



**Results of the 2007 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

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

RESULTS OF THE 2007 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 2007 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 (2008) 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 treaty hunting seasons in Michigan are reported by Falck.

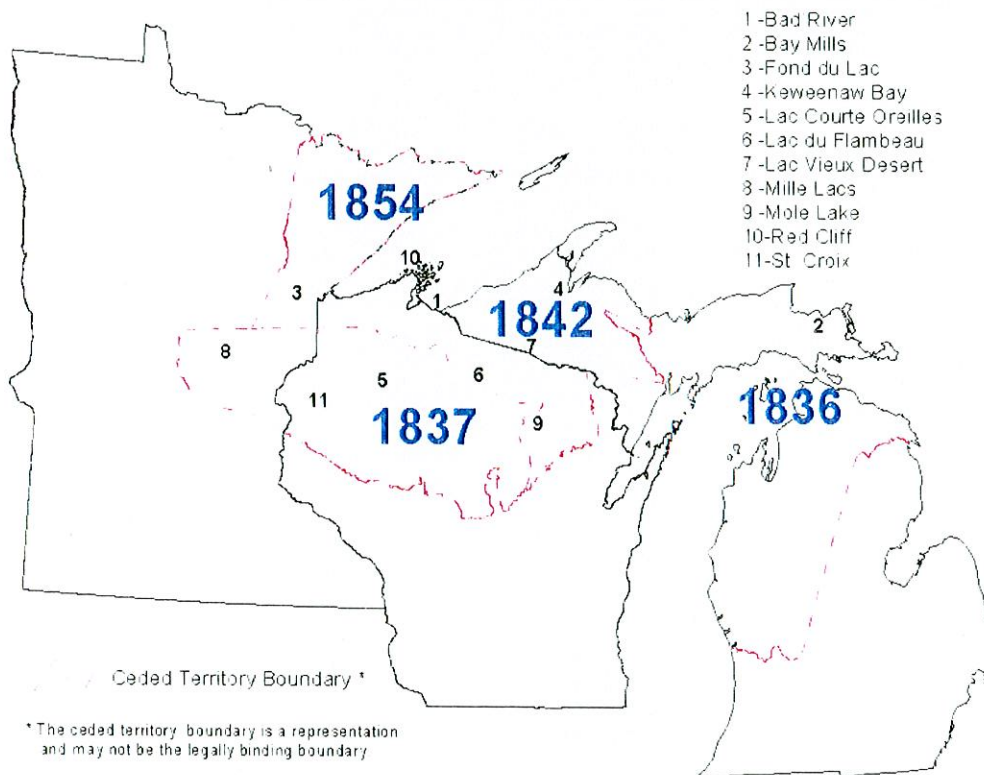


Figure 1. Location of the GLIFWC member tribes in Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota.

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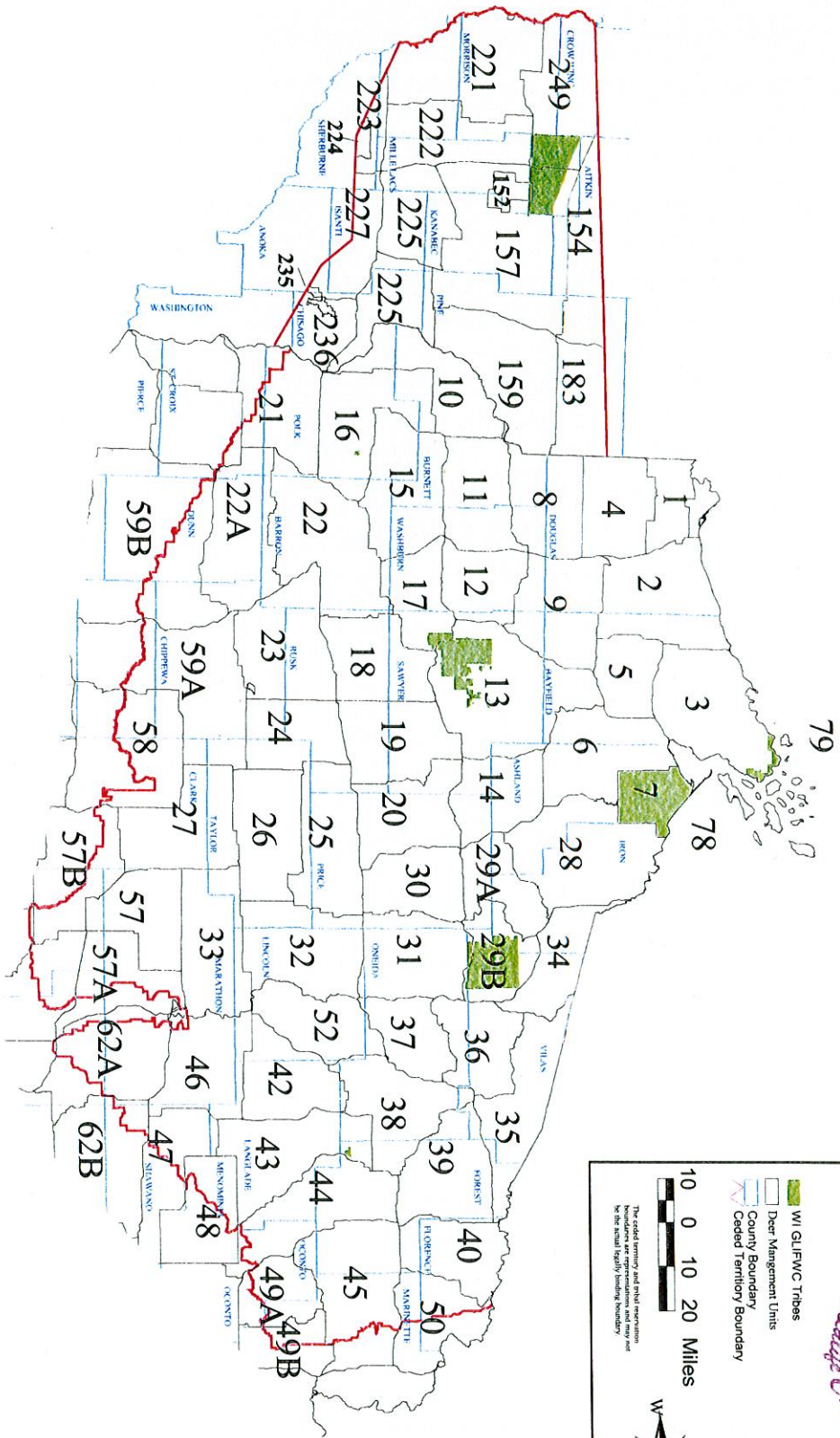
Tribal deer hunting regulations for members hunting in Wisconsin were enacted to comply with the rulings and stipulations resulting from the May 1990 Federal Court (7th Circuit) decision. In the 1837 ceded territory in Minnesota, season regulations were enacted to comply with the March 1997 Federal Court (8th Circuit) decision. In both states, these rules resulted in a season which was 120 days long starting September 4 and ending December 31, 2007. Hunting was permitted with either a bow or a gun in both states.

In 2007, 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 two antlerless permits 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 2007. 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 2007.

In Minnesota various State Parks hold special hunts to reduce deer populations and the associated browsing, inside the park. In St. Croix State Park there were two hunts: the first (October 27 - 28) was for under-16 youth hunters, the second hunt was from November 10 through November 14 for all ages. This second hunt had earn-a-buck regulations where hunters were required to shoot an antlerless deer prior to shooting an antlered buck. At Wild River State Park the hunt ran from November 4 through 7 and also included an earn-a-buck regulation. Finally, Crow Wing State Park had a special hunt for muzzleloaders only from December 1 through December 3.

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



Deer Hunting Results

Carcass tags were issued to 1,965 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 2007 (Table 1, Figure 3) was about 220 less than the number of deer hunters in 2006 (2,191, Gilbert 2007). The number of successful hunters in 2007 (731) was less than in 2006 (889). The resulting harvest success rate declined from 41% in 2006 to 37% in 2007.

Table 1. The distribution of carcass tags and hunter success during the 2007 off-reservation treaty deer season.

TRIBE OF ENROLLMENT	DEER HUNTERS	SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS	PERCENT SUCCESSFUL
Bad River	202	125	61.9
Lac Courte Oreilles	804	210	26.1
Lac du Flambeau	352	119	33.8
Mille Lacs	179	67	37.4
Mole Lake	109	31	28.4
Red Cliff	214	125	58.4
St. Croix	105	54	51.4
Totals	1,965	731	37.2

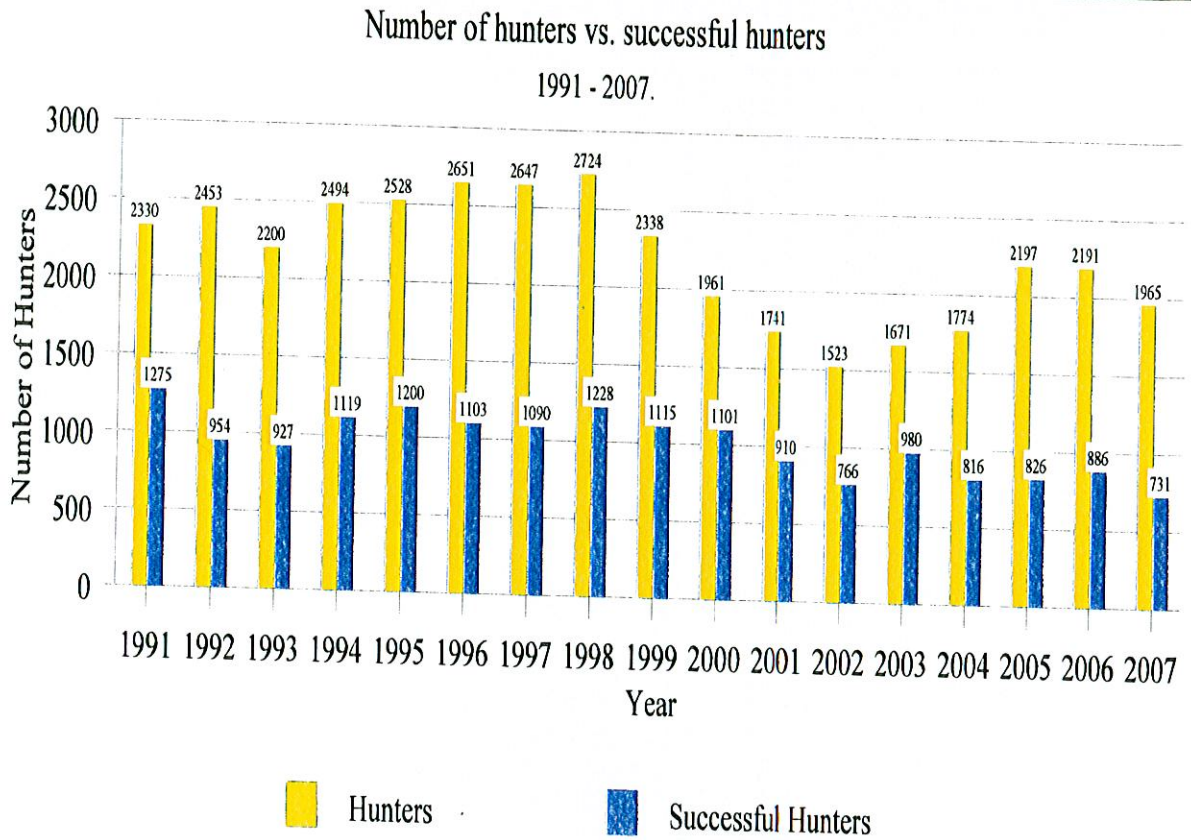


Figure 3. The number of hunters and successful hunters during off-reservation treaty deer hunting seasons from 1991 - 2007.

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 830 antlered deer (mostly adult bucks) and 1,015 antlerless deer (adult does and fawns) for a total harvest of 1,845 deer (Table 2a). This harvest represents a 20% decline from the 2006 harvest of 2,312 deer (Gilbert 2007).

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. An increase began in 1999 and since then the antlered buck component of the harvest ranged between 40% and 47%. In 2007 the percent adult bucks was 45%.

Table 2a. Number of antlered and antlerless deer harvested during the 2007 off-reservation treaty deer season in Wisconsin by registration station.

STATION	ANTLERED DEER	ANTLERLESS DEER	UNKNOWN DEER	TOTAL
Bad River	112	88	0	200
Fond du Lac*	27	23	0	50
Lac Courte Oreilles	191	331	0	522
Lac du Flambeau	112	202	0	314
Mille Lacs	20	27	0	47
Mole Lake	61	87	0	148
Red Cliff	126	116	0	242
St. Croix	181	141	0	322
Totals	830	1,015	0	1,845

*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.

Deer Harvest by Registration Station

Minnesota

This was the eleventh 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 151 deer harvested in Minnesota were registered by tribal members at the Mille Lacs or Fond du Lac deer registration stations (Table 2b). This harvest was slightly more than deer harvest in 2006 (150 deer) in the 1837 ceded territory (Gilbert 2007).

In December 2006 the Bands party to the Mille Lacs case updated their Treaty Wildlife Management Plan for the Minnesota 1837 Ceded Territory for the Years 2007 - 2011. One provision of this update was the implementation of a harvest threshold system for antlerless deer. Under this system there is no requirement for a tribal antlerless deer declaration and there is no limit on the number of antlerless deer that can be harvested. However, if in any year the antlerless deer harvest surpasses the threshold number established for that permit area, then in the subsequent year a declaration process is required for that permit area.

Table 2b. Number of antlered and antlerless deer harvested during the 2007 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*	17 [#]	37	0	0	54
Mille Lacs	42	33	10	12	97
Totals	59	70	10	12	151

* Harvest figures for Fond du Lac members were from Schrage (2007).

[#] 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 47 of the 64 deer management units either entirely or partially within the ceded territory of Wisconsin (Table 3a), 1,566 deer were harvested from the 19 units in which harvest equaled or exceeded 30 deer. The number of units with 30 or more deer harvested was one less than in 2006.

Since 1991, the number of deer management units with large harvests (>100 deer) has ranged between 6 and 12 units. In 2007 there were 4 units with greater than 100 deer harvested (a decline from 8 in 2006). The four units were (in descending order): 3, 13, 11 and 2 (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 2007 off-reservation treaty deer season by deer management unit.

UNIT	ANTLERED DEER	ANTLERLESS DEER	UNKNOWN DEER	TOTAL DEER
01	14	8	0	22
02	58	67	0	125
03	156	128	0	284
04	15	15	0	30
05	37	40	0	77
06	20	25	0	45
08	40	55	0	95
09	28	68	0	96
10	32	56	0	88
11	68	64	0	132
12	20	35	0	55
13	59	113	0	172
14	5	3	0	8
15	12	2	0	14
16	35	8	0	43
17	18	24	0	42
18	14	5	0	19
19	1	0	0	1
20	4	1	0	5
21	2	0	0	2
22	7	4	0	11
22 A	1	0	0	1
23	6	0	0	6
24	0	0	0	0
25	2	3	0	5
26	0	0	0	0
27	0	0	0	0
28	8	9	0	17
29A	3	7	0	10
29B	6	16	0	22

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UNIT	ANTLERED DEER	ANTLERLESS DEER	UNKNOWN DEER	TOTAL DEER
30	5	9	0	14
31	11	33	0	44
32	5	4	0	9
33	1	3	0	4
34	11	29	0	40
35	21	40	0	61
36	23	27	0	50
37	18	14	0	32
38	10	9	0	19
39	6	7	0	13
40	5	5	0	10
42	1	0	0	1
43	3	4	0	7
44	24	61	0	85
45	12	9	0	21
46	1	0	0	1
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	0	0	0	0
57	0	0	0	0
57A	0	0	0	0
57B	0	0	0	0
57C	0	0	0	0
58	1	1	0	2
59A	0	1	0	1
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	3	0	3
Totals	830	1,015	0	1,845

Deer Harvest by Management Unit

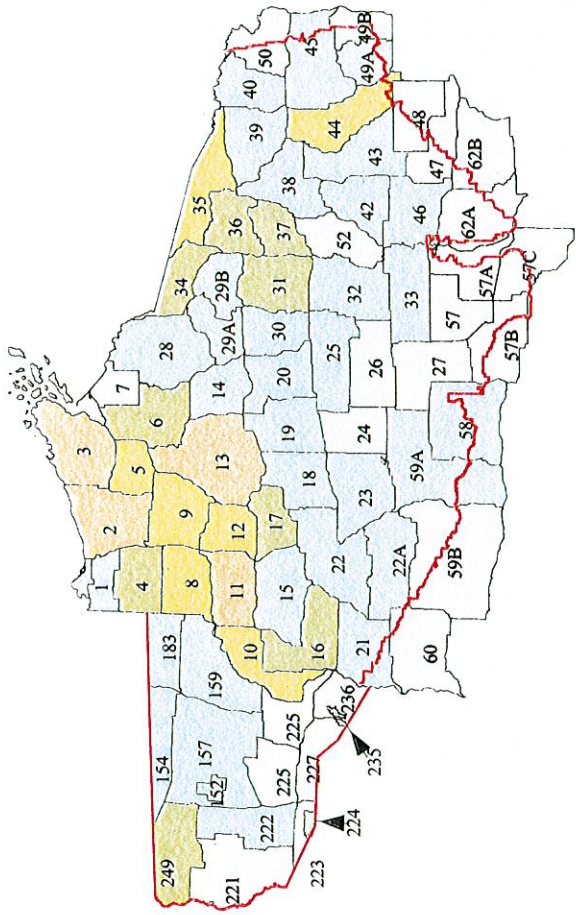
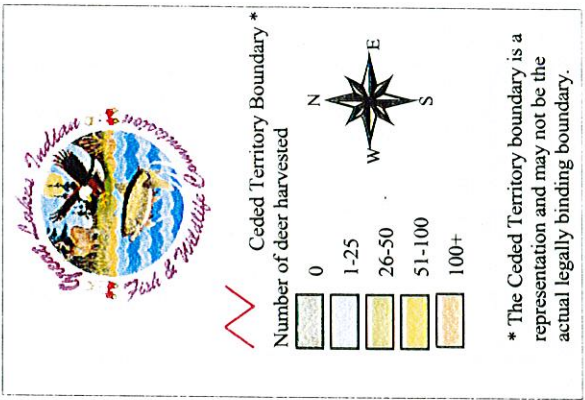
Minnesota

Fifteen deer permit areas are either partially or entirely in the 1837 ceded territory of Minnesota. A total of 151 deer were harvested by tribal members from 9 of those permit areas and in 2 state parks in 2007 (Table 3b, Figure 4). The majority of the deer harvested (111 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 27% of the harvested deer came from the more southern permit areas (40 deer).

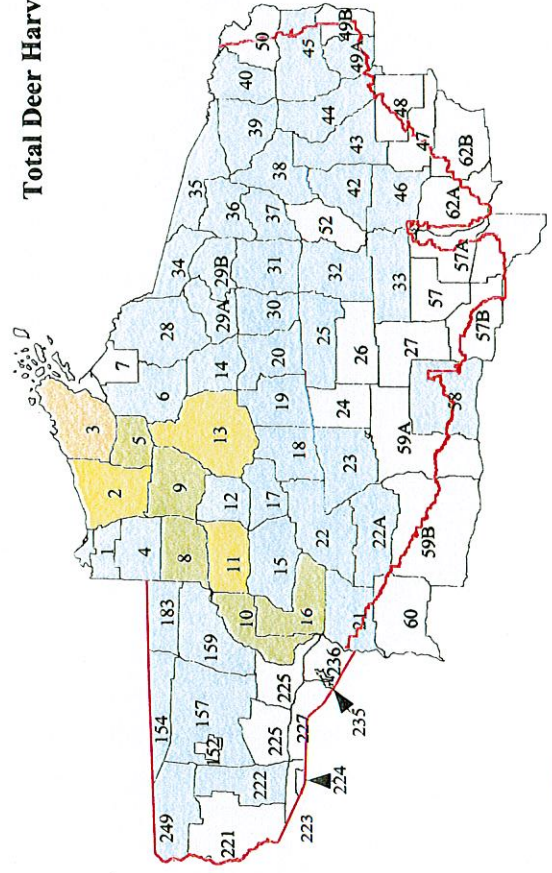
Table 3b. Number of antlered and antlerless deer harvested in Minnesota during the 2007 off-reservation treaty deer season by deer permit area.

UNIT**	ANTLERED DEER	ADULT DOES	FAWN BUCK	FAWN DOE	TOTAL
152	0	5	1	2	8
154	6	8	3	2	19
156	1	2	0	0	3
157	1	0	0	0	1
159	12	2	0	0	14
183	6	5	0	0	11
221	0	0	0	0	0
222	11	8	2	3	24
223	0	0	0	0	0
224	0	0	1	0	1
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	13	14	3	5	35
St. Croix S. P.	5	15	0	0	20
Wild River S. P.	4	11	0	0	15
Totals	59	70	10	12	151

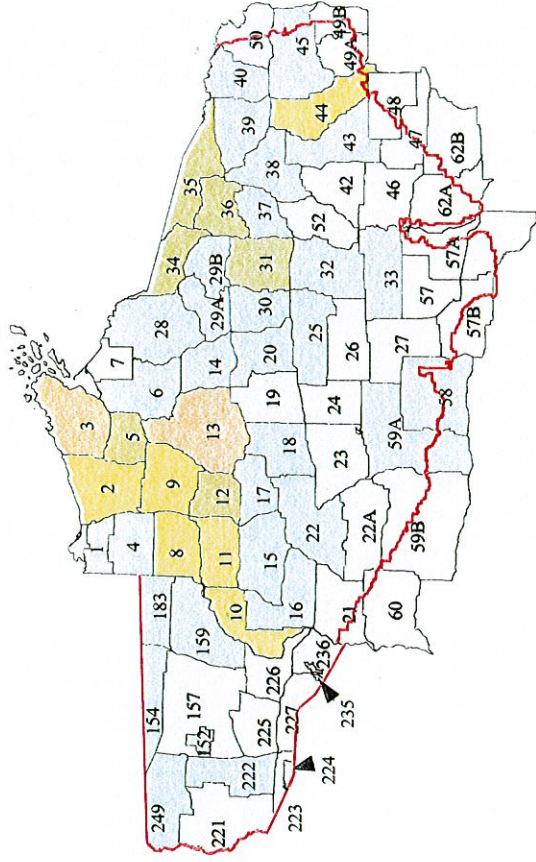
** Unit numbers starting with the digit 1 are in the northern part of the ceded territory while those starting with the digit 2 are mostly in the southern part of the ceded territory.



Total Deer Harvest, 2007



Antlered Deer Harvest, 2007



Antlerless Deer Harvest, 2007

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 2007 off-reservation treaty deer season was distributed among 21 counties in Wisconsin (Table 4a). However, 1,626 deer or 88% of the total Wisconsin tribal harvest occurred in the 8 counties where harvest was greater than 100 deer. These counties were in declining order of harvest: Bayfield, Burnett, Sawyer, Douglas, Washburn, Vilas, Forest and Oneida (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 2007 off-reservation treaty deer season by county.

COUNTY	ANTLERED DEER	ANTLERLESS DEER	UNKNOWN DEER	TOTALS
Ashland	20	27	0	47
Barron	6	4	0	10
Bayfield	209	193	0	402
Burnett	128	147	0	275
Chippewa	2	1	0	3
Douglas	87	108	0	195
Eau Claire	1	1	0	2
Florence	4	4	0	8
Forest	42	74	0	116
Iron	8	18	0	26
Langlade	3	2	0	5
Lincoln	5	4	0	9
Marathon	1	3	0	4
Marinette	3	4	0	7
Oneida	42	60	0	102
Polk	40	12	0	52
Price	13	17	0	30
Rusk	14	1	0	15
Sawyer	76	128	0	204
Vilas	59	106	0	165
Washburn	66	101	0	167
Unknown	1	0	0	1
Totals	830	1,015	0	1,845

Deer Harvest by County

Minnesota

For about 13% of the deer harvested in the 1837 ceded territory in Minnesota, no county of harvest was reported. When the county of harvest was noted, Mille Lacs County had the most deer registered (Table 4b, Figure 5) followed by Pine County. These counties are close to reservations and 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 2007 off-reservation treaty deer season by county.

COUNTY	ANTLERED DEER	ADULT DOES	BUCK FAWN	DOE FAWN	TOTALS
Aitkin	5	7	3	2	17
Chisago	4	11	0	0	15
Crow Wing	0	1	1	0	2
Mille Lacs	17	15	4	7	43
Morrison	8	8	2	3	21
Pine	17	17	0	0	34
Unknown*	8	11	0	0	19
Totals	59	70	10	12	151

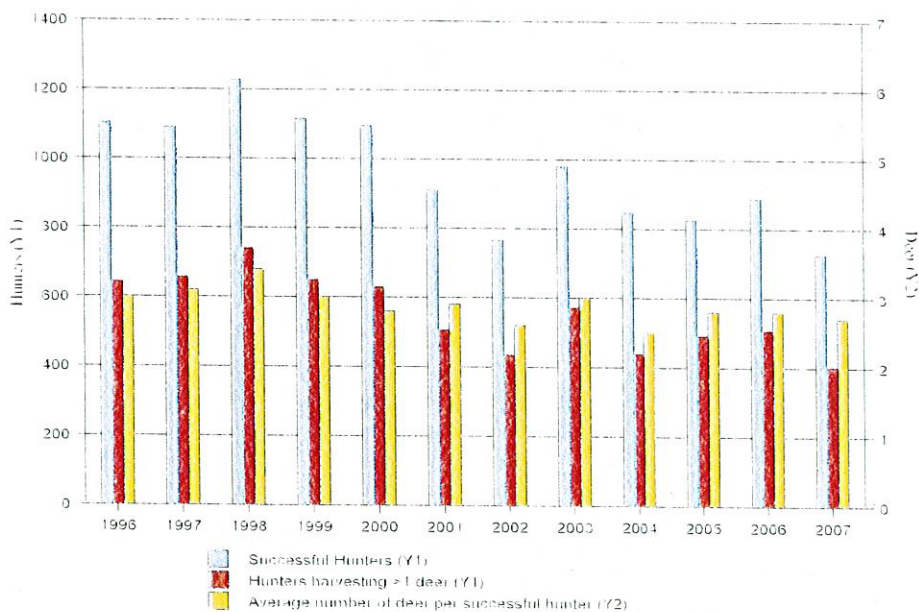
* Schrage (2008) did not report county of harvest, except for St. Croix State Park (Pine County) and Wild River State Park (Chisago County).

Deer Harvested per Successful Hunter

Registration data permitted the analysis of the number of deer harvested by each tribal member for all tribes except Fond du Lac. The number of successful hunters decreased from 889 in 2006 to 725 in 2007 (Table 5 and Figure 6). The number of hunters who shot more than 1 deer declined slightly from 2006 (507) to 2007 (402). The mean number of deer shot per successful hunter declined from 2006 (2.8) to 2007 (2.7). 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 1996 through 2007.

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Number of Successful Hunters	1,103	1,090	1,228	1,115	1,101	910	766	980	847	826	889	725
Number of Hunters who Shot > 1 Deer	643	657	740	649	629	513	435	572	438	491	507	402
Mean Number of Deer Shot per Successful Hunter	3	3.1	3.4	3.0	2.8	2.9	2.6	3.0	2.5	2.8	2.8	2.7



During the 2007 off-reservation treaty deer season 55% of successful hunters shot more than 1 deer while 16 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 members hunting in Minnesota.

Table 6. Number of successful hunters and the number of deer they harvested during the 2007 off-reservation treaty deer season.

NUMBER OF DEER	NUMBER OF HUNTERS	PERCENT OF HUNTERS	TOTAL NUMBER OF DEER
1	323	44.6%	323
2	161	22.2%	322
3	86	11.9%	258
4	55	7.6%	220
5	30	4.1%	150
6	20	2.8%	120
7	16	2.2%	112
8	11	1.5%	88
9	7	1.0%	63
10	3	0.4%	30
11	1	0.1%	11
12	1	0.1%	12
13	1	0.1%	13
14	1	0.1%	14
15	1	0.1%	15
16	1	0.1%	16
17	2	0.3%	34
18	1	0.1%	18
20	1	0.1%	20
24	1	0.1%	24
29	1	0.1%	29
51	1	0.1%	51
TOTALS	725	100%	1,943

Deer Harvest by Season

The percent of total harvest that occurred during the early and middle seasons was greater than the percent of the days available to hunting during those seasons (Table 7), the pattern observed since 1984, except in 2004. 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 increased from 7% in 2006 to 9% in 2007. The majority of harvest typically occurs during the early season and in 2007, 77% 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 2007 off-reservation treaty deer season in Wisconsin.

Portion of Season	Number of Deer Harvested*	Percent of Harvest	Percent of Season
Early Season Sept. 4 - Nov. 16	1,348	77%	67%
Middle Season Nov. 17 - Nov. 26	254	14%	8%
Late Season Nov. 27 - Dec. 31	153	9%	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 15% of the declared tribal deer quota (6,589 antlerless deer) in 2007 (Table 8a). The percent of the quota harvested ranged from a high of 45% in Unit 6 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 2007 treaty deer season in Wisconsin by unit and overall.

Unit	Antlerless Deer Harvest	Antlerless Deer Quota	Percent Quota Harvested
01	8	55	14.5%
02	67	440	15.2%
03	128	440	29.1%
04	15	83	18.1%
05	40	550	7.3%
06	25	55	45.5%
08	55	330	16.7%
09	68	220	30.9%
10	56	330	17.0%
11	64	220	29.1%
12	35	165	21.2%
13	113	275	41.1%
14	3	83	3.6%
15	2	165	1.2%
16	8	55	14.5%
17	24	83	28.9%
18	5	83	6.0%
19	0	28	0.0%
20	1	28	3.6%
21	0	55	0.0%
22	4	55	7.3%
22A	0	28	0.0%
23	0	28	0.0%
24	0	28	0.0%
25	3	28	10.7%
26	0	28	0.0%
27	0	28	0.0%
28	9	83	10.8%
29A	7	83	8.4%
29B	16	83	19.3%
30	9	83	10.8%
31	33	165	20.0%
32	4	28	14.3%
33	3	28	10.7%

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Unit	Antlerless Deer Harvest	Antlerless Deer Quota	Percent Quota Harvested
34	29	220	13.2%
35	40	275	14.5%
36	27	275	9.8%
37	14	55	25.5%
38	9	110	8.2%
39	7	165	4.2%
40	5	110	4.5%
42	0	28	0.0%
43	4	83	4.8%
44	61	165	37.0%
45	9	110	8.2%
46	0	28	0.0%
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	0	28	0.0%
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	1	28	3.6%
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	1,012	6,589	15.4%

Summary of Quota Harvest by Unit

Minnesota

In 2007 a harvest threshold system was put into place in the Minnesota portion of the 1837 ceded territory. Under this system there is no harvest quota established and no declaration submitted to MNDNR as in Wisconsin. Rather the harvest is monitored and a decision is made each year if the harvest in the previous year was high enough to warrant a declaration and tribal quota. This decision was based on the comparison of harvest to a threshold level established by the Wildlife Management Plan for the MN Portion of the 1837 Ceded Territory (Table 8b).

The tribal harvest in all permit areas was below the threshold level and thus there will be no need for a tribal declaration or tribal quota for 2008. Permit areas 154 and 222 had the highest antlerless deer harvest in 2007. However, a declaration is still required for participation in State Park special hunts (i.e., St. Croix State Park and Wild River State Park). These declarations are for a number of hunters, not number of antlerless deer. In these state park special hunts hunting opportunity is limited by hunter density and not by desired harvest.

Table 8b. The tribal antlerless deer quota, the number of antlerless deer harvested and the percent of quota harvested during the 2007 treaty deer season in Minnesota by permit area.

Permit Area	Antlerless Deer Harvest*	Antlerless Deer Threshold
152	8	25
154	13	100
156	2	100
157	0	100
159	2	100
183	5	100
221	0	100
222	13	100
223	0	100
224	2	25
225	0	100
227	0	100
235	0	25
236	0	100
249	22	100
Totals	67	1275

* Includes harvest by Fond du Lac, reported by Schrage (2008).

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 and the Treaty Wildlife Management Plan for the Minnesota 1837 Ceded Territory. 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; 115 in zone A, 45 in zone B and 25 in zone C. A threshold system, similar for antlerless deer, was employed for bear hunting in Minnesota and thus, no quotas were established. 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 1,169 tribal members obtained a permit to hunt bears in 2007 (Table 9), a decline of 84 hunters from the 2006 level (Gilbert 2007). There were 65 successful bear hunters in 2007 or 6% of the number of bear hunters. Bear hunter success has fluctuated between 2% and 7%. 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 2007 off-reservation treaty bear hunting season in Wisconsin.

Registration Station	Number of Hunters	Number of Successful Hunters	Percent Successful Hunters
Bad River	132	17	13%
Lac Courte Oreilles	373	20	5%
Lac du Flambeau	261	6	2%
Mille Lacs	102	1	1%
Mole Lake	63	6	10%
Red Cliff	174	14	8%
St. Croix	64	1	2%
Totals	1,169	65	6%

Harvest by Registration Station

A total of 85 bears were harvested during the 2007 off-reservation treaty bear season in Wisconsin (Table 10), a decline of 5 bears from 2006 (Gilbert 2007). During each of the 11 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 2007.

Table 10. The sex distribution of bears harvested in Wisconsin during the 2007 off-reservation treaty bear season by registration station.

STATION	Males	Females	Totals
Bad River	5	4	9
Fond du Lac	0	0	0
Lac Courte Oreilles	6	15	21
Lac du Flambeau	8	5	13
Mille Lacs	0	0	0
Mole Lake	12	7	19
Red Cliff	5	7	12
St. Croix	10	1	11
Totals	46	39	85

*Fond du Lac members did not hunt in Wisconsin, rather some members of Wisconsin bands or Mille Lacs, registered their Wisconsin-harvested bears at the Fond du Lac station.

Harvest by Zone and Deer Management Unit

A total of 59 bears (29 males, 30 females) were harvested in Zone A plus 25 bears (16 males, 9 females) were harvested in Zone B (Table 11). This harvest represented 51% of the tribal quota for Zone A and 56% of the quota for Zone B.

Table 11. The sex distribution of bears harvested in Wisconsin during the 2007 off-reservation treaty bear season in bear Zones A and B and in deer management units within these zones.

Zone	Unit	Male	Female	Total
Zone A Quota 115	1	0	4	4
	2	3	0	3
	3	4	6	10
	4	0	1	1
	6	3	2	5
	8	6	0	6
	9	3	3	6
	10	1	0	1
	11	2	1	3
	12	0	1	1
	13	1	3	4
	14	1	1	2
	15	1	0	1
	17	0	1	1
	18	1	4	5
	30	1	3	4
	31	2	0	2
	Total	29	30	59
Zone B	36	0	1	1
Quota 45	37	4	0	4
	38	2	1	3

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39	3	1	4
43	1	0	1
44	3	4	7
45	2	2	4
49A	1	0	1
Total	16	9	25
Unknown	1	0	1
Grand Total	46	39	85

Harvest by County

The 2007 tribal bear harvest was distributed among 10 counties in northern Wisconsin (Table 12, Figure 6). The leading county of harvest was Bayfield County followed by Burnett, Douglas, Sawyer and Forest counties.

Table 12. The sex distribution and total number of bears harvested by County in Wisconsin during the 2007 off-reservation treaty bear season.

County	Male	Female	Total
Ashland	4	3	7
Bayfield	5	7	12
Burnett	8	1	9
Douglas	4	7	11
Forest	7	8	15
Langlade	3	0	3
Oneida	8	2	10
Price	2	2	4
Saywer	2	7	9
Washburn	3	2	5
Totals	46	39	85

Literature Cited

- Gilbert, J. H. 2007 Results of the 2006 treaty deer (wawashkishi) and bear (makwa) hunting seasons in the 1837 and 1842 Ceded Territories in Wisconsin and Minnesota. GLIFWC Administrative Report Number 07 - 07. Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission, Odanah, WI. 26 pp.
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