GREAT LAKES INDIAN FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION

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• MEMBER TRIBES •

MICHIGAN

Bay Mills Community Keweenaw Bay Community Lac Vieux Desert Band

WISCONSIN

Bad River Band Lac Courte Oreilles Band Lac du Flambeau Band Red Cliff Band St. Croix Chippewa Sokaogon Chippewa

MINNESOTA

Fond du Lac Band Mille Lacs Band



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 12, 2025

GLIFWC Sends Condolences to Family and Friends of George Meyer

Long-time Wisconsin Environmental Leader Passes Away

George Meyer of Madison, WI started his journey on Wednesday, December 10th, 2025. George was a recognized environmental advocate and conservationist that spent many years working for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and eventually served as the Secretary of the DNR.

GLIFWC and the Voigt Intertribal Task Force worked alongside George for many years, especially in the early days of treaty reaffirmation. In the late 1980's following federal circuit court affirmation of Ojibwe harvest rights in the Wisconsin Ceded Territory, both parties often found themselves at negotiating tables in uncharted waters.

Lac du Flambeau Ogichidaa and former Tribal Leader Tom Maulson recalls developing an enduring respect for Meyer as both men worked to protect natural resources and make the most of harvest opportunities.

"George is a part of our shared history. Back in those days, we were all doing our best, getting pushed and pulled in different directions. Over time George became a good friend and supported what we were doing out there in terms of hunting and fishing." Said Maulson.

Maulson and Meyer collaborated on a GLIFWC short film in 2022, sharing their relationship arc from a place of conflict to camaraderie as treaty tribes established conservation codes apart from the state rules. Check out Rise of the Walleye Warrior: Lac Courte Oreilles v Voigt Decision here.

GLIFWC would like to extend sincere condolences to the Meyer family, friends, and all those impacted by his passing.