By Charlie Otto Rasmussen

Staff Writer

State recognizes treaty rights of five bands

Bay Mills, Mich.—The Bay Mills Indian Community and four other tribes struck an historic settlement with the State of Michigan that reaffirms their rights to hunt, fish and gather under the 1836 Treaty. The 2007 Consent Decree outlines harvest guidelines, bag limits and includes quotas for tightly regulated species like elk on inland portions of the 1836 ceded territory.

United States District Judge Richard Enslen made the agreement official November 2 when he approved the Consent Decree between Michigan, Bay Mills, the Sault Ste. Marie Band and three Lower Michigan tribes—Grand Traverse, Little River and Little Traverse Bay Bands. The agreement permanently affirms treaty rights in the 1836 inland ceded territory and does away with the specter of a federal court trial. "We wanted to continue what we had been doing under our Conservation Code," said Bay Mills Vice President Terry Carrick. "We came away with that and a lot more."

The Consent Decree validates tribal harvesting rights on almost 14 million acres across both Michigan peninsulas. Tribal members may access public lands and inland waters to hunt, fish and gather under treaty seasons. During state- established seasons members may harvest natural resources on private lands with permission from the property owner.

Carrick said the Bay Mills Conservation Committee is busy revising treaty harvest codes to include new provisions like panfish bag limits and elk hunting. Each tribe holds two elk tags for the 2007 season, which begins December 5, Carrick said. The three Lower Michigan bands have established a unified conservation code for their members.

In the absence of a formal settlement or court decision, 1836 Treaty bands have managed ceded territory hunting, fishing and gathering seasons for years, imposing harvest limits enforced by tribal conservation wardens. While state officials didn’t recognize tribal authority to conduct treaty harvests, no arrests were made to force the issue into court. Several regional treaty rights cases entered litigation in the 1970s following the arrest of tribal members harvesting off-reservation including the LeBelle case which ultimately upheld tribal fishing privileges on the Great Lakes under the Treaty of 1836.

In addition to harvest allocations, the Consent Decree spells out specific waivers for camping, boat launches and entry fees on state land and parks. No commercial use of inland resources is permitted with the exception of fur sales like beaver and muskrat hides. (See Consent Decree, page 9)

1836 Tribes, Michigan ink inland Consent Decree

Scientists & resource managers reveal strengths, problems

Duluth, Minn.—At the Making a Great Lake Superior Conference, participants talked the talk of improving the health of the earth’s greatest lake. Meals were comprised of local foods, requiring minimal energy to ship in. Coded recycling containers replaced catchall trashcans. And some, like Environmental Biologist Matt Hudson, left the car at home, biking 95 miles to reach the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center.

Researchers, educators and resource managers numbering more than 450 converged at the head of Lake Superior to deliberate environmental challenges and share information about the largest body of fresh water in the world. Hosted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Environment Canada and the Minnesota Sea Grant on October 28-31, the state-of-the-lake event is the largest of its kind.

“Protecting and improving the health of Lake Superior is clearly a priority for many organizations and individuals both within and outside the lake’s watershed,” said Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission’s Ann McAmmon Soltis, who served on the Making a Great Lake Superior Conference. (photo by COR)

A tribal commercial fishing tug motors into Saxon Harbor along Gichigami’s south shore. While the health of the fishery is largely good, shoreline development and toxic contaminants remain significant threats to fish populations said researchers at the Making a Great Lake Superior conference. Planning support, as well as a contingent of biological and policy staff to address conference participants during breakout sessions.

As Great Lakes go, it’s the biggest and the cleanest of them all. But a mixed bag of threats including shoreline development, pollution, climate change and invasive species makes the future health of Gichigami far from certain.

A lake like no other

Lake Superior holds more water than all the other Great Lakes combined with lots of room to spare. The complex freshwater ecosystem that the lake and its basin support has no equal across the globe. This distinctiveness has drawn the international attention of scientists, including experts in fisheries, toxicology and management policy—some who shared research findings and their intimate perspectives at the conference.

The fish community in Lake Superior really is in good shape,” said Mark Ebener, Chippewa Ottawa Resource Authority fisheries biologist. During an overview of recent ecological history, Ebener explained how the fishery went from primarily non-native species dominated by rainbow smelt in the 1970s to the present-day composition of mostly indigenous species featuring whitefish.

Ebener tempered a largely positive analysis of Lake Superior by singling out habitat degradation in near-shore areas. (See Gichigami, page 11)
Wisconsin Senate & Assembly pass GLIFWC Warden Bill

By Kekk Jason Stark, GLIFWC Policy Analyst

Madison, Wis.—GLIFWC’s Warden Bill, passed by the Wisconsin Senate and Assembly, cleared the Senate on Monday and passed out of committee this week, taking “off the table” of the Wisconsin Assembly the debate on GLIFWC’s Wardens Bill. The bill passed out of committee this week, with support from both sides of the aisle, and hit the Senate floor the next day. The Senate floor debated the bill, and it was passed by the Senate and Assembly. The bill is now on the Governor’s desk for signature.

The bill would allow GLIFWC wardens to carry weapons, make arrests, and conduct searches and seizures. The bill would also allow GLIFWC wardens to conduct duties as they see fit, without the need for a specific law. The bill would also allow GLIFWC wardens to carry out their duties in a safe and effective manner, without the need for a specific law.

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Linking safety and the media

Native youth native communication skills

The Voigt Intertribal Task Force is comprised of representatives from Ojibwe tribes—nine total—within the ITC and IAM ceded territories. The Task Force makes policy recommendations on inland treaty resource issues including management of fish, wildlife, plants and the environment. Pictured at the September Task Force meeting in Odanah: Chris McGeshick, Sokaogon Chippewa Community; Carl Edwards, Lac du Flambeau; Tom Mazisize Voigt Intertribal Task Force Chairman; Leonard Sunn, Mill City; Merv Zwet, Lac du Flambeau; Leo LaCroix, Red Cliff; Brian Bismette, Lac Courte Oreilles; Michele Ozeman, Lac Courte Oreilles; and Larry Dragon, Red Cliff. Representatives from Lac Vieux Desert and St. Croix were absent. (Photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

The GLIFWC Board of Commissioners is comprised of a representative from each member tribe and establishes policy for the Commission. Representatives are generally officers or resource officials from GLIFWC’s 11 member tribes. Pictured at the September Commissioner meeting in Odanah: Peter Lemieux, Bad River; Terry Carrick, Bay Mills; Chris McGeshick, Sokaogon Chippewa Community; William Enery, Kewezenau Bay; Agnes Fleming, Lac Courte Oreilles; Michele Ozeman, Lac du Flambeau; Artyn Ackley, Sokaogon Chippewa Community; Ross Sojourner, Red Cliff; Leo LaCrosse, Red Cliff; Ferdinand Martinseau, Fond du Lac; and Curt Kall, Mille Lacs.

Wed, May 10, UW-Madison graduate student, mentors campers learning about Lac Courte Oreilles fisheries. Pictured from the left are, Alex House, Tony Fampurr, Donny Goyek, Jon Cadotte, Marihart Cooper and Tim Ynsm. (Submitted)

They composed themselves. The topics, even adding original music

the week experience through the LCO Boys and Girls Club, and the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission, the LCO Community College, the LCO Boys and Girls Club, and UW-Madison, LCO Community College, the LCO Boys and Girls Club, and UW-Madison, LCO Community College, the LCO Boys and Girls Club, and UW-Madison, LCO Community College.

Wild turkeys are subject to weapon restrictions and only shotguns, muzzle-loaded, 12 gauge barrels are allowed. General information on off-reservation turkey hunting is available through Wildlife Technician Dan North at GLIFWC’s central office. (715-462-4619).


camp director

Lac Courte Oreilles Reserve


ty LaCrosse, UW-Madison graduate student, mentors campers learning about Lac Courte Oreilles fisheries. Pictured from the left are, Alex House, Tony Fampurr, Donny Goyek, Jon Cadotte, Marihart Cooper and Tim Ynsm. (Submitted)

they had told. In just five days, they had

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When Chosa was a young man, you could harvest two-three hundred pounds green rice everyday. Although the lakes are changing, the water birds still appear. A highlight of the season involves some sand cranes on Miller Flowage near Medford.

Chosa remembers, “Late in the afternoon we heard a strange, really, it was like a beautiful noise...sand cranes calling for others to come in land, something I’ve rarely heard before. I don’t think too many human beings have heard the call of the sand cranes.”

Another day on Minong Flowage we heard some geese passing across the lake. It sounded like they were telling young, “Ricing isn’t what it used to be.”

After ricing, sitting close to the wood stove at night, we eat sour dough bread, coup- pes, deer meat, wild rice and squash. We drink, “A rice tea” Chosa’s is a grew stronger from paddling and knocking.

“Right now is good. Got kind of healthy in the rice bed. My legs are still not weak I can walk far. But I say the ricing was good for me,” he comments. Chosa wants to see the Lac du Flambeau tribe take a more active role in re-propagating wild rice on the reservations. The west side of Alderson, the north side, the north end of Petenung, Sugar Bush—all used to have abundant rice.

“Even though we practice it, some of the old people, they don’t worry about rice. They know the reason its not there is because the people themselves didn’t take care of it. They didn’t rest the bed like they’re supposed to. They didn’t have good offerings. I have never seen on my reservation yet where they had a summer cerem- ony for the rice, and a rice picking ceremony. I have never seen a ceremony again, after the ricing season, where they had any kind of ceremony to celebrate the harvest, and those kind of things. They got to be about that business.”

But even more so, the tribal governments need to spend more money on making our rice beds like they used to be.

“What makes Mike Chosa even sadder is how few Indian people today harvest rice. We saw mostly non-Indian ricers on the water. Chosa says, “A lot of our Indian people don’t rice anymore. Around the reservation, the markets are going downhill. We see mostly non-Indian ricers on the water. Chosa says, “A lot of our Indian people don’t rice anymore. We hardly see any rice. We saw mostly non-Indian ricers on the water. Chosa says, “A lot of our Indian people don’t rice anymore. We hardly see any rice.”

Mike Chosa harvests manoomin. (photo by Nick VanderPuy)

Mike told me to listen to the rice in order to keep him in the falling stuff. He told me to listen to the rice on shorter to line up our paths through the beds. This helped us stay in the rice and get more. When I was ricing with Mike in the eighties, one day we fell off the canoe and flipped over. It was Mike and I, we were stranded out in the middle of the lake. My canoe was broken, so we couldn’t go any further. We had to swim back to shore. That day Mike taught me to listen to the rice in order to keep him in the falling stuff. He told me to listen to the rice on shorter to line up our paths through the beds. This helped us stay in the rice and get more.

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Mike Chosa harvests manoomin. (photo by Nick VanderPuy)
Where the rubber meets the road
GLIFWC tackles invasives on public, private lands
By Miles Falek, GLIFWC Wildlife Biologist

Ondalinn, Wis.—The goal of GLIFWC’s control program is to protect natural communities and resources on state and private lands and to provide habitat for fish, wildlife, and plants.

Ron Parisien has led GLIFWC’s control crew since 1989. Ron’s diligence to this work is apparent from his去除 experience. "The need for purple loosestrife control has increased in Wisconsin and the state’s surrounding regions over the past few decades," he said.

GLIFWC’s control efforts began in the 1990s, focusing on the treatment of purple loosestrife, a non-native plant that thrives in wetlands and other disturbed areas. Since then, the organization has expanded its control efforts to include other invasive species such as leafy spurge and garlic mustard.

Great Lakes Regional Collaboration reports on progress & new strategies
By Reggie Udaltze
GLIFWC Policy Analyst

Chicago, Ill.—The room was filled with representatives from all sectors of the Great Lakes region, including state, local, and tribal governments, non-governmental organizations, universities, advocacy groups, non-profit, public, and private organizations, and many others via webinar.

A “Nokomis,” or Grandmother, sang a song about the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration (GLRC) annual meeting. “We are stronger together,” she said.

Many leaders were allowed to contribute their own words to the GLRC Strategic Planning Process. "We have to get out of our comfort zone," one leader said.

In his remarks, Montano addressed the history, accomplishments, and threats identified through the GLRC and the GRP. "We are strong and we have three amazing people in this room," he said.

Montano’s message compared the Little Traverse Bay’s history to events that are taking place today. "It’s time to meet our responsibilities," he said.

Montano’s message compared the GLRC’s current situation to events that are taking place today. "We need to be strong in our work," he said.

The meeting was highly attended by participants including the GLIFWC Executive Subcommittee. The GLRC Executive Subcommittees are currently working to relay the status of the current activities, initiatives, and new initiatives of the GLRC, and to receive comments on the progress of the GLRC.

The current initiatives include the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

The meeting included a discussion of the GLRC’s annual meeting GLIFWC Executive Subcommittees and the Great Lakes Regional Collaboration (GLCRC) Executive and Board Subcommittees. The GLCRC also provided an update on the status of the GLRC’s activities.

Overview of the 1836 Consent Decree
Negotiated by the United States, Five Tribes and the State of Michigan to Settle Litigation Concerning Inland Rights Reserved in Article XIII of Treaty of March 28, 1836

Background of Litigation
The dispute between the United States and the State of Michigan in 1837 for the recognition of the right to fish in the Great Lakes waters ceded in the 1836 Treaty, it was agreed to with the State of Michigan in 1836, is still unresolved. Meanwhile, the United States and the State of Michigan have been engaged in litigation concerning inland rights reserved in Article XIII of the 1836 Treaty, which states:

"The above statements of the sixth section of said Article XIII of the Treaty shall be interpreted so as to include the right of the said Tribes to remain on the lands, and to hunt, fish and gather of plants for the usufruence of their members, and to use the same for the support of their families, and to the same extent as the said Indians may be allowed by the General Government in like cases of the same kind."

Background of Litigation
According to Montano, “The consent decree is not the end of the story. It’s the beginning of the end.” He added that the consent decree is an important step in resolving the long-standing dispute between the United States and the State of Michigan.

Bullying ads adopted a comprehensive Conservation Code, covering both Great Lakes and other aquatic species, in 1971. Since then, Michigan has worked with the Great Lakes DNRP and the Great Lakes Fish and Wildlife Commission to develop and implement the permitted activities (to include migratory bird hunting and gathering of plants).

In Oct., 2001, the State of Michigan requested the federal court to decide whether hunting, fishing, trapping, and gathering — whether hunting, fishing, trapping, or gathering — will be subject to the exclusive regulation of the Tribe. Violations of these regulations will be subject to enforcement by the Tribe.

Who Will Enforce Tribal Regulations?
Tribal regulatory bodies will have the primary responsibility for enforcement. Michigan DNRP will also be permitted to enforce the regulations, but only after objections are made only after objections to Tribal regulatory bodies are made to the State's regulatory bodies.

Is Commercial Use of Inland Resources Permitted?
No. Many species regulations are left to the Tribes’ Conservation Codes, though the Tribe is subject to federal law and regulations. The Tribe may also be subject to the Michigan Environmental Quality Act.

Does the Consent Decree Cover Every Species of Game, Fish and Plant?
The Consent Decree spells out the species that are covered in the consent decree, and it covers the species that are not covered.

What Species Are Allocated in the Consent Decree?
The Consent Decree lists certain species which are limited in number and are subject to specific regulations and restrictions. These species are listed in the consent decree.

Regulated Species
No. For example, certain fish and wildlife species are subject to specific seasons. Regulations are also subject to the consent decree, which must state which species the regulation applies to.

Does the Consent Decree Modifies the terms of the 2000 Great Lakes Consent Decree?
No. The 2000 Great Lakes Consent Decree is still in effect. The consent decree modifies the terms of the 2000 Great Lakes Consent Decree.

What Species are Allocated in the Consent Decree?
The Consent Decree lists certain species which are limited in number and are subject to specific regulations and restrictions. These species are listed in the consent decree.
Cisco (a.k.a. lake herring) join whitefish as Lake Superior fish low in contaminants

By Matt Hudson, GLIFWC Environmental Biologist

Odanah, Wi.—With the completion of its Cisco contaminant study, The Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) has now conducted chemical contaminant studies on all four species of Lake Superior fish important to commercial harvest in the lake. The study details provide valuable information to tribal fisherman needing to meet federal regulations to sell their commercial harvest. GLIFWC has a conservation approach to assisting Lake Superior fish consumers about contaminant levels in these fish species.

Like its sister species, Lake Superior whitefish and cisco, low mercury and PCB levels are frequent in Lake Superior fish. Studies provide some of these tools. These studies show the differences in the two positions is where the argument lies and where, as a fish consumer, you need to be informed.

The paradox of health versus harm that exists with consuming fish is a complex one. It deals with the best way to reduce contaminant exposure, and they usually taste better!

Toxicologists and public health professionals may never completely agree on what a safe level of fish is to consume. Fish contain some level of contaminants, but they are a very healthy source of protein and heart-healthy omega-3 s. The developing brain is particularly at risk from the potential health effects of mercury but a growing body of evidence also suggests that it stands to gain from the nutrients available in fish.

One is going to argue that you should stop eating fish completely and no one is going to argue that mercury is not a “toxic” or “harmful” toxin. Between these two positions is where the argument lies and where, as a fish consumer, you need to be informed about different areas for resource managers and managers of species from microscopic organisms to dancer-size lake trout.

The GLIFWC study’s primary research, however, bears an increasing load of human activity from recreation to industry to homemaking and all its associated negative impacts.

Gluckich is also threatened by atmospheric pollutants and fish consumers. Dr. Deborah Swackhammer from the University of Minnesota. Significant levels of toxic air contaminants for hundreds, sometimes thousands of miles and enter the region through dust and precipitation. One unique example is topazene. Introduced as a replacement for the illumed molecule DDT, which drove some wildlife populations toward extinction, topazene is now itself into the Lake Superior ecosystem. Swackhamer also pointed out that studies show that some contaminants, like Lake Superior fish, contain the highest levels of contaminants and have to be considered.

Fortunately, the lake has been spared much of the direct industrial contamination that has caused major problems in other Great Lakes. Levels of mercury and PCBs in Lake Superior fish are generally lower than those in other Great Lakes. “Lake Superior behaves differently from other Great Lakes in terms of contaminant cycles,” said Swackhamer. “While many water bodies absorb toxins into the sediments, Lake Superior stores more than 90 percent of its contaminant load before it reaches the bottom of the lake, allowing it to reenter the water where it’s absorbed by living organisms or released again to the air, she said.

“Lake Superior is not just a place for contaminants to come to, it’s also a source of contaminants going back into the air.”

In all, more than one hundred present detailed the critical issues that must be considered to best manage Lake Superior Tribe’s natural resources. Tribal representatives from urban, reservation and ceded territory areas for natural resource managers attended.

The current lake level is low, and with water flowing away from the forest to the open Lake Superior, it is expected to drop. Winter is generally a dry time for Lake Superior. Firewood and water sources are abundant. The current lake level is low, water levels and temperatures are more productive. Some of the most disturbed species (such as alewife) are able to spawn. The lake is also benefiting from the increased temperatures which allow for more profitable water quality.

TheGLIFWC fish survey provides a valuable resource for the fisherman, recreational angler, or the general public. The survey helps in understanding the current status of the Lake Superior fish population.
Great Lakes NAFWS hits twenty

Shoot straight and play it safe

Tribal officers train, GLIFWC teaches advanced methods

Conservation Officer Jim Stone’s assessment of an advanced law enforcement training program had the flavor of hype: as close to real life as you get, he said. But as observers and participants soon realized, the field scenario evoked genuine tension, the pressure was real, and for anyone who got shot—of being.

Following two days of standard target shooting at the Native American Fish and Wildlife Service Shooting Range, participants continued advanced training exercises for tribal law enforcement officers from across the area. Using the prepared training system called Simulations, certified instructors can create virtually any situation wardens are likely to encounter.

“Officers use a gun identical to those service weapons that fire reduced-energy rounds made with a plastic jacket and a colored soap ‘bullet. ’ This level of realism helps officers learn to handle situations safely and properly,” said Stone, who attended Simulation instructor training at Chippewa Valley Technical College.

During the September 12 training scenarios at Lac du Flambeau’s shooting range, a lone officer arrives at a remote location where two hunters stand next to a pick-up truck, preparing to field dress a recently killed deer. The hunters quickly become annoyed by the presence of the officer who asks whether the animal is properly tagged and preserved. Initially, who also wears fluorescent yellow-die dangerous as the individual removes an object from the truck and takes cover behind the vehicle.

“Chad in an orange instructive vest, Stone stands slightly back, evaluating how the training officer manages the deteriorating situation. In an instant, handgun rounds substitute for blanks, the wardens take command, more shots, gun jams and people are diving, rolling and otherwise maneuvering for shelter.

Stone calms a cease fire, gathers the participants and critiques the trainee, highlighting what went right, what went wrong and tips for future consideration. While the players—all tribal wardens—are protective helmets and body armor, broken skin and welts appear on arms and legs covered with only clothing fabric. The stink from the fire rounds contrasts with the serene focus learned during the training scenario.

Typically these skills aren’t used a lot, but it’s something you want to brush up on just in case. They keep you on your toes.”

Tribal law enforcement officers from GLIFWC, Lac du Flambeau, Menominee, Bois Forte and Grand Portage participated in the Simulations training.

Moose numbers slide, research continues in 1854 territory

Although no smoking gun has emerged following a five-year intrigue research effort, the moose population in northeast Minnesota may be in the grip of a slower, chronic decline. Climate warming appears to be underling a range of negative impacts to moose including increased heat stress and parasitic infections.

Andrew Edwards, 1854 Treaty Authority Biologist, said moose numbers fell by 23 percent from an estimated 8,392 moose in 2006 to 5,727 in 2007. Longer term calculations based on statistical modeling suggests that the northeast Minnesota herd may now be declining approximately seven percent annually.

Edwards, however, isn’t convinced that the 1854 ceded territory moose population is destined to vanish from the landscape like another Minnesota herd in the state’s northwest. This moose herd plummeted to around 800 animals, down from a high of approximately 4,000 in the mid-1960s.

“I’m optimistic that moose numbers can stabilize in the northeast region. Without a clear reason for the recent decline, it’s difficult to predict what the future will bring,” Edwards said. Bиologists from 1854 Treaty Authority, Lac du Flambeau, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and United Geologi-

A wide net

In addition to a deep schedule of traditional subsides including fisheries, wildlife, environmental and law enforcement exercises, conference organizers added drills to tribal historic preservation.

Most native communities in the region retain a tribal historic preservation officer (THPO) to help conduct historic property surveys and maintain permanent inventories of historic properties. Among a handful of THPO representatives, Ho-Chunky’s William Quackenbush detailed how the southern Wisconsin tribe uses ground penetrating radar to identify Individual tribal and cultural sites, especially threatened by development.

Environmental Biologist Adam DeWeese explained the design and evolution of GLIFWC’s mercury advisory maps for walleye fishermen. Walleye, or organ, accumulate mercury in their kidneys, which can cause health problems for human consumers—especially children and pregnant women. With input from tribal members, GLIFWC designed a series of colored territory maps featuring color-coded advisory areas based on local health risks.

Additional presentations on black bear research, trends in waterfowl habitat, monitoring and hunting of small game and waterfowl, and other topics were included.

For more information on tribal natural resources and related topics, visit Great Lakes Region site: www.glfwc.org; www.nafws.org; www.ISUfwsauthority.org;

Moose numbers slide, research continues in 1854 territory

In an emergency train of biological, radio-telemetry and related this moose in northeast Minnesota near Windy Lake. Biologists have moved to attach radiocollars in order to track the movement, habitat preferences, survival rates and calf production. (1854 Treaty Authority photo)

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Moose numbers slide, research continues in 1854 territory

In an emergency train of biological, radio-telemetry and related this moose in northeast Minnesota near Windy Lake. Biologists have moved to attach radiocollars in order to track the movement, habitat preferences, survival rates and calf production. (1854 Treaty Authority photo)

Andrew Edwards, 1854 Treaty Authority Biologist, said moose numbers fell by 23 percent from an estimated 8,392 moose in 2006 to 5,727 in 2007. Longer term calculations based on statistical modeling suggests that the northeast Minnesota herd may now be declining approximately seven percent annually.

Edwards, however, isn’t convinced that the 1854 ceded territory moose population is destined to vanish from the landscape like another Minnesota herd in the state’s northwest. This moose herd plummeted to around 800 animals, down from a high of approximately 4,000 in the mid-1960s.

“I’m optimistic that moose numbers can stabilize in the northeast region. Without a clear reason for the recent decline, it’s difficult to predict what the future will bring,” Edwards said. Bиologists from 1854 Treaty Authority, Lac du Flambeau, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources and United Geologi-

A wide net

In addition to a deep schedule of traditional subsides including fisheries, wildlife, environmental and law enforcement exercises, conference organizers added drills to tribal historic preservation.

Most native communities in the region retain a tribal historic preservation officer (THPO) to help conduct historic property surveys and maintain permanent inventories of historic properties. Among a handful of THPO representatives, Ho-Chunky’s William Quackenbush detailed how the southern Wisconsin tribe uses ground penetrating radar to identify Individual tribal and cultural sites, especially threatened by development.

Environmental Biologist Adam DeWeese explained the design and evolution of GLIFWC’s mercury advisory maps for walleye fishermen. Walleye, or organ, accumulate mercury in their kidneys, which can cause health problems for human consumers—especially children and pregnant women. With input from tribal members, GLIFWC designed a series of colored territory maps featuring color-coded advisory areas based on local health risks.

Additional presentations on black bear research, trends in waterfowl habitat, monitoring and hunting of small game and waterfowl, and other topics were included.

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MKZINA’IGAN PAGE   WINTER 2007/2008

• ENFORCEMENT •

traps set both on land and in the water. (photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

Learning about on-water safety were participants in the Boating Safety class offered by GLIFWC wardens this fall. (staff photo)

By Charlie Otto Rasmussen, Staff Writer

Mole Lake, Wi.—Midway through the 2007 treaty black bear season, Sokaogon registration clerks had already tallied 19 bears—a harvest number three times higher than an average state black bear harvest for the same time period in zone B is 437.

Since 1996, tribal hunters have brought in between a half-dozen. The average state black bear harvest for the past decade. Tribal elders and resource officials have expressed his concern to the nine-member task force about reports of excessive bear harvests and tag-sharing becoming a growing concern that the harvest may not be sustainable.

As the bear registration numbers came in, there was a growing concern that the harvest may not be occurring in a good way, Landis said. “We have a responsibility to consider both scientific data and cultural teachings in managing our natural resources.”

The limited availability and high demand for bear harvest tags set the stage for confusion between non-Indian shooters and tribal members willing to register kills as their own. The illegal practice commonly known as ‘tag-sharking’ generates severe penalties for both treaty and state hunters.

Last year a tribal judge revoked a Bad River woman’s treaty privileges for two years, plus issued a $750 fine for attempting to register an Iron County bear kill by a non-member.

Fred Ackley, a Sokaogon judge and past Voigt Intertribal Task Force representative, expressed concerns about member task force about reports of excessive bear harvests and tag-sharing being brought between Sokaogon members and non-Indian hunters.

Veilma Landis said that with all creators holding a unique place in traditional Ojibwe culture, clan animals like the wolf, marten and bear should be held in the highest esteem. “The bear told Chiche Manito he’d give his flesh for us,” he said. “The reason we have this reverence for makwa is he gave his life for us, the Anishinaabe people. We have to always remember this.” Ackley told VITF representatives at their October 4 meeting in Mole Lake.

The Sokaogon Chippewa Community is located in the heart of bear management zone B where only 2.7% of all licensed hunters wanted a bear kill tag in 2007 got one.

The Department of Natural Resources employs a preference point system for state bear hunters. One point is earned for each year the hunter submits a $3 preference point application. This past season, only hunters with nine points or more were licensed to hunt bears in zone B.

Since tribal hunters have brought in between one and 11 treaty bears to the Sokaogon registration station annually, with an average harvest right around a half-dozen. The average state black bear harvest for the same time period in zone B is 437.

Sokaogon officials are currently considering regulatory changes for the 2008 black bear season to make potential tag-sharing much more difficult.

By Sarah Erickson, Staff Writer

Odanah, Wi.—Getting away from business-as-usual, the Chippewa Tribal Council formally closed the off-reservation bear hunting season this fall.

The proposal centers around the Lake Nebish Environmental Center near Soudan, Michigan. Built in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps, the camp features twelve modern, domino-style cabins, three of which are equipped with a generous common area that could accommodate group education presentations. The large outdoor campus, including a 30-acre lake, is perfect for studying environmental sciences as well as learning outdoor skills.

In addition, the center offers an archery range, a rope-and-obstacle training facility that could encourage team building as well as fitness, and a game field.

Forest Service Tribal Liaison Mary Rasmussen first perked Maubin’s interest in the Center’s potential. “I saw some discussion between the Ottawa’s Interpretive Working Group and GLIFWC ensue and realized it a proposal to provide a three to five day camp experience for twelve to fifteen tribal and non-Indian youth, ages eight to eighteen, offering opportunities to learn about the natural and cultural aspects of the Great Lakes area, environmental sciences and natural resource careers.”

The camp would be jointly sponsored by the Ottawa National Forest and GLIFWC, with GLIFWC contributing outdoor skills equipment, such as nets, maple sugar gathering equipment, hunting and fishing gear as well as some personnel qualified to provide instruction in these areas.

Maubin also contacted the Lakeland Union High School Intertribal Leadership Forum (ILF) Program for possible involvement and support. ILF works with Minocqua-area elementary and high school students in an effort to prepare students from four “Four” elementary schools to succeed and feel comfortable in a multi-cultural high school setting.

While the proposal has received a positive response, Maubin says funding remains an issue. “The Center could be secured for the three-day use for a one-time payment of $1,500, and there is a $1,700 per day charge for each student to cover camp maintenance expenses. Other costs related to the proposal need to be estimated and funding sought.”

For GLIFWC, a program such as this could go along way in helping to teach traditional hunting, fishing and gathering skills, and promoting natural resource-related careers to tribal youth.”

It is also an excellent opportunity for encouraging cross-cultural education and respect. It sounds like a ‘win-win’ indicator: We’ll see.”

Menden, Wisconsin resident Mike Popovich pinned on a GLIFWC conservation officer badge October 1 and began service as a ceded territory warden. A former ranger at nearby Copper Falls State Park, Popovich has experience enforcing state conservation laws within the park boundary. His new assignment includes a considerably expanded work area that includes much of northeast Wisconsin.

Popovich said that even though he’s had limited success so far, he’s not giving up. “We’ve had limited success so far, and I’m not going to give up.”

Enforcement addition stationed in NW Wisconsin

Officer Vern Stone (center) conducted a trapping refresher in Odanah last October for GLIFWC conservation wardens. Above, Stone details the proper way of catching pole are commonly used to target furbearers. While providing public lands across the ceded territory, GLIFWC officers encounter a variety of furbearers traps set both on land and in the water. (photo by Charlie Otto Rasmussen)

Moose research continues in 1854 ceded territory (continued from page 12)

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**Biboon—It’s Winter**


Bimaajiiit Anishinabeg, bimaajiiit akii. Wiidosemishin. Chi-miigwech miinawaa. (Please tell a story to me. Stop! Let’s all stop.)

**What if you were a chi ayabe (big buck) and your antlers fell off?**

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

If you are a big, proud ayabe (back), your beautiful antlers WILL fall off!!! Male deer, ayaabeg or bucks, grow antlers, and they drop them in mid to late winter every year. This is called shedding the antlers. But once they shed the antlers, they grow them back again. So in the early spring, you will probably not see a winterkeshiwaag (deer) with antlers.

Ayaabeg (bucks) have bony humps on their foreheads called pedicles. When their antlers start to grow again, they grow from the pedicle, which is always there.

Growing antlers are covered with a soft skin called the velvet. The velvet is full of tiny blood vessels that feed vitamins and minerals to the growing bone in the antlers. When you see an ayabe in the summer, his antlers will look very soft and fuzzy. That is because he is “in velvet.”

The antlers grow all summer long. Growing antlers are one of the fastest growing tissues known, sometimes growing as much as a half-inch every day. During the growing period, the antlers are very delicate, and it is very easy for antlers to be damaged or broken.

In the fall a ring forms at the bottom of the antler and shuts off the blood supply. This makes the velvet dry up and fall off. The buck also rubs his antlers on trees, rubbing the velvet skin off his antlers.

Antlers generally get bigger each year. A new branch or point usually grows each season. That is why older ayaabeg have larger antlers, sometimes called racks, with more points. In the first year of life, a male fawn grows the pedicle and in the second season, when he is a yearling, he grows two spikes, one straight antler with no branches.

Some yearlings grow antlers with several points branching from the snipe.

Antlers can make very beautiful decorations and are used in a number of different ways for decoration.

(Reprinted from infovisual.info/02/074_en.html)

**Expressions**

Gashkadino-Giizis—Freezing up moon (Nov.)
Manidoo-Giizisoon—Little spirit moon (Dec.)
Gichi-Manidoo-Giizis—Great Spirit Moon (Jan.)
Makadewindibe, nookomis. Gaye—as in about
Aaniin—as in seen
Amik—as in tin
Gaye—as in about
Noongom—as in moon
Aaniin—as in seen
Amik—as in tin
Gaye—as in about
—Respectfully enlist
—A glottal stop is a voiceless nasal sound
—Long vowels: AA, E, I, O, OO

**Ojibwe Expressions**

Gashkadino-Giizis—Freezing up moon (Nov.)
Manidoo-Giizisoon—Little spirit moon (Dec.)
Gichi-Manidoo-Giizis—Great Spirit Moon (Jan.)

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

A. Waabaag lishik oonw wabiskizhikwag biboon.
B. Niiwin niigaagan.
C. Makadewindibe, nookomis.
D. Niiwin-4
E. Giiigizhikaa.
F. Giiigizhiibide. Gizhiibiz. _____.
G. Bizaan! Bizaan! Bizaan! Be quiet!
H. Niiwin-4
I. Giiigizhiibide. Gizhiibiz. _____.
J. Biziibijii, Bizaan. Biziibijii, Bizaan. Be quiet!

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Bekaa—Slow down, wait! Haaw miinawat—Try again! Mii dash. And their.
Bizaan!—Be quiet!
Awiie wewiib!—Come, hurry!
Amanij igidowin!—I don’t know.
Aamii ezhigig---What are you doing?
Daga buzudizhinew!—Please listen to me.
Giiigizhiibide. Gizhiibiz. —It’s cold outside.
Giiigizhiibide. Gizhiibiz. —Look! it is snowing.
Giiigizhiibide. Gizhiibiz. —It’s cold outside.
Giiigizhiibide. Gizhiibiz. —And then...
Giiigizhiibide. Gizhiibiz. —That’s for DARN sure!
Giiigizhiibide. Gizhiibiz. —You drive fast. Slow down! (Bekaa!)
Giiigizhiibide. Gizhiibiz. —That's for DARN sure!
Giiigizhiibide. Gizhiibiz. —Respectfully enlist
Giiigizhiibide. Gizhiibiz. —Red-nosed reindeer
Giiigizhiibide. Gizhiibiz. —Happy sleeping-praying-day,
Giiigizhiibide. Gizhiibiz. —Please burn the atrium
Giiigizhiibide. Gizhiibiz. —Be quiet!

---

**Translations**

**Niizh—2**

Niiwin-4
Aki
Amik
Noogishkaan
Across:
5. Niiwin-4
6. Giiigizhiibide. Gizhiibiz. _____.
3. Niiwin-4
2. Niiwin-4

Down:
1. K L E K O K E B O Z
O D U B W I E V G
I I N A A N Z O W A G H
O B A P
A
W G J E Y
N A O C M I N
O D A A B A A N
O D U B W I E V G
K L E K O K E B O Z
I A O H Q E Z E O R O
M M I S K O Z I N Z W
I T A N A A W A K W E G
S N Z K T Y F I O X E S
I I N A A N Z O W A G H

---

**Niwin—4**

Ojibwe Expressions

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Aaniin—as in seen
Amik—as in tin
Gaye—as in about
---

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**Fork:** end of a deer’s antlers, which divides in two.
**Palm:** end of a deer’s antlers similar in form to a human hand.
**Royal antler:** fused division of a deer’s antlers from its head.
**Bay antler:** division of a deer’s antlers above the brow line.
**Brow time:** first division of a deer’s antlers from its head.
**Pedicle:** part of a deer’s head that supports the antlers.
**Bwsa:** central stalk of the antlers of a deer.
**Surryoyal antler:** fourth division of the antlers of a deer.
**Crown time:** growing time at the top of a deer’s antlers.

(Reprinted from infovisual.info/092574_can.html)
Woodland gifts motivate tribal artist
By Karen Danielen, GLIFWC Forest Ecologist

Allotso, Wis.—Dick Mindykoczi, a Lac Courte Oreilles member, creates walking sticks, staffs, tomahawks, turtle shells, shields, dreamcatchers and other types of art using materials procured from the woods. He traps fur-bearing creatures and carves out those furs, adding subtle texture and beauty. The fur comes from the animals he receives as gifts, or traps. He also decorates with leather, deer antlers, and beads; he uses stones polished by wind and water for making shields.

He started making staffs and walking sticks as gifts for family and friends. He made himself a shield—his circle of life—lying onto it objects with personal significance. He also made his daughter a shield, for her circle of life.

Eventually, with his brother’s encouragement, he began selling his artwork. However, two years ago, his brother walked on, leaving Dick with immense grief and doubt about his own future.

His artwork may be found in over a dozen stores throughout Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. When an artist of his repute passes, his brother, who is a noted woodcarver, remem...
The story behind “NIBI WABO,” a women’s water song

Editor’s note: In the full edition, Mazina’igan was the words and music to the Women’s Water Song, which was sung at Sandy Lake last summer, however two of the words were misplaced in the text of the song. In preparing to make this correction, we collected more information about the song, and are pleased to provide it. The following text is a copy of that information, intended for women’s groups.

It is important to be aware that, while the origins of the Water Song are anything but clear, the songs and the stories that have come to us are part of a tradition of women’s voices that have been recognized and celebrated for many generations. The songs are a part of a tradition of women’s voices that have been recognized and celebrated for many generations.

The next Nibi Wabo ceremony should have been held on the thirteenth new moon in 2007, but it was not held. The Women’s Water Song was sung at Sandy Lake in the summer of 2007, but it was not held.

The women of the world are the guardians of the ceremony that we have been asked to pass on to the next generation. The women of the world are the guardians of the ceremony that we have been asked to pass on to the next generation.

The book is replete with examples of dirty tricks and political finaglings—the kinds of things that enabled the Flambeau Mine to be built in the 1990s despite significant local and tribal opposition. As Churchill states in the introduction to the book, “Not only is mining dirty, but so too the politics that are employed.” And his words would be equally true today.

The Buzzards Have Landed! combines human interest with hard facts about the Flambeau Mine and also serves as a primer on Wisconsin’s weak mining laws. But perhaps most important, the narrative is filled with information that can be used by other communities faced with the prospect of hard rock mining or other corporate assaults. As Roscoe writes:

With the Buzzards Have Landed!...
Rep from 13 Indigenous Grandmothers
Council shares concerns for the world’s water at Northland College

By Sue Erickson, Staff Writer

Ashland, Wis.—Chairwoman of the International Council of 13 Indigenous Grandmothers, Agnes Baker (also known as Grandma Aggie), recently visited Northland College’s Environmental Center, sharing her concern for the world’s water, her hopes and visions, and her warm smile. Traveling with her was Dennis Martinez, founder and chair of the Indigenous People’s Reconciliation Network.

As Grandma Aggie put it, the two represent both the spiritual and the scientific perspective on the world’s ecological problems and the impact on indigenous people worldwide.

Grandma Aggie, a Tatsinaan Indian Elder, pointed out that the Group’s Council’s goal of encouraging connections between women worldwide, “Women have a lot of power when they come together, and they need to be lifted up in whatever work of life they are in.”

She emphasized her concern for the world’s water, emphasizing that it is a living being and needs to be talked to and prayed for everyday. “Water has life and gives life, it sustains our bodies, our joints. Without it we will die.” Noting the warming trends of the water everywhere, Grandma Aggie mentioned Lake Superior’s warmer temperatures and low-levels, she said, “Water can tear down illegal government.”

Formed in 2004 the 13 Indigenous Grandmothers’ Council has representatives from over the world—the Arctic Circle, North, South and Central America, Africa and Asia. The Council formed during Agnes Baker, chairwoman of the International Council of 13 Indigenous Grandmothers (Grandma Aggie), shares her belief in the power of water, prayer and water during a reception at the Sigurd Olson Environmental Institute.

“We are the 13th Indigenous Grandmothers. We have united as one. Ours is an alliance of prayer, education and healing for our Mother Earth. All her inhabitants, all the children, and for the next seven generations to come.”

“We are deeply concerned with the unprecedented destruction of our Mother Earth, the contamination of our air, waters and soil. The heart brokenness of the global loss of species, the threat of nuclear weapons and waste, the prevailing culture of materialism, the epidemics which threaten the health of the Earth, the exploitation of indigenous medicines, and with the dislocation of people.”

“We, the International Council of Thirteen Indigenous Grandmothers, believe that our ancestral ways of prayer, peace making and healing are vitally needed today. We come together to nurture, educate and train our children. We come together to uphold the practice of our ceremonies and to return to the use of our plant medicines free of legal restriction. We come together to protect the lands where our peoples live and upon which our cultures depend, to safeguard the collective heritage of traditional medicine. To heal ourselves. We believe that the teachings of our ancestors will light the way for the future. We join with all those who honor the Creator, and to all who work and pray for our children, for world peace, and for the healing of our Mother Earth. For all our relations.”

(Continued from page 7)

Please see the Cooperative Emerald Ash Borer Project's map, at www.oas.purdue.edu/Reports/11-Don%20Davis%20manuscript.pdf.

The Wisconsin DNR has two online fact sheets on feral pigs: “Feral Pig” at http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/wildlife/HUNT/Pig/Pig_Hunting.htm.

For more information on the environmental and economic impacts non-native, invasive species is from:


To read about the Wisconsin chestnut stand and efforts to save it, see the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources’ article “Lost Stand.” At www.snowmog.com/store/2002/0aug/02/lost_stand.htm.

The Sandy Lake Tragedy DVD

The Sandy Lake Tragedy DVD devotes itself to telling the story of how this tragedy solidified the resolve of Lake Superior bands to live forever in their homelands and helped pave the way for establishing tribal reserves.

The 28-minute video by GLIFWC and award winning filmmaker Lorraine Morgan portrays the events leading up to an accident which led to the deaths of 19 women and children at Sandy Lake, Minnesota over the winter of 1850-51. Approximately 400 Ojibwe died of disease, starvation and exposure at Sandy Lake and on the fences, better known as the Sandy Lake Tragedy.

Supported by white residential, businessmen and state officials across Was- hington Island, the U.S. government relocated to lands west of Minnesota River through the mid to early 1850s. Chief Buffalo's heroic journey from Madeline Island to Washington D.C. in 1852 played a pivotal role in the narrative. But arising with early Ojibwe history, the story also highlights the recent establishment of the Mikewenaagowiyag Watershed Group and the emergence of new tribal leaders who worked tirelessly to make history.

Involving the youth

(Continued from page 3)

It is a resource that both beginning and advanced language students can use to increase their knowledge of Anishinaabemowin—$12.00.

Housing

No shipping or handling charges will apply to orders shipped within the United States. Clip and mail the order form below.

Name: ___________________________   Address: ___________________________

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Out-of-country orders:

As of January 1, 2008 GLIFWC will be requiring prepayment for or a pur- chase order prior to mailing out requested materials.

Out-of-country orders: Shipping and handling will also be included in all out-of-country orders as of January 1 and only US currency is accepted.

To order materials, clip and mail the order form below.

1. Gidakiiminaan (Our Earth) atlas

- Gidakiiminaan (Our Earth) atlas
- Gidakiiminaan (Our Earth) atlas & CD

2. Gidakiiminaan (Our Earth) CD

- Gidakiiminaan (Our Earth) CD

3. Indinawemagonidog

- Indinawemagonidog

4. Special purchase: Gidakiiminaan (Our Earth) atlas + CD

- Gidakiiminaan (Our Earth) atlas + CD

5. The Sandy Lake Tragedy DVD

- The Sandy Lake Tragedy DVD

6. DVD Booklet combination

- DVD Booklet combination

[price information]

[make checks payable to: Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) P.O. Box 9, Ojibwe, WI 54861 email: post@glifwc.org; phone: (715) 685-2150 or visit our website, www.glifwc.org]

GLIFWC accepts purchase orders, personal checks, cashiers checks and money orders. We do not charge shipping or handling fees for orders shipped within the United States. Make checks payable to GLIFWC are to be paid in advance for orders shipped out of the US. All orders must be paid in US currency.

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- The Sandy Lake Tragedy DVD

6. DVD Booklet combination

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