



**Results of the 2005 Treaty Waawaashkeshi
(Deer) and Makwa (Bear) Hunting Seasons
in the 1837 and 1842 Ceded Territories in
Wisconsin and Minnesota**

by

Jonathan Gilbert
GLIFWC
Wildlife Section Leader

Admin Report 06 - 08
June 2006

**Great Lakes Indian Fish
& Wildlife Commission**

P. O. Box 9
Odanah, WI 54861
(715) 682 - 6619

RESULTS OF THE 2005 TREATY WAAWAASHKESHI (DEER) AND MAKWA (BEAR) HUNTING SEASONS IN THE 1837 AND 1842 CEDED TERRITORIES IN WISCONSIN AND MINNESOTA

Introduction

This report presents the results of the 2005 off-reservation waawaashkeshi (deer) and makwa (bear) hunting seasons in the 1837 and 1842 ceded territories of Wisconsin and Minnesota (Figure 1). Hunters were members of the six Wisconsin bands of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, the Mille Lacs Chippewa Tribe (Minnesota) and the Fond du Lac Band (Minnesota). Harvest totals only are presented in this report for the Fond du Lac Band (FDL). Schrage (2006) reported details about other aspects of the FDL season. This report does not cover deer and bear hunting in Michigan. Harvest and regulations governing the 2005 Michigan treaty hunting seasons are reported by Falck (in prep.).

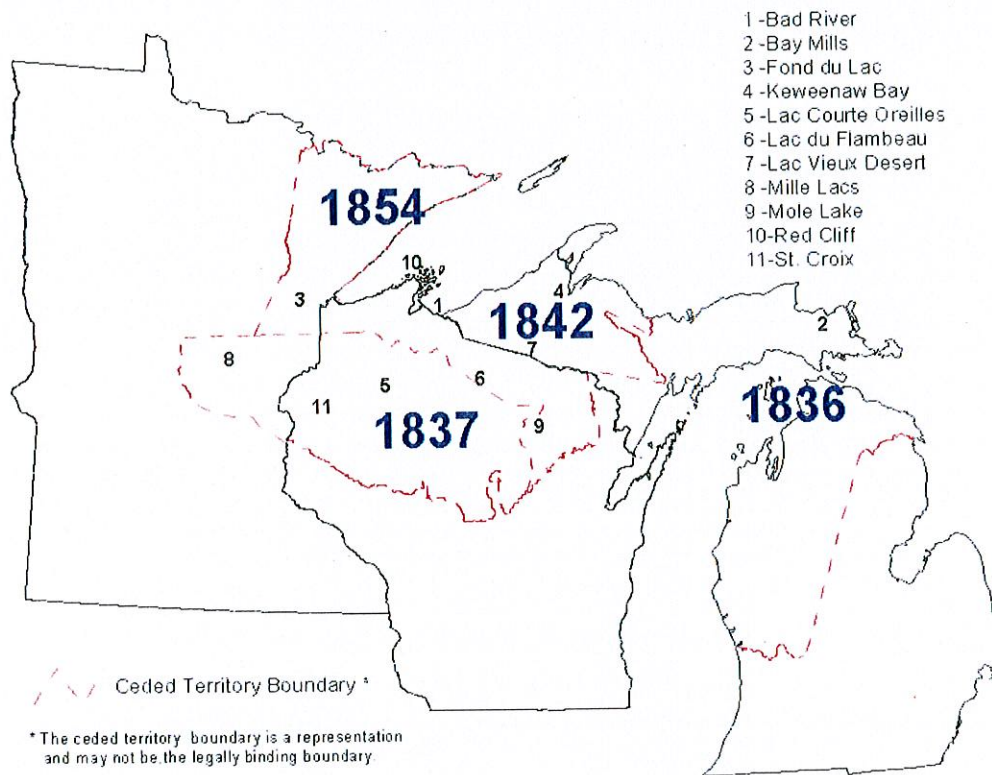


Figure 1. Location of the GLIFWC member tribes in Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

Tribal deer hunting regulations for members hunting in Wisconsin were enacted to comply with the rulings and stipulations resulting from the May 1990 Federal Court (7th Circuit) decision. In the 1837 ceded territory in Minnesota, season regulations were enacted to comply with the March 1997 Federal Court (8th Circuit) decision. In both states, these rules resulted in a season which was 120 days long starting September 1 and ending December 31, 2003. Hunting was permitted with either a bow or a gun in both states.

In 2005, the permit and registration system, first implemented in 1986 in Wisconsin, was used in the 1837 ceded territory in both states and the Wisconsin portion of the 1842 ceded territory. Lac Courte Oreilles, Lac du Flambeau, Mole Lake and St. Croix each authorized their members to receive 4 carcass tags at a time. The remaining tribes (i.e., Mille Lacs, Red Cliff, and Bad River) issued 2 tags at a time. Each deer, regardless of sex or age, was required to be tagged with a carcass tag and registered at a tribal registration station or with field wardens. Hunters could obtain an additional carcass tag upon registration of any deer. In order to shoot a doe or a fawn a hunter was required to obtain an antlerless deer permit that allowed the harvest of 2 deer of this type. Permits were valid for any deer management unit (Wisconsin) or permit area (Minnesota, Figure 2) where the quota of antlerless deer had not been filled. No hunter was allowed more than one antlerless permit at a time but there was no limit on the total number of antlerless permits issued for any unit as long as less than 75% of the quota had been harvested. In Wisconsin, after 75% of the quota had been harvested, permits were issued based on demonstrated success rates for that unit. Antlerless permits were valid for up to 14 days. Upon shooting an antlerless deer the hunter was required to slit the permit to show the unit in which the deer was shot. The permit could be replaced upon registration.

Commercial harvest of deer was permitted when the hunter's tribal government specifically authorized such a harvest. Bad River, Mole Lake and Red Cliff authorized commercial hunting in Wisconsin in 2005. Persons wishing to hunt antlerless deer for commercial purposes were required to obtain a commercial antlerless deer permit. Level 1 commercial antlerless deer permits were valid for specific zones, based on the location of registration and enabled the holder to harvest up to a total of 10 deer. If a hunter wished to harvest more than 10 deer for commercial purposes a level 2 commercial permit was required to be issued by the tribal council. There were no deer registered for commercial purposes in 2005.

In Minnesota there was a special 2-day deer hunt (1 weekend) in Wild River State Park and a 4-day hunt (two weekends) in St. Croix State Park. These hunts were held to reduce the damage caused by the large number of deer in the parks. The hunt in St. Croix State Park operated under an earn-a-buck system whereby hunters were required to shoot an antlerless deer prior to shooting a antlered deer. The tribal hunts were concurrent with the State hunts and only a limited number of hunters could participate. In addition to these special hunts, St. Croix State Park hosted a youth-only hunt for October 30 and 31. The purpose of this hunt was to provide a hunting opportunity for young hunters.



Ceded Territory Boundary
 GLIFWC Member Tribe
 Deer Unit Boundaries
 County Boundaries

The ceded territory and tribal reservation boundaries are representations and may not be legally binding.

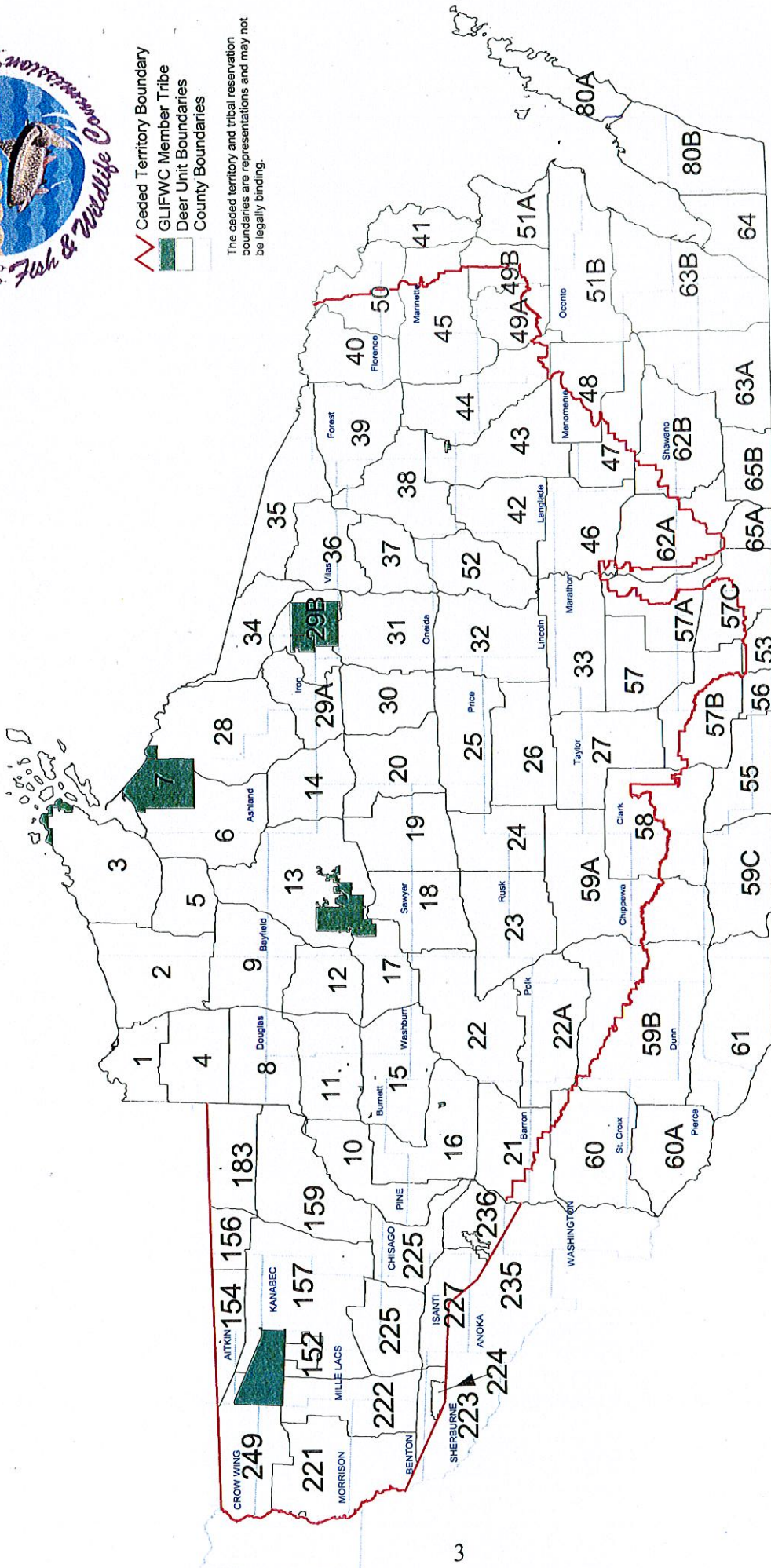


Figure 2. Location of Deer Management Units in the ceded territory of Wisconsin and Minnesota

Deer Hunting Results

Carcass tags were issued to 2,197 deer hunters (Table 1). Tags were authorized to be issued to any member of the 6 Wisconsin bands and the Mille Lacs Chippewa Tribe. Members from FDL obtained tags from their tribal offices. Registration stations were established at each of these 8 reservations for issuing tags and permits and registering deer. Since 1995, an additional registration station has been open in St. Paul, MN to register deer from members living in or near the twin cities. Data from this station have been recorded with the LCO station information. Since 1997, another station has been open in St. Paul, MN to serve members of the Mille Lacs Band. Since 1998, FDL has issued tags and registered deer to members from the Wisconsin and Mille Lacs bands from their offices.

The number of hunters in 2005 (2,197, Table 1) increased 23% from the number of deer hunters in 2004 (1,774, Gilbert 2005). The number of successful hunters in 2005 (826) and 2004 (816) were similar (Figure 3). The resulting harvest success rate declined from 46% in 2004 to 38% in 2005.

The number of hunters participating in the off-reservation treaty deer seasons in Wisconsin continued to increase in 2005 after reaching the lowest level in 2002 (Figure 3). Compared to 2004 the number of deer hunters increased for each tribe with the exception of Bad River (Gilbert 2005).

Table 1. The distribution of carcass tags and hunter success during the 2005 off-reservation treaty deer season.

TRIBE OF ENROLLMENT	DEER HUNTERS	SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL
Bad River	231	122	52.8
Lac Courte Oreilles	635	222	35.0
Lac du Flambeau	445	157	35.3
Mille Lacs	208	82	39.4
Mole Lake	141	36	25.5
Red Cliff	383	135	35.2
St. Croix	154	72	46.8
Totals	2,197	826	37.6

Number of hunters vs. successful hunters

1991 - 2004.

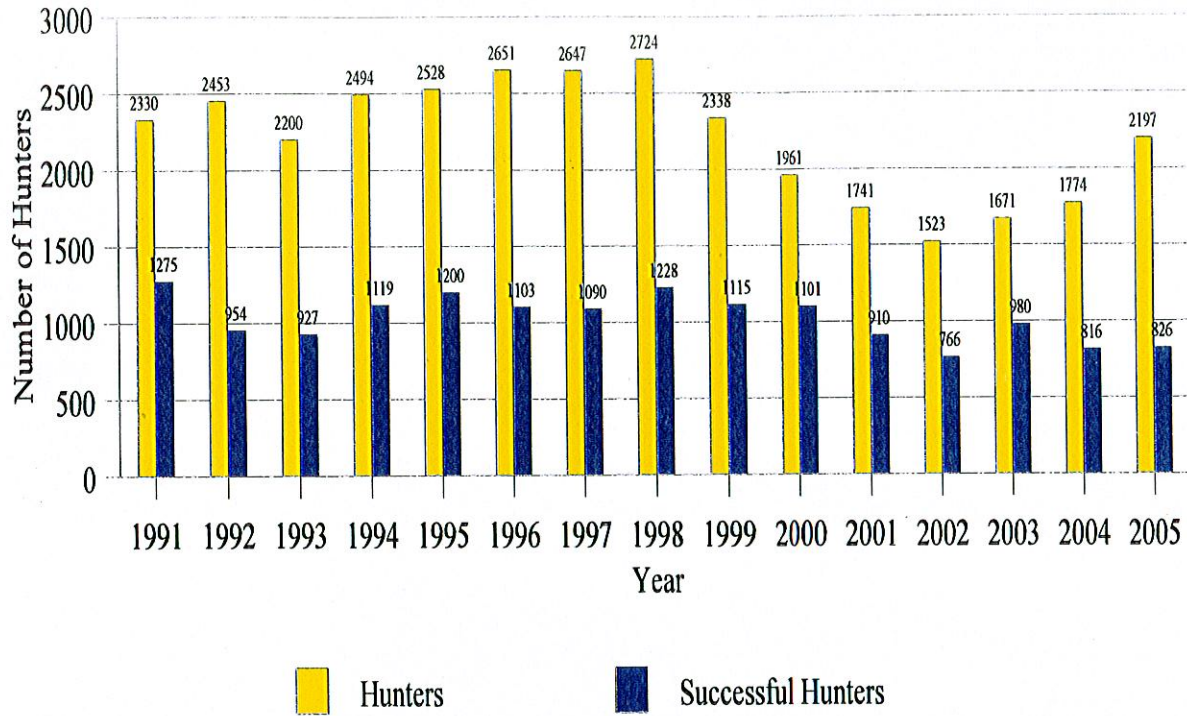


Figure 3. The number of hunters and successful hunters during off-reservation treaty deer hunting seasons from 1991 - 2005.

Deer Harvest by Registration Station

Wisconsin

The tribal deer hunt was an either sex hunt because all hunters could obtain antlerless deer permits and carcass tags throughout the season for all units. Beginning in the 2001 season, unit 7 was closed to off-reservation treaty hunting because the unit boundaries were changed to match boundaries of the Bad River Reservation. Thus, all areas of unit 7 were on-reservation and under the jurisdiction of the Bad River Tribe. Tribal antlerless deer quotas in all units were sufficient to meet demonstrated tribal needs. Tribal hunters shot 862 antlered deer (mostly adult bucks) and 1,309 antlerless deer (adult does and fawns) and 6 unknowns for a total harvest of 2,180 deer (Table 2a). This harvest represents a 8% increase from the 2004 harvest of 2,021 deer (Gilbert 2005). An increase in registration was observed at all tribal stations, except for St. Croix where registration declined.

The percent of the harvest comprised of antlered bucks has increased in recent years. From 1983 through 1998 around 30% of the deer harvested by tribal members during the off-reservation hunting season were antlered bucks. In increase began in 1999 and since then the antlered buck component of the harvest ranged between 40% and 47%. In 2005 the percent adult bucks was 40% of the harvest lower than the record observed in 2004.

Table 2a. Number of antlered and antlerless deer harvested during the 2005 off-reservation treaty deer season in Wisconsin by registration station.

STATION	ANTLERED DEER	ANTLERLESS DEER	UNKNOWN DEER	TOTAL
Bad River	82	107	0	189
Fond du Lac*	28	38	0	66
Lac Courte Oreilles	203	323	1	527
Lac du Flambeau	180	300	0	480
Mille Lacs	12	18	0	30
Mole Lake	50	105	0	155
Red Cliff	134	129	0	263
St. Croix	171	289	5	465
In field registration	2	0	0	2
Totals	862	1,309	6	2,177

*Fond du Lac members did not hunt in Wisconsin, rather some members of Wisconsin bands or Mille Lacs, registered their Wisconsin-harvested deer at the Fond du Lac station. In the field registration was done by GLIFWC wardens.

Deer Harvest by Registration Station

Minnesota

This was the ninth year of off-reservation treaty deer hunting in the Minnesota portion of the 1837 ceded territory since the Federal Court affirmed the Bands' rights to hunt there. A total of 141 deer harvested in Minnesota were registered by tribal members at the Mille Lacs, Fond du Lac and St. Croix deer registration stations (Table 2b). This harvest was similar to deer harvest in 2004 (143 deer) in the 1837 ceded territory (Gilbert 2005).

Table 2b. Number of antlered and antlerless deer harvested during the 2005 off-reservation treaty deer season in Minnesota by registration station. Deer registered at St. Croix and Wild River State Parks during the special hunt are included in the Fond du Lac or Mille Lacs totals.

STATION	ANTLERED DEER	ADULT DOES	BUCK FAWNS	DOE FAWNS	TOTAL
Fond du Lac*	18 [#]	20	9	5	52
Mille Lacs	22	26	9	7	64
St. Croix	10	9	6	0	25
Totals	50	55	24	12	141

* Harvest figures for Fond du Lac members were from Schrage (2006).

[#] Harvest determined by prorating buck harvest in permit area by percent of permit area in 1837 ceded territory.

Deer Harvest by Management Unit

Wisconsin

Although deer harvest was distributed among 46 of the 64 deer management units either entirely or partially within the ceded territory of Wisconsin (Table 3a), 1,891 deer were harvested from the 20 units in which harvest exceeded 30 deer. The number of units with 30 or more deer harvested increased from 15 in 2004 (Gilbert 2005) to 20 in 2005.

Since 1991, the number of deer management units with large harvests (>100 deer) has ranged between 6 and 12 units. In 2005 there were 6 units with greater than 100 deer harvested (a decline from 7 in 2004). The six units were (in descending order): 3, 10, 11, 2, 13, and 35 (Table 3a, Figure 4). These are units where tribal members prefer to hunt, are close to reservations, have a large amount of public land, and have adequate antlerless deer quotas to meet tribal needs.

Table 3a. Number of antlered, antlerless and total deer harvested in Wisconsin during the 2005 off-reservation treaty deer season by deer management unit.

UNIT	ANTLERED DEER	ANTLERLESS DEER	UNKNOWN DEER	TOTAL DEER
01	17	24	0	41
02	43	98	1	142
03	163	142	0	305
04	16	9	0	25
05	27	49	0	76
06	12	20	0	32
08	34	57	4	95
09	33	54	0	87
10	65	118	0	183
11	69	107	1	177
12	19	36	0	55
13	48	92	0	140
14	0	2	0	2
15	18	44	0	62
16	9	7	0	16
17	13	17	0	30
18	17	12	0	29
19	7	4	0	11
20	2	0	0	2
21	0	0	0	0
22	5	2	0	7
22 A	0	1	0	1
23	11	1	0	12
24	0	0	0	0
25	0	2	0	2
26	0	0	0	0

2005 Treaty Deer and Bear Harvest
 1837 & 1842 Ceded Territories
 in Minnesota and Wisconsin
 Admin Report 06 - 08

UNIT	ANTLERED DEER	ANTLERLESS DEER	UNKNOWN DEER	TOTAL DEER
27	0	0	0	0
28	8	9	0	17
29A	8	13	0	21
29B	8	20	0	28
30	4	16	0	20
31	25	38	0	63
32	9	6	0	15
33	3	5	0	8
34	31	38	0	69
35	42	86	0	128
36	30	54	0	84
37	8	10	0	18
38	4	9	0	13
39	13	25	0	38
40	3	9	0	12
42	0	1	0	1
43	5	4	0	9
44	17	37	0	54
45	12	18	0	30
46	0	2	0	2
47	0	0	0	0
48	0	0	0	0
49A	1	0	0	1
49B	0	0	0	0
50	0	0	0	0
52	1	3	0	4
57	0	0	0	0
57A	0	0	0	0
57B	0	0	0	0
57C	0	0	0	0
58	0	1	0	1
59A	2	2	0	4
59B	0	0	0	0
62A	0	0	0	0
62B	0	0	0	0
78	0	0	0	0
79	0	0	0	0
Unknown	0	5	0	5
Totals	862	1,309	6	2,177

Deer Harvest by Management Unit

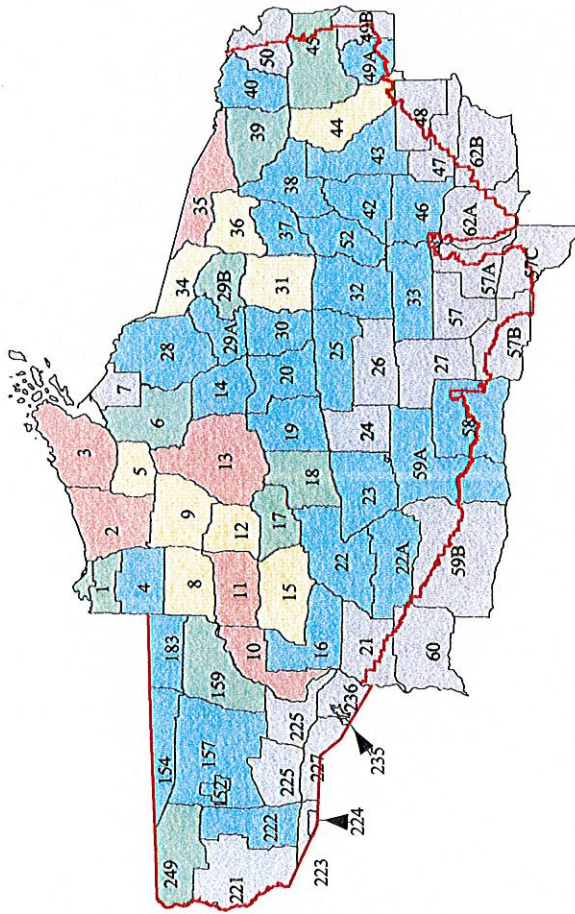
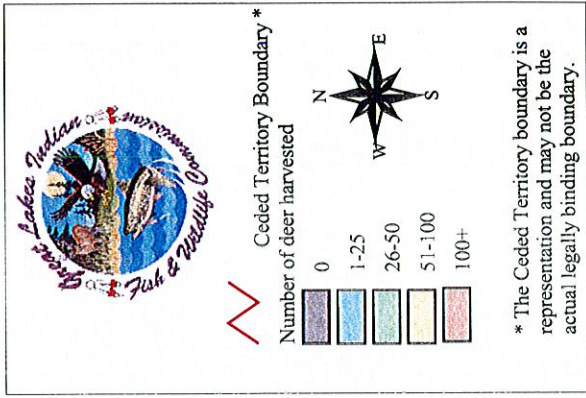
Minnesota

Fifteen deer permit areas are either partially or entirely in the 1837 ceded territory of Minnesota. A total of 141 deer were harvested by tribal members from 8 of those permit areas and in 2 state parks in 2005 (Table 3b, Figure 4). The majority of the deer harvested (106 deer) came from the tier of permit areas along the northern border of the ceded territory (Permit areas 152 through 183, plus area 249 and St. Croix State Park). These northern most areas are closer to reservations and have relatively large amounts of public land open to hunting, factors which have been observed to influence tribal harvest patterns in Wisconsin and now in Minnesota. About 25% of the harvested deer came from the more southern permit areas (35 deer).

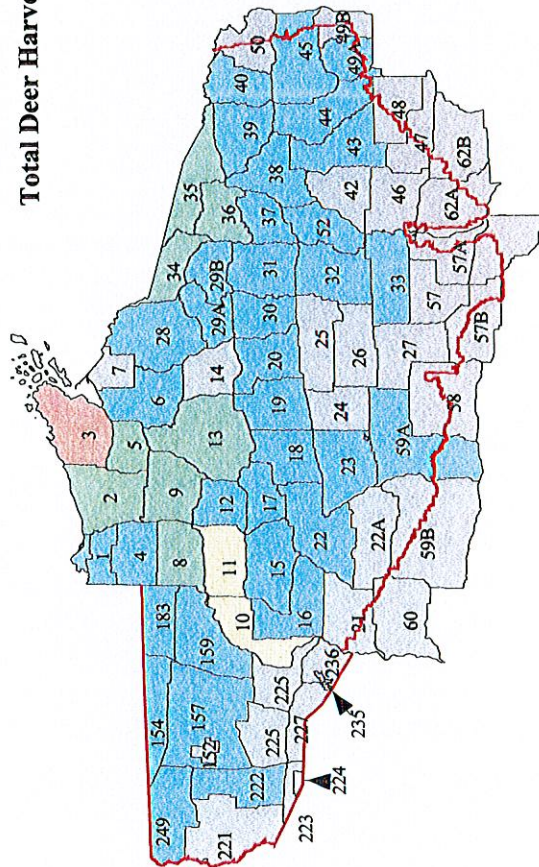
Table 3b. Number of antlered and antlerless deer harvested in Minnesota during the 2005 off-reservation treaty deer season by deer permit area.

UNIT**	ANTLERED DEER	ADULT DOES	FAWN BUCK	FAWN DOE	TOTAL
152	0	0	0	1	1
154	3	0	0	0	3
156	2	1	1	0	4
157	1	1	1	1	4
159	12	13	6	0	31
183	4	1	0	1	6
221	0	0	0	0	0
222	2	10	2	1	15
223	0	0	0	0	0
224	0	0	0	0	0
225	0	0	0	0	0
227	0	0	0	0	0
235	0	0	0	0	0
236	0	0	0	0	0
249	15	13	5	4	37
St. Croix S. P.	4	9	3	4	20
Wild River S. P.	7	6	3	4	20
Totals	50	54	21	16	141

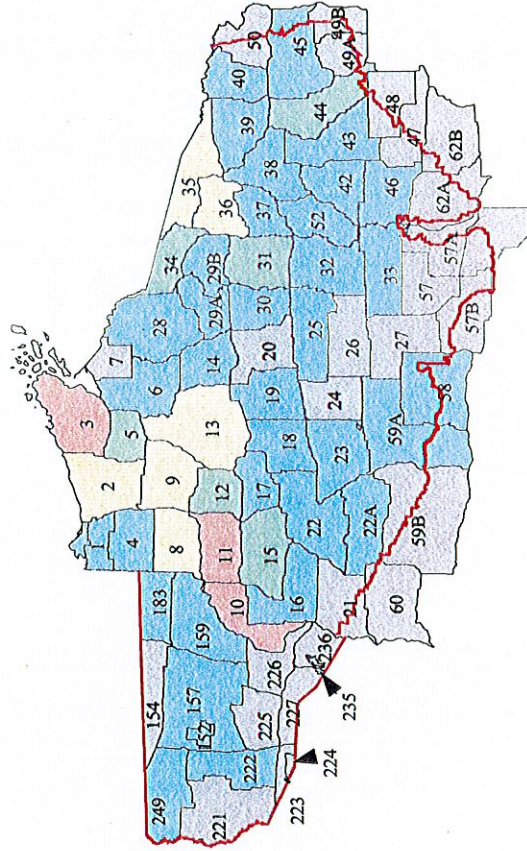
** Unit numbers starting with the digit 1 are in the northern part of the ceded territory while those starting with the digit 2 are mostly in the southern part of the ceded territory.



Total Deer Harvest, 2005



Antlered Deer Harvest, 2005



Antlerless Deer Harvest, 2005

Figure 4. Harvest patterns of antlerless deer, antlered bucks and total deer harvest in deer management units in the Wisconsin and Minnesota 1837 and 1842 ceded territories.

Deer Harvest by County

Wisconsin

Harvest during the 2005 off-reservation treaty deer season was distributed among 22 counties in Wisconsin (Table 4a). However, 1,762 deer or 81% of the total Wisconsin tribal harvest occurred in the 6 counties where harvest was greater than 100 deer. These counties were in declining order of harvest: Burnett, Bayfield, Vilas, Douglas, Sawyer and Forest (Figure 5). The list of more heavily harvested counties remained similar to previous years.

Table 4a. Number of antlered, antlerless and total deer harvested in Wisconsin during the 2005 off-reservation treaty deer season by county.

COUNTY	ANTLERED DEER	ANTLERLESS DEER	UNKNOWN DEER	TOTALS
Ashland	7	18	0	25
Barron	7	3	0	10
Bayfield	215	231	0	446
Burnett	167	299	5	471
Chippewa	5	2	0	7
Douglas	92	148	1	241
Dunn	0	0	0	0
Eau Claire	0	1	0	1
Florence	3	4	0	7
Forest	37	88	0	125
Iron	11	19	0	30
Langlade	4	4	0	8
Lincoln	7	8	0	15
Marathon	4	5	0	9
Marinette	5	3	0	8
Oconto	1	0	0	1
Oneida	41	58	0	99
Polk	19	22	0	41
Price	11	25	0	36
Rusk	15	5	0	20
Sawyer	67	112	0	179
St. Croix	0	0	0	0
Taylor	0	0	0	0
Vilas	108	192	0	300
Washburn	35	62	0	97
Unknown	1	0	0	1
Totals	862	1,309	6	2,177

Deer Harvest by County

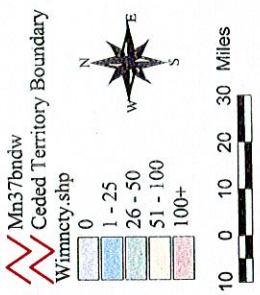
Minnesota

For about 23% of the deer harvested in the 1837 ceded territory in Minnesota, no county of harvest was reported. When the county of harvest was noted, Pine County had the most deer registered (Table 4b, Figure 5) followed by Mille Lacs County. These counties are close to reservations contain much public land. These same factors have been noted in Wisconsin as important in influencing the level of tribal harvest.

Table 4b. Number of antlered and antlerless deer harvested in Minnesota during the 2005 off-reservation treaty deer season by county.

COUNTY	ANTLERED DEER	ADULT DOES	BUCK FAWN	DOE FAWN	TOTALS
Aitkin	3	1	0	0	4
Chisago	0	0	0	0	0
Crow Wing	0	0	0	0	0
Kanabec	0	0	0	0	0
Mille Lacs	16	14	6	6	42
Morrison	2	9	2	1	14
Pine	15	21	9	4	49
Unknown*	14	9	4	5	32
Totals	50	54	21	16	141

* Schrage (2006) did not report county of harvest, except for St. Croix State Park (Pine County).



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

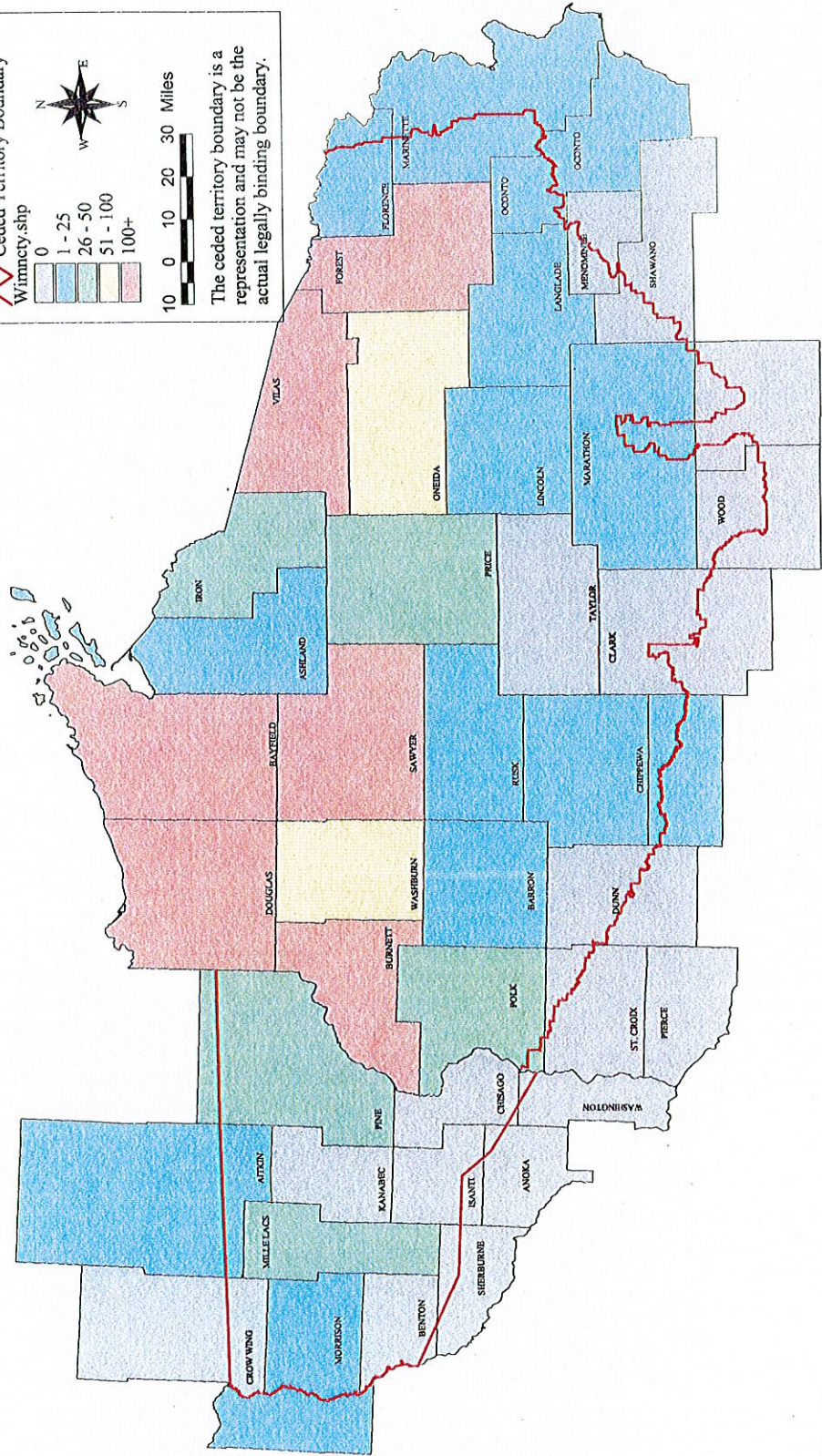


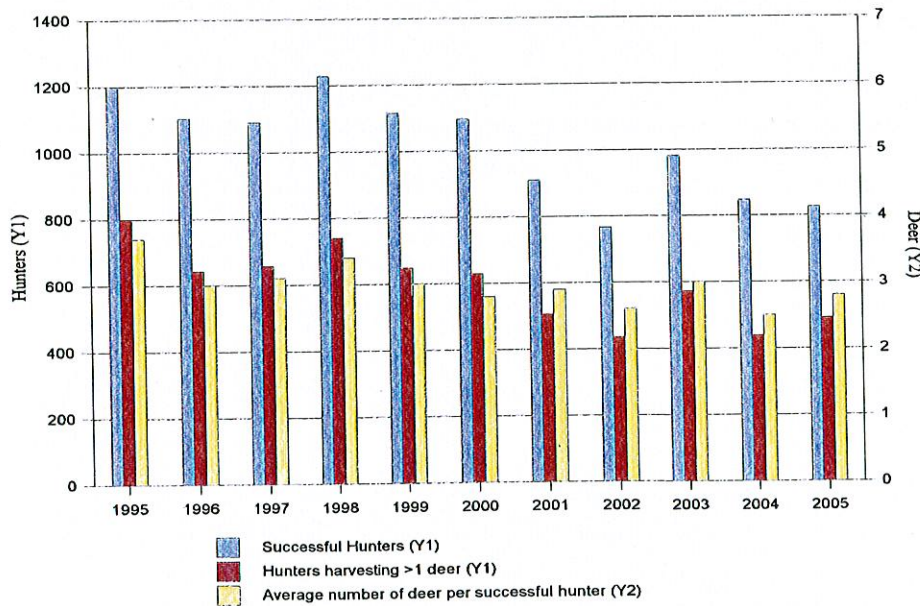
Figure 5. Number of deer harvested during the 2005 off-reservation treaty deer season in Wisconsin and Minnesota

Deer Harvested per Successful Hunter

The number of successful hunters decreased slightly from 847 in 2004 to 826 in 2005 (Table 5 and Figure 6). However, the number of hunters who shot more than 1 deer and the mean number of deer shot per successful hunter increased from 2004 levels (Gilbert 2004). These figures do not include information for Fond du Lac hunters.

Table 5 and Figure 6. Trends for 3 measures of deer hunting success from 1995 through 2005

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Number of Successful Hunters	1,200	1,103	1,090	1,228	1,115	1,101	910	766	980	847	826
Number of Hunters who Shot > 1 Deer	797	643	657	740	649	629	513	435	572	438	491
Mean Number of Deer Shot per Successful Hunter	3.7	3	3.1	3.4	3.0	2.8	2.9	2.6	3.0	2.5	2.8



During the 2005 off-reservation treaty deer season 59% of successful hunters shot more than 1 deer while 28 hunters shot 10 or more deer (Table 6). Many tribal hunters provide meat to an extended family and thus, preserving the ability to harvest multiple deer has been an on-going goal of the off-reservation deer season structure. The table below includes Mille Lacs hunters, whether hunting in Minnesota or Wisconsin; it does not include Fond du Lac hunters.

Table 6. Number of successful hunters and the number of deer they harvested during the 2005 off-reservation treaty deer season.

NUMBER OF DEER	NUMBER OF HUNTERS	PERCENT OF HUNTERS	TOTAL NUMBER OF DEER
1	333	40.3%	333
2	214	25.9%	428
3	100	12.1%	300
4	61	7.4%	244
5	33	4.0%	165
6	29	3.5%	174
7	13	1.6%	91
8	7	0.8%	56
9	7	0.8%	63
10	5	0.6%	50
11	4	0.5%	44
12	2	0.2%	24
13	4	0.5%	52
14	1	0.1%	14
15	2	0.2%	30
16	1	0.1%	16
17	2	0.2%	34
21	1	0.1%	21
22	1	0.1%	22
23	1	0.1%	23
24	2	0.2%	48
25	1	0.1%	25
28	1	0.1%	28
33	1	0.1%	33
TOTALS	826	100%	2,318

Deer Harvest by Season

The percent of total harvest that occurred during the middle season was greater than the percent of the days available to hunting during that season (Table 7), the pattern observed since 1984, except for in 2004. In 2005 the percentage of the harvest during the middle season was 25%, nearly the average of the past decade. The late season typically has a low harvest (especially compared to the length of time available). The percent of the harvest occurring during the late season declined from 9% in 2003 to 3% in 2004, but then increased to 11% in 2005. The majority of harvest typically occurs during the early season, and, in 2005 64% of the total harvest was taken then.

Table 7. The number of deer harvested, percent of the harvest and percent of the season occurring the early, middle and late portions of the 2005 off-reservation treaty deer season in Wisconsin.

Portion of Season	Number of Deer Harvested*	Percent of Harvest	Percent of Season
Early Season Sept. 6 - Nov. 18	1,449	64%	67%
Middle Season Nov. 19 - Nov. 27	566	25%	8%
Late Season Nov. 28 - Dec. 31	261	11%	25%

* Total number of deer on this table may not equal the total deer harvest because 1 or more deer may not have had the date of harvest noted.

Summary of Quota Harvest by Unit

Wisconsin

The tribes harvested 20% of the declared tribal deer quota (6,589 antlerless deer) in 2005 (Table 8a). The percent of the quota harvested ranged from a high of 48% in Unit 11 to 0% in some of the ceded territory southern fringe units. No units surpassed 75% of the quota, the harvest level which triggers a limitation on the number of antlerless deer permits available.

Table 8a. The tribal antlerless deer quota, the number of antlerless deer harvested, and the percent of the quota harvested during the 2005 treaty deer season in Wisconsin by unit and overall.

Unit	Antlerless Deer Harvest	Antlerless Deer Quota	Percent Quota Harvested
01	24	55	43.6%
02	98	440	22.3%
03	142	440	32.3%
04	9	83	10.8%
05	49	550	8.9%
06	20	55	36.4%
08	57	330	17.3%
09	54	220	24.5%
10	118	330	35.8%
11	107	220	48.6%
12	36	165	21.8%
13	92	275	33.5%
14	2	83	2.4%
15	44	165	26.7%
16	7	55	12.7%
17	17	83	20.5%
18	12	83	14.5%
19	4	28	14.3%
20	0	28	0.0%
21	0	55	0.0%
22	2	55	3.6%
22A	1	28	3.6%
23	1	28	3.6%
24	0	28	0.0%
25	2	28	7.1%
26	0	28	0.0%
27	0	28	0.0%
28	9	83	10.8%
29A	13	83	15.7%
29B	20	83	24.1%
30	16	83	19.3%
31	38	165	23.0%
32	6	28	21.4%

2005 Treaty Deer and Bear Harvest
 1837 & 1842 Ceded Territories
 in Minnesota and Wisconsin
 Admin Report 06 - 08

Unit	Antlerless Deer Harvest	Antlerless Deer Quota	Percent Quota Harvested
33	5	28	17.9%
34	38	220	17.3%
35	86	275	31.3%
36	54	275	19.6%
37	10	55	18.2%
38	9	110	8.2%
39	25	165	15.2%
40	9	110	8.2%
42	1	28	3.6%
43	4	83	4.8%
44	37	165	22.4%
45	18	110	16.4%
46	2	28	7.1%
47	0	28	0.0%
48	0	11	0.0%
49A	0	28	0.0%
49B	0	28	0.0%
50	0	28	0.0%
52	3	28	10.7%
57	0	28	0.0%
57A	0	28	0.0%
57B	0	28	0.0%
57C	0	28	0.0%
58	1	28	3.6%
59A	2	28	7.1%
59B	0	28	0.0%
62A	0	28	0.0%
62B	0	28	0.0%
78	0	28	0.0%
79	0	15	0.0%
Totals	1,304	6,589	19.8%

Summary of Quota Harvest by Unit

Minnesota

The 2005 tribal harvest declaration was transmitted to the Minnesota DNR and indicated the number of antlerless deer (does and fawns) which could be harvested from each permit area as agreed to by stipulation. No more than 900 antlerless deer and no more than 50% of the quota in any deer permit area could be declared for 2005. No declaration approached 50% of the quota for any unit and the total declaration was 850 (Table 8b). Antlerless deer harvest was highest in Permit Area 249. Harvest in each of the other permit areas with harvest was less than 20% of the declaration; eight permit areas had zero antlerless harvest.

Table 8b. The tribal antlerless deer quota, the number of antlerless deer harvested and the percent of quota harvested during the 2005 treaty deer season in Minnesota by permit area.

Permit Area	Antlerless Deer Harvest*	Antlerless Deer Quota	Percent Quota Harvested
152	1	60	1.7%
154	0	40	0.0%
156	2	60	3.3%
157	3	60	5.0%
159	19	100	19.0%
183	2	100	2.0%
221	0	50	0.0%
222	13	100	13.0%
223	0	25	0.0%
224	0	25	0.0%
225	0	70	0.0%
227	0	25	0.0%
235	0	10	0.0%
236	0	25	0.0%
249	22	100	22.0%
Totals	62	850	7.3%

* Includes harvest by Fond du Lac, reported by Schrage (2006).

BEAR HUNTING RESULTS

Tribal bear hunting regulations for members hunting in Wisconsin were previously enacted to comply with the rulings and stipulations resulting from the May 1990 Federal Court (7th Circuit) decision. In the 1837 ceded territory in Minnesota, season regulations were enacted to comply with the March 1997 Federal Court (8th Circuit) decision. Bear hunting permits were required for all persons engaged in hunting bears. All bears killed were required to be tagged using a tribal carcass tag and registered at a tribal registration station. A tribal quota was declared for each of the 3 bear zones (Figure 8) in the Wisconsin ceded territory; 110 in zone A, 40 in zone B and 20 in zone C. No quotas were established for the Minnesota portion of the 1837 ceded territory. No bears were harvested in the 1837 ceded territory of Minnesota nor in Zone C of Wisconsin, thus, harvest data in the remainder of this report are for Zones A and B in Wisconsin only.

A total of 1,129 tribal members obtained a permit to hunt bears in 2005 (Table 9), an increase of 131 hunters from the 2004 level (Gilbert 2005). There were 47 successful bear hunters in 2005 or 4% of the number of bear hunters. Bear hunter success has fluctuated between 2% and 4%, except in 2004 in which 7% success was observed. More people checked bear hunting on the harvest permit than obtained carcass tags indicating that they did not hunt bears. This pattern has been consistently observed in previous bear hunting seasons.

Table 9. Number of carcass tags and hunters during the 2005 off-reservation treaty bear hunting season in Wisconsin.

Registration Station	Number of Hunters	Number of Successful Hunters	Percent Successful Hunters
Bad River	95	10	11%
Lac Courte Oreilles	255	14	5%
Lac du Flambeau	287	7	2%
Mille Lacs	16	1	6%
Mole Lake	136	5	4%
Red Cliff	197	7	4%
St. Croix	143	3	2%
Totals	1,129	47	4%

Harvest by Registration Station

A total of 54 bears were harvested during the 2005 off-reservation treaty bear season in Wisconsin (Table 10), a decline of 25 bears from 2004 (Gilbert 2005). During each of the 10 previous years, except in 1995, tribal members harvested more males than females particularly in 1997 when 3 times as many males as females were taken. This trend continued in 2005.

Table 10. The sex distribution of bears harvested in Wisconsin during the 2005 off-reservation treaty bear season by registration station.

STATION	Males	Females	Totals
Bad River	5	2	7
Fond du Lac	0	2	2
Lac Courte Oreilles	8	9	17
Lac du Flambeau	5	4	9
Mille Lacs	0	0	0
Mole Lake	5	1	6
Red Cliff	5	3	8
St. Croix	3	2	5
Totals	31	23	54

Harvest by Zone and Deer Management Unit

A total of 43 bears (24 males, 19 females) were harvested in Zone A plus 11 bears (7 males, 4 females) were harvested in Zone B (Table 11). This harvest represented 39% of the tribal quota for Zone A and 28% of the quota for Zone B. More bears were harvested in deer management units 12 and 3 than in the other units.

Table 11. The sex distribution of bears harvested in Wisconsin during the 2005 off-reservation treaty bear season in bear Zones A and B and in deer management units within these zones.

Zone	Unit	Male	Female	Total
A	1	0	3	3
	Quota 110			
	2	1	1	2
	3	5	1	6
	4			0
	5	2	0	2
	6	0	1	1
	9	1	0	1
	10	2	2	4
	11	2	1	3
	12	2	5	7
	13	1	0	1
	15			0
	17	3	2	5
	18	1	0	1
	19	0	2	2
	20			0
	28	1	0	1
	29B	1	0	1
	30	1	1	2
31	1	0	1	
	Total	24	19	43
Zone B	36	1	1	2

2005 Treaty Deer and Bear Harvest
 1837 & 1842 Ceded Territories
 in Minnesota and Wisconsin
 Admin Report 06 - 08


Quota 40	37	0	1	1
	38	0	2	2
	39	2	0	2
	44	2	0	2
	45	2	0	2
	Totals	7	4	11
	Unknown	0	0	0
Grand Total		31	23	54

Harvest by County

The 2005 tribal bear harvest was distributed among 12 counties in northern Wisconsin (Table 12, Figure 6). The leading county of harvest was Bayfield County followed by Sawyer, Burnett, Forest and Washburn counties.

Table 12. The sex distribution and total number of bears harvested by County in Wisconsin during the 2005 off-reservation treaty bear season by county.

County	Male	Female	Total
Ashland	0	1	1
Barron	1	0	1
Bayfield	8	1	9
Burnett	4	3	7
Douglas	1	4	5
Forest	6	1	7
Iron	1	0	1
Oneida	1	3	4
Price	1	1	2
Sawyer	1	7	8
Vilas	2	0	2
Washburn	5	2	7
Totals	31	23	54



Ma37bndw
 Ceded Territory Boundary
 Winney.sfp

0
 1
 2-3
 4-6
 7+

10 0 10 20 30 Miles

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

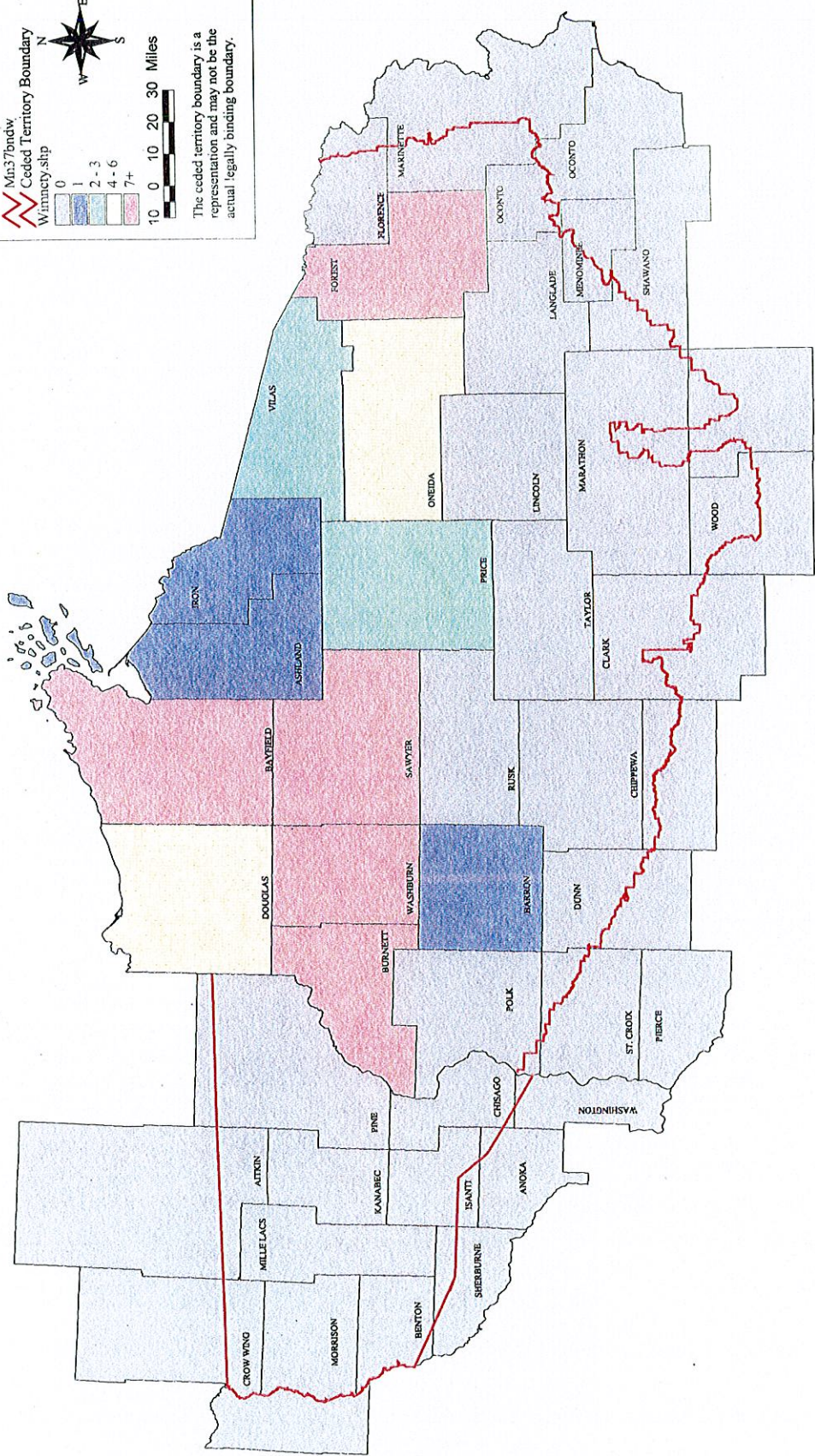


Figure 6. Number of bears harvested during the 2005 off-reservation treaty bear season in Wisconsin and Minnesota counties.

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