Masinaigan

A Chronicle of the Lake Superior Ojibwe

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A three-year-old Wisconsin elk in the Chequamegon National Forest. Like most Wisconsin elk, this bull is wearing a radio collar, enabling researchers to track its movements. (Photo by Paul Ostrum)

Tribes, Forest Service implement gathering MOU

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Red Cliff, Wis.—The first meeting to implement the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between tribes and the U.S. Forest Service took place March 3 at the Red Cliff reservation.

Following nearly five years of negotiations to produce and ratify the MOU for tribal gathering on national forests, representatives from both parties were pleased to move into the implementation phase.

Karen Danielsen, GLIFWC forest ecologist, will serve as a co-chairperson for the first technical working group (TWG) on national forest gathering issues. The co-chairperson from the Forest Service will be selected within the next few weeks.

The TWG will address issues that might arise regarding the implementation of the MOU. With spring seasons for birch bark and maple sap approaching, those seasons will be among the items of discussion for the first technical working group meeting, which is yet unscheduled.

Public comments on the MOU resulting from Forest Service-sponsored open house meetings will be collected and analyzed by the Forest Service. The analysis plus copies of the comments will be sent to GLIFWC for review as well.

Since the public comment period concludes on March 23rd., results should be available for discussion by the May 6th Voigt Intertribal Task Force meeting.

Paul Strong, public information officer, Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, said that the number of responses received to date are not particularly high in comparison to other issues which have been put out for public comment.

The Forest Service and the tribes will jointly consider incorporating any comments which would improve or clarify the MOU.

Masinaigan salutes its founder:

Walter Bresette, treaty right and environmental activist, walks on

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Red Cliff, Wis.—Walter walked-on last month on Sunday, February 21st. His leave-taking was sudden, abrupt and, at the age of 51, far too early.

A champion for aki (earth), for native peoples and human rights everywhere, his quick departure from this immediate surrounding has left a huge hole, a deeply felt empty spot in a giant circle of friends and acquaintances. A leader has walked-on and his unique combination of talents is difficult to replace.

Walter was of the Loon Clan, a leader and an orator. Like the loon's call, his voice was distinctive and provocative. It was not necessarily loud, but always captivating. His messages were not always popular, but were based on a firm, considered, personal commitment and a sense of right. He sought truth; he sought justice, and he was not afraid to speak.

The voice of the loon is not gone from our presence. It will be heard over and over again in our northern neighborhoods. Perhaps now that distinctive call will be, more than ever, a call to conscience, a reminder to re-examine our directions, consider the needs of others and the needs of the land, the water, the air, and the needs of the Seventh Generation.

Walter served as the first public information director for GLIFWC. His abilities as a communicator made some of the first inroads into the dark jungles of public ignorance on issues relating to treaty rights and tribal sovereignty. He was an out-spoken, firm, and steadfast advocate for the treaty rights of the Ojibwe at a time when tensions in the North were mounting and racial hatred clouded debate.

Many of the basic tools he gave GLIFWC remain today. As a writer, he gave GLIFWC *Masinaigan*, a means of getting factual information out to both the tribal people and the general public at a time when mainstream media focused more on the controversy than the facts. He was *Masinaigan's* first editor.

As an artist, he gave GLIFWC its first logo. This remains the prototype for the current logo used by GLIFWC today.

As an alliance-builder, Walter gave GLIFWC networks and alliances from his vast resource of contacts throughout Indian Country and the general public. He was one of the first to recognize and promote alliances between tribes and environmentalists, realizing that tribal treaty rights were a significant avenue towards protection of the environment.

His ability to recognize and promote alliances was Walter's forte'. Those alliances he saw as important vehicles to achieve common goals.

In *Walleye Warriors*, by Rick Whaley with Walter Bresette, Walter writes: "At each place, I stopped to listen, to learn and make allies. As I responded to those openly responding to me, each issue became a window to someplace else I could go to promote

Walter Bresette

the meaning of treaties in the ceded territory....Building alliances is about understanding oneself, believing in our own self-interest and cause, and then recognizing the common interests that exist between disparate groups.

We ally not because we are 'alike' nor to remake each other or to force compromise or correct tactics. We ally to affirm each other's strengths and to call upon that which we need but don't have ourselves. If we are to build even stronger alliances for our common goals, we must accommodate and encourage our personal and cultural differences, while tolerating our natural weaknesses, and thereby solidify our political partnerships."

Walter's wake and funeral, attended by hundreds of people, was a **(See Masinaigan, page 15)**

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MN off-reservation spring spearing/ netting season keeps enforcement and biological staff busy around the clock

Odanah, Wis.—Nightly monitoring of spring spearfishing landings by both biological and enforcement staff has always kept GLIFWC staff hustling for the duration of the three-to-four week season in Wisconsin ceded territories.

Staff is present at each landing as spearfishermen arrive in order to check permits and equipment and must wait until the last boat returns to shore, often in the small hours of the morning, in order to count and measure the catch.

In the Minnesota 1837 ceded territory the popularity of netting, which is also monitored on a daily basis, frequently adds morning hours to the already hectic schedule.

Nets are commonly set in the evening and lifted in the morning, so biological and enforcement crews must be available early to monitor the lift.

GLIFWC hires seasonal biological and enforcement crews to assist permanent staff with the intensive monitoring required to effectively manage the season.

Off-reservation spring spearing/netting is managed through a daily permit system to assure that the tribes do not exceed their declared quota for a given lake.

Daily bag limits

Once lakes have been declared open, tribal members must obtain a daily permit at their local registration station which identifies a daily bag limit and/or other harvest restrictions applicable to that particular lake. Daily permits may be issued until the tribal quota from the lake has been used.

Designated landings

Tribal members must also launch boats from designated landings so that monitoring crews can be present. Once at a landing, enforcement officers check for required tribal permits as well as for compliance with equipment regulations.

Size restrictions and bag limits

When a boat returns to the landing, the fish are counted and measured to be sure they comply to regulation sizes and bag limits. Violations are cited into tribal court.

Tribal members are urged to review tribal codes governing restrictions on both spearing and netting prior to exercising their treaty right. Copies of regulations are available at tribal registration stations.

Articles by Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Declarations for spring spearing/ netting season in MN/WI treaty ceded inland waters

Odanah, Wis.—GLIFWC released declarations for the 1999 treaty, open water spearing and netting seasons in Minnesota and Wisconsin on March 15th. Each band names the lakes they intend to spear/net and the amount of quota they intend to harvest.

The 1999 tribal quota of 55,000 lbs. of walleye for Mille Lacs Lake is based on the *Interim Treaty Fisheries Management Plan for the 1837 Minnesota Ceded Territory for the Years 1998-2002.*

The tribal quota increases by 15,000 lbs. each of the first five years. For instance, in year 2000, the tribal quota will be 70,000 lbs. in Mille Lacs Lake.

The 1999 Total Allowable Catch (TAC) for Mille Lacs Lake is 550,000 lbs. of walleye, leaving 495,000 lbs. available for the state-licensed fishery.

The Mille Lacs band declared 50% of the 55,000 lbs. tribal quota in Mille Lacs Lake. The remaining 27,500 lbs. of walleye are divided among seven bands who also retained treaty rights in the Minnesota 1837 ceded territory. Each of those bands declared for 3,928 lbs. of walleye in Mille Lacs Lake.

Those bands include the Fond du Lac band in Minnesota and the Bad River, Red Cliff, Lac Courte Oreilles, Lac du Flambeau, Mole Lake Sokoagon, and St. Croix bands in Wisconsin. All the bands intend to take walleye with spear and net.

In addition the bands named twenty-five other lakes in the Minnesota 1837 treaty ceded territory where they intend to spear walleye this spring. Lists of named lakes are available through GLIFWC or at tribal registration stations.

Bands declare 39,986 walleye in 255 Wisconsin lakes

In Wisconsin the Red Cliff, Bad River, Lac Courte Oreilles, Lac du Flambeau, Mole Lake Sokoagon, and St. Croix bands declared walleye and muskellunge harvest in 255 lakes within the treaty ceded territory. From a total combined safe harvest figure of 67,933 fish, the bands declared 39,986 walleye for the 1999 spring season.

Lakes were also declared for muskellunge, including five entries for chains of lakes. The combined muskellunge declarations is for 1,432 muskellunge from a safe harvest total of 2,683.

In 1998, the bands declared 37,821 walleye and harvested a total of 27,218 from 153 lakes. The 1998 walleye harvest in Wisconsin represented a total of 72% of the tribal quota.

The 1998 muskellunge harvest totaled 271 muskellunge taken from 60 lakes. The harvest represented 19.6% of the tribal quota.

GLIFWC inland fisheries crews gear up for spring assessments

230 miles of Chippewa Flowage shoreline to be included

Odanah, Wis.—Conversation regarding ice conditions on various lakes and the possibility of an early break-up has begun to float around GLIFWC offices as staff begin to anticipate the sudden burst of activity that accompanies ice-out in the ceded territory lakes.

GLIFWC Inland Fisheries Section staff prepare both for the monitoring of spearfishing landings throughout the ceded territory and for the scheduled round of lake assessments, which also begin with ice out and must be completed during the spring walleye spawn.

Hiring of additional seasonal help is completed, according to GLIFWC Inland Fisheries Biologist Glenn Miller, and electrofishing boats and nets are checked and readied for the upcoming season's workout.

Spring adult walleye population assessments keep crews out and about the ceded territory on nightly surveys of listed lakes. Starting at dusk, electroshocking boats move along the circumference of each lake, sampling walleye from the shallows. The fish are stunned and scooped into a holding tank aboard the boat. Data, such as measurements, are taken; fish are tagged and/or fin clipped, and finally returned to the water.

GLIFWC's four electrofishing boats and two netting/work-up boats will be joined by three electrofishing boats and crew from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and one from the St. Croix band of Chippewa.

In Minnesota, GLIFWC will be doing electrofishing surveys on both Goose and Green Lakes in Chisago county. Summer gill netting assessments will be done in East and West Rush Lakes later in the season.

In Wisconsin eight long-term study Lakes will undergo an annual assessment. GLIFWC crews will assess Siskwit Lake, Bayfield County; Squirrel Lake, Oneida Co., Butternut Lake, Forest Co. and Squaw, Annabelle, Kentuck, and Sherman Lakes in Vilas Co. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) will complete an assessment on Bass-Patterson Lake, Washburn Co.

Erick Bender, Dave Stone, GLIFWC fisheries aides, and Brett Fessel, Chippewa Ottawa Treaty Fishery Management Authority, perform spring walleye assessments on Lake Gogebic, Michigan in the spring of 1998. (photo by Lynn Plucinski)

Other Lakes in Wisconsin included on the 1999 spring assessment schedule are: Lake Owen and Upper Eau Claire Lake, Bayfield Co.; Lake Metonga, Forest Co.; Maiden Lake, Oconto Co; Buckskin Lake, Oneida Co.; Chippewa Flowage, Sawyer Co.; Little Arbor Vitae Lake and Little John Lake in Vilas Co.

Due to its expanse, 230 miles of shoreline, assessing the Chippewa Flowage will entail a joint venture, according to Miller. WDNR crews will join GLIFWC, USFWS, and the St. Croix boat for the assessment.

Assessment work will include fyke netting of adult spawning walleye, spawning muskie, and northern pike, along with electroshocking.

The netting could take up to ten days to fulfill the numbers needed, Miller says. Then a one night recapture run will be attempted, using numerous electofishing boats from all agencies involved. The expansive body of water has not been surveyed since 1990.

In Michigan, Duck Lake and Pomeroy Lake, both in Gogebic County, are listed for assessments.

Whichever way the Court rules...

Mille Lacs Chief Executive calls for dignity and understanding

Editor's note: *The hiatus between the Supreme Court hearing of the Mille Lacs case and the final ruling is filled with anxieties, hopes, and fears. One neighbors' victory will be another neighbors' loss. The wait seems long, and the decision could have far-reaching implications. Following the hearing, Mille Lacs Chief Executive Marge Anderson sent out the letter below to Mille Lacs tribal members. In it she expresses the need for all to remain considerate, compassionate, and proud—whichever way the court rules.*

Dear Friend:

Soon, the United States Supreme Court will hand down a decision in the case involving the treaty rights of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians. This decision will mark the end of a chapter in history for all of those who love Lake Mille Lacs, Indian or non-Indian.

For everyone on the Lake, the last few years have been an unpleasant period of our shared history. In opposing us, some of our non-Indian neighbors did what they felt they had to do. In bringing the case, we as a government and as Anishinabe People did what we knew we must.

The outcome of this case will be historic. These times and events will be remembered by future generations, and respected as an important part of our history. Yet, when this historic decision comes down, it must mark the end of bitterness and disharmony. Whatever the outcome, on the day the we learn of the Court's ruling, it is the final ruling. A new day must dawn.

What if the Band wins the case?

The Department of Natural Resources of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians is mandated by our traditions and required by Band Law to protect the resources of the Band. Our traditions will not allow us to ever take more than we need.

We have proven our ability to manage the resources under the Eighth Circuit court decision and would continue to do so under the Supreme Court ruling. Our Elders taught us to be responsible stewards of the land, the water, the Plants, and the animals. As Anishinabe, the fish are especially sacred. We would never harm them. They are a gift from the Great Spirit.

To Band Members, I cannot as Chief Executive mandate how you will respond if the Court sides with the Band. But as your Elder, as your relation, and as your fellow Band Member, I do ask that you carry yourselves with the dignity that is your heritage. Do not be boastful. Respect the very real anguish that many of our non-Indian neighbors may feel in the event that the Court sides with the Band. Reach out to them in peace and in friendship, and reassure them that we will always protect this most precious resource.

This case was based upon our history, our history, our traditions, and the teachings of our Elders. Follow in the path of Migizi, Shawbashkung, and all those who walked on before us. Let us prove to one and all that we respect the teachings of our Elders. Show sensitivity, dignity, honor and respect.

What if the Band loses the case?

If we do not win this case, life will go on. It is my fondest hope that there will be no hard feelings by the Band members against our neighbors. Although you will grieve, I ask that you respect the Court, respect the law, and respect the rights of our neighbors.

A loss will be difficult for us. Yet our spiritual and cultural traditions teach us that we must be forgiving, and show love toward all living things and beings. The Court may take away our rights, but no one can ever take away our honor, our courage, our dignity, or our spirit. These, you can only give away, and you must never do so. We must respect the rights of all.

Likewise, I would also hope that those who opposed the Band would respect the pain that many Band members will feel in the event that the Band loses this case. I would ask that you show respect toward us, your Indian neighbors, and help us to heal our community.

Regardless of the outcome

Whether the Mille Lacs Band wins or loses this case, we must move on. For over one hundred years, we have shared this lake with our non-Indian neighbors. As with all neighbors, we have had our tough times. It is my hope that when this decision is rendered, all of us, Indian and non-Indian alike, can rise to the occasion.

Let us not be bitter, let us not be boastful, let us not hurt each other. This decision will be a chance to show our children, win or lose, that neighbors can have a civil dispute—and when that dispute ends, a new day dawns. As a community of Indians and non-Indians, this could be our finest hour.

Soon, we will enter into a new century at Lake Mille Lacs. Let us enter into the new millennium with the peace that comes with the resolution of a difficult matter.

The Court will have resolved the issue that separated some of us from each other. Let us now concentrate on the matters which can unite us: the future of the lake, the preservation of our resources, and the future of all of our children.

A new day will dawn at Lake Mille Lacs. Let us face it with friendship, unity and hope.

Mii gwetch
Marge Anderson, Mille Lacs Chief Executive

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 March through June 1999 are as follows:

Wisconsin 1837, 1842 Treaty ceded territory

Spearing
Netting
Hook and line/ice fishing
Small game hunting, seasons vary by species
Maple sap gathering

Minnesota 1837 Treaty ceded territory

Spearing
Netting
Hook and line/ice fishing
Small game hunting, seasons vary by species
Maple sap gathering

Michigan 1836 Treaty ceded territory

Spearing
Netting
Hook and line/ice fishing
Small game hunting, seasons vary by species
Maple sap gathering

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

PERM's Howard Hanson subject of sex harassment suit

By Jon Tevlin
MN Star Tribune

Minneapolis, Minn.—Two former employees of Minneapolis-based ProColor Service Inc., have filed a sex discrimination and sexual harassment suit against the company ant its CEO, Howard B. Hanson.

Howard Hanson

Hanson, a one-time candidate for Minnesota attorney general and for the U.S. Senate, also is known for organizing legal opposition to Native American fishing and hunting treaty rights.

Attorneys for Hanson said that he denies the allegations.

The suit claims that Hanson discriminated against at least two female employees, Ingrid Gross and Suzanne Schenk, by offering unequal pay and job assignments, and sexually harassed them by making sexual jokes and statements and propositioning them. They also allege that they were treated unfairly after declining his advances.

The plaintiffs' attorney, James Wicka, has asked the court to recognize the case as a class-action suit that could include up to 50 current and former female employees.

Wicka said that Gross and Schenk filed charges of discrimination against ProColor with the U.S. Equal Opportunity Commission, which has issued notices of the plaintiffs' right to sue.

Hanson once ran as a Republican candidate for attorney general and as a Resource Party candidate for U.S. Senate. But his is best known for leading a lengthy battle in federal court against the Chippewa tribe over tribal hunting and fishing rights.

(Reprinted from the Minneapolis Star Tribune.)

Surveys indicate increase in treaty gathering in national forests

By Karen Danielsen, GLIFWC Forest Ecologist

Odanah, Wis.—Tribal harvest regulations require tribal members to obtain an Off-Reservation Natural Harvest Resources Permit for gathering wild plants and non-timber forest products on national forest lands.

In addition, tribal members that gather balsam boughs, princess pine, and ginseng for commercial purposes on national forest lands must obtain a Tribal Commercial Gathering Permit. Since 1995, GLIFWC staff have used data regarding the number of these permits issued to help monitor tribal harvest.

GLIFWC staff have also requested that tribal members complete surveys in an attempt to document actual harvest. Questions on the survey are limited to the few wild plants and non-timber forest products that seem to be gathered in relatively large quantities primarily, but not always, for commercial purposes.

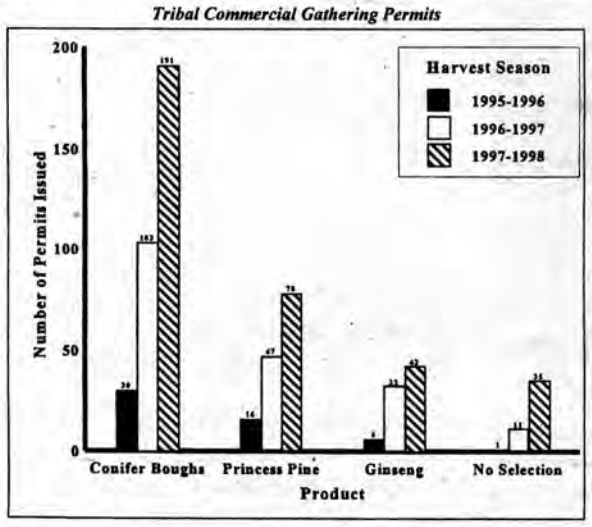
It must be emphasized, however, that tribal members currently gather and have traditionally gathered over 300 plant species for a variety of uses.

The first version of the GLIFWC Harvest Survey, issued for the 1995-96 harvest season, limited questions to the harvest of conifer boughs, princess pine, and ginseng.

For the 1996-97 and 1997-98 harvest seasons, a revised survey included additional questions for the harvest of birch bark and firewood. Survey results for the 1997-98 harvest season have not yet been compiled

The interest by tribal members to obtain both types of permits continues to increase each year. The number of tribal members obtaining an Off-Reservation Natural Resources Permit (specifically validated for National Forest wild plant and non-timber forest product gathering) climbed from 362 during the 1995-96 harvest season to 1,681 during the 1997-98 harvest season. Likewise, the number of Tribal Commercial Gathering Permits issued rose from 31 during the 1995-96 harvest season to 227 during the 1997-98 harvest. We expect this trend to continue in future years.

Tribal Commercial Gathering Permits



Results from the GLIFWC Harvest Survey reveals that actual harvest also continues to increase each year. The number of tribal members reporting actual harvest jumped from 17 during the 1995-96 harvest season to 66 during the 1996-97 harvest season. It must be noted that, since tribal members voluntarily complete this survey, full participation cannot be guaranteed. Consequently, actual harvest could possibly be higher.

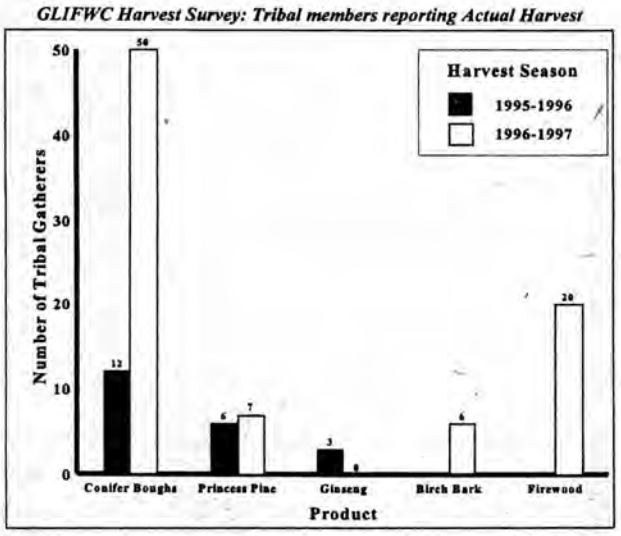
When obtaining a Tribal Commercial Gathering Permit, tribal members are requested to identify the commercial product to be harvested. For every harvest season so far, conifer boughs have been selected most often, followed by princess pine, and then ginseng. Possibly, the easy access to and abundance of conifer boughs makes them most suitable for commercial gathering.

Results from the GLIFWC Harvest Survey corresponds with the Tribal Commercial Gathering Permit data when the analysis is limited to the products specified on the permits. Tribal members report more actual harvest of conifer boughs, followed by princess pine, and then ginseng. However, the results change when birch bark and firewood are included in the analysis. Tribal members report more actual harvest of birch bark than ginseng and more actual harvest of firewood than princess pine.

Also when obtaining a Tribal Commercial Gathering Permit, tribal members are requested to identify the forest from which they expect to harvest. For every harvest season so far, the Chequamegon National Forest has been selected most often, followed by the Nicolet National Forest.

Recently, these two forests officially merged. Fewer tribal members have expressed intentions of harvesting in the Michigan and Minnesota forests. Interestingly, results from the GLIFWC Harvest Survey reveal that, so far, actual harvesting has apparently occurred only on the Chequamegon National Forest.

GLIFWC Harvest Survey: Tribal members reporting Actual Harvest



Finally, the GLIFWC Harvest Survey provides information on the quantities of actual harvest. The total number of conifer boughs gathered by tribal members increased from 10 tons during the 1995-96 harvest season to 36 tons during the 1996-97 harvest season.

However, the average quantity harvested by each gatherer remained relatively constant at 0.8 tons during the 1995-96 harvest season and 0.7 tons during the 1996-97 harvest season.

The total amount of princess pine gathered by tribal members increased from 138 lbs. during the 1995-96 harvest season to 525 lbs. during the 1996-97 harvest season. The average quantity harvested by each gatherer also increased from 34 lbs. during the 1995-96 harvest season to 75 lbs during the 1996-97 harvest season. For ginseng, gatherers reported a harvest of .75 lbs. (an average of .25 lbs. for each gatherer) during the 1995-96 harvest season and no harvest during the 1996-97 harvest season.

No comparisons between years can be made for birch bark and firewood harvesting because the first year of the survey did not include these forest products. However, the revised survey issued the following year revealed that, during the 1996-97 harvest season, tribal members gathered a total of 25 pieces of birch bark with an average harvest per gatherer equaling approximately 4 pieces. In addition, during the 1996-97 harvest season, 74 lbs. of firewood were gathered with an average harvest per gatherer equaling approximately 4 lbs. In future GLIFWC harvest surveys, the units of firewood gathered will be changed from lbs. to cords.

In summary, tribal harvest continues to increase yearly. Possibly, a growing familiarity with tribal harvest regulations can account for this increase. GLIFWC staff will continue to monitor tribal harvest. Miigwech to those tribal members who have taken time in the past to complete the GLIFWC Harvest Survey, and we encourage greater participation in the future.

Mille Lacs band member Leonard Sam slices away a piece of birch bark from a tree in the Chequamegon National Forest. (photo by C.O. Rasmussen)

Interpretation of mining law questioned during permit process for Crandon mine

By Ann McCammon-Soltis, GLIFWC Policy Analyst

The permitting process for the proposed copper mine near Crandon, Wisconsin is ongoing. The process is a long, detailed and highly technical one. It is easy to lose track of the issue as the system grinds laboriously towards a decision to permit the mine or deny.

Currently, consideration is being given to interpretation of the recently passed Mining Moratorium legislation.

Nicolet Minerals Company has submitted the names of three mines to Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources regulators that it claims meet the requirements of the Mining Moratorium law. The Moratorium law states that the DNR must determine that:

> a mining operation has operated in a sulfide ore body. . .for at least 10 years without the pollution of groundwater or surface water from acid drainage. . .or from the release of heavy metals. . .
> [and that]
> a mining operation that operated in a sulfide ore body. . .has been closed for at least 10 years without the pollution of groundwater or surface water from acid drainage. . .or from the release of heavy metals.

An issue currently being debated is whether both of the above requirements must be satisfied by one example mine, or whether two mines can be used, one to satisfy each condition. Nicolet Minerals Company has taken the position that two example mines can be used, but has submitted information about three mines.

The following table profiles of each of the mines in comparison to the proposed Crandon mine:

Ann McCammon-Soltis

	Sacaton Mine	*McLaughlin Mine*	*Cullaton Lake Mine*	*Crandon Mine (proposed)*
Owner	ASARCO, Inc.	Homestake Mining Co.	Homestake Canada, Inc.	Rio Algom, Ltd.
Location	40 miles S of Phoenix, AZ	70 miles N of San Francisco, CA	190 miles N of Churchill, Manitoba, Canada	5 miles S of Crandon, WI
Years Open/Closed	12/15	14/0	9/14	N/A
Mining Method/ Primary Mineral	Open pit/Copper	Open pit/Gold	Underground/Gold	Underground/ Copper and Zinc
% Sulfide	1-4%	No data available	1-3%	40-70%*
Wastewater Disposal Method	Evaporation	Evaporation	Summer – overflow to marshland Winter—none, frozen	Discharge to absorption ponds 864,000 gal/day
Tons of Ore Processed	33 million tons	26 million tons	422,000 tons	55 million tons

*Zinc ore averages 70% sulfide by volume

EPA clarifies authority to issue air operating permits on Indian lands

Chicago, Ill.—U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) said it is clarifying its authority to issue operating permits to major air pollution sources to protect air quality on Indian lands.

EPA said it is revising a Clean Air Act regulation so that it can run the permits program until tribal programs are explicitly approved for the areas.

The rule, signed by EPA Administrator Carol Browner on February 8, will be effective 30 days after its publication in the ***Federal Register***.

Sources will have up to one year from that date to apply to their EPA regional office for an operating permit. EPA will issue these permits over a two-year period.

EPA will work cooperatively with the tribes, the U.S. Department of Interior, States, and other stakeholders as needed to assess whether sources are located on Indian lands.

Under existing EPA regulations, tribal governments can request authority to carry out air programs, including permit programs, within their jurisdictions, but EPA retains responsibility for environmental protection until tribes receive this authority. To help tribes that want their own programs to increase their expertise and capacity, EPA provides technical support and other assistance.

Throughout the country, some 100 sources on Indian lands are likely to be affected by the rule. In EPA Region 5, about 10 sources are expected to be affected. The majority of sources affected are expected to be in industries such as timber, natural gas compressor stations and power plants.

Indian lands include all land within the limits of any Indian reservation under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Government (including land owned by non-Indians), all dependent Indian communities within the borders of the United States, and Indian allotments where title still exists.

The ***Federal Register*** notice can be downloaded from EPA's World Wide Web site under "recent actions" at: http://www.epa.gov/ttn/oarpg.

For more information about the revision, call Candace Carraway, Environmental Protection Agency Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards, (919) 541-3189.

(Reprinted from an EPA news release, February 19, 1999.)

Mexico border states join Indians in opposing Ward Valley Facility

By Sue Vorenberg
Native American Report

American Indian and environmental activists opposing the building of a low-level radioactive waste burial facility in California's Ward Valley now have the support of their Mexican neighbors.

Mexican lawmakers passed a resolution Jan. 30 opposing the facility, and calling upon Calif. Gov. Grey Davis (R) to stop the project. The resolution is the product of several meetings between tribal leaders, environmentalists and Mexican officials. It was passed by the border states of Baja California, Sonora, Chihuahua, Newvo Leon, Coahuila and Tamaulipas.

American Indian and environmental groups asked for support from the Mexican states because they say the facility, which will bury low-level nuclear waste in unlined trenches, could contaminate ground water. That could potentially channel waste to the Colorado River and the Fort Mojave Reservation, 18 miles from the site. The Colorado also flows through other tribal reservations and into Mexico.

"The tribes met with Mexican officials to warn them this is a major threat to the people of Mexico," said Dave Harper, spokesperson for the Colorado River Indian Tribes.

Tribal chair criticizes U.S. Ecology

"All the other radioactive waste dumps have leaked like that and they're all managed by the same people—U.S. Ecology," said Nora Helton, tribal chair of the Fort Mojave tribe. "Basically, our concern is the threat to our tribal people.

"We have protected water rights along the Colorado River and we're concerned there are ground water pathways that lead back into the Colorado River from the proposed site," Helton said.

"We're also concerned about the transportation of waste to such a facility. Not only that, but the area where they want to build it is part of our ancestral homelands and is a habitat for the threatened desert tortoise."

Alan Pasternak, technical director of the California Radioactive Management Forum, said the tribes' concerns are unfounded and the National Academy of Sciences thoroughly investigated the facility in a 14-month 1995 study, which deemed it was safe.

"The panel of scientists unanimously agreed the project poses no threat to the Colorado River," Pasternak said. "The National Academy of Sciences calculations show that even if the waste from the site gets there it would have no impact.

(See Indian owned lands, page 9)

Fall lake trout figures show overall stable trend in spawner abundance

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By Peter David
GLIFWC Wildlife Biologist

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The CT was generally considered north of historic turkey range, and still unsuitable for turkeys because of the severity of the winters and the accompanying deep snows which limit food availability.

As a result, tribal regulations in the first off-reservation seasons were coordinated with state quotas in Zone 32, but allowed the harvest of 1 bird per day in the remainder of the CT. This was done to make it legal to take the odd bird that dribbled into areas that were not managed, and not considered suitable for turkeys.

However, biologists are the students of the animals they study, and the turkeys proved they still had more to teach about what is and isn't turkey habitat. The birds continued to expand their range northward in the state. As suitable habitat downstate became stocked, a few releases up in the north were attempted.

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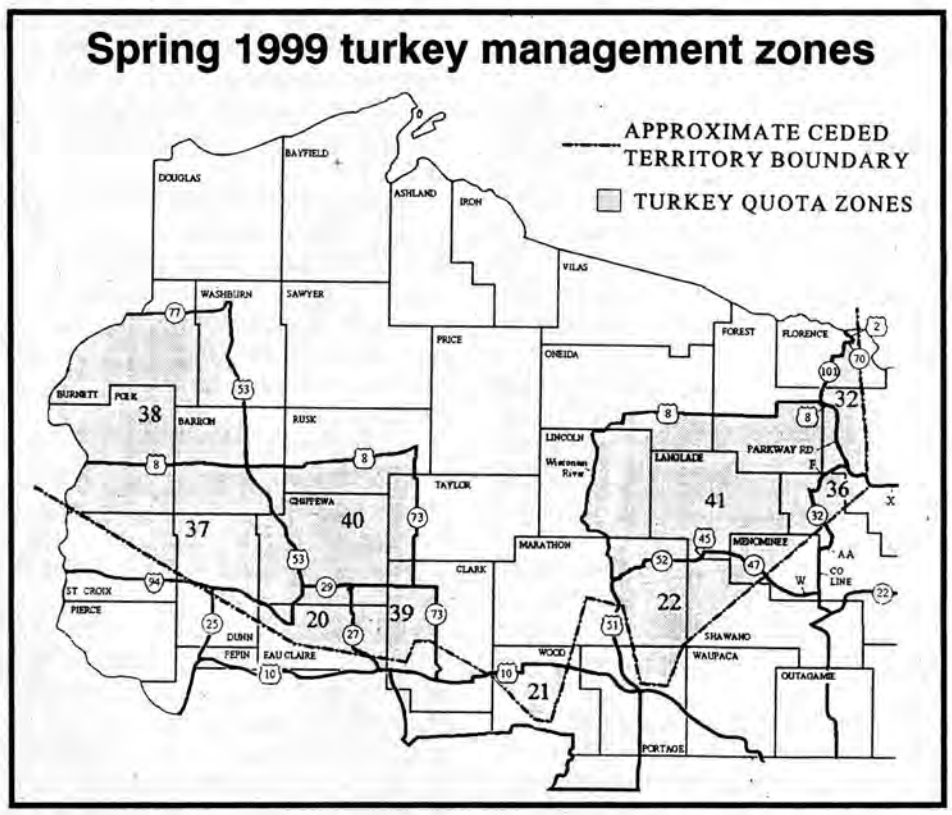

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Ron Parisien, GLIFWC wildlife technician, examines a radio-collared bobcat that apparently starved after attacking a porcupine. Quills covered its mouth, legs, and feet, making it extremely difficult to hunt. (photo by C.O. Rasmussen)

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The adult male was one of four bobcats fitted with radio collars that Parisien monitored last winter in the Chequamegon National Forest.

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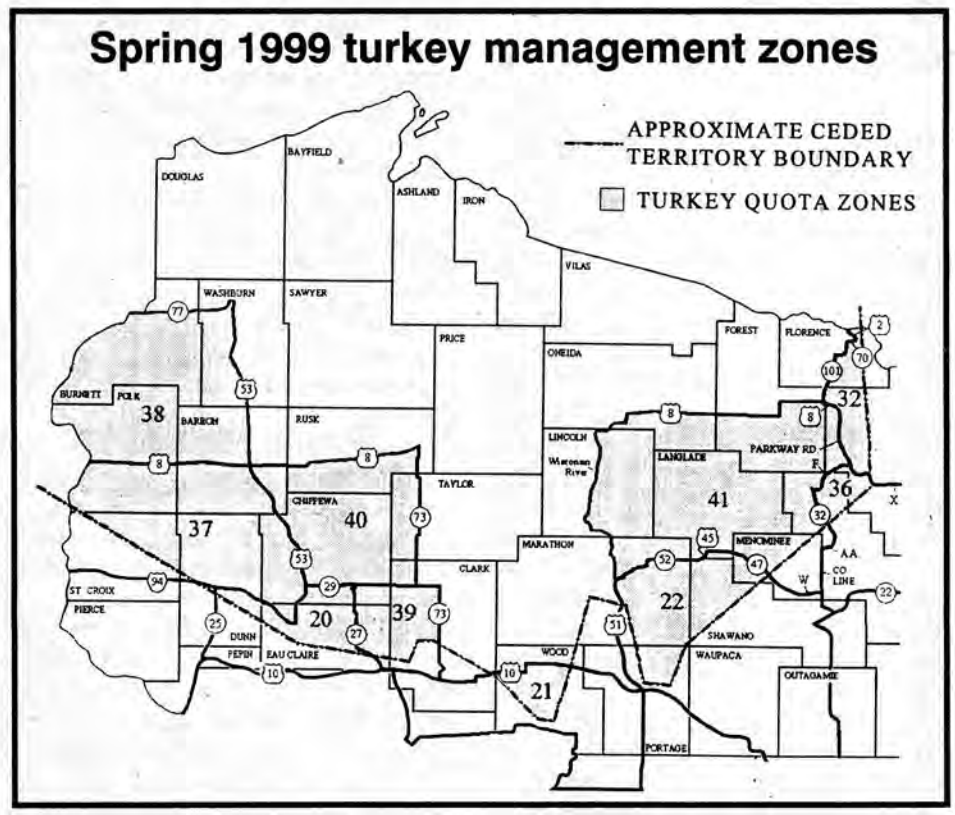

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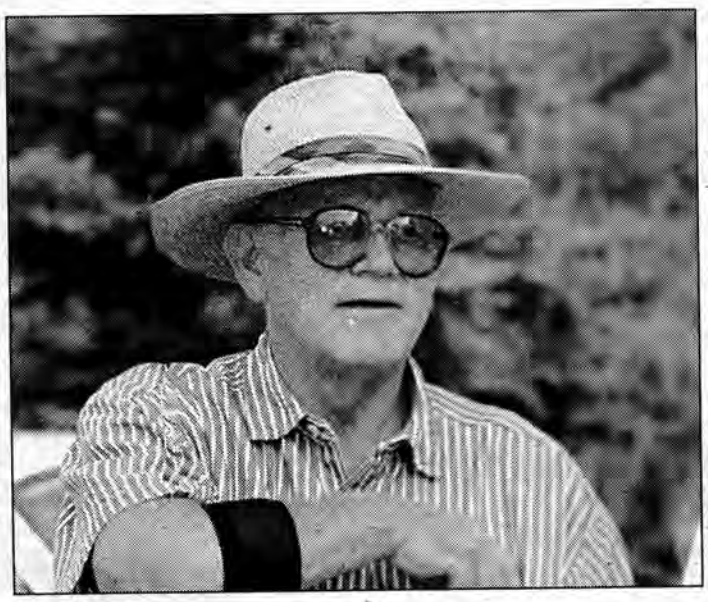
Naadoobii, to gather sap

By Karen Danielsen
GLIFWC Forest Ecologist

Odanah, Wis.—Joe Rose, a Bad River tribal member, pays close attention to the weather during March. He waits for sunny days with snow melt and freezing nights. These conditions signal the movement of maple sap *(ziinzibaakwadwaaboo)* and the time to work the sugar bush *(iskigamizigan)*.

The importance of this season is reflected by the Ojibwe words, *ziinibaakwadoke-giizis* and *onaabani-giizis*, which refer to March as the sugar making moon and April as the maple sap boiling moon, respectively.

Joe's sugar bush, found adjacent to the Bad River, has been in his family for many years. Joe learned from his father and grandfather the process of gathering and boiling maple sap to make sweet, delicious syrup. Some of the equipment he uses today is over 100 years old. In keeping with the family tradition, his brother, Carl, and son, Joe Dan, will sometimes help.



Joe Rose

At the appropriate time, usually during the middle of March, Joe makes his initial visit to his sugar bush camp. He walks the half mile from the road to the river bottom, pulling behind him a toboggan carrying all his equipment. Soon he finds himself in a rich hardwood forest surrounded by towering sugar maples, red maples, basswood, and cedar. He has arrived at his camp.

He revels in this return and surveys the camp for needed repairs. He checks his lean-to, the maple sapling poles that provide the frame work, the thick plastic tarp used as a protective cover, and the sturdy plywood flooring. Occasionally, he might find damage from heavy snows or hungry, gnawing porcupines.

Joe then spends two full days of shoveling snow to clear his camp, exposing an elm bark covering over the soil. This covering keeps the camp from becoming too muddy. He also repairs and levels the two hearths, of different sizes, used for boiling the maple sap. These hearths have been heaved up and down by winter frost. Finally, he spends the next week laboriously cutting wood. He needs at least one face cord, if not more, to boil all the gathered sap.

Before gathering sap, Joe conducts a pipe ceremony and gives an offering of tobacco to demonstrate appreciation and respect.

To begin gathering sap, Joe inserts a tube, or spile (negwaakwaan), into each maple tree. His father first used spiles made out of sumac, then copper. Now, Joe uses commercially produced spiles. Below each spile, he nails into the tree a one gallon metal can, which had been previously sterilized with a mixture of soapy water and clorox. Traditionally, tribal members used birch bark buckets *(biskitenaaganan)*.

Joe selects large sugar maples that measure as great as two feet in diameter. Red maples can also be tapped, but the sap must be boiled longer because it has a lower sugar content. When working by himself, Joe usually taps 50 trees. With help, he can tap as many as 150 trees. Then, as long as the sun continues to shine, the trees will provide an abundance of sap.

Usually after one to several days, the gallon cans are brimming with sap. Joe uses his toboggan to gather them up. He carefully pours the sap into a large holding tank lined with clean plastic. When the holding tank contains more than 300 gallons, he gradually siphons the sap into a large pan placed on the largest hearth ready to be boiled.

Joe boils his sap at night. The first boiling takes approximately twelve hours which he starts at dusk. He awakens every two hours to keep the fire burning hot. He uses a paddle with a screen to skim off mineral deposits that float to the top of the boiling sap. After he completes the first boiling, he siphons the reduced and thickened sap into a smaller pan on the smaller hearth for a two hour "finishing" boil.

The initial 300 gallons of sap results in 7 to 8 gallons of syrup. He pours the syrup into one gallon glass jugs that have been washed and sterilized. Before pouring the hot syrup, he warms the jugs over the fire to evaporate any residual water and to prevent cracking. He places the filled jugs in a cardboard box packed with newspaper which then will be either carried up to the road or transported by canoe down the river.

Traditionally, tribal members often continued the boiling process turning the maple syrup into sugar. As the syrup thickened, a small amount of deer tallow was incorporated to keep the sugar soft. The thickened syrup was transferred to a granulating trough where the substance was stirred with a hardwood granulating spoon or rubbed by hand.

The resulting sugar was poured into birch bark containers *(makakoon)* for easy storage. The sugar provided seasoning for fruits, vegetables, cereals and fish. Dissolved in water, it created a tasty summer drink.

Joe shares his syrup with family and friends. Before consuming the syrup, however, Joe hosts a First Fruits Feast. This ceremony provides an opportunity for Joe to offer, in thanksgiving, a portion of the "first fruit" to the spirits, or *manido*. A First Fruits Feast occurs for all harvests throughout the year.

Gathering maple sap can be hard work and very time consuming. For Joe, especially, this commitment can be extremely difficult because he must travel daily from his sugar bush to Ashland to attend to his job as Director of Native American Studies at Northland College.

In addition, the work can be dangerous. More than once, the Bad River has quickly risen, leaving Joe with no escape except for his canoe. Even then enormous chunks of ice, logs, and stumps can make paddling a canoe to safety precarious at best.

Nevertheless, Joe complains only that he does not have enough time to spend at his sugar bush. He loves to be in the woods either alone or with family. He savors the sounds of nature; the songs of the wind, the rhythm of the river, and the voices of the coyotes, owls, ducks, and geese. He enjoys catching glimpses of raccoons, porcupines, skunks, and deer. In every way, he derives a certain serenity working his sugar bush.

Iskigamizige-giizis izhinikaazo. It's named the sap-boiling moon.

Mii go maajiigaag noongom. The sap started to run today.

Daga izhaadaa iskigamiziganing. Let's go to the sugarbush.

Booch igo ji-asemaakeyang akawe. We(in) have to make a tobacco offering first.

Nimiigwechi´aag manidoog. I am thanking the spirits.

Ninga-ozhiga´ige, giindash? I'm going to tap trees, and you?

Ginwenzh da-onde. It has to boil for a long time.

Mashi na gigii-siiga´iganike? Have you ever made maple sugar cakes?

Reprinted from ***A Phrase a Day in Ojibwe: 1999 Calendar Produced by the Ojibwe Language Society, Minneapolis, Minnesota.***

Sugar bush opportunities

The recent Memorandum of Understanding signed by the Tribes and the USDA Forest Service specifies an agreement by which tribal sugar bushes may be designated on National Forest lands. In addition, the Tribes and the Forest Service will cooperatively develop sugar bush management plans.

If any tribal members have an interest in these provisions, please contact Karen Danielsen at (715) 682-6619; email kdaniels@glifwc.org or write to P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861. GLIFWC would like to begin working with the Forest Service on these issues as soon as possible.

Harold and Katie Knowlen gather maple sap from a tapped tree near Lake Le Minnesota. (staff photo)

Employment opportunities at GLIFWC

The following is a list of Intern/Limited Term Employee (LTE) positions for the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) for Spring and Summer of 1999.

Purple Loosestrife

1 LTE position—purple loosestrife/exotic plants information gathering and public outreach
Duration: May 24 – August 27, 1999
8 LTE positions—purple loosestrife control program in northern Wisconsin and Michigan
Duration: July 12 – August 27, 1999
1 LTE position—purple loosestrife/exotic plant surveys in northern Wisconsin
Duration: June 7 – August 27, 1999
2 LTE positions - crew leaders to supervise loosestrife control crews in northern Wisconsin and Michigan
Duration: July 12 – August 27, 1999
For more information contact: Jonathan Gilbert at jgilbert@glifwc.org or Miles Falck at miles@glifwc.org

Environmental

Environmental Biologist Aide—1 position to assist Environmental Biologist in coordinating collection of walleye samples from northern Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Michigan lakes for mercury analysis.
Duration: Temporary part time to coincide with 1999 spring field season starting mid to late April and ending mid to late May
For more information contact Kory Groetsch at groetsch@glifwc.org

Wild Rice

Wild Rice Interns—2 positions to gather information from 40+ wild rice lakes, sample sediment density on selected lakes, monitor experimental rice plantings, distribute wild rice ecology materials to home owners on selected lakes, assist with data collection in lake turbidity study.
Duration: 12 weeks beginning as late in the summer as the fall semester allows, with continued employment for an additional 8-12 weeks in the fall possible for interested individuals.
For more information contact: Peter David at pdavid@glifwc.org

Fisheries

Fisheries Aide—2 positions for lamprey trapping
Duration: May 4, 1999 – July 17, 1999
Fisheries Intern—for lamprey trapping
Duration: May 3, 1999 – August 20, 1999
For more information contact: Bill Mattes at bmattes@glifwc.org

Forestry

Summer Field Assistant—1 position to work with staff on field surveys of understory plants on the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, Wisconsin.
Duration: 12 weeks beginning May 19, 1999
For more information contact: Karen Danielsen at kdaniels@glifwc.org

For additional information and full position descriptions detailing pay rates, work locations, responsibilities, and expected qualifications see the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission home page at www.glifwc.org
Each of the contacts listed above can also be reached at: GLIFWC, P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861; or phone 715/682-6619.

Youth opportunities at GLIFWC

The GLIFWC Natural Resource Career Development program, funded under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Native Americans, has added a new page to the GLIFWC home page.

Developed as a source of information for students interested in a natural resources career, the page includes a table that identifies qualification requirements for past and present positions within GLIFWC's Biological Services Division, and links to sites on the Internet providing scholarship information, educational institutions within the Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota area, and other Native American natural resource agency sites.

The concept behind the site, according to Jim St. Arnold, GLIFWC ANA program director, is "to provide information, experience, and encouragement to students interested in going into a career in natural resources."

"We have seen a need, both in our own agency, and at the tribal level, for more Native Americans to fill upper level natural resource positions," St. Arnold said.

Another aspect of the grant is to provide an opportunity for students to work during the summer in tribal natural resources. Last summer, the program hired 11 high school students to work within their specific tribe's natural resource program for ten weeks, and three college level students were hired to participate in a ride-a-long program with GLIFWC Conservation Enforcement personnel for the length of the program.

"Last summer was very successful for the program and the tribes," St. Arnold stated. "Students were involved in tribal fish hatcheries, animal population surveys, water contaminant studies, and other areas of tribal resource management."

According to St. Arnold, the grant was funded for 17 months and is slated to end in September, 1999. GLIFWC will be hiring 11 high school students again this summer to work in the program, one student from each of its member tribes. The students will work with their tribe's natural resource program as they did last summer.

"Unfortunately," St. Arnold said, "ANA does not fund continuation grants or programs, so we are limited to 17 months funding."

"We are hoping the tribes see the advantages and benefits of this program," he said, "and will take the opportunity to continue it at the tribal level."

To access the new page, go to GLIFWC's home page at—www.glifwc.org

New staff

Former Red Cliff tribal warden and police officer Mike Soulier joined GLIFWC's Enforcement Division on January 18th.

Mike is responsible for enforcing off-reservation conservation laws in the region adjacent to his home reservation, Red Cliff.

As a lifelong hunter and fisherman, Mike said he enjoys working outdoors and looks forward to patrolling public lands in Bayfield County and elsewhere.

He is a 1995 graduate of North Central Technical College and took additional coursework at Wisconsin Indianhead Technical College, Lakeshore Technical College, and Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe Community College.

Mike and his wife Jessie live near Red Cliff and have four children. (photo by C.O. Rasmussen)

GLIFWC enforcement officers drive snowmobiles through a wooded shooting range during winter training in February. (photo by C.O. Rasmussen)

Ziigwan — It is Spring

Ziigwang, iskigamiziganing niwii-izhaamin.
Iskigamizigewag, nimaamaa dash nindede. Manise, nisaye.
Gaye aangodinong, nimanise. Biijise, a'aw aandeg.
Minwaajimo, a'aw aandeg. Ziigwan.

(When it is spring, to the sugar camp, we want to go. They boil (maple sap), my mother and my father. He cuts firewood, my older brother. Also sometimes, I cut firewood. S/he flies here, that crow. S/he tells good news, that crow. It is spring)

Bezhig—1

OJIBWEMOWIN
(Ojibwe Language)

Double vowel system of writing ojibwemowin.
—Long vowels: AA, E, II, OO
Mewaayaak - as in father
Minikwe - as in jay
Wiisini - as in seen
Giimooj- as in moon
—Short vowels: A, I, O
Daga - as in about
Bimose - as in tin
Anokii - 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.

VAI's
Verb/Animate/Intransitive

Call them the **He/She** verbs. First learn the root action word and then add prefixes and suffixes to speak about I, You, We, We all, You all and They. These talk about living being's action (animate) and the action doesn't transfer to an object (intransitive). Simple sentences!

Wiisini—He/She is eating (or eats).
Anokii—S/he is working (or works).
Miijin!—Eat it!
Bimose — S/he walks (or is walking).
Iskigamizige — S/he boils things.

Niizh—2

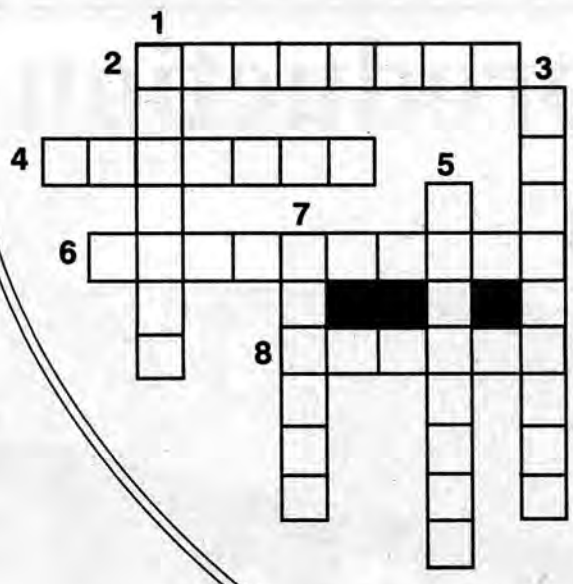
Circle the 10 underlined Ojibwe words in the letter maze. (translations below)

A. Baapi dash zhoomiingweni a'aw ikwezens.
B. Bimosewag miikanaang ingiw gwiiwizensag.
C. Niwii-minikwe. Daga, makade-mashkiki-waaboo.
D. Apane ziigwang izhaa agwajiing.
E. Giimooj dagoshinoog megwaayaak ingiw bineshiiyag.
F. Gii-ondaadiziike, a'aw makwa, waanzhing.
G. Biindigen! Giwiisin ina? Namadabin omaa.

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

Niswi—3

IKIDOWIN
ODAMINOWIN
(word play)



Down:
1. s/he flies here
3. they walk
5. my mother
7. crow

Across:
2. bird
4. it is spring
6. s/he tells good news
8. my older brother

Niiwin—4

Conjugations VTI's–Class I

Anokii—S/he works. Giigido—S/he speaks
Nindanokii.—**I** work. **Ning**iigid.—**I** speak.
(Prefix ni, or nin (before k, z, g, d), nind (before vowels), nim (before b). Drop end short vowel.
Gidanokii—**You** work. **Gi**giigid—**You** speak.
(Prefix gi or gid (before vowels))
Drop short vowels at end.
Anokii**wag**—**They** work.
Giigido**wag**—**They** speak. (Suffix wag or oog (consonant ending)).
Dagoshin**oogı**—**They** arrive.

Ni
Gi
Nind
Wag
Nim
Gid

Goojitoon! Try it!
Translation below.

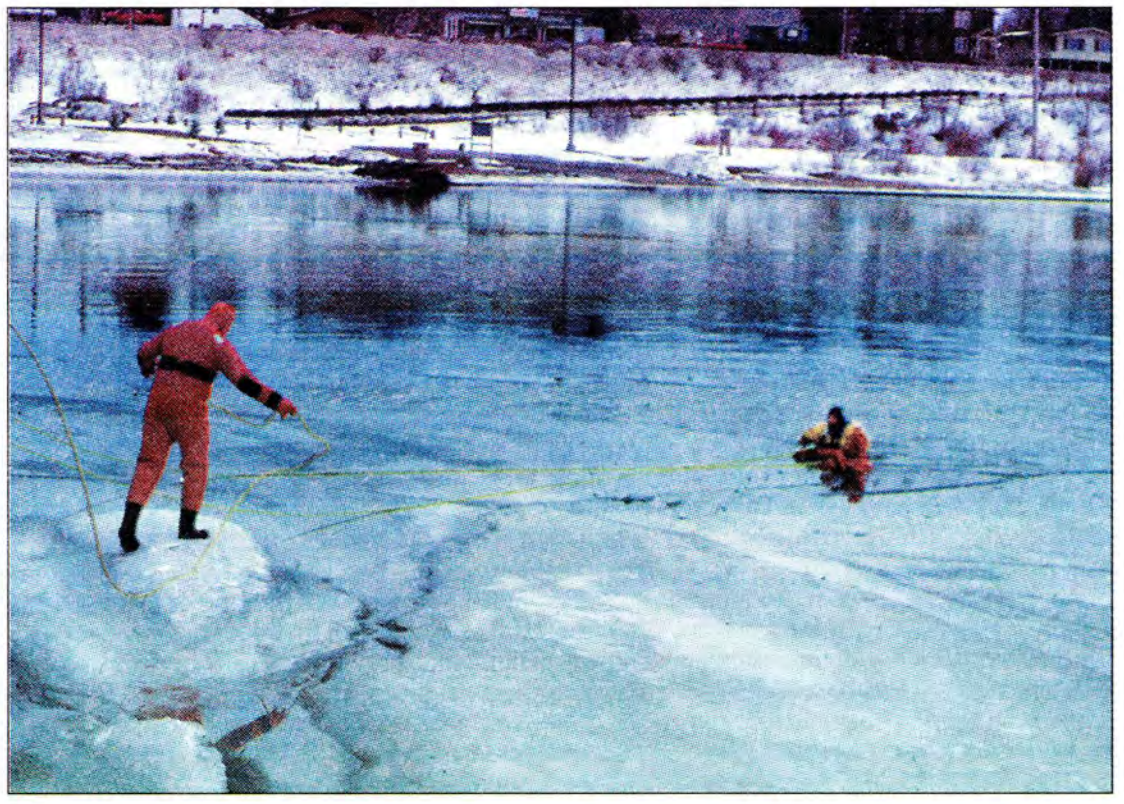
1. ___anokii.
2. ___bimose imaa waaka'iganing.
3. Giigido___, ingiw ikwewag.
4. ___wiisin adoopowining.
5. ___iskigamizige iskigamiziganing ziigwang.
6. ___giigid gikinoo'amaadiwigamigong noongom.

Translations:
Niizh—2 **A.** *She laughs and she smiles, that girl.* **B.** *They walk on the trail those boys.* **C.** *I will drink. Please, black-medicine-liquid (coffee).* **D.** *Always when it is spring s/he goes outside.* **E.** *Secretly they arrive in the woods, those birds.* **F.** *She did give birth, that bear, in the den.* **G.** *Come in! You are hungry, are you? Sit here.*
Niswi—3 ***Down:*** **1.** *Biijise* **3.** *Bimosewag* **5.** *Nimaamaa* **7.** *Aandeg* ***Across:*** **2.** *Bineshii* **4.** *Ziigwan* **6.** *Minwaajimo* **8.** *Nisaye.*
Niiwin—4 **1.** ***YOU*** *work.* **2.** ***I*** *walk over there by the house.* **3.** ***They*** speak, those women. **4.** ***I*** eat at the table. **5.** ***I*** boil sap at the sugar bush when it is spring. **6.** ***You*** speak at the school today.
**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.*

Enforcement officers hone cold water rescue skills

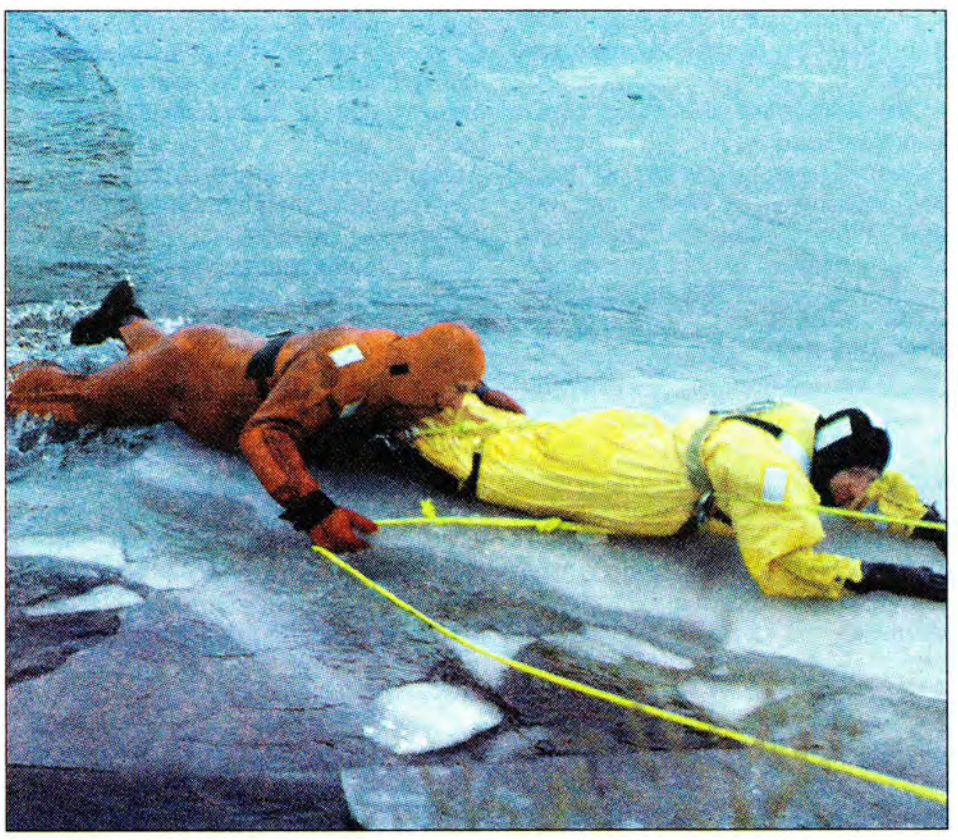
Officer Ken Rusk rigs a rescue harness.

Photos by C.O. Rasmussen



A GLIFWC warden wearing a bouyant wet suit moves across the Chequamegon Bay ice toward a pair of mock victims.

After the rescuer (in red) slides into the water and attaches a harness to the victim, he signals an officer on shore to pull them in.



Cold water rescue instructor John Mulroy (in yellow) and his rescuer are pulled to safety.

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(Pronounced MUZ IN I AY GIN)

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

Letters to the editor and guest editorials are welcomed by **MASINAIGAN**. We like to hear from our readership. The right to edit or refuse to print, however, is maintained. All letters to the editor should be within a 300 word limit.

Letters to the editor or submitted editorials do not necessarily reflect the opinion of GLIFWC.

For more information see our website at:www.glifwc.org.

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