

# Masinaigan

A Chronicle of the Lake Superior Ojibwe

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Spring 1999



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 approach-

ing, 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

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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.

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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.

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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.

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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

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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.

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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 Siskiwit 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.

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.

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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 electrofishing 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.



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)

# Looking ahead at Mille Lacs: Chief executive calls for improved inter-tribal communication, awaits Supreme Court ruling

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Writer/Photographer

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Highlighting recent advances like assuming management of the Mille Lacs and Hinckley casinos, construction of new public buildings, and the creation of the Circle of Health Board of Directors, Anderson characterized 1998 as a year of change as the Band explored new opportunities.

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Mille Lacs Chief Executive Marge Anderson talks with GLIFWC's Jim Schlender following her January 12th address. (photo by C.O. Rasmussen)

to continue to improve the Band's environmental protection and natural resource programs and statutes. We await the ruling of the Supreme Court."

### The Supreme Court and 1837 treaty rights

After outlining her goals for the coming year, Anderson addressed "the most serious issue facing the Band in 1999." Within the next few months, the U.S. Supreme Court will determine the future of off reservation hunting and fishing rights in the Minnesota 1837 ceded territory.

"We must wait, continuing to offer our prayers to the Creator, and taking heart in the knowledge that we truly did the best we could," Anderson said.

A tribal legal team headed by Marc Slonim submitted briefs to the high court last fall and presented oral arguments in Washington, DC on December 2, 1998.

"No attorney in the land could have fought harder, better, or more honorably for us than did Marc Slonim," lauded Anderson.

Anderson also recognized Mille Lacs band members, Eric Gahbow, Joel Shaugobay, and Don Graves, who participated in the Waabanong Run. The one thousand mile relay-style run began at Lac du Flambeau in early November and concluded at Washington, D.C. four days before the Supreme Court hearing. Wisconsin and Minnesota Ojibwe, along with a handful of non-Indian supporters, carried a sacred staff that symbolized a prayer to protect treaty rights.

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The FTC is composed of state and tribal fisheries biologists and provides a forum for them to coordinate studies, share data, and jointly consider issues relating to shared fisheries resources in the Minnesota 1837 ceded territory.

Although the 1999 TAC will provide significantly more harvest opportunity to state licensed anglers, this year's tribal walleye quota will be set at

55,000 pounds in accordance with the "Interim Treaty Fisheries Management Plan" (FMP) that was developed by the tribes and approved by the federal court.

The FMP provides for the gradual development of treaty fisheries in Mille Lacs and other lakes in the Minnesota ceded territory over a five year period. Last year, the FMP provided 40,000 pounds of harvest opportunity to the tribes.

GLIFWC Inland Fisheries Section Leader Joe Dan Rose says the TAC figures are derived from virtual population analysis (VPA) modeling done by both the state and tribes. Results from other statistical models are also compared to the VPA results.

Rose attributes the dramatic TAC increase to the input of additional data into the VPA models. In 1998, additional biological, population, and harvest data were collected in conjunction with tribal harvest monitoring and state angler creel surveys of both day and nighttime fishing. These data were incorporated into the VPA modeling process.



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# 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, Shawbaskung, 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

## 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 and its CEO, Howard B. 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.)



Howard Hanson

# MOU improves resource accessibility

## Provides tribal input into forest management

By Sue Erickson  
Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—Although tribal members have been gathering on national forest lands for several years under interim agreements with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), a formal document called a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was recently ratified by the USFS and nine Ojibwe tribes.

Bob Jacobs, USFS Region IV Supervisor, put the final signature the MOU at a Voigt Inter-tribal Task Force (VITF)

meeting December 3, 1998 at the Lac du Flambeau reservation.

The FS ratification was the culmination of approximately five years of work begun by FS and tribal representatives in 1993.

The document provides for tribal self-regulation of treaty gathering activities in the Chequamegon-Nicolet Forest in Wisconsin and the Ottawa, Hiawatha and the Huron/Manistee National Forests in Michigan. No national forests in Minnesota are involved.

According to Jonathan Gilbert, GLIFWC Wildlife Section leader, the

MOU is important because it increases availability of resources to tribal members and affirms tribal sovereignty through tribal self-regulation and tribal involvement in forest management planning process.

The document is undergoing a public comment period which closes on March 23rd. The opportunity for public comment was extended following objections voiced by Representative David Obey. Suggestions obtained through public comments will be carefully considered. Those that improve or clarify the document may be incorporated.

The tribes and the Forest Service agreed not to implement any new procedures until the public comment period was completed and also not to curtail any tribal harvesting activities already in process.

The MOU is not a "timber deal" as characterized by headlines in some Wisconsin press, says Gilbert. Timber is actually a very small part of the total MOU.

Tribal members are allowed to gather a total of 40,000 board feet of timber per forest per year for non-commercial use. This would be equivalent to approximately eighty chords or sufficient to construct two or three moderate homes.

"Actually, more timber blows over in a good thunderstorm in the national forest than tribes can harvest. It's less than 1/10 of 1% of the annual timber harvest in the national forests," Gilbert says. Timber can be used for lodge poles, canoes, homes, or on-reservation buildings.

Resources of primary interest to the tribes include conifer boughs, firewood, princess pine, birch bark and ginseng. Other species are wintergreen, sweet grass, and maple sap.

Tribal members must have a tribal ID and permit to harvest on national forest lands. Permits are obtained at the tribal registration station or conservation office. National forest gathering is usually included on the natural resources permit which covers other treaty harvest activities.

If three resources are harvested for commercial purposes, such as boughs, princess pine and ginseng, a tribal gatherer will need a commercial permit, Gilbert says.

Monitoring of tribal harvest and enforcement of tribal off-reservation codes will be implemented through GLIFWC. Biological staff will monitor the quantity and location of tribal harvests, and GLIFWC wardens will enforce tribal codes into tribal courts. Areas not included in tribal codes would be enforced by FS conservation officers.

Still not totally resolved is the issue of campground accessibility. Further discussions regarding waiving campground fees and length of stay limitations are anticipated in the near future.

Any comments on the MOU or on national forest management issues from tribal members are welcome, Gilbert says. Tribal members should contact their VITF representatives with those comments.

For assistance in determining where resources are on the national forest or other harvest-related questions contact GLIFWC Forest Ecologist Karen Danielsen. More information on the MOU is also available on the GLIFWC web page at <http://www.glifwc.org>

Upcoming seasons of interest in the national forest system include harvest of birch bark and maple sugar seasons, both traditional gathering activities.



Representatives of the U.S. Forest Service and nine Ojibwe tribes met on March 3rd at Red Cliff to begin implementing the recently ratified Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for gathering on national forest lands. Discussion centered on analysis and possible incorporation of public comments and the formation of a technical working group with representatives from both parties. (photo by Sue Erickson)

### Final call for papers and posters

## Wild Rice: Research and Management Conference

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This unique conference will examine the science and art surrounding wild rice (*Zizania* sp.) in the upper Midwest and adjacent Canada. Conference objectives are to share existing information, highlight current research, discuss management techniques, and identify future issues facing the resource.

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- |                        |                           |                       |
|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| * ecology              | * genetics/taxonomy       | * research            |
| * landscape management | * restoration efforts     | * contaminants        |
| * tribal programs      | * water quality/hydrology | * cultural importance |

Deadline for abstracts is April 15, 1999

### For more information/registration/abstract submittal

Visit the conference website at [www.glifwc.org](http://www.glifwc.org); contact us at (715) 682-6619 or write to: Wild Rice Conference, P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861.

# 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.

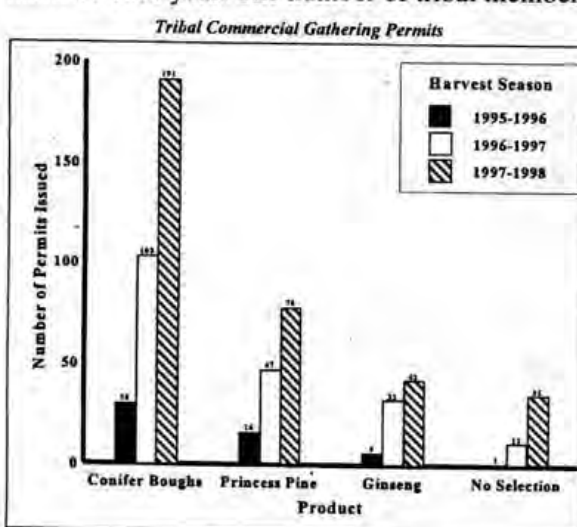
GLIFWC staff have also requested that tribal members complete surveys in an attempt to document actual harvest. Questions on the survey are limited to the few wild plants and non-timber forest products that seem to be gathered in relatively large quantities primarily, but not always, for commercial purposes.

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.

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.

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.

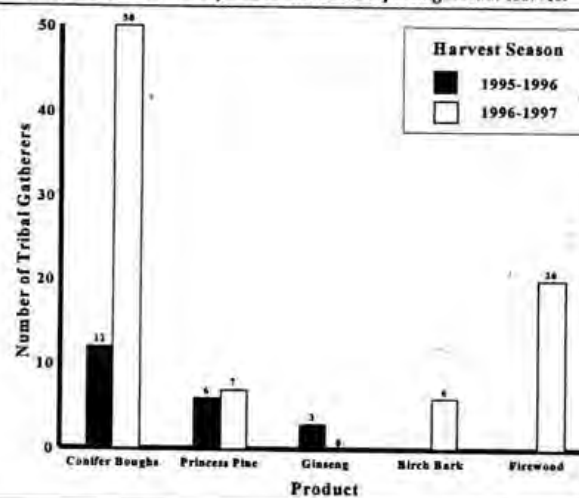
However, the average quantity harvested by each gatherer remained relatively constant at 0.8 tons during the 1995-96 harvest season and 0.7 tons during the 1996-97 harvest season.

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.

GLIFWC Harvest Survey: Tribal members reporting Actual Harvest



# GLIFWC to lead Kentucky Lake walleye rehabilitation project

By Joe Dan Rose  
Inland Fisheries Biologist

During the early 1990's, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) fisheries biologists and survey crews observed declining trends in walleye recruitment and abundance in Kentucky Lake (Vilas County, Wisconsin).

GLIFWC biologists shared their concerns about the Kentucky Lake walleye population with Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) fisheries biologists at a meeting of the Technical Working Group (TWG) in August 1995.

In January 1997, GLIFWC submitted a "Plan to Monitor and Rehabilitate Walleye in Kentucky Lake through Stocking" to the WDNR.

This plan was opposed by the WDNR at that time.

In September 1997, WDNR staff discussed the Kentucky Lake issue with tribal representatives and Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission staff at meeting of the Voigt Intertribal Task Force.

Subsequent discussions between GLIFWC and WDNR staff resulted in the establishment of a TWG subcommittee that would develop an interim walleye rehabilitation plan for Kentucky Lake to be implemented in the spring of 1998.

Between January and March 1998, members of the TWG Kentucky Lake Walleye Rehabilitation Subcommittee met several times and were able to reach agreement on a stocking and monitoring plan for 1998.

In 1998, no tribe declared or harvested walleye from Kentucky Lake. This harvest closure was proposed and implemented by the tribes as a distinct component of the rehabilitation plan.



Studying the muskellunge population in the Chippewa Flowage, Sawyer County, Wisconsin, GLIFWC inland fisheries staff use radiotelemetry to track tagged fish. Above GLIFWC Inland Fisheries Biologist Glenn Miller and Inland Fisheries Technician Butch Mieloszyk track the muskies beneath the frozen flowage. (photo by Inland Fisheries staff)

## GLIFWC to coordinate interagency walleye survey on Chippewa Flowage

By Joe Dan Rose  
Inland Fisheries Biologist

**Odanah, Wis.**—Planning is underway for a joint fisheries assessment to estimate adult walleye abundance in the Chippewa Flowage in the spring of 1999.

GLIFWC has been identified as the lead agency for this joint assessment and will work directly with WDNR and tribal personnel throughout all phases of the project including planning and implementation.

Since parts of the Chippewa Flowage are located within Lac Courte Oreilles (LCO) reservation boundaries, GLIFWC has and will continue to consult with LCO representatives to address tribal interests or concerns related to the survey.

Current plans are to capture walleye for marking primarily with fyke nets in select spawning areas. This net-

ting and marking will likely last for around one week and fish will be marked with a partial fin clip prior to release.

Electrofishing will also be used during the marking period to supplement the fyke net catch. Approximately one dozen survey crews are expected to participate in the marking phase of this survey.

Electrofishing gear will be used to conduct the recapture phase of the survey and will likely take one or two nights. Fish will be collected and checked to see if they were marked or not prior to release.

Several work-up boats may accompany and assist electrofishing crews during the recapture phase of the survey. If available, these supplemental work-up crews will enable electrofishing crews to survey more shoreline in the same amount of time.

It is anticipated that 16-18 electrofishing crews will be used to complete the recapture phase of the survey.



Joe Dan Rose

Although the issue of establishing additional angler harvest restrictions was discussed by the subcommittee, the WDNR did not propose any changes for the 1998 or 1999 fishing seasons. A WDNR proposal to establish a one fish per day bag limit with a 28" minimum size limit will be implemented in the year 2000 if approved.

The tribes have decided to maintain their walleye harvest closure for Kentucky Lake again in 1999. Although the WDNR does not anticipate the establishment of any new angler harvest restrictions for Kentucky Lake before the year 2000, they have expressed a willingness to promote voluntary angler compliance with a one fish per day bag limit and 28" minimum size limit in 1999.

In the spring of 1998, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Wisconsin DNR and GLIFWC fisheries survey crews that were working in the Kentucky Lake area participated in a collaborative effort that resulted in the collection and fertilization of eggs from Kentucky Lake females.

These fertilized eggs were incubated to the eye-up stage at the Red Cliff Tribal Fish Hatchery and then transferred to the Genoa National Fish Hatchery (NFH) where they were successfully hatched.

However, these walleye fry died during a routine procedure associated with introducing them to a rearing pond at Genoa NFH. Consequently, no walleye fry, early or extended growth fingerlings were stocked into Kentucky Lake in 1998.

A similar plan to produce and stock early and extended growth walleye fingerlings into Kentucky Lake will be implemented in 1999.

Since only a handful of male walleye are present in Kentucky, additional males from Butternut Lake will be brought in, used to fertilize eggs collected from Kentucky Lake females, and released.

Fertilized eggs will again be incubated to eye-up stage at the Red Cliff Tribal Fish Hatchery and transferred to Genoa National Fish Hatchery for hatching.

As a contingency plan, some of these eggs will be incubated and hatched at Mole Lake and/or Lac Vieux Desert tribal fish hatchery facilities.

The resulting fry will be placed into rearing ponds at the Lac du Flambeau Tribal Fish Hatchery and the Genoa National Fish Hatchery for early and extended growth fingerling production.

The early and extended growth walleye fingerlings produced by this cooperative project will be stocked into Kentucky Lake during the summer and fall of 1999.

For more information contact Glenn Miller, GLIFWC inland fisheries biologist or myself in Odanah at (715) 682-6619.

## Impact of submerged logging on Rib Lake studied

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

**Odanah, Wis.**—A proposal to remove submerged logs in Rib Lake, Taylor Co. is still under consideration. The proposed logging venture is being followed by a designated workgroup of the Voigt Intertribal Task Force (VITF) because the logging venture would impact a lake within the ceded territories available for off-reservation fishing.

The Rib Lake Development Foundation, a community organization, has proposed the removal and sale of submerged logs in Rib Lake, with the proceeds going in part towards clean-up and remediation of the lake.

However, prior to the operation being permitted, studies are being performed on the degree and type of contaminants in the sediment and the impact disturbed sediment might have on water quality.

To date the Foundation has provided the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) with a copy of the Rib Lake Sediment Sampling Report with recommendations on how to contain and handle contaminants during log removal. GLIFWC staff will be reviewing the report and submitting appropriate comments.

Before it can begin logging, the Foundation must receive an underwater logging permit from the Wisconsin Board of Commissioners of Public Lands. It must also obtain a dredging permit from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and has been told what information must be supplied to proceed with a dredging permit application.

Permits under the federal Clean Water Act might also be required from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Tribal and public comments will be solicited throughout the permitting process.

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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 McCommon-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:

|                               | 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<br>Winter - none, frozen | Discharge to absorption ponds<br>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



Ann McCommon-Soltis

## 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)



# Bill will end political control of WDNR

Madison, Wis.—The daughters of famed Wisconsin conservationist Aldo Leopold came to the State Capitol in January. Estella Leopold and Nina Leopold-Bradley joined State Representative Spencer Black at a press conference at the Capitol to announce legislation to restore the independence of the Department of Natural Resources.

Black's legislation (Assembly Bill 82) will end political control of the Department of Natural Resources. Prior to 1995, a 7-member citizen board appointed the DNR Secretary. In 1995, however, the Legislature and Governor eliminated the non-partisan status of the DNR. Now, the DNR Secretary is a political appointee who is hired and fired by the Governor.

Black's bill would return the DNR to its non-partisan, politically independent status.

"Wisconsin's system of a politically independent conservation agency made our state a national leader in protecting our environment. That's because decisions about our outdoors were based on science, not politics. The recent change to a politically controlled DNR undermines our proud tradition of stewardship of our environment. The newly established political control of the DNR means that decisions about our envi-



Rep. Spencer Black

ronment are now subject to political interference," said Representative Black.

Black pointed out that the law that had kept direct political influence out of conservation decisions dates all the way back to 1927 when the great Wisconsin conservationist Aldo Leopold led the fight to end political control and cronyism in our conservation agency.

"That's why I am so glad that the heirs of Aldo Leopold—Nina Leopold Bradley and Estella Leopold—are here today to lend their support," Black said.

"From Aldo Leopold's point of view, the head of a regulatory agency that concerns land and wildlife management should take the long view. When decisions are made, they should not be by a political delegate, but by a statesman trained in science representing the long view. That is why this bill is critically important," said Estella Bradley, who is Professor of Botany.

Nina Leopold Bradley, who heads up the Aldo Leopold Foundation, added that her father saw the destructive influence that political control had on natural resource management in the early part of the century. She urged a return to her father's vision of long term conservation based on science and community values.

Black noted that while the greatest impact of political control is likely to be in the future, we've already seen some results of the political control of the DNR. "The DNR has increasingly gone from the role of independent regulator of the mining industry to a booster of mining," said Black. Black pointed to the DNR's role in lobbying against the mining moratorium bill and the refusal

of the agency to pass rules to prevent pollution from mining.

Black noted that there has been a sharp decline in taking environmental lawbreakers to court since the DNR became political. He also pointed to a recent decision by the DNR to give the cranberry industry a special exemption from wetlands protection rules. Since 1991, the cranberry industry has contributed more than \$84,000 to Governor Thompson's campaign.

Concerns were also raised that the DNR Secretary has become a partisan political fund-raiser. Black pointed to a recent solicitation of lobbyists for campaign funds by the DNR Secretary using his official title and agency name.

"Having the regulator of the mining and landfill industries soliciting campaign contributions from mining and landfill lobbyists compromises enforcement of our anti-pollution laws," Black noted.

"It is time that we return to the Aldo Leopold system of conservation that served our state so well for almost 70 years," said Representative Black.

(Representative Spencer Black is the author of many environmental laws including the Stewardship Fund, the Mining Moratorium and the Recycling Law.)

## DOE will clean up uranium mining site on Arizona Navajo Indian Reservation

The Department of Energy (DOE) will clean up the Tuba City uranium mining site on the Navajo Indian Reservation in Northeastern Arizona.

DOE will use traditional ground water cleanup methods, rather than innovative technologies. The department spent more than a year and a half testing innovative technologies for the site, officials at DOE's Grand Junction office said.

"They (the pilot tests) did not indicate a better, cheaper or faster way," said Grand Junction Groundwater Project Manager Donald Metzler.

Plans call for starting remedial action by the end of the summer using traditional distillation.

"The Navajos have made it clear they want extremely clean water," Metzler said. "DOE is optimistic about its decision. Lots of progress has been made in distillation technology."

In the distillation process, boiling water separates the contaminants as a brine material, which would be disposed in a permanent disposal cell meeting requirements of the Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action program. Distillation will involve installing a field of wells to extract contaminated ground water, constructing the distillation facility to treat the recovered water, and installing additional wells and an infiltration trench to place treated ground water back into the aquifer.

The objectives of the extraction and injection system would be to contain the spread of contaminants while removing them from the ground water to achieve compliance with federal and state standards.

Metzler expects the project to be handled by MACTEC, the Grand Junction office's field contractor. DOE will employ as many Native Americans possible as technicians.

Copies of the environmental assessment may be requested from DOE's Grand Junction Office (800) 399-5618.

For more information contact: Donald Metzler (970) 248-7612.

(Reprinted from *Native American Report*, Vol. 4 No. 4.)



Containers filled with radioactive material at the Stanleigh Mine, Serpent River, Ontario. Radioactive materials can be a dangerous by-product of mining ventures. (staff photo)

## Indian owned lands used for dumping grounds

(Continued from page 8)

Tribal concerns remain, however. The Colorado River is a major water source for more than 22 million people in the United States and Mexico, including five tribes located downstream of the proposed site.

The tribes—the Fort Mojave, the Colorado River Indian tribes, the Chemehuaui Tribe, the Quechan Tribe and the Cocopah Tribe—have formed an alliance to stop the site.

### Project called example of racism

Molly Johnson, of the Save Ward Valley activist group, called the project an example of U.S. environmental racism.

"You look at a map... and see where the uranium mines are, or the (nuclear) dumping grounds, or the (Nevada) test site, and they're all on Indian land. If they're not actually on a reservation, they're on aboriginal land, sacred land or land claimed by tribes that the government didn't give them—all the way down the line," said Johnson.

The tribal alliance opposing the site has petitioned the Environmental Protection Agency to investigate environmental justice issues that could be raised with the construction of the facility.

In the meantime, Helton said, the Mexican resolution should help convince United States officials to stop the project.

For more information contact: Nora Helton, Fort Mojave (760) 629-4591; Dave Harper, Colorado River Indian Tribes (520) 669-1662; Molly Johnson, Save Ward Valley (760) 326-6267; or Alan Pasternak (916) 688-0742.

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# Fall lake trout figures show overall stable trend in spawner abundance

**Odanah, Wis.**—Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) Great Lakes crew completed their twelfth year of annual lake trout spawning assessments during six weeks on Michigan waters of Lake Superior near the Keweenaw Peninsula and Marquette, Michigan this fall. 1998 figures indicate a good, stable trend overall, according to Bill Mattes, GLIFWC Great Lakes fishery biologist, with an average relative abundance of 30 fish per 1000 ft. of net.

Assessments occur during the fall spawn because this is a time when lake trout separate themselves into isolated populations, returning to traditional spawning reefs. GLIFWC samples lake trout spawning reefs in Michigan waters each fall. These include Union Bay, Copper Harbor, Big Bay, and Buffalo Reef.

Assessment data is shared with other fishery managers. Collected data is entered into a Total Allowable Catch (TAC) fishery model, used to compare predicted and observed abundances of lake trout. The model is updated through the Lake Superior Technical Committee, an advisory committee to the Great Lakes Fisheries Commission (GLFC).

The assessments were performed over a six week period, from October 12th to November 6th. Although weather cooperated most days, the crew encountered a few days with a good chop, making it difficult to haul in nets. Nets are set above a spawning reef and then checked the following morning. A total of 610 lake trout were captured during the assessment period and 414 were tagged and released.

Fish were also provided to Kory Groetch, GLIFWC environmental biologist, for contaminant testing in Lake Superior lake trout. The contaminant studies are part of an Administration for Native Americans (ANA) grant.

Assisting Mattes with the assessments were Great Lakes Technician Mike Plucinski; Chuck Smart, Great Lakes fishery aide, and Ed Leoso, Bad River Department of Natural Resources technician. The crew worked from GLIFWC's Ojibwe Lady and the fishing tug of Joe Newago, Bad River tribal fisherman.



Bundled for the chilly, fall winds on Lake Superior, GLIFWC staff prepare to leave the dock in the Ojibwe Lady during fall assessments near the Keweenaw Peninsula in Michigan. Pictured above are: Ed Leoso, Bad River fishery technician; Chuck Smart, GLIFWC fisheries aide; and Mike Plucinski, GLIFWC fishery technician. (photo by Lorraine Norrgard, WDSE-TV)



Commercial fishing tugs docked at Bayfield Marina. (staff photo)

## Isle Royale management plan recognizes treaty rights Calls for inventory of fishery

**Odanah, Wis.**—The National Park Service (NPS) recognizes the existence of treaty rights in its recently released Final General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for the management of Isle Royale National Park.

To Bill Mattes, GLIFWC's Great Lakes Section leader, this is a step in the right direction.

The Plan states that "(t)reaty rights are beyond the scope of this plan; however, any actions taken to implement the plan must conform to the law regarding these rights. To ensure that it honors legally established rights, the National Park Service would cooperate with those tribes that retain valid hunting, fishing, and gathering rights."

While the plan does not detail the implementation of treaty rights, the rights are definitely recognized and not a matter for public comment. It also is clear that the NPS plans to manage the

park without violating treaty rights. This provides a basis for the tribes and NPS to work together on a government-to-government level, Mattes says.

The plan calls for an inventory of the fishery surrounding the island, which historically sustained a commercial fishery. While the fishery is said to be rehabilitated, Mattes says, no current assessment figures are available to support that conclusion, and biologists are unable to compare the Isle Royale fishery with the fishery in other parts of the lake.

Mattes hopes to see assessments, performed by the Lake Superior Science Center, commence this spring.

The plan's major emphasis is on accommodating visitors. This includes ensuring natural quiet areas, interpretive programs, and environmental programs, as well as continued effort to preserve historic structures and landscapes.

## Tribes-USCG sign commercial fishing boat safety agreement

**Bay Mills, Mich.**—With a goal of improving safety for tribal commercial fishermen and for streamlining enforcement of commercial fishing vessel safety regulations, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between four Michigan tribes and the US Coast Guard (USCG) on commercial fishing vessel safety standards was signed February 11th.

The MOU recognizes that the USCG and tribal signatories "exercise concurrent jurisdiction over those whose waters that are also subject to the jurisdiction of the United States." The agreement largely pertains to enforcement of tribal fishing vessel safety regulations and law enforcement officer training.

Signatory bands include the Bay Mills Indian Community, the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa, the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians and the Little River Band of Ottawa.

Similar agreements with the USCG are currently being considered by the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community in Michigan and the Red Cliff and Bad River bands in Wisconsin.

The MOU appoints the Chippewa-Ottawa Fishery Treaty Management Authority (COFTMA) as the liaison between the tribes and the USCG. COFTMA tribes exercise off-reserva-

tion fishing rights under the 1836 Treaty and are regulated under a Consent Order with the State of Michigan, currently in the process of being renegotiated.

The MOU provides for coordination of law enforcement patrols on waters where concurrent jurisdiction exists. It provides that violations of tribal commercial fishing vessel regulations will be referred to the tribal court system by Coast Guard boarding officers. Other violations may also be referred to tribal enforcement officers "at the discretion of the District Commander."

Complaints received by the USCG regarding tribal commercial fishing boats will be referred to tribal enforcement officers and, likewise, tribal enforcement officers would refer complaints received about state commercial fishing vessels to the USCG.

Provisions are also made for training and informational programs, including Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety instructor training for tribal law enforcement officers.

The first fishing vessel safety agreement was signed in 1995. Since that time tribal conservation officers have received training as dockside examiners, and several tribal conservation officers have completed commercial fishing vessel school run by the USCG Marine Safety Office.

Articles by Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

# Round gobies join river ruffe as exotic invaders Help prevent their spread to inland waterways

By Sue Erickson  
Staff Writer

**Odanah, Wis.**—GLIFWC joins other agencies in a concern over the detrimental impact of exotic species on the Lake Superior habitat and fishery. Of more recent concern is the small round goby whose presence in the Duluth-Superior harbor in appreciable numbers was confirmed last fall by local anglers.

In a report to the GLIFWC Lakes Committee in February, Bill Mattes, GLIFWC's Great Lakes Section Leader, noted that the goby provides another threat to the well-being of Lake Superior's native fishery.

There is no known method to eradicate the goby, so efforts are directed towards public education and preventing further spread of the nuisance species.

Like the river ruffe, the goby were likely transported from Eurasia to the Great Lakes via ballast water on ships.

Also like the ruffe, the goby reproduces quickly in large numbers. According to information from the Minnesota Sea Grant Program, the goby spawn

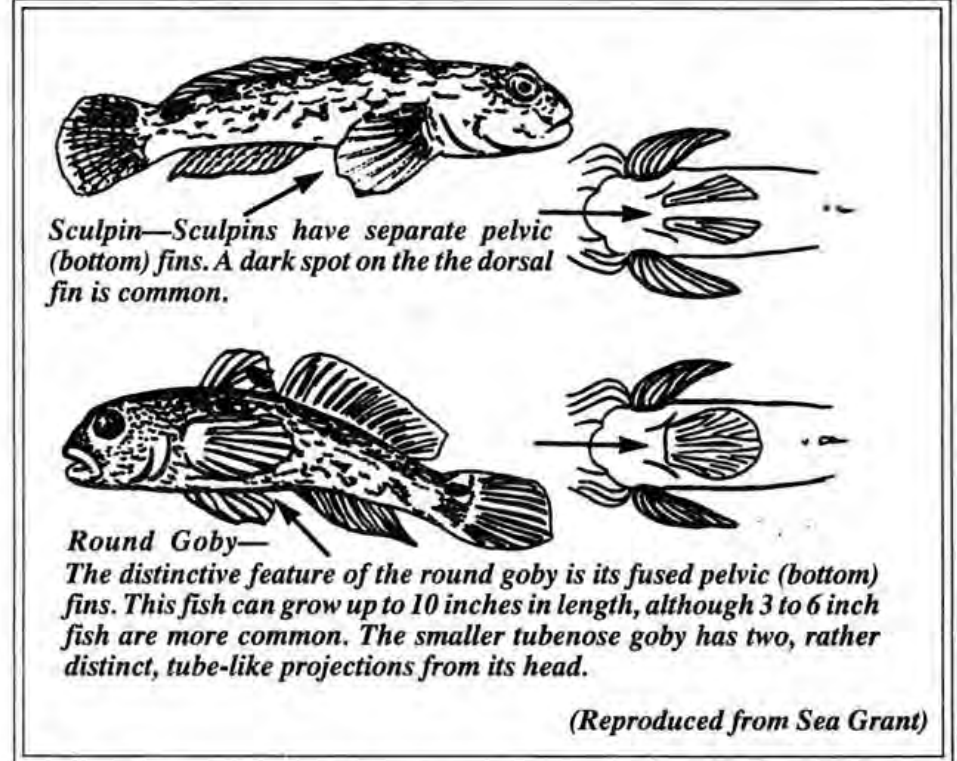
every 20 days, producing between 500-5,200 eggs per spawn. Consequently, they can reach densities of 30-50 per square meter within one year. In fact, one report indicated numbers exceeding 133 per square meter in an area of Lake Michigan.

The goby feed both night and day using an acute sensory system, which also helps them avoid predators. As bottom feeders, they both push contaminants up the food chain and eat eggs and larvae of native fish. They also aggressively drive out native bottom dwelling fish.

Besides threatening native fish populations, gobies can be very irritating for near shore anglers. Because of their aggressive behavior, they are good at stealing bait, frequently take the hook, and drive away desired species.

While the populations of the river ruffe have risen in the Duluth harbor over the past ten years to become the predominant species, ruffe do not appear to eat the eggs and larvae of native species, as do the goby; and while ruffe reproduce quickly, goby reproduce at nearly twice the rate.

Fishermen are encouraged to keep goby out of bait buckets and to not



transport them alive. Gobies which are caught should be killed, frozen and reported.

Gobies and ruffe can be reported to the Minnesota Sea Grant Program in Duluth at (218) 726-8712 or to Bill Mattes, Great Lakes Section, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission at (715) 682-6619 or email bmattes@glifwc.org.

## Bad River joins the natural resources "jet set" New plane to aid in assessment and enforcement

By Sue Erickson  
Staff Writer

**Odanah, Wis.**—Say the word "plane" and a twinkle lights the eyes of Tom Doolittle, biologist for the Bad River Band of Chippewa, these days. Doolittle will literally be up "in the air" during assessments this spring, using the band's recently acquired 1966, four-person Cessna 172-66 to survey the status of the band's rich natural resources.

It wasn't easy getting it, but the Bad River Department of Natural Resources (BRDNR), now has aerial surveying capabilities. The tribe took possession of the new plane on March 1st. For Doolittle, the advantages provided by aerial surveying capabilities are invaluable.

"Aerial survey capabilities will save time and money when it comes to resource assessments on the reserva-

tion and will also produce more complete resource information for the tribe," says Doolittle.

The Bad River Reservation sprawls across 125,000 square acres with Lake Superior at its northern border.

Wisconsin's second largest reservation in land area, the Bad River reservation includes the complex watersheds of the Bad and Kakagon rivers and a variety of remote, interior wetland habitats.

Surveying and monitoring the reservation's resources on land has been time consuming, costly, and often inefficient, Doolittle says, because of the difficult terrain and inaccessible locations of habitats. A plane can accomplish in several hours what might require weeks to complete on land.

Bad River is involved in monitoring and assessing various wildlife species on reservation, including both plants and animals. In fact, the band has thirty

projects requiring routine surveys.

The BRDNR does radio-tagging studies on horned owls, red-tail hawks, trumpeter swans, and wolf. They perform spring and fall assessments on waterfowl and eagle nest surveys.

They also count moose, muskrat, beaver and deer and monitor for purple loosestrife stands, forest vegetation plots, and wetland plant communities.

An aerial video unit, acquired with funds from the Environmental Protection Agency, will be installed for use in inventorying purple loosestrife in the Kakagon Sloughs, Doolittle says. This equipment will greatly enhance assessment capabilities and may also be useful for enforcement purposes.

A pro rata share of revenue will come back to the tribe from the Circle of Flight and noxious weed programs which will use the plane monitoring the extent of noxious weeds and wildlife in regional wetlands.

In preparation for the purchase of a plane, Doolittle has taken flight instruction from Ashland area instructor

Dave Oschenbauer. Currently, he has a student pilot certificate and expects to complete his private pilot certification in the next month.

The next step will be a commercial pilot's license, which will allow the tribe to rent aerial services as another source of income to help maintain the plane.

Doolittle anticipates that the plane will also benefit the tribe's enforcement program. For instance, it will be easier to patrol the Kakagon River for violators of the "slow-no wake" code which protects the fragile wild rice beds.

The plane can also assist in monitoring snowmobile or hunting activity on reservation or in search and rescue operations in areas which would otherwise be difficult to reach.

In the overall cost-benefit analysis, Doolittle says the acquisition of the plane should save over 50% of program costs related to surveying and assessing the tribe's natural resources, largely by reducing man-hours required to perform the task on land.

## GLIFWC part of award-winning partnership project

The cooperative effort to rehabilitate and enhance the Wilson Flowage, Price County, Wisconsin, has been selected to receive the USDA Forest Service's national "Taking Wing" Award. The award ceremony will take place in San Francisco on March 27th.

The Wilson Flowage project won in the "partnership" category and involved the cooperation of nine organizations. Those include GLIFWC, USDA Forest Service, the Circle of Flight project, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Safari Club International, Ducks Unlimited, Silver Creek Sportsmen's Club, and the National Forest Foundation.

The Wilson Flowage project involved both upper and lower flowages. The USDA Forest Service inherited the two flowages, two dams and some land from a private landowner in 1987. However, the dams were in disrepair. Repairing the dams, including a water control structure on one, was a major part of the project. However, both the upper and lower flowages were enhanced in other ways.

An aeration system was installed in the lower flowage which boasts a trophy northern pike fishery, and the upper flowage was planted with wild rice. The entire area provides excellent habitat for waterfowl.

The total project cost was about \$190,000.



Tom Doolittle, Bad River biologist, stands by the Cessna 172-66 recently acquired by the Bad River Band for use in natural resource surveys and assessment work. The plane will enable biological staff to easily survey habitats difficult to access by land. (photo by C.O. Rasmussen)

# Talking turkey

By Peter David  
GLIFWC Wildlife Biologist

"You heard turkey gobbles in the Wisconsin ceded territory? Are you sure?" Well, the chance of hearing this statement, and it being true, is not nearly so unlikely today as it once was.

Turkeys have had a interesting history on the Wisconsin landscape. Historically, the eastern wild turkey was abundant in the southern and central portions of the state; their numbers faded away in the northern pine forests.

Unregulated hunting, timber harvest and diseases from domestic poultry all worked against turkeys, however; and they were gone from the state by the 1880's. Three-quarters of a century would pass without the gobble of a wild bird in the state.

Then beginning in 1950's, several efforts were made to return turkeys to the Wisconsin landscape. Releases of semi-wild, game farm stocks were made first in Juneau county, with Buffalo, Clark, Crawford, Eau Claire, Grant, Marinette, Oconto and Pepin counties also eventually receiving birds. All of these efforts were eventually failures.

A similar effort in 1976 undertaken by the Michigan DNR in Marinette county, Michigan met with some success, however, with a local flock taking hold and eventually spilling over the border into Wisconsin.

Beginning in 1974 the Wisconsin DNR made another effort to reestablish turkeys. The big difference this time was that wild birds, trapped in Missouri, were used in the releases. Payment for these birds was made in similar feathered tender: Missouri was provided three ruffed grouse for each turkey it provided.

Over the following years, several hundred turkeys were released into southern counties, and this time the birds survived and prospered. Just five years after the 1974 release, the birds had a solid enough toe-hold to allow

transplant programs to continue using birds trapped within the state. Trapping continued and expanded. Turkeys, and soon turkey hunting, returned to a solid position on the Wisconsin landscape.

However, this great success in turkey restoration unfolded south of the ceded territory (CT). At the time of the Voigt litigation (which led to the resumption of off-reservation treaty harvesting) the quavering call of the wild turkey was still almost unknown from the north.

With the exception of Zone 32 in parts of Florence and Marinette counties, which contained a small population originating from the emigrants from the Michigan release, the ceded territory was essentially devoid of turkeys.

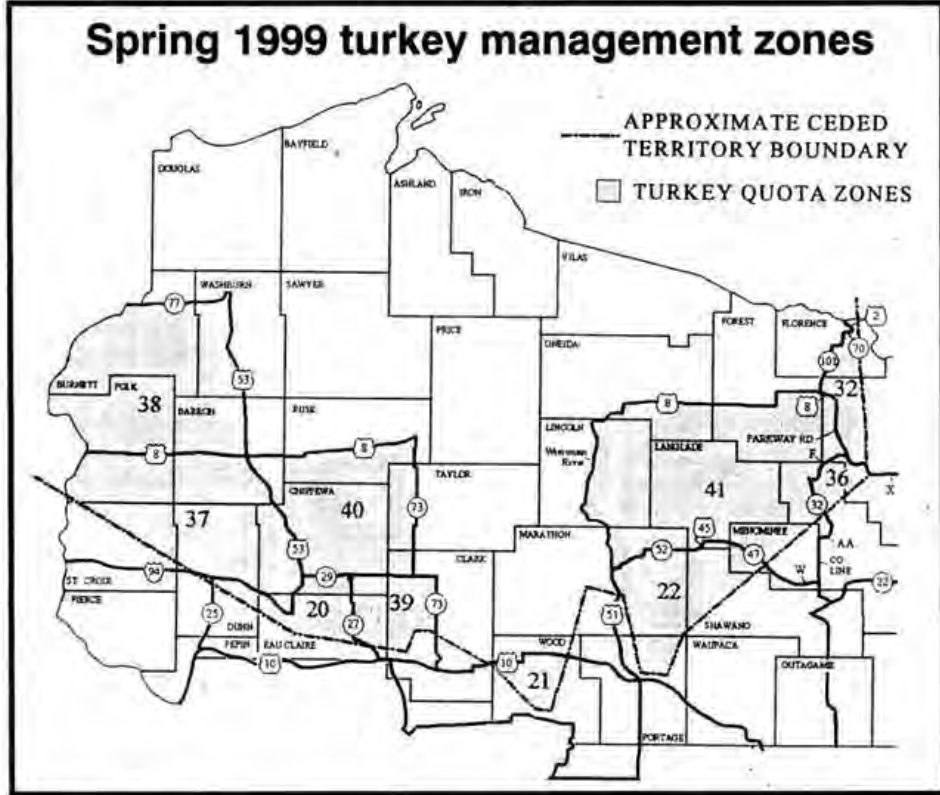
The CT was generally considered north of historic turkey range, and still unsuitable for turkeys because of the severity of the winters and the accompanying deep snows which limit food availability.

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.

The tribes closed these "restoration zones" to turkey hunting while these efforts were underway.

To the surprise of many, the turkeys once again held on and expanded. New turkey management zones were established by the state, and these were adopted by the tribes where they crossed into the CT.



These successes have re-stimulated efforts to expand turkey range in Wisconsin. After being reviewed for several habitat characteristics, sites in Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Rusk and Taylor counties have been selected to receive birds.

Turkeys were released at the first of these sites this winter, the first transplants to take place in the state in several years.

The spring of 1999 will mark the opening of two more turkey management zones (40 & 41) within the CT,

bringing the total number of tribal turkey zones in the CT to ten. Although large parts of these zones still lack appreciable numbers of birds, its clear that the CT holds many more wild turkeys than it did a decade ago. And now, many biologists are wondering just how much more turkeys have to teach us about how far north they can survive.

So the next time someone tells you they heard turkey gobbles in the ceded territory, don't doubt it. Find out where—then go listen for this wonderful sound yourself!

## Off-reservation spring turkey hunt

The tribal off-reservation spring turkey hunting in Wisconsin begins each year on the Wednesday nearest April 13, and continues for 40 consecutive days. In turkey management zones, the harvest is regulated by quota. Similar regulations are in place for the Minnesota ceded territory.

For information, carcass tags and regulations, contact the staff at your local GLIFWC Law Enforcement Office, or at the Wildlife Section in Odanah at (715) 682-6619.

# Porcupine encounter proves fatal for bobcat

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen  
Writer/photographer

Odanah, Wis.—For northern Wisconsin bobcats, it was another relatively easy winter. Deer hunters left

thousands of delectable gut piles scattered throughout the forest. Snowshoe hares, a primary food source, were abundant. Furthermore, the snow arrived late, making easy pickings of snowshoes that had already turned from brown to white.

That made Ron Parisien more than a little surprised when he discovered a dead bobcat filled with porcupine quills.

"The quills covered its face, foot pads, underbelly, and even penetrated the joints in the knee cap," said Parisien, a GLIFWC wildlife technician. "They were everywhere. I've never seen anything like it."

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

Parisien first trapped and collared the thirty pound bobcat last November. Upon discovering a wound on its forearm, Parisien had a local veterinarian stitch the animal up and then released it.

"He was moving up to five miles every few days, so he could get around pretty well," Parisien said.

Two months later, the cat stopped moving and its radio collar emitted a mortality signal. Parisien followed the transmission into a remote forested area where he found the dead bobcat inside a hollow log.

Incredibly, the animal had dropped twelve pounds. Parisien's examination of the carcass revealed that body fat was nonexistent.



"Something like this is not unheard of, but it's unusual," said Jonathan Gilbert, GLIFWC Wildlife Section Leader. "It's hard to speculate why it attacked a porcupine. When an animal gets a quill in the nose, they usually learn to stay away."

Gilbert figures the bobcat starved because it pounced on the porcupine, not because it was a desperately hungry predator taking on a last-resort meal.

"Having a mouth full of quills makes it difficult or impossible to hunt," Gilbert said.

Fisher are the only proficient porcupine predators. By attacking the unprotected face, a fisher wears down its prey through blood loss. When the porcupine is sufficiently weakened, the fisher flips it over and gains access to the soft underbelly.



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)

# Elk thriving in northern Wisconsin

## Wildlife managers discuss prospects for Eastern herds

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen  
Writer/Photographer

Cable, Wis.—Two hundred years ago, elk were a valued resource for Ojibwe Indians in northern Wisconsin. Families residing on Madeline Island traveled to the mainland and hunted elk for food, clothing, and even used the hides to construct canoes, using elk tallow to waterproof the seams.

In the middle of the nineteenth century, loggers, miners, and settlers pushed northward, deeper into Wisconsin, and the elk retreated. By 1870 they were gone.

Today, elk are back and are likely to stay. A reintroduction study that began in 1995 with the release of 25 elk in the Chequamegon National Forest is nearing completion. The elk have adapted well and now number around 50 animals.

Project coordinator Professor Ray Anderson expects the elk herd to remain in northern Wisconsin and said an additional reintroduction site in the state is being considered. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will decide the future of the elk in January 2000.

Joined by GLIFWC Wildlife Section Leader Jonathan Gilbert, Anderson met with a host of wildlife managers at Lakewoods Resort near Cable for the 4th Annual Eastern States Elk Management Workshop.

The event gave wildlife managers from the eastern United States an opportunity to share information and ideas on reestablishing elk to their original range.

Gilbert addressed the group on March 2 and explained how GLIFWC member tribes and the state work together managing natural resources in the territory that Ojibwe bands ceded to the United States.

Treaty rights entitle tribal members to harvest fish, game, and plant material on public land within the ceded territory.

In addition, Gilbert said the return of elk to Wisconsin is spiritually important to the Ojibwe, alluding to the ceremonies Lac Courte Oreilles elder Gene Begay performed at the elk release site.

"I was moved by the ceremony held at the release site," said Mike Mueller, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation (RMEF) Regional Director. "It seems like the Native American view of wildlife brings a better understanding of the spiritual value of elk and why they are important in our lives."

Small numbers of elk have been brought back to a handful of eastern states from Arkansas to Pennsylvania. Kentucky has a very aggressive elk program, planning to release 1,800 animals over the next nine years.

The Rocky Mountain is the most abundant elk subspecies and often used in restocking programs, Mueller said. Eastern elk, now believed to be extinct, populated Wisconsin and adjacent territory until habitat changes and overhunting eliminated them.

Just how abundant elk were in the region is a matter of speculation. But written accounts, physical evidence, and the Ojibwe oral tradition make it clear that elk were indeed a prominent fixture on the presettlement landscape.



Bull elk. (courtesy Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation)

# 1998 Wisconsin treaty deer season sets record for buck harvest

Odanah, Wis.—The 1998 off-reservation deer harvest in Wisconsin totaled 3,967 deer, making it the third largest treaty harvest in state history. In addition, a record number of bucks were taken during the season. GLIFWC Wildlife Biologist Jonathan Gilbert considers the large buck harvest as indicative of a very large deer herd. Considering this years mild winter, 1999 should also provide a very successful hunt.

Below are summary figures of the off-reservation treaty deer season. Figures indicate the number of deer registered at each registration station so do not necessarily reflect the numbers taken by each tribe.

## WI 1998 treaty deer harvest figures by registration station

| Registration Station | Bucks | Does  | Total |
|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| Bad River            | 141   | 216   | 357   |
| Fond du Lac          | 2     | 10    | 12    |
| Lac Courte Oreilles  | 373   | 717   | 1090  |
| Lac du Flambeau      | 369   | 611   | 980   |
| Mille Lacs           | 49    | 88    | 137   |
| Mole Lake            | 150   | 280   | 430   |
| Red Cliff            | 215   | 205   | 420   |
| St. Croix            | 232   | 309   | 541   |
| TOTAL                | 1,531 | 2,436 | 3,967 |

The Minnesota off-reservation deer hunt totaled 141 deer, up from the 1997 harvest of 74 deer. However, the 1997 harvest suffered from a season shortened by a court-ordered stay on exercising the treaty right. The Lac Courte Oreilles harvest was registered at the St. Paul registration station.

## MN 1998 treaty deer harvest figures by registration station

| Registration Station | Bucks | Does | Total |
|----------------------|-------|------|-------|
| Fond du Lac          | 29    | 74   | 103   |
| Lac Courte Oreilles  | 0     | 1    | 1     |
| Mille Lacs           | 12    | 25   | 37    |
| TOTAL                | 41    | 100  | 141   |

## MI 1998 treaty deer harvest figures by registration station

| Registration Station | Bucks | Does | Total |
|----------------------|-------|------|-------|
| Bad River            | 2     | 3    | 5     |
| Lac Vieux Desert     | 21    | 31   | 52    |
| TOTAL                | 23    | 34   | 57    |

## 1998 preliminary off-reservation waterfowl harvest figures

| Wisconsin | Michigan  |
|-----------|-----------|
| 130 ducks | 70 ducks  |
| 70 geese  | 107 geese |
| 170 coot  |           |

## Helping hands

A handful of organizations pooled their resources into the Wisconsin Elk Reintroduction Study, including RMEF, USDA-Forest Forest Service, WESCO, Elk Wisconsin, University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

The Voigt Intertribal Task Force—which makes recommendations for GLIFWC's resource management policies—pledged support for the project in May 1997. Jonathan Gilbert represents tribal involvement in the study.



Vern Stone trapped this whopping 18.5 pound male fisher on the Bad River reservation. Male fisher average around ten pounds. Stone is a Bad River member and a GLIFWC conservation officer. (photo by C.O. Rasmussen)

# 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.

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 (negwaakwaana), 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

**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.

**Nimiwechi'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.



Joe Rose

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 in working his sugar bush.

## 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](mailto: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 Lena, Minnesota. (staff photo)

# Masinaigan salutes its founder: Walter Bresette

(Continued from page 1)

testimony to his ability to forge ties between diverse people and thus gain the force needed to influence change.

Walter's walk on Earth saw change, changes for the betterment of native peoples and the environment. Many of these changes were products of his action in combination with the actions of others. Many times he led the charge, followed by many or followed by few.

For the gifts, strengths, insights openly given as Walter walked with us, we say "Miigwetch Walter!"

Though unseen, the loon can still be heard often in the twilight hours or at dawn. The call of the loon—captivating, sometimes lonely—a call to conscience, a call to action, a call from a friend, a spokesman, an activist. The voice of the loon will be with us.



Walter Bresette. (photo by Sue Erickson)



Vince Bender, Bad River tribal member, walked on Friday, February 26th at the age of 83. Above, Vince is weighing wild rice after it has been processed and winnowed. (photo by M.J. Kewley)



Walt with friend and fellow activist Frank Koehn attend a hearing regarding potential oil drilling in Bayfield County. (photo by Sue Erickson)

## A letter to Walter [Bresette]

They tell me that you have left on your final voyage. You, dear friend, who have wandered so selflessly in so many directions on behalf of human dignity and the environment. Only yesterday I watched a short clip of you used to close the just released CD-ROM (Alex Smith's excellent "Maawanj-iding, Gathering Together [Ojibwe histories and narratives from Wisconsin]"). Your clip was preceded by two others of your people who have gone before you, Archie Mosay and Marilyn Benton. In the clip, as you broke into your usual impish smile, you typically closed the presentation by saying, "Well, I'd better get back to work."

Your work on behalf of others has been tireless, both in publications and your personal involvement in various causes. As an author of an important book on Native fishing rights, as well as your appearance in my own film "Wisconsin Powwow," where you so eloquently described the problems facing vendors of true Native crafts with competition from Oriental fakes, to winning the court battle over "Feathergate," ensuring Indian rights to items deemed sacred and requisite for regalia, to joining others at Bad River blocking train traffic leading to pollution in the Upper Peninsula.

Elsewhere, your many long walks on behalf of justice for Indian rights, your recent appearance on Madeline Island over concerns about tree cutting on historic Old Fort Road, serving as powwow MC, providing the principal Bayfield outlet for Native crafts at the Buffalo Trading Post. I could go on.

Whenever your name has been mentioned, the first word that comes to my mind is "integrity." On top of that, Walt, you have gone about your business mostly unrewarded, but with an uncanny sense of humor. In the spirit of Wenabozho, the Ojibwe trickster, you were the creator, I believe, of the in-joke that the Chippewa contribution to safe sex was "wet dream-catchers." I imagine you currently dancing among the Northern Lights with that smile on your face. May you have a well-deserved rest, Walter, in the land of the spirits. You will be greatly missed.

Your friend, Tom Venum

## Vince Bender, Anishinaabe teacher and craftsman, walks on

By Sue Erickson  
Staff Writer

Vincent Bender, Bad River tribal member, age 83, walked on Friday, February 26th, leaving behind the legacy of traditional, Ojibwe craftsman, cultural leader, and teacher.

He knew much about the natural resources and how they were traditionally used by his people. Vince lived close to the Earth and used its gifts with care and skill. He practiced those skills as a part of everyday life and brought traditional, Ojibwe knowledge forward to the modern day. His knowledge he freely shared with those who wished to learn.

Perhaps Vince is most frequently thought of for his exquisitely processed wild rice, fresh from the Kakagon Sloughs. For the past several years

GLIFWC has brought unfinished rice to Vince and received it back cleaned and processed to perfection.

Others might think of him most for his home-tanned leather and moccasins. Vince used the old method of tanning deer hide in a solution of deer brains. The process is time-consuming and messy, but his product was always a beautiful, soft hide. Besides articles for dance regalia, Vince handmade moccasins for sale. A pair is now a prize possession.

Vince drummed and danced and worked with youth. He was very much a part of the community. He shared quietly and freely with all those about him.

Vince was a man of skill, proud to be Anishinaabe. His contributions to all our lives will be missed, but the gifts he gave will continue to enrich us all and those who are yet to come.

Miigwetch Vince!!

# 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

# 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)



## 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 Daniels 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](http://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](http://www.glifwc.org)



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

# Cold water refresher: GLIFWC conducts rescue training in Bay

Charlie Otto Rasmussen  
Writer/Photographer

**Ashland, Wis.**—Near-freezing water surrounded George Felix as he clung to the edge of the Lake Superior ice. He called out for help again and again. On shore, a rescue team scrambled into position. Clad in a buoyant red suit, a GLIFWC conservation officer shuffled out across the thin ice. Within a few yards of Felix, the rescuer squatted and rolled the remaining distance, careful to keep the lifeline fastened to his body from becoming tangled.

As the warden slipped into the icy water, Felix seemed more agitated and frantic. The rescuer maneuvered behind him and attached a harness, binding the men together. Firmly secured to the lifeline, the warden tapped his head, signaling the rescue team to pull the piggybacked duo to safety.

On February 10, this scenario played out dozens of times as rescuers pulled people from the lake. In what may sound like a disaster of titanic proportions, the GLIFWC Law Enforcement Division conducted their annual cold water rescue training in Chequamegon Bay.

"We train in a different location each winter—either on Lake Superior or somewhere inland," said Jack Lemieux, instructor and GLIFWC enforcement officer. "It's a good refresher."

Cold water rescue trainees practice techniques for extracting people from a break-through hole in the ice and learn how to treat hypothermia.

Officer Felix was among the "victims" pulled from Lake Superior that afternoon. In addition, 18 other GLIFWC wardens, three warden interns, and two Keweenaw Bay tribal law enforcement officers participated in the four-hour exercise.

GLIFWC enforcement personnel are involved in actual rescues once or twice annually, Lemieux said.

Along with GLIFWC warden John Mulroy, Lemieux has certified more than 250 federal, state, county and tribal employees over eight winters. Lemieux said that the government agencies in Ashland and Bayfield counties have the most active training schedule in the region.

Mulroy and Lemieux themselves are sanctioned by Dive Rescue International to teach cold water rescue.

The instructors review basic elements of executing a cold water rescue, like rigging a rope harness and recognizing ice quality in fast and slow water situations.

Lemieux said that it takes a minimum of two rescuers to safely extract a victim from the water. Ideally, an additional two-person team should be on hand to provide support and back-up in the event that the first team is endangered.

Rescuers wear wet suits that function like a flotation device.

"A victim that becomes very excited can force a rescuer under or otherwise injure them. You need to have the suit," said Mulroy.

While the exercise was a twelve-month refresher for most participants, a pair of Keweenaw Bay officers trained for the first time. Joined by a handful of

GLIFWC staffers, they spent four hours of classroom study, followed by another four hours practicing at the lake to complete the certification requirements.

"With all the fishermen on the bay, chances are high there could be an incident," said Keweenaw Bay Tribal Policeman Dale Goodreau. It turns out Goodreau was right. Kind of.

GLIFWC enforcement officers used cold water rescue techniques to save a wounded trumpeter swan on Keweenaw Bay in January.

The swan, one of several trumpeters reintroduced to the area last year, later died from its injuries.

Photographs of the training can be found on page 20.

## 1999 Native American Environmental Awareness Summer Youth Practicum

The Native American Fish & Wildlife Society (NAFWS) is proud to sponsor the ninth national Native American Environmental Awareness Summer Youth Practicum, scheduled for July 25 – August 3, 1999, in Evergreen, Colorado.

The Practicum is designed to provide Native American students an opportunity to gain hands-on experience in the management of natural resources. One of the goals of the Society is to encourage Native American youth to see the importance of professional natural resource management, to continue their education in order to seek degrees in natural resource management, and, ultimately, to pursue careers in the natural resource fields.

The Society believes in a re-awakening of the traditional values of Indian-to-environment relationships that are needed for tribes to make effective and sound natural resource management decisions.

The program provides an academic experience in a mountain youth camp environment. During the program, students will spend their time at the Mt. Evans Outdoor Education Lab School of the Jefferson County School District participating in classroom sessions, field education, recreational activities, field trips, traditional methods, and, most important, interaction with professional, cultural and spiritual people.

A unique aspect of the program is the use of Native American professionals who are active in the field and, even more important, the invaluable teachings from Tribal Elders.

For more information and/or an application, please write or call: Sally Carufel-Williams, Youth Practicum Coordinator, NAFWS, 750 Burbank Street, Broomfield, Colorado 80020. Phone: 303/466-1725. Applications must be postmarked and mailed by April 30, 1999. Only complete applications will be considered.

# Seasons of Change production crew may be in your area

*Seasons of Change* (w.t.), a six part, historical documentary series on the region's Ojibwe communities, is being produced by WDSE, Public TV from Duluth, Minnesota.

Producer/Director Lorraine Norrgard (*Enduring Ways of the Lac du Flambeau, A Gift to One—A Gift to Many, George Morrison Reflections, and Looks Into the Night*), production assistant Billy Scott (Swan Lake Ojibwe-Manitoba), researcher Lyz Jaakola (Fond du Lac Band of Ojibwe-Minnesota), and videographer Chris Bacigalupo are traveling around Ojibwe country in the process of filming this series. They may visit your community soon!

PBS affiliate, WDSE-TV has made an unprecedented commitment to fund this six-hour series for broadcast in March of 2000 on PBS stations across Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan (serving over nine million households).

The series celebrates the strengths and achievements of the Ojibwe' (Anishinaabeg) today, while giving historical background of the obstacles that have been overcome and the reasons for some of the issues faced today.

Each of the six programs centers on a theme: Origins and Language; Family Systems and Education; Relationship to the Environment; Leader-

ship and Governance; Health and Medicine; and Survival/Economic Development.

The crew is videotaping at 20 Ojibwe reservations in Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota for different segments and looks forward to hearing many stories that honor the past and celebrate present accomplishments from each community.

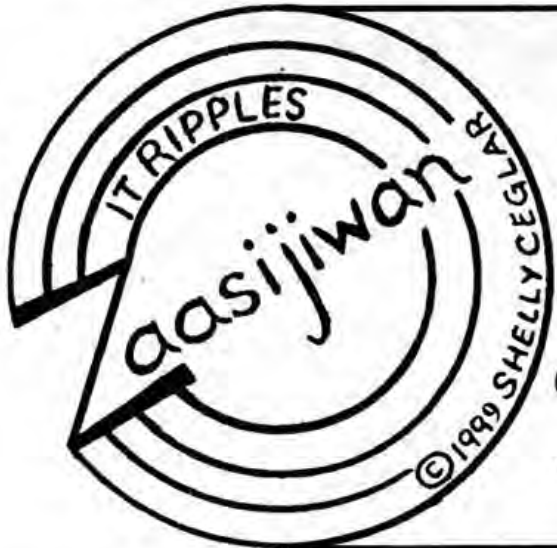
The production team recently videotaped Mille Lacs Band members hunting deer, Waswagoning traditional camp at Lac du Flambeau, Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission trout assessments at Houghton, Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal College in Hayward, and the language program at Leech Lake, as well as many other locations in the region. Don't be surprised if you see the WDSE-TV van in your community!

The *Seasons of Change* production team is interested in receiving information on events and programs going on at each community for possible filming, and we are always looking for historic photos or video footage you might have.

For more information please contact Lorraine Norrgard or Lyz Jaakola at: WDSE Public TV, 1202 East University Circle, Duluth, MN 55811. Phone: (218)724-8567; Fax: (218) 724-4269 or email at [atwdse.org](mailto:atwdse.org)



*Seasons of Change* production crew members are (from left to right) videographer Chris Bacigalupo, production assistant Billy Scott, researcher Lyz Jaakola, and producer/director Lorraine Norrgard. (submitted photo)



# Ziigwan — It is Spring

*Ziigwan, iskigamiziganing niwii-izhaamin.  
Iskigamizigewag, nimaamaa dash nindede. Manise, nisaye.  
Gaye aangodinong, nimanise. Bijiise, 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)*

Bezhiġ—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.

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 gwiizensag.  
C. Niwii-minikwe. Daga, makade-mashkiki-waaboo.  
D. Apane ziigwan izhaa agwajing.  
E. Giimooj dagoshinoog megwaayaak ingiw bineshiyag.  
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. Ningiigid.—I speak.  
(Prefix ni, or nin (before k, z, g, d), nind (before vowels), nim (before b). Drop end short vowel.  
Gidanokii—You work. Gigiigid—You speak.  
(Prefix gi or gid (before vowels))  
Drop short vowels at end.  
Anokiiwag—They work.  
Giigidowag—They speak. (Suffix wag or oog (consonant ending)).  
Dagoshinoogi—They arrive.

Goojitoon! Try it!  
Translation below.

1. \_\_\_ anokii.  
2. \_\_\_ bimose imaa waaka'iganing.  
3. Giigido \_\_\_, ingiw ikwewag.  
4. \_\_\_ wiisin adoopowining.  
5. \_\_\_ iskigamizige iskigamiziganing ziigwan.  
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. Bijiise 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. 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.

# Connecting point: future state wardens meet with GLIFWC

## Share ceded territory insights

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen  
Writer/Photographer

Fort McCoy, Wis.—Before the new crop of twenty-one Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) conservation officers goes afield this year, they will have heard from a notably diverse cross section of Wisconsin residents.

As part of a 21-week training schedule at Fort McCoy, new warden recruits are meeting with representatives from Amish to Hmong communities, and from hearing impaired citizens to conservation organizations.

GLIFWC Executive Administrator Jim Schlender and Chief Warden Jerry White addressed the group on separate occasions to provide information on Ojibwe treaty rights, treaty harvest enforcement, as well as the cultural and spiritual significance of natural resources.

"It's important to develop communication lines to all the different groups using natural resources," said Gerald Meronk, DNR Warden and Assistant Training Director. "This gives our new people an idea of how things are viewed through a Native American's eyes."

Drawing on 13 years of off-reservation enforcement experience in northern Wisconsin, White explained how state and GLIFWC wardens have developed good working relationships.

"We have a highly professional approach to law enforcement," White said. "GLIFWC stresses basic ethics and free communication with DNR wardens."

Although they operate under separate agencies, conservation officers often work together to handle incidents involving either tribal members or non-Indians.

Around one-third of GLIFWC wardens possess cross-credentials, meaning they are trained and authorized to enforce both state and off-reservation conservation laws.

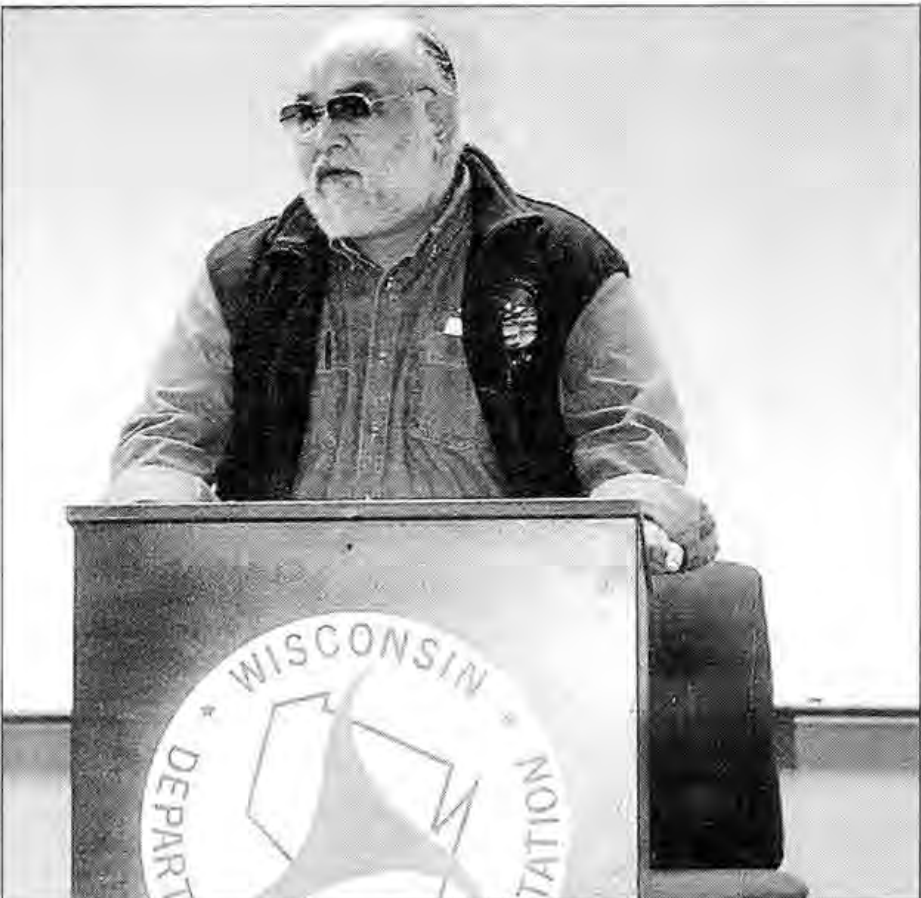
GLIFWC's Jim Schlender conducted a four-hour session with the class, explaining elements of traditional Ojibwe beliefs, and providing a brief history of treaty rights.

"The Anishinaabe recognize man's place in the order of creation," Schlender told the group. "The first thing created was the earth, sky, and water. The second order of creation, the plants, rely on the first for a place to live. And the third order of creation, all the animals, birds, and fish depends on the previous two for survival. Man, or Anishinaabe, recognized their order as fourth in the order of creation. They depended on the previous orders to survive. So when Anishinaabe people pray to the Creator, they recognize their humble position in the order of creation."

Schlender said this view of creation is a major reason why treaty rights are so important to Ojibwe people today.

"The exercise of treaty rights is a needs based activity," Schlender said. "And there are different kinds of needs: subsistence, the need for food, cultural needs, and ceremonial needs where something like a deer is needed for a life or death or naming ceremony."

While there are probably few families that wholly subsist on wild food, Schlender said fish and game are an



Jim Schlender, GLIFWC Executive Administrator. (Photo by C.O. Rasmussen)

essential part of the Ojibwe diet. It's common for a hunter or fisherman to provide food for an extended family, he added.

After Schlender presented the class with information on nineteenth century treaties between Ojibwe nations and the United States, students utilized the opportunity to ask questions about how the ceded territory is regulated.

At the request of one recruit, Schlender passed around his tribal identification card, gathering permit, and an antlerless deer tag to give future north-

ern Wisconsin wardens an idea of what to expect when checking an off-reservation harvester.

Five of the new wardens are expected to be stationed in the ceded territory.

Since 1987, law enforcement officers from the city, county, and state level have developed close working relationships with GLIFWC wardens. In that year, GLIFWC and local enforcement officers united to thwart a violent anti-spearfishing protest at Butternut Lake. □



# Rez Talk



How will the gathering Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between GLIFWC member tribes and the Forest Service be beneficial for you and your family?



**Charlene Shingobe, Mille Lacs**  
I'm pleased this agreement recognizes the Tribe's existing treaty rights and will enable my peers and myself to exercise treaty-reserved gathering rights on National Forest land in Wisconsin. I'll be able to gather birchbark, maple sap, cedar, white ash, basswood, willow, sumac, tamarack, and spruce roots. Gathering these things has been, and still are, a tradition of my family heritage and culture. Access to these resources helps supplement my income and allows me pass on what I've learned to the future generation.



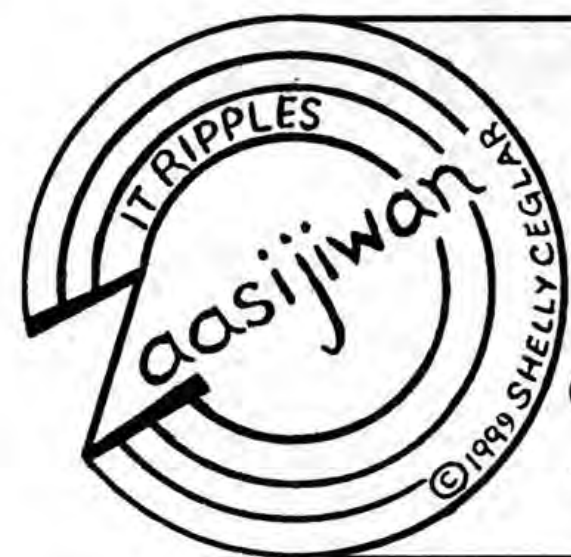
**Jerry Martin, Lac Courte Oreilles**  
It makes gathering a little easier. We can pick up a permit at the Conservation Department and go pick balsam boughs. Moneywise, balsam gathering is one of the most important things I do during the year. Gathering firewood is also important.

I see more and more people out there gathering balsam every year. It's important to a lot of people.



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The memorandum looks good and I understand it, but I'm concerned about the future and how this MOU may be interpreted by attorneys at a later time.

I like the fact that the Forest Service and tribes are working together. It's good that we're all protecting the resource, but some of the conditions concern me.



## Ziigwan — It is Spring

Ziigwan, 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)

### Bezhiq—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 gwiizensag.

C. Niwii-minikwe. Daga, makade-  
mashkiki-waaboo.

D. Apane ziigwan izhaa  
agwajing.

E. Giimooj dagoshinoog  
megwaayaak ingiw  
bineshiyag.

F. Gii-ondaadziike,  
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

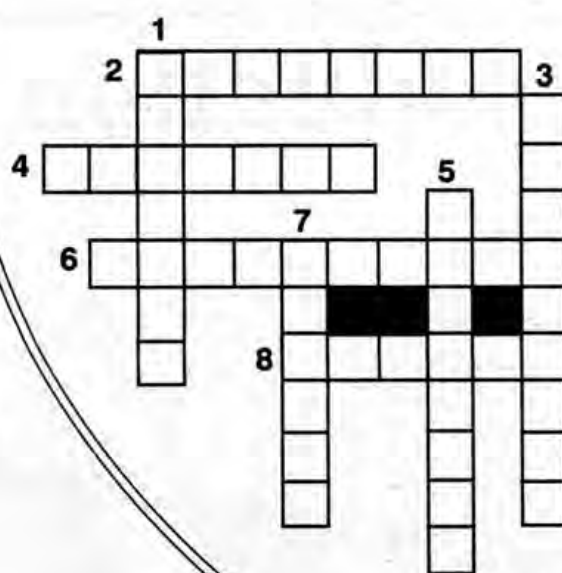
### IKIDOWIN ODAMINOWIN (word play)

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. Ningligid.—I speak.  
(Prefix ni, or nin (before k, z, g, d), nind (before  
vowels), nim (before b). Drop end short vowel.  
Gidanokii—You work. Gigiigid—You speak.  
(Prefix gi or gid (before vowels))  
Drop short vowels at end.  
Anokiiwag—They work.  
Giigidowag—They speak. (Suffix wag  
or oog (consonant ending)).  
Dagoshinoogi—They arrive.

Goojitoon! Try it!  
Translation below.

1. \_\_\_ anokii.
2. \_\_\_ bimose imaa waaka'iganing.
3. Giigido \_\_\_, ingiw ikwewag.
4. \_\_\_ wiisin adoopowining.
5. \_\_\_ iskigamizige iskigamiziganing ziigwan.
6. \_\_\_ giigid gikinoo'amaadiwigamigong noongom.

Ni  
Gi  
Nind  
Wag  
Nim  
Gid

### 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. Bineshiy 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 its natural flow as in any foreign language translation.

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P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861.

# Connecting point: future state wardens meet with GLIFWC

## Share ceded territory insights

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen  
Writer/Photographer

Fort McCoy, Wis.—Before the  
new crop of twenty-one Wisconsin  
Department of Natural Resources  
(DNR) conservation officers goes afield  
this year, they will have heard from a  
notably diverse cross section of Wis-  
consin residents.

As part of a 21-week training  
schedule at Fort McCoy, new warden  
recruits are meeting with representa-  
tives from Amish to Hmong communi-  
ties, and from hearing impaired citizens  
to conservation organizations.

GLIFWC Executive Administra-  
tor Jim Schlender and Chief Warden  
Jerry White addressed the group on  
separate occasions to provide informa-  
tion on Ojibwe treaty rights, treaty har-  
vest enforcement, as well as the cultural  
and spiritual significance of natural re-  
sources.

"It's important to develop com-  
munication lines to all the different  
groups using natural resources," said  
Gerald Meronk, DNR Warden and As-  
sistant Training Director. "This gives  
our new people an idea of how things  
are viewed through a Native American's  
eyes."

Drawing on 13 years of off-reser-  
vation enforcement experience in north-  
ern Wisconsin, White explained how  
state and GLIFWC wardens have de-  
veloped good working relationships.

"We have a highly professional  
approach to law enforcement," White  
said. "GLIFWC stresses basic ethics  
and free communication with DNR  
wardens."

Although they operate under sepa-  
rate agencies, conservation officers of-  
ten work together to handle incidents  
involving either tribal members or non-  
Indians.

Around one-third of GLIFWC  
wardens possess cross-credentials,  
meaning they are trained and autho-  
rized to enforce both state and off-  
reservation conservation laws.

GLIFWC's Jim Schlender con-  
ducted a four-hour session with the  
class, explaining elements of traditional  
Ojibwe beliefs, and providing a brief  
history of treaty rights.

"The Anishinaabe recognize man's  
place in the order of creation," Schlender  
told the group. "The first thing created  
was the earth, sky, and water. The sec-  
ond order of creation, the plants, rely on  
the first for a place to live. And the third  
order of creation, all the animals, birds,  
and fish depends on the previous two  
for survival. Man, or Anishinaabe, re-  
cognized their order as fourth in the  
order of creation. They depended on the  
previous orders to survive. So when  
Anishinaabe people pray to the Creator,  
they recognize their humble position in  
the order of creation."

Schlender said this view of creation  
is a major reason why treaty rights are  
so important to Ojibwe people today.

"The exercise of treaty rights is a  
needs based activity," Schlender said.  
"And there are different kinds of needs:  
subsistence, the need for food, cultural  
needs, and ceremonial needs where  
something like a deer is needed for a life  
or death or naming ceremony."

While there are probably few fami-  
lies that wholly subsist on wild food,  
Schlender said fish and game are an



Jim Schlender, GLIFWC Executive Administrator. (Photo by C.O. Rasmussen)

essential part of the Ojibwe diet. It's  
common for a hunter or fisherman to  
provide food for an extended family, he  
added.

After Schlender presented the class  
with information on nineteenth century  
treaties between Ojibwe nations and  
the United States, students utilized the  
opportunity to ask questions about how  
the ceded territory is regulated.

At the request of one recruit,  
Schlender passed around his tribal iden-  
tification card, gathering permit, and an  
antlerless deer tag to give future north-

ern Wisconsin wardens an idea of what  
to expect when checking an off-reser-  
vation harvester.

Five of the new wardens are ex-  
pected to be stationed in the ceded ter-  
ritory.

Since 1987, law enforcement of-  
ficers from the city, county, and state  
level have developed close working  
relationships with GLIFWC wardens.  
In that year, GLIFWC and local en-  
forcement officers united to thwart a  
violent anti-spearfishing protest at Butter-  
nut Lake. □

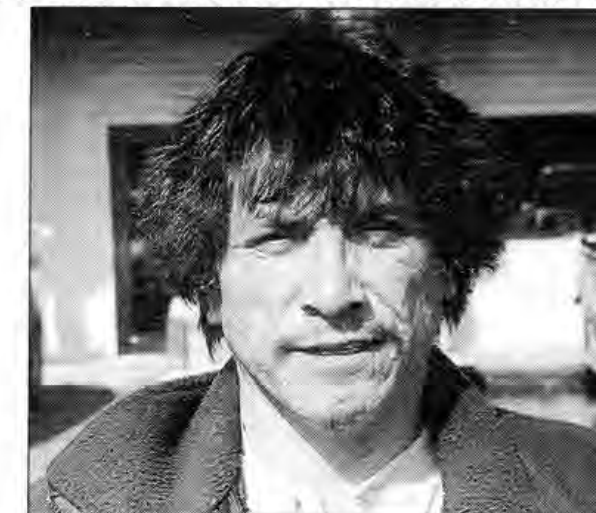
# Rez Talk

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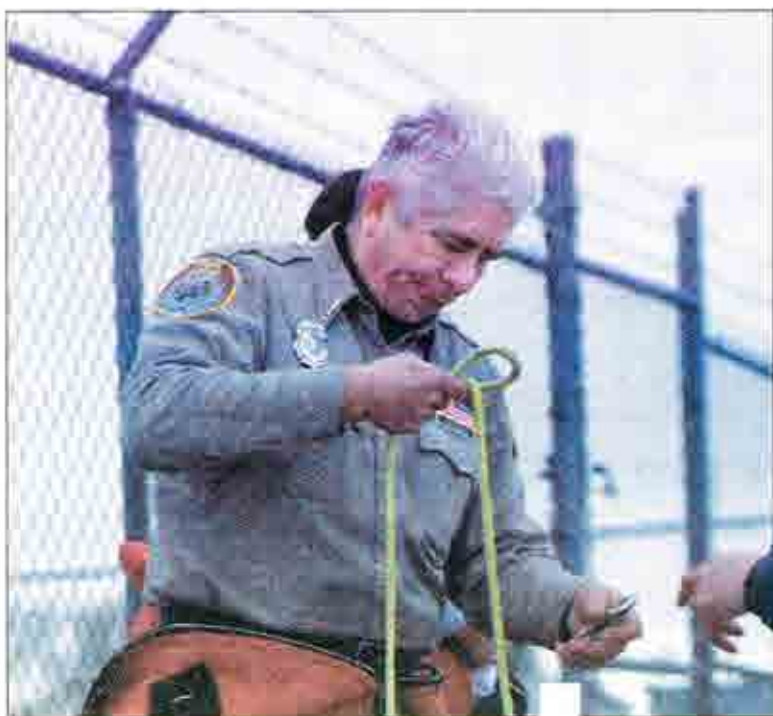


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# Enforcement officers hone cold water rescue skills



Officer Ken Rusk rigs a rescue harness.



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

Photos by C.O. Rasmussen



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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Lynn Plucinski ..... Assistant Editor  
Charlie Otto Rasmussen ..... Writer/Photographer

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

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For more information see our website at: [www.glifwc.org](http://www.glifwc.org).



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