Walleye fishing short but sweet for Lac Vieux Desert

Walleye fishing short but sweet for Lac Vieux Desert

Experimental nets, quiet boats, and good fishing mark season

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen
Writer/Photographer

Watersmeet, Mich.—Remnant mounds of clean white snow stretched along the southern fringe of the Ottawa National Forest roads in Upper Michigan. Despite temperatures in the mid-70s, the snowpack was slow to melt in a region that received from 130 to 300 inches of snow last winter. For a brief one-and-a-half weeks beginning in late April, Lac Vieux Desert treaty fishermen traveled these roads to familiar spearing grounds and struck out on lesser known paths to harvest 3,229 walleye and a smattering of perch.

The Lac Vieux Desert Band (LVD) recently completed their 11th spearing season under harvest guidelines calculated by state and tribal fisheries managers. Although below last years' record take of 3,611 walleye, LVD fishermen fared well during a season cut short by the rapid warming of western Upper Michigan lakes which caused walleye to spawn quickly.

Harvest guidelines for LVD fishing in the 1842 ceded territory of Michigan are based on models that predict the number of adult walleye. Michigan Department of Natural Resources and tribal representatives meet annually in March to determine tribal quotas.

Jim Williams, LVD Vice-Chairman, said that there is no formal pact with the state on treaty-guaranteed walleye harvests in Michigan, but tribal and state officials have a gentleman's agreement on establishing harvest guidelines.

"We've always had a pretty good relationship with the state," Williams said. "We both want to protect the resources."

In an effort to curb the spread of Eurasian watermilfoil, LVD volunteers (See LVD provides, page 2)

Treaty spring walleye season on Mille Lacs Lake challenged by ice, wind, and time

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Onamia, Minn.—The ice just didn't want to leave Mille Lacs Lake this year, and it managed to play some havoc with the spring treaty fishing season. Once the shoreline opened enough to set nets, a shifting wind could blow the ice pack right over a net. So, a careful watch had to be maintained, and sometimes nets were removed during the night to prevent loss.

The heavy ice conditions on the lake also made for a short, fast season, resulting in a combined tribal harvest of about 45,700 pounds of walleye from Mille Lacs Lake. Of that total, around 4,000 pounds were speared, the remainder taken by net.

The 2001 combined walleye quota for the tribes was 85,000 pounds, so the harvest as of May 14, 2001 leaves slightly less than half the quota remaining, or approximately 39,270 pounds of walleye.

The total quota for the Mille Lacs band is 6,071 pounds for the season. However, Red Cliff donated 1,000 pounds from their quota to Fond du Lac, adjusting Red Cliff's quota down to 5,071 pounds and Fond du Lac's quota up to 7,071 pounds.

Tribal harvests of walleye by both spear and net on Mille Lacs Lake as of May 14th were as follows:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Band</th>
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<tr>
<td>St. Croix band</td>
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</table>

Other lakes harvested during the 1837 Treaty season in Minnesota included Green Lake, Chisago County, where the Fond du Lac band speared 378 pounds of walleye, and Goose Lake, Chisago County where the Mille Lacs band speared 16 pounds of walleye.

As in previous seasons, Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) biologists, creel crew and enforcement personnel at Mille Lacs Lake got a work out. Monitoring both spearing and netting activities with several landings open on Mille Lacs Lake simultaneously required crews to rest in...
Nature provides a short, fast treaty season
Wisconsin harvest figures down for both walleye & muskellunge

(Editor's Note: The spring treaty season was not completed by the time Masinaigan went to press. Figures reflect preliminarytotals as of May 14, 2001. Final figures will be published in the next edition of Masinaigan.)

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—Hampered by a late, but fast-breaking season, tribal fisheries in Wisconsin had fewer days than usual to harvest fish this spring. While final figures are not in, and a limited amount of fishing activity is still in progress, the total tribal walleye and muskellunge harvest was close to 23,100 fish, out of a total combined tribal quota of 45,321 walleye available. (See harvest totals for tribal breakdown.) The tribes harvested slightly over one-half of their quota for the season by May 14th.

During the “normal” season, tribal fishermen begin the spring harvest of walleye in more southern lakes and follow the thaw to the northern fishing grounds. However, this year all lakes seemed to open within just days of each other, and the walleye were quick to spawn and return to deeper water, limiting the harvest opportunity. The spring spearing season was opened on April 18th by the St. Croix tribe. Harvest numbers indicate the most successful walleye harvest occurred between April 18th and May 5th, with numbers of walleye harvested dwindling considerably after that date.

Last year, the combined tribes harvested 30,367 walleye, 88% which were male, and in 1999, the combined harvest was 26,105, 85% which were male. In the hand despite the 1991 and 1992 totals are lower than this year’s tribal walleye harvest in Wisconsin.

For muskellunge, the combined tribal harvest was approximately 233 for 2001 as of May 14, down from the 2000 harvest of 325 muskellunge. The 2001 combined tribal harvest was 1,580 muskellunge. In the past decade only figures for 1992 were lower than the 2001 muskellunge harvest.

The vast majority of LVD treaty fisheries are located in Lake Superior territory. In 2001, the total treaty harvest was 1,580 muskellunge. In the past decade only figures for 1992 and 1995 were lower than the 2001 muskellunge harvest.

\[\text{(Continued from page 1)}\]

\[
\text{Bad River} & 2,908 & 5 \\
\text{Lac Courte Oreilles} & 3,162 & 55 \\
\text{Lac du Flambeau} & 8,450 & 89 \\
\text{Mole Lake/Sokagong} & 4,572 & 34 \\
\text{Red Cliff} & 2,060 & 2 \\
\text{St. Croix} & 1,585 & 48 \\
\text{Total} & 22,737 & 233
\]

\[\text{LVD provides fish for elders} \]

Fish for elders

Situated in a remote wooded expanse near the intersection of Iron, Houghton, and Hennepin counties, Perch Lake isn’t the easiest lake to access in Michigan, but presented a new opportunity this year. A maze of gravel roads through national and state forest can get you to the 994-acre lake from just about any direction.

Since no treaty harvest had occurred here in recent memory, Williams said the lake as a good place to experiment with the conventional yet highly selective harvesting technique: fyke netting.

Fyke nets are made of elephant hair between which fish are trapped as they swim in and out of the traps. The nets are anchored by stakes and floatation devices, and are left overnight, so that fish can continue to swim in and out of it. By allowing the fish to keep coming and going, the nets provide a highly selective technique for tribal fishermen. When it’s time to harvest, the nets are hauled in and the fish counted.

The nets were set from the early hours of May 5th, to the late hours of May 6th. While one group of fishermen had no netting success, another group of fishermen caught 150 walleye in two nets. The nets were cleaned and stored in a ladder truck to be used again the next night.

St. Croix

Nature provides a short, fast treaty season
Wisconsin harvest figures down for both walleye & muskellunge

(Continued from page 1)

Small boat spearing

While most ceded territory fisher­men speared from motor boats (see related story, page 7), some 15-20 of the 50-60 LVD treaty fisher­men toed it in the spring harvest, don’t expect to hear small boat spearing from the Superior area for several more months.

The vast majority of LVD treaty fisherman are not paddle power when cruising the shallows for walleye. People feel that motors are often too loud and spoak fish out of spearing range, Williams said. Canoes and johnboat motors are often the vessel of choice.

Smaller boats do have their drawbacks, however, especially on big water like the 13,380-acre Lake Gogebic near Marenisco. GLIFWC Wardens Richard Burke and Duane Parish, who monitored the LVD harvest, reported that a strong southwest wind kicked up on the evening of May 1, battering spearing boats. Whitecaps crossed the lake to the gravel-bottomed east shore, where several tribal members were fishing. One boat took on water and became swamped. The fishermen managed to row to the boat to shore and mus­

swamped, causing fish and equipment to surge overboard. The fishermen managed to row to the boat to shore and mus­


cled it onto the safety of the bank. Burke said this situation illustrates the importance of wearing a personal flotation device when fishing.

Interest in spearing among LVD members has gradually but steadily increased over the last decade, according to Williams. A core group of 15-20 speakers accounts for most of the harvest as additional tribal members—mostly young people—learn spearing tech­

iques and spearing behavior, Williams said.

On the cover

Getting a jump-start on the season, Leonard Sam, Mille Lacs, works a net through the ice on Mille Lacs Lake this spring (see related story, page 8). See pages 12-13 for photos from spearing and netting in the ceded territories this spring. (Photo by Sue Erickson)
Legislation protects Wisconsin wetlands

More than a million acres of Wisconsin wetlands potentially left open to development after a U.S. Supreme Court ruling received protection from state officials effective May 8. The Senate and Assembly unanimously passed legislation to restore protection for sensitive wetlands and Governor Scott McCallum signed the bill in early May.

The law gives authority to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to regulate nonfederal wetlands. That ability to control filling projects in wetlands was removed January 9 when the U.S. Supreme Court ruled the federal Clean Water Act did not give the Army Corps of Engineers jurisdiction over wetlands solely on the basis of their use by migratory birds. Before the ruling, the DNR regulated isolated wetlands through the Corps’ authority under the Clean Water Act.

Wild turkeys on the move at LdF

The flock of wild turkeys released on the Lac du Flambeau (LdF) reservation in February 2000 have cleared another hurdle, surviving the harshest winter to hit northern Wisconsin in four years. According to Larry Wawronowicz, LdF natural resource director, small groups of birds are ranging north and west of the reservation, while others are utilizing the wildlife openings where the birds were released.

“They made it through a pretty hard winter, or what may be considered closer to a normal winter,” said Wawronowicz. “The only thing the birds weren’t faced with was long periods of severe cold.”

Wawronowicz said that most of the birds spotted so far appear to be hens. LdF natural resource staff will monitor breeding success over the summer.

Banning the use of cyanide in mining

On Thursday, May 10th, the state legislature’s Senate Environment Committee held a public hearing on a Senate bill (SB 160) that would ban the use of cyanide in metallic mining in Wisconsin. The bill would affect the proposed Crandon mine.

The authors of the bill, Senator Russ Decker (D-Schofield) and Representative Spencer Black (D-Madison), offered the bill to protect Wisconsin from the kind of environmental disasters that have occurred elsewhere. In Montana, Colorado and a number of countries like Romania and Hungary, cyanide was accidentally released into the environment by metallic mines that use the chemical during the mining process.

Supporters of the proposed cyanide ban told committee members and the public that the risks involved in the transportation and use of excessive amounts of cyanide are not worth damaging Wisconsin’s true “gold”—its water and land resources. They delivered petitions containing signatures of some 11,000 Wisconsin citizens who do not want cyanide to be used at the proposed mine site. They told of the increasing number of local and tribal governments that have enacted ordinances banning cyanide within their jurisdictions, and reminded legislators of the strong vote for a cyanide ban by delegates to the Wisconsin Conservation Congress.

The only group that spoke against the cyanide ban was the Nicolet Minerals Corporation, which brought in mining experts from around the U.S. to attempt to convince Senate committee members that cyanide will be used safely in the mine at Crandon. Committee members did not take a vote on the bill that day but are expected to act on it in the next few months.

—submitted article

Harvest opportunities ahead

Upcoming off-reservation, treaty seasons

For specific information and dates regarding any off-reservation treaty seasons, tribal members should contact their reservation conservation department or registration station.

Seasons may vary from state to state, or from tribe to tribe. However, some of the opportunities for off-reservation hunting, fishing, and gathering in June through August 2001 are as follows:

Wisconsin 1837, 1842 Treaty ceded territory

- Netting
- Hook and line fishing
- Gathering (birch bark, berries, ricing, etc.)

Minnesota 1837 Treaty ceded territory

- Netting
- Hook and line fishing
- Gathering (birch bark, berries, ricing, etc.)

Michigan 1836, 1842 Treaty ceded territory

- Netting
- Hook and line fishing
- Gathering (birch bark, berries, ricing, etc.)

Treaty commercial fishing in Lake Superior, Michigan and Wisconsin waters

(Consult with tribal codes for specific quotas, units, and dates.)
GLIFWC spring walleye population assessment crews put in fast-paced season

Kentuck Lake findings optimistic

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—The electrofishing crews put in a fast and furious twelve-night season to complete the spring walleye population assessments. Electrofishing began on April 20 and concluded on May 3, it was the shortest season since the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) expanded its electrofishing fleet to more than one boat.

Hampered by cold weather in the spring and lingering ice on the lakes, crews got onto the lakes later than in the last several seasons. Water temperatures of around 40-42 degrees helped cue walleye to spawn in the shallows of northern Wisconsin lakes.

A sudden onset of unseasonably warm weather resulted in a quick thaw and rapidly rising water temperatures. As a result, the walleye spawning period was shortened dramatically. The balmier weather in late April also resulted in ice-out and spawning occurring in many northern Wisconsin lakes almost simultaneously rather than moving gradually from southwest to the northeast, as is more typical.

Despite the abbreviated spawning period, a fleet of seven electrofishing boats managed to complete walleye population estimates on 17 lakes, leaving only two lakes scheduled for estimates incomplete, according to Phil Doepke, GLIFWC inland fisheries biologist. Completion of the 17 lakes required many consecutive nights on the boats, challenging the crews’ fortitude.

The population estimates usually require several nights on a lake to mark walleye. The crews generally shock on and near spawning beds during a mark-up run. After enough fish have been marked, the crews return to the lake a night or two later and shock the entire lake shoreline to recapture marked fish. This is called the recap run. The number of recaptured fish is used in the formula for calculating the population estimate.

Doepke felt the season went very well overall, and the walleye fisheries look good in surveyed lakes. He was especially pleased to find 9” to 13” walleye in Kentuck Lake, Vilas County, which indicates some of the stocking efforts in recent years may be starting to restore the lake’s walleye population. A survey crew harvested about 6.6 million eggs from Kentuck Lake walleye this spring. The eggs were fertilized and will be incubated in the Mole Lake and Red Cliff hatcheries for stocking into Kentuck Lake later this summer.

The crews also installed thermographs in seven Wisconsin lakes. The thermographs record water temperature every hour. The data will be used to (See Spring electrofishing, page 21)
Tribal members tap into maple on county & federal forest lands

By Karen Danielsen
GLIFWC Forest Ecologist

First tribal sugarbush on county lands
Ron Parisien, Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) wildlife technician and Bad River tribal member, must drive through the Iron County Forest to reach his sugarbush on the Bad River Reservation. As he passed a number of sugar maples that he hoped to tap:

This year, after GLIFWC and Ron worked closely with Iron County Forester, Charlie Zinsmaster, that desire became reality and the first tribal sugarbush was established on county lands.

With his friend, Dennis Soulier, Ron placed approximately 50 taps on sugar maples in the Iron County Forest. This is in addition to the 200 or so taps they placed in the sugarbush on the reservation.

Establishing a tribal sugarbush on county lands can be confusing, but not impossible. Court-ordered stipulations resulting from the Voigt decision require that tribal members must comply with the conditions associated with county sugarbush permits.

The complexities of these conditions depend on the regulations adopted by each individual county. Consequently, establishing a sugarbush may be easy in some counties (e.g., Iron County), but not in others.

Tribal members wishing to establish a sugarbush on public lands should contact Karen Danielsen at GLIFWC (715) 682-6619.

New tribal sugarbush on national forest lands
Also this year, Lac du Flambeau established a new tribal sugarbush on the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. Following the process as outlined in the Tribal/USDA Forest Service Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), the MOU Technical Working Group helped coordinate discussions between representatives from Lac du Flambeau and Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.

Charles Carufel, from the Lac du Flambeau Abinoonijiiyag Center, and Bob Hennes, Park Falls District Ranger, worked together to develop the required management plan. Because the sugarbush will not create excessive disturbance and will keep impacts to the surrounding area limited, the management plan is simple and straightforward.

This sugarbush will be utilized primarily when the sugarbush on the reservation needs to be rested. The gathering and processing of the maple sap at the new sugarbush will be coordinated by the Abinoonijiiyag Center and conducted as a teaching resource for tribal youth.

This year, employees from the Abinoonijiiyag Center gathered and processed approximately 100 to 150 gallons of sap from this sugarbush. Next year, they plan to gather more.

The tribal sugarbush established by the Bay Mills Indian Community on the Hiawatha National Forest last year continues to be utilized. With the help of the Bay Mills Cultural Committee, many gallons of sap were gathered this year. In addition, more tribal members developed an interest in the sugarbush.

The lake also attracted non-Indian harvesters, and even visitors who came to watch the simple exercise of this traditional harvest. Jelich himself recently recalled how he would park his car on a small hill overlooking the lake to watch and listen to the tribal ricers. They would kind of hum; they had this song (that they would sing while ricing). Then they would finish the lake at side camps they had set up.

Given its small size and shallow depth, Mulligan didn’t attract many powerboats, which was good. Those early outboards “ran on oil practically,” Jelich noted, and the one powering this harvester was no different. When he flew over the lake to check for possible damage, he could detect the blue sheen left on the water.

One can easily imagine how the traditional tribal harvesters felt about this event, and over a big pot of coffee on that late August morning in Tony Jelich’s yard, he heard about it. Soon, complaints came from non-Indians as well, many of whom felt that rice needed to be protected from mechanical harvesting, particularly on public waters like Mulligan Lake.

Ron Parisien transfers fresh sugar maple sap from the Iron County Forest into a portable holding tank. The Bad River member operated the first tribal sugarbush on county permit in Wisconsin this past spring. (Photo by COR)

Mechanical rice harvesting in Wisconsin
A short story: The beginning and the end

By Peter David
GLIFWC Wildlife Biologist

On a late August morning in 1952, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Warden Tony Jelich woke up and noticed his dog was acting unusual. He looked out his window to see if someone or something was around and discovered he was not alone.

His yard was filled with Ojibwe Indians, and from the looks of the fry bread and coffee they had going over a small fire, they had been there a while. They had arrived during the night, wanting to talk to Tony as soon as he woke.

They had a complaint, and Tony had a pretty good idea what it involved: that machine on Mulligan Lake, Douglas County.

The machine was a small, home-made mechanical wild rice harvester, developed by a non-Indian who owned about half of the lake’s frontage—the only addition to the or so taps placed in the sugarbush on the reservation.

Looking like a miniature combine mounted on the front of the short, narrow boat, its owner hoped to use the contraption, along with carefully selected, tame wild cranberries, to turn this wild crop and develop it as an agricultural industry, as had been done with wild cranberries.

His hopes had culminated in action the day before, when he fired up the motor of the small, home-made mechanical wild rice harvester, and began sweeping the rice beds of Mulligan Lake, mixing the sweet smells of the dying grass with the exhaust of the outboard motor. (State law at the time allowed the use of mechanical harvesters if a special permit from the State Conservation Department had been obtained, as was the case with the rice harvester that Tony Jelich had worked so hard to provide for the growing number of tribes trying to develop the wild rice resource.

With an average depth of two feet, a soft muddy bottom, and a gentle flow of water, Mulligan Lake provided ideal habitat for holding and growing wild rice beds. And though relatively small at 77 acres, Mulligan was an important rice lake to the Ojibwe in the region, attracting ricers from the St. Croix, Lac Courte Oreilles, and Bad River tribes.

The lake also attracted non-Indian harvesters, and even visitors who came to watch the simple exercise of this traditional harvest. Jelich himself recently recalled how he would park his car on a small hill overlooking the lake to watch and listen to the tribal ricers. They would kind of hum; they had this song (that they would sing while ricing). Then they would finish the rice at side camps they had set up.

Given its small size and shallow depth, Mulligan didn’t attract many powerboats, which was good. Those early outboards “ran on oil practically,” Jelich noted, and the one powering this harvester was no different. When he flew over the lake to check for possible damage, he could detect the blue sheen left on the water.

One can easily imagine how the traditional tribal harvesters felt about this event, and over a big pot of coffee on that late August morning in Tony Jelich’s yard, he heard about it. Soon, complaints came from non-Indians as well, many of whom felt that rice needed to be protected from mechanical harvesting, particularly on public waters like Mulligan Lake.

By the following February, the St. Croix Conservation Club was leading the effort to ban the mechanical harvesting of wild rice in any navigable lake, pond or stream of Douglas County. By the time the law was enacted later in the year, it had been expanded to include the entire state.

Mulligan Lake is still a rice lake, and although it has had relatively poor crops, more often than not in recent years, it is still possible, on the right August day, to pole your canoe through the stands and maybe sing a little while your partner works the flails. And maybe all that is still possible, because in the end the legacy of the mechanical harvesting permit issued in 1952 for Mulligan Lake was not the beginning of a new agricultural industry in Wisconsin, but the ending of mechanical harvesting on the state’s public waters.

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Sugarbush becomes the classroom as elders share stories & knowledge

By Karen Danielsen
GLIFWC Forest Ecologist

Craydon, Wis.—Peter McGeshick, Jr., a Sokaogon (Mole Lake) tribal member, trudged through the snow until he finally reached an old cedar tree surrounded by hundreds of sugar maples. The overcast skies of April threatened to release either rain or snow, the struggle between spring and winter, the exact time to begin gathering maple sap.

Pete described how the past and present just seems to blend together under this old cedar tree—the center of a generations-old sugarbush camp. At this site, youngsters still listen to the stories of their elders and continue to learn the tradition of gathering and processing maple sap.

Some of the funding that supported this year’s elder/youth sugarbush workshop came from a grant sponsored by the USDA Forest Service.

Participants for this grant include the Forest Service North Central Research Station, the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission, and the Ojibwe bands of Bad River, Lac Courte Oreilles, Mille Lacs, Sokaogon, and Red Cliff.

The purpose of this grant is to provide Ojibwe youth with opportunities to experience gathering by utilizing and managing forest resources with traditional and recently developed methods. Instruction comes primarily from tribal elders.

Other bands to hold sugarbush workshops included Lac Courte Oreilles and Red Cliff. In addition, Lac Courte Oreilles and Red Cliff elders told traditional stories to the tribal youth, and Bad River elders demonstrated how to carve wild rice knockers from cedar.

Everyone who has participated seems to have really enjoyed all aspects of these workshops. Though at times the teachings harbored a very serious tone, laughter frequently penetrated the discussions and smiles tended to maintain a high profile.

Of course, the concept of these workshops dates back generations. Ojibwe elders have been teaching youngsters since time immemorial. Only now, for the purpose of this grant, the word “workshop” has been introduced.

Future workshops will occur throughout the summer months. Some of the planned activities include the gathering of birch bark, wild rice, and other wild plants. Many more elders and youth expect to participate and share in the knowledge, stories, and laughter.

Wisconsin off-reservation treaty furbearer harvest 2000-2001

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Did you know???

- Botanists have yet to discover in 400 years any medicinal herb that was not first used by Native Americans.
- The rubber ball was invented by Native Americans.

(Reprinted from the Fond du Lac Environmental Program newsletter.)
International concerns for traditional medicinal plants

By Karen Danielsen
GLIFWC Forest Ecologist

Odanah, Wis.—Worldwide, indigenous people retain an expansive knowledge of the natural world. They also share a grave concern for the continuing degradation of the natural world.

Gaining a unique perspective, Sylvia, a Tribal member, met with traditional medicine healers from around the world during two separate conferences to discuss global policies and environmental issues affecting indigenous people.

Funding for her trip came primarily from the Sven Liljeblad Memorial Fund. Sven Liljeblad, a Swedish activist, dedicated many years to environmental causes and to the concerns of indigenous people. His widow, Astrid Liljeblad, invited Sylvia to be a recipient of this fund. Sylvia still feels greatly honored to have received this invitation.

The first conference Sylvia attended was in Sweden with members of the Saami of northern Scandinavia. The Saami culture dates back almost 10,000 years beginning with the last glacial retreat. Their religion, language, and customs differ significantly from the dominant Scandinavian society. As with many other indigenous people, they have been persecuted and forcefully discouraged from continuing their traditional lifestyle.

Interestingly, Sylvia recently discovered Saami heritage in her father’s family. Consequently, this segment of her trip gave her additional personal satisfaction.

Topics presented during this conference in Sweden included Saami traditional medicine, Ojibwe culture and religion, Native American traditional medicine, and the World Health Organization Program for Traditional Medicine. Discussions often focused on the effects of global pollution, loss of natural habitats, and other environmental changes on the many plants used for traditional medicines.

Through visits to Thaidene Naami and Akkhd Mountain (Mont Holy Mountain), Sylvia recognized similarities between the Saami people and many American Indian cultures. In particular, they share a profound bond with nature.

The conference paid respect to Thaidene Naami and Akkhd Mountain (Mont Holy Mountain). During these visits, Sylvia learned much through her participation. She became aware of the similarities found among different indigenous cultures.

More importantly, she realized that similar traditions and parallel paths may have brought together indigenous peoples to fulfill the need to protect their heritage and their inherent relationships with nature.

Angler survey on Lac Vieux Desert meshes with wild rice restoration

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen
Writer/Photographer

Watersmeet, Mich.—As far as entry level, 40-hour-a-week jobs go, Vera Klingman’s is one of the more demanding, maybe even a little peculiar.

The Lac Vieux Desert (LVD) tribal member plans on working every weekend, from May 5 through the end of October, along with every major holiday. The computer program randomly selects her work schedule, sometimes following a late night shift with an early morning assignment. Unfavorable and dangerous weather conditions will be essential to leave her outdoor post.

Klingman is involved in a survey of annual aquatic life in Lac Vieux Desert, a Wisconsin-Michigan border lake containing nearly 5,000 acres and the headwaters of the Wisconsin River.

The information Klingman is gathering has a unique purpose; however, since her work is part of an effort to restore historic wild rice beds on the lake.

Lac Vieux Desert once supported large rice beds vital to local Ojibwe subsistence economy. Those rice beds disappeared decades ago and have only come back in recent years following a restoration program initiated by the tribe.

The USDA Forest Service is leading a group of natural resource agencies, including the LVD Band and the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission, working to ensure that the wild rice beds thrive and continue to expand.

The data Klingman gathers will provide valuable baseline information that can be used to assess if any unanticipated changes occur in fishing pressure or harvest.

Klingman has studied for an elementary education degree at Central Michigan University and an undergraduate degree at the University of Michigan, She is familiar with the experience on Lac Vieux Desert has spurred a change in career aspirations.

“After leaving Sweden, Sylvia traveled to Germany to attend the World Congress of Traditional Medicine “Voices of the Spirit World.” Participants arrived from many different countries including Russia, Peru, South Korea, Nepal, Columbia, Switzerland, United States, Turkey, Mexico, Australia, India, Germany, and West Africa. Traditional healers, as well as scientists and physicians, attended.

During this conference, participants exchanged ideas and experiences regarding traditional and western medicine. Those practicing western medicine have begun to appreciate the focused complexity and values of traditional medicine. Through working together, traditional and western medicine practitioners hope to develop interdisciplinary and comparative approaches to healing, and thus, provide beneficial care for people of many different cultures.

All throughout her trip to Europe, Sylvia shared her knowledge and experiences. She also learned much through her participation. She became aware of the similarities found among different indigenous cultures.

More importantly, she realized that similar traditions and parallel paths may have brought together indigenous peoples to fulfill the need to protect their heritage and their inherent relationships with nature.
GLIFWC evaluates potential candidates for noxious weed “hit list”

By Miles Falck, GLIFWC Wildlife Biologist

By Miles Falck, GLIFWC Wildlife Biologist

GLIFWC crews have manual, chemical, and biological control methods, which they employ to control purple loosestrife, depending on how large the infestation is, where it is located in the watershed, and the physical characteristics of the site.

GLIFWC’s philosophy is to use the least disruptive method that will provide effective control. Small sites that can be easily eradicated receive the highest priority for control and are either pulled by hand or killed with a small amount of herbicide applied directly to the plant. Larger sites with difficult access are good candidates for biological control.

GLIFWC will be rearing and releasing Galeruca beetles again this year to combat purple loosestrife. Last year approximately 70,000 beetles were released in several infested wetlands in the Bad River-Chequamegon Bay watershed. Research has shown the Galeruca beetles to be very host-specific, meaning they will only feed and lay eggs on purple loosestrife.

Results from previous releases show that it takes 3-4 years for the beetle populations to grow large enough to have a visible impact on the purple loosestrife abundance. The progress of GLIFWC’s loosestrife control efforts can be monitored at http://www.glifwc-maps.org.

Purple loosestrife is just one of many exotic plants that degrade the natural vegetation, replacing native flora and fauna. This year GLIFWC staff will be collecting field data and reviewing previous efforts to determine the future direction of GLIFWC’s noxious weed program. This process will look at the ecological harm caused by specific exotic plants, their current distribution and abundance, and the effectiveness of various control methods.

These criteria will be used to determine for which, if any, additional species GLIFWC may pursue active control measures. Species that cause substantial ecological degradation, have low abundance and limited distributions, and have effective control methods, will be ranked higher on the list.

This research is being funded by the Environmental Protection Agency’s Great Lakes National Program Office, and the results should be widely applicable throughout the upper Great Lakes.

GLIFWC’s purple loosestrife control efforts received national attention this spring when it was included in the television production, “Plants Out Of Place.” This program demonstrated the ecological impacts of exotic plants throughout the country and the ongoing efforts to control and prevent their spread.

A segment on the Great Lakes region featured the efforts of GLIFWC and the Bad River Tribe to control the spread of purple loosestrife in local wetlands. Watch for re-broadcasts of this program on public television this summer.

Eight bands participate in Mille Lacs treaty harvest

Eight bands participate in Mille Lacs treaty harvest

(Continued from page 1)

between hours. Spearfishing takes place at night, often not concluding until midnight or after, and nets are lifted around 7:00 a.m. Once nets are picked, fish weighed, and data recorded, it’s around noon. Staff then have a break until early evening when nets are set once more.

Some evenings required an all-night vigil to check nets, due to shifting wind and ice conditions, according to Gerald White, GLIFWC Chief of Enforcement.

While also noted that windy conditions made it difficult for some tribal members with small boats to set or retrieve nets, and GLIFWC wardens assisted when necessary.

Full-time GLIFWC staff monitoring the Mille Lacs Lake during the entire season included Enforcement Area Supervisor James Mattson, Officer Jason Forcier (from the Keweenaw Bay enforcement satellite office), and Nick Milroy, inland fisheries biologist for the Minnesota treaty, ceded areas.

Other enforcement staff assisting during the season included Chief Wildlife Officer Jared White, Red Cliff Area Supervisor Mark Bressette, Western District Supervisor Ken Pardun, Officer Jim Stone, Bad River, and Central District Supervisor Vern Stone. Biological staff included GLIFWC’s Biological Services Director Neil Kmiecik and Inland Fisheries Section Leader Joe Dan Rose.

Conservation Officers from the Mille Lacs band monitored harvests at on-reservation landings during the season, and the Fond du Lac band brought both conservation officers and biological staff to monitor Fond du Lac’s harvests.

GLIFWC’s Biological Services Division also provided creel clerks at all on and off reservation landings to record statistical data on the tribal harvests for both spearing and netting activities.

One incident of concern occurred on April 26th near the Malmo landing. Speakers from Fond du Lac reported that a man on shore tried to “steal” his dogs’ fishing boat and yelled for someone to bring a gun. The speakers left the area and reported the incident to enforcement personnel at the landing.

GLIFWC Officer Jim Mattson reported the incident to Aitkin County Sheriff’s Department. Officers from the county and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources as well as Fond du Lac conservation officers Mark Zacher and Jason Loons investigated the case.

Onamia, Minn.—It’s hard to wait especially when you have your ice to go out after a long winter. A person gets anxious for that spring fishing season and a taste of walleye, and all you hear is forecasts for snow and freezing nights.

Testing the waters early for spring netting on Mille Lacs Lake required a little innovation and some work with ice augers for some Mille Lacs tribal members who took to the lake early with nets. Fishing officially began only as April 8th for the Mille Lacs band.

For Leonard Sam, Mille Lacs, time to go out was over for staff, in anticipation of several spring walleye run, but still provided a beautiful morning walk.

Sam admits to getting wet a few times out there, but nothing serious enough to deter his enthusiasm for fishing.

Other Mille Lacs members also set nets through the ice or used areas of open water along the shoreline to set some early nets by boat, generally catching northern pike and a few walleye. The early sets were a little ahead of the spring walleye run, but still provided a good taste of fish and the fun of the early season.

As always, landings with net sets were monitored by Mille Lacs and GLIFWC enforcement. GLIFWC creel clerks recorded statistical information on the catches.

The early season provided a warm-up for staff, in anticipation of several very busy weeks ahead once the season began in full.

As for a few early birds on Mille Lacs Lake

As for a few early birds on Mille Lacs Lake

By Sue Erickson

Staff Writer

Eight bands participate in Mille Lacs treaty harvest

Eight bands participate in Mille Lacs treaty harvest

(Continued from page 1)
Tribe commercial fishermen harvest predominantly whitefish

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Tribal interest in the fishery extends well beyond the harvest," Mattes says. "Both GLIFWC and tribal biologists have been active in performing fishery population estimates, including lake trout and whitefish, for years. Biological and statistical information is collected through assessment, tagging, monitoring commercial fishermen, and from catch reports filed by tribal fishermen.

The Marquette harbor and Presque Isle area, considered a seasonal refuge, are closed from October 15th to November 27th. Tribal commercial fishing in other areas of Lake Superior is also closed during spawning seasons.

Mesh size regulations are set according to target species, limiting the numbers and species caught. Each fisherman has a set number of tags available each year, and all lake trout taken are individually tagged before being sold. Tribal commercial catches are also subject to biological sampling.

Tribal nets must be clearly marked with buoys and identified as treated net and license number. Lost nets must be reported within eight hours, and a tribal commercial fisherman cannot resume fishing for two days unless the net is retrieved.

"Tribal interest in the fishery extends beyond the harvest," Mattes says. "Both GLIFWC and tribal biologists have been active in performing fishery population estimates, including lake trout and whitefish, for years. Biological and statistical information is collected through assessment, tagging, monitoring commercial fishermen, and from catch reports filed by tribal fishermen."
Legislation being considered in 107th Congress and Reinvestment Act (CARA), and National Invasive Species Act (NISA) water infrastructure financing, a multipollutant bill (4 pollutants are currently managed) and the Great Lakes Commission announces legislative priorities of the Great Lakes.

The document, “Fish Community Objectives for Lake Superior,” will provide the framework that Department of Natural Resources (DNR) staff will use to work with interested citizens in Wisconsin in coming years to develop strategies to achieve the broad goals of the document sets for Lake Superior fisheries management, says Mike Staggs, director of the DNR Bureau of Fish Management and Habitat Protection.

“We want to hear from area clubs, organizations and individuals and would like your input and comments on the draft objectives in this report,” Staggs says.

“These objectives aren’t going to tell us how to manage but will provide us with guidelines we will look to as we set our regulations, determine to stock or not stock, and make decisions on how to manage Wisconsin waters of Lake Superior,” Staggs continued.

The draft document outlines general goals for preserving and restoring habitats, including water quality, and for managing fish species that commercial and sport anglers consider, such as lake trout; lake whitefish; walleye; lake sturgeon; brook trout; Pacific salmon; rainbow trout; and brown trout; and the prey species those fish eat, such as lake herring.

The document also outlines goals for protecting and sustaining the diverse community of native fish species not individually listed, and for managing exotic nuisance species, including the sea lamprey.

“Fish Community Objectives for Lake Superior” was developed by the Lake Superior Committee, representing management agencies from Minnesota, Wisconsin, Michigan, Ontario, the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, and the Chippewa-Ottawa Resource Authority.

The draft document is intended to make sure Wisconsin, other states, provinces, and Indian tribes share an understanding of how the lake ecosystem functions, and to set a unified direction to guide many management practices, Staggs continued.

That includes understanding that with its low water temperatures, low levels of nutrients, narrow shoreline polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) are rare, and therefore, Lake Superior has been, is, and will be much less productive as a fishery than any of the other Great Lakes. It also includes understanding that the fishery itself has significantly recovered from sea lamprey that resulted from logging, dam building, over-fishing, and the introduction of exotic species such as the sea lamprey.

The document credits as “critical factors” in the recovery the suppression of sea lamprey; regulation of fisheries biomass by state and tribal harvest regulations; the stocking of lake trout, improved recruitment of lake herring; abatement of pollution; a lessening of habitat destruction and reforestation.

“Great Lakes fisheries managers are focused on water quality and pollution, habitat protection, and habitat creation. The Great Lakes is the most important fishery in the world, and we are focused on maintaining that,” Staggs continued.

Great Lakes Commission announces legislative priorities

The Great Lakes Commission has drafted a proposal entitled “The Great Lakes Program to Ensure Environmental and Economic Prosperity.” On March 15th in Washington, a representative of the Great Lakes Commission outlined its legislative and appropriations priorities for the coming year. It focuses on seven themes—cleaning up toxic hot spots, shutting the door on invasive species, controlling nonpoint source pollution, restoring and conserving wetlands and critical coastal habitat, ensuring the sustainable use of water resources, strengthening decision support capability, and enhancing the commercial and recreational value of the Great Lakes.

Legislation being considered in 107th Congress

A number of bills being considered address issues including: brownfields, water infrastructure financing, a multipollutant bill (4 pollutants are currently being considered—mercury, carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxides and sulfur oxides), contaminated sediments, Water Resource Development Act 2002, Conservation and Retention Act (CARA), and National Invasive Species Act (NISA).
One fish, two fish:
GLIFWC keeps count as fish come in

Creeling the catch of David Sam, Mille Lacs, at an on-reservation landing is Jessie Kegg, GLIFWC creel clerk. Also present are GLIFWC wardens Jason Forcia (left) and Jim Mattson (center).

Picking fish from a net—a common scene during the spring netting season at Mille Lacs Lake. Above, Clarence Crowe, Bad River, works a fish through the mesh.

Mike Dorr and Leonard Sam, both from Mille Lacs, bring in a catch at an on-reservation landing.

Jim and Margaret Schles, Lac Courte Oreilles, head in after setting a net at Mille Lacs. (Photos by Sue Erickson)

Pete Halfaday, GLIFWC creel clerk, records statistics as another creel clerk calls out species, length and sex of measured fish. Weight of the catch is also recorded at Mille Lacs Lake landings.

Creel clerks and biological staff put in many hours to record necessary data on both netting and spearing harvests at Mille Lacs Lake. Above Eli and Zeb Retka, GLIFWC creel clerks, take information on a catch. Pete Halfaday, GLIFWC creel clerk and Joe Dan Rose, GLIFWC inland fisheries section leader, look on.
Focus on fish 2001
Catch ‘em and count ‘em action at landings
Keepers of the data
In-office staff keep daily profiles of fishing activity

Article & photos by Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—Once ice begins to leave the lakes in Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota ceded territories, creel clerks, biologists, and conservation enforcement officers with the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) head out to lakes and landings where treaty fishing and netting will occur. The harvest activity is intense, usually nightly over a period of several weeks, and spans much of the ceded territory in the three-state area.

Monitoring the season requires more than presence at the landings, however. It requires the efficient handling of data on a daily basis for the entire tribal spearing and netting harvests. Consequently, there is also an in-office staff putting in long hours and working weekends in order to help coordinate the season and tabulate data.

Enforcement Division

In the Enforcement Division a twenty-four hour dispatch is maintained. Dispatch is essentially the link maintaining communication between the main office in Odanah, and the enforcement personnel on the various member reservations. Two dispatchers, Gerald W. White and John Shubat each put in twelve hour shifts throughout the season, and Kim Campy, administrative assistant, fills in.

Dispatch receives reports from the GLIFWC’s satellite stations with lists of lakes declared by each tribe in the morning. At noon, dispatch contacts the Wisconsin and Minnesota Departments of Natural Resources (DNR) with lists of selected lakes in the respective states.

At 6:00 p.m., the satellite stations once again contact dispatch with lists of lakes where spearing or netting will be taking place and the number of permits issued. Once again this information is forwarded through dispatch to the state agencies. Dispatch also checks nightly with all open landings to be sure they are closed and everyone is safely off the lakes.

Harvest summaries for the night from each open lake are also provided to dispatch nightly. If incidents, such as gun shots are reported, information is given to other GLIFWC conservation officers or to local law enforcement officials to investigate.

Campy also puts in seven day work weeks throughout the spring season. She types the nightly lists of lakes, reports any incidents to Gerald L. White, Chief of Enforcement, and GLIFWC Executive Administrator James Schlender, helps coordinate travel, and processes nightly reports.

With additional seasonal staff hired, Campy oversees much of the paperwork related to travel and distribution of uniforms and equipment for seasonal employees.

Biological Services Division

Coordination of crews on lakes and landings as well as nightly record keeping throughout the spring run of walleye, keep several GLIFWC staff busy occupied with data entry.

As fish are harvested, creel crews take necessary data on each fisherman’s catch on a nightly basis. This information is fed into a database at GLIFWC’s main office and is used to determine remaining quotas on lakes each day.

Several staff focus just on receiving and tabulating the daily flow of information from the catch reports. They must enter all the figures into the database and adjust quota balances on speared or netted lakes daily.

Leanne Thannum, administrative assistant for Biological Services, records the harvest from the previous night and sends the information to the Minnesota and Wisconsin DNRs.

Leanne Thannum, administrative assistant for Biological Services, records the harvest from the previous night and sends the information to the Minnesota and Wisconsin DNRs. Thannum then forwards this information to the Wisconsin and Minnesota DNRs.

Besides spearing and netting, other fishery data is collected by the assessment crews. Rick Madsen, data analyst, keeps track of numbers of fish captured during the nightly electrofishing surveys.

Statistics from the assessments are reported daily from the crews. Madsen compiles the information daily and uses the information to help schedule lakes for assessment that evening.
Bush proposes $65.9 million increase for major Indian programs

By Brighd Moher for Masinaig

Washington, D.C.—Most of the talk in DC has been about President Bush’s proposed budget and its implications for various governmental departments and programs. However, the budget subject is subject to change as the House and Senate negotiate. However, the Bush administration would likely see some increase in funding for major Indian departments.

The requested amount for the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) is $2.2 billion, which is an increase of 4% over last year’s budget. Most of these proposed funds would go toward education, trust management, and settlement of discharge permits to the Pender and Parks. The EPA to issue tribes with far reaching implications, the Penobscot Nation and Passamaquoddy Tribe must provide three Indian Reservation. An EPA regional office objected to Nebraska’s action, when seeking wastewater-treatment permits.

The Indian Health Service proposed budget includes a $140 million increase since last year. This includes an additional $55 million to fully cover pay cost increase for the National Indian Health Service’s employees and to allow tribes’ health programs to provide comparable increases to their staffs. The increase also includes funding for self-determination contracts and health care facility construction.

President Bush has also announced his choice to head the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Neal A. McCaleb, a Chickasaw Indian from Oklahoma. He was appointed in 1972 by Richard Nixon to serve on the National Council on Indian Opportunity for two years. He also served on the Commission on Indian Reservation Economies appointed in 1983 by then President Reagan. From 1967 to 1972 he served on Oklahoma’s Indian Affairs Commission.

Many tribal leaders are skeptical of McCaleb’s adherence to tribal sovereignty because of his position under the Reagan administration. According to Ron Allen, vice-president of the National Congress of American Indians, tribal leaders were distrustful of any proposals made by the Reagan administration. “The people who were assigned to the commission weren’t tribal leaders. They were hand-picked by the administration based on who knew what criteria. They were not people who were actively involved in the rights of Indians.”

While serving on this commission McCaleb helped write a report in 1984 that was highly critical of the BIA. The report criticized the BIA’s inefficiency and incompetence, and its over-regulation of activities. The report recommended that the agency give the Native Americans the right to manage their own affairs, as was the case in other countries.

Two pieces of legislation have been introduced in the 107th Congress so far that have important implications for Indian Country. The Indian Health Care Improvement Act Reauthorization Bill was introduced in the House and the Senate. The bill would provide funding for the Indian Health Service and it resembles a Tribal Steering Committee proposal, which was delivered to Congress in 1999.

EPA to issue tribes wastewater-treatment permits

Tribes will now turn to the Environmental Protection Agency when seeking wastewater-treatment permits, rather than to states.

EPA ruled on April 18 that it, not states, is responsible for issuing wastewater-treatment permits to plants on American Indian reservations. The decision further clarifies the authority of tribes over their environmental decisions.

The decision came as a result of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality’s 1997 plan to reissue discharge permits to the Pender and Walhalla treatment plants on the Omaha Indian Reservation. Under the EPA regional office objected to Nebraska’s action, stating that the agency was the proper authority to issue permits under the Clean Water Act.

In yet another wastewater dispute with far reaching implications, the Montana Indian Claims Court ordered that the Penobscot Nation and Passamaquoddy Tribe must provide three paper companies any communications with the state and federal governments concerning regulation of water quality.

The other bill deals with American Indian children and foster care. Indian children suffer from the highest rates of abuse and neglect in the nation, and tribal social services are being stretched to the limit. Some programs within the BIA will see an overall reduction in funding.

The proposed budget and its implications for various governmental departments and programs. The decision came as a result of the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality’s 1997 plan to reissue discharge permits to the Pender and Walhalla treatment plants on the Omaha Indian Reservation. Under the EPA regional office objected to Nebraska’s action, stating that the agency was the proper authority to issue permits under the Clean Water Act.

Tribal leaders may appeal to the Supreme Court. The U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals is still deciding on whether Maine’s high court has jurisdiction over the dispute.

The case revolves around a dispute in which the state sought to become the sole overseer of wastewater discharges into Maine waters. In the first week of May, the federal government filed a lawsuit against the Penobscot Tribe and the Penobscot Paper Co. on behalf of the Penobscot Nation seeking up to $60 million to rectify damages the company has done dumping dioxin into a river on the tribe’s reservation.

(Reprinted from Native American Report, a publication of Business Publishers, Inc.)

Book Review

The Place of the Pike (Gnoozhekaaning) A History of the Bay Mills Indian Community

By Charles E. Cleland

Throughout much of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, the Ojibwe people of Michigan’s Bay Mills Indian reservation endured hopeless poverty, cultural repression, and deep racial prejudice.

Despite such odds, they have survived as a people and a community through reliance on the bond of kin, the ability to reap and share the abundance of nature, and a strong belief in their identity as a native people.

A unique history of an Indian community drawn from oral accounts of tribal elders, The Place of the Pike provides the perspective of the people themselves, whose own view of the past is not cast in terms of federal Indian policy, academic theories, national economic trends, or the personalities of typical American political life—the perspective of the nonwhite nation—but in the life struggles of the people's own tribal heroes.

As is traditional to the Ojibwe, the history is woven around both stories and images; over 130 illustrations bring alive the chronological account of the Bay Mills Community from the early seventeenth century to the end of the twentieth.

Charles E. Cleland is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Anthropology at Michigan State University and Curator Emeritus at the Michigan State University Museum.

He is the author of numerous articles and books on Great Lakes archaeology as well as the ethnography of the region’s native peoples.

The Place of the Pike (Gnoozhekaaning) by Charles E. Cleland 8 1/2 x 11, 164 pages, 3 drawings, 125 photographs, 9 maps Cloth, ISBN 0-472-09740-7, $27.95; Paper, ISBN 0-472-06740-0, $18.95
**Niibin—It Is Summer**

Ani-niibing, ninoondawaag ingiw omakakig.
Niwaabamaag ingiw bineshiyag. Nimbakite'waag ingiw ojig.
Ginoondawaag ina ingiw obigizomakakig?
Giwaabamaag ina ingiw migiziwag? Gibakite'waag ina ingiw zagimeg?
(When it is coming up in time—summer, I hear them, those frogs.
I see them those birds. I swat them those flies.
Do you hear them those toads?
Do you see those eagles? Do you swat those mosquitoes?)

**Bezhig—1**

OJIBWEWOMIN
(Ojibwe Language)

- Long vowels: AA, EE, II, OO
- Waabam–as in father
- Inashke–as in jay
- Niwin–as in seen
- Biiyong–as in moon
- Short vowels: A, I, O, Omakakii–as in about
- Migiiwag–as in an
- Opichi–as in only

A global stop is a voiceless nasal sound as in A'aw.
- Respectfully insist an elder's help in pronunciation and dialect differences.

**Niizh—2**

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

- A. Nindahamaag ingiw bineshiyag agarjiging.
- B. Nindahamaag ingiw migiziwag ishpiming.
- C. Gigi-ashomina ina ingiw jijaaamahesiiyag biiyong?
- D. Inashkii! Ininaamiiinaa namadadi a'aw mooningwa.
- E. Agaming niwaabamaa a'aw ajiika.
- F. Giminotowaa na opichi naganjig?
- G. Inashkii! Wadiswan i'wa. Gego daanginaa!

**Niisin—3**

IKIDOWN ODAMINOWIN
(word play)

Down:
1. Woodick.
2. Flies (insects).
3. Robin.
4. Also.
5. Frog.
6. Look! Behold!
Across:
1. Question marker word.
2. Eagle.
3. Loon.
4. Heron.

Translators:
Niiizh—2. A. I fed those birds outside. B. I look for those eagles up above, in the sky.
C. Did you feed those chickadees in the winter?
D. Look! In the maple tree he is sitting that yellow flier.
E. On the shore, I see him that heron.
F. You like listening to the robin when she sings?
G. Look! That is a bird's nest. Don't touch it!

Niisin—3.
1. Ezigaa.
2. Opjig.
3. Opichi.
5. Omakakii.
6. Inashke.
8. I'ma.
10. Maang.
11. Ajiika.

Niisin—4.
1. I feed him/her that bird.
2. When it is night I like listening to him/her that frog.
3. At dawn I like listening to him/her also.
4. You speak Ojibwe to him/her? (Do you) that eagle?
5. You like listening to him/her (do you) that loon at the lake? The question marker is always the second word in the sentence!

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. This may be reproduced for classroom use only. All other uses by author's written permission. All inquiries can be made to MASAINGAN, P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54651.
Hominy-making 101 at Bad River

Required materials: corn, lye, and patience

Odanah, Wis.—"You can't even watch t.v. when you do this," commented Rose Wilmer, Bad River, as she patiently picked through a pile of dry corn on a plate, examining each kernel and discarding those with a crack.

Annette Crowe, Bad River, who sorted corn until 1:00 a.m. in preparation for hominy class the next day, never guessed the procedure would be so time-consuming. "It takes longer than cleaning wild rice," she says.

Sirella Ford, Lac Courte Oreilles tribal member, sorts dried corn kernels during the hominy-making class at the Bad River Community Center. Cracked kernels cannot be used, so sorting is important before simmering the corn in a lye solution.

The finished product is hominy—yellow hominy from yellow corn or white hominy from white corn. However, it is still quite hard, and must be boiled for another 1 1/2 hours before edible. During the class, it was added directly into a soup and cooked until full and tender.

Information on hominy from the Internet indicates hominy should be canned only after edible. During the class, it was added directly into a soup and cooked until full and tender.

The hominy can be used immediately or stored by freezing or canning. Information on hominy from the Internet indicates hominy should be canned only after edible. During the class, it was added directly into a soup and cooked until full and tender.

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Several participants plan to meet again on June 2 for another cooperative hominy-making adventure, each person bringing in their presorted corn. They hope to make up a batch of hominy for the Bad River elders.

So, a few Bad River tribal members will be having some real corny evenings, getting their corn ready for the next session of Bad River's hominy-making 101.
Student scientists present studies of black bear andfisher

Editor's note: Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) Wildlife Biologist Jonathan Gilbert served as a technical advisor for high school classes studying fisher and black bear in the Wisconsin northwoods.

Gilbert spoke to classes in both Mercer and Hurley regarding fisher ecology and various techniques used to study fishers. Gilbert has monitored the predator-prey relationships in bobcat, bobcat, and marten over the past ten years, using radio telemetry to track movements of the animals.

Diane Daulton, Conservation Educator with Ashland, Bayfield, Douglas, & Iron Counties Land Conservation Department, submitted the following article on the student projects.

"What is it like to radio-track a black bear to her winter den and measure her home range? What type of den does the black bear choose to have her kits? How can high school students provide meaningful data for natural resource research and management?"

These were a few of the questions that were addressed during a daylong conference held at the Hurley High School recently. The conference brought together 40 students from Ashland and Iron Counties who have been conducting scientific studies of wildlife and forest habitats.

Students working with the Iron County Woods and Waters Project presented data on fisher and forest habitats. Hurley students shared information on four fisher rest sites and a den site they have located in the Iron County Forest.

Their radio-collared fisher used slash piles from logging operations to provide warmth and shelter during the winter months. They also found their female fisher, nicknamed "Half-pint," sheltering in tree cavities, once in a large aspen and once in a small ash tree.

As part of their research project the Hurley students hypothesized that their fisher would have kits in a tree den. During the last week of fieldwork, students located their fisher at a den site, but it was on the ground and buried in over two feet of snow.

The last day of their work, the fisher had moved its kits to a nearby hollow tree, and students were able to hear them in the tree high above! As weather warms and as snow melts, their den structure will be visible. Snowmelt is likely to reveal a hollow log or brush pile.

US Civil Rights Commission takes a stand against Indian mascots and logos

Editor's Note: The following is a statement by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights calls for an end to the use of Native American images and team names by non-Native schools. The Commission respects the right of all Americans to freedom of expression under the First Amendment and in no way would attempt to prescribe how people can express themselves.

However, the Commission believes that the use of Native American images and nicknames in schools is insensitive and should be avoided. In addition, some Native American and civil rights advocates have maintained that these mascots may violate anti-discrimination principles.

These references, whether mascots and their performances, logos, or names, are disrespectful and offensive to American Indians and others who are offended by such stereotyping. They are particularly inappropriate and insensitive in light of the long history of forced assimilation that American Indians have endured in this country.

Since the civil rights movement of the 1960s many overtly derogatory symbols and images offensive to African-Americans have been eliminated. However, many secondary schools, post-secondary institutions, and a number of professional sports teams continue to use Native American nicknames and imagery.

Since the 1970s, American Indian leaders and organizations have vigorously opposed their use. Many schools and team names have been adopted or changed because they are believed to be offensive to Native Americans.

The stereotyping of any racial, ethnic, religious or other group purports to be positive. The use of Native American images and nicknames in schools perpetuates such stereotypes and gives a distorted view of Native American culture.

Schools that continue the use of Indian imagery and references claim that their use stimulates interest in Native American culture and honors Native Americans. These institutions have simply failed to listen to the Native groups, religious leaders, and civil rights organizations that oppose these symbols.

These Indian-based symbols and team names are not accurate representations of Native American culture. Even those that purport to be positive are racist stereotypes that are offensive to American Indians.

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Schools that continue the use of Indian imagery and references claim that their use stimulates interest in Native American culture and honors Native Americans. These institutions have simply failed to listen to the Native groups, religious leaders, and civil rights organizations that oppose these symbols.

The Commission assumes that when Indian imagery was first adopted as a mascot, it was not offensive (See Indian mascots, page 20).
New inland fisheries biologist arrives just in time for spring electrofishing surveys

Philip Doepke joined the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission’s (GLIFWC) staff as an inland fisheries biologist on April 16th — just in time for the spring round of electrofishing surveys in ceded territories.

Doepke hails from Houghton, Michigan. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in biology/ecology from Northern Michigan University, Marquette, and is currently completing his Master of Science degree in biology at Michigan Technical College, Houghton. His thesis research pertains to cutthroat trout in the Big Horn National Forest, Wyoming.

While completing his education, Phil worked at seasonal positions in his field. He worked for five seasons on the Ottawa National Forest, Michigan, as a fisheries technician, largely involved with sampling fish through fyke netting and electrofishing.

He also spent two seasons with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s sea lamprey management program, assessing the effectiveness of control methods and two seasons with the Big Horn National Forest as a fisheries technician.

Doepke was an inland fisheries biologist position with GLIFWC because it entails work with the fisheries and keeps him in the northern midwest region. He will largely be responsible for the summer and fall electrofishing surveys on identified lakes within the ceded territories of Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan.

Time off work and studies brings Phil outdoors for recreational fishing, hunting, and canoeing.

Invasive plants in the Lake Superior watershed are focus of plant ecologist, Steve Garske

Steve Garske began work as an invasive plant aid for GLIFWC last March. His task is to inventory and prioritize invasive plants in the Lake Superior watershed, focusing primarily in Ashland, Bayfield, and Douglas Counties.

Funded through a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency, Garske will be inventorying invasive plants both through recorded data and extensive fieldwork this summer.

Ultimately, managers would like to use the information to project which invasive species are most likely to become problematic in the watershed and take measures to prevent or control their spread.

For instance, exotic plants like garlic mustard or buckthorn have not become widely established in northern Wisconsin as yet, but have already taken over some forest areas in southern Wisconsin. By documenting their occurrence in the north, preventative measures may be taken before the species can take hold.

Steve received his Master of Science in biology with an emphasis in plant ecology from the University of Minnesota—Duluth in 2000. He and his wife, Nancy, have lived in Marquette, Michigan for the past ten years.

As might be expected of a plant ecologist, Steve enjoys gardening in his spare time and also searching for rare plants in the Ottawa National Forest. He’s also a fisherman, happy to be fishing for most any species.

GLIFWC fisheries team gains Nick Milroy to focus on Minnesota inland fisheries

In the nick of time for the fast-paced spring netting and spearing season, Nick Milroy stepped into the position of Minnesota inland fisheries biologist with GLIFWC on April 16th.

Nick, a native of Superior, Wisconsin, will be responsible for monitoring the treaty harvest in the 1837 Treaty ceded territory in Minnesota.

He will also work with tribal and state biologists in setting harvest quotas and perform spring population assessments and fall recruitment assessments on identified lakes.

While his office will be based at GLIFWC’s main office in Odanah, he will spend substantial field time in Minnesota.

Nick completed his Bachelor of Science degree in biology with a fishery science emphasis at UW-Superior. He has completed all the course work towards his Masters degree at UW-Eau Claire, UW-Superior and the University of Minnesota—Duluth. He hopes to identify a thesis topic that applies to his scope of work with the treaty fisheries.

Prior to joining GLIFWC’s staff, Phil put in time with the U.S. Navy and the U.S. Army Reserve while attending college. He also spent one season working as a fisheries biologist with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources performing lake trout population assessments in Lake Superior. He has worked for the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on the Lake Explorer, EPA’s research vessel. His work centered on ecological toxicology with fish and invertebrates.

He also worked for UW-Eau Claire as a research and graduate assistant, teaching freshman biological laboratory for general zoology and assisting with department research. At UW-Eau Claire he also worked as a laboratory manager and fish collection manager.

Interest in the treaty rights issues and the challenges of inter-agency resource management attracted Nick to apply for a position with GLIFWC.

Nick lives in Superior and his long-time girlfriend, Julie Powle, teaches in Superior. For enjoyment, Nick goes fishing, mostly on the big lake for lake trout, salmon and walleye. He also enjoys river fishing in the St. Louis River. However, ice fishing on Lake Superior is his passion.

Environmental biology aid, Ed Kolodziejski, to assist with mercury level testing

Ed Kolodziejski, Bad River, joined GLIFWC staff in March for a three-month stint as an environmental biology aid. Working under Kory Groetsch, environmental biologist, Ed assists with the study of mercury levels in fish.

In 2001, GLIFWC will be sampling about 300 walleye, 100 muskellunge, and 25 northern pike for mercury levels.

Ed assists with collecting samples and preparing them to be sent to the Lake Superior Research Institute for testing. He also keeps the computer database on the project up-to-date.

Ed holds a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry from Northland College and plans to pursue a Master of Science degree in biochemistry in the future.

Previous work experience includes work/study employment while at Northland College as a laboratory assistant, which entailed setting up the lab for class and running laboratory sessions in the absence of a professor.

On down time, Ed enjoys traveling, hiking, walking and enjoying the outdoors.
Creator of “Maawanji’iding” (Gathering Together) CD ROM, Alexandra Smith, walks on

Alexandra Smith died while on a desert trip in Mauretania, West Africa on April 12, 2001 at the age of 41. Alexandra's central project for the last eight years was creating Brainbox Digital Archives using multi-media to communicate powerful stories and important history. She authored, produced and published a CD ROM called Gathering Together which brings to life oral histories and contemporary narratives about the Ojibway people in the Lake Superior Region.

After it was published in 1999 she continued to work in the Wisconsin schools to create a curriculum guide and a website for school use. Schools, universities and libraries use the CD-ROM. Her great respect for the native people of the midwest included a walk from northern Wisconsin to Madison to present an amendment to the legislature calling for the consideration of people seven generations in the future in regard to the exploitation of the air, land, and water.

To honor her life and perpetuate her lifetime of work to promote respect and for the earth and for the rights of indigenous people everywhere, her family and friends have created the Alexandra Smith Endowment Fund. Contributions may be sent to the Seattle Foundation, 425 Pike Street, Suite 510, Seattle, Washington 98101-2334. Two gatherings have been scheduled to honor her life. On Sunday, May 27, 2001, at 11 am at the Roaring Brook Nature Center, 70 Gracey Road, Canton, Connecticut. The second will be on Saturday, June 2 at 11 am at the Red Cliff Campground in Bayfield, Wisconsin.

Indian mascots & logos

(Continued from page 18)

Native Americans. However, the use of mascots and traditions, no matter how popular, should end when they are offensive.

Algon again proposed to open a mine near Crandon, Wisconsin, which took place shortly before he walked on. Sparky was a true warrior, actively protecting both the earth and tribal rights and sovereignty. (Photo by Amoose)

Whereas, on October 13, 1922 there was born, on the Menominee Reservation, a boy baby who was named Hilary, and

Whereas, this boy child grew in stature and wisdom, and acquired from his elders a reverence for the waters and the forests and the fish and the wildlife, and

Whereas, shortly after Pearl Harbor was bombed in December of 1942, Hilary Waukau, in the tradition of so many people, enlisted in the United States Marine Corp to defend his country, and

Whereas, because of his assigned duties as radioman, he was nicknamed as “Sparky”, and

Whereas, in the defense of the United States, his country, “Sparky” Waukau fought in the battles for Tarawa and Siapan, and

Hilary “Sparky” Waukau held the Protect the Earth staff during a protest of the proposed mine near Crandon, Wisconsin, which took place shortly before he walked on. Sparky was a true warrior, actively protecting both the earth and tribal rights and sovereignty. (Photo by Amoose)

Whereas, in his travels, both in the United States, and abroad, “Sparky” came to realize what a crown jewel of Wisconsin, was the Menominee Reservation, and

Whereas, upon his return to the reservation, he became involved in the affairs of the tribe and held many positions including telephone repairman, highway supervisor, tribal judge, and senior legislator, and

Whereas, beginning in the early 1950’s, “Sparky” Waukau became a leader in the fight against many actions that would cause harm to his reservation and his beloved Wolf River Watershed, and

Whereas, these actions included a dam on the upper Wolf River, a giant landfill at the junctions of the Wolf and Lily Rivers, a Nuclear Waste Repository deep in the Wolf River Batholith, and a proposed sulfide mine on the headwaters of the Wolf River, and

Whereas, “Sparky” Waukau was extremely involved in actions by the Menominee Tribe which designated all of the waters within the Menominee Reservation to be Outstanding Resource Waters, and

Whereas, this action by the Menominee people eventually convinced the Wisconsin DNR to designate the Wolf River, from the northern border of the Menominee Reservation to its source at Pine Lake, to be an Outstanding Resource Waters, and

Whereas, it was greatly due to “Sparkys” close acquaintance with Wisconsin governors, and state and federal legislators, that the Wolf River, within the borders of the Menominee Reservation, was forever declared to be a National Wild and Scenic River, and

Whereas, despite failing health including loss of parts of both feet and failing eyesight brought on by diabetes and heart trouble, when Exxon and Rio Algom again proposed to open a mine on the headwaters of the Wolf River, “Sparky” Waukau, the U.S. Marine Corps veteran, again took up his spear and

Whereas, late last July just a few days before his death, “Sparky” Waukau, in his wheelchair, lead a march up Spirit Hill, just east of the Mole Lake reservation to protest the impending mine, and

Whereas, on August 2, 1995, “Sparky” Waukau, the tired old veteran, was finally called to the Spirit World.

Now therefore be it resolved: That this 1995 session of the Wisconsin Conservation Congress proclaims Hilary, “Sparky” Waukau to be one of the outstanding environmentalists in the history of Wisconsin.

Whereas, on October 13, 1922 there was born, on the Menominee Reservation, a boy baby who was named Hilary, and

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Former Kimberley man receives posthumous award for volunteer service with the Forest Service

Park Falls and Rhinelander, Wis.—Ken Keliher, a former teacher at Kimberly High School, was recently honored at a National Volunteer Week celebration in Washington, D.C.

His family will receive a USDA-Forest Service National Volunteer Award plaque and a letter recognizing his exemplary volunteer service. Keliher was a participant in the Passport In Time (PIT) program from 1991 to 1998.

Passport In Time is a national volunteer program that invites the public to participate in heritage resource management projects on national forests across the country.

Keliher’s contributions to the PIT program took place at various locations on the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest in northern Wisconsin. Volunteers such as Keliher assist heritage resource specialists at archaeological and historic sites with activities such as excavation, site mapping, laboratory and art work, collecting oral histories, restoring historic buildings, library archival research, exhibit design or site monitoring.

Over the past eight years, he volunteered at a variety of historic and archaeological sites, contributing over 600 hours of voluntary service.

Keliher had a passionate voice for history and devoted time each summer discovering and learning about past cultures through the PIT program. Working shoulder to shoulder with fellow volunteers and Forest Service archaeologists, Keliher brought enthusiasm and unique skills to each project. As his expertise grew over time, he served as a visitor guide and mentor for new volunteers. During an excavation in 1996, he drafted the initial field maps for the site and took them and the field notes back to his graphic arts students in Kimberly where they created a working map for the Forest Service.

“Kenn was a wonderful person and he provided many, many hours of dedicated service to the program,” recalls Geoff Chandler, Ecosystem Group Leader for the forest. “I worked beside Ken with my trowel in hand, and he patiently explained what we were doing and how to do it. His passion for our cultural heritage was contagious.”

A USDA-Forest Service National Award is considered the highest award in the agency. Lynn Roberts, Forest Supervisor, echoed this recognition, “We will remember Mr. Keliher as a great friend, teacher, and volunteer for Passport In Time. His presence will truly be missed.”

Spring electrofishing assessments

(Continued from page 4)

determine the water temperatures on walleye spawning reefs and whether a relationship between temperature and reproductive success is discernable.

Doepke says:

Electrofishing crews also collected fish from five lakes to be used as samples for mercury-level testing.

In the area of public relations, electrofishing crews welcomed visitors from two local lake associations aboard for a night’s run. Doug Zanski, Squaw Lake, Vilas County, who has ridden with a crew during previous fall assessments, spent a spring night aboard one of the shocking boats on Squaw Lake. Doug Hanson, Whitefish/Bardon Lake Association, rode along with the St. Croix crew on a recap of Whitefish Lake.

Hanson noted how pleased he was that the assessments were taking place and applauded GLIFWC’s efforts.

Of the seven electrofishing boats and crews that completed spring adult walleye assessments, four belong to GLIFWC. Other participants include a boat and crew from the St. Croix tribe, the Mole Lake tribe, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Doepke especially thanks the fisheries aides who put in long hours during the assessments were taking place and also the Mole Lake tribe for donating the time of their volunteers and Forest Service archaeologists, Keliher brought enthusiasm and unique skills to each project.

The Tribal Season

By Linda Amman Preul

Pines sigh—loons wail,
melted snow—the sledder’s trail.
Tribal spears begin to sing,
fashioned for the spawning spring.

Tribal boats—-their lights explore,
return their catch to the lapping shore.

On the shores friends stand in line,
stirs the eggs with a feather fine.

Protected, guarded, hatched nearby,
walleye larval valued high!

Then released—a special reason,
maturity for the tribal season.

This poem is dedicated to members of the Mole Lake Indian Reservation, Crandon, Wisconsin and also to Michael Preul, Sokaogon Fisheries Biologist (my son).
Sandy Lake
Tragedy & Memorial

The Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) has recently released a brochure that explores the Sandy Lake Tragedy of 1850-51 and how the event shaped the future of Ojibwe treaty rights in Upper Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota.

Entitled “Sandy Lake: Tragedy & Memorial,” the color brochure is the result of extensive historical research and consultation with scholars and Ojibwe elders. GLIFWC made its work available to foster better historical understanding among all people with this publication and honor the sacrifice made by those Ojibwe who suffered and died at Sandy Lake, Minnesota.

GLIFWC Executive Administrator Jim Schendler presented the brochure this past summer through a speaking tour of colleges and universities in northwest Wisconsin, drawing diverse audiences of students, local residents, and seniors.

The brochure and speaking tour was funded in part by a grant from the Wisconsin Humanities Council with support from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the HRK Foundation.

The Wisconsin Humanities Council supports public programs that engage the people of Wisconsin in the exploration of human cultures, ideas, and values.

The brochure (“Sandy Lake: Tragedy & Memorial”) is available at no cost from GLIFWC’s Public Information Office. Call 715-682-6619 or email info@glif wc.org.

(Oliver to the east bank of Sandy Lake. In 1850 many Ojibwe arrived at the Sandy Lake annuity distribution site by canoe, but departed on foot as winter set in and waterways became iced over. People interested in participating in the paddle should contact GLIFWC for more information at (715) 682-6619.

The Sandy Lake Memorial Monument honoring the Ojibwe ancestors who perished as part of the 1850 Sandy Lake tragedy will be completed this summer. A formal dedication of the monument is scheduled for July 29th at noon at the Sandy Lake Recreation Area, north of McGregor, Minnesota.

Mikwendaagoziwag (remember them) Paddle
Prior to the monument’s dedication ceremony and feast on the 29th, there will be a paddle from the east bank of Sandy Lake to the west bank near the memorial. In 1850 many Ojibwe arrived at the Sandy Lake annuity distribution site by canoe, but departed on foot as winter set in and waterways became iced-over.

Persons interested in joining the paddle should contact GLIFWC for more detailed information at (715) 682-6619.

Pheng Vang and Xwm Richard Vang began looking for a project to take on for Minnesota History Day, they wanted to find an episode that didn’t get a whole lot of press. They found it in a 151-year-old Minnesota tragedy.

Acting on an idea from their teacher, the pair, eighth-graders at Washington Middle School in St. Paul, delved into an incident at Sandy Lake, near Mille Lacs, in 1850, when hundreds of Ojibwe died after promised government supplies and payments came late. The students begin digging deeper than they needed into the original historical records and even traveling to the Mille Lacs Indian Museum in Onamia to understand what happened. They competed May 5 in the Minnesota History Day competition along with 1,100 other middle-, junior- and senior-high students across the state.

They were chosen for the final round. Even more important, they opened a door to a controversial piece of the state’s past that’s largely unknown outside the American Indian community and they got a strong sense of how history is written and who gets to write it.

“We thought it would be good to do something on a part of history that really isn’t talked about,” said Pheng Vang. “Primary sources are more exact.”

Hoping to move Indians into Minnesota from Wisconsin, the federal government in the fall of 1850 directed Ojibwe tribes to travel to Sandy Lake instead of Lac qui Parle, Wis., to collect provisions and annual payments promised in the 1837 treaties in exchange for land.

The provisions and materials were late. The Ojibwe had to wait until December before receiving limited supplies. A history published by the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, said that in 1850 game was scarce, fishing was poor and high water wiped out the wild rice crop.

Disease and starvation killed 170 Ojibwe at Sandy Lake. Another 230 died on the bitter winter march back through Wisconsin.

Pheng Vang and Xwm Richard Vang started their research at the Minnesota History Center. They found a general information on what happened at Sandy Lake but not enough specifics.

At Mille Lacs, they interviewed Ojibwe people and reviewed a copy of the 1837 treaty that traded land for provisions. Looking back on their research, Pheng Vang said they were amazed at the involvement of people in power in the federal and territorial governments.

“I didn’t expect all those important people to be doing that to people who are innocent,” Pheng Vang said.

Back then there were many incidents like Sandy Lake, many incidents that weren’t written down,” said Xwm Richard Vang.

Steve Cox, who coordinates the History Day program at Washington, said only a handful of students took their investigation to the same depths as Richard Vang.

“I am most impressed with the extent of their research and the enthusiasm they had toward this project,” Cox said. “I hope the skills in researching history carries them through high school and college.”

Both boys would like to turn their research skills eventually to the history of Southeast Asia and, perhaps, the history of their families.

(Reprinted from the St. Paul Pioneer Press.)
Red Cliff partners with UW-Superior on demonstration aquaculture facility

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Bayfield, Wis.—The selection of the Red Cliff reservation as a site for a demonstration aquaculture facility is a real plus for the entire community, says Greg Fisher, Red Cliff Hatchery manager.

Fisher mentions jobs, training, and access to substantial information relating to fish and fish farming as some of the benefits.

"But partnerships is the big deal. There will be five or six agencies plus the tribes working in partnership. I think the project will have far-reaching, positive ramifications," Fisher says.

The opportunity to work in partnership with UW-Superior and other agencies came to Red Cliff last April when the Red Cliff tribe and UW-Superior signed a cooperative agreement, formally making Red Cliff the site for a demonstration aquaculture facility.

The facility will be located on a 40-acre parcel of land adjacent to Red Cliff's hatchery that will be leased from the Red Cliff tribe.

Red Cliff's existing hatchery helped secure the reservation as a home for the $3 million dollar project, Fisher says, because the hatchery already has needed facilities, such as suitable wells, sewar, power, and a passive wetland treatment system for effluent.

The new aquaculture facility will not be geared to production, but rather will be a demonstration facility, designed to train and encourage people interested in aquaculture. Training in the treatment of effluent from fish farming, in hydroponics, and marketing fish and fish by-products are part of the long-term vision, Fisher says.

As a resource for fish farmers and hatcheries, it will have fish health capabilities, including diagnostics. Geneticists will also be on staff, and the library will provide a full course of information on fish farming accessible in one spot.

"At the hatchery, we get lots of questions from people trying to raise fish in a pond, for instance," Fisher says. "This facility will be a resource for those people as well as fish farmers and hatchery staff."

As far as the kind of fish to rear, feasibility studies will be performed to make that determination. Rainbow trout and yellow perch are potential candidates.

Fisher does not believe the fish farming should be in conflict with the tribal commercial fishery because aquaculture does not target whitefish or lake trout, the primary species for the commercial fishermen. He also noted that markets for wild vs. farmed fish are different. All in all, the aquaculture facility will promote more information on fish as a desirable food, so should help expand the market for fish in general, Fisher explains.

Tribal youth compete in statewide Envirothon

Youth from Red Cliff and Bad River participated in the 2001 Envirothon at the Central Wisconsin Environmental Station east of Stevens Point, Wisconsin on May 4th. Accompanied by Jim St. Arnold, Administrator for Native Americans (ANA) program at the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission and staff from the Bayfield High School and the Bad River Tribal School, students competed as teams. Pictured above, the Red Cliff team does an oral presentation as part of the competition. Students are, from the left, Karlyn Gordon, Sarah Thomas, Bruce Soulier, and Katrina Werchouski.

The Envirothon, sponsored by Canon, tests each competing team at five stations representing different topics—forestry, soils, aquatics, wildlife and oral presentation before a panel of judges. Above the Bad River team answers questions at the soil station. Bad River students pictured above are, from the left, Charmaine Couture, Shanna Ford, Mike Delgado, Quay Whitebird and J.R. Bigboy.

Both the Red Cliff and Bad River teams did well in the Envirothon and the firsthand experience will better prepare them for next year's competition. The Bad River team was complemented on its oral presentation and especially their ability to tie-in cultural components with the subject matter. Pictured above, back row (from the left): Mike Delgado, Charmaine Couture, J.R. Bigboy and Shanna Ford. Seated: Quay Whitebird and Jan Gangelhoff, Cultural Teacher, Bad River Tribal School.
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. Subscriptions to the paper are free. Write: MASINAIGAN, P.O. Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861, phone (715) 682-6619, e-mail: pio@glifwc.org. Please be sure and keep us informed if you are planning to move or have recently moved so we can keep our mailing list up to date.

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