

Project participants are also interested in the protection and enhancement of musky spawning habitat in the Flowage, examining the food habits and relationship between musky and northern pike, contaminant testing, and the development of educational opportunities and materials to improve public understanding of Chippewa Flowage fisheries.

As a recognized participant in the cooperative partnership, GLIFWC staff will be involved with the development and implementation of this population study. Although most components of the study are in the final developmental stages, the LCO Conservation Department, with assistance from the WDNR and cooperating guides has initiated the 1998 radio-telemetry component of the musky study.

Once finalized, the remaining elements of this multi-year study will be implemented as funding and manpower constraints permit. Project participants are excited about this cooperative project and anticipate strong support as public awareness of the Chippewa Flowage Musky Study increases.

Wild rice restoration efforts underway

(Continued from page 6)

Natural Resources, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Nicolet, Chequamegon and Ottawa National Forests, local lake associations, and even individual volunteers.

Sharing both staff and funds, these partners seeded nearly seven tons of wild rice last year. More rice was planted last year than in any other year of the program.

If the crop does prove to be down from 97, it may be a difficult level to match, but it's a target we'll shoot for.

This project is showing dividends. Last year, Phantom Flowage at the Crex Meadows Wildlife Area did extremely well. It was very rewarding to see a large, dense stand of rice where once there was none. That particular site is also down in 1998, but it shows what can be accomplished.

There are opportunities on the landscape to recapture some of what has been lost. Harvesters benefit—nearly

10% of the off-reservation harvest came from seeded sites in 1997—and its probably of even greater benefit to wildlife.

Most of the seed used in this effort is purchased from tribal hand harvesters. In fact, the willingness of these harvesters to sell their seed to GLIFWC (which actually purchases the seed on behalf of all cooperators) is critical to the success of this management effort.

GLIFWC will be paying \$1.50 per pound for freshly harvested seed. Anyone who is interested in selling seed is encouraged to contact GLIFWC's Wildlife Section in Odanah at (715) 682-6619 and ask for Peter David or John Denomie. Please call before harvesting!

Happy Ricing!



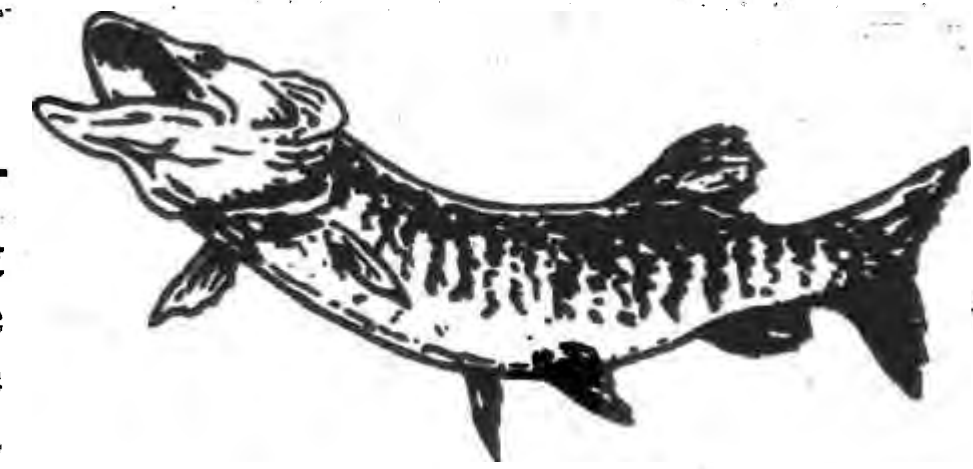
History of the Chippewa Flowage musky fishery

By John Dettloff
Fishing Guide & Historian

Couderay, Wis.—During the first fifteen years of its existence, the Chippewa Flowage was known to be more of an action lake ... with its trophy-producing potential remaining rather limited until this new and sprawling reservoir would mature.

With its native population continually being expanded by a consistent influx of numbers of muskies from the West and East Forks of the Chippewa River, the waters adjacent to these rivers became the flowage's first hotbeds of musky action.

By around 1938, trophy muskies began to show up with more regularity. From then on, specimens 40 pounds and over were known to be caught on occasion.



To date, since the flowage was first created 75 years ago, some 60 muskies over 40 pounds have been caught—at least eight of which were in the 45 pound class or better.

While this number still represents a rather impressive tally, it's important to note that—originally—more big fish were believed to have been caught out of the flowage ... but, as it turns out, a number of them were not properly registered or now proven to be exaggerated.

Besides the current world record musky which was taken out of the flowage in 1949, there have been two other 50 pound-plus muskies documented to have come out of the Chippewa Flowage. (Note: a 51 pounder did come from Chief Lake in 1916—before the flowage was formed.)

There were tales of a couple of other 50 pounders that were taken from the flowage, but now there are strong indications that they too were exaggerated in size.

Following the world-record musky catch of 69 pounds 11 ounces in 1949, musky fishing pressure rose substantially on the flowage—reaching its peak levels from the late 1970s through the mid 1980s. Prior to the late 1970s, most muskies were kept and—although the flowage still was offering excellent musky fishing by most standards—during this period the flowage had probably been fished down to its lowest level.

Beginning at this time, peer pressure amongst the musky fraternity began to perpetuate a mindset of catch and release and *immediate* improvements in the flowage's musky fishery were observed.

The catch and release program is now stronger than ever and, today, comprehensive catch records which are kept by the flowage's resorts put release rates at over 95%.

To the left: The musky fishery of the Chippewa Flowage has attracted fishermen since the early 1930's as depicted from this Chippewa Flowage resort brochure.

A Sportsman's Paradise



OUR RATES MOST REASONABLE

Six Cabins for Four persons	
each, per week	\$25.00
Per day	\$5.00
One Cabin for Eight persons,	
Per Week	\$40.00
Per Day	\$8.00
Boats to Guests, per week	\$5.00
Boats to Rent, per day	\$1.00
Electric light, laundry, live bait, fishing tackle, cigarettes, cigars, candy.	

For further information write

Chippewa Lake
Wende's Resort

George Wende, Proprietor.



HAYWARD—WISCONSIN

The (almost) selling of Lake Superior

By Bob Olsgard, Editor, Superior Vision

Editor's note: Exportation of water is an issue which needs to be closely watched. According to Sarah Miller, coordinator for the Canadian Environmental Law Association, the global market for water, i.e. bottled water, is turning water into a commodity more valuable than gas or oil. Miller views the bottling and exportation of water as an industry that is "fast growing and not visible to people." In fact, she said, "it is growing faster than we anticipated."

An expanding market plus the increased privatization of water plants, once considered a public utility, combine to set the stage for a major industry focusing on water exportation.

The challenge is to adequately protect the water resources, such as Lake Superior, from exploitation. Canada is currently consulting with its provinces on the issue of licensing for water exportation. Miller believes legislation prohibiting water exportation will be difficult to pass in Canada since New Foundland has already given out licenses for water exportation and Quebec is in the process of considering it.

The issue is also before the International Joint Commission (IJC). The IJC is working through the diplomatic process to present the issue as a reference, which would provide opportunity for public comment.

A permit granted by the Province of Ontario to ship billions of gallons of Lake Superior's water to Asia flared into an international incident that for two weeks in May, catapulted normally forgotten Lake Superior into national news with a flood of headlines. Now that news has slowed to a trickle. But the controversy has sparked new interest in an old idea, a treaty to protect the Great Lakes into the next millennium.

To the Ontario Ministry of the Environment this was apparently just one more out of hundreds of permits. In February, a Sault Ste. Marie consulting firm, the Nova Group, filed a permit with the Ontario Ministry of the Environment asking permission to draw out up to 10,000,000 liters (2.6 million US gallons) per day for a maximum of 60 days each year for five years. Short on details, the company's permit application mentions only a specially built cargo ship that would transport the water to Asia.

If it hadn't been for an article in the Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario newspaper, nobody outside of the Ministry might know about it even now. Ministry policy established under Ontario's "Environmental Bill of Rights" requires only that the Nova proposal be posted on a province-wide computer registry. That was done on February 26th. No notice was published in any newspaper. The Nova proposal was posted on the registry for 30 days. No comments were received. No public hearing

was held. Since no-one appeared to have a problem with it, the Ministry granted the permit on March 31st.

Technically, Ontario's approval was within the province's authority even under a 1985 inter-governmental gentlemen's agreement called the Great Lakes Charter, whereby the governments agreed to tell each other about proposed plans to draw water. Under the Charter, notification is voluntary unless the amount to be drawn is larger than 19 million liters per day. The amount in this proposal, 10 million liters a day (2.6 million gallons), is less than the 19 million liter amount that mandates the notification process.

What sparked international debate wasn't the amount but the destination chosen for the water. "Water is going to become like the oil of the next century," said Sarah Miller of the Canadian Environmental Law Association to a Milwaukee Journal reporter. If it's open season for all the water in the Great Lakes, wait and see what happens in the States, where there will be desperate water shortages," Miller added. Michigan congressman Bart Stupak wholeheartedly agreed and led a media charge for the cause of protecting Lake Superior. For Stupak, this was an export and it would set a dangerous precedent, selling Great Lakes water to foreign countries, businesses, corporations and individuals. "This is a Pandora's Box," Stupak told a Sault Star reporter in late April. If we ship to Asia, what's to prevent shipping to the Southwest or Mexico? Where do you stop?" Stupak wrote to US Secretary of State Madeline Albright on April 29th formally requesting US intervention to stop the sale.

While Stupak was drumming up support for his resolution in Washington, a similar water fight was shaping up on the other side of the border in Toronto. NDP Environment Critic Marilyn Churley issued a letter to Ontario Premier Mike Harris insisting on; "immediate action to make sure this sale of water from Lake Superior is stopped."

In Canada, it came to a head during the first week of May. Coincidentally, it was drinking water week as Members of Parliament weighed in against the Nova proposal. "Is there anything sacred left that your ministry and your government is not willing to sell for the sake of a buck?" asked Liberal Environment Critic Dominic Agostino, addressing Ontario's Environment Minister Norm Sterling.

By this time the political heat was forcing Sterling to back away from his ministry's permit. Sterling wrote to Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs: "The permit issued by my ministry was simply a permit to take water, not to export it," Sterling said in a letter dated May 4th. The letter asks the federal government to prevent the withdrawal through its authority for regulating exports: "...the primary responsibility for laws governing export remain clearly in the federal domain and I anticipate you will be taking the appropriate action to address concerns about this situation."

Thursday found congressman Stupak and Ontario New Democratic Party leader Howard Hampton staging a press conference on the international bridge between Detroit, Michigan and Windsor, Ontario. Amid the din of truck engines and horns, Stupak proclaimed: "We must not let the prospect of short-term profit add another insult to bodies of water which are struggling to recover from decades of pollution."

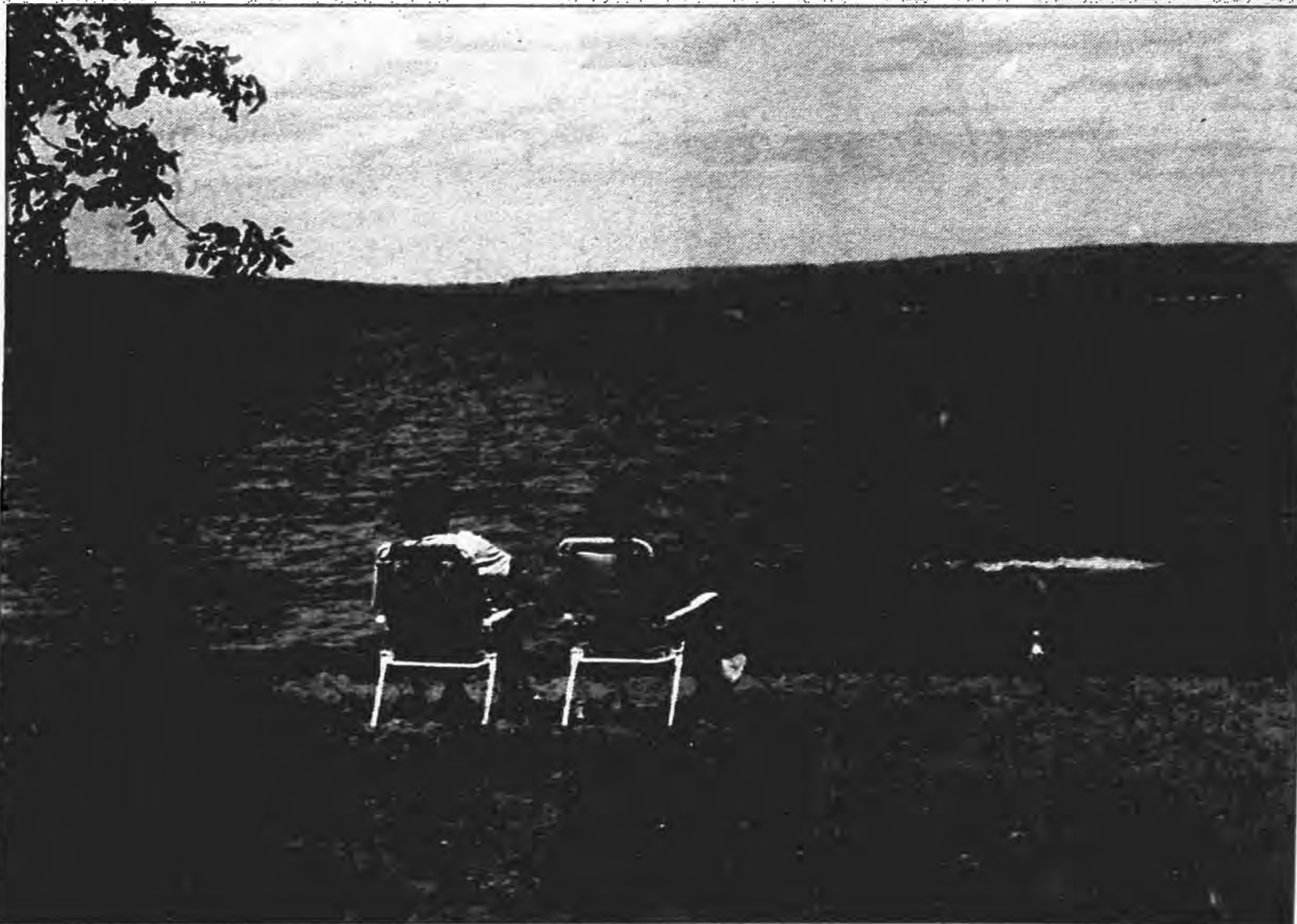
Ontario's Hampton took aim at the politicians in power in Toronto: "Our water, on both sides of the border, is a public resource. And now, thanks to the Harris government, it will be sold for profit with no benefits to Ontarians," said Hampton.

That same Thursday, Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs wrote to US Secretary of State Madeline Albright asking that the US and Canada jointly request the International Joint Commission look into the matter of water exports.

This is not new territory for the Commission, according to IJC press officer Frank Bevaqua. These sips and gulps—called small scale diversions—from the Great Lakes have caused the IJC to write the governments three times starting in 1967.

The Commission's 1985 report even mentioned that though current economic conditions wouldn't support a commercial water export market, conditions could change. Just two years ago in 1996 the Commissioners wrote to the governments again, reiterating their earlier finding that some mechanism is needed to monitor and to control the cumulative impact of diversions.

(See Lake Superior, page 14)



There are many ways to enjoy Lake Superior's sparkling water—in it, on it, or just simply watching. In Canada, there is an initiative to bottle it, market it, and ship it out. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)



Rez Talk



If the gray wolf population is no longer threatened and continues to rise in the ceded territory, should wolf hunting and trapping be permitted?



Butch St. Germaine, Lac du Flambeau

I'd like to see wolves stay protected. If wolves cause problems with livestock, they should be live trapped and taken out of the area. They still have a bad reputation with some people. I don't see much sense in shooting them. They help control the deer population by taking sick and old animals.



Joe Holmes, St. Croix

I used to trap for a living and know you can't blame everything on the wolf. But, you should be able to trap or shoot them. Wolves are killing deer off in the swamp and a local farm has lost a lot of cattle. You've got to thin them out.

The wolf gets blamed for a lot of things, but bears will kill young livestock and deer too. Skunk, coon, fisher, and wolves should all be kept in check.



Albert Schenk, Lac Vieux Desert

Hunting should be a last resort if wolves run out of space and cause a lot of problems in agricultural areas. I think wolves should first be captured and transported to suitable areas that don't have them. There seems to be a lot of open land for them. If wolves have to be killed someday, it should be done by conservation wardens or wildlife managers, not the public.

Tribal members have a lot of respect for the wolf. You can't eat them. And I don't know if many people really want a wolf pelt hanging on their wall.

The significance of ma'iingan to the Anishinaabe

(Continued from page 3)

laws that parallel "self-determination" for tribes. By protecting values we extend our sense of justice and humanity to restoration of harmony and balance to the ecosystem and embrace the concept of biodiversity.

Whether we, as partners and as governments, face choices of delisting or continued protection of the wolf, that choice will be better informed with tribal input. The Tribes' voice will add to the chorus of others who have rejoiced in the restoration of the wolf.

Tribes in their sovereign capacity will face issues which may require different answers from each other and the States and the Federal Government. The tribes have not yet spoken on harvest management matters.

In the past, tribes have exercised treaty-protected rights to hunt based on tribal need. This exercise has allowed a 50% share to Indians, but they harvest at less than a 10% level.

The wolf is a non-game species that maintains a ceremonial, cultural, and spiritual significance to Indians in the Great Lakes region and beyond.

I would like to conclude by reading a quote from *The Mishomis Book* by Edward Benton-Banai which was reprinted in the *Masinaigan*:



For the Anishinaabe, ma'iingan has traditionally held a significant role within their culture. Above, ma'iingan is depicted as one of the clan dodems for the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

"Ma'iingan was sent to walk side by side with Original Man, and they became like brothers. Together they understood that they 'were brothers to all Creation.'

The Creator spoke to Wolf and Original

Man, saying that they would now take separate paths: 'What shall happen to one of you will also happen to the other. Each of you will be feared, respected and misunderstood by the people that will later join you on this Earth.'"

The fate of ma'iingan

(Continued from page 3)

regarding off-reservation wolf management plans.

The proposal to de-list and reclassify only pertains to the eastern and northern rocky mountain gray wolf, not the Mexican gray wolf found in Arizona and New Mexico, which were reintroduced and exist in small numbers, nor the southwestern red wolf.

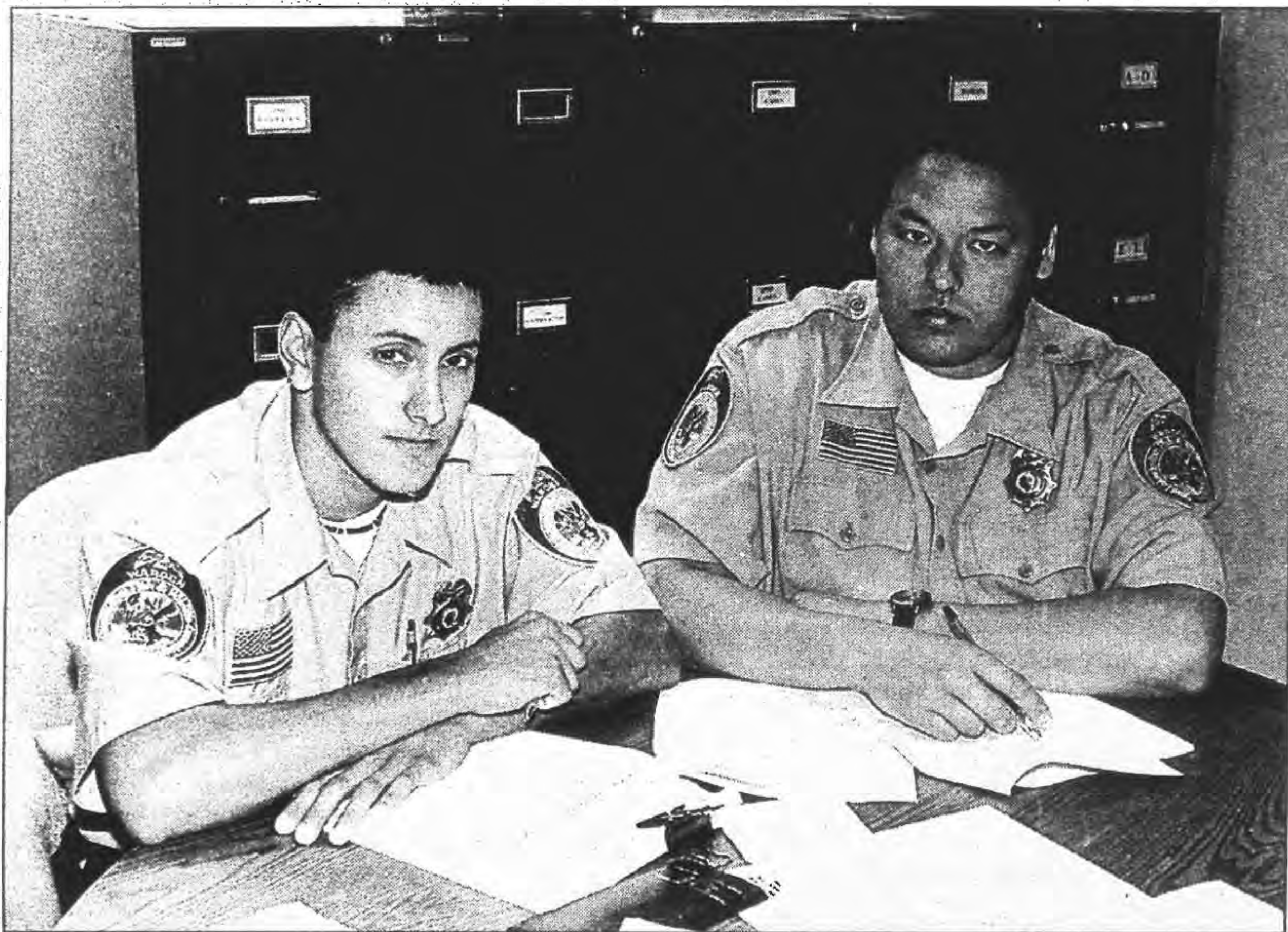
The gray wolf was one of the first species to receive federal protection under the ESA in 1967. Currently, it is listed as endangered throughout its historic range in the lower 48 states, with the exception of Minnesota where it is listed as threatened.

The wolf population in the United States was decimated as a result of settlers, fur traders, hunting and organized government predator-control efforts.

By the late 1930s, wolves had disappeared from the Rocky Mountains, the midwest and eastern states, except for Minnesota, and from the southwest.

The few remaining red wolves were taken from the wild for breeding and survive in the wild today through reintroduction programs. □

GLIFWC's new staff



Joe Kane and Steve Smith, wardens

Joe Kane, Mole Lake tribal member, joined the GLIFWC Enforcement Division this summer as conservation warden at his home reservation, Mole Lake. After earning a two-year Police Science degree from Nicolet Technical College in Rhinelander, Joe finished his basic law enforcement training at North Central Technical College in Wausaw. In addition, he has worked at the Mole Lake game registration station, documenting tribal deer and trapping harvests.

As an avid outdoorsman, Joe likes hunting deer and small game, ice fishing for walleye, and occasional trapping. His enthusiasm for the outdoors and interest in law enforcement made becoming a conser-

vation warden an ideal career choice. Joe lives in Argonne, Wis.

Keweenaw Bay tribal member Steve Smith sampled a number of positions at GLIFWC before taking the vacant GLIFWC conservation warden position at Lac Vieux Desert. Beginning in 1993, Steve worked as a seasonal employee and gained experience in sea lamprey control, inland and Great Lakes fishery assessments, and wildlife.

Steve lives in L'anse, Michigan and will complete his warden training this fall after attending basic recruit school in New Mexico. In his spare time, Steve enjoys bass fishing and cruising on his motorcycle.

Lake Superior continued

(Continued from page 12)

According to the Canadian Environmental Law Association's Sarah Miller, establishing that mechanism is what needs to be done. In a letter to Canada's Foreign Affairs Minister Miller stresses that it is the governments who have legal authority to protect the Great Lakes. Miller points out that during the valuable time required for IJC recommendations, Canada's waters remain vulnerable: "The Canadian federal policy on water is inadequate to address proposals of this nature.

Our trading partner, the United States, has a law, the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 setting out federal powers over Great Lakes waters... Canada and Ontario have no such legislation." Miller's letter urges Canada also to begin work with Ontario, Quebec, the US States and Federal government; "...both on a moratorium and a new treaty to protect the Great Lakes now and into the next millennium."

On May 14th, Ontario's Minister of Environment Norm Sterling announced his intention to cancel the controversial permit. Sterling's statement also

makes a stab at the larger issues; "Ontario is also willing to participate in consultations on the issue with federal, provincial and U.S. partners," the letter concludes.

Like the earlier proposal that started the incident, the proposal to withdraw the permit was posted on Ontario's Environmental Registry for 30 days.

As the International Joint Commission examines this issue, activists can expect opportunities to comment on their recommendations to the Governments.

The Council of Great Lakes Governors is also expected to take up the issue of withdrawals from the Great Lakes at their July meeting. Now would be a good time to write your governor or premier about protecting Lake Superior and the rest of the Lakes from withdrawals.

For more information, contact the Canadian Environmental Law Association 517 College Street, Suite 401, Toronto, Ontario M6G 4A2. phone: 416-960-2284 fax: 416-960-9392 or e-mail: cela@web.net CELA website: <http://www.web.net/cela> □



Bill Defoe, enforcement dispatcher

Bill Defoe, Red Cliff tribal member, living in Ashland, Wis., started work this June as the new dispatcher for GLIFWC's Enforcement Division. It is one of three jobs he holds this summer.

Defoe has been with the Bayfield, Wis. City Police Department for over one year and has also recently started as an officer with the Madeline Island Police. He has worked previously as a dispatcher for the Ashland Police Department and is familiar with the type of work he is doing for GLIFWC.

His jobs keep him quite busy during the summer—Defoe only enjoys one day off a week. When he does have free time, he likes surfing the internet and playing paintball with his friends.



Patti Hyde, bookkeeper/property clerk

Bad River tribal member Patti Hyde joined GLIFWC's Administrative Division in June as bookkeeper/property manager. Patti is responsible for managing everything from office machines to motor vehicles used by GLIFWC staff on field work. In addition to her bookkeeping duties, Patti assists in administering the payroll.

Currently a Bayfield resident, Patti has worked in accounting for more than ten years and was previously employed at Isle Vista Casino, Red Cliff.

During her free time, Patti enjoys spending time with her son Matt, who plans on attending Northland College this fall. She is an avid reader and takes every opportunity to walk with her dog, Trigger.

GLIFWC warden excels in outdoor education

Receives state recognition

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen, Writer/Photographer

Lac Courte Oreilles, Wis.—When it comes to outdoor recreation safety, Ken Rusk knows the rules. Thanks to Rusk, so do hundreds of men, women, and youngsters who have attended his courses on everything from hunter education to snowmobiling.

The veteran GLIFWC conservation warden from Lac Courte Oreilles has been active in outdoor education for more than a decade. During that time, Rusk received several honors from the state of Wisconsin for his commitment to making the northwoods a safer place for everyone.

"Accident rates are decreasing," Rusk said. "I get satisfaction in having a hand in teaching people the rights and wrongs of outdoor sports."

Rusk's most recent citation from the state recognized his efforts in all terrain vehicle (ATV) safety. Since 1990, Rusk has taught a two-day ATV course to both tribal members and the general public.

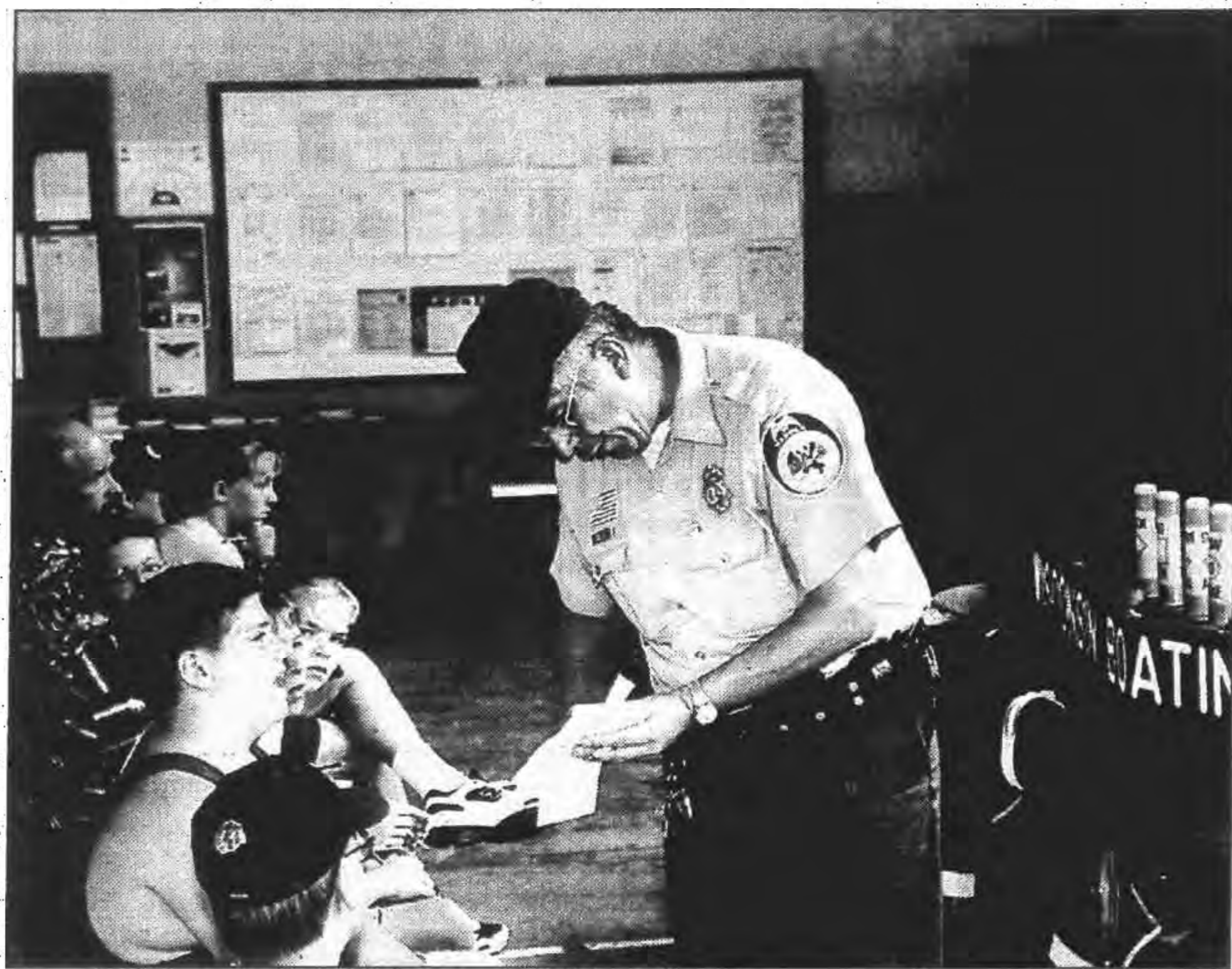
In addition to land-based activities, Rusk instructs students in boating safety. Along with Bob Bachman, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources conservation warden, Rusk recently conducted a class in Hayward.

"A lot of people don't understand how water sports are regulated," Rusk said. "There are guidelines for boating, water skiing, and the use of jetboats."

Rusk said that boat operators are required to have a personal flotation device for each person onboard. And the use of personal watercraft along with water skiing are prohibited from sunset to sunrise.

The wardens also draw attention to environmental concerns, like preventing the spread of exotic plants and animals that are harmful to the upper Great Lakes environment.

"We ask people to report signs of things like Eurasian watermilfoil and try to identify which lakes the plants came from," Rusk said.



Ken Rusk, GLIFWC warden and outdoor education instructor reviews a student's work at a boating safety class in Hayward. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

Unintentionally carried from Europe to North America, Eurasian watermilfoil expanded into inland lakes several decades ago. A prolific plant, it soon proved detrimental to important native vegetation and formed a thick mat on the water's surface that hampers water recreation. Rusk said that people should drain all the water from their boat and clean vegetation off the propeller and trailer before leaving the waterbody.

Rusk added that boaters should be on the look out for other exotic organisms like zebra mussels, spiny water flea, and the rapidly expanding fish, Eurasian ruffe.

For Rusk, outdoor recreation is more than just playing it safe while enjoying the woods and waters. It is being responsible to both the environment and other people, to preserve the treasured resources of the north country.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

An article in the summer 1998 issue of MASINAIGAN commented on the brochure "A Look at Wisconsin's Forests" published by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Bureau of Forestry.

The purpose of the brochure was to give a broad overview of some of the results of the fifth inventory of Wisconsin's forests, completed last year. Previous inventories were done in 1936, 1956, 1968 and 1983. These five inventories assessed the condition of all forests in the state and provided important information regarding their extent, composition, distribution, growth, mortality and utilization. While we agree that information about the presettlement forest is very important, we don't yet have data that is directly comparable.

This brochure was designed only to share some of the basic data from the inventory of Wisconsin's forests, not to propose goals for the forests. The data does, however, lay important groundwork to discover trends and areas where further restoration efforts are needed. Inventory results will play an important role as the Department begins developing strategic plans for Wisconsin forests and identifying opportunities for restoration and maintenance of biological diversity in our forests. Obviously we also encourage the use of other data in planning and managing the state's forests.

To help people visualize Wisconsin's forest resource, we calculated from the inventory data that there are over 1700 trees for each Wisconsin resident. The breakdown of what happens to these trees in a typical year was not meant to be pro or anti-harvest. Rather it illustrates how forests are constantly changing and the relationship between growth and mortality in Wisconsin's forests.

I encourage your readers to request a free copy of this brochure by writing: WDNR Bureau of Forestry, Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707. Readers can access data from Wisconsin's Fifth Forest Inventory on the Internet at <http://www.ncfes.umn.edu/units/4801/> or by requesting the statistical report from the DNR at the address above.

While obtaining information is an important part of good land stewardship, we encourage your readers to also join us in discussing the most appropriate management of Wisconsin's forests.

Sincerely,
Gene Francisco
Chief State Forester, Bureau of Forestry
Wisconsin DNR



GLIFWC's enforcement officers at the Mille Lacs reservation in Minnesota recently completed a hunter safety course. Similar courses are offered on other member reservations by GLIFWC wardens. Pictured above are: front row, Chris Dickey, Nina Thomas, B.J. Livingston, Matt Dickey, and Billy Snyder. Back row, GLIFWC wardens Jim Mattson and Brett Haskins. (Photo by George Felix, GLIFWC warden)



Interns/aides learn while helping GLIFWC

Wildlife interns assist with manoomin research

Articles and photos by
Hans Veenendaal, HONOR intern

Odanah, Wis.—There's one sure thing Brian Johnson has discovered this summer: "If you don't want to swim there, wild rice will grow there." So, almost every time he and Valena Hofman paddle their canoe through the shallow, muck-bottomed lakes that manoomin (wild rice) seems to prefer, Brian offers Valena one dollar to swim back to shore. As of yet, she hasn't taken him up on the offer.



Valena Hofman, wildlife intern

Valena and Brian are interning this summer in GLIFWC's Wildlife division, focusing on wild rice. Both are biology majors at Northland College and discovered this internship opportunity through the GLIFWC booth at Northland's Environmental Career Day.

Valena comes from Kiel, Wis. She plans to complete her degree in two years. Originally from Ashland, Wis., Brian served in the military before coming to Northland. In one more year he will have finished his studies at Northland, after which he plans to pursue a graduate degree.



Brian Johnson, wildlife intern

Although Brian and Valena have also worked on some other projects, such as tracking furbearers and checking fishing nets, the majority of their time is spent examining wild rice beds. They are involved with two main studies: sediment density and rice abundance.

Studying the annual changes in wild rice abundance has been an ongoing project for GLIFWC—the study is now in its second decade. As part of this long-term effort, Valena and Brian monitor the populations of many different rice beds in and around Northern Wisconsin. They check the rice plants' size, growth, and distribution in order to gauge its health and development.

The sediment density study, however, is new. In this project, Brian and Valena are measuring the density of sediment in a number of northern Wisconsin lakes and gauging its effects on root development. They hope to determine if rice plants respond to soft sediments by developing more roots to protect them from uprooting.

With such a variety of jobs to do and areas to visit, Valena and Brian haven't found time to be bored. They see their internship not only as an enjoyable summer, but also as a valuable working and learning experience.

Wildlife aides gather data on purple loosestrife

This summer, Christopher Defoe and Omar Gonzalez have developed a talent for finding bad campsites. If they don't wake up crumpled in one corner of the tent from camping on a slope, says Omar, then they're probably bruised and battered from lying on rocks.

Born in Guatemala and raised in Miami, Omar graduated a year ago from Northland College with a B.S. in chemistry. While visiting some friends at Northland past spring, he discovered the opportunity to work with GLIFWC. He has since moved into Ashland, Wis. and hopes to stay for a few years.

But aside from some uncomfortable sleeping positions, Omar and Chris are enjoying their time as GLIFWC aides. Both are working with Miles Falck, Wildlife section, mapping the distribution of purple loosestrife in Northern Wisconsin and Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Purple loosestrife is a non-native plant whose invasion into the ceded territories is threatening wetland habitats.

Before Omar arrived later in the summer, Chris had already catalogued the numerous purple loosestrife slides stored in the Public Information Office. The slides will be used to develop educational materials, including presentations and brochures, and will be incorporated into GLIFWC's web page. Part of the job for Chris and Omar is to gather information for this project and to help develop it.

Chris, originally from Red Cliff but raised in Lac du Flambeau, is studying police science at Nicolet College in Rhinelander, Wis. His plans, however, are to transfer to Northland College or to UW-Superior in order to continue his education.

Much of their time has been spent surveying loosestrife populations in different locations around northern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula. They frequently go on trips for two or three days to study a specific location and report back periodically with their data.

Exactly which direction his further studies will take depends somewhat on his experiences at GLIFWC. He has always been interested in the wildlife and the natural world, he says, and has considered becoming a warden.

The information they gather will help to coordinate and prioritize future loosestrife control efforts. These efforts will include hand-pulling, applying herbicide, and releasing beetles that feed exclusively on purple loosestrife.



Chris Defoe, left, and Omar Gonzales, GLIFWC wildlife aides, are spending their summer surveying purple loosestrife populations in various locations around northern Wisconsin and the Upper Peninsula.

For information on GLIFWC, Chippewa treaty rights, and natural resource management visit GLIFWC's home page at <http://www.win.bright.net/~glifwcis/>

complete summer schedule of activities

Great Lakes interns enjoy variety of projects

Rustene Sheppard and Dan North, biology students at Northland College, are spending their summer on Lake Superior. As interns with GLIFWC's Great Lakes section, Rustene, from Pennsylvania, and Dan, originally from the Bad River Reservation, are gaining valuable first-hand experience as well as acquiring college credit.

Dan has worked with GLIFWC before, as a dispatcher and with spear-fishing assessment. After he completes his degree at Northland, Dan plans to continue working with fisheries, possibly even with the same department in which he is now interning.

Though a little more open, Rustene's plans also lead in the fisheries direction. She would like to continue this line of work when she has graduated, and even though she enjoys living in this area, she would go "wherever the job is." After working for a time, perhaps four years, Rustene plans to go back to school for a higher degree.

Their current studies in biology focus on fisheries; therefore the work they are doing this summer applies directly to their interests and resembles what both hope will be their future job. With Mike Plucinski, their supervisor at GLIFWC, and other GLIFWC employees, Dan and Rustene have been assessing populations of whitefish, sturgeon, siscowet and other Great Lakes fish. Also, their work has included studying sea lamprey that have invaded Lake Superior.



Intern Rustene Sheppard and Bill Mattes, Great Lakes section leader, work to untangle a net used in fish assessments on Lake Superior. Dan North (in back) hangs up the net in order to let it air out.

The broad scope of their internship allows Rustene and Dan to come in contact with other organizations and with other divisions of GLIFWC. During excursions on Lake Superior, for example, they have worked with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. With some other duties, such as electro-shocking assessment on smaller lakes, they have been under the guidance of the

Inland Fisheries section at GLIFWC.

Even though not all of their duties are equally fun or interesting—both Dan and Rustene spend time in the office and help repair nets as well—they are enjoying their time with GLIFWC and learning a great deal. Of all the jobs he has had, Dan comments, he would gladly continue this one, even for free.

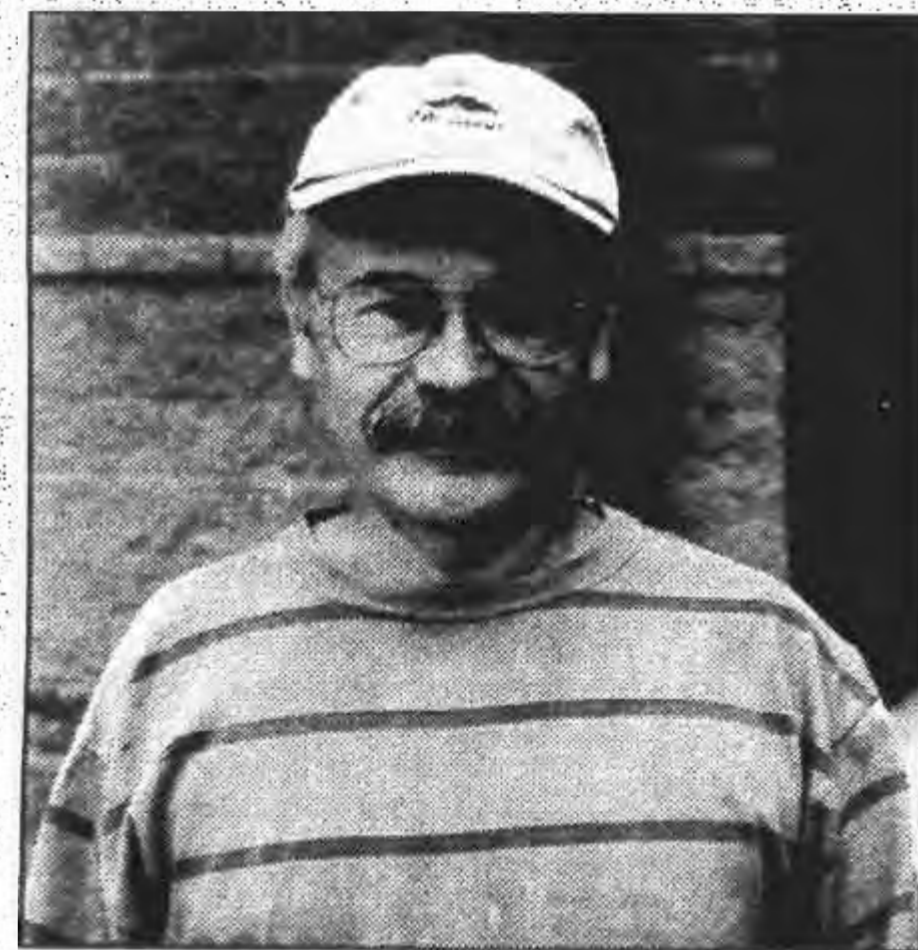
Intergovernmental Affairs hires law intern

Intergovernmental Affairs at GLIFWC has hired Larry Miranda as a summer intern. He is working with Policy Analyst Jim Zorn to develop a law enforcement conservation manual which will set policies for GLIFWC wardens.

Studying environmental and maritime law at William Mitchell College, St. Paul, Miranda first became involved with GLIFWC while working on a paper for a class in Federal Indian Law.

Miranda had talked with Zorn to get information for his paper, and their conversations developed into an internship opportunity.

(See Miranda, page 30)



Larry Miranda

HONOR intern has fast-paced summer with PIO

*By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer*

Hans Veenendaal arrived at the Public Information Office (PIO) mid-June, following a couple days briefing through HONOR. He applied for a summer internship in a program run by HONOR and Valparaiso University in Indiana and was selected to work with PIO.

Arriving in the middle of a deadline rush, Hans, an elementary education major, was quickly immersed in the production of the *Masinaigan*. With scarcely a moment for introductions, he became part of the team on day one by possessing the prerequisite for working with PIO—figure out what needs to be done and do it.

Throughout the summer Hans has been introduced to the skills of photography, having been handed a camera without a working flash and given several photo assignments to complete. He also has become adept in the darkroom, having been shoved in there, after a fast



Hans Veenendaal, HONOR intern. (Photo by Brian Johnson)

how-to course on developing film and printing, and told to bring up the pictures—which he did.

Assignments have taken him to reservations in Michigan, Minnesota,

and Wisconsin, covering biological assessment activities, meetings, and events of interest for articles. Hans has also packed up the portable information display and manned public information

booths on several reservations. He's been an errand boy, a packer and hauler and a proofreader for publications. And he's done all this with a smile.

Hans says he's enjoyed the opportunity to travel and experience an entirely different culture. He's also enjoyed the journalism, but is "ifly" about the darkroom.

It's probably time to say—nice job, Hans! PIO would have had a rough time doing this summer without you.

Having lived in the United States since 1985, Hans remains a Dutch citizen. He graduated from high school in La Porte, Indiana and attended Macalester College, St. Paul for two years. He transferred to Valparaiso University last year, but is again contemplating a transfer to either Ball State, Indiana or Northland College, Ashland, Wis.

Wherever he ends up this fall, Hans is returning to help out during the Treaty Conference on Madeline Island, so he'll be with us again, at least for one more busy week in September.

ANA interns get hands-on work experience with tribal biological and enforcement staff

By Hans Veenendaal
HONOR Intern

This summer, eleven youths from GLIFWC member tribes are learning how to protect their reservation's natural resources. As part of GLIFWC's Anishinaabe Natural Resource Development Program, these young men and women—one from each GLIFWC member tribe—are spending their summer working with professional biologists and conservation officers on the reservation.

Funded by the Administration of Native Americans, these internships are part of a larger program designed ultimately to expand the number of Anishinaabe biologists and wardens. By allowing high school students or recent graduates to explore the job of a natural resource professional, GLIFWC hopes to attract more young Native Americans to these careers.

Working with the member tribes in Minnesota are Charles Shingobe at Mille Lacs and Steven Defoe at Fond du Lac.

Charles, from Onamia, Minn., became interested in the program because it covers the type of work he may want to pursue in the future. He has been

doing a variety of jobs from testing fish for mercury, to bird and animal surveys, and flagging a hiking trail. Charles has only one month to go before he graduates from high school this fall, after which he plans to go to college. He hopes to study in the area of resource management.

Steven Defoe from the Fond du Lac Reservation saw the internship as an opportunity to spend his summer outdoors. He especially enjoys working with fish and has been able to go electroshocking and netting through this job. Steven will be a high school sophomore. He hopes to follow this line of work in the future and is now considering college.

In Wisconsin, six interns are participating in the program: Adam Oja at Bad River; Adam Fear at Lac Courte Oreilles; Robert Smith Jr. at Lac du Flambeau; Nathan Gordon at Red Cliff; Jasmine Poler at Sokaogon-Mole Lake; and Nichole Matrious at St. Croix.

Adam Oja, Bad River, goes to high school in Ashland where he will be a senior next year. After graduating he would like to attend college—probably a four year program in wildlife management or forestry. Some of the activities in which he has been involved include trapping mink and assessing nest sites

at the great blue heron rookery in Bad River. Alongside the job, Adam attends summer school in the morning.

Adam Fear, Hayward, WI, will be a junior this fall, but plans to finish school early. With the experience he is gaining through his internship, he hopes to work with GLIFWC for one year after graduating and then to go into the U.S. Marine Corps. Adam has been working with many different conservation biologists on a variety of jobs such as fish assessments and water sampling. He was attracted to the program because of his interest and skill in science.

Working at Lac du Flambeau (LdF), Robert Smith Jr., became interested in GLIFWC's internship program because he wanted to work outdoors this summer. He has primarily been working with LdF's fisheries program—seining, transferring fry, and other such activities. He will start his sophomore year in high school in Minocqua this fall. Graduation is still a ways off, but he does plan to attend college. Robert hopes to continue working with natural resources next summer.

Nathan Gordon has just graduated from high school and became involved with the internship to explore an area of interest to him. Through the program he has had the opportunity to explore a

variety of activities, including electroshocking and taking fish and water samples. Much of his work has been at the Red Cliff Tribal Hatchery.

Jasmine Poler, Crandon, Wis., was intrigued at the prospect of being able to work with scientists. She has always enjoyed science in school and likes doing lab and field work. This summer she is continuing an experiment to determine how water levels affect wild rice growth, and she is working with hydrologists to test water quality. Next fall she will be a high school senior. Jasmine plans to continue her education, possibly at Boston University, and would like to major in philosophy.

Even though Nichole Matrious, Shell Lake, Wis., has no plans yet to work as a natural resource professional—she is interested in working in the film industry—she has been enjoying her job at St. Croix. This summer she has been assessing fish populations, planting sweetgrass, and releasing fish from hatcheries into lakes. Nichole will be a Junior this fall and would like to take a year off after she graduates before continuing with her education.

Of the three students on GLIFWC reservations in Michigan, Ronald McGeshick is working as a warden (See ANA interns, page 25)

ANA warden interns get into the action during defense and arrest tactic training

By Hans Veenendaal
HONOR Intern

Getting sprayed with pepper gas might not be everyone's idea of summer fun. Yet that is exactly what some GLIFWC Enforcement interns underwent during training this July.

As part of their time with the Anishinaabe Natural Resource Development Program, four interns are expected to attend the same training as GLIFWC wardens. The training includes medic/first aid procedures and defense and arrest tactics.

The four interns—Ron McGeshick, Lac Vieux Desert; Vince Mullen Sr., Fond du Lac; Jim Stone, Bad River; and Reggie Cadotte, Lac Courte Oreilles—will be learning conservation policies and enforcement procedures on the reservations for ten weeks during the summer.

Ron McGeshick just received his GED and will start college this winter. He plans to study law enforcement at Northern Michigan University,

Marquette or Gogebic College. His hopes are to become a state police officer after graduation. Most of his work at Lac Vieux Desert this summer has been in monitoring fishing on lakes and checking licenses.

Vince Mullen started school last fall at Fond du Lac Community College and has just over one year left to go. After completing his law enforcement degree, he hopes to work as a warden. Through the internship he has been patrolling with wardens at Fond du Lac and has helped them to release a trapped bear.

Jim Stone, Bad River, will begin a two year program in police science this fall at Chippewa Valley Technical College, Eau Claire. He has worked before with GLIFWC fisheries in electroshocking and lamprey assessment. This summer, much of his time has been spent checking fishing and ATV licenses. Stone anticipates the work will pick up later in the year when ricing and hunting seasons open.

Reggie Cadotte became attracted to the internship program because it



ANA warden interns are, from the left, Vince Mullen Sr., Fond du Lac; Ron McGeshick, Lac Vieux Desert; Jim Stone, Bad River; and Reggie Cadotte, Lac Courte Oreilles. (Photo by Hans Veenendaal)

allowed him to explore a field that has always interested him. He will start his second year at University of Wisconsin, Madison, this fall, but hasn't fo-

cused on a major yet. He is enjoying working with the wardens at Lac Courte Oreilles and hopes that this opportunity will help him focus his future studies.

HONOR celebrates its first ten years

By Hans Veenendaal
HONOR Intern

Green Bay, Wis.—It was just over ten years ago, in February 1988, when forty individuals, disturbed by the rising intensity of anti-Indian activity surrounding the exercise of treaty rights in Wisconsin, met in Wausau, Wis. Invited by former State Representative Sharon Metz, this mix of religious leaders, human rights activists, tribal leaders, students, and concerned citizens resolved to stand together to affirm Indian treaties. In June of that same year, they formed a coalition whose principles upheld their resolution and HONOR was born.

June 14 HONOR celebrated its tenth birthday at a meeting in Green Bay, Wis. The coalition grew quickly from a group of concerned individuals into an active human rights coalition comprising over 175 organizations with individual members from all fifty states and eight foreign countries.

HONOR's initials stand for Honor Our Neighbors Origins and Rights. Five guiding principles, adopted at its conception, have guided it throughout these ten years. All members strive to:

1. Honor government-to-government relationships and tribal sovereignty;
2. Affirm Indian treaties;
3. Honor and protect the earth and the life thereon now and for the future;
4. Conduct ourselves in a manner which is respectful to all people; and

Students organize task force against "Indian" mascots in schools and seek support among youth to fight racism

Lac Courte Oreilles, Wis.—GLIFWC's Public Information Office was contacted during the bustle of the Lac Courte Oreilles' Honor the Earth PowWow this summer by a young man who introduced himself as Travis Moessner, co-chairman of a newly organized student group entitled "Youth 'Indian' Mascot and Logo Taskforce."

Moessner said the Taskforce is involved in promoting more public awareness regarding the Indian logo/mascot issue and is seeking a broader base of student involvement.

He had a flyer in hand, which is reprinted in part below. Written by Barbara Munson, a woman of the Oneida Nation, the flyer addresses a number of issues commonly discussed in terms of school mascots and logos and explains why such mascots are offensive to many tribal members today.

For more information regarding the student task force or for a full reprint of Munson's flyer, please contact Travis Moessner, co-chairman of the Youth



Board members and guests at HONOR's 10th birthday party listen as Barb Munson speaks about the fight against Indian mascots in Wisconsin schools. Pictured here are (left to right): Rev. Dewey Silas, Beverly Short, Rory Cameron, Margaret Cameron, Barb Muson, Rev. James Dolan, Roy Huff, Alice Huff, Lloyd Powless, Kim Schmidt (HONOR intern at Oneida), Rose Lemke, Jeff Smith (HONOR president), and Marlene Silas. (Photo by Hans Veenendaal)

5. Promote intercultural understanding and awareness.

These principles underscore a variety of activities. One of HONOR's main concerns is advocacy for Native Americans on contemporary issues, such as protecting Indian burial sites and sacred lands and returning reservation homelands to tribal ownership. HONOR keeps all its member organizations informed of federal legislation concerning such issues. The coalition is also active in eliminating negative In-

dian images and stereotypes and publishing or distributing different educational and promotional materials.

Through many of its activities, HONOR actively works to develop an awareness in young people of the issues facing Native Americans. One of these tools is its summer internship program in which college students work with tribal organizations in a variety of activities ranging from nursing to journalism. Students spend almost their entire summer living and working in a reser-

"Indian" Mascot and Logo Taskforce at: N7849 County Rd. P, Spring Valley, Wis. 54767; phone - (715) 772-3320; or e-mail at zebadiahstravis@hotmail.com

"Indian" logos and nicknames create, support and maintain stereotypes of a race of people. When such cultural abuse is supported by one or many of societies institutions, it constitutes institutional racism. It is not conscionable that Wisconsin's Public Schools be the vehicle of institutional racism.

The logos, along with other societal abuses and stereotypes separate, marginalize, confuse, intimidate and harm Native American children and create barriers to their learning throughout their school experience.

Additionally, the logos teach non-Indian children that its all right to participate in culturally abusive behavior. Children spend a great deal of their time in school, and schools have a very significant impact on their emotional, spiritual, physical and intellectual development. As long as such logos re-

main, both Native American and non-Indian children are learning to tolerate racism in our schools. The following illustrate the common questions and statements that I have encountered in trying to provide education about the "Indian" logo issue.

"We have always been proud of our 'Indians'." People are proud of their high school athletic teams, even in communities where the team name and symbolism does not stereotype a race of people. In developing high school athletic traditions, schools have borrowed from Native American cultures the sacred objects, ceremonial traditions and components of traditional dress that were most obvious; without understanding their deep meaning or appropriate use.

High school traditions were created without in-depth knowledge of Native traditions; they are replete with inaccurate depictions of Indian people, and promote and maintain stereotypes of rich and varied cultures. High school

vation—an experience that has changed the lives of many of these young people.

HONOR's field office is located on the Red Cliff Indian Reservation in Wisconsin and is run by Rose Gurnoe, Red Cliff tribal member. An Advocacy Office was opened in Washington DC in January of 1997 supervised by Dianne Wyss, First Vice President of Honor.

HONOR's current president, Jeff Smith comes from the Northwest chapter in Seattle, which has just been revived. According to Metz, former president and founder of HONOR, this achievement serves as another cause for celebration. HONOR was patterned after groups such as NCSIT (National Coalition to support Indian Treaties) that had developed in the Pacific Northwest during the fishing rights struggle in this area. Such groups faded in later years, but their goals have now gained new strength with the reorganization HONOR's Northwest chapter.

As well as celebrating ten years of success in affirming the rights of American Indians, board members met to plan for the future. An agenda was developed for the coming years as members looked towards potential expansion within the United States. The possibility of organizing a Southwest chapter came up for discussion, as American Indian rights are also a large concern in this area of the United States.

For more information about HONOR, its activities, or its resources; contact the HONOR Field Office in Red Cliff at (715) 779-9595, or the Advocacy Office at (202) 546-8340.

athletic traditions have taken the trappings of Native cultures onto the playing field where young people have played at being Indian." Over time, and with practice, generations of children in these schools have come to believe that the pretended "Indian" identity is more than what it is.

"We are honoring Indians; you should feel honored." Native people are saying that they don't feel honored by this symbolism. We experience it as no less than a mockery of our cultures. We see objects sacred to us such as the drum, eagle feathers, face painting and traditional dress being used, not in sacred ceremony, or in any cultural setting, but in another culture's game.

"Why is the term 'Indian' offensive?" The term "Indian" given to indigenous people on this continent by an explorer who was looking for India, a man who was lost and who subsequently exploited the indigenous people. "Indian", is a designation we have (See students, page 26)

Tribes dealt another blow in supreme court

(Reprinted with permission from *American Indian Report* magazine.)

Washington, DC—A bruising year for Indian tribes in the U.S. Supreme Court came to a close in June as the justices issued their decision in *Cass County v. Leech Lake Band of Chippewa Indians*.

In an unanimous decision, the court said that Indian tribes must pay state and local taxes on land that once was part of a reservation, but now has been repurchased by tribal governments from private land owners.

The ruling is a set back for many tribes across the country who have been using revenue, particularly from gaming, to rebuild their land base.

The case stems from a dispute between Cass County, Minn., and the Leech Lake Band, who had purchased 21 parcels of land for a casino and other uses on its reservation in a north central part of the state popular with vacationers. The county levied a tax on the land, which the tribe paid in protest.

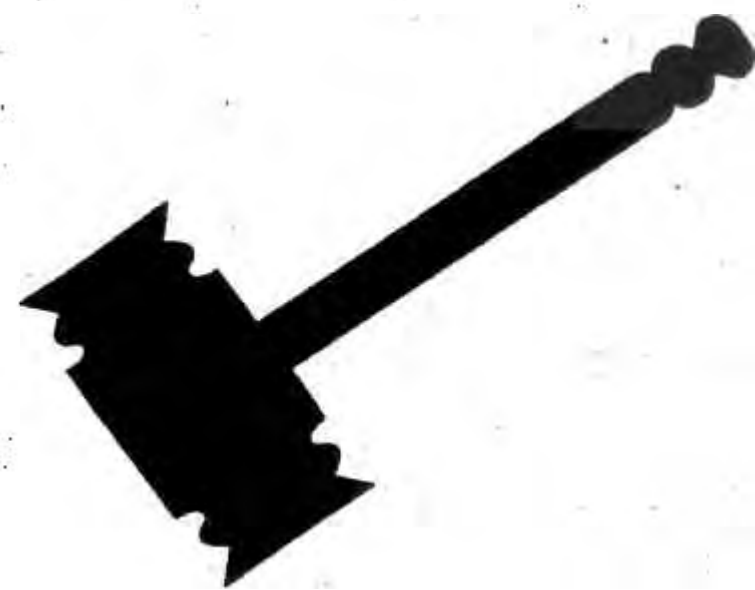
The U.S. District court ruled that the land was taxable if it was not held in trust by the federal government or its sale was not otherwise restricted. But the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, drew a distinction on how the various parcels of land came into tribal hands, and ruled that only 13 parcels were taxable. Cass County said all the land was taxable. The tribe argued that none

of it should be. The nation's highest court sided with the county.

Generally, state and local governments cannot tax reservation land owned by a tribe. But in a previous ruling involving the Yakama Nation, the Supreme Court recognized an exception for on-reservation land not held in federal trust—land the tribe is free to sell without any restrictions from the federal government. The court's decision in Cass County clarified that decision.

"When Congress makes Indian reservation land freely alienable (saleable to non-Indians), it manifests an unmistakable clear intent to render such land subject to state and local taxation," Justice Clarence Thomas wrote for the court.

"The repurchase of such land by an Indian tribe does not cause the land to reassume tax-exempt status." The court said the land could be taxed, unless Congress says otherwise.



Gorton withdraws sovereignty bill

(Reprinted with permission from *American Indian Report* magazine.)

Washington, DC—Faced with an apparent lack of support for his legislation, Sen. Slade Gorton, R-Wash., withdrew "The American Indian Equal Justice Act," but vowed to see its provisions enacted in separate bills which he plans to introduce throughout the year.

The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs was about to consider the bill, but at the outset of the meeting, Gorton announced that he wanted to delay action.

"I will continue to work...to find a solution to the injustices associated with the doctrine of sovereign immunity," he said. He proposed five new bills dealing with issues related to tribal immunity.

Gorton's bill would have stripped tribal governments of their immunity from lawsuit and allowed them to be sued in federal and state courts instead of tribal courts. Tribal leaders argued that the bill would expose them to law-

suits that could bankrupt their governments.

Though the tribes won this time, Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, R-Colo., chairman of the committee, warned that tribes are facing increasing political pressure on two fronts. State officials are complaining that they are losing tax revenue to tribal enterprises that sell tax-free goods to non-Indians and there are concerns that it is too difficult for non-Indians to bring actions in tribal courts.

In a recent case involving the Kiowa tribe of Oklahoma, the U.S. Supreme Court questioned the wisdom of sovereign immunity. Though the court ruled in favor of the tribe, it noted that it had no choice because tribes have sovereign immunity, but it encouraged Congress to revisit the doctrine.

Campbell has proposed a special arbitration panel with representatives from federal, state and tribal governments to resolve any disputes. It would convene only after the state and a tribe had engaged in negotiations.

The *Cass County* case was one of five cases before the court that involved tribal governments. The tribes lost every case but one—*Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma v. Manufacturing Technology Inc.* But even in victory, the court hammered away at tribal governments, encouraging Congress to change the law that protects tribes from lawsuits.

"Kiowa was a good decision, but a bad opinion," said Don Wharton, an attorney for the Native American Rights Fund.

In *Kiowa* the court ruled 6-3 that Indian tribes generally cannot be sued in state courts over business deals outside tribal land.

"Uncharacteristically the court upheld the law," Wharton said. "But in the opinion they said they don't like the law and that Congress ought to fix it."

In writing the opinion for the court, Justice Anthony Kennedy noted that the court has previously upheld tribal governments' immunity from suit.

But, he added, "we retained the doctrine on the theory that Congress had failed to abrogate it in order to promote economic development and tribal self-sufficiency."

"The rationale, it must be said, can be challenged as inapposite to modern wide ranging tribal enterprises extending well beyond traditional tribal customs and activities.

"There are reasons to doubt the wisdom of perpetuating the doctrine. At one time, the doctrine of tribal immunity from suit might have been thought necessary to protect nascent tribal governments from encroachments by states. In our interdependent and mobile society, however, tribal immunity extends beyond what is needed to safeguard tribal self-governance."

Earlier this year the court ruled that the Alaska Native village of Venetie did not have regulating or taxing power and that the Yankton Sioux did not have jurisdiction over land that was once part of their reservation. Both decisions were unanimous.

In May the court said Montana need not pay the Crow tribe \$58 million, plus hundreds of millions more in interest, for illegally collecting taxes on coal mined on the reservation. The court said the district court was free to decide that the tribe is entitled to some lesser amount, but the case was a huge loss for the tribe.

Census 2000 debated at NCAI Mid-Year session

By Hans Veenendaal, HONOR Intern

Green Bay, Wis.—More than six hundred Native Americans from across the U.S., including Alaska and Hawaii, met in Green Bay, Wis. this summer. They came together as delegates to the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) 1998 Mid-Year Session, representing most of the Congress' 249 member tribes in four days of meetings and conferences.

The first of six general assemblies was called to order the morning of June 15 by NCAI President W. Ron Allen in traditional Indian fashion—about 45 minutes late. In his keynote address, Allen announced plans for a joint NCAI and First Nations of Canada convention in 1999. Allen called the proposed convention a historic achievement. Over one thousand delegates are expected to attend.

A focus of this mid-year session was the upcoming Census 2000. The Honorable Robert L. Mallett, Deputy Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce, spoke to NCAI delegates on the importance of the census. Mallett reported on the staggering failure of the 1990 census, in which only 12.2 percent of the actual Native American population of the U.S. was counted. "We cannot tolerate a repeat of the 1990 census," Mallett announced.

The delegates, however, gave Mallett's report a mixed reception. Some, including NCAI President Allen and Apesanahkwat, Chairman, Menominee Tribe, spoke in favor of the census and urged full participation from all Indian communities.

Others, most notably the delegates from the Mohawk Nation, spoke out strongly against Census 2000. Their opposition was based on the belief that operating a U.S. census within tribal boundaries conflicted with the sovereign status of Indian tribes and did not follow a policy of government-to-government negotiations, said Mohawk delegates.

Delegates argued the U.S. government should request data on tribal populations directly from the sovereign Indian Nations, who keep records of their own enrollment. Such information is freely available, according to the Public Information Act, and can be obtained by any other sovereign nation through political procedures. "That," said one Mohawk delegate, "is nation-to-nation process."

NCAI also voiced its support for the Red Cliff tribal government in its dispute (See *Census 2000*, page 25)

Appropriations for tribal programs lower than '97

By Megan Taylor
HONOR Advocacy Office

Washington, DC—As the case has been in recent years, the budgeting schedule for Indian programs is going to be challenging. During the appropriations process, tribal governments and supporters will have to be active in Washington DC to ensure Indian programs are adequately funded and to guard against add-on's that would negatively impact tribes.

The House and the Senate appropriate money for Indian programs under the Department of the Interior and have already set their initial funding proposals beneath last year's levels. The House will consider the Interior Appropriations budget near the end of July. The Senate will likely debate it sometime after Congress takes its August recess.

In this span of time, as the Interior Appropriations bill is being worked out, tribal leaders and supporters will need to focus on increasing funding levels and removing the riders described below.

The overall funding for Indian programs, including Indian Health Service, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Tribal Priority Allocations are significantly lower than what was budgeted last year and the level the President requested (what the Administration deems necessary to fund the programs).

Interior Appropriations Riders Gorton's "Robin Hood" Plan

Senator Slade Gorton (R-WA) has added a rider to the Interior Appropriations bill that would redistribute Tribal Priority Allocation (TPA) funds from wealthier to poorer tribes. The rider, Section 129, calls for redistribution of 50% of the funding for 10% of tribes with the highest revenue per capita to 20% of tribes with the lowest revenue per capita. Tribes that did not submit information on their revenue holdings would lose the bulk of their TPA funding.

Tribal governments are adamantly opposed to this legislation for many reasons. The plan forces some tribes to give up their funding, which does not show respect for tribal sovereignty or any effort to operate on a government-to-government basis. It also discriminates against tribal governments because the federal government does not



force any other government, state or local, to give up any of its surplus. For instance, when Wisconsin has a surplus, it does not have to give it to Michigan.

The plan is ill-advised in method as well. Recognizing some inefficiencies and disparities in TPA distribution, last year Congress created a work group to study the system and recommend improvements. Gorton's rider makes changes before the work group has even had the opportunity to make informed recommendations.

The status of Section 129 will be closely followed by tribal advocates as the Interior Appropriations bill heads to the Senate floor for debate.

Gaming Amendment

Under the "good faith negotiation," provisions of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (IGRA), states must negotiate in good faith for compacts with Indian tribes over casino-style gaming. If states fail to do so, IGRA authorizes tribes to sue in federal court.

In 1996, the Supreme Court decided that states had immunity from such suits. This created an impasse in compact negotiations in the few states that have not already negotiated compacts. In January 1998, the Department of Interior published draft regulations under IGRA to create procedures to allow casino-style gaming on Indian land when the state asserts its immunity from suit. Shortly thereafter, Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV) and Sen. Richard Bryan (D-NV) introduced legislation, S. 1572, to block those regulations.

Sen. Reid and Sen. Mike Enzi (R-WY) are planning to offer S. 1572 as an amendment to the Interior Appropria-

tions bill. If this amendment is enacted, states will continue to have the ability to halt the compacting process.

NAGPRA Amendments

On June 10, the House Resources Committee held a hearing on FIR 2893, a bill to amend the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) "to provide for appropriate study and repatriation of remains when cultural affiliation is not readily ascertainable."

Rep. Doc Hastings (R-WA) introduced the bill in response to the controversy over the human remains discovered along the Columbia River in Washington. The remains, dubbed "Kennewick Man", are estimated to be over 9,300 years old and are the subject of debate about the early inhabitants of that area.

During the hearing, proponents of the bill argued for the need to study remains for scientific purposes. Opponents pointed out that Congress' intention in NAGPRA was to ensure that Native American remains and cultural items retained by the government, uni-

versities and museums are returned to the appropriate descendants or tribes, showing respect for their significance.

The bill has not yet been scheduled for mark up but will probably not make it out of the House Resources Committee.

Sovereign Immunity

On July 15, the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs held a hearing on S. 2097, a bill to encourage and facilitate the resolution of conflicts involving Indian tribes. The bill was introduced by Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-CO) in response to the bill calling for broad waivers of sovereign immunity sponsored by Sen. Gorton early this year.

Sen. Gorton withdrew that bill and rewrote it into five separate bills, each addressing a particular topic. These five were introduced and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs on July 14. Hearings on these will be likely to occur early this fall.

For more information on any of these or other national issues, please contact HONOR Advocacy 224 2nd St SE Washington, DC 20003 Ph: 202-546-8340 Fax: 202-546-1684 e-mail: honor@dgsys.com

Indigenous nations ask for their own United Nations Forum

Tulalip, Wash.—Indigenous tribes and First Nations throughout the Pacific Ocean region have urged that a permanent forum be established in the United Nations (UN) "to facilitate representation of the interests and concerns of the indigenous nations of the world."

This and other resolutions were passed by the indigenous representatives to the Fifth Annual General Assembly of the Treaty of Indigenous Peoples International (TIPI) held last week on the Tulalip Indian Reservation north of Seattle, Washington. (TIPI, formerly known as Pacific Northwest Treaty expanded throughout the Pacific basin in 1997).

Resolutions passed by the Assembly called for:

- A permanent U.N. Indigenous Forum
- Collaboration by the United States and Canada on conservation and management of shared fish stocks
- Incorporation of traditional indigenous knowledge in the development of conservation and management plans.
- Protection of indigenous rights to self-determination and cultural diversity.

Over the past five years, the TIPI Treaty has been signed by native peoples and nations from Indian tribes in the U.S. Pacific Northwest, Hawaii, Canada, and Australia in mutual recognition of their inherent sovereign powers. It establishes political, social and economic relations between these indigenous nations, as well as cooperative control of natural resources essential to the cultural, spiritual and religious rights and survival of native peoples.

A TIPI website (www.tipi.org) has been established to provide additional information about the treaty.

Wiigwaas, birchbark: Versatile, durable, beautiful Ojibwe continue the art of using birchbark

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Mille Lacs, Minn.— Wiigwaas (birchbark) gathering takes place in June and early July. This is the time when the tree most readily sheds a layer of bark, according to Leonard Sam, Mille Lacs Department of Natural Resources assistant. "The bark is damp yet and removes from the tree easily. It's damp, more pliable, and almost tears itself off the tree."

Sam along with a few others from the reservation stripped bark (a process called wiigwaasike) last June for use after a suitable stand of birch (wiigwaasikaa) was located in the Nicolet National Forest. When gathering the bark, they were exercising their off-reservation treaty right.

Sam was not stripping the bark for himself, rather for the elders on the reservation who enjoy working with wiigwaas. Although Sam has crafted canoes (wigwaasi-jiimaan) from birchbark in the past, his current work schedule does not give him time for such enjoyment.

The stripped bark was rolled carefully, tied, and transported to the reservation where interested elders could pick up the bundled bark for use.

One Mille Lacs elder who still works with wiigwaas is Betty Kegg. Stacked bundles of bark sit right inside her front door, ready to be cut, shaped and sewn.

Kegg crafts smaller birchbark items, such as baskets (wiigwaasimakakoon), miniature canoes, and waste

baskets. The work is time consuming and intricate, but Kegg enjoys it. Crafting wiigwaas is an art passed down to her from her mother, Maude Kegg, a well known traditional Ojibwe craftsperson.

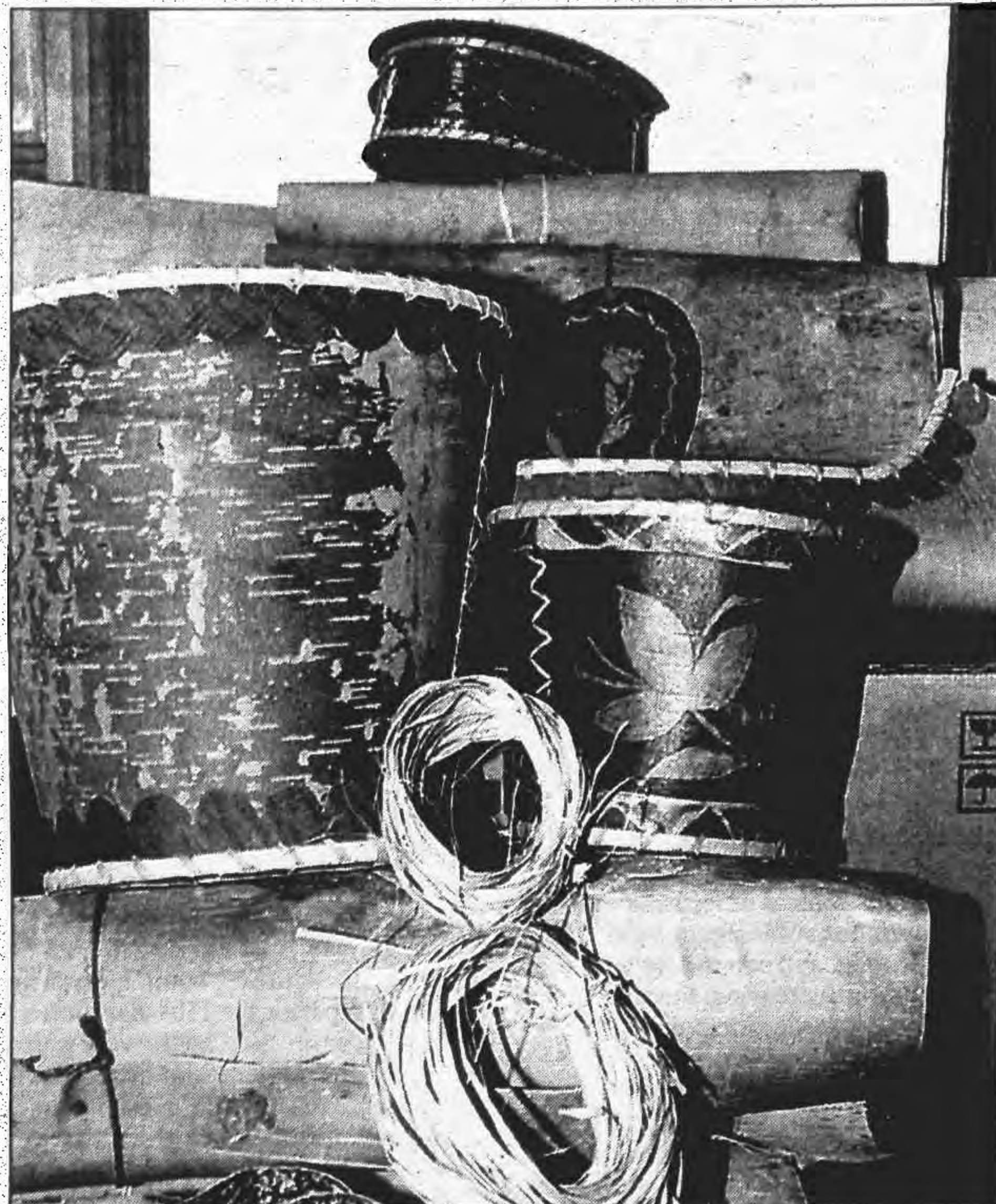
Kegg is grateful to those, like Leonard Sam, who take the time and consideration to gather wiigwaas for her use. She is no longer able to do the work involved with stripping bark, but crafting is still an important vocation for her. She also comments that it is good young people are included in the gathering so they learn what to look for and how to strip a tree. Otherwise, the knowledge passed down from generation to generation for centuries will be lost.

Kegg takes out carefully wound and tied lengths of wiigob or basswood fiber, which is used to stitch the bark together. It is soft and pliable. She has patterns for her birchbark items and uses them over and over again to cut the designs needed.

She notes that birchbark for smaller items must only have short black marking in the bark. Longer marking cracks easily if pierced with a needle, ruining the entire project. Knots are another problem, especially for the smaller items where stitching may be closer together, because they are too hard for a needle to pierce through.

The longer black markings and knots are not such a problem for larger birchbark projects, such as canoes or a wigwam because a needle does not pierce through the bark frequently.

Gatherers must be attune to the needs of the crafters back home and



Betty Kegg, Mille Lacs elder, enjoys working with wiigwaas. She makes a variety of baskets, trimming many of them with a birchbark applique. Above a number of Kegg's birchbark baskets and a miniature canoe sit atop bundles of wiigwaas yet unused. In the foreground is wiigob, or basswood fiber, used for sewing. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

look for wiigwaas that is suitable for the items they make, she said.

Charlene Shingobee, Mille Lacs Natural Resource Department, is also making use of the gathered birchbark. She is part of a younger generation and has not been working with wiigwaas nearly as long as Betty Kegg, but has picked up the skills in more recent years and is succeeding in doing some fine work.

In fact, some beautiful and durable purses she makes are sold in the Mille Lacs Museum's gift shop. Shingobee said she has worn her purse for several years, and it remains pliable and withstands continued use.

Sam said that the winnowing basket he uses has lasted for about twelve ricing seasons, testifying to the durability of the wiigwaas.

Many Mille Lacs members who craft birchbark use it as a source of extra income. Items once made by their ancestors as necessary for survival are now frequently objects of art.

The Mille Lacs Museum gift shop features a great variety of locally made birchbark items. Beautiful baskets of all sizes, canoes, mukus, winnowing baskets, and purses demonstrate the skill and imagination of local artists. Despite their beauty, birchbark items remain very useful and usable. After all, they were once used as essential containers for sugar, berries, and rice, some of the staples of Ojibwe existence.

Kegg said that her mother, Maude, depended on selling many of her crafts, including birchbark, beadwork, and leather items. She was always busy making something. Kegg only has one basket made by her mother. "She sold most everything she made because the family always needed the money," she explained.

Even though the lovely, heart-shaped basket, is the only item left by her mother, Kegg did inherit the knowledge and love of the traditional art from mother—a wonderful and enduring gift in itself and one to be passed on.



A purse made of wiigwaas and bashkwegin (leather) by Mille Lacs tribal member Charlene Shingobee is among many birchbark items for sale in the Mille Lacs Museum's gift shop on the Mille Lacs reservation. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

Miini-giizis, Blueberry Moon

By Karen Danielsen, GLIFWC Forest Ecologist

Odanah, Wis.—During the long and warm days of July and August, families and friends congregate at special places, places practically void of trees, to gather sweet and juicy wild blueberries. This describes a tradition practiced by the Ojibwe since time immemorial. The Ojibwe call blueberries *miinan* and refer to July and August as *miini-giizis* (blueberry moon), illustrating the importance of this harvest and spirit. An Ojibwe story recounts how all other fruits originated from the first fruit, *miinan*.

In years past, women and children often gathered blueberries using small birch bark "pails" (*makukoon*) tied to the waist. Before the harvest, the gatherers offered tobacco to Mother Earth to signify respect and appreciation. Though gatherers ate some of the berries fresh (How many children, of all ages, cannot resist this sugary and tempting treat?), many were further processed by sun-drying on frames made with the giant reed (*aaboojigan*) and twine from the bark of basswood (*wiigob*).

After the drying process, women placed the berries in larger birch bark containers, sometimes layering deer tallow (*mashkawaji-bimide*) on the top and bottom of the containers. Easily transportable and resistant to decay, these dried blueberries then became a primary food staple during the prolonged winter months. Blueberries helped keep family members healthy by supplying important nutrients such as vitamin C, iron, calcium, and phosphorus.

The dried berries were prepared innumerable ways. They provided a delicious seasoning to soups (*naboobiin*), stews (*wiiaasi-naboobiin*), and breads (*bakweziganag*). Sometimes berries were pounded with deer tallow and meat (*waawaashkeshiwi-wiiaas*), maple sugar (*ziinzibaakwad*), and nuts (*bagaanag*) to make a sort of high energy bar.

At other times, berries would be simply hydrated and mixed with maple sugar to make a sweet drink called *miinanaboo* or a sauce called *miini-baashkimasigan*. For convenience, women often stored blueberries with wild rice (*manoomin*), another important food staple, and cooked the two together.

Nowadays, blueberries may not be eaten in as many varied ways, but they remain an important harvest for tribal members. Unfortunately, some concerned tribal members claim that with each passing year they find fewer wild blueberries. This may be an accurate assessment given the dramatic changes that have occurred in the landscape during the last century.



Traditionally blueberries were gathered in mukuks, small birch bark containers, sewn with fiber from basswood. The above display is at the Mille Lacs Museum's gift shop. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

The suppression of fire beginning in the 1930's has probably contributed to this decline in blueberries. Commonly found in fire-prone habitats, blueberry plants actually exhibit increased growth after fire. Though still unclear, the key factors in the stimulation of blueberry plant growth may be the direct heat from the fire, increased nutrients leached from the resulting ash layer, the post-fire reduction of shade and competition from neighboring plants, and/or the post-fire reduction of the humus layer (dead plant material found on the soil surface).

In any case, the Ojibwe have long recognized the benefits of fire, and historically set fires to maintain habitats favorable to hunting. Only recently have modern-day public land managers accepted fire as an important process in the natural landscape. In 1993, the USDA Forest Service conducted a prescribed fire in a forested area within the Moquah Barrens, a favored blueberry gathering site.

Unlike usual Forest Service burns, this prescribed fire occurred before timber harvest creating a more natural type phenomenon. GLIFWC staff seized this opportunity to document the effects of fire on a blueberry population occurring within a primarily forested area, expecting to observe a significant increase in blueberry abundance.

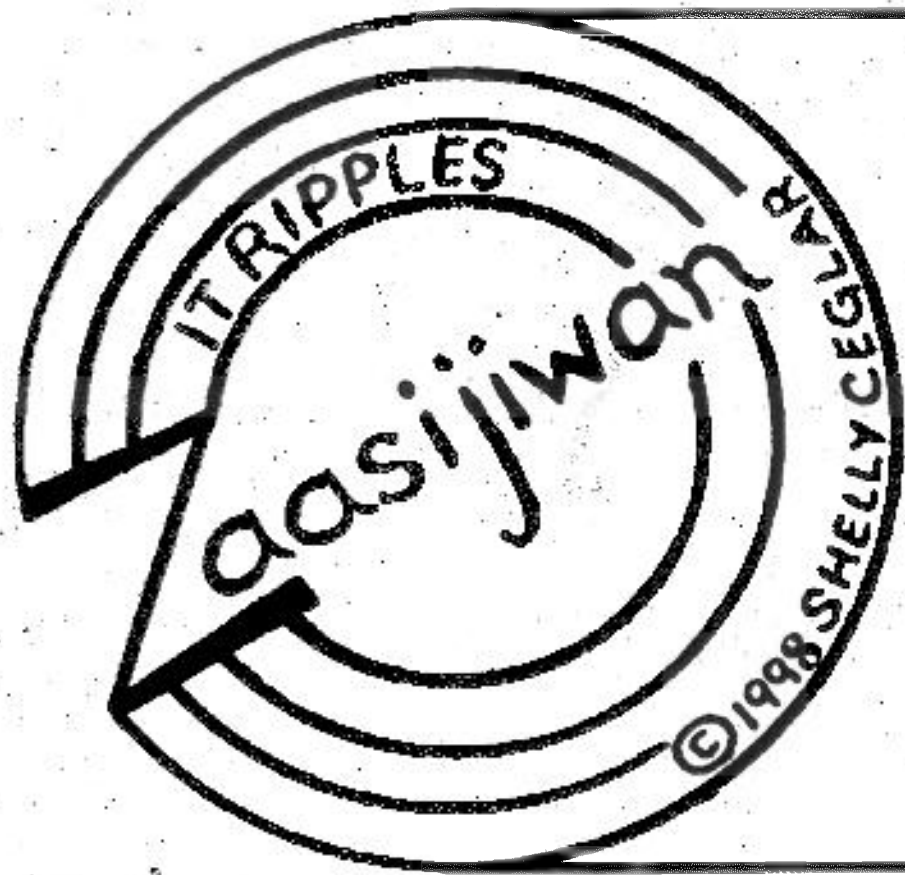
Surprisingly, blueberry abundance did not significantly increase. Possibly, the site inherently lacked favorable conditions for blueberry growth. Or, another possible determinant is that the fire lacked the intensity to cause substantial tree mortality thus failing to create an appreciable opening in the canopy cover. Certainly this study succeeded in demonstrating nature's complexity while raising some doubts about manipulating forested areas to increase blueberry abundance.

Nevertheless, in most cases, fire increases blueberry abundance. GLIFWC staff will continue to work with federal and state land management agencies within the ceded territories to utilize fire, or any other appropriate techniques, to increase blueberry abundance and help facilitate tribal harvest.

An Ojibwe saying best describes the essential nature of the blueberry harvest, "The family which dries the most *miinan* in *miini-giizis* will be the healthiest come spring." □



Gathering blueberries in the northern Wisconsin's Moquah Barrens. GLIFWC Deputy Administrator Gerry DePerry (foreground) and GLIFWC Forest Ecologist, Karen Danielsen. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)



Dagwaagin — It is fall

Ani-dagwaagin, ishpeming niwaabamaag ingiw nikag. Giwaabamaag ina ingiw zhiishiibag gaye? Megwaayaak, giiyosewag, nindede dash nimishoome. Dakaayaa noongom. Aaniin ezhichigeyaang dagwaaging? Nimanoominikemin.

(As fall approaches, in the sky I see them those geese. You see them? those ducks also? In the woods they hunt, my dad and my uncle. It is cool weather now. What are we doing when it is fall? We are wild ricing.)

Bezhiig—1

OJIBWEMOWIN (Ojibwe Language)

Double vowel system of writing ojibwemowin.

—Long vowels: AA, E, II, OO

megwaayaak - as in father

giiyosewag - as in jay

miiigwechiwenim - as in seen

ganoozh- as in moon

—Short vowels: A, I, O

daga - as in about

mikaw - as in tin

omaa - as in only

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

—Generally the long vowels carry the accent.

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

VTA—Verbs/Transitive/Animate

Call them the to Him/Her verbs.

First learn the command root word and then add prefixes and suffixes to speak of I, You, We, We all, You all and They. VTA action transfers to Him, Her or Them.

Waabam!—See Him or Her!

Miiigwechiwenim!—Thank Him or Her

Mikaw!—Find Him or Her!

Ganoozh! Talk to H/H!

(some root comands drop the zh when conjugating.) -ganoon-

Niizh—2

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

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

A. Nindagimaag ongow miskwaabikoonsag.

B. Ginoondawaa na a'aw maang baapid?

C. Sue oganawenimaan a'aw ikwezansan.

D. Nindasaa asemaa omaa akiing.

E. Minising ningitigaanaa a'aw mitig.

F. Wajiwing na giwaabamaa waawaashkeshi?

G. Daga Amo! wa'aw bakwezhigan omaa.

Niswi—3

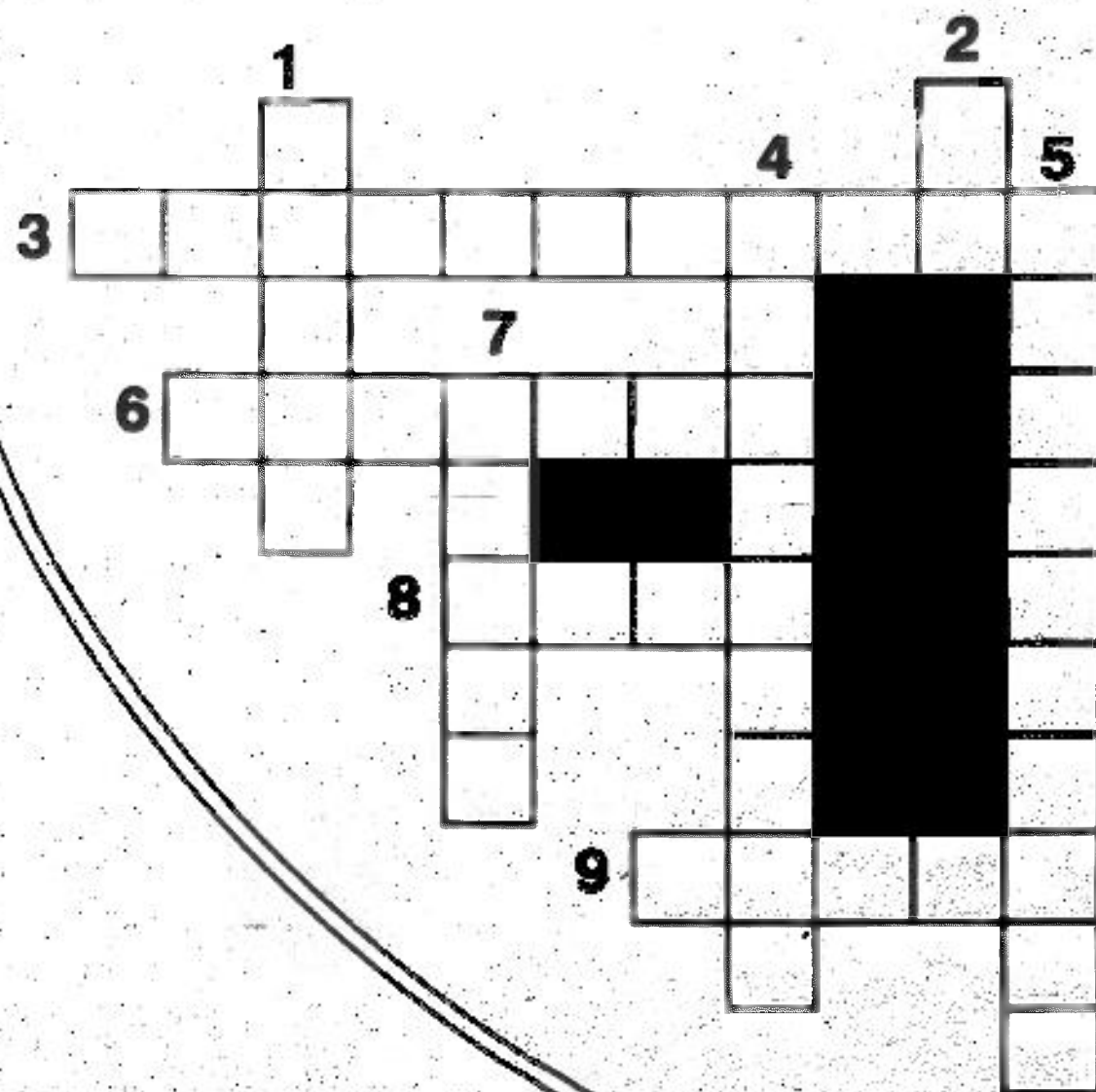
IKIDOWIN ODAMINOWIN (word play)

Down:

1. find him or her!
2. question marker
4. up above, sky, heaven
5. they hunt
7. these (living)

Across:

3. ducks
6. talk to him or her!
8. also
9. those (living)



Niiwin—4

Conjugations VTA's

Zaagi'!—Love Him or Her!

Ninzaagi'aa (g)—I love him/her (them). (prefix ni, nin (before k, z, g, d), nind (before vowels), nim (before b). Suffix aa or aag.)

Gizaagi'aa (g)—You love him/her (them). (Prefix gi or gid (before vowels) Suffix aa or aag.)

Ozaagi'aawaa n. —They love him/her. (Prefix o or od and suffix aawaan.) (*Obviated 4th person noun)

Goojitoon! Try it! Translation below.

Ni ___ aa
Gi ___ aa
O ___ aawaan
Gi ___ aag
Nin ___ aa

1. ___ zaagi' ___ a'aw migizi.

2. Zaaga'iganing, ___ waabam ___ a'aw nika.

3. ___ miigwechiwenim ___ a'aw makwa.

4. ___ ganoon ___ a'aw ininiwan miikanaang.

5. Adaawewigamigong ___ mikaw ___ ingiw ikwewag.

Translations: **Niizh—2** A. I count them those pennies. B. You hear him/her? that loon when s/he laughs? C. Sue she takes care of her that girl. D. I put down tobacco here on the earth. E. On the island I plant her that tree. F. On the mountain? do you see him that deer? G. Please eat him/her! this bread here. **Niswi—3** Down: 1. Mikaw! 2. Na 4. Ishpeming 5. Giiyosewag 7. Ongow Across: 3. Zhiishiibag 6. Ganoozh! 8. Gaye 9. Ingiw **Niiwin—4** 1. I love him/her that eagle. 2. By the lake, I see him/her that Canadian goose. 3. You give thanks to him that bear. 4. They talk to him that man on the road. 5. At the store you find them those ladies. *Ojibwe language special 4th person is spoken as if inanimate—to show where action goes. 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.

Nookomis (grandmother)

By Christopher Defoe, Wildlife Aide

When I think of generous, I think of my grandmother Cecilia Defoe, who raised me since I was six months old. That alone tells me how generous she is. She not only raised me, but she formed me into what I am today. I never realized what she gave me until about two years ago when I thought about all she gave up.

First of all, let me tell you about this generous elder the world is blessed with. My grandmother, who was born in Bad River, is full-blooded Ojibwe. She was raised part of her life in a boarding school, which affected her very much.

Boarding schools were designed to help Native Americans get along with non-natives. The outcome, however, was quite different. They broke our spirit, families, and heritage; life was very hard for children when they returned home. The feeling of not being wanted was strong. In reality, she and others were caught between two cultures.

My grandmother married when she was eighteen and had four boys and one girl. Because of an accident which took my grandfather's life, she raised her children on her own. She spent time in a sanitarium with tuberculosis, but survived with the help of her mother.

When I was born, she took me in and raised me, but I wasn't the only one to be raised by her. She also raised my aunt's two children and my older brother. She worked at the school that the four of us attended just to be closer to us. My



Cecilia Defoe

grandmother showed us what a family was. She raised us better than anyone ever could. We have something special that no one will ever have.

As we grew up, she began to volunteer her time to help teach the Ojibwe language. That was the beginning of what she loves doing the most—learning and teaching about our culture, our people, and our lives—because without our language, we have nothing!

As I try to think how all this came about, I have to put two and two together. Generosity is part of the Native American people. My grandmother once told me that our people were brought up to share everything they have and to help people in time of need. Material things meant nothing.

This is very much so in our elders, because they have so much to share. They teach us to be strong, to stick together, and not to forget who we are. Native American Elders can teach us things no other elders can. With this, they are the River that runs through our veins. Without them we have no culture—nothing to be passed on. We cannot take our elders for granted.

With all this in mind, my grandmother is the most generous person I will ever know. My mother passes some of these great things on to other

people also. I would like to say that I have this special gift passed down from her. She not only gives to me, she gives to mankind, with a special meaning to the word generous.

Sweetgrass prayer

(Editor's note: The following sweetgrass articles are being reprinted from Win Awenen Nisitotung, a publication of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians.)

*By Punkin Shananaquent
Ojibwe language by Barb Nolan*

Boozhoo Wiingashk,
Mnaadendwiishnaag, Gmino-
gigwejimigoo gdoo-mishkikiim wii-
naadimooyaang weweni wii-
inendamaang miinwaa
wii-mishko-ode'e'aang.

Miigwech,
Niikaaniganaa

Hello Sweetgrass,
Honor us, we ask in a good way
for your medicine to help us keep
a clear mind and a strong heart.
Thank you,
all our relations

Something to share about Wiingashk

By Chris Gordon

There have been a few teachings given about Wiingashk (sweetgrass) already. I would like to add a little bit that has been passed to me. Wiingashk is a sacred medicine and with that comes a responsibility.

Many of us, at this time of year, go out and pick Wiingashk. It is a good thing, as I am told, to go and do this. It brings people together out away from modern things. You may go out alone but you are with your ancestors and it is a good time to visit with them. It can be a time of reflection with yourself.

What has been passed down for generations is to 'always give back for what you have taken.' In modern times we can understand the repercussions if we take a new computer at the store without paying for it. We must also remember to only take what is necessary for us.

They say it takes decades for a forest to regrow after clear-cutting has taken place. The same has been told of sweetgrass. To share what is offered and to leave some for those coming behind us is to have responsibility and respect for the sacredness of Wiingashk.

Census 2000 continued

(Continued from page 20)

with Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson. Tribal Chairman George Newago recently clashed with Thompson in negotiations over a gaming compact, in which the governor insisted on receiving \$95,000 from the tribe in exchange for continuing to allow Red Cliff to run its Isle Vista Casino.

"This is a tribe ... which is struggling to provide the basics to its people," said Allen. "Tommy Thompson just

seems to want his hands in the pockets of the poor."

In the final assembly, June 17, the NCAI considered sixty resolutions presented by the delegates.

The Congress approved 56 resolutions on a variety of issues, ranging from an endorsement of Indian-run telecommunications systems, to a resolution in support of the continuing struggle against oppression by the People of Tibet. □

ANA natural resource interns

(Continued from page 18)

intern at Lac Vieux Desert. He and three other warden interns are featured in the warden internship article.

Joe Carrick, Bay Mills, and Chris Chosa, Keweenaw Bay, are participating in the natural resource program.

Joe Carrick has just graduated from high school and will begin studying resource management at Bay Mills Community College next fall. He has worked previously as a Circle of Flight intern, through which he learned about this opportunity. Joe has been spending most of his time on Lake Superior, sampling and assessing fish populations—exactly the type of work he wants to do in the future.

From Baraga, Mich., Chris Chosa worked last year with Mike Donofrio from Keweenaw Bay Natural Resources. This year Chris is working with Donofrio again through the internship program.

Much of his time is spent monitoring trumpeter swans that have just been released, but he has also done some manual labor such as building docks and tying nets. Mike will be a senior next fall and plans to attend college after finishing high school.

Waaswaagoning Ojibwemowin Immersion Camp

By Hans Veenendaal, HONOR Intern

Lac du Flambeau, Wis.—Boozhoo niiji-biimaadiziig. Hans Veenendaal niin indizhinikaaz. Gaawiin apiji ninitaa-*ojibwemosii*. Ningagagwejitoon ji *ojibwemoyaan*. Germany gaye Indiana indoonjibaa. Ashland indaa, gaye mashkii-ziibing indananokii. Mii o'o minik waa-ikidoyaan noongom. Mii gwech bizindawiyeg.*

Above is only a shortened version of the Ojibwe speech I, and roughly twenty other adults, managed to learn in less than three days at the first-ever Waaswaagoning Ojibwemowin Immersion Camp. From June 26 - 28, people from different parts of the Midwest gathered at the Bear River Pow-Wow grounds in Lac du Flambeau (LdF) in order to learn a little Ojibwe.

For some, this weekend was their first true exposure to the language; others came to expand their knowledge. Many brought their husbands, wives, children, or friends. From fluent elders to young children, to some who had never spoken any Ojibwe besides boozhoo and mii gwech, everyone shared their experiences, joined in the fun, and learned a great deal.

The Waaswaagoning Ojibwe-mowin Immersion Camp (waaswaa-goning, meaning "a place of torches," is the Ojibwe name for Lac du Flambeau) was led by Rick Gresczyk and Dennis and Lorraine Jones from the Anishinaabe Lifeways Ojibwe Language Team. They were assisted by Keller Paap, an Ojibwemowin teacher at University of Minnesota (U of M), Lisa La Ronge and Ben Burgess, both students of Ojibwe.

Jones, a professor of Ojibwe, U of M, his wife Lorraine, and Gresczyk, a teacher at the Four Winds Native American Magnet School, Minneapolis, are fluent speakers of Ojibwemowin. They regularly teach language classes and have run many immersion camps.



Rick Gresczyk, Ojibwe language instructor, teaches a song in Ojibwe at the Lac du Flambeau Ojibwemowin Immersion Camp. (Photo by Hans Veenendaal)

Gresczyk has been a teacher in the Minneapolis school system for over twenty years and has also taught Ojibwemowin at Augsburg College. He has published numerous workbooks and audio cassettes for learning Ojibwemowin, such as *Let's Speak Ojibwe* and *Everyday Ojibwe*, which are available on order.

Gresczyk and the Jones' organized the camp's language program. This included playing games, singing songs, identifying animals, and the practicing "The Speech," which most of the adult participants presented on the last day.

The camp did not focus only on learning the language. The weekend was centered around the spiritual and ceremonial aspect of Ojibwemowin. Saturday and Sunday began with sunrise ceremonies.

During daily Sharing Circles, Joe Chosa, Reva Chapman, and Cecilia Defoe—elders and language instructors at LdF—spoke about the Anishinaabe bimadiziwin, the "way of life." They shared their knowledge and experiences and emphasized the importance of Ojibwemowin in preserving their traditions.

The Immersion Camp was hosted by the LdF Public School and the Lac du Flambeau Ojibwe Language Program. Tinker Schuman, Anne Wewasson, and Beth Tornes organized the event in hopes of learning how to run future immersion camps on their own.

To order Ojibwemowin materials published by Rick Gresczyk, please contact: Eagle Works, Box 580564, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55458-0564.

"Hello my fellow human beings. My name is Hans Veenendaal. I don't know how to talk Ojibwe very much. I'll try talking Ojibwe. I come from Germany and Indiana. I live in Ashland and I work at Bad River. That is all I'm going to say now. Thanks for listening to me."

Students organize task force against "Indian" mascots in schools

(Continued from page 19)
learned to tolerate, it is not the name we call ourselves.

We are known by the names of our Nations—Oneida (On^yote?ak^ak), Hochunk, Stockbridge-Munsee, Menominee (Omaeqnomew), Chippewa (Anishanabe), Potawatomi, etc. There are many different nations with different languages and different cultural practices among the Native American peoples—as in Europe there are French, Swiss, Italian, German, etc.

"Why is an attractive depiction of an Indian warrior just as offensive as an ugly caricature?" Both depictions present and maintain stereotypes. Both firmly place Indian people in the past, separate from our contemporary cultural experience. It is difficult, at best, to be heard in the present when someone is always suggesting that your real culture only exists in museums. The logos keep us marginalized and are a barrier to our contributing here and now. Depictions of mighty warriors of the past emphasize a tragic part of our history; focusing on wartime survival they ignore the strength and beauty of

our cultures during times of peace. Many Indian cultures view life as a spiritual journey filled with lessons to be learned from every experience and from every living being.

"We never intended the logo to cause harm." That no harm was intended when the logos were adopted, may be true. It is also true that we Indian people are saying that the logos are harmful to our cultures, and especially to our children, in the present.

"Aren't you proud of your warriors?" Yes, we are proud of the warriors who fought to protect our cultures and preserve our lands. We are proud and we don't want them demeaned by being "honored" in a sports activity on a playing field.

Our people died tragically in wars motivated by greed for our lands. Our peoples have experienced forced removal and systematic genocide. Our warriors gave their sacred lives in often vain attempts to protect the land and preserve the culture for future generations. Football is a game.

"We are helping you preserve your culture." The responsibility for

the continuance of our cultures falls to Native people. We accomplish this by surviving, living and thriving; and, in so doing, we pass on to our children our stories, traditions, religions, values, arts, and our languages. Our cultures are living cultures—they are passed on, not "preserved".

"Why don't community members understand the need to change, isn't it a simple matter of respect?" On one level, yes. But in some communities, people have bought into local myths and folklore presented as accurate historical facts. Sometimes these myths are created or preserved by local industry. Also, over the years, athletic and school traditions grow up around the logos. These athletic traditions can be hard to change when much of a community's ceremonial and ritual life, as well as its pride, becomes tied to high school athletic activities.

The Native American population, in most school districts displaying "Indian" logos, is proportionally very small. When one of us confronts the logo issue, that person, his or her children and other family members, and anyone

else in the district who is Native American become targets of insults and threats; we are shunned and further marginalized—our voices become even harder to hear from behind barriers of fear and anger. We appreciate the support, and sometimes the sacrifice, of all who stand with us by speaking out against the continued use of "Indian" logos. When you advocate for the removal of these logos, you are strengthening the spirit of tolerance and justice in your community; you are modeling for all our children—thoughtfulness, courage and respect for self and others.



Miskwaabik, copper: A gift from the Creator

By Hans Veenendaal, HONOR Intern

Bay Mills, Mich.—Since 3000 b.c. copper has been used and revered by the Anishinaabeg, according to Michigan copper artisan Ed Gray. Gray instructed a class in traditional copper making at the Anishinaabemowin Institute, Bay Mills Community College. Participants had the opportunity to work copper just as their ancestor did thousands of years ago.

As part of the cultural emphasis of their program, teachers Doris Boissoneau, Barb Nolan, and Rose Trudeau hosted the workshop in Anishinaabe Copper Making for students and community members. Gray who has been working with copper for almost forty years, creates many works of art with copper and other metals and clay, using traditional methods. He also finds time to teach others about the history of clay and metal working in Anishinaabe culture.

Miskwaabik (or miskwabik), the Ojibwe word for copper, comes from two root words: miskwaa, meaning "red," and biiwaabik, meaning "metal." This red metal has gained an important place through its long history among Native Americans.

Nearly all of the copper used by prehistoric Indians in eastern North America comes from the area around Lake Superior, and artifacts made with copper from this region have been found as far away as Oklahoma, Florida and Labrador, says Gray. Lake Superior is a distinguished source of copper because it is one of the purest in the world (99.75 to 99.98 percent pure).

The Native Americans living in the Lake Superior region had a variety of uses for miskwaabik: knives, axes, awls, jewelry, eyed needles, etc. Because of its purity and easy workability, the copper was never smelted.

The Anishinaabeg who used copper obtained it either from rocks on the surface or from shallow mines dug around underground deposits. Some immense deposits were never utilized. One such was the Ontonagon Boulder, a three-ton mass of copper and rock that was revered by many Native Americans.

Those who participated in Gray's workshop at the Institute tried their hand at making copper bowls. Starting with a plain copper disk, a hammerstone, and a tree stump for an anvil; students bent and shaped their disks into bowls. Between shapings, the bowls were placed in a fire for a few minutes to soften the metal (a process called annealing), and then doused in the water of Lake Superior to make them cold enough to handle.



A participant in Ed Gray's Anishinaabe Coppermaking Workshop begins hammering her copper plate into a bowl. Participants used traditional tools: tree stumps as anvils, stones from Lake Superior as hammers, and large fire to soften the copper, and the Lake itself to cool the bowls. (Photo by Hans Veenendaal)

After hammering and annealing their bowls for eight or nine rounds, the students cleaned and polished their creations using the same materials available to historical Anishinaabeg: sand from the beach and water from Lake Superior. They then decorated the bowls with a tassel of horsehair and various beads and stones provided by Gray. Eventually, each bowl achieved a character as distinct as the person who created it.

Along with creating many pieces of art and jewelry, Gray devotes much of his time to making AIDS ribbons with copper—about 50 to 75 ribbons each day. Through his workshops, he hopes that all who participate will come to understand how the Anishinaabeg have regarded copper as a great gift from the Creator.

Wigwam serves as learning tool for Native Spirit Gifts

By Hans Veenendaal, Honor Intern

Red Cliff, Wis.—Marvin Defoe, Red Cliff, hopes his wigwam will help to educate the public on Native American traditions. With help from his daughter Angela, he has built a permanent style birch bark wigwam next to Native Spirit Gifts, Red Cliff, Wis.

Karen and Lavern Basina, owners of Native Spirit Gifts, had asked Defoe to create the wigwam as part of their store's cultural display. Defoe previously created a birch bark canoe, also on display.

Native Spirit Gifts has hosted several public programs, including a quilt show and Native American Flutist Frank Montano. These events are designed to showcase Indian artists and to teach others about Indian traditions. Now that Defoe is finished building, the Basina's hope to run some of their future programs in the wigwam.

Defoe has created a variety of different objects using birch bark, which he harvests himself. This particular wigwam should last for five or six years. Defoe hopes also to create a winter lodge. Such a structure, with double walls and a heated floor, kept Native Americans warm during long, cold winters. It could be comfortable inside, says Defoe, even in forty below weather.



Marvin Defoe, Red Cliff, is assisted by daughter Angela in constructing a wiigwaasigamig (wigwam) on the Red Cliff reservation. The frame is made of ironwood tied with wiigob, or basswood fiber. The wiigwaasigamig will be part of a cultural display. (Photo by Hans Veenendaal)

Mining update

New twists possible for Crandon mine project

By Ann McCammon-Soltis, GLIFWC Policy Analyst

Odanah, Wis.—Nicolet Minerals Company (formerly Crandon Mining Company) has proposed new studies that it claims could reduce environmental damage from the Crandon mine.

The company has announced that it is studying the feasibility of both grouting the orebody to reduce the flow of water into the mine and removing sulfide minerals (pyrite) from the tailings that will enter the Tailings Management Area.

According to Nicolet Minerals Company (NMC) representatives, grouting the orebody would reduce the amount of water that would flow into the underground mine. This would reduce the extent of the groundwater drawdown that is expected to lower lake, stream and wetland levels near the mine.

However, GLIFWC technical experts have raised concerns about whether the tests currently being performed will provide data useful for predicting reductions in mine water inflow. According to GLIFWC modeler John Coleman, "These test results may provide information about the amount of grout needed to plug up a small area, but may not provide the information necessary to predict how much less water would enter over the entire area of the mine."

The other proposal being studied is to remove pyrite from the tailings. This process would remove most of the acid generating potential of the tailings in the Tailings Management Area (TMA). However, the tailings that would be returned to the underground mine would be more acidic than originally predicted. GLIFWC technical experts are currently evaluating this proposal.

Because neither proposal has been made a part of NMC's Environmental Impact Report, the mining proposal has not formally been changed. If the changes are formally proposed, state and federal agencies evaluating the mine application will have to conduct detailed evaluations to determine whether they will provide the environmental benefits claimed by the company. These evaluations would likely delay the release of federal and state draft Environmental Impact Statements.



Ann McCammon-Soltis

Coalition demands DNR stop mine permit process

Keshena, Wis.—Conservation groups and legislators today called on the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to immediately discontinue all action on the pending application by the Nicolet Mineral Company to open a large sulfide ore mine near the Wolf River.

In a letter to DNR Secretary George Meyer the groups and legislators wrote, "All department processing of the application (to mine) must cease" until the mining company meets the requirements of the new Mining Moratorium Law.

The letter was released at simultaneous Press conferences held at the State Capitol in Madison and in Green Bay, Wausau, and Eau Claire. Forty conservation, environmental, Native American, fishing, hunting, senior citizen, and student groups signed the letter.

These groups formed the grass roots coalition that pushed for passage of the Mining Moratorium Law. The letter was also signed by 25 legislative cosponsors of the new law.

"The citizens of Wisconsin spoke loud and clear that we want a Mining Moratorium. The new Mining Moratorium law prohibits mining until it can be proven safe. The mining moratorium is the law of the land and must be obeyed," said Representative Spencer Black, Assembly author of the moratorium law.

The Mining Moratorium Law prohibits any new sulfide ore mines like the

proposed Wolf River Mine near Crandon until another sulfide mine has been operated and closed for at least 10 years without causing environmental pollution.

"Apparently, the DNR is continuing to process the application for the Wolf River mine even though the mining company has failed to meet the requirements of the mining moratorium Law. The mining company has not yet been able to provide even one example of a non-polluting sulfide mine," said Tom Soles of Walleyes for Tomorrow. "Until such information is submitted, their application is incomplete and all department processing of the application must cease."

"Wisconsin citizens know that the mining moratorium is now the law. They expect the DNR to enforce the law and will be surprised to learn that the DNR is continuing to process the mining company's application," noted David Newman from Wisconsin Citizens Action.

"It is a waste of time and money to have DNR staff continue processing the Wolf River Mine application. Why not reassign DNR staff to work on projects like cleaning up toxic waste that will improve our environment?" asked Becky Katers from Clean Water Action Council.

"Our message to DNR is very simple: The Mining Moratorium—It's the Law!" concluded Menominee Tribal Chairman Apesanahkwat.

Mining facts

Fact: Because of the nature of the rock, metallic sulfide mining is much more toxic than iron mining.

Fact: Almost all the ore bodies in northern Wisconsin are metallic sulfide. Over 300,000 acres of land in Wisconsin are already owned or controlled by mining companies with more being sought daily.

Fact: There has never been a successfully (closed) reclaimed metallic sulfide mine anywhere on earth where there have not been major environmental problems. 500,000 sites are currently contaminated. 52 sites are now Superfund sites (cleanup paid for by taxpayers, not mining companies.)

These facts provided by WATER. For more information write WATER, Box 31, Springbrook, Wis. 54875.



Canoe paddles rest against a tree bordering Rice Lake on the Mole Lake reservation. Where rice is traditionally harvested. The tribe fears that the proposed mine would damage the lake and rice crop. (Photo by Amoose)

Dust clouds blow into town from copper range

White Pine, Mich.—Early in May, high winds blew clouds of mine tailings from the nearby copper mine into White Pine, Michigan. Video shot at the scene showed clouds tall enough to obscure the mine's 500 foot tall smokestack. The repeated dust storms coated homes, cars and laundry and have residents worried about health risks that might result from breathing the fine material.

Though the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality assured residents there was little or no health risk, residents have reported nosebleeds and those with medical conditions that might be aggravated by dust have been given respirators for protection.

Initial tests of the suspect material reveal that 90% has a particle size of 23 microns or less, small enough to lodge deep in lung tissue. Repeated requests for chemical testing on the dust have gone unheeded by local and state officials.

The scale of the problem is immense. Just across the Michigan Highway 64 from the town and north of the Copper Range mine and smelter lie three gigantic piles 60 feet tall, covering nine square miles, they contain nearly 200 million tons of rock ground as fine as talcum powder. When the winds blow, the powder billows up in clouds.

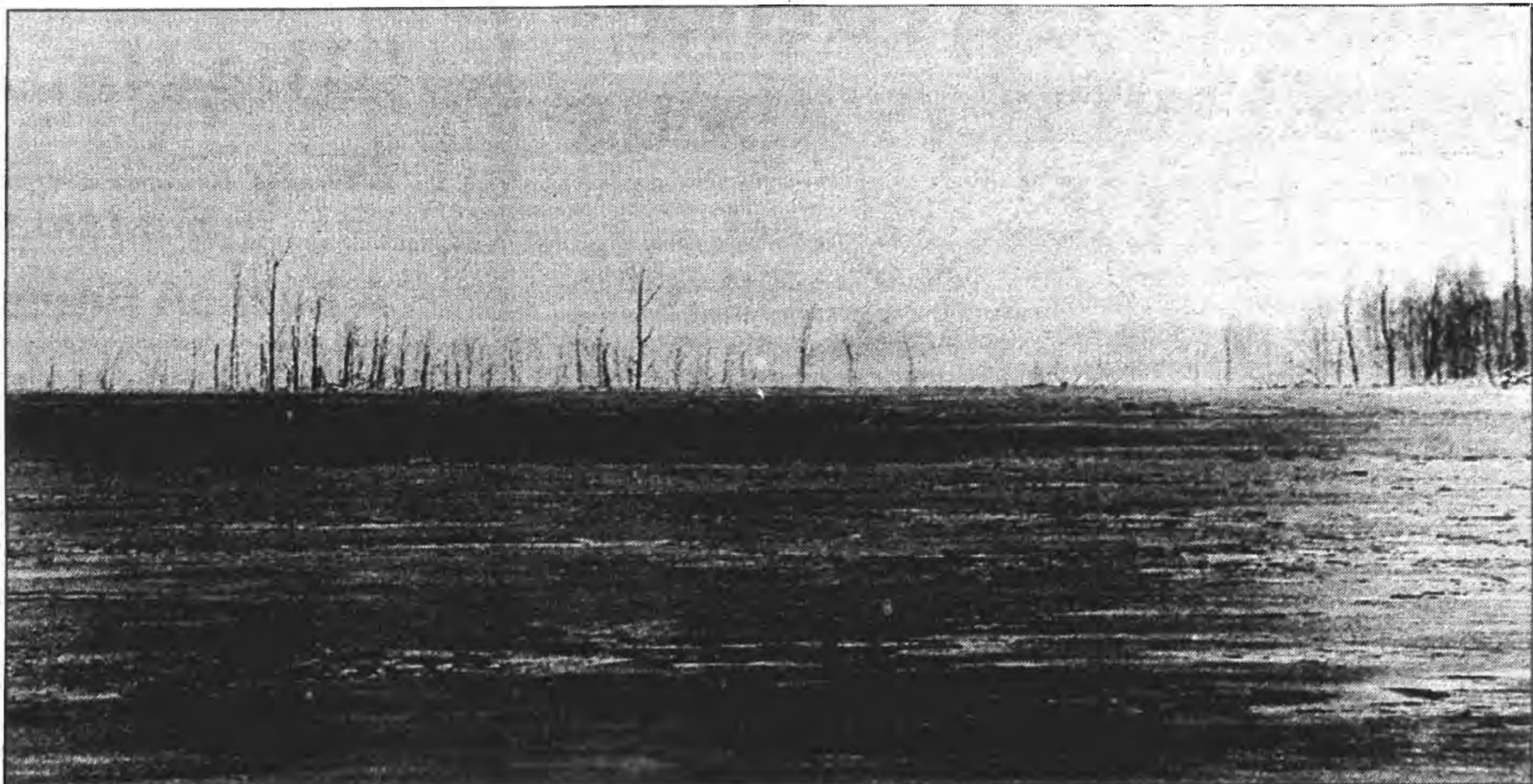
The company's solution for this miniature desert is to try and grow grasses and other plants that will take root and hold the dust. But out on the surface of the deadest of the tailings basins it is hard to believe that anything could live.

Here amid the massive expanse of gray dust, dead trees seem to appear and disappear mirage-like as they weave in and out of what look like mists. As gusts of wind pick up clouds of fine dust, they swirl high over the dead trees.

Since the dust storms started, FOCUS president Jim Bradley has been fielding calls from White Pine residents, helping them contact state and company officials. Thus far residents have held two meetings with the company to urge speedier action to keep down the dust.

In the short term the Copper Range is spreading wood chips and flooding the tailings, a process that will take several weeks. Growing plants to hold down the tailings is expected to take three years.

(Reprinted from *Superior Vision*, a newsletter for the Lake Superior Bioregion)



A man made desert, Copper Range's 11 square miles of tailings are the result of 50 years of mining. During May, winds blew dust from here into the nearby towns of White Pine and Ontonagon. (Photo by Bob Olsgard)

Rio Algom forges ahead in copper quest

*By Stuart McDougall
Northern Miner*

The following text was extracted from a feature in the Northern Miner June 29, 1998.

Once known principally for its production of uranium, Rio Algom (Rom-T) is steadily earning a reputation as a major producer of copper.

Last year, while addressing shareholders at the company's annual meeting, Chairman Gordon Gray touted the emergence of a "new" Rio Algom, predicting that the company would triple its annual copper production to 900 million lbs. by 2002.

"Our goal was a billion pounds of copper per year, and we'll be at the higher end of 300 million pounds this year," says Gray. "There is a slight

adjustment in Antamina, in that our interest will be 37.5%, rather than 50%, but essentially we are right on target."

Rio holds varying interests in five copper projects in North and South America: the producing Cerro Colorado, Highland Valley Copper and Bajo de la Alumbrera mines and the advanced-stage Antamina and Spence projects.

The company also holds a 100% interest in the advanced-stage Crandon zinc project in Wisconsin and a 25% royalty stake in the Polaris zinc mine in the Northwest Territories, though the latter is expected to be mined out during the first quarter of 2001.

Aside from increasing copper output, Rio is attempting to boost its annual production of zinc. As part of this goal, the major recently bought out Exxon Coal & Minerals, its joint ven-

ture partner in the Crandon zinc project, which has the potential to produce 330 Million lbs. zinc per year.

Proven resources are pegged at 55 million tonnes. Of this amount, 30 million tonnes average 9.4% zinc and 0.4% copper, whereas 25 million tonnes carry an estimated grade of 0.7% zinc and 1.8% copper. Current efforts are focused on addressing long-standing environmental concerns raised by local communities. According to the company, those concerns principally involve: the maintenance of water levels in local lakes and streams; the treatment of water discharged from the mine site; and the long-term care of tailings.

Says Gray: "We are taking a different approach [than Exxon], using our experience at Elliot Lake, where we worked closely with First Nations bands and where we are in the process of putting 11 uranium mines to bed. If we're successful, which we expect we will be, Crandon will be the most highly engineered mine ever built."

A new engineering design is being drafted to decrease the flow of water in and out of the mine and treat surplus mine water in an on-site facility. This proposal will also allow for the removal of sulphides from tailings, thus decreasing the possibility of acid-mine drainage.

Rio also plans to establish a long-term development program for local peoples to improve their standard of living beyond the life of the mine. The program will include funding for education, health care, upgrading agricultural practices and small-business support.

Gray says permits for Crandon could be in place as early as next year, paving the way for start-up sometime in the following three years.



After the boom Elliot Lake has been left with empty houses for sale. Now it is being promoted as a retirement community, offering homes at a very low cost.

Center of Excellence for soil surveys opens at FDLTCC

By Wendy Johnson
Cloquet Journal

Cloquet, Minn.—Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College (FDLTCC) made history on June 19th.

The college became the first American Indian land grant institution selected to establish and open a Center of Excellence.

The Center, which will focus on compiling soil survey maps to be digitized on computer, was established in partnership with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA)-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

During grand opening ceremonies at the college on June 19, NRCS State Conservationist William Hunt stated that the project started out as a "joint dream," with representatives from his department and the USDA working alongside FDLTCC President Jack Briggs and other members of the faculty in developing the program and establishing funding with an eye toward the mutual benefit of all.

According to Soil Scientist Thomas Neuenfeldt, project leader for the new Center, Minnesota currently has some 38 counties in need of the type of service that the new FDLTCC center has to offer, providing up-to-date means of recording soil surveys for better natural resource management.

"The type of map compilation process that will be done at the Center will provide a crucial link in the soil survey process," added Maurice Mausbach, deputy chief of soil survey and resource assessment for the NRCS in Washington, D.C.

Miranda

(Continued from page 17)

Miranda's work at GLIFWC reflects his interests at school—his studies focus on interpreting federal laws concerning Native Americans from an environmental perspective.

Miranda has long been involved with environmental issues. He has previously worked as a ranger for the National Park Service on Isle Royal and the Apostle Islands.

Miranda only has one more semester left until he completes his degree.

After graduating he hopes that he might be able to start his own practice.

Neuenfeldt explained that the mission of the center is twofold. First, participating students will be introduced to a scientific career and understanding basic soil survey and soil science concepts. Students will also be introduced to aerial photo interpretation and remote sensing fundamentals and will learn application of soil survey information in Geographic Information Systems.

Secondly, soil survey information will be transferred at the Center onto distortion-free overlays as part of the USDA-NRCS initiative to transfer all soil survey maps onto computer.

The Center will be staffed, along with Neuenfeldt, by up to six students in science-related fields who will assist with the soil map compilation.

The federal Center of Excellence program supports partnerships and enhanced working relationships between U.S. Department of Agriculture agencies and American Indian tribes.

The Center at FDLTCC will also serve as a facility to enhance the schools Environmental Studies Institute and will provide a location for interaction between students and liaisons of the USDA-NRCS.

(Reprinted from Cloquet Journal)

Tribal fishery management

(Continued from page 10)

Closer to the Red Cliff Band's collective heart lies another heritage fish, the lake sturgeon, which the band once relied upon for subsistence.

But logging, dams, and overfishing eliminated lake-run sturgeon from all Lake Superior streams except the Bad River in Wisconsin and the Sturgeon River in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Today, the Bad River Band is working with the USFWS to assess the breeding population of sturgeon in order to produce eggs for stocking in other Lake Superior streams.

Sturgeon and coasters also play roles in the Grand Portage Band's fisheries program. Since 1991, Nipigon-strain coaster eggs have been donated each year to the reservation by the Dorion Fish Culture Center.

In fall 1995, the first sexually mature fish from these stockings returned from the big lake to reservation streams. In fall two years ago, Newman recalls, "the 3-plus-year-old fish returning to spawn were crowding 3 pounds, with some over 20 inches."

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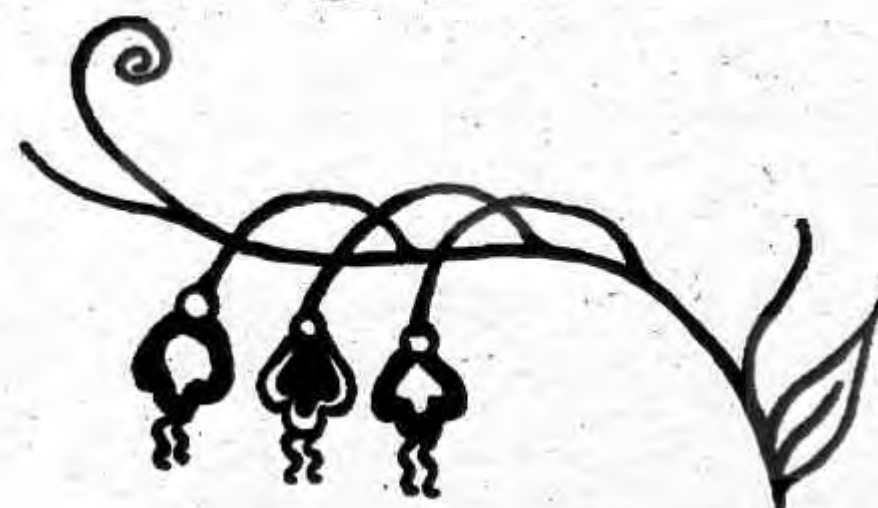
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Lee Hughes of the USFWS views the Grand Portage-USFWS coaster project he co-administers with John Johnson of the band a model of lowtech state-of-the-art reproduction: "This was a shoestring project administered on a few hundred dollars a year, yet so ingenious. The eggs were placed in the gravel of reservation streams, home to coasters 50 years ago.

"The band went into this project knowing they wouldn't be harvesting many fish," Hughes says. "But tribal elders caught coasters on reservation streams 50 years ago, so the band wanted to restore them.

"The Grand Portage Band has for 40 years worked on restoring lake trout to Lake Superior. Cooperatively funded habitat improvement projects have in-

creased the number of adult wild lakers in Lake Superior off the Grand Portage reservation, so stocking is no longer necessary."

But few things about restoration are so quantifiable. Hughes talks about the big coaster brook trout of Nipigon and Isle Royale that the bands and his agency are trying to bring back. "When brook trout go down to the big lake," he says "they become silvery. When they return in fall, even people who have seen them before are speechless at their iridescent hues

"And nobody is better able to restore and protect these fish than the tribes, because the key to restoring coasters, or sturgeon, or any fish, for that matter, is to keep them alive until they reach maturity.

The Grand Portage Band doesn't fish for them, so the net result is 2 1/2 to 4 1/2 pound brook trout from small streams. Where else could those vulnerable, beautiful creatures expect such protection?"

(Editor's note: J.Z. Grover, Duluth, Minnesota, specializes in conservation topics.)

Walking on

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—Two people have walked on recently whose lives' paths touched GLIFWC in important and meaningful ways. Marilyn Benton, Lac Courte Oreilles, passed on this spring after a long, painful battle with bone cancer, and Chuck McCuddy, who just retired from his position with the Great Lakes Agency of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), was just recently diagnosed with leukemia. The news of his death late in July was unexpected.

These were both people who stood staunchly behind the tribes, each in their own very distinct capacity and pursued, many times against the odds, a positive course. GLIFWC, the tribes, and Indian people have benefited from both of their work and commitment.

Remembering Marilyn

Marilyn's path crossed with GLIFWC's intermittently through the past fourteen years. Most recently, Marilyn was instrumental in helping us with our new publication, Where the River is Wide: Pahquahwong and the Chippewa Flowage. From the nursing home where she was convalescing for a time, she assisted us through her students in contacting and interviewing elders for the purpose of the book.

Despite her weakened condition, she was wholeheartedly enthusiastic both about helping us move forward with the book and involving her students at Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe Community College, to whom she was devoted. She worked with us and her students with patience and always with a smile.

It's her smile—one that was deep and warm and welcoming—that will always remain with me, a smile that was part of her being and shone in her eyes. It was always there, ready to put you at ease, ready to be assuring. That smile could break through quickly after anger and it remained strong through pain. Miigwetch, Marilyn, for the smile!

Marilyn also showed uncanny strength throughout her life. She advocated for women, for families, for the Anishinaabe way and was committed to healing and empowering. She was strong for her tribe and unafraid to speak up when the time was right to do so. She could be angry without hate; she could be loud without raising her voice. Miigwetch, Marilyn, for making a stand, speaking the words that needed to be said in a soft, strong, Anishinaabekwe way.



Marilyn Benton, Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe Community College instructor, continued teaching as she struggled with a rare form of bone cancer. She sought spiritual and physical healing through traditional ways. (Photo by Sue Erickson)



Chuck McCuddy received recognition from the State of Wisconsin and the Native American Fish & Wildlife Society just prior to his retirement a few months ago. GLIFWC's Board of Commissioners also recognized his work through a resolution and presentation at a board meeting. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

She was always learning, and not afraid to say she was still learning, not afraid to change. Maybe that was because Marilyn was at the heart-of-hearts a teacher, and she new learning and teaching never ends. Her students were varied, not just in classroom, but like me, all around her, coming and going on different paths.

I remember her voice on WOJB. When I heard it, I would see her smile, as I do today. Miigwetch, Marilyn, you have shown us strength, courage, patience, resilience, and blessed us with the warmth of an everlasting, Anishinaabekwe smile.

Chuck McCuddy

In his position as Natural Resource Specialist at the BIA's Great Lakes Agency, Chuck helped GLIFWC forge the way following the 1983 Voigt decision and the formation of the Commission. He was there from the start, a formidable back-up in his capacity as monitor of GLIFWC's contract during the time when the Commission took shape and grew. He was a friend and a guide.

His heart, mind, and effort had a good share in promoting the Commission's growth. As an advocate for treaty rights and tribal self-determination, he was a positive force through the trying, formative years of GLIFWC. Miigwetch, Chuck, for being there with "an eye on the prize" as GLIFWC emerged from infancy, and tribes began to implement off-reservation treaty rights.

As a forester, Chuck was particularly interested in fire-fighting and did a great deal in improving tribal fire-fighting capacities. His annual fire-fighting training sessions brought in the best to tribes and local communities throughout the region. His efforts have helped build tribal fire departments, improving the safety of firefighters, the community, and the surrounding forests. Miigwetch, Chuck, for your commitment to this effort which benefited Indian and non-Indian communities alike.

Although Chuck was heavily involved with monitoring contracts and working with a variety of tribal and inter-tribal programs, he is probably thought of for the twinkle in his eye and the occasional joke left on a desk that would lighten a day in the office. Chuck was never a true-blue bureaucrat; he was very human, gentle, personable, and encouraging. He wasn't afraid to remain himself, and never cared to live in an ivory tower. Miigwetch, Chuck, for bringing a spirit of humor into our work, and miigwetch, for being Chuck, not a Mr. McCuddy.

Chuck knew pain, grieving, hard times, loss—the whole of life's gamut. But he never forgot to be a friend, an advocate, someone to stand behind the effort. Miigwetch, Chuck, for standing behind GLIFWC, the tribes, and the staff. You were there with us through some of the toughest time both with a helping hand and a spark of humor!

Madeline Island Treaty Conference will honor Ojibwe ancestors, treaties and promote solidarity

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—Calling the upcoming Treaty Conference on Madeline Island “an historical event,” Lac du Flambeau Tribal Chairman Tom Maulson, says it will be the “second gathering of Ojibwe nations on the Island. We are coming back to re-establish our homeland. This is good. We need to protect it for our people.”

Honoring the treaties and affirming Anishinaabe solidarity are several themes of focus for the Madeline Island Treaty Conference on September 8-11. Co-sponsored by GLIFWC and the Kabapikotawangag Resources Council, Ontario, the gathering will bring together Ojibwe elders, tribal leaders, and spiritual leaders from GLIFWC’s member bands and six Ojibwe First Nations from Canada.

Both the 1842 and the 1854 Treaties were signed at LaPointe on Madeline Island, once a thriving Ojibwe community.

The Island remains important historically and spiritually to the Ojibwe people today, although the only remaining Indian-owned land lies at the north end and belongs to the Bad River band.

Ojibwe people continue to face many challenges affecting their treaties and sovereignty both in the

U.S. and Canada. The gathering will provide a time to discuss issues, share knowledge, and seek strength in a traditional manner.

“Honoring our treaties is important,” says Mic Isham, Lac Courte Oreilles tribal council, “because treaties are constitutionally guaranteed. They are our Constitutional rights. By virtue of treaties, we are nations, because the United States made treaties with other nations. For this reason we will participate in ‘wiikondiwin,’ feasting our treaties, because the treaties are central to our sovereignty.”

The proposed Treaty Conference agenda is being reprinted to the right. Although not on the agenda, we anticipate sweat and ceremonial lodges to be held.

Agenda co-coordinators/M.C.’s are Fred Kelly, Kabapikotawangag Resources Council, Ontario and Gerry DePerry, Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission.

For information regarding the Madeline Island Treaty Conference, or to pre-register contact the GLIFWC Public Information Office at (715) 682-6619 or email to pio@win.bright.net.



Treaty Conference Agenda Madeline Island • September 8 - 11

Tuesday, September 8: Feasting our Ancestors

Morning activities

Morning Ceremonies
Set-up/preparation

Afternoon

Circles

Role of Kitchi Anishinaabeg (elders)
Role of Ogitchidaakweg (women)
Role of Ogitchidaa (men)
Role of Oshki a aug (youth)

ANA Grant Trust Responsibility working session

Evening

Welcoming Feast/Ceremonies: Feasting our Ancestors
Social singing and dancing

Wednesday, September 9: Feasting the Treaties

Morning

Morning Ceremonies
Greetings from the Four Doorways
Significance of Madeline Island to the Ojibwe Nation

Afternoon

GLIFWC Board of Commissioners’ meeting
ANA Grant Trust Responsibility working session
Talking circles: Sharing teachings/language
Technical circles: Forestry/Fisheries

Evening

Feasting the Treaties: Feast and Signing of Cedar Island Protocol
Social singing and dancing

Thursday, September 10: Feasting the Ojibwe Nation

Morning

Morning Ceremonies
Ojibwe treaties: As long as the grass grows—Dr. Ronald Satz
Status of Ojibwe people in Canada—Phil Fountaine
Status of Ojibwe people in the U.S.—Doug Endreson

Afternoon

Technical Circles: Wild rice/Wildlife/Environmental issues
Traditional Circles: Keeping our language

Evening

Feasting the Ojibwe Nation: Feast

Friday, September 11

Closing ceremonies



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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.

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For more information on GLIFWC, please check out website at: <http://www.win.bright.net/~glifwcis/>



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