Minwaajimo (Telling a Good Story) Symposium

By Sue Erickson  
Staff Writer

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The WDNR and GLIFWC board chairs kept their lines untangled long enough to deliver the natural resources and also the need to encourage tribal youth to continue traditional harvests.

“Partners” gather at LdF on heels of national award

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen  
Staff Writer

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Many voices join to tell the story at Minwaajimo Treaty Symposium

A big part of GLIFWC’s story deals with litigation and court room battles in Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. To help tell that story a number of attorneys who have participated in various legal proceedings attended the symposium. Present were, front row: Tracey Schwabke, Mike Latt, Kathryn Tiereny, Jim Zorn. Back row: Steve Moore, James Botsford, Henry Buffalo Jr., Milt Rosenberg, Brian Pierson, Bruce Greene, Marc Slonim, Howard Bichler, and David Siegler. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen.)

Tom Maulson, Lac du Flambeau, former chairman of both GLIFWC’s Board of Commissioners and the Voigt Intertribal Task Force, shares his thoughts and experiences during the opening ceremonies for the Minwaajimo Treaty Symposium. His son, Fred Maulson, GLIFWC’s Chief of Enforcement, looks on. (COR)

A long time treaty advocate, Ada Deer, Menomonee and former Assistant Secretary of Interior, participated in the discussions that followed panel presentations during the symposium. (COR)

Good times and good talk were all part of the treaty symposium held at the Bad River Convention Center. Sharing a joke during a lunch break are Jim St. Arnold, GLIFWC’s Administration for Native Americans program coordinator; Jim Zorn, GLIFWC’s executive administrator; Bob Powlens, Bad River elder, and Wesley Ballinger, GLIFWC’s ANA language specialist. (COR)

The Minwaajimo Treaty Symposium would not have been the same without this group of dynamite elders from Fond du Lac. GLIFWC was honored to host this great group of vivacious and involved tribal citizens! (Photo by Jen Schlender.)

On the cover! GLIFWC 2009 poster, Minwaajimo: Telling a Good Story, is now available upon request. The poster features artwork by Lac du Flambeau artist, biskakone Johnson. See page 23 for ordering information.

Early registrants for the symposium were entered into a drawing to win a Pendleton blanket. The winner was Beulah Sayers, Ho-Chunk, who said it was the first time in her life she has ever won anything! (COR)
By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—Wildlife research—sounds fun, doesn’t it? Especially in the summer, you know, spending the summer close to nature and all that. However, the life of a wildlife researcher is not always as idyllic as one might imagine. Observing the behavior of wildlife in a woodland setting has its own stresses and can be fraught with frustrations.

Bears, brush, tangled swamps and vicious flies can be among the obstacles to both an enjoyable stroll through woodlands and to scientific research. At least this is what Purdue University graduate student Tanya Aldred discovered this summer as she initiated a two-year study of small mammal and coarse woody debris abundance at select sites in the Chequamegon/Nicolet National Forest (CNNF).

Both objects of research—small mammals and coarse woody debris—relate to the habitat needed for waabizheshiwin (pine martens) to flourish. Difficulty in establishing a sustainable waabizheshi population has led researchers to take a closer look at the requirements of this member of the weasel family.

Aldred is a graduate student at Purdue University studying under Dr. Patrick Zollner, Assistant Professor of Forestry and Natural Resources. She is also working in collaboration with Dr. Jonathan Gilbert, Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) wildlife section leader. The field research will provide data necessary to support a masters thesis and answers to questions regarding the viability of a sustainable pine marten population in the CNNF.

Earlier in the year when snow was on the ground, Aldred sought out “kill sites,” or areas where a marten had hunted and killed some prey species. A GPS reading fixed the location of the sites so she could return in the summer to set up small mammal traps to survey the abundance of critters like mice, voles and shrews that are marten prey.

Aided by two Northland College interns, Aaron Johnson and Simeon Rossi, she sets the live traps out in a starburst pattern, 180 meters across, with a set of 72 small mammal traps radiating from two center traps. In June she baited each trap with a dollop of peanut butter to attract the little beasts. However, when she returned, the site was one of mass destruction—twisted and thrown traps littered the forest floor—not one mouse, shrew or vole in sight and the peanut butter vanished.

“A bear got all my traps. You could see he went to every one of them and then on to the next site. He got them all. One night I lost 120 traps to a bear. The 50 remaining traps were gone the next day,” Aldred explains.

When Aldred arrives at a trap site, she records the species and number of small mammals captured and then releases them. She also inventories the amount and kinds of coarse woody debris (like tree stumps, fallen branches) around the site to get a good record of pine marten habitat preferences.

Aldred’s research focuses on both resident and stocked martens and mostly females. Pine martens from Minnesota have been introduced to the CNNF. A total of 26 were introduced in 2008, and 30 will be delivered this year, she says. To date, data indicates that of translocated females about 50% or more are dying, although this is not an unexpected result for translocated animals, according to Gilbert.

Information gathered through her study is shared with another Purdue student, Nick McCann who is working on his doctorate, but is focusing on other aspects of marten behavior like their movement and range. He also records rest sites and collects scat to analyze diet.

Aldred will continue classes at Purdue this fall. In the winter she will return for one more field season of snow tracking and mouse trapping. She plans on completing her thesis and degree by spring of 2011. For a short period of time this spring, she was thinking bear research might be more appropriate, but she’s sticking to studying waabizheshiwin after all.

Northland College interns Aaron Johnson (left) and Simeon Rossi assisted with the small mammal study this summer. Above, they remove a mouse captured in one of the live traps and mark it with a distinctive hair cut in order to identify it if trapped again. (Photo by Tanya Aldred.)
Spring surveys show mixed conditions in walleye populations

By Mark Luehring, GLIFWC Inland Fisheries Biologist

Odanah, Wis.—Adult walleye population estimates were completed by GLIFWC and its partners (USFWS, St. Croix, and Mole Lake) on 18 ceded territory lakes this spring. The purpose of these surveys is to help biologists monitor walleye population health and set safe harvest levels. GLIFWC and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) biologists have agreed that healthy, naturally reproducing adult walleye populations should be above three fish per acre. With the exception of Lake Metonga (Forest Co.) and Big St. Germain Lake (Vilas Co.), all lakes surveyed are naturally reproducing.

Out of the 18 lakes surveyed this spring, nine had walleye densities of over three fish per acre. These lakes included Siskiwit Lake (Bayfield Co.), Butternut Lake (Forest Co.), Lily Lake (Forest Co.), Otter Lake (Lac La Plage Co.), Squaw Lake (Vilas Co.), and Bass-Patterson Lake (Washburn Co.). The highest density observed was in Kentuck Lake at over 12 adults per acre.

Four lakes had densities of between two and three adults per acre. These lakes were Annabelle Lake (Vilas Co.), Sherwood Lake (Vilas Co.), Big St. Germain Lake (Vilas Co.), and Parent Lake (Baraga Co., MI). A reasonable walleye population appears to have survived the 2007-2008 winterkill in Parent Lake.

Lac Vieux Desert Lake (WI/MI Border) and Shell Lake (Washburn Co.), despite being under two fish per acre, were well within the normal range for adult densities from previous surveys in these lakes. However, very few young-of-year walleye have been observed in recent fall surveys on Lac Vieux Desert, which is cause for concern for biologists. Lake Metonga (Forest Co.) has seen a slight increase from 2004 and 2007 surveys, with the density up to 1.29 adults per acre this year. This, however, is still well below population levels from the mid to late 1990s.

The Muskeg Lake (Oneida Co.) population was also below two adults per acre. The walleye population in Franklin Lake (Forest Co.) is struggling. The adult population levels from the mid 1990s.

The walleye population in Franklin Lake (Forest Co.) is struggling. The adult density was well below one fish per acre. Recent fall surveys have seen good year classes of walleyes surviving through the first summer on Franklin Lake. Unfortunately, few of these fish are surviving to adulthood. GLIFWC plans to continue to work with WDNR biologists to restore the health of these walleye populations.

Getting the scoop on lamprey numbers

By Bill Mattes, GLIFWC Great Lakes Biologist

Odanah, Wis.—Mike Plucinski, Great Lakes Fish, said his crew of three interns wrapped up another successful season of sea lamprey spawning assessments at the lower falls on the Bad River, Wisconsin in late June. What started when snow could still be found on the ground, progressed through the notorious black fly, wood tick, and mosquito seasons, and finally ended as air temperatures hit the mid-80’s and water temperatures hit the mid 60’s.

Staff set large metal live traps in the river during the spawning season. They are routinely lifted and lampreys counted. This is one time when you hope not to catch a lot of fish. Good catches can indicate a strong lamprey population, which is what we don’t want. Population estimates are calculated from the catch numbers using a scientific model.

The parasitic sea lampreys have persisted in the Bad River since the 1940’s after invading from the Atlantic Ocean through the opening of the Welland Canal. Adult sea lampreys attach themselves to fish using a suction disk shaped mouth lined with multiple rows of teeth. Once attached a “supra-oral lamina” or bony plated tongue bores a hole into the fish and the sea lamprey’s feeding begins. It is estimated that lampreys consume nearly as many lake trout annually as are taken by the commercial fishery and that is at 10% of their pre-control levels.

Lamprey control is carried out by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Sea Lamprey Control Program. GLIFWC, the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewas, the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewas, and the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community all cooperate with the control agents in monitoring sea lamprey abundance in Lake Superior.

In Apostle Islands waters, as in all of gichigami, lampreys kill nearly as many lake trout annually as are taken by the commercial fishery.

Sam Quagon, GLIFWC fishery aid, holds up a nice looking walleye captured during the spring electrofishing surveys. GLIFWC along with crews from the Soo and Mole Lake bands and the US Fish and Wildlife Service surveyed 18 ceded territory lakes this spring. (Photo by Mark Luehring.)

What’s the big deal about bass?

By Mark Luehring, GLIFWC Inland Fisheries Biologist

Odanah, Wis.—Recent trends in several lakes in western Wisconsin have fish managers worried about the future of walleye populations. The problem appears to be one of recruitment: production and survival of walleye fry to adulthood. Some lakes that previously produced consistent year-classes from natural reproduction have had little to no recruitment in recent years. Rehabilitative stocking efforts by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) and the tribes have offered little in the way of improvements to recruitment. What could be going wrong with these populations?

Some WDNR biologists have been pointing the finger squarely at bass. Specifically largemouth bass since smallmouth bass and walleye have been known to successfully co-exist in many lakes. Bass growth rates appear to be tipping the delicate fish community balance in favor of largemouth bass. Bass are afforded more protection from state angler harvest than walleyes during the season. Bass fishing in the Hayward area encouraging catch and keep fishing for largemouth bass.

Current state angling regulations for bass appear to be at the heart of the problem. Bass fishing is catch and release only up until late June, and regulations are combined for largemouth and smallmouth bass. Because of this, largemouth bass are afforded more protection from state angler harvest than walleyes during the early part of the fishing season. Also, release rates for walleyes among anglers are much lower than those for largemouth bass.

Simply put, people prefer to keep and eat walleyes that they catch, but not largemouth bass. These factors may be tipping the delicate fish community balance in favor of largemouth bass. Recent history has shown that largemouth bass and walleye do not coexist well in most lakes, but the question of whether largemouth bass directly cause walleye population declines or simply take advantage of changes in lake habitat that favor largemouth bass over walleye has not been specifically explored.

Walleye are usually found in mesotrophic (moderately productive) lakes with clean gravel or cobble shoreline areas available for spawning habitat. Meanwhile, largemouth bass prefer eutrophic (productive) lakes with shallow rocky bays, and extensive weed or wood cover.

Unfortunately for walleye, human disturbances typically tip the balance in favor of bass. Deforestation of shorelines, fertilizing of lakefront lawns, and the sea lamprey’s feeding begins. Increases productivity and weed growth in shallow water areas. Shoreline erosion causes sedimentation, which can silt over clean cobble and gravel necessary for successful walleye spawning.

Introductions of exotic species such as Eurasian watermilfoil, and curly leaf pondweed often result in weed-choked shallows. Walleyes also prefer cooler water temperatures than bass. Therefore, any increase in water temperatures associated with climate change could further tip the balance in favor of bass.

Still, biologists are optimistic that sound management can allow walleye to flourish in lakes where they previously did. One potential step in the right direction would be to separate largemouth bass from smallmouth bass in the state angling regulations booklet, and allow for harvest of largemouth bass earlier in the season.

Rehabilitation stocking of larger walleye fingerlings can prevent bass from eating stocked walleye. Most importantly, education efforts about good riparian zone practices and the dangers of exotic species introductions should help prevent the destruction of walleye habitat.
GLIFWC surveys reveal new and under-recorded invasives in the ceded territory

By GLIFWC Staff

Odanah, Wis.—Beginning with purple loosestrife monitoring and control efforts in the Fish Creek Sloughs of Ashland and Bayfield Counties in 1988, GLIFWC staff have conducted survey and control efforts for non-native invasive plants in the ceded territories. Over the years aquatic and terrestrial invasive species surveys have included the Lake Superior counties of Wisconsin and western Upper Michigan. These surveys have proven invaluable in evaluating the extent to which invasive plants have gained a foothold in the ceded territory. Even so, the day-to-day routine can seem pretty monotonous, not to mention a bit depressing.

A patch of purple loosestrife in the ditch. Several Eurasian bush honeysuckles on the edge of a woodlot. A patch of leafy spurge spreading from the gravel roadside into the pine barrens. A Japanese barberry plant on the edge of a woods. Dozens more barberry plants growing in the woods, out of view of the road. Another patch of purple loosestrife in the ditch. All pretty routine. But every once in awhile something far more out-of-the-ordinary ordinary shows up.

New invasives found in the ceded territory

In 2003 GLIFWC conducted a terrestrial plant survey of portions of western Upper Michigan. Like much of Upper Michigan and northeastern Wisconsin, the area being surveyed on this particular day harbored scattered populations of introduced thistles, including the wickedly spiny, highly invasive European marsh thistle. But along one gravel road in the Ottawa National Forest grew dozens of plants of a new and unfamiliar thistle with soft spines and large flowerheads. This new thistle turned out to be wretched thistle (Carduus crispus), a weedy Eurasian biennial previously unknown in the upper Midwest. Because the surrounding habitat (natural northern hardwood forest) is not conducive to invasion by this sun-loving plant, it was confined to the shaded gravel roadside.

A 2005 survey of the Northern Highlands region of northern Wisconsin also turned up a surprise. A population of a small European forest shrub known as mezereum or paradise plant (Daphne mezereum) was found growing in disturbed woods near Boulder Junction in Vilas County. A relative of the native leatherwood or meadowwood (Dirca palustris), mezereum produces showy purple flowers before leaf-out in May, followed by bright red berries in June. All parts of mezereum are highly poisonous and potentially fatal to humans if eaten, and chemical compounds produced by the plant have been shown to be carcinogenic in laboratory animals.

Even salt marshes. Until last year alpine oatgrass was known in North America only from four New England states and several Canadian provinces. (A Minnesota report is in error.)

A patch of purple loosestrife in the ditch. Several Eurasian bush honeysuckle and meadowsweet (Filipendula vulgaris) growing along the ditch. A Japanese barberry plant on the edge of a woods. A patch of leafy spurge spreading from the gravel roadside into the pine barrens. A Japanese barberry plant on the edge of a woods. Another patch of purple loosestrife in the ditch. All pretty routine. But every once in awhile something far more out-of-the-ordinary ordinary shows up.

The 2008 survey revealed populations of two more introduced plants that were previously unknown in Wisconsin: alpine oatgrass (Avenula pubescens) and narrow-leaved sedge (Rumex thyrsiflorus). Narrow-leaved sedge was found a few miles northeast of the town of Patzau in northwest Douglas County. This perennial Eurasian herb was previously known in North America only from northeastern Michigan and several Canadian provinces. In Douglas County it was growing abundantly along roadsides, power corridors and old fields within a roughly one square mile area. In Europe, this plant is a common inhabitant of river floodplains, as well as woods edges, roadsides, and fields.

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Alpine oatgrass. (GLIFWC photo.)

Alpine oatgrass is native from Europe west to central Asia. In Europe it is common in grasslands and open woods, as well as roadsides, railway banks and even salt marshes. Until last year alpine oatgrass was known in North America only from four New England states and several Canadian provinces. (A Minnesota report is in error.)

A number of other plants have been uncovered during these surveys that are new to or at least still very rare in the upper Great Lakes region. These include such head-scratching finds as ballast toadflax (Linaria spartea), a snapdragon relative which had obviously been seeded along a long roadbank in northern Wisconsin. This little European annual is not a strong competitor with the more aggressive plants growing there, and may eventually die out on its own. Another surprise was the 2001 discovery of musky monkey-flower (Mimulus moschatus), which occupies roughly a mile of wet ditches in northeastern Bayfield County.

The primary range of this pretty yellow-flowered perennial is in the Rocky Mountain region of western North America, but it is apparently also native (as a western disjunct) in the Keweenaw region of Upper Michigan, as well as in southern Ontario, Quebec and Newfoundland. While musky monkey-flower is probably established in Bayfield County as an escape (either from cultivation or from imported road equipment), the site is in an area of springs and seeps (its preferred habitat), and there is a small chance that it grew there long before roads, houses, a quarry and other human developments remade the landscape.

Surveys also highlight previously under-appreciated invasives

GLIFWC’s surveys have also provided evidence that certain introduced plants may be more invasive than previously thought. For example, wood bluegrass (Poa nemoralis) is a stringy, clump-forming European grass that is closely related to the familiar “Kentucky bluegrass” (Poa pratensis subsp. pratensis), ubiquitous in lawns across the US. (Despite its name, Kentucky bluegrass is also introduced from Europe.) Wood bluegrass was first discovered in the Upper Great Lakes region more than a century ago, but for much of that time confusion existed about its taxonomy, and whether it was native to North America as well as Eurasia. (See Invasive species, page 20)

Purple Moorgrass. (GLIFWC photo.)

Purple Moorgrass is now well-established over several acres of old field and regenerating aspen woods, and along area roadsides as well.

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**Manoomin surveys underway 2009 ma ypr ovea challenge toha rvesters**

By Peter David
GLIFWC Wildlife Biologist

Odanah, Wis.—I think everyone measures the quality of the annual rice crop in their own way, usu-
ally based on their own ricing patterns. For some, the rice season may come down to a single lake; if Clam Lake is good, they will try to get out; if not, the year is a bust and they stay home. For a larger group of ric-
ers, the season may be measured by two–four waters commonly visited. They scout a bit more, may check out rumors of a new location or two, and have a wider geographic perspective on the crop. For a small number of highly committed ric-
ers, the view grows wider yet. They may visit a half–dozen or more waters, scattered over two to three counties and get a good feel for the crop on a regional level. However, while few harvesters have the time, resources, or need to look at the crop on a state or multi-state level, biologists know looking at rice abundance from these ever–more distant perspectives can some-
times provide insights into the factors that affect rice abundance from year to year, and can help explain the sometimes confusing patterns of abundance variation that are witnessed on individual waters.

This year, GLIFWC—with tremendous sup-
port from the Wisconsin DNR, the Administration for Native Americans, and the BIA’s Circle of Flight Program—has no less than three crews scouring the ceded territory for manoomin. One crew is surveying the 40 waters we try to look at each year, to gain a perspective on how this year’s crop looks in relation to other years (see related article, pg 5). The other two crews are conducting more a treasure hunt, looking for waters which may support rice beds, but where the presence has not been well documented in recent years. This inventory work is being undertaken in order to help ensure that manoo-
min is protected wherever it is growing, not just on the largest or most heavily harvested sites.

As of this writing, only about half the ground sur-
veys have been completed, and the aerial surveys we do—monitoring all this ground work has been thwarted by cloudy skies that hinder our ability to detect the beds. As a result, our perspective on the crop is still being formed, but things are starting to come into focus. As a quick take right now, I think 2009 is going to look quite a bit like 2008, only more so. That means a below average year, with many sites affected by very low water levels. Burnett County, Wisconsin, looks particularly hard hit, with Clam Lake being a total failure, and rice at some other sites growing on mud flats. The accessibility of some other sites will depend on how much precipitation arrives in August. In much of the ceded territory, ricers will want to look for sites that are more riverine in nature, or which—in a normal year—are on the deep side of the growing range. This year does display one interesting phenomen-
on that likely has significance for the long-term management of rice. Although much of northern Wisconsin is experiencing a third consecutive year of below average precipitation, and many area lakes are three to five feet below average levels, most lakes with dams are at or near full pool. While lake shore owners on these waters are glad to have the water, the loss of natural variability in lake levels is likely detrimental to the long term health of annual species like manoomin. Drought years such as this may not be great for rice, but they also can knock back some of the perennial species (like water lilies) with which rice competes. When the water returns in a later year, rice may be the first species to recover, enjoying a window of growth for several years until the perennial species catch up.

In short, long-term reductions in water level vari-
ability may also lead to long-term reductions in the abundance of rice. And while boaters on dammed lakes are glad to have high water levels in these dry times, ricers are also starting to complain that the excessive growth of perennial species is making it harder to boat. Maybe mother nature is reminding us that you really can’t have your cake and eat it too.

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**Binewiminanaatig (partridge berry) shifts to the forefront**

By Karen Danielsen, GLIFWC Forest Ecologist

Odanah, Wis.—As autumn paints its patchwork of reds, oranges and yellows onto the green veil of summer, evergreen plants reveal their own idiosyncratic na-
ture by retaining their green leaves year round. Of these plants, binewiminanaatig (partridge berry or vilipit; English; Mitchella repens, scientific) maintains the shortest of statures, growing no more than a few inches tall.

This plant forms clusters of foot-long, slender woody stems (vines) that hug the forest floor, evoking images of scattered green rugs. Where leaves grow along these stems, roots develop intermittently, functioning as anchors in the soil and conveyers of nutrients and water.

Its leaves, though tiny (one half–inch wide) and easily overlooked, have two distinguishing characteristics. First, their glossy, dark–green topsides contrast sharply with the paler, lime–green midrib and undersides. Secondly, the leaves feel thick and leathery, a feature common among many evergreen plants.

In summer, snowy–white to pale–pink, tubular flowers appear in pairs, usually at the tips of the stems. The flowers, though not much larger than the leaves, exhibit simple beauty. Dense, fuzzy hair lines the upper lobes of each petal, looking much like softly textured cashmere.

Interestingly, the flowers of each pair fuse together to form a binewimin (single partridge berry). Both flowers must be pollinated before bearing fruit. Current research suggests that pollination occurs exclusively via insects.

Binewimin (partridge berries) mature in fall, turning a bright scarlet red. Each binewimin displays two distinctive dimples, vestiges of the previ-
ously fused flowers. These dimples give rise to another common English name, “two–eyed berry.”

Binewimin remain on the stems until eaten by binewag (partridge, a.k.a. ruffed grouse) and other birds. Humans also eat binewimin, mostly as trail snacks. Though edible, binewimin have a mealy texture and bland flavor, discouraging any systematic gathering for storage and later use.

Similar to many other plants, the Ojibwe use binewiminanaatig for medicinal purposes. The importance of this plant, keeps gathering momentum as more waters, scattered over two to three counties, are interested in selling wild rice seed.

GLIFWC will be purchasing freshly harvested wild rice seed for 2010, and hopes to expand the rice resource. If you are interested in selling seed, please contact Peter David or Micah Cain at (715) 682–6619 before harvesting to make sure we are still buying; and for instructions on storing the seed and meeting with our buyer, etc. Your help is needed to expand the rice resource in the ceded territory.

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Almost Eden. United States, LA.)
Learning to harvest manoomin
Wild rice workshops target tribal youth

By Reggie Cadotte, Manoomin Project Coordinator

Odanah, Wis.—Boozhoo, as the wild rice project coordinator for GLIFWC’s wild rice grant, I have had the great opportunity to talk with tribal elders about all aspects of manoomin (wild rice) including threats to manoomin and stories of the harvest and processing of this sacred food. In turn, I was able to pass this knowledge on to tribal youth who participated in workshops this summer.

The purpose of the workshops was to assist tribal youth in obtaining their off-reservation harvest permits, show them how to safely operate a canoe in a rice bed, and to have the youth make their own manoomin harvest tools. Specifically, the tribal youth who participated in the workshops were able to make their own rice knockers.

Additional workshops will be held for the Lac Courte Oreilles, Lac du Flambeau, Sokaogon (Mole Lake), Lac Vieux Desert, Keweenaw Bay, and Bay Mills communities. These workshops will allow the tribal youth to use their own rice knockers to harvest manoomin and participate in processing the harvested manoomin so that it can be eaten!

Workshops are tentatively scheduled, and we will be working with the Tribal Rice Chiefs in these communities to direct us to a rice bed that is ready for harvest. For more information about these workshops, please contact Sharon Nelis 715-682-6619 ext. 138 or email snelis@glifwc.org.

These workshops are funded by a grant from the Administration for Native Americans. As another part of this grant, I have some processing tools that rice harvesters can lease for an equal amount of rice per cost. Please contact me at 715-682-6619 ext. 103 or by email at wcadotte@glifwc.org if you are interested in participating in these leases.

You must be a tribal member of one of GLIFWC’s 11 member tribes in order to participate. Also, if you have manoomin processing equipment but need a specific item and know where to purchase it, I can assist with the purchase of this item for an equal exchange of finished manoomin. This project ends on September 29, 2009.

This project has been a lot of fun for me, and I wish to send a chi-miigwech to everyone who has assisted or participated in this project!

Stainless steel the choice for ANA scorching pots

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Odanah, Wis.—With eye to keeping a healthy food like manoomin healthy, GLIFWC’s ANA Wild Rice Project staff have focused on using stainless steel parching pots and untreated, cedar paddles for the parching (scorching) of the rice.

Without being an alarmist, Project Manager Jim Thannum said he is aware of advisories about cooking food and storing food in galvanized steel, so wanted to steer away from using the galvanized washtubs that would have been a less expensive choice.

Apparently cooking in galvanized steel can lead to zinc poisoning with a variety of symptoms, like dizziness, nausea, muscle stiffness, fever, and pancreatic and neurological problems. Fumes from the heated pot can also lead to metal fume fever, a result of inhaling zinc oxide fumes. Flu like symptoms—chills, fever—can result.

In the same vein, the project purchased non-laminated cedar paddles to avoid having the plastic laminate possibly dissolve into the rice during parching.

While the old-time, large cast iron pots would have been nice, Thannum found those very expensive and very heavy, and shipping costs would be astronomical.

Source: http://zenstoves.net/Warning.htm

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer
One stop data base makes GLIFWC data more accessible

By Dara Olson, GLIFWC GIS Specialist

Odanah, Wis.—Over the years GLIFWC has generated reams of significant data related to the natural resources in the ceded territories and continues to do so. GLIFWC has mountains of information—a sort of one-stop biological data shopping mechanism. This online database will be able to query the location of the permit under review to determine if it is: 1) within the coded territories and 2) impacts treaty resources. A custom query will be developed to access data based on a public land survey system (town range section), city name, waterbody or waterbody identification code. Once you zoom to the location in question, you will have a multitude of resources available. Some of these resources include manoomin (wild rice), ogaa (walleye), and other harvest numbers, spawning areas, and much more.

This wealth of knowledge along with important background data from other agencies through web services will provide enough information to answer the two main questions and the data needed to support comments aimed at protecting treaty resources.

Providing this tool to the staff reviewing permits will allow them to more efficiently perform an essential environmental program function in protecting aquatic habitats in the ceded territories.

Green logging roads curb erosion, lead to wildlife, plants at LCO

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen Staff Writer

Reserve, Wis.—Logging roads. They criss-cross upper Great Lakes forests, innumerable in extent and configuration. Some skid roads—used to remove harvested timber—are fresh with woody debris and rutted earth, while other require a keen eye to identify disturbances that may be decades old. On around 27 miles of woodland trails within the heavily forested Lac Courte Oreilles (LCO) reservation, there’s absolutely no ambiguity.

Supported by a Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) grant, LCO natural resources managers recently completed a demonstration project to test the success of planting various clover and grass mixtures on newly abandoned logging roads. The two-year effort targeted areas vulnerable to soil erosion and invasion by aggressive non-native plants following timber harvests.

"These roads can end up being a blank slate for invasive plants to come in," said LCO Environmental Engineer Dan Tyrolt. "What we’ve seen is that with the right seed mix, invasives can be prevented from getting a foothold and you create a good food source for wildlife. I think it’s been really successful."

Beginning in spring 2008, conservation technician and LCO member Bill Nebel served as point man for implementing the ground work. Once the reservation soils had shed enough moisture from snowmelt and spring rains—around mid-May over the past two seasons—Nebel first hand-planted large branches and log ends from the roads, thoroughly disced the soil, then seeded the winding forest routes with various mixtures of legumes and grass seed using an ATV-powered planter.

"You have to wait until the trails dry out," Nebel said. "Otherwise you’re just making more ruts and adding to erosion problems."

Nebel sewed three different seed combinations into the sandy loam soil to determine which yielded the best growth. After a full years’ growth—without the benefit of supplemental watering—the mix containing 55% white clover with lesser amounts of timothy and red top outperformed the others. While all three species originate from Europe, they are already widely distributed on the landscape and land managers generally consider them to be non-invasive.

"To encourage the success of the new growth, which encompasses about 15 acres, heavy machine operators installed boulders to prevent vehicular access to most project trails. On the two (of 16) trail lengths that didn’t have barriers, LCO conservation staff noted a major decline in survival due to motorized traffic."

"For now, people can walk these trails to hunt or gather or get whatever they need," Nebel said. "We’ll do some periodic mowing to keep trees from colonizing the trails. There may be a time in the future for ATV access, but right now we’re interested in getting everything established."

Wildlife including deer, bear, rabbits and wild turkey routinely forage on the succulent growth, Nebel said, making these areas excellent for hunting. The roads also allow easy walking to fishing spots and forestlands that foster an assortment of medicinal and non-medicinal plants.

"It’s the first thing to green-up in the spring and it stays until freeze-up sometime in October," he said. "Other vegetation will already be brown, but the trails are green."

LCO’s seeding project followed several years of aggressive timber harvesting that targeted over-mature aspen and mixed hardwoods stands across the 75,000-acre reservation. Funding support to implement the seeding project came through NRCS’s Wisconsin Tribal Conservation Advisory Council.
Fromin land shallows to Great Lakes depths, interns summer on the water

By Karl Hildebrandt, for Mazina'igan

On manoomin patrol

Ever wanted to spend most of your summer gliding in a canoe along dozens of different lakes and rivers? How about getting hired to do so? That’s just what GLIFWC’s wild rice interns J.P. Patrick and Dave Nevala were chosen to do this summer.

The two began their internship in the field in late June and will continue well into August, surveying various wild rice beds in a total of forty different bodies of water throughout the Wisconsin ceded territory.

Patrick, a 2009 Northland College graduate, was interested in the wild rice invasions so he applied for it. Since beginning, he has learned much as an intern about the rice he’s looking for and the importance that it plays in the ecology of the land.

The two are responsible for checking each body of water for the wild rice which is anticipated to be there. Biological information on the rice is attained at each new rice bed that is visited, such as the depth of the water, plant height, and the number of tillers on each plant. A quadrant is also used in order to determine the density of the rice. Twenty quadrant samples are taken from each lake and are averaged out in order to determine the collective amount of rice estimated to be present on each body of water.

For both Patrick and Nevala, their work with wild rice has a much deeper meaning and motivation than many other summer jobs. Both cite the important cultural significance of the “good berry” as well as its future conservation as motivators in their willingness to perform such work. Nevala’s great-grandmother has been processing manoomin for as long as he can remember, which inspires him to continue the tradition of harvesting and processing as often as he can.

Although many people are suited to work in an indoor setting, it seems that this couldn’t be farther from the truth for both interns. While in the field, both Patrick and Nevala enjoy encountering the wildlife, like the rare trumpeter swan, which also utilizes wild rice as a primary source of sustenance. In fact, several of the rice beds surveyed by the two had largely been grazed over by the swans. But the lack of rice in these areas did not worry Patrick because of the “seed banks” of fallen rice kernels located under the watery soil, which maintain germinating potential for five years or more.

Working four days a week for ten hours a day did not seem to bother either intern much, and the knowledge and experience gained from their work, each believes, will only help to propel them along to future goals and aspirations. Patrick, who plans on going back to school to get his PhD in Native American cultures, believes, will only help to propel them along to future goals and aspirations. Patrick, who plans on going back to school to get his PhD in Native American cultures, believes “you can’t experience it unless you’re out there.”

Even though the seasonal position will expire as fall nears, Nevala can’t wait for the hunting season to begin and anxiously longs for his chance to do some ice fishing as soon as winter rolls around. A very active and spirited student, Patrick hopes one day to be a part of GLIFWC’s full time staff. Undecided as to what he will do after graduation, Nevala’s great-grandmother has been processing manoomin for as long as he can remember, which inspires him to continue the tradition of harvesting and processing as often as he can.

Black lamprey & silver fish

To some, the title and position of summer intern may mean performing mundane tasks and praying for the coming fall, but this doesn’t seem to be the case for any of the interns. Sam Wiggins, a Northland College junior in the field in late June and will continue well into August, surveying various wild rice beds in a total of forty different bodies of water throughout the Wisconsin ceded territory.

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...
News from Indian Country keeps pace with fast-moving media industry

By Sam Maday, for Mazina’igan

Lac Courte Oreilles, Wis.—In a time when newspapers are facing major hardships, one native newspaper is using technology to help it survive in northern Wisconsin. On the Lac Courte Oreilles (LCO) Reservation at the Indian Country Trading Post, News From Indian Country (NFIC) is making preparations for what will be a new and different type of newspaper.

NFIC Editor Paul DeMain first started News From Indian Country back in 1986—the culmination of a long-held dream that began as a teen-ager. “There was always a desire to have my own publication,” DeMain says. He gained experience working for the LCO tribal newspaper as their newspaper information officer prior to serving as the tribal liaison for Governor Tony Earl in the mid 1980s. When he left that position after four years, the opportunity to start a newspaper presented itself.

For one, DeMain says Indian Country was generating more news. “There was a blossoming of native information from the AIM occupations to the bridge blockades in the Northeast by the Iroquois,” he explains.

Also, at LCO, the tribal newspaper had been cut from the budget, so the need for a news medium was there, and DeMain acted on it with encouragement from a number of community members. He registered Indian Country Communications Inc. with the state of Wisconsin and negotiated to have the tribal paper, the LCO Journal, placed in private hands.

DeMain ran his newspaper independently, because he wanted it to be free of political influence and conflicts. By 1993, the newspaper was printing once a month. One year later they started printing 26 issues a year.

In 1994, the paper launched its website, six months before Google. “It was very elementary,” says DeMain, “we put in five to six articles. We didn’t put a lot into it because we had to HTML every word in. We were at the forefront of things.”

One of the reasons for the success could be DeMain’s ability to adapt the paper to changing situations. Today he faces a troubled economy with major national newspapers are going bankrupt. Even through these financial hardships, DeMain moves forward.

Realizing that for many people print papers are not in style, he updated the paper’s website. Actually, he says, he had to update the website in order to provide current news. Since NFIC goes to print every two weeks, “breaking news” would have to wait to be put in print. Meanwhile, the news would already be out, and NFIC would fall behind the rest of the media world. NFIC staff also take advantage of website trends like myspace.com, facebook.com, and Twitter.

One of the biggest and newest elements for NFIC is IndianCountryTV.com, which has four channels accessible by anyone on the website. The staff at NFIC help produce, record, and edit all of the programming. They send a finished product to Live Streaming, a company that puts it online at a reasonable cost. IndianCountryTV.com also allows NFIC to go live with news whenever the need arises.

One member of the TV crew is Lonnie Barber who came on board in the middle of January. With a degree in mass communications from the UW-Steven’s Point, Barber jumped right in.

Paul DeMain, managing editor of News From Indian Country (NFIC) and IndianCountryTV.com delivers a daily webcast for the online live tv, which allows NFIC to provide up-to-date information to its public. (Photo by Sam Maday.)

“We’re really learning a lot,” he says. “With five of us doing the work of ten, you learn a lot.”

Barber helps with production, camera work, and marketing. He says it does not even feel like work. “I just want to be at a point where we don’t have to worry about making a profit. We’re still waiting for the big jump in numbers.”

Right now their numbers are climbing at a steady, slow rate. They started in December totally fresh and new. Now they have had several months with over 2 million hits online in the IndianCountryNews.com site and 400 viewers for their Monday through Friday news program between their news, TV and Youtube sites. One news program produced during May has had over 1,500 views.

They are starting to cover more events, such as local pow-wows, as well. Eventually they hope to have companies/organizations request them to film events that will be broadcast on their site, some live. “We’re constantly promoting ourselves. I market anyway I can without money,” says Barber.

Basically, all they need is a laptop, a camera, and Internet access to put the footage on IndianCountryTV.com. They can go live with the footage; in ten minutes they can have it on Youtube.com where the company user site name is “Skabewis.” They also post on Twitter.com advertising that there is footage by the company or an event. They can strip the audio off and make a radio newscast. They can post on facebook.com and myspace.com about an event and post footage and pictures on those websites and powwows.com. Meanwhile, they can also take a picture from the video and write an article about it in the newspaper. It all inter-relates.

“The are not just getting an article in the newspaper anymore, they are getting a news package,” says DeMain, who sees social networking websites as a big hit with the younger generation and catching on with the older set.

The technology seems so simple, and yet it helps DeMain and his team expand their outreach tremendously.

They also anticipate future technological advances, for instance television sets with browsers built right into them. This will allow people to surf the net and browse websites without the use of a separate computer. It is these advances that NFIC tries to anticipate.

It does cost less to use this technology, but there is another business impact with that. “We’re giving away for free what we used to charge for,” DeMain says. The teasers and links he posts do not cost people anything to use. So why would he utilize these websites and technology?

Paul DeMain thinks back to a time of oral tradition. It was a time when people were judged by their oral capabilities. We now have live streaming oral tradition.

One’s oratorical skills can help with DeMain’s stories and live feeds. A person’s oratorical skills—speech, gestures, inflection, cultural tone—are all apparent to the viewer.

“To me, this is how our native oral presentation is coming full circle,” he says.
Big crowd celebrates at Big Top Chautauqua

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen
Staff Writer

Bayfield, Wis.—The famed Big Top Chautauqua grounds served as a celebratory melting pot for more than 900 tribal members, area residents and dignitaries who came to mark July 2, 2009 as the 25th anniversary of the commission and its member tribes as they celebrate “Minwaajimo—Telling a Good Story.”

Good Story: Preserving Ojibwe Treaty Rights; and, be it further resolved, That the Senate Chief Clerk shall present a copy of this joint resolution to the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission.

Resolved: That the Senate Chief Clerk shall present a copy of this joint resolution to the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission.
By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Editor’s note: Mazina’igan is providing a very brief overview of the Minwaaajimo Treaty Rights Symposium panel presentations which looked back over GLFWR litigation and Policy issues. The coverage is far short in presenting the depth and breadth of the symposium discussions. However, full proceedings will be published in the Maziina’igan. The coverage serves to highlight the symposium’s presentations on webcasts at IndianCountryTV.com. In addition, a book recording the history of GLFWR is in the process of being written and will also document some of the stories related in the symposium.

Legal Issues and History Panel
Moderator: Howard Bichler, Stockbridge Munsee Community Band of Mohican Indians, Indian Attorney
Panelists: Bruce Greene, Bruce R. Greene & Associates, LLC; Michael Lutz, WDNR Legal Services; Marc Shlomo, Zionte, Chestnut, Vanrell, Bierly & Slonim, LLP

Attorneys who fought both for and against tribal treaty rights provided a solid overview of several major treaty cases, including the Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota, pointing out the differences in the cases as well as how they developed. The discussion focused primarily on the Michigan and the Mille Lacs litigation. Michael Lutz, WDNR legal services, outlined some of the State’s positions in the Fort Ft. litigation and also acknowledged that the tribes “won a battle they deserved to win” because of their strong, steadfast belief that the treaty right existed—the “vision from our ancestors,” and that tribal people need to value those rights, fight for them and use them. “If you don’t use it, you lose it!” he emphasized. “Treaties...”

Randy Charles, Assistant Forest Supervisor, Ottawa National Forest, pointed out the challenge for the 21st century, noting that the shared fishery requires improved knowledge of the fishery and the need to have sound statistics.

Bruce Greene, legal counsel for the lead attorney in the Mille Lacs litigation, Marc Shlomo. He shared a letter written in 1928 by a John Arrowood written on behalf of Chief Wadena to an Indian agent in Washington. He asked for verification that the 1837 Treaty rights were valid, stating clearly what he believed the tribal rights to be. (See letter below.)

A common theme emphasized by several panelists was that despite court victories and the reaffirmation of treaty rights, natural resource issues remain a concern. “We have to worry about the resources first and foremost,” stated Bruce Greene, lead attorney in US’s “Michigan. “If we see that the resource is protected, that is the best insurance to protect the rights despite other negative talk.”

Panelists also brought out the significant role GLIFWC played in successful lawsuits. The overall results of many lawsuits have been far-reaching. As GLIFWC Executive Administrator Jim Zorn noted, co-management does not simply apply to tribes managing and working out issues with other entities, but also to co-managing among themselves to maintain a unified voice.

A common theme in the discussion from various perspectives was the necessity to always have a written agreement and to have a clear understanding of the resources at play. “If the fight is not about who takes fish, but if the fish are there to take and safe to eat,” Zorn commented.

Both Randy Charles, US Forest Service and George Meyer, former Secretary of the WDNR, talked about a process of learning for their agencies over the past twenty-five years, moving from non-acceptance of treaty rights and tribal input to acknowledging a partnership and beginning to learn and work together. “Through our technical committees and working groups,” stated Meyer, “States knew they had to understand that tribal rights were not just fish and wildlife. It was broader than that.”

Harry Buffalo Jr. noted that the seeds for co-management have always been in the tribes and related the story of his father and Dick Gannoe quietly attending meetings of the Great Lakes Fish Commission, listening and learning how the Lake Superior fishery was managed and learning what the tribes needed in order to develop a unified voice.

“...It was a struggle to develop government-to-government relationships,” Buffalo said, adding that “it has been a struggle, but we need to learn.”

Buffalo also commented on the leadership of former GLFWR Executive Administrator Jim Schlender who made GLFWR “work relevant from a unique cultural standpoint. The cultural significance of the resources, he said, made GLFWR “better at doing its fundamental job—protecting the natural resources.”

For the most part panelists looked back at these years of controversy and conflict at the boil lands in Wisconsin—the protests, the violence, threats and racial slurs which characterized each spring from 1985 to 1991. Panel moderator Patricia Loree pointed out that it was easy to blame the Owlbe for complicated issues affecting the north at the time. People didn’t look at the changing economy, new directions in tourism and or even-increasing environmental pressures on the fishery resource. The Owlbe was an easy target. Add the pressures were intensified with media, which led to inaccurate reporting.

Attorney Brian Peterson detailed the lawsuit filed by the ACLU against Stop Treaty Abuse (STA) leader Dean Christian and his fellow travelers, an lawsuit that for all exten- sive purposes ended the land protests and pits aimed at preventing the Owbe people from speaking. An important subsequent decision also found that the protest stemmed from a “racial animus,” confirming the obviously racist manifestations of the protest.

Sharon Metz, founder of HONOR, Inc. noted that the protest erupted at landings was like a cork being popped out of a bottle, especially after racial issues experienced in Milwaukee had recently been resolved. “Treaty issues,” she commented, “just didn’t have the good grace to disappear.”

She also noted that the protest had a ripple effect, impacting many other institu- tions—schools, churches, media, and law enforcement.

Praising Representative Frank Boyle and Pat Smith for leading the charge in passing Act 31, Bob Greene, Bruce R. Greene & Associates, LLC, pointed out that co-management for Native Fishery has happened at three different levels in public school, she noted, “This was a good result of the protest.” Metz also acknowledged Senator Daniel Inouye’s (D-H) leadership in establishing a joint assessment of the fishery in 1990. That assessment by tribal, state and federal biologists led to the conclusion that the trends appearing in the fishery did not harm the fishery—another turning point in the struggle.

Today, the comments were, is better than it has ever been due to the changes that have taken place as a result of hard work by leaders, tribal and others. “The motto, she said, was ‘Maziina’igan’.

Panelists: Tom Maulson, Lac du Flambeau, former Chair of GLFWR Board of Commissioners andVoigt Intertribal Task Force; Sharon Metz, HONOR founder and former state representative Brian Pierson, Godfrey and Kahn Attorneys at Law; Rick St. Germaine, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Board of Commissioners and V oigt Intertribal Task Force; Sharon Metz, HONOR founder and former state representative Brian Pierson, Godfrey and Kahn Attorneys at Law; Rick St. Germaine, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Board of Commissioners and V oigt Intertribal Task Force.

Stories of struggles, courage belief & positive outcomes

Social, Economic and Political Issues Panel
Moderator: Bruce Greene, Bruce R. Greene & Associates, LLC
Panelists: Tom Maulson, Lac du Flambeau, former Chair of GLFWR Board of Commissioners andVoigt Intertribal Task Force; Sharon Metz, HONOR founder and former state representative Brian Pierson, Godfrey and Kahn Attorneys at Law; Rick St. Germaine, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Board of Commissioners and V oigt Intertribal Task Force; Sharon Metz, HONOR founder and former state representative Brian Pierson, Godfrey and Kahn Attorneys at Law; Rick St. Germaine, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Board of Commissioners and V oigt Intertribal Task Force.

Randy Charles, Assistant Forest Supervisor, Ottawa National Forest, pointed out the challenge for the 21st century, noting that the shared fishery requires improved knowledge of the fishery and the need to have sound statistics.

Fights over access to resources so they can be used in a meaningful way and to bring youth into the process, so those practices and traditions will be carried on. The challenge of the actual litigation is comparably small, he said, to those like global warming and species extinction, he recognized that will confront future generations.

(See PanelNotes, page 14)
Panelists detail positive change in tribal communities

(Continued from page 13)

Tribal Communities Panel

Moderator: Larry Nesper, UW-Madison

Panels:
- Mark Duffy, Red Cliff Band, Conservation Officer
- Dee Ann Mayo, Lac du Flambeau Band Tribal Council Vice-President
- Alton “Sonny” Smart, Bad River Band Tribal Judge, UW-Stevens Point
- Jim St. Arnold, GLIFWC ANA Project Director
- Bucko Teeple, Bay Mills Indian Community

Tribal empowerment as an end result of the struggles in courts, on lakes, landings and beaches was identified as one of the outcomes of the treaty affirmation and the resolution of social strife.

Remarkably on the impact of the treaty rights struggle within tribal communities, panel moderator Dr. Larry Nesper, UW-Madison, said that we are experiencing a more open society now that the “war” is over. The fact that the tribes own these rights is accepted at this point, he said, and progress has been made in developing more positive relationships between tribes and federal, state and local agencies.

Bucko Teeple, Bay Mills, detailed the treaty struggle in Michigan, paying tribute to Keweenaw Bay’s William Jondreau and Bay Mills’ Big Abe LaBlanc. Detailing the personal battles of Big Abe that finally resulted in litigation and affirmation of the 1836 Treaty right to fish in Michigan waters of Lake Superior, he noted that the struggle was not just for treaty rights, but also for aboriginal rights and sovereignty. The positive outcome of the treaty struggles served to strengthen the sovereignty of the tribe.

Bad River Tribal Judge Alton “Sonny” Smart picked up on the theme of sovereignty. He has seen the tribal court system evolve through the past twenty-five years, expanding its jurisdiction. Sovereignty, he said, is a sense of empowerment and the courts have been a part of that process and are gaining in credibility.

Bringing in personal experiences, Mark Duffy, Red Cliff, talked about the difficulties in schools created over the treaty rights issue. He experienced the harassment and was shocked by statements that implied the life of a fish was of more value than a human life, referring to signs posted during the protest. But this has all prompted changes, he said, like more education to prevent misunderstandings and a repeated experience. It’s also pushed the tribe to develop more natural resource programs and become more active managers.

Jim St. Arnold, Keweenaw Bay, concluded the panel relating how the Keweenaw Bay tribe began to recognize its power as a sovereign government and identify the things they needed to do, such as develop tribal conservation codes and enforcement capacities. Tribes have expanded, he said, and are taking on a much more active role—developing hatcheries, natural resource departments, addressing issues such as mining and invasive species in the ceded territory. “They’re taking on federal and state agencies with power,” he said.

Minwaajimo participants treated to a viewing of After the Storm, a treaty rights documentary

Produced by Patty Loew, UW-Madison, and her students, After the Storm is a feature-length documentary that examines the economic, environmental, and social factors that contributed to one of the most significant and violent chapters in the history of Native American treaty rights.

In 1983, a federal court affirmed the off-reservation hunting, fishing, and gathering rights of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa in northern Wisconsin, a ruling known as the Voigt Decision. However, when tribal members began to exercise those rights, walleye spearfishing in particular, they were met by thousands of angry sportsfishermen in racially tinged protests that sometimes turned violent.

After the Storm explores the challenges and misconceptions that accompanied the court ruling and looks at the economic realities, environmental conditions, and state of race relations between the Chippewa and their non-Native neighbors today.

The documentary will be screened at the Environmental Film Festival at UW-Madison in November and placed on a new UW Extension environmental video channel being prepared for the web. Hopefully, in the future GLIFWC will also have copies of the documentary available.

Chi Miigwech!

Chi Miigwech to those who made the Minwaajimo Treaty Symposium a great success!

Miigwech to the Firekeepers and Spiritual leaders who tended the fire and provided sunrise pipe ceremonies each day!

Miigwech to the Drums who opened and closed sessions in a good way: Waawiiye Gitchik Dewe’igan, Cedar Creek Drum, Mole Lake Youth Drum, Picture Rock Drum, Little Otter Drum.

Miigwech to the Pipe Carriers: Sixteen pipes were lit on the opening afternoon the Minwaajimo Treaty Symposium, representing GLIFWC and GLIFWC member tribes.

Miigwech to the Water Women who helped opened the symposium in a rich and meaningful way with a Water Ceremony: Edith Leoso, Bad River; Fran Van Zile, Sokaogon Chippewa Community; Sharon Nelis, Bad River; Sue Nichols, Bad River.

Miigwech to Joe Chosa, Lac du Flambeau elder, who opened the days with a prayer and blessed the food.

Miigwech to Dr. Rick St. Germaine who emceed the symposium and kept it moving!

Miigwech to all the panelists for sharing their time, knowledge and unique experiences. They gave us a valuable record.

Miigwech to IndianCountryTV and EPA staff who recorded the symposium proceedings.

Miigwech to Jim Zorn, Lisa David and Rose Wilmer, who planned and coordinated the content and structure of symposium.

Miigwech to interns and student assistants who helped with the registration, conference details and the bull work.

Miigwech to the Bad River Convention Center and Lodge staff for their service, hospitality and good food!

Dr. Larry Nesper, UW-Madison, (far left) moderated the final panel that looked at impacts on tribal communities. Panelists included Bucko Teeple, Bay Mills; Alton Ø onnyØ Smart, Bad River; Mark Duffy, Red Cliff; Dee Ann Mayo, Lac du Flambeau; and Jim St. Arnold, Keweenaw Bay. (COR)

Minwaajimo participants treated to a viewing of After the Storm, a treaty rights documentary

Produced by Patty Loew, UW-Madison, and her students, After the Storm is a feature-length documentary that examines the economic, environmental, and social factors that contributed to one of the most significant and violent chapters in the history of Native American treaty rights.

In 1983, a federal court affirmed the off-reservation hunting, fishing, and gathering rights of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa in northern Wisconsin, a ruling known as the Voigt Decision. However, when tribal members began to exercise those rights, walleye spearfishing in particular, they were met by thousands of angry sportsfishermen in racially tinged protests that sometimes turned violent.

After the Storm explores the challenges and misconceptions that accompanied the court ruling and looks at the economic realities, environmental conditions, and state of race relations between the Chippewa and their non-Native neighbors today.

The documentary will be screened at the Environmental Film Festival at UW-Madison in November and placed on a new UW Extension environmental video channel being prepared for the web. Hopefully, in the future GLIFWC will also have copies of the documentary available.

Chi Miigwech!

Chi Miigwech to those who made the Minwaajimo Treaty Symposium a great success!

Miigwech to the Firekeepers and Spiritual leaders who tended the fire and provided sunrise pipe ceremonies each day!

Miigwech to the Drums who opened and closed sessions in a good way: Waawiiye Gitchik Dewe’igan, Cedar Creek Drum, Mole Lake Youth Drum, Picture Rock Drum, Little Otter Drum.

Miigwech to the Pipe Carriers: Sixteen pipes were lit on the opening afternoon the Minwaajimo Treaty Symposium, representing GLIFWC and GLIFWC member tribes.

Miigwech to the Water Women who helped opened the symposium in a rich and meaningful way with a Water Ceremony: Edith Leoso, Bad River; Fran Van Zile, Sokaogon Chippewa Community; Sharon Nelis, Bad River; Sue Nichols, Bad River.

Miigwech to Joe Chosa, Lac du Flambeau elder, who opened the days with a prayer and blessed the food.

Miigwech to Dr. Rick St. Germaine who emceed the symposium and kept it moving!

Miigwech to all the panelists for sharing their time, knowledge and unique experiences. They gave us a valuable record.

Miigwech to IndianCountryTV and EPA staff who recorded the symposium proceedings.

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Chi Miigwech!
New Ojibwe language curriculum for early elementary and pre-school includes resources for parents

By Wesley Ballinger ANA language specialist

Lac Courte Oreilles, Wis.—Waadookodaading is an Ojibwe language immersion charter school located on the Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwe reservation and is a part of the Hayward Community School District serving pre-K through 5th grade students. A new curriculum developed by Waadookodaading helps to provide the students with a foundation of language retention and understanding.

By incorporating intergenerational relationships, traditional cultural practices of subsistence; as well as nurturing a larger understanding of the environment around them, the students develop the skills necessary to understand and effect change in their lives. The “Waadookodaading Mayaajitaajig Ozhibii’igan-izhaayang Waadookodaading” is a pre-school teacher’s curriculum guide that is organized into monthly and weekly themes and activities.

The activities are designed around real world experiences and traditional Ojibwe practices. From talking about colors, emotions, and science to describing the process of harvesting wild rice, this book covers all the topics that are found in the traditional pre-school. This is a perfect companion for any parent who wishes to continue the immersion environment in the home. The curriculum development at Waadookodaading was done with much care and consideration to “create proficient speakers of the Ojibwe Language who are able to meet the challenges of our rapidly changing world.”

For more information: Contact Waadookodaading at 715-634-8924, ext. 313 or www.waadookodaading.org.

Waadookodaading publications

Wewehbunanahidzii
Features Waadookodaading students on an ice fishing field trip. Written and photographed by Lisa LaRonge. 8 pages.

Ezhii-binaaddizid Memengwaa
Is the life cycle of a butterfly. Written by Lisa LaRonge. 8 pages.

Gaa-awbenazhiiziniswaad
Features Waadookodaading students trading hot dogs. Written by Lisa LaRonge. 4 pages.

Isk’igamizigedaa
Features Waadookodaading students working at the sugar bush. Written by Amy McCoy 12 pages.

Ozhiihtaadwa Dabwaa-izhaayang Waadookodaading
Follows Waadookodaading students as they get ready for school. Written by Amy McCoy 16 pages.

Odaminodaa Isk’igamizigang
Features Waadookodaading preschool students at the sugar bush. Written by Amy McCoy 12 pages.

Niswi Gookoosag
Is an illustrated version of the Three Little Pigs. Translated into Ojibwe by Keller Paap and Rose Tainter. Illustrated by Bonnie Beaudin. 16 pages.

Mayaajitaajig Ozhibii’igan A-Zh Gikinoo’amaadizi-mazina’igan
Is a teacher’s guide for teaching students to write letters in both Zaner Blaser and D’Nealian writing styles. Includes flash cards and answer key. Pages are reproducible. Written and designed by Michelle Haskins. 100 pages.

Mayaajitaajig Ozhibii’igan A-Zh: ABC Ezhii’ibegadeg
Is a student workbook that teaches writing letters in the Zaner Blaser writing style. Written and designed by Michelle Haskins. 100 pages.

Mayaajitaajig Ozhibii’igan A-Zh: D’Nealian Ezhii’ibegadeg
Is a student workbook that teaches writing letters in the D’Nealian writing style. Written and designed by Michelle Haskins. 100 pages.

Weshki-maajitaajig Gikinoo’amaadi-mazina’igan
Is a pre-school teacher’s curriculum guide that is organized into monthly and weekly themes and activities. This book provides a script in Ojibwemowin which promotes a dialogue that reinforces listening and comprehension.

The activities are designed around real world experiences and traditional Ojibwe practices. From talking about colors, emotions, and science to describing the process of harvesting wild rice, this book covers all the topics that are found in the traditional pre-school. This is a perfect companion for any parent who wishes to continue the immersion environment in the home. The curriculum development at Waadookodaading was done with much care and consideration to “create proficient speakers of the Ojibwe Language who are able to meet the challenges of our rapidly changing world.”

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Waadookodaading curriculum development committee.

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Minwaajimo

(Continued from page 1)

Issues and History Panel; the Natural Resources Management Impacts—Harvest Impact Panel; the Natural Resources Management Impacts—Co-Management Panel; the Social, Economic and Political Issues Panel and the Tribal Communities Panel.

Symposium emcee Dr. Rick St. Germaine invited participants to join the discussion following panel presentations, giving an even broader base to the stories and discussion.

The event drew over four hundred participants to the Bad River Convention Center over the three-day period. Many also enjoyed time around the fire in the evening, socializing, catching up with old friends and associates, enjoying drum songs or the lively entertainment of Frank Montano and Gordon Jordon.

With many accolades to GLIFWC and its member tribes for their commitment to the rights and the resources, the symposium offered a time to share, to learn, and to look forward to the next twenty-five years replete with new challenges.

Pages of Red Cliff history discovered

By Sue Erickson
Staff Writer

Red Cliff Reservation, Wis.—Nine documents from 1876 pertaining to the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa were recently discovered and have been the subject of study for a team of researchers. The documents reveal interesting historical information relevant to the Band as well as to specific families of those who were involved at the time during the allotment era. On June 12 the information was presented to interested community members at the Red Cliff Housing Authority administrative building.

One primary document, written entirely in Ojibwe by Joseph D. Gurnoe, is a sworn statement by Chiefs John Buffalo and J. Antoine Buffalo to John Q. Smith, Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

According to Craig Beardsley, one of the researchers, he first discovered the document during a trip to the National Archives in Chicago. Working for the Lac du Flambeau Museum at the time, he came upon the document in Ojibwemowin (Ojibwe language) and made a copy. Later, when he moved to Madison, he contacted Dr. Randolph Valentine at UW-Madison’s Linguistics and American Indian Studies program for help in translation. It so happened that Christina Johnson, UW-Madison graduate student, decided to work on the translation as an independent study in 2007. Thus, the research team was born.

The translation was completed under the tutelage of Dr. Valentine and, in addition, a translation by Joseph Gurnoe was also found on microfilm in the Wisconsin Historical Society’s library. The document relates to allotments for a “subdivision of the LaPointe Band of which Buffalo is Chief.”

Although no information is available about the final assignments from these particular documents, which is perhaps a subject of further research, they are interesting in terms of family genealogy. The documents with associated maps reveal where people had homes and allotments at the time. Names such as Buffalo, Bazinet, Couture, Deragon, Gauthier, Goslins, Pratt, Roy are a few that appear among others. Also the Ojibwe names of some are also listed.

Larry Balber, Red Cliff tribal historic preservation officer, noted that the tribe does have ownership of these documents and others that pertain to their history and should have access to them. An electronic archive system is a two-year goal for his program to help make historical documents like these accessible to the tribal public and others.
The saga of the sunken barrels continues

Red Cliff proceeds to retrieve barrels in 2010

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Red Cliff, Wis.—The 1,400 barrels dumped into Lake Superior off shore of Duluth, Minnesota during the cold war era and suspected of containing munitions waste have long been a source of concern for the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa. With the exact content of the barrels unknown and the possibility of toxic or even radioactive waste seepage, the tribe has pushed to uncover the barrels and resolve the mystery of their contents. And progress is being made toward that end.

In an announcement made August 5 at the Duluth City Hall, Duluth Mayor Don Ness and Superior Mayor David Ross joined Red Cliff’s environmental staff and a representative of an environmental contractor EMR, Inc. to update the public on the project and future plans.

Seventy of about estimated 1,400 barrels that were dumped in western Lake Superior will be retrieved in 2010, and their contents sampled. Samples of sediment and water are also planned. Results from the analysis will be used to determine risks to human health and the environment.

Surveys in 2008 performed by EMR, Inc., in collaboration with the U-M D-Large Lakes Observatory used sonar imaging at suspected dump sites to locate barrels. In addition, a remotely operated vehicle with a camera photographed some of the sites in a 96-square mile area of the lake’s bottom.

The 2008 surveys found 591 targets that are considered likely to be barrels in the Talmadge River, Sucker River and Lester River areas.

The munitions dumping investigation project is funded by a cooperative agreement between the Red Cliff Band the U.S. Department of Defense through the Native American Lands Environmental Mitigation Program.

For more information contact Red Cliff’s Environmental Program at (715) 779-3650.

A 2008 sonar and video survey of military waste dumping spots confirmed 591 barrels off the Lester, Sucker and Talmadge Rivers near Duluth and near the same places barrels were recovered in the 1990s. An effort to recover 70 barrels from the sites is planned for 2010. (Duluth News Tribune graphic.)

Protect the Earth gathering airs concerns about Yellow Dog mine

Protect the Earth participants from around the region walked from the Yellow Dog River to Eagle Rock, in Marquette County, Michigan. The worn-down remnants of an ancient volcanic eruption, Eagle Rock is a striking plateau the size of a football stadium, that rises abruptly from the Yellow Dog Plains.

Kennecott (a subsidiary of London-based Rio Tinto) plans to drill a mine shaft through the side of Eagle Rock (on state owned land) and under the pristine Salmon-Trout River, which flows into Lake Superior. Eagle Rock is a sacred cultural site for many in the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, and the surrounding plains have been used for hunting, fishing, gathering and ceremonies for generations.

Participants raised numerous concerns about the proposed project to mine nickel and other metals during a two-day gathering on August 1-2. For one, sulfide-ore mining has never been done anywhere in the world without polluting surrounding ground and surface waters.

Other concerns raised included the fact that independent mining experts have stated the plans for the site are structurally unsound, and technical information submitted by Kennecott is incomplete. Some feel that industrial development will shatter the silence, harm plants and wildlife, and degrade the environment of this remote place forever.

With little local support, industrial development will shatter the silence, harm plants and wildlife, and degrade the environment of this remote place forever.

Participants raised several concerns about the proposed project to mine Nickel and other metals during this year’s Protect the Earth gathering held August 1st and 2nd. (Photo by Barb Bradley.)

Summer interns

(Continued from page 9)

Finch, who is also a first year intern, will be returning to Northland in the fall to complete his degree in Natural Resources and fish and wildlife ecology as well. As for his future plans the Neenah, Wisconsin native would like to work for the DNR as a game warden.

For Wiggins, a veteran following three years in the US Army and a one-year tour of duty in Iraq, he much prefers being on the water than back in a window-less workshop welding. He hopes one day to be hired as a full time employee for the GLIFWC, but in the meantime finishing his college career remains his immediate plan.

All three interns seem to be at home out on the big lake, just enjoying what they like to do. With rogue waves smacking his face on a forty-eight degree July 1st, Wiggins believes that “there’s nothing like it.” Though some may beg to differ, this summer’s Great Lakes Section interns most assuredly won’t.
By Charlie Otto Rasmussen

Watersmeet, Mich.—After a tumultuous three and a half years ending last June in a lawsuit settlement, Upper Peninsula Power Company (UPPCO) again possesses title to 1,360 acres of undeveloped land around three Upper Michigan reservoirs. The recent buyback from Naterra Land means that the specter of houses, condos and docks on some of the Upper Peninsula’s finest wildland—including Bond Falls Fl owage—is on hold. At least for now.

“We haven’t had any inquiries from private parties or government organizations at this point,” said Keith Moyle, UPPCO Vice President. “We’d be interested to talk about offers but who has money right now?”

In late 2005 Minneapolis-based Naterra Land tapped $5.9 million to buy UPPCO’s non-project lands situated just inland from the reservoirs’ shorelines. At Bond Falls, Naterra outlined extensive plans to clear more that 300 forested back lots for construction and scenic views to the flowage. Anticipating approval from the Federal Regulatory Energy Commission (FERC), the power company offered up easements across its near-shore project land to private docks that would sprout from the water’s edge.

But the Bond project raised wary eyebrows from area residents and natural resource agencies including the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC). Based on the utility proposed shoreline management plan (SMP), it became clear that existing requirements established by the FERC were not being fully addressed. One issue centered on FERC’s stipulation that UPPCO must ensure that aquatic habitat is considered when planning shoreline activities.

“Even after various state and federal agencies asked UPPCO to conduct a thorough shoreline aquatic habitat survey as part of the SMP, the work that was done appeared insufficient,” said GLIFWC Policy Analyst Amy McCammon Soltis. “GLIFWC and its member tribes are especially concerned about the potential impacts to walleye spawning habitat.”

A strong contingency of runners and walkers got the 2009 Healing Circle Run off to a good start on July 11 at the pipestone quarry on the Lac Courte Oreilles reservation. The Lac du Flambeau reservation was the first day’s destination—some of the Upper Peninsula’s finest wildland—including Bond Falls Flowage. (Photo by Jen Schlender.)

The proposed network of piers centered on the flowage’s principal walleye spawning ground is located. (Photo by COR.)

At Bond Falls, Naterra filed a lawsuit against UPPCO, stating that the power company misrepresented its ability to facilitate shoreline access and dock construction. The parties settled the suit—in part—with UPPCO repurchasing the Bond property along with land at Boney Falls and Cataract Basin.

Regulators at FERC, however, have yet to decide on whether to approve the SMP offered by the power company in 2007. Should federal officials allow docks and related easements, development attempts may again start up.

By Jen Schlender

LaCoursereilles, Wis.—It’s been 20 years since the 1989 Peace and Solidarity Run took place, the predecessor to the Healing Circle Run which closely follows the path taken by the 1989 runners and walkers that united Ojibwe communities in Wisconsin and Michigan. The circle has been expanded some to include eight Ojibwe communities, reaching into Minnesota.

I have participated in many of the Healing Circle Runs along with my family over the years. My father, the late Jim Schlender and Neil Kinieck, and my sister, Jen Schlender, have been with us.

Each year when we gather, we give remembrance to the past years and look forward to the future. When we run, we remember that every step is a prayer. The communities that we visited this summer were overwhelmingly supportive not only with the accommodations but with their fresh walking legs—those are always welcome as we cover the miles between reservations.

Each year in the run is hearing the stories that people bring along with the opportunity to share your own story. With each community we are joined by new people, and everyone brings something to share, whether it is a story that is inspiring or a joke that makes us laugh. Whether they are with us for a day or a week, people leave a piece of themselves with us. As we gather at our talking circles, which both begin and end each day, we tell stories of these people and how they have touched us.

This year we were given the “Conan Stomp,” a unique tradition instituted by Conan Kinieck. The “Conan Stomp” began when closing the talking circle in Lac Du Flambeau. As Conan finished what he had to say, he took Mitiginaabe (a staff that is passed during the talking circle), stomped it on the ground and passed it on. This then lead the next person to do the same thing. Pretty soon the whole group was doing the “Conan Stomp.” Simple stories and actions like this happen on the run that make us laugh. Laughter is healing.

However, sometimes the stories that are told don’t make anyone laugh; some are the stories of others’ illnesses and the struggles in their lives. We take all these stories and put those thoughts and others into our asmena (tobacco), and we pray. When we step out on the road, we put down our tobacco, and we think of those that cannot be with us, whether they are in the spirit world or they are unable. We walk or run those miles with the hope of healing.

The circles created each year by the run are like the growth circles in a tree trunk. Each new circle encompasses those that were formed earlier. They are separate but all part of one living and growing entity. And so, I believe it is with the Healing Circle Run. Over the last 20 years, many lives, many stories, much laughter and also falling tears merge to create the Healing Circle Run and continue the process of healing.
Odanah, Wis.—It’s good old summertime, and the role of GLIFWC’s conservation officers takes a slightly different twist during the summer months with a focus on youth and encouraging outdoor activities.

“Engaging our youth in the outdoors and teaching them both traditional and nontraditional skills as well as safety measures is definitely one of our goals,” says GLIFWC Enforcement Chief Fred Maulson. “We want to help teach our tribal youth how to use and enjoy our natural resources in a safe and respectful way. That’s why we try to provide a spectrum of activities.”

While GLIFWC wardens routinely offer a smorgasbord of on-reservation “safety” classes, like hunter, boating, ATV, snowmobile, and canoeing, they’ve found some other venues to work with tribal youth.

For instance, they assisted with Youth Fishing Days at Lac du Flambeau (LdF) for the fourth year and at Bad River, where it was implemented for the first time this summer. Youth Fishing Day offers instruction on how to handle the basic rod and reel, use of bait, how to cast, things like that, says Maulson. It also gives the kids an opportunity to try it out, and many bring home a fish for supper.

“You’ve got to give them the real experience, if you want them to keep on fishing,” he says.

GLIFWC also assisted with a weekend at Camp Nesbitt for tribal youth. The two-and-a-half day camp was staffed by six GLIFWC wardens and ten US Forest Service staff. The camp offers a real mix of experiences for the youth. This summer they visited the federal tree nursery in Watersmeet, Michigan as well as the Ottawa National Forest’s (ONF) Visitor’s Center where they got the scoop on the ONF’s history and also listened to Tom Maulson, LdF tribal member, talk about the cultural significance of the forest.

Along with opportunities to fish and swim, the weekend also included a three-mile walking tour of Deer Marsh. ONF staff were stationed at different sites on the tour to talk about items of interest. The final day included archery instruction and learning to use GPS, concluding with a GPS treasure hunt.

“We really worked hand-in-hand with the Forest Service staff to make this camp successful,” Maulson says. Besides staff, GLIFWC also helps with equipment needed during these youth events.

Another cooperative venture was the Great Lakes Ojibwe Emergency Response Academy, a ten-day “boot” camp that introduces tribal youth to enforcement type careers and training. Emergency medical service, firearms use and qualifications, firefighting, water survival are part of a training cadre in a law enforcement setting.

Staff from tribal, state and federal agencies all cooperate to assist with the Academy, providing instructors and necessary equipment.

GLIFWC conservation officers are expected to keep on their routine duties during the summer as well, so it requires some extra initiative to participate in these youth-oriented events, Maulson comments. “But it’s worth it. We want the kids to get outside, to participate in outdoor activities, and to be safe. And don’t forget we’re also exposing them to potential careers in resource management or enforcement. They are our future.”
Houghton, Mich.—GLIFWC Wardens Dan North and Jim Stone successfully retrieved about 3,000 feet of gill net aboard the enforcement vessel Mizhakwad in June. They were removed from Lake Superior in the Houghton area. The nets, of unknown origin, appeared to have been in the lake for a period of years, according the GLIFWC Enforcement Chief Fred Maulson. Most nets were “extremely deteriorated,” the contents rotten, and no identification tags were found.

A sportfisherman reported the nets and provided GPS coordinates for locations, so wardens were able to go directly to the reported sites. Once at the GPS location, wardens threw over an anchor and buoy and then deployed a large metal drag with multiple hooks, according to North. They then pulled the drag across the lake bottom in grids around the buoy. Once a net was hooked, the net-lifter was used to pull up the drag and the net.

Following up on another complaint about possible “ghost” nets, Wardens Dan North and Heather Niagus along with staff from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Commercial Fishing Division, searched for nets in the Marquette area this summer as well. The complaint had also included GPS coordinates. Searchers completed a grid check and patrolled the area, but no nets were found.

Maulson encourages people to report apparent lost nets along with their GPS coordinates if possible. Contact GLIFWC at (715) 682-6619 or a local warden.

Pulling in a net on the Mizhakwad, GLIFWC Warden Dan North, assisted by Warden Jim Stone, retrieved badly deteriorated gill nets from Lake Superior near Houghton, Michigan this summer. A report plus a GPS reading of the location made the retrieval successful. (Photo by Jim Stone.)

GLIFWC Wardens Mike Popovich and Matt Bark helped nine youth successfully complete the Hunter Safety course offered at the Lac Courte Oreilles reservation this summer, including Jeffery Phinn, Richard St. Germaine, William Nebel, Beau Girard, Mark St. Germaine, Lorne Young, Alyssa Hollen, Lisa Young, and Taylor Young. Pictured with the class is Warden Mike Popovich. (Photo by Matt Bark.)

2009 GLIFWC enforcement safety classes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Tribe</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hunter Education</td>
<td>August 17, 24-25</td>
<td>Lac du Flambeau</td>
<td>Emily Miller (715) 892-6789</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hunter Education</td>
<td>September 23-26</td>
<td>Bad River</td>
<td>Vern Stone (715) 292-8862</td>
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Invasive species surveys (Continued from page 5)

Perhaps because it is similar in appearance to its abundant and familiar cousin, wood bluegrass has been widely overlooked as an invasive species. Wood bluegrass is a percent of shade than Kentucky bluegrass, and is quite capable of forming dense patches in natural forest. (Indeed, it seems to rarely if ever occur in full sun.)

Forests where the ground has been disturbed by vehicle traffic, logging or earthworm activity seem to be especially vulnerable. GLIFWC surveys have found and documented numerous small to large populations of this weedy grass in suburban woodlots, along shaded trails, and in relatively undisturbed forests across northern Wisconsin and western Upper Michigan.

Another invasive brought to light by GLIFWC invasive species surveys is giant daisy (Leucanthemella serotina). A relative of the familiar common daisy, giant daisy is a tall (3.0 feet), deep-rooted perennial that is increasingly being sold as an ornamental.

The 2008 survey found giant daisy to be well-established in northwestern Douglas County, Wisconsin, where it forms dense patches along road corridors, in wetlands, and in open wet woods. It has even vigorously invaded a speckled alder swamp. Judging from its behavior in Douglas County, giant daisy has the potential to become an aggressive invader of natural and semi-natural habitats across the region.

New species may become agents of change

What will be the likely fate of these new arrivals in the ceded territory? And if they spread, what long-term effect will they have on natural and artificial habitats here and beyond? Unfortunately it is often difficult to predict how well a plant species will do when introduced outside its native range until it has been established for awhile.

The mezereum population occupies a wooded area roughly half the size of a city block. Based on information from a local resident, it probably became established there in the 1930s. If so, it has been spreading rather slowly.

Seedlings and saplings are abundant on the site, though, and the red berries are attractive to fruit-eating birds, so the plant may begin to spread fairly rapidly on its own. Mezereum has been established in New England and adjacent Canada since the late 1800s, and is considered to be invasive by the governments of Massachusetts and Ontario.

Purple moorgrass, alpine oatgrass, and narrow-leaved sorrel populations each occupy a square mile or so (not counting roadside patches), where they are common across a variety of both human-created and natural habitats. Within these areas they are often abundant, even dominant. All three are also common in similar habitats in their native ranges.

Purple moorgrass is even considered invasive in Europe, where it is invading heathland communities that have become artificially high in nitrogen from atmospheric fallout of pollution. As these habitats exist throughout the ceded territory and beyond, it seems reasonable to assume that if no action is taken they will continue to spread, eventually becoming common weeds in open, human dominated landscapes.

Alpine oatgrass may eventually become a serious weed of barrens, prairies and dune areas in North America. Narrow-leaved sorrel may become a weed of mesic prairies and floodplains. Purple moorgrass will probably do well in a wide variety of mesic to seasonally wet habitats. Notably, all three of these plants grow with most of their leaves near ground level, making them well-equipped for spread along roadsides. Alpine oatgrass and narrow-leaved sorrel also produce ripe seed by mid-summer, around the time the roadsides are mowed by highway departments.

Occasionally an introduced plant may become established in a marginal habitat, where it is unable to maintain a population. This was apparently the fate of the walted thistle population in the western Upper Peninsula. A recent visit to the site could not find a single walted thistle plant there.

Over time, unsuitable habitat (possibly combined with roadside mowing) may have reduced seed production and plant survival to the point where the population could not maintain itself over the long run. It is probably fortunate that this plant did not get established in an old field, prairie, or other open, sunny habitat instead, as several close relatives are aggressive weeds in these habitats in other parts of North America.

Allowing new populations of invasive weeds to persist and hoping they will disappear is in general not a good strategy, though. Such an approach was taken with European marsh thistle, which was first recorded in the upper Great Lakes region from Marquette, Michigan in 1934. Tolerant of both shade and wet ground, European marsh thistle has spread aggressively into natural habitats across the entire Upper Peninsula and into lower Michigan and northeastern Wisconsin, with no end in sight.

For more information

Photos, distribution maps and other information on all these plants can be found on several herbarium websites.

For plants growing outside cultivation in Wisconsin, visit the Wisconsin State Herbarium at www.botany.wisc.edu/wisflora/; or the UW-Stevens Point Freeckmann Herbarium at wisplants.wupr.edu/flvascularPlants.html. (Click “Names” to get the species name search window.) The University of Michigan and University of Minnesota also have helpful plant sites, at http://herbarium.lsa.umich.edu/website/ michflora/onlinemaps.html and www.wildflowers.umn.edu, respectively.


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Red Cliff Rob Goslin delivered a slide presentation on local tribal history to a capacity audience at the Bayfield Heritage Center June 17. Beginning with the ancient Ojibwe story, Goslin’s talk spanned a centuries-long timeline to the present. During an overview of mid-1800s treaty history, Goslin explained that after the 1854 Treaty—which included a provision for permanent records of the Madeline Island, or LaPointe Band, Ojibwe—split in two with members either going to the mainland at Red Cliff or south to Bad River, Christian missionaries influenced the divide, Goslin said, with Protestant-leaning Ojibwe going to Bad River and their Catholic counterparts going to Red Cliff. Goslin holds a master degree in educational administration from UW-Milwaukee and currently manages community wellness programs at Red Cliff. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen.)
Taking care of Mother Earth

The Ojibwe people, also known as the Anishinaabeg, have always believed it is important to take care of Aki (ah-key), the Earth. They thought of Aki as their mother because she was a giver-of-life. For this she was honored and respected. Today it is still important for the Ojibwe people to respect Aki.

Aki provides all that we as people need for life—our food, water and shelter, but in turn we must be Aki’s caretaker and be watchful so our actions don’t harm her.

For one, we should not take more than what we need. Aki’s gifts should not be wasted. Also, we must be careful not to leave garbage and trash on Aki’s surface or in the water, which is said to be her life-blood. Those things can injure her. We must help keep Aki clean so she can continue to be a bountiful life-giver. All of us must help with this job to keep Aki, our mother, healthy.

Ojibwemowin

Can you say “Take care of Mother Earth” in Ojibwe?

Ganawenim Omizakamigokwe
(gah-nah-way-nihm oh-mih-zah-kah-mih-goh-qwe)

Women and women owe their lives and the quality of living and existence to Mother Earth.

asil Johnston, Ojibwe Heritage

Recycle

One way we can help take care of Mother Earth is to recycle. Many things that we use can be re-used—like paper, newspaper, aluminum cans, and glass bottles. If we put them in special containers they can be taken to a recycling center and re-used. Then we will not be wasting Mother Earth’s gifts, and we will be helping to keep our Earth clean. Good job!

Recycling means taking materials from products you have finished using and making brand new products with them. Find and circle these items that you could collect in your home to recycle. Reprinted from Eco-Logical Brain Games, by Tony J. Tallarico, Jr. Published by Dover Publications. ISBN #0486468402.
Dagwaagin  It is Fall


Niwii-adaawetamaazo gizhooitawage’un. Aaniin waa-adaaweyan wayiiba gizimaan aqwaqing?

(How are the weather conditions outside? What will you all wear when you all go? When it is fall, it is cool weather. I want/will to harvest wild rice to the north. I will garden. I want to fish at the lake. I will go duck hunting on the river. Also, I will hunt for them those deer. I will wear layers (long underwear). I will wear a coat. When I hunt, I definitely wear red. I need boots (overshoes). I want to buy earmuffs. What will you buy soon when it cold weather outside?)

Bezhig1

OJIBWEMOWIN
(Ojibwe Language)

Doubleveto welsyst emo fwiw ting
Ojibwemowin.
Lo ngwyo wels:AAEI I,OO
Dakigayaga si nfu nther
Miiwgechii si njay
Aanjina si ns een
Mangominga si rim ggn

Sho rtv owels: A:J, O
Gayee si n about
Injiga si n hj
Miskga si n gyly

Ag rollat opi sa
vo icelessa sale and
a si n’a w.
Re spec upkeep rlist
a ne ider orfe lp
i np pronunciation
a nd d select
d differences.

Niizh2

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

A. Aandi ezhayaan? Nindizhiga adaawewigamigong noongom.
C. Nimbichimninjikawaswe dash nimbichisowakwane ooma.

VII s
Verbs—Inanimate—Intransitive
These are the “It is” verbs. Learn the root word, then B-form/When/if and negation/Not/No patterns.

Giisinaa.—It is cold.
Giisinaa...—When/if it is cold...
Gaawin giisinaasoon.—It is not cold.
Noonin.—It is windy.
Noonin...—When/if it is windy...
Gaawin noodizinoon.—It is not windy.
Ziibinon.—It is snowing.
Ziibinon—When/if it is snowing...
Gaawin zoogiponizinoon.—It is not snowing.

Niwin4

IKIDOWIN
ODAMINOWIN
(wordpla y)

Down:
1.H ow o niw hi twa y.
2. Iw ill ig arden.
3.I li isf al/autumn.
6.Q uestionma rker
8.PI ease

Across:
4.W her enf/fit herei sa c oldra in.
5.D ulcks
7.T ot heri ver
9.I ti se asy.

Translutions:
Niizh2
- A. Where are you going? I am going to the building (store) now.
- B. Do you want to shop (?) in town? Let’s all go! Look! It is snowing!
- C. I put on my mittens and I put on my hat here.
- D. Please you put on your coat. It is very windy, too.
- E. At the lake it is freezing over. Dress warmly, allo hoy u).
- F. It is not warm weather.
- G. It is a cold rain. Do you have a raincoat? I am snowing! I will buy a shovel.

Niizh4
- Aa nin
- 2.N niw kitsge
- 3. Dagwaagin
- 5. Zhihi bag
- 7. Ziibin
- 9. Wendad

Niwin-4
- A. No, (Gaawin) it is not windy in the south today.
- B. At school, when it is easy. (-d->k I am happy)
- C. When it is summer, it is not cold. (-sinoon) Now, it is cold all day all the time.
- D. Ducks, they are happy when it is a cold rain. (-g)
- E. It is not snowing (-sinoon) outside, I will husly-drive auster.

Goojitoon! Try it!
Translation below.

1. noodizinoon zaahawanong noongom.
2. Gikinoo’amaadiiwigamigong, wenda_____, niminwendam.
4. Zhihi bag minwendamooqo dakkibisiya_____.
5. Gaawin zoogipon____awpingi, niwii-izhi-kizhibiz.
GLIFWC’s 2009 poster now available

GLIFWC’s 2009 poster, Minwaajimo: Telling a Good Story, was debuted at GLIFWC’s 25th Anniversary event at the Big Top Chautauqua on July 2 and is now available upon request.

Featuring artwork by Lac du Flambeau artist, biskakonce Johnson, the poster highlights the significance of continuing traditional harvests to the Ojibwe people.

One copy of the poster is available free of charge; additional copies are $2.50 each. Postage fees will be added to orders shipped outside the US. Call (715) 685-2150, email pio@glifwc.org or mail the form below to: GLIFWC PIO, PO Box 9, Odanah, WI 54861.

Name: ____________________________
Address: __________________________
Address: __________________________
City: _____________________________
State, Zip: _________________________
# copies ______________
Please enclose a purchase order, check or money order to cover the cost of additional posters.

Mooningwanekaaning-Minis Anishinaabeg Maawanjiding
(Madeline Island Anishinaabeg Gathering)
Come again to honor and renew the Anishinaabeg relationship to the Island in the past, present, and visioning for the future!

Friday, September 25th, 2009
8:30 am Morning Ceremony Ojibwe Memorial Park N eo LaFernier
10 am Oo on Speakers
Noon Lunch provided by the Community of LaPointe
1 pm Speakers
5 pm Feast
7 pm (on time) Dance Celebration N rand Entry, M.C., Larry Smallwood OAmikO Regalia welcome

Speakers
Winona LaDuke, Tobasonakwut Kinew, Dr. Rick St. Germaine, Henry Buffalo Jr., Robert Van Zile, Joe Rose Sr.

NOTE: the event is free and open to everyone. Important: groups of 6 or more persons must make a reservation with a nominal fee for meals by calling (715)747-2415. All ages welcome.

Saturday, September 26th, 2009
10 am 30 pm Open House adeline Island Museum, LaPointe, WI Book Signings N Thomas Vennum, Ojibwe Dance Drum, O Teresa Schenck, OWilliam WarrenHistory of the OjibweO Island Tours O aps available

For more information call 715-747-2415 or email Mgaathering2009@aol.com
Ferry from Bayfield, WI schedule/fare information: www.madferry.com (715)747-2051
Camping available on a first come basis. Limited gas and groceries available on the Island.

Organized by the Mooningwanekaaning Minis Anishinaabeg Maawajiding Committee with support from the Forest County Potawatomi, Apostle Islands Community Fund, Wisconsin Humanities Council, Madeline Island Museum, and numerous LaPointe community organizations.

Mikwendaagoziwag:
They are remembered
Sandy Lake Ceremonies slated for October 1

GLIFWC’s annual ceremonies at the Mikwendaagoziwag Memorial will take place on Thursday, October 1 at the Sandy Lake Recreational Site near MacGregor, Minnesota.

All are welcome to this annual event which honors and remembers the Ojibwe ancestors who perished in the 1850 Sandy Lake tragedy.

A 10:00 am Voigt Intertribal Task Force (VITF) meeting will precede the ceremonies, which will take place at noon and be followed by a feast.

The annual paddle across Sandy Lake will take place during the VITF meeting. Anyone interested in joining the paddle is welcome and should contact GLIFWC for starting time and place.

For more information: (715) 682-6619.

Big Top Chautauqua
(Continued from page 11)

artist Bill Miller took the stage with the Big Top Canvas Orchestra, the capacity audience had finished their meals.

A talented and fitting performer for the anniversary event, Miller’s personal history interwove with the social upheaval caused by the anti-Indian turmoil of the later 1980s. During an Ashland area visit to play at a folk festival, Miller was forced from his hotel by angry fishermen out to harass anyone that appeared In-dian—Ojibwe or otherwise.

“The times are so much better now,” Miller said. “And the Ojibwe have really raised the bar for all native people.”
MAZINA'IGAN is a quarterly publication of the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission, which represents eleven Ojibwe tribes in Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

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Although MAZINA'IGAN enjoys hearing from its readership, there is no "Letters to the Editor" section in the paper, and opinions to be published must be submitted in writing. Questions related to resource management or Ojibwe culture and/or resource management or Ojibwe cultural topics can be directed to the editor at the address given above.

For more information see GLIFWC's website: www.glifwc.org.

MAZINA'IGAN STAFF: (Pronounced Muh zin-ah'igan)

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Lynn Plucinski Assistant Editor
Charlie Otto Rasmussen Writer/Photographer

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