Bearing Eagle Staffs during the Grand Entry at the pow-wow during the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) fiftieth annual convention in Denver were Hillary (Sparky) Waukau, Menominee, and Lac Courte Oreilles Tribal Chairman gaashkibos, also president of NCAI. Waukau (left) was recently honored by his tribe for his outstanding service to the tribal community. Both men are outspoken advocates for tribal rights, sovereignty and environmental protection. See page four for coverage of NCAI issues and events. (Photo by Amoose)
Tribes seek meaningful input into gas & oil production regulations

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Maulson re-elected to chair GLIFWC Board

Tribes cannot accept the status quo

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

GLIFWC Executive Administrator John Schlender and Linda Du Plessis Chairman Tom Maulson, also chairmen of the GLIFWC Board of Commissioners, at the December 8th Inter-Tribal Council. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

"Tribes look at a management system that is susceptible to different interpretations of the language of the Chippewa treat- ing from their retained treaty rights in the ceded territory," the Red Cliff's resolutions state.

Gurnoe also said that public hearings are not necessary. Only citizens need sufficient time to prepare comment, she said. (The research performed on a test drilling site in Bayfield County has not been published as yet, she comments.)

In 1992 Professor Albert Dickas, UW-De- cision during the day was the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. While the Red Cliff Band was meeting, the Native American Council of Wisconsin was also meeting. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

A moose (photo by Amoose)
Challenges met, challenges unmet
National Congress of American Indians celebrates 50 years

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Fifty years ago delegates from nine states gathered in Chicago to discuss the plight of Native Americans. The vision for the National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) was to ensure a strong voice for Indian people.

"Many of the issues in 1944 are the same as we face today. Despite our gains, the distance we must travel is still great," said gaiashkibos, NCAI President.

"We enjoy a new level of access to the decision-makers under the Clinton Administration," gaiashkibos stated. "Access must be accompanied by results. NCAI will continue to demand actions from the present administration and the Congress to protect and promote the rights of Indian communities," he pledged.

Opening ceremonies at one of the NCAI general assemblies during the Denver convention. (Photo by Amos)

Senator Campbell: A Democratic Holocaust

By Steve Robinson, Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

U.S. Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell, D-Colorado, said the fifty-first convention of the National Congress of American Indians that the recent Republican sweep of Congress might be viewed by some as the "class struggle," and that instead of "stalemating" policies, it could stimulate critical Indian programs.

Campbell, an Assistant Secretary of the Northern Cheyenne Tribe, said he had been "saddened" by the recent congressional action, which "makes it clear that the recent Republ icans sweep of Congress might be viewed by some as the "class struggle," and that instead of "stalemating" policies, it could stimulate critical Indian programs.

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Anderson: Self-governance is the future for tribes

Good morning. Mr. President, guests and members of NCAI. My name is Mary Anderson, and I am Chief Executive of the Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians of Minnesota. I thank the National Congress of American Indians for this opportunity to talk about self-governance.

As you know, the permanent Self-Governance Bill signed into law by the President last week was passed by both the House and Senate. It is an historic vote, and we are indeed in the beginning stages of this new era for American Indians. We are taking a significant step toward home rule.

In brief, self-governance has given tribes the opportunity to pursue their history, culture, and future. And somewhere in this process, we have discovered the power and responsibility that we now are convinced that self-governance is NOT a demon causing budgetary harm. If federal bureaucrats tell you otherwise, you can show them the law, that the title in no other way.

Do not fear self-governance, and do not allow the misapplication of outdated financial reporting laws to turn American Indians into a welfare case. The future of your people depends on your support for the United to the end line for your share, for tribes is not an easy road. It is not yet clear what the future will hold for those tribes and non-tribal Indian Affairs. But if federal bureaucrats tell you otherwise, they have been paid. The future of your people depends on your support for the United to the end line for your share, for tribes is not an easy road. It is not yet clear what the future will hold for those tribes and non-tribal Indian Affairs. But if federal bureaucrats tell you otherwise, they have been paid. The federal government is a very large and complex organization. But I must say that we are convinced that self-governance is NOT a demon causing budgetary harm. If federal bureaucrats tell you otherwise, you can show them the law, that the title in no other way.

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Inouye: Tough times ahead
Unity needed for tribal survival

(The following resolution was adopted at the NCAI Annual Convention)

WHEREAS, the Sokaogon Chippewa Community, Mole Lake Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians did adopt a Constitution on November 9, 1938, we which confirms certain sovereign powers over the Tribal Governing Board by the members of the Sokaogon Chippewa Community and;

WHEREAS, the Mille Lacs Band is currently faced with the development of a massive casino (outlier same) mini adjacent to the Mille Lacs Indian Reservation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: NCAI does hereby declare its support of the efforts of the Mille Lacs Band of the Lake Superior Chippewa, in the cause of Governing National Resource Waters for New Lake and its tributaries and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: The National Congress of American Indians does hereby authorize the Board of Directors to bring before Congress in Washington, D.C. legislation that would provide for the beneficial use of water quality, currently being analyzed by Commissioner Company, be halted until baseline water quality monitors have been established.

American Indians 1944 - 1994

Baseline water quality standards needed

The hearty patriotic air of the NCAI convention is broken by the Miss NCAI contestants who both participate in the conference and compete for the title during the convention as well as with royalty from across the nation. (Photo by Annesse)
Babbit stresses tribal participation

By Sue Erickson  
Secretary of Interior Bruce Babbitt stated that the Senate Committee on Interior and Related Agencies' hearing on H.R. 5872, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of 1990 did not have final rules to deal with.

Babbitt said that the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) of 1990 did not have final rules to deal with. The legislation mandates that 20 tribes per year move to self-governance.

Babbitt identified the lack of a federal coordinating mechanism between federal departments is leading to federal department departments. He said that coordination, such as the one on the protection of Native American cultural resources, is a question for the Department of Defense, Department of Interior, and others.

With Presidential concurrence, Babbitt is convening a coordinating group consisting of the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, and the Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs. The coordinating group is to be convened by the President, and there is a need to look at the protection of Native American cultural resources.
Wolf recovery and deer quotas
Timely participation in process an issue

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Voigt Inter-Tribal Task Forces representatives discussed issues relating to establishing deer quotas for the 1995 hunting season at a meeting on Dec. 8. The meeting was convened to consider implementing the Safe Harvest Level process on the 31 reservations in the state.

The VITTF has been concerned because state figures recommend harvest levels for deer. The VITTF has also been concerned because state figures recommend harvest levels for deer. Chief Kevin Waukau, of the Menominee Tribe, said that current tribal support for the Safe Harvest Level process is faltering due to tribal needs.

Mole Lake gains NCAI support on mining issues

Mole Lake Tribal Chairman Aron Ackley and Tribal Secretary Delrickson spent two days during the 51st NCAI convention in Denver presenting support for the tribe's initiative to stop the proposed mining project near the tribe's unincorporated land. The tribe's chief was present to discuss the passage of seven related resolutions affirming the support of the national Indian organization. Delrickson addressed the issue of EPA and state EPA approval. The project, which involves the excavation of 600,000 tons of gravel, has been under review by tribal officials for the past five years.

Other issues considered at the national convention included the upcoming meeting of the Technical Working Group (TWG), a state-tribal group, which will meet in early 1995 to exchange information on wolf management issues. The group is charged with establishing an official statement on wolf recovery.

Deer management continues to be a contentious issue on many reservations. Recently, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) have announced their intention to develop a management plan for wolves in Wisconsin. The plan calls for the establishment of a wolf management program in Wisconsin.

Miscellaneous Area Caucus tackles mining issues

Environmental protection/permitting, hunting and fishing issues faced by the Gila River Indian Community were highlighted at the 51st NCAI convention in Denver. A total of 10 resolutions were submitted to the NCAI convention for Indian tribes to discuss and vote on. The resolutions included a call for the establishment of a unified voice from Indian Country.

Several resolutions went to the floor from the Minnesota Area Caucus, five of which were highlighted at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to present the tribe's support for the proposal to remove the mining project from its list of projects. The tribe's chief was present to discuss the 31st Annual Meeting of the National Congress of American Indians.

According to Delrickson, the project is expected to provide a revenue stream for the tribe. The tribe has been working on the project since 1990 and has received $12 million in federal funding to date. The project is expected to generate $2 million per year for the tribe.

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The conference was held at the Denver Marriott South, and was attended by more than 1,000 tribal representatives. The conference provided a forum for tribal leaders to discuss the nation's shared priorities and the challenges facing Indian communities.
**WILDLIFE ISSUES**

**Wisconsin rivers at risk: Urgent changes needed**

**By Sue Erickson**

"A Gathering for the Rivers," a statewide conference focused on Michigan's river management issues, took place at Michigan State University in late November. The conference was organized by Michigan's Water Management Initiative, a coalition of environmental groups and riverine organizations.

The conference featured a variety of speakers, including representatives from the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and the Michigan Environmental Council. The speakers discussed the importance of protecting and restoring the state's rivers, and the need for urgent action to address the challenges facing these waterways.

One of the key highlights of the conference was a panel discussion on the role of riparian corridors in river management. Panelists discussed the importance of preserving and restoring riparian areas, which are critical for maintaining healthy river ecosystems.

The conference also featured a keynote address by Dr. John D. Liu, a prominent conservationist and author, who spoke about the importance of restoring and preserving the state's natural landscapes. Liu's talk was a call to action for all those involved in river management, urging them to work together to protect Wisconsin's rivers and ensure their continued health for future generations.

**By Gary Borger, UW-Wausau**

"You shall know the earth as you wear your pants," wrote the poet John Muir. The sentiment rings true in today's world, where the health of our rivers and streams is critical to our well-being.

In Wisconsin, the rivers are a vital part of our cultural heritage and economic foundation. They provide recreational opportunities, support diverse aquatic ecosystems, and serve as a source of clean water for drinking and other uses.

However, the state's rivers face significant challenges. Water quality is declining, fish populations are declining, and habitat loss is a major concern. These issues require urgent action to address.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is working on a variety of initiatives to improve river health. One such initiative is the Wisconsin River Basin Management Program, which is a multi-year effort to restore and protect the basin's water resources.

The program includes a variety of projects, such as stream restoration, riparian buffers, and stormwater management. The DNR is also working with local communities and other stakeholders to develop and implement these projects.

One of the key challenges facing the program is funding. The state's budget has been tight, and funding for river management initiatives has been limited. However, the DNR is working to secure additional funding through partnerships and grants.

In conclusion, Wisconsin's rivers are vital to the state's economy and quality of life. We must take urgent action to protect and restore these valuable waterways. The Wisconsin River Basin Management Program is one step in the right direction, but much more needs to be done.

"Let us use the rivers, not river use, needs to be managed. In 150 years there will be no topsoil left."

—Gary Borger, UW-Wausau
“The silence of the frogs”
Wisconsin behind in environmental action

(Rivers Conference continued from page 13)

Peter Lavigne, River Network, Portland, OR

This page provides a national overview on river issues for the conference.

The Kakagon River, Bad River reservation, is one of many tributaries to Lake Superior. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

The silhouette of the frogs and the decline of amphibian populations in our rivers and streams is one evidence of problems within our watersheds. "Flowers are the water's currency, warning that our fresh water systems are in trouble..." There are endangered aquatic species everywhere. "The rivers are a signal of overall ecological systems in collapse," he noted.

The public wants change, but they don't know what kind of change," he said.

The backlash to the grassroots environmental explosion is the "Wise Use Movement," Lavigne stated. "The movement seeks to undermine environmental action at the new "red scare." Essentially, the movement seeks to minimize the problems which exist and unity against pro-environment regulation.

It is effective within the political system, so that funding for environmental action is dwindling at the government level and legislation doesn't really proceed anymore, Lavigne stated.

In regard to Wisconsin specifically, he noted that the Flambeau River is on the list of twenty thousand polluted rivers in the U.S. Wisconsin has a long history of environmental action and deterioration behind that action," Lavigne commented. Wisconsin is flushed the curve on grassroots action as well, he said.

Lavigne went on to explain that the government is not able to do enough to effectively protect the environment. "The rivers are like the miner's canary... The rivers are a signal of overall ecological systems in collapse," he stated. An explosion of grassroots river protection groups in the United States brought the number to 1,500 groups in 1994.

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Issues and barriers identified

Much of the conference was devoted to small-group work on defining issues and barriers. While many issues were listed, the top six for eight different work groups became the "high priority issues."

High priority issues included:

• Economic: lack of funding; household chemicals; the status of existing regulation; complicated regulatory structure; lack of authority; competition for public funds; increased penalties on polluters; lack of enforcement; lack of enforcement of state and federal laws; lack of enforcement of existing regulations; lack of enforcement of citizen participation; lack of legislative action; lack of legislation; lack of political action.

• Inter/intra river systems work; the status of existing regulation; complicated regulatory structure; lack of authority; lack of direction in terms of river protection activities.

• Political: lack of political will; lack of public participation; volunteer burn-out; lack of meaningful public participation; lack of enforcement; lack of communication; lack of coordination; lack of coordination, communication; lack of coordination, communication and cooperation between agencies.

• Education/awareness/communication: lack of education, communication and cooperation between agencies.

• Enforcement/legal: lack of enforcement; lack of meaningful public participation; volunteer burn-out; lack of enforcement; lack of political action; lack of legislation; lack of enforcement of state and federal laws; lack of legislation; lack of political action.

• Financial: lack of enforcement; lack of meaningful public participation; volunteer burn-out; lack of enforcement; lack of political action; lack of legislation; lack of political action.

• Information/data: lack of meaningful public participation; volunteer burn-out; lack of enforcement; lack of political action; lack of legislation; lack of political action.
Mole Lake in court on mining issues

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Crandon, Wis.—The Mole Lake Band remains active on several fronts in their efforts to stop the Conlon Mining Company's proposed copper/zinc mine.

Concerns over degraded water quality, both from test pumping and potential mining processes as well as desecration of burial sites and the state of the band's economy over the proposed operation.

The band was unsuccessful in a bid to obtain a temporary restraining order or stay to stop the test pumping by challenging the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' (WDNR) decision not to require a Wisconsin Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit (WPDES permit) to Conlon.

The WDNR said that the band's petition, which argued that the mine would disturb the culm (the non-minable clay layer above the ore body) would not require a permit because their application was incomplete.

A motion for a preliminary hearing on the issue was filed by the tribe, but the motion was denied by the District IV State Court of Appeals on Nov. 16th. Griffin stated.

The band is waiting for a hearing date to be set by the Dane County District Court. In a report issued by Exxon as part of the EIS development in 1977 when a mining permit was first being sought, indicates that sites did undergo archeological excavation by Dr. Robert Salzer, Beloit College and that ten boxes of remains from those sites are now being held in the basement of the Logan Museum at Beloit University, Beloit, Wisconsin.

However, Griffin states that Salzer has recently disclaimed his work as extensive but completely inadequate and not completed to the specifications required by current law.

'Salzer, Griffin says, suggests his research should not be used at this point in time and that there is no evidence of tribal burials, but rather European artifacts.

On the other hand, Dr. David Overstreet, Great Lakes Archeological Resource Institute, Milwaukee, Wis., found evidence of a settlement dated from 1000 to 1600 years old. Overstreet was hired by Exxon to do more archeological work in the mid-1980s. Griffin says. (See Mole Lake, page 27).

The tribe is also challenging the state on the grounds that a consultation process required by the Native American Graves Repatriation Act and the Archeological Resources Protection Act has not taken place.

The tribe contends that no discharge be allowed until the tribe can sit down on a government-to-government basis and discuss the history of the area and the likelihood of burial sites below the depth of a hand shovel, Griffin states.

The band is waiting for a hearing date to be set by the Dane County District Court.

In another related matter, Mole Lake has filed a motion against the Wisconsin State Historical Society and the Crandon Mining Company regarding the potential desecration of burial sites in Dane County Circuit Court.

The areas currently being affected by two high capacity well test sites are known by the tribe to be either "burial sites or areas likely to contain burial sites." The tribe seeks a temporary restraining order or stay to stop the test pumping by challenging the state's decision not to require a Wisconsin Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit (WPDES permit) to Conlon.

The water being released from a shallow aquifer that does not have the elevated levels of cadmium and lead and distinctive levels of groundwater into the proposed mines.

Mole Lake is concerned because the pump, capable of可以ing 300,000 gpd, per minute, is pulling ground water with lead and cadmium levels above the drinking water standard and dumping it into an area that may contain underground sources of supply, namely Mole Lake planer Dryway Drainage.

The pumped groundwater is being released from a shallower aquifer that does not have the elevated levels of cadmium and lead. Mole Lake is also concerned that this discharge will artificially increase levels of these contaminants and those levels will, in turn, be used as a "baseline" which is data eventually used to determine the impact of pollution from the proposed mines.

The state has requested a contested hearing from the WDNR. The request was denied, and Mole Lake appealed the decision on December 7 and awaits a response, according to Griffin. The appeal is based on a challenge to the State Circuit Court's decision that the proposed mining of the disturbed portions of the ore body was not a mining-related activity.

The issue of burial sites also in court

The Mole Lake Band remains active on several fronts in their efforts to stop the Conlon Mining Company's proposed copper/zinc mine.

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Feds to do EIS on proposed CMC mine

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Turtle Lake, Wis.—[Colonel James Scott, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers commander of the Army Corps of Engineers' Wisconsin Division,] introduced Impact Statement (EIS) discussions during a forum on the October Veigh-Northern Tier Task Force meeting at Turtle Lake.

Scott said that the federal EIS would be in conjunction with the permit application from the Northern Tier Coal Company, who seeks to endow 2,870 acres of public reserve land at Turtle Lake. The federal EIS will be a joint undertaking of the Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Forest Service.

In the aftermath of a federal involvement and oversight, environmentalists expressed concern because the federal EIS process will be coordinated with the State EIS process.

Protester, ViVT, representative, Mole Lake, says it is concerned that a combination of federal and state reviews could be provided by separate EIS processes.

According to the EIS, the U.S. Forest Service and the Army Corps of Engineers have released a joint statement that states their intent to coordinate the two reviews.

Currently, the EIS is being worked on by the Turtle Lake Mining Company and how the involved agencies incorporate the preferences provided to them by the Northern Tier Coal Company.

The Army Corps of Engineers proposed an EIS to discuss tribal concerns regarding the permitting process for the Creation Mine Company's proposed mine. (Photo by Sue Erickson)

Acid mine drainage costly problem for USPS

While many people are concerned about mining in northern Wisconsin. The issue regarding acid mine drainage is a topic of concern being discussed by the 1993 U.S. Congress. The U.S. Postal Service is one of many federal agencies that are affected by this issue.

The issue of acid mine drainage has been a long-standing concern for many years. It is the result of mining activities, which contribute to the production of sulfuric acid, a substance harmful to both the environment and human health.

The U.S. Postal Service is affected by acid mine drainage because it is responsible for maintaining a safe and efficient postal service. The acid mine drainage contaminates water sources, which can lead to health risks for postal workers and the general public.

The Postal Service has been working with other agencies to address this issue, including the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the U.S. Department of the Interior, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The Postal Service's Acid Mine Drainage Program is designed to identify and mitigate acid mine drainage sites. The program includes the identification of sites, the development of remediation plans, and the implementation of remediation projects.

The program is funded through a combination of federal and state grants, as well as private and public partnerships. The program has been successful in reducing acid mine drainage impacts on water sources, which has improved water quality and protected public health.

The Postal Service's Acid Mine Drainage Program has been recognized for its effectiveness in addressing this problem, and it has received numerous awards and recognition for its efforts.

The program continues to evolve, with new technologies and approaches being developed to further reduce the impact of acid mine drainage on water sources and public health.
**Significant legislation from the 103rd Congress**

Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act. Passed by the Congress (P.L. 103-322), the 103rd Congress enacted several provisions affecting tribal governments. These "tribal" provisions, which include several provisions affecting tribal governments. Thus, the law includes provisions that:

- Allow tribes to make regulations and enforce laws in certain cases affecting Indian affairs that are not part of the law enforcement or judicial functions of the United States.

- Establish a program to provide law enforcement and crime prevention grants to Indian tribes.

- Provide funding to Indian tribes for law enforcement and crime prevention programs.

- Establish a program to provide technical assistance to Indian tribes in the development and implementation of crime prevention and response programs.

- Establish a program to provide training and technical assistance to Indian tribes in the development and implementation of crime prevention and response programs.

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**Clean Open Dumps Legislation**

This legislation was introduced in the first session of the 103rd Congress (H.R. 553). The legislation would require the Environmental Protection Agency to develop a comprehensive strategy for the cleanup of hazardous waste sites at open dumps. The strategy would include: (1) a plan for identifying and prioritizing open dumps that pose significant environmental risks; (2) a plan for cleaning up those open dumps that are prioritized; and (3) a plan for ensuring that the cleanup is funded and implemented in a manner that minimizes its impact on the surrounding community.

**Native American Cultural Preservation Act**

This legislation was introduced in the first session of the 103rd Congress (H.R. 553). The legislation would establish a National Museum of the American Indian to be located in Washington, D.C. The museum would be responsible for preserving and interpreting the cultural heritage of American Indians.

**Native American Languages Act**

This legislation was introduced in the first session of the 103rd Congress (H.R. 553). The legislation would establish a National Language Program to provide assistance to Indian tribes in the development, preservation, and promotion of American Indian languages. The program would include grants to Indian tribes for language preservation and revitalization activities, as well as technical assistance and training for Indian language professionals.

**Navajo Nation Water Rights Settlement Act**

This legislation was introduced in the first session of the 103rd Congress (S. 105). The legislation would settle the water rights dispute between the United States and the Navajo Nation. The settlement would include provisions for the delivery of water to the Navajo Nation and the development of new water resources.

**Seminole Tribe of Florida Indian Gaming Compact**

This legislation was introduced in the first session of the 103rd Congress (H.R. 553). The legislation would amend the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act to establish a compact between the Seminole Tribe of Florida and the State of Florida. The compact would allow the Seminole Tribe to operate parimutuel wagering and video lottery terminals in the State of Florida.
**Legislative Update**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Number of Bill</th>
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<td>H.R. 2135</td>
<td>National Native American Veterans' Memorial</td>
<td>Reported to House Committee on Administration (6/13/94)</td>
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<td>H.R. 3508</td>
<td>Tribal Self-Governance Act of 1993</td>
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<td>H.R. 4086</td>
<td>Youth Development Block Grant Act</td>
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<td>H.R. 4119</td>
<td>Bill declaring land held in trust for Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon</td>
<td>Referred to Subcommittee on Native American Affairs (9/22/94)</td>
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<td>H.R. 4231</td>
<td>Bill to prohibit regulations that classify, enhance, or declassify the physical and intellectual ownership of an Indian tribe relative to other federally recognized tribes</td>
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<td>S. 720</td>
<td>Indian Lands Open Dump Clean-Up Act of 1993</td>
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<td>S. 2230</td>
<td>Indian Gaming Regulatory Act Amendments of 1994</td>
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</tbody>
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**Thinking... Indian**

By E. Benton-Banai

Ojibwe-Anishinabe

Our language is in the heart of all that we are. We are who we are because of language. It is the link to our past. The past is not just history, it is the living memory of our ancestors. Language is the key to who we are and where we come from. It is the voice of our culture, our way of life, our identity.

Our language is our connection to our ancestors. It is the thread that ties us together. It is the language that we use to communicate with each other. It is the language that we use to express our culture, our beliefs, our values, and our traditions.

Language is the foundation of our community. It is the foundation of our culture. It is the foundation of our identity. It is the foundation of our future. It is the foundation of our very existence.

Language is the key to our survival. Without language, we would not be able to communicate with each other. Without language, we would not be able to express our culture. Without language, we would not be able to express our values. Without language, we would not be able to express our beliefs.

Language is the key to our identity. It is the key to our culture. It is the key to our community. It is the key to our future. It is the key to our very existence.

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Bibon — It is winter

Dakise, Goonikse, Goon, Mangadepon, Zoogipon, Ishpate, Aaglim, Aagimoose, Nagwanganen, Aazizookaaneg

(She is chilled, feels cold. There is a lot of snow. Snow. There are large snowflakes coming down. It is snowing. The snow is high. Snowshoes. Snowshoes. Snare. Traditional stories.)

Bezhig — 1

OJIBWEMOWIN (Ojibwe Language)

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

A. Ningoong mahnahingaag alwegweh geom. 
B. Megwessel, in giga-aagmimoon alwagewaag

DOUBLE VOWEL COMBINATIONS

Short vowels: A, I, O

DOUBLE VOICE SHORT A

A. Aaglmag, Aagimote, Aaglim, Aaglimn


Double Consonants: CH, SH, ZH

Aannah, It is snowing. The snow falls noise as if in mazijingwan.

Nishii — 2

Generally the long vowels carry the accent.

Respectfully enlist an elder for help in pronunciation and accent.

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

A. Aanind manidoomininanakaan.
B. Aanind naabiganonen.
C. Aandi gashigwaaowenasbay.
D. Aandi naabikwaswagon.
E. Mazeinaabool doopeed Eya.

Niwin — 4

Ojibweoowin

1. Aanind manidoomininanakaa.
2. Aanind naabiganonen.
3. Aandi gashigwaaowenasbay.
5. Mazeinaabool doopeed Eya.

Ojibweoowin

1. Aanind manidooiminanakaan.
2. Aanind naabiganonen.
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Niwin — 4

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Mazeinaabool doopeed Eya.
Legislation aims to protect public health

By Ren Spencer Black, Chair Assembly Natural Resources Committee

A recently released study from the Environmental Protection Agency points to more than 3,000 sites of dioxin contamination in the U.S. The study found that dioxin contamination is pervasive and poses a serious threat to public health, as well as the environment.

The study also found that dioxin contamination can occur through multiple pathways, including air, water, and soil. The EPA has identified a number of industries, including paper mills, chemicals manufacturers, and waste disposal facilities, as sources of dioxin contamination.

The study also highlights the need for stronger regulations to address dioxin contamination. The EPA has proposed new rules to reduce dioxin emissions, but many environmental groups and public health advocates have criticized the proposals as not going far enough.

The study also calls for increased research into the health effects of dioxin, as well as for increased public education about the risks associated with dioxin contamination. The EPA has announced plans to increase funding for research into dioxin, as well as to increase public outreach efforts.

Governors delay warning on eating fish contaminated with dioxin

By Jon Rhodes and Jim Weber

The list of contaminated waters has grown longer in recent months, with new warnings being issued by state and federal authorities. The latest warning came from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, which has added Great Lakes waters to the list of areas where eating fish can pose a health risk.

The Wisconsin DNR has issued a warning to residents of the state, particularly those who live near or fish in the Great Lakes. The warning is based on the latest EPA report, which found high levels of dioxin in the Great Lakes.

The agency has urged residents to avoid eating fish from these waters, particularly those species known to concentrate dioxin in their tissues. The warning affects a number of lakes and rivers in the state, including Lake Michigan and Lake Superior.

The Wisconsin DNR has also recommended that people avoid eating fish from other regions where dioxin contamination is known to be a problem, such as the lower Mississippi River and the Gulf of Mexico.

The agency has called on the federal government to take action to address dioxin contamination, and has urged states to continue monitoring and reporting on contaminated waters.

The Wisconsin DNR has also warned that the public should be aware of the risks associated with eating fish from contaminated waters, and has provided guidance on how to reduce the risk of exposure.

Concern over water contamination in many communities has led more and more people to seek water supplies outside of local wells. (Photo by Sue Simms)

A recent study by the National Academy of Sciences found that many communities are turning to bottled water as a way to avoid contamination from local sources. The study found that 10% of communities rely on bottled water as their primary source of drinking water.

The study also found that bottled water is not immune to contamination, with cases of contamination reported in communities that rely on bottled water. The study called for increased monitoring and reporting of contamination in bottled water sources.

The Wisconsin DNR has called on the federal government to take action to address dioxin contamination, and has urged states to continue monitoring and reporting on contaminated waters. The agency has also recommended that people avoid eating fish from contaminated waters, and has provided guidance on how to reduce the risk of exposure.

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Will GATT affect sovereignty & treaty rights?

The controversy over the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) recently passed the House and Senate and awaits the President’s signature. The GATT would give legal status to existing treaties on intellectual property that would prevent the protection of human rights, environmental and cultural rights.

The GATT has been described as a "facile byzantine architecture that is used to block trade liberalization in the interests of free-market ideology."

The GATT is currently under attack by environmentalists, human rights activists, and Native American leaders who are concerned about the potential impact on their sovereignty and treaty rights.

Clinton signs directive on eagle feather distribution

The following is the text of the President’s Executive Order 12,406, with the practice of Native American religions regarding the White House meeting with Indian White leader during April 1994.

Memorandum for the Heads of Domestic Departments and Agencies

Eagle feathers have a sacred role in Native American religions and cultures. Such protection would make it more difficult legislatively to set limits on the types and amounts of pesticide residues allowed into the U.S.

Native American tribes have a special interest in the protection of eagle feathers due to their cultural and religious significance. The White House meeting with Indian leaders may be seen as a step towards recognizing the sovereignty of Native American tribes.

Clean Water Act

The Clean Water Act establishes a comprehensive national program for the protection and restore of the nation’s waters. The Act was passed in 1972 and has been amended several times since then.

The Clean Water Act provides for federal regulation of discharges of pollutants into streams and lakes, as well as protection of wetlands and other water bodies. The Act includes provisions for the protection of fish and wildlife, and the maintenance of water quality for aquatic life and human use.

The Clean Water Act has been particularly effective in protecting our nation’s waters from pollution caused by industrial and agricultural activities. However, the Act has also been criticized for its failure to address the impacts of climate change and other long-term threats to water quality.
Ethnobotanical thoughts
Take a hike (or a long winter's walk)

By Dr. James Meeker
Associate Professor, Northland College

The first snows of the season always come as a pleasant surprise to me, even though they leave me scurrying about like a desperate squirrel to finish the full activities. I wonder how many of us are caught up with the last minute tasks of stacking fire wood in to the shed, mulching the carrots or merely finding our winter gloves. This fall season was so amazingly long and pleasant there is really no good excuse for this last minute flurry of activity except perhaps blaming it on our nature.

These snows also foretell of shorter days and longer nights. Ideally this time of the year should give us more opportunities to really ponder about the human condition, “our nature” so to speak. For example, would indigenous people have been able to respond to seasonal changes in a similar last minute fashion and survived? Just how did the people before us live their day to day lives and how might their thought processes and collective culture differ from ours? How might “our nature” be changing today? Continuing with these thoughts, how might these changes be how we view the world affect how we treat the environment?

Humans have always been interested in questions of their past. Today there are trained professionals in archeology and history that are in the business of revealing the lives of past cultures. Archeologists, for example, have perfected techniques to carefully study the signs of past cultures by painstakingly excavating sites and finding meaning from the tiniest artifacts and items left by ancient people.

Cultural historians have poured through the records, ledgers and journals of early European travelers in America searching for clues to help understand past Native American cultures. One such account, for example, is the journal of Johan Georg Kohl, an early traveler, entitled “Kitchi-Gami, Life among the Lake Superior Ojibway.” Kohl traveled along the shore of Lake Superior and lived with the Ojibway at Bad River, Red Cliff, Lac Courte Oreilles and Lac du Flambeau during the summer of 1855, painting an interesting picture of life among these people.

Oral histories are another means to understand past cultures. There are detailed stories from oral histories that have been handed down from generation to generation over periods of hundreds of years that exactly parallel the written accounts of the same events. Archeological evidence, historical accounts and oral traditions all have their drawbacks, however, in their attempt to relive day-to-day life and enter the mind set of indigenous people. In archeology, most evidence is not preserved, and over time, returns to the earth.

This is especially true for the indigenous peoples of the Great Lakes region who were not as dependent on agriculture, more nomadic and more dispersed across the land than other peoples. Historical accounts are by their nature very subjective views of the world. For example, even though Kohl lived with the Ojibway and was a careful observer, he still was a stranger in their midst. It is unclear how much a white man was privy to the everyday life and world views of those who befriended him, and how much one can ascertain in the span of one season.

Additionally, many of the historical accounts recorded activities at the time of the collapse of the fur trade, when the Ojibway were under constant threat of removal to other lands. How typical were these early observations when changes in lifestyle had already brought about major changes in the native peoples’ world view?

A drawback of traditional oral accounts or stories is that they often recorded the major events and actions of important people, overlooking the day-to-day events. Also, these accounts, with some notable exceptions, were dynamic documents, being modified by people over time to be more useful in an era of major changes, such as that of the last decades of the nineteenth century.

We need not all be so dramatic in this approach. A former student of mine here at Northland College took a year off and built a traditional wigwam and lived in it over several seasons, including one full winter in his goal to gain skills and sharpen his focus on the environment around him. Less striking but similar self discoveries are also possible. The point is that maybe a long hike in the winter, or a night out under the stars listening to coyotes and frost cracks, would bring one closer to understanding the mind set of earlier peoples just by “tuning in” to the natural world.

I suggest that, over a period of time, experiences in the natural world can be just as valid an approach to study cultures of the past as practicing the formal disciplines of archeology and history. There are some who suggest that wild areas, in addition to offering us the means to investigate our collective past, are a necessary part of life among these people. It is unclear how much a white man was privy to the everyday life and world views of those who befriended him, and how much one can ascertain in the span of one season.

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