

# GREAT LAKES INDIAN FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION

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## • MEMBER TRIBES •

### MICHIGAN

Bay Mills Community  
Keweenaw Bay Community  
Lac Vieux Desert Band

### WISCONSIN

Bad River Band  
Lac Courte Oreilles Band  
Lac du Flambeau Band

### MINNESOTA

Fond du Lac Band  
Mille Lacs Band

## Memorandum

To: Neil Kmiecik, Biological Services Director  
Jennifer Krueger-Bear, Admin. Assistant to Biological Services Director  
From: Peter David, Wildlife Biologist  
Re: 2012 Mizise (Turkey) Harvest Memo  
Date: November 24, 2015

The results of tribal turkey harvest in the Wisconsin and Minnesota 1837 and 1842 ceded territories during 2012 are attached.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

## 2012 MIZISE (TURKEY) HARVEST in the WISCONSIN and MINNESOTA 1837 and 1842 CEDED TERRITORIES

### BACKGROUND

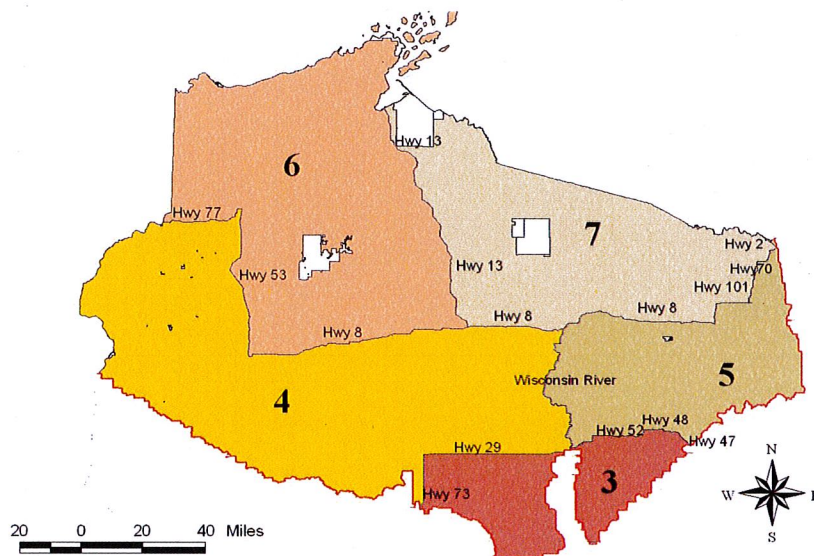
The hunting of mizise (turkeys) in the Wisconsin and Minnesota ceded territories has been a small but growing activity since the reaffirmation of off-reservation harvesting under the *Voigt* decision. Once extirpated from the region, turkeys have again become established throughout much of the Wisconsin and Minnesota ceded territories, and all of the Wisconsin and Minnesota ceded territories are now included in turkey management zones. This memo summarizes the 2012 mizise harvest; additional background discussion and harvest information for the 1994-2007 period can be found in David, 2008, and individual harvest memos done for years 2008-2011.

### WISCONSIN

#### Regulations

Nearly all of the ceded territory turkey harvest since the re-affirmation of off-reservation treaty rights has taken place in Wisconsin. Marked changes in turkey management in the state occurred in 2008 between the spring and fall seasons; thus 2012 marked the fourth full year with the newer regulations in effect.

The spring season began the Wednesday nearest April 13, and ran for 42 consecutive days (two days longer than previous years), concurrent with the state season (4/11-5/22). The fall season ran from the day after Labor Day to December 31. There were 5 mizise management zones within the Wisconsin ceded territory (Figure 1). Carcass tags were not required, but all birds harvested had to be registered within 3 working days of harvest. The daily bag limit was 3. Complete turkey harvest regulations are included in the tribe's off-reservation model code.



The boundaries depicted on this map are representations and not intended to be legally binding.

Figure 1. Wisconsin ceded territory mizise management zones for 2012.

## Harvest

Table 1 summarizes the 2012 Wisconsin mizise harvest. A total of 36 birds were registered, including 7 in the spring season and 29 in the fall. Birds were harvested from 3 of the 5 zones in the Wisconsin ceded territory, with approximately half of the total harvest coming from zone 6.

In 2012 tribal turkey harvest increased after 4 years of decline (Figure 2). The 36 birds registered was the fourth highest recorded. Over the entire 1994-2012 period, 59% of the tribal harvest has occurred in the fall season.

Season	Sex	Mizise Management Zone					Sex Total	Season Total	Year Total
		3	4	5	6	7			
Spring	Male			2	5		7	7	36
	Female								
Fall	Male			2	6	2	10	29	
	Female			4	8	7	19		
Zone Total				8	19	9			

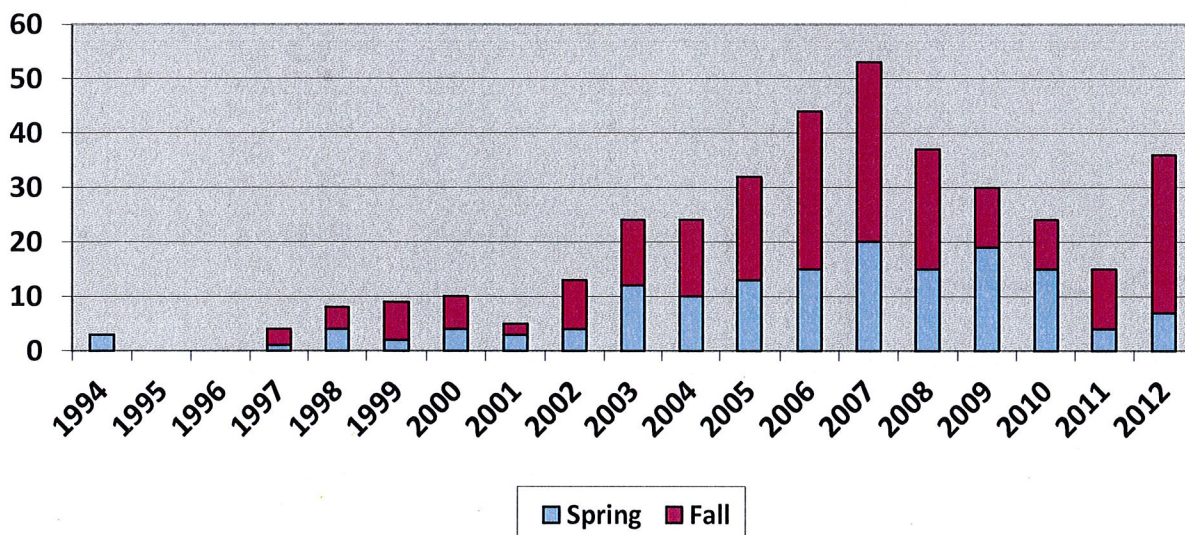


Figure 2. Wisconsin off-reservation, ceded territory mizise harvest, 1994-2012, by season.

## MINNESOTA

### Regulations

Mizise harvest in Minnesota has been very minimal, although all of the 1837 ceded territory was within zones open to turkey hunting with the exception of the Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge (Figure 3). Tribal management zones paralleled the state's. Spring season dates were April 14 – May 31; fall season dates were the day after Labor Day – Dec. 31. Complete turkey harvest regulations are included in the tribe's off-reservation model code.

### Harvest

No turkeys were reported harvested for the Minnesota ceded territory in 2012. The total previous harvest from the MN ceded territory (all other years combined since 1998) consisted of 3 birds taken in 2010, 3 in 2008 and 2 in 2007.

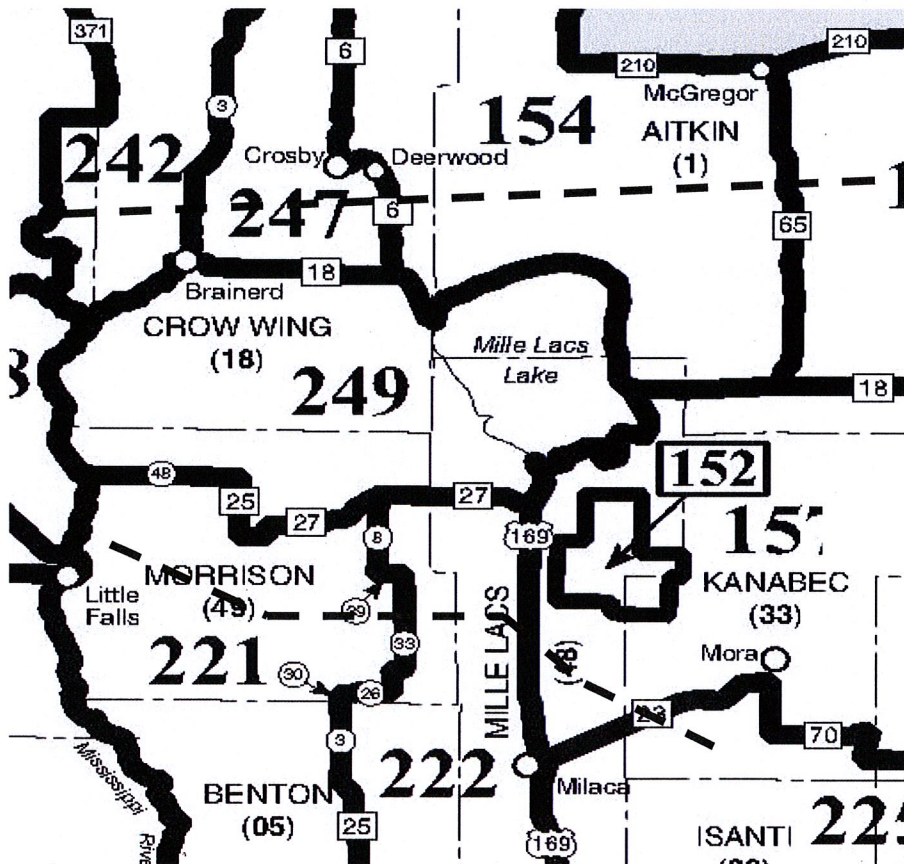


Figure 3. Minnesota 1837 ceded territory mizise zones in 2012.

## LITERATURE CITED

David, P. 2008. Mizise (Turkey) Harvest in the Wisconsin Ceded Territories, 1994-2007. Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission Administrative Report 08-14. 5pp.