



**Results of the 2006 Off-Reservation
Waawaashkeshi (Deer) and Makwa (Bear)
Harvest in the
Ceded Territories of Michigan**

by
Miles Falck
Wildlife Biologist

Administrative Report 07-05
April 2007

Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission
Biological Services Division
P.O. Box 9
Odanah, WI 54861
(715) 682-6619

Results of the 2006 Waawaashkeshi (Deer) and Makwa (Bear) Hunting Seasons in the Ceded Territories of Michigan

Introduction

This report summarizes the 2006 off-reservation tribal harvest of waawaashkeshi (deer) and makwa (bear) on lands in Michigan that were ceded to the United States by the Lake Superior Ojibwe in the treaties of 1836 and 1842 (Fig. 1). The majority of hunters were members of 3 Lake Superior bands with reservations in the upper peninsula (UP): Bay Mills Indian Community (BMIC), Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC), and the Lac Vieux Desert Band (LVD) (see Fig. 1). However, harvest by members of 3 Wisconsin Bands (Bad River, Sokoagon and Lac Courte Oreilles) signatory to the treaty of 1842 are also included in harvest totals for the 1842 ceded territory. Members of sovereign Indian Tribes in Michigan hunted under distinct and specific tribal regulations that are summarized in Falck (2006).

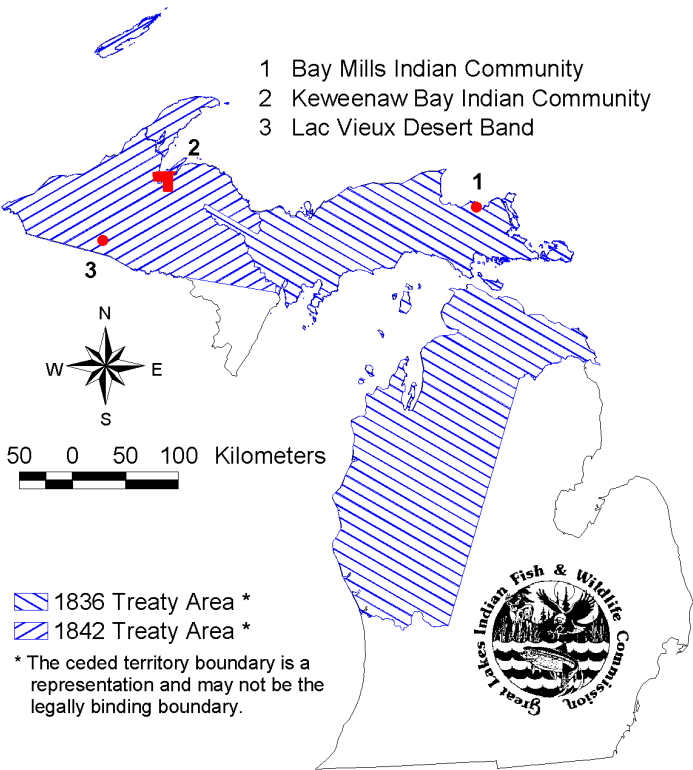


Figure 1. Location of GLIFWC member tribes and ceded territory in Michigan.

Deer Hunting

1836 Ceded Territory. Because registration was not required, a telephone survey (Appendix A) was used to estimate the number of deer harvested in the 1836 treaty ceded territory. Permit holders were sorted by phone number and every other permittee with a phone number listed was selected from a random starting point. A total of 46 (30%) permittees were contacted during the survey. Total harvest was estimated by calculating the mean number of deer harvested per permit from the phone sample and multiplying it by the total number of permits issued. The antlerless ratio, and harvest by county and month were calculated similarly.

1842 Ceded Territory. Harvest data for the 1842 ceded territory in the UP were obtained from tribal registration stations where information was collected on each deer registered. Information included county and date of harvest, and type of deer (antlered or antlerless).

Results

The total off-reservation tribal deer harvest in Michigan was estimated to be 209 deer (58% antlerless) (Table 1). A total of 115 deer (65% antlerless) were registered in the 1842 ceded territory in Michigan and total harvest for the 1836 ceded territory in Michigan was estimated to be 94 deer (50% antlerless). Harvest was greatest during November (Figure 2). Figure 3 illustrates the distribution of harvest for the ceded territories of Michigan.

Table 1. 2006 Michigan tribal deer harvest by registration station^a.

Registration Station	Treaty Area of Harvest	Antlered	Antlerless	Total
Bay Mills	1836	47	47	94
Keweenaw Bay	1842	20	19	39
Lac Vieux Desert	1842	14	24	38
Bad River	1842	6	32	38
Total		87	122	209

^a Data for the 1836 ceded territory was estimated from a phone survey described above.

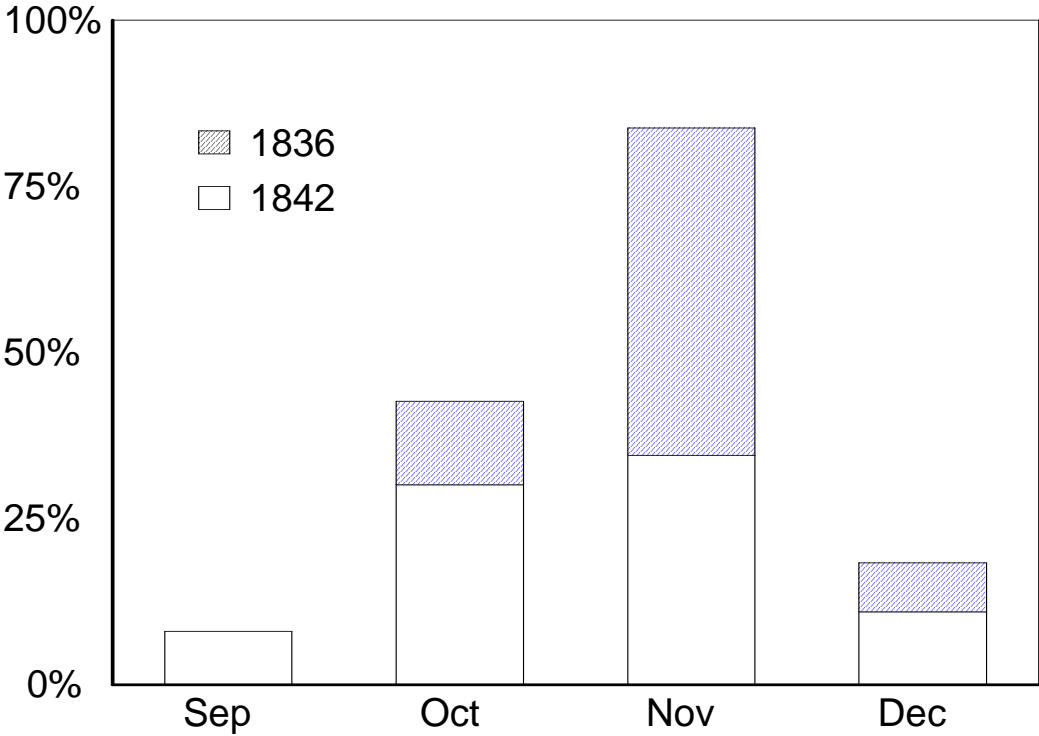
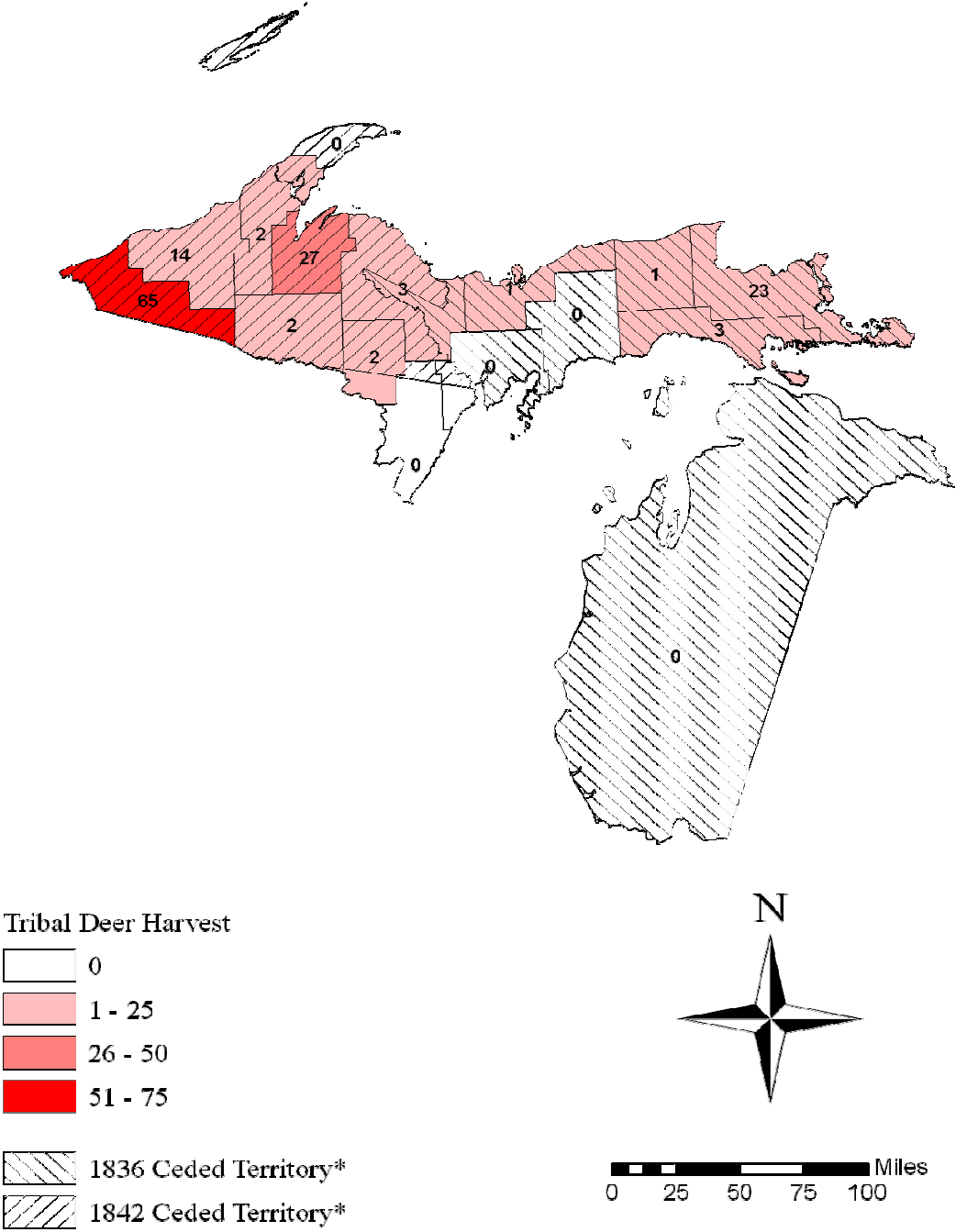


Figure 2. Percent of total off-reservation tribal deer harvest by month, 2006.



* The ceded territory boundary is a representation and may not be the legally binding boundary.

Figure 3. Distribution of off-reservation tribal deer harvest in Michigan, 2006.

Bear Hunting

1836 Ceded Territory. A telephone survey (Appendix A) was used (as described above) to estimate the number of bear harvested. A total of 39 (35%) permittees were contacted during the survey.

1842 Ceded Territory. Harvest data for the 1842 portion of the UP were obtained from tribal registration stations where information was collected on each bear registered. Information included sex, county, and date of harvest.

Results

Four boars and 1 sow bear were reported harvested off-reservation in the 1842 ceded territories of Michigan in 2006 (Table 2). No bear were reported in the survey of 1836 off-reservation tribal hunters.

Table 2. Number of bear harvested off-reservation by Treaty Area during the 2006 tribal bear season in Michigan.

Treaty Area	Boar	Sow	Total
1836 ^a	0	0	0
1842 ^b	4	1	5
Total	4	1	5

^a data estimated from survey sample

^b data from registration stations

Acknowledgments

Miigwech to Jeanne Bouschor, Keweenaw Bay Natural Resources Department and Dan North and Dara Olson (GLIFWC) helped compile these results. Neil Kmiecik, GLIFWC biological services director, and Jonathan Gilbert, GLIFWC wildlife section leader, provided editorial comments.

Literature Cited

Falck, M. 2006. Results of the 2005 off-reservation waawaashkeshi (deer) and makwa (bear) harvest in the ceded territories of Michigan. Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission. Administrative Report No. 06-06.

Appendix A

2006 Deer Harvest Survey - 1836 Ceded Territory

Tribal ID number : _____

Did you hunt DEER **OFF-RESERVATION** with a **tribal** permit during the 2006 **tribal** deer season?

- Yes No

In which county or counties did you hunt? (check all that apply)

- Chippewa Mackinac Luce Other : _____

How many deer did you harvest? _____ (fill in table)

Number of Deer		Date of Harvest	County of Harvest
Antlered	Antlerless		

2006 Bear Harvest Survey - 1836 Ceded Territory

Did you hunt BEAR **OFF-RESERVATION** with a **tribal** permit during the 2006 **tribal** bear season?

- Yes No

In which county or counties did you hunt? (check all that apply)

- Chippewa Mackinac Luce Other : _____

How many bears did you harvest? _____ (fill in table)

Number of Bear		Date of Harvest	County of Harvest
Boar	Sow		