WISCONSIN

CEDED

TERRITORY

MANOOMIN

INVENTORY

GLIFWC PROJECT REPORT 2010-1

Wisconsin Ceded Territory Manoomin Inventory Ver. 1.0

GLIFWC
Project
Report
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Peter David
Wildlife
Biologist

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Wisconsin Ceded Territory Manoomin Inventory Report

Introduction

This report fulfills the reporting requirements of the Ceded Territory Manoomin (Wild Rice) Inventory grant. It consists of several parts, including: 1) tabular data in an Excel spreadsheet; 2) a photo-narrative list of those sites which GLIFWC recommends be considered rice waters (n=329), and a second narrative list of sites investigated which we would not consider to be rice waters at this time (n=139); 3) an electronic folder of over 2800 air photos, sorted by county and site, of each site which GLIFWC had or was able to obtain; 4) an electronic folder of files containing spatial data on the waters containing rice beds, and 5) a paper copy of the DeLorme Atlas and Gazetter, with the location of each rice site marked. Each of these components is described in greater detail below.

This intent of this effort was to create as complete an inventory of ceded territory manoomin waters as possible. This was a significant undertaking, and given the vast number of lakes, streams and rivers that exist in the Wisconsin ceded territory, and the fact that rice is an annual plant that can vary greatly in its abundance from year to year, there is no doubt that some sites remain overlooked. In addition, rice is a species that is actively seeded by both public agencies and private individuals, so its presence on the landscape is not static over time. For these reasons, any inventory of rice waters needs to be a living document, and periodic updates will likely be necessary. Nevertheless, this report creates – by far – the best summary of information ever available on the distribution of manoomin in the Wisconsin Ojibwe Ceded Territory, and it is a resource that should be valuable to managers, researchers and even manoomin harvesters and waterfowl hunters.

This effort began with a review of the sites currently considered rice waters by the state, a list of 167 waters which was hurriedly assembled in the wake of the creation of Act 118, which streamlined DNR environmental review on many waters in the state. It ends - or at least pauses – with this document, which discusses the presence of manoomin on 329 sites (including only 151 from the Act 118 list). It also notes a number of locations which are likely to be added to the list when additional surveys can be conducted.

The basic building block of this database is the WBIC code for each water body. While this approach works quite well for lakes, its application is less clean when dealing with river systems. In addition, we discovered a number of situations where we felt using this unit of measure created non-intuitive results. An example of this is where a small widening of a river is given a unique WBIC code. For this reason, when it was felt the average person would conceptually group waters, they were grouped in the narrative description prepared for this report as well, but with each WBIC site involved listed.

While in most cases the decision to include a site on the list was relatively straight forward – was rice present or not – in a small number of cases, the decision was not so clear-cut. Some locations where only a very trace presence of rice was documented were not included in the list of rice waters, particularly if it was known or suspected that the trace presence may have been due to a seeding effort. Several other seeding locations were not included simply because not enough time has passed to confirm whether these beds are truly established (ie: self supporting without additional seeding) yet or not. These sites are discussed in the narrative of “non-rice” waters. (It is worth noting that most of these are on publicly owned and managed properties, and thus are not likely to be subject to many of the negative human-caused impacts which the DNR regulates.)

Generally two years of confirmation of rice presence was required at a site to include it on the rice list. Some suspected waters which we only became aware of late in the survey effort could not be confirmed to this standard, and so were, at this time, included in the “non-rice” list. However, those sites which were deemed highly likely to be recognized as rice sites after further field surveys were completed were highlighted in the tabular data, so that they could be treated like rice waters in the interim.

Finally, a few sites with little current evidence of a rice presence, but unusually great historical significance, were included in the rice list, particularly if any restoration effort was underway or being considered for the location. Each of these decisions is discussed in the narrative report in an effort to provide transparency in our decision making.

Before continuing with a more detailed discussion of the grant products, I would like to extend my sincere thanks to the Wisconsin DNR for funding this extensive effort, which should pay dividends to state and tribal members for many years. These products can now also serve as a foundation for the development of a state/tribal manoomin management plan to further protect and enhance this unique resource. Without state funding and support from the Administration for Native Americans this inventory effort would not have been possible.

1) Tabular Data

An Excel spreadsheet titled *WIS Ceded Territory WR Inv.xls* is provided which includes, on the "rice" page, the following fields for each site considered to be a rice water:

WBIC: This is the state's Water Body Identification Code for each site. In most instances these codes were extracted from the Surface Water Viewer, so any errors in on the Viewer are replicated here.

County: This is the county where the majority of the water body supporting rice exists. However, if a water body straddled a county line, and the entirety of the rice bed was in one county, that county was listed, even if the larger portion of the water body was in an adjacent county. The Minong Flowage on the Douglas/Washburn county line is one of the few examples of this occurrence. If a water body was about equally divided between two or more counties, the county with the lake outlet was used as the identifying county. Rivers that pass thru multiple counties are listed under each county that has rice beds in it.

Name: The name for each water body was again extracted from the Surface Water Viewer. However, where a second name is commonly used, it was included as well, such as: *St. Croix (Gordon) Flowage.*

Presence: The presence field provides an indication of the abundance of rice on each water body. This is a subjective interpretation of field conditions based on GLIFWC's familiarity with the site. Five categories of rice abundance were used: A "Primary" classification means that in years of high

Figure 1. Pacwawong Lake, Sawyer County, an example of a water where rice has a "primary" presence.

rice abundance, manoomin has widespread distribution on the water and is likely the most significant aquatic plant present. A "Secondary" classification means rice has a strong presence on the water, and would be one of the most prevalent aquatic plants present. A "Tertiary" classification means rice has a significant presence on the water, but is limited in distribution. Examples would be lakes with appreciable beds, but perhaps limited to one or two bays. (Note that a large water with a tertiary presence may have a greater acreage of rice than a small water with a primary presence.) Rice abundance was classified as "present" when the beds accounted for an even smaller portion of the lake surface even when abundant – roughly less than 5%. Waters with a very small but persistent presence of rice were classified as supporting a "trace" of manoomin. These beds typically are too small to show up well in aerial images.

Of course, rice actually exists across a continuum of abundance, and some waters fall near the borders of these subjective classifications. Nevertheless, these classifications may be useful to managers in certain situations. Rice abundance was classified as primary on 77 waters, secondary on 49 waters, tertiary on 75 waters, present on 106 waters, and trace on 22 waters. Of course, rice abundance is subject to change over time, so these classifications will likely need occasional updating.

Figure 2. Somers Lake, Polk County, an example of a "secondary" rice water.

Figure 3. Nelson Lake, Sawyer County, an example of a "tertiary" rice water.

Figure 4. Round Lake, Vilas County, and example of lake where rice is "present".

TRS: This field provides a Town/Range/Section listing for each site as a location identifier. It does not include every TRS for sites with multiple TRS distributions, although multiple TRS's were provided for rivers with distinctly separated rice beds.

Ecoregion: Although not a required part of the grant deliverables, we included a field indicating within which of the state's ecoregions each site was located. For the four sites which spanned more than one ecoregion, each region is listed within the single field.

Pre List: This column is provided primarily to provide some continuity with the earlier reporting requirements of this grant; it will have little meaning to others. It indicates whether the water body was either previously listed on the Act 118 list of waters ("act", n=152); on the list of waters previously considered "ready to add" to the list of recognized rice waters ("rta"; n=94); on the list of "waters to verify" (sites field visited as part of this study due to a lack of verifying data)("wtv"; n=39); or waters which turned up since the grant was initiated as possibly supporting rice beds, and not previously listed ("new"; n=44).

Watch Status: Watch status is another somewhat subjective evaluation of the need to gather additional information on rice abundance on individual waters. Five categories were used, ranging from low to high.

This field has slightly different meaning in the list of rice waters compared to the list of "no rice" waters discussed below. For waters on the rice list, a high watch status indicates that while rice presence is documented, annual abundance information is limited to at most a few years of data, and additional survey information would be helpful. Watch status was also elevated where active management was underway, or where the bed had displayed either apparent decline, or relatively high abundance variation in recent years. For waters on the "no rice" list, a high watch status indicates that rice presence is not yet confirmed, but some evidence suggests it is likely to be with additional surveys. A low watch status for known rice waters indicates that these waters have more than 3 years of abundance information, while for "no rice" waters, a low watch status indicates that there is little evidence of rice at these sites, and additional monitoring is unnecessary.

Watch status again largely reflects GLIFWC's familiarity with the site; others may have greater knowledge of various sites and may classify them differently. High watch status was given to 27 waters, medium-high to 66, medium to 51, medium-low to 33, and low to 152. However, it is important to reiterate that watch status is based primarily upon the single criteria of information needed for greater understanding of annual abundance, or to direct management activity. There are other valid reasons for monitoring stands with a low watch status – such as to help direct ricers to towards waters with abundant crops in particular years.

Date- Regulated: Although not a required part of the grant deliverables, a field was added which indicates which lakes are currently on the list of lakes whose harvest is date-regulated, either jointly by the state and tribes (in the ceded territory), by the tribes themselves (for on-reservation waters), or in one instance, by the state alone (Lake Noquebay, which is outside the ceded territory). Note that not all lakes on the date-regulated list were considered to currently support rice beds.

Seeded: Although not a required part of the grant deliverables, a field was included indicating which sites were known to be the result of seeding efforts by state, federal, tribal, county or private individuals, working alone or in cooperation with other partners. It is interesting to note that over 20% of all sites were seeded, with most of these being cooperative efforts conducted on public lands, typically waterfowl flowages.

Gaz Pg: To facilitate identifying known rice waters, a copy of the DeLorme Wisconsin Atlas and Gazetteer, Tenth Edition, is also provided with each rice water marked. This field provides the page and grid block for each water.

Comments: This field provides some brief comments for each water; greater detail can be found in the narrative discussed below.

The "no rice" page of the *WIS Ceded Territory WR Inv.xls* spreadsheet includes a list of sites which were investigated but which we would not recommend considering rice waters at this time. Fields are limited to County, Water Name, TRS, Presence, Watch Status, Pre. List, and Comments. However, waters which are likely to be recognized as rice waters after further field verification are highlighted in yellow, so that individuals who may be reviewing permits or management plans affecting this sites will be aware of the likely rice presence.

Finally, the "sum notes" page of the tabular data provides summary information on selected fields from the list of rice waters.

2) Photo-Narrative

The photo-narrative consists of: 1) a 216 page Word document that provides a brief narrative review of the rice presence on each rice water, and mentions particular management concerns that may exist, and 2) a 31 page Word document which discusses waters investigated which we do not recommend considering rice waters at this time.

The narrative provides an opportunity to present information that cannot be summarized easily into tabular data. For some sites, it is fairly detailed; for others, where our familiarity was limited, it may be quite brief. In most cases, an aerial photo (often cropped or edited to enhance or focus attention on the rice bed) is also provided. GLIFWC strongly recommends that it be distributed fully with the tabular data to enhance manager's familiarity with each location. GLIFWC also welcomes submittals from local managers who can enhance these narratives for future updates.

3) Photo Images Folder

Accompanying these reports is an electronic folder (WI Inventory Photos) with includes over 2800 jpg images of wild rice waters. These are sorted by county and water body . Folder and image names here often used local or common names for waters that are unnamed on the Surface Water Viewer. However, any confusion that may exist about site location can be avoided by referring to WBIC codes in the narrative and tabular data.

At least one image was available for 288 of the 329 rice waters. GLIFWC hopes to add additional photos in the future, but some beds are small enough that they may not show up well in air photographs. For many waters, multiple images are provided, depicting either different parts of the water, and/or the same water in different years. These photos help depict the distribution of rice on the waters of interest, and can show some of the variability in abundance that can exist between years. Most of the images are from 2005 – the first year that GLIFWC began shooting digital images – and later, but in some cases older images, scanned from color slides, were included when it was felt they provided important information. (While most of the older images available in GLIFWC's files were not included in this report, it is worth noting that older images do exist for many of the more significant waters and could be obtained from GLIFWC on individual request if needed to help address management concerns.)

4) Spatial Data Files

A zipped electronic folder is also included (manoomin_shps.zip) which includes a number of files of spatial data depicting the waters on the rice list, and information documenting how that data was assembled or created. It should be extremely useful to individuals looking to create GIS coverages of this rice waters. (Note that no spatial data was available to allow inclusion of the Ackley WA flowages locations, or for Pool 10 on the Mead Wildlife Area.)

5) Gazetteer

The final product included in this report is a copy of the commonly available DeLorme Wisconsin Atlas and Gazetteer, Tenth Edition, with the location of each rice water marked. The page and grid reference of each location is also included as a field in the tabular data. However, individuals using this information should be aware that the Tenth Edition of the Gazetteer differs significantly from earlier editions, so this edition must be used in conjunction with the page and grid information.

Acknowledgements

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SITES CONSIDERED WILD RICE WATERS

ASHLAND

1. Bad River Sloughs (WBIC 2892100).

2. Bear Lake (WBIC 2403200).

3. Honest John Lake (WBIC 2892400).

4. Kakagon Sloughs (WBIC 2891700).

5. Kakagon River (WBIC 2891300).

6. Beartrap Creek (WBIC 2891400).

7. Sandcut Slough (WBIC 2891800).

8. Unnamed (Northeast) Slough (WBIC 5000897).

9. Wood Creek Slough (WBIC 2891200).

10. White River Flowage (WBIC 2894200).

BARRON

11. Bear Lake (WBIC 2105100).

12. Loon Lake Wildlife Management Area (WBIC 5005794).

13. Moose Ear Lake (WBIC 2089700).

14. Red Cedar River (WBIC 2063500).

15. Rice Creek (WBIC 2094200).

16. Sweeny Pond (WBIC 2097500).

17. Vermillion River (WBIC 2097200).

BAYFIELD

18. Chippewa Lake (WBIC 2431300).

19. Frog Creek, (WBIC 2884100).

20. Raspberry River (WBIC 2883800).

21. Totagatic Lake (WBIC 2705000).

BURNETT

22. Bashaw Lake (WBIC 2662400).

23. Bass Lake (WBIC 2638600).

24. Big Sand Lake (WBIC 2676800).

25. Black Brook Flowage (WBIC 2655000).

26. Briggs Lake (WBIC 2671900).

27. Buffalo Lake (WBIC 2674700).

28. Clam Lake, Lower (WBIC 2655300).

29. Clam Lake, Upper (WBIC 2656200).

30. Clam River (WBIC 2654200).

31. Clam River, North Fork (WBIC 2656600).

32. Clam River Flowage (WBIC 2654500).

33. Culbertsen Lake (WBIC 2673200).

34. Eagle Lake (WBIC 2672100).

35. Gaslyn Lake (WBIC 2677700).

36. Grettum Flowage (WBIC 2637800).

37. Gull Lake (WBIC 2671100).

38. Kent Creek (WBIC 2656700).

39. Kent Lake (WBIC 2656900).

40. Lipsett Lake (WBIC 2678100).

41. Little Wood Lake (WBIC 2650900).

42. Long Lake (WBIC 2656400).

43. Loon Creek (WBIC 2670400).

44. Loon Lake (WBIC 2671200).

45. Lower Hay Creek Flowage (WBIC 2643700).

46. Memory Lake (WBIC 2646500).

47. Middle North Fork Flow. (WBIC for unnamed ditch 2648700).

48. Mud Lake (1) (Swiss Township) (WBIC 2672300).

49. Mud Lake (2) (Oakland Township) (WBIC 2484400).

50. Mud Hen Lake (WBIC 2649500).

51. Namekagon River (WBIC 2689500).

52. North Fork Flowage (WBIC 2647300).

53. North Lang Lake (2673000).

54. Peterson Lake (WBIC 2650100).

55. Phantom Flowage (WBIC 2644100).

56. Rice Lake (1)(WBIC 2677900).

57. Rice Lake (2)(WBIC 2650200).

58. Rice Lake (3)(WBIC 2640300).

59. Saint Croix River (WBIC 2601400).

60. South Refuge Flowage (WBIC 2644400).

61. Spencer Lake (WBIC 2658400).

62. Spirit Lake (WBIC 2650300).

63. Unnamed Ditch (Lower L Dike Flowage)(WBIC 5512054).

64. Unnamed (Duckshot) Lake (WBIC 2665100).

65. Unnamed /Jackson Lake (WBIC 2676700).

66. Unnamed Pond (WBIC 5590833).

67. Unnamed Water/ Bradshaw Slough) (WBIC 2671600).

68. Upper North Fork Flowage (WBIC 2648900).

69. Webb Creek (WBIC 2705100, 2705300).

70. Wood Lake (WBIC 2649800).

71. Yellow Lake (WBIC 2675200).

72. Yellow River (WBIC 2670300, 2674500).

CHIPPEWA

73. Cedar Creek (WBIC 2351200).

74. Holcombe Flowage (WBIC 2184900).

75. Marsh Miller Lake (WBIC 2171200).

76. O'Neil Creek (WBIC2168900).

DOUGLAS

77. Allouez Bay (WBIC 2751220).

78. Amnicon Lake (WBIC2858100).

79. Bear Lake (WBIC 2857700).

80. Fasteland Road Ponds (no WBIC).

81. Jackson Box Flowage (Moose Branch Flow.) (WBIC 2739400).

82. Koski Road Pond (No WBIC codes available).

83. Lower Ox Lake (WBIC 2744300).

84. Minong Flowage (WBIC 2692900).

85. Mulligan Lake (WBIC 2700200).

86. Pokegama River /Bay (WBIC 2844000).

87. Radigan Flowage (WBIC 2687500).

88. St. Croix (Gordon) Flowage (WBIC 2740300).

89. St. Croix River (WBIC 2601400).

90. St. Louis River (WBIC 2843800).

91. Stateline Flowage (WBIC 5502837).

92. Upper Ox Creek (WBIC 2744800).

93. Upper Ox Lake (WBIC 2744700).

94. Upper St. Croix Lake (WBIC 2747300).

FLORENCE

95. Fay Lake (WBIC 677100).

FOREST

96. Armstrong Creek (WBIC 561200).

97. Atkins Lake (WBIC 1578400).

98. Bishop Lake (WBIC 392100).

99. Hiles Millpond (WBIC 408000).

100. Kaine Lake (WBIC 719300).

101. Knowles Creek Impoundment (WBIC 473600).

102. Little Rice Lake (WBIC 406400).

103. Otter Creek (WBIC 547200).

104. Pat Shay Lake (WBIC 1607100).

105. Rat River (WBIC 550600).

106. Rice Lake (WBIC 392700).

107. Riley (Indian) Lake (WBIC 557100).

108. Scattered Rice Lake (WBIC 555200).

109. Scott Lake (WBIC 1615400).

110. Swamp Creek (WBIC 391500).

111. Wabikon Lake (556900).

112. Wolf River (WBIC 241300).

IRON

113. Bear River (WBIC 2315200).

114. Gile Flowage (WBIC 2942300).

115. Hay Lake (WBIC 2259400).

116. Little Bear Flowage (WBIC 2315700).

117. Little Turtle Flowage (WBIC 2313300).

118. Manitowish River (WBIC 2324400).

119. Mud Lake (WBIC 2316400).

120. Munnomin Lake (WBIC 2320000).

121. Sugarbush Flowage (WBIC 2317200).

122. Turtle Flambeau Flowage (WBIC 2294900).

LANGLADE

123. Ackley Wildlife Area Flowages

124. Miniwakan Lake (WBIC 398600).

125. Pickerel Creek (WBIC 387300).

126. Spider Creek Flowage (WBIC 391400).

127. Unnamed Lake on the Lily River (WBIC 371100).

128. Wolf River (Turtle Lake)(WBIC 241300).

129. Unnamed (Daily) Pond (WBIC 385100).

LINCOLN

130. Alice Lake (WBIC 1555900).

131. Camp 26 Flowage (WBIC 5525949).

132. Harrison Flowage (WBIC 1560400).

133. Jersey City Flowage (WBIC 1516000).

134. Mohawksin Lake (WBIC 1515400).

135. New Woods Wildlife Area Flowage (WBIC 1500400).

136. Somo River (WBIC 1546900).

137. Unnamed Pond (WBIC 5524703).

138. Unnamed Slough (WBIC 1547000).

139. Wisconsin River & Assoc. Waters (WBIC 1179900, 1503100, 1502400, 1494600, 1494700).

MARATHON

140. Big Rib River (WBIC 1451800).

141. Birch Flowage (WBIC 1436300).

142. Drop Inlet Flowage (WBIC 5530513).

143. Lake Wausau (WBIC 1437500).

144. Lower Nienow Flowage (WBIC 1473100).

145. McMillan Marsh WA Flowages Main (WBIC 1422100) and Reservoir (WBIC 1422400).

146. Mead WA Flowages North Honey Is. (WBIC 1416200), North Rice Lake (WBIC 1418400), Smokey Hill Flowage (WBIC 1419300) and Pool 10 (WBIC not available).

147. Upper Leo Flowage (WBIC 5008792).

148. Whiskey Flowage (WBIC 5530546).

MARINETTE

149. Noquebay Lake (WBIC 525900).

150. Woods Lake (WBIC 540900).

ONEIDA

151. Big Lake (WBIC 1613000).

152. Cuenin Lake (WBIC 1568800).

153. Deer Lake (WBIC 1612300).

154. Dog Lake (WBIC 1612900).

155. Fish Lake (Pelican River)(WBIC 1570600).

156. Fourmile Lake (WBIC 1610800).

157. Gary Lake (WBIC 1517500).

158. Killarney Lake (WBIC 1520900).

159. Little Rice Creek (WBIC 1516900).

160. Little Rice Lake (WBIC 1617400).

161. Mud Lake (WBIC 1612500).

162. Oneida Lake (WBIC 1518200).

163. Rhinelander Flowage (WBIC 1580100).

164. Rice Lake (WBIC 1617200).

165. Rocky Run Flowage (WBIC 1525500).

166. Roe Lake (WBIC 1517400).

167. Scott Creek Impoundment (WBIC 161500).

168. Spur Lake (WBIC 1571800).

169. Squaw Creek (WBIC 2271200).

170. Sugar Camp Creek (WBIC 1596700).

171. The Thoroughfare (WBIC 1613400, 5591310).

172. Thunder Lake (WBIC 1618100).

173. Wolf River (WBIC 241300).

POLK

174. Andrus Lake (WBIC 2668600).

175. Apple River (WBIC 2614000)and Shiloh Flow. (WBIC 2626500).

176. Apple River Flowage (WBIC 2624200).

177. Balsam Branch (WBIC 2618900).

178. Balsam Lake (WBIC 2620600).

179. Big Blake Lake (WBIC 2627000).

180. Big Round Lake (WBIC 2627400).

181. Bone Lake (WBIC 2628100).

182. Fox Creek (WBIC 2626800).

183. Joel Flowage (WBIC 2625700).
184. Little Blake Lake (WBIC 2627300).
185. Little Butternut Lake (WBIC 2640700).
186. McKenzie Lake (WBIC 2667300).
187. North White Ash Lake (WBIC 2628800).
188. Rice Bed Creek (WBIC 2628900).
189. Rice Lake (WBIC 2615400).
190. Rice Lake (at Milltown)(WBIC 2621600).
191. St. Croix River (WBIC 2601400).
192. Somers Lake (WBIC 2665900).
193. Straight Lake (WBIC 2627800).
194. Straight River at Shilling Dam (WBIC 5518249).
195. Unnamed (Rice) Lake (WBIC 2650600).
196. Unnamed Pond (WBIC 5526548).
197. Wapogasset Lake (WBIC 2618000).
198. White Ash Lake (WBIC 2628600).

PRICE

199. Beaver Creek Flowage (WBIC 2234700).
200. Blockhouse Lake (WBIC 2256800).
201. Flambeau River, South Fork (WBIC 2231200).
202. Lower Steve Creek Flowage (WBIC 2191400).
203. Musser Lake, (WBIC 2245100).
204. Prentice Flowage (WBIC 2211300).
205. Sailor Lake (WBIC 2254800).
206. Spring Creek Wildlife Area Flowages (WBIC 2216600, 2216400, 2216200, 2216000).
207. Squaw Creek (WBIC 2271200).
208. Unnamed (Jump River) Flowage (WBIC 2211800).
209. Wilson Flowage, and Upper Wilson Flowage (WBIC 2246600, 2246500).

RUSK

210. Dairyland Flowage (WBIC 2229200).
211. Fireside Lakes (WBIC 2349700).
212. Island Lake (WBIC 2350200).
213. Lea Lake Flowage (WBIC 2361900).

214. McGee Lake (WBIC 2224400).

215. Rice Creek (WBIC 2349400).

216. Swift Creek (WBIC 2349800).

217. Ten Mile Creek (WBIC 2093100).

ST. CROIX

218. Cylon Wildlife Area Flowage (WBIC 5528829).

219. Cylon Wildlife Area Pothole (WBIC for creek 5007807).

SAWYER

220. Barker Lake (WBIC 2400000).

221. Billy Boy Flowage (WBIC 2389700).

222. Blaisdell Lake (WBIC 2402200).

223. Chetac Lake (WBIC 2113300).

224. Chippewa River, West Fork (WBIC 2414500).

225. Hunter Lake (WBIC 2400600).

226. Knutson Creek (WBIC 2113700).

227. Malviney Creek (WBIC 2113600).

228. Meadow Lake (WBIC 2424800).

229. Nelson Lake (WBIC 2704200).

230. Osprey Creek (WBIC 5508925).

231. Pacwawong Lake (WBIC 2728700).

232. Partridge Crop Lake (WBIC 2424600).

233. Phipps Flowage (WBIC 2727800).

234. Phipps Springs (WBIC 2728100).

235. Wilson Lake (WBIC 2420000).

TAYLOR

236. Chequamegon Waters Flowage (WBIC 2160700).

237. Mondeaux Flowage (WBIC 2193300).

238. Mondeaux River (WBIC 5524758).

239. Mud Lake (WBIC 2165400).

240. Pershing WA Flowages(Monson,2159100; Mravik, 2182600; Shoulder Creek, 2189500).

241. Unnamed Flowage (WBIC 5524695).

VILAS

242. Allequash Lake (WBIC 2332400).

243. Apeekwa Lake (WBIC 2269400).
244. Aurora Creek (WBIC 1592600).
245. Aurora Lake (WBIC 1592700).
246. Bear River (WBIC 2315200).
247. Boot Creek (WBIC 1618700) and Unnamed Creek (WBIC 1618800).
248. Boot Lake (WBIC 1619100).
249. Devine Lake (WBIC 1540500).
250. Frost Lake (WBIC 1618900).
251. Grassy Lake (WBIC 22343900).
252. Irving Lake (WBIC 2340900).
253. Island Lake (WBIC 2334400) and Unnamed Water (WBIC 5505819).
254. Lac Vieux Desert (WBIC 1631900).
255. Little Portage Lake (WBIC 1629200).
256. Little Rice Lake (WBIC 2338900).
257. Lost Creek (WBIC 1593300).
258. Lower Ninemile Lake (WBIC 1605200).
259. Manitowish River (WBIC 2324400).
260. Mann Creek Flowage (WBIC 5508112).
261. Middle Sugarbush Lake (WBIC 2317700).
262. Mud Creek (WBIC 2341100).
263. Mud Lake (WBIC 1619400).
264. Nixon Creek (WBIC 2341100).
265. Nixon Lake (WBIC 2341200).
266. Palmer Lake (WBIC 2962900).
267. Partridge Lake (WBIC 2341500).
268. Pickerel Creek (WBIC 16619200).
269. Plum Lake (WBIC 1592400).
270. Rest Lake (WBIC 2327500).
271. Rice Creek (WBIC 2334500) and Unnamed (Duck) Lake (WBIC 2334800).
272. Rice Lake (WBIC 1618600).
273. Round Lake (WBIC 2334900).
274. Spring Creek (WBIC 2964700).
275. Squaw Creek (WBIC 2271200).

276. Trout River (WBIC 2329500).
277. Upper Ninemile Flowage (WBIC 1608300).
278. West Ellerson Lake (WBIC 2331000).
279. West Plum Lake (WBIC 1592500).
280. Wild Rice Lake (WBIC 2329800).
281. Wisconsin River (WBIC 1179900).

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282. Balsam Lake (WBIC 2112800).
283. Bear Creek (WBIC 2106200).
284. Bergen Creek (WBIC 2694300).
285. Black Brook Flowage (WBIC 2698300).
286. Boyer Creek (WBIC 2105300).
287. Casey Creek Flowage (WBIC 2708800).
288. Chippanazie Flowage (WBIC 2722400).
289. Dilly Lake (WBIC 2712800).
290. Gilmore Lake (WBIC 2695800).
291. Little Mud Lake (WBIC 2107100).
292. Long Lake (WBIC 2106800).
293. Mackay Springs (WBIC 2717100).
294. Mud Lake (WBIC 2107700).
295. Potato Creek (WBIC 2712200).
296. Potato Lake (WBIC 2714500).
297. Rice Lake (WBIC 2696000).
298. Rocky Ridge Creek (WBIC 2707200, 2706200).
299. Shell Creek (WBIC 2695900).
300. Spooner Lake (WBIC 2685200).
301. Spring Lake (WBIC 2691200).
302. Totagatic River (WBIC 2689800).
303. Tranus Lake (WBIC 2721600).
304. Trego Flowage (WBIC 2712000).
305. Whalen Lake (WBIC 2715900).
306. Yellow River (WBIC 2681600, 2670300).

Narrative Review of Sites Considered Wild Rice Waters

Ashland County

1. Bad River Sloughs (WBIC 2892100).

Figure 1. Bad River Slough, Ashland County, 2009.

The Bad River Sloughs are located on the Bad River Indian Reservation, near the mouth of the Bad River. This site is protected and managed by the Bad River Tribe. Like the Kakagon Sloughs, rice abundance on this site is greatly influenced by water levels on Lake Superior. This undeveloped site is sometimes harvested by tribal members, but does not show up in harvest surveys because of it is an on-reservation water. Watch status is low due to familiarity with site, on-reservation location, and relatively protected condition.

2. Bear Lake (WBIC 2403200).

Figure 2. Bear Lake, Ashland County, 2007

Bear Lake is located on the East Fork of the Chippewa River just north of the Ashland/Sawyer county line. Rice beds are located primarily near the inlet, and especially near the outlet. These beds have apparently existed for many years, but do not get much harvesting pressure due to their somewhat limited size, and the limited public access that exists at this site. Watch status is medium low, but it would be preferable to have better annual distribution information.

3. Honest John Lake (WBIC 2892400).

Figure 3. Honest John Lake, Ashland County, 2009.

Honest John Lake is located on the Bad River Indian Reservation, and the site is protected and managed by the Bad River Tribe. It is located just southeast of the Bad River Slough, and like the Slough, is influenced by the level of Lake Superior. This site is not believed to provide much harvest because of its relatively remote location and the presence of larger beds nearby, but in any case it does not show up in harvest surveys because of its on-reservation location. Although the bed shown above appears to be on an outlet stream, this section is still considered part of Honest John Lake on the Surface Water Viewer. Watch status is low due to familiarity with site, on-reservation location, and relatively protected condition, but more annual abundance information is needed.

4-9. Kakagon Sloughs (WBIC 2891700), including Kakagon River (WBIC 2891300), Beartrap Creek (WBIC 2891400), Sandcut Slough (WBIC 2891800), Unnamed (Northeast) Slough (WBIC 5000897), and the Wood Creek Slough (WBIC 2891200).

Figure 4. Kakagon Sloughs, Ashland County, 2009.

The name "Kakagon Sloughs" here refers collectively to the slough system on the Bad River Indian Reservation formed collectively by the Kakagon Slough, the Kakagon River, Beartrap Creek, Unnamed (Northeast) Slough and the Wood Creek Slough. It also includes the area of Lake Superior's Chequamegon Bay known as the "Sandcut Slough": the notch created at the junction of Oak Point and Chequamegon Point. All of these waters are protected and managed by the Bad River Tribe.

This area contains the largest rice beds associated with the Wisconsin portion of the Lake Superior basin. They have been present for centuries at least, and are unique because they are affected markedly by the levels of Lake Superior. Harvest data is lacking because this is an on-reservation bed, but these beds are heavily harvested under the management of the Bad River Tribe. The Tribe closed the Sloughs to harvesting in 2007 due to low water levels, but this low water period appeared to trigger good growth in 2008 and 2009. Watch status is low due to familiarity with site, on-reservation location, and relatively protected condition.

10. White River Flowage (WBIC 2894200).

Figure 5. White River Flowage, Ashland County, 2009.

Wild rice was found growing in several patches along the White River Flowage in 2009, possibly as the result of a private seeding effort. Narrow bands were found near the road, the canoe outlet, and the north shore; a wider patch was located towards the west end of the flowage. It is not believed to have been present here for a long period of time, but this is uncertain. The air photo shows the flowage during an emergency drawdown of approximately 6 feet, that took place in 2009; this left the rice beds growing on mud flats (and difficult to discern from the air), but it is not expected that this brief dewatering will cause any long-term negative impacts to the bed. Watch status is medium-high due to the limited data available from the site, and the need to confirm that the site wasn't damaged by the draw-down.

Barron County

11. Bear Lake (WBIC 2105100).

Figure 6. Bear Lake, Barron County, 2008.

Two large rice beds exist on the southernmost bay of Bear Lake, and several smaller beds exist on the far western lobe. These beds are regularly harvested, in part because they have a reputation among harvesters as having particularly high quality seed. However, harvesters also have reported that the large beds have generally been declining over the past 1-2 decades.

This period of decline has been generally associated with a period of above average precipitation, and it is the opinion of the author that in 2009 the beds were likely limited by water depth. I believe these beds could likely be enhanced by relatively small water level modifications, but currently there are many differing opinions about how water levels should be managed on this dam-regulated lake. Watch status is medium-high due to concerns about bed decline.

12. Loon Lake Wildlife Management Area (WBIC for unnamed stream: 5005794)(no air photo available).

Figure 7. Loon Lake Wildlife Area Flowage, Barron County, 2009.

This is another small flowage that was created to provide waterfowl habitat. It is too new to be included in the Surface Water Viewer, but can be seen in the 2005 air photo layer approximately 1 mile south of Staples Lake. The WBIC that is provided is for the unnamed streamed that creates the flowage; immediately upon exiting the flowage, it enters the Apple River. This site was seeded, and a bed has become well established. The site is accessed from a walking trail from a parking area along 1st Street to the west. Watch status is medium-high due to the short history of the site.

13. Moose Ear Lake (WBIC 2089700).

Figure 8. Moose Ear Lake, Barron County, 2008.

Rice was verified on Moose Ear Lake, scattered in small clumps near the south end, and in a thin bed near the north end of the lake. The bed does not appear to be substantial enough to be of great interest to harvesters, but does increase the attractiveness of the site to wildlife and waterfowl hunters. Watch status is medium due to limited annual abundance data.

14. Red Cedar River (WBIC 2063500).

Figure 9. Red Cedar River, Barron County, 2009.

Site visits confirmed the presence of rice originally reported by Michael Michaelsen and Russell Fell, both of the DNR. Several acres of sparse-medium density rice were found between HWY 48 and Rice Lake. As is visible in the photo, plants were heavily browsed. Site was surveyed in early July, so stand density estimates may be low. Watch status is medium-high due to management concerns and limited annual abundance data.

15. Rice Creek (WBIC 2094200)(no photo available).

Though the name obviously suggests a long presence of rice, recent evidence of any appreciable presence is limited. There are 2 old herbarium records from this site, one from 1929, collected by none other than N.C. Fasset (author of "A Manual of Aquatic Plants") and another from 1947. GLIFWC staff also reported the presence of small beds just north of HWY 8 in 1985.

This stream is also the headwaters to Prairie Lake, which was once a reknown rice lake, and whose name was derived from the abundant rice beds that once grew there.

A 2008 survey by the St. Croix Tribe found a few plants, while a 2009 survey by GLIFWC staff did not record any presence of rice on this creek. Nevertheless, given its history, the possibility that rice might still exist, and the fact that any remnant bed could have great significance should rice restoration in the area be pursued, I recommend this site still be considered a rice water, with a high watch status.

16. Sweeny Pond (WBIC 2097500).

Figure 10. Sweeny Pond, Barron County, 2008.

Sweeny Pond, located in east-central Barron County, has supported wild rice for many years. Annual abundance appears to be more variable for this site than might be expected from its highly riverine nature. Careful management of this state-managed location might improve annual production. Watch status is low due to familiarity with the site.

17. Vermillion River (WBIC 2097200).

Figure 11. Vermillion River, Barron County, 2008.

The Vermillion River has been known to support rice for many years. Likely the biggest bed is found just north of HWY 8 near the Sweeny Pond Creek inlet (shown in the photo above), while a second bed has been reported approximately three-quarters of a mile south of Lower Vermillion Lake, just north of 20th Avenue. It is likely smaller patches also exist in other sections. Watch status is medium-high, primarily because of the need to better document the northern bed.

Bayfield County

18. Chippewa Lake (WBIC 2431300).

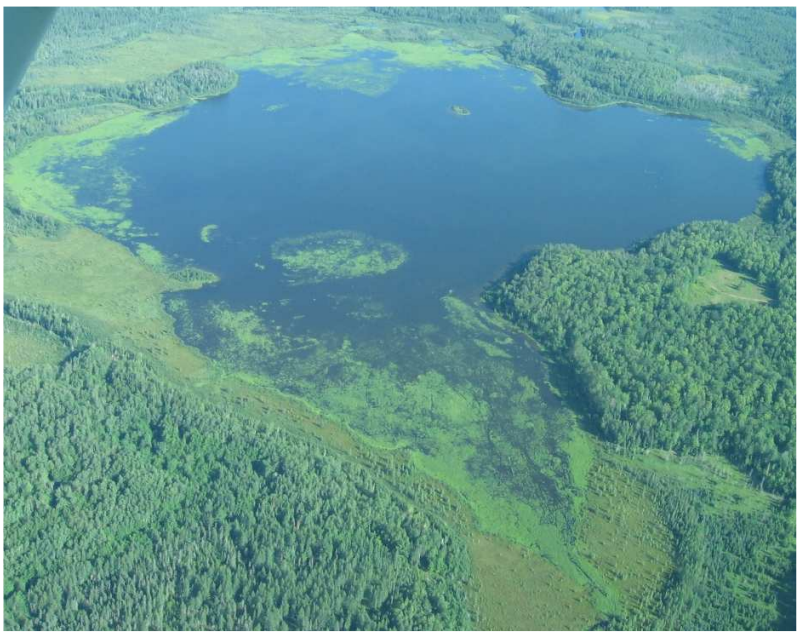

Figure 12. Chippewa Lake, Bayfield County, 2006.

Chippewa Lake, a historic rice lake located near the southeast corner of the county, was restored cooperatively by the USFS and GLIFWC through a combination of seeding and beaver control. This site has responded very well, and has become popular with ricers. However, harvest data indicates that harvest per trip has been relatively poor on this site, likely due to a combination of relatively late maturation and relatively high harvest pressure. As such, this lake might be an excellent candidate to add to the list of date-regulated waters. It is also important to monitor this lake for impacts from beaver since even small increases in the water level can make large areas unsuitable for rice. Watch status (other than for beaver impacts) is low.

19. Frog Creek (WBIC 2884100)(no photo available).

The Red Cliff Tribe reports having established a rice bed on Frog Creek near its mouth on Lake Superior through on-reservation seeding efforts. Initially this bed was reported as being on Frog Bay, but it has since been clarified that the bed is on the creek itself near the bay. Watch status is medium, due to the lack of air photos.

20. Raspberry River (WBIC 2883800)(no photo available).

Several beds of rice have been established by the Red Cliff Tribe in small sloughs and beaver impoundments along the on-reservation portions of this river. Beds now appear to be self-sustaining. More information may be available from the Red Cliff Natural Resources Department. Watch status is medium, due to the lack of air photos.

21. Totagatic Lake (WBIC 2705000).

Figure 13. Totogatic Lake, Bayfield County, 2007.

Totogatic Lake has long been one of the mainstay wild rice waters in the state. It is well known and heavily picked, although crop abundance is highly variable (more than half of the lake can be in rice in bumper years). It is a bit unusual in that the densest bed tends to be an "island" located a fair distance off shore. The entire lake is in a state wildlife area. Beaver control on the Totogatic River outlet is sometimes important, since even small increases in the lake level makes much of the basin too deep for rice. (This site should not be confused with the Totagatic Flowage in Sawyer County.) Watch status, other than for beaver impacts, is low.

Burnett County

22. Bashaw Lake (WBIC 2662400).

Figure 14. Bashaw Lake, Burnett County, 2002.

Bashaw Lake, located 3 miles SSE of Hertel, has long been considered a rice water, and the lake is among those whose harvest is date-regulated. Traditionally, the most significant stands were found at the inlet and outlet. In recent years,

however, the rice beds appear to be in decline. From the air, water quality appears poor, likely the result of excessive nutrients. Watch status is medium-high out of concern for declining beds.

23. Bass Lake (WBIC 2638600)(no photo available).

This small, private lake was a late addition to the list of rice waters. Although GLIFWC is unfamiliar with this site, the St. Croix Tribe documented the presence of approximately 1 acre of rice on this lake in 2008. It would be good to conduct additional surveys in future years to determine how typical the 2008 stand was, but access may be dependent on the local property owner(s). Watch status is medium because of the limited abundance information and lack of an air photo.

24. Big Sand Lake (WBIC 2676800)(no air photo available).

Figure 15. Big Sand Lake, Burnett County, 2009.

Big Sand Lake is an interesting site. This lake reportedly once supported substantial rice beds, and the lake is among those on the list of waters whose harvest is date-regulated. However, apparently it has been many years since the lake has supported harvestable beds.

The St. Croix Tribe, whose reservation includes frontage on this lake, conducted an intensive survey of the lake in 2009, mapping 11.6 acres of rice in 2 beds, one on the north side of the most northeastern bay, and one in the small bay east of the peninsula on the south shore (shown in the photo above). They also planted 510 pounds of seed in the fall of 2009 in the shallow bay near the outlet on the west side of the lake, where the larger historical beds reportedly occurred.

According to anecdotal information, this lake may be another one whose water levels were altered when a culvert was reset on the outlet stream. It remains to be seen if seeding alone will allow these historic beds to be re-established. Watch status medium-high out of management concerns.

25. Black Brook Flowage (WBIC 2655000).

Figure 16. Black Brook Flowage (South portion), Burnett County, 2006.

Black Brook Flowage on the Amsterdam Sloughs Wildlife Area was successfully seeded to produce a self-sustaining bed. The crop on this site is highly variable, and seems to be unusually sensitive to water level variation. It may have been negatively affected by drought in the 2007-2009 period. Harvesters are beginning to utilize this bed, at least in years when water levels are high enough to permit access. (This site should not be confused with the flowage of the same name in Washburn County.)

XX. Bradshaw Slough.

See Unnamed Water/ Bradshaw Slough) (WBIC 2671600).

26. Briggs Lake (WBIC 2671900).

Figure 17. Briggs Lake, Burnett County, 2007.

Briggs Lake is an unusually appealing wild rice water, with a long history of harvest. Harvesting on this largely undeveloped lake is date-regulated. In years with good crops, much of the lake supports rice with the exception of the center of the east lobe. Watch status low due to familiarity with the site.

27. Buffalo Lake (WBIC 2674700).

Figure 18. Buffalo Lake, Burnett County, 2006.

Buffalo Lake is an undeveloped lake a mile north of Yellow Lake, with a short outlet that drains into the Yellow River. Our information on this site is fairly limited; small beds have been observed the few years this lake has been flown, and harvest has been reported once. This lake is somewhat difficult to access, and the rice beds seem to be better known to duck hunters than rice harvesters, but there have been anecdotal reports that this lake can support a fair amount of rice when water levels are low. Watch status medium because of the need for better annual abundance information.

28. Clam Lake, Lower (WBIC 2655300).

Figure 19. Clam Lake, Lower, Burnett County, 2008.

Although Upper Clam Lake is well known for its expansive rice beds, the smaller beds on Lower Clam tend to be overlooked. The rice on Lower Clam is largely limited to the bay east of the outlet (which is visible at the upper right in the photo above). There are anecdotal reports that these beds were seeded by local residents fairly recently. They are located in an area with little lakeshore development. It remains to be seen if these beds are facing the same decline that has been witnessed on the Upper Clam beds, whose most recent appreciable crop was in 2006. Watch status high due to decline concerns.

29. Clam Lake, Upper (WBIC 2656200).

Figure 20. Upper Clam Lake, SW bay, Burnett County, 2007.

Figure 21. Upper Clam Lake, SE bay, Burnett County, 2007.

Much more needs to written about Upper Clam Lake than can be addressed here. This lake has been one of the most significant rice waters in the state, with expansive rice beds occurring primarily on the large lobes on the southern half of the lake. Unfortunately, it appears that the rice beds on Upper Clam are currently experiencing an unusually sudden and drastic decline.

The photos above give a sense of the kind of beds Clam is capable of supporting. However, only very small beds have been observed in the 3 years since these photos were taken. Although the causes of this decline have not yet been determined, much of the available evidence suggests an increase in carp populations may be an important factor. (Figure 20 also depicts some of the excessive rice removal that has occurred at times with the weed harvester that operates annually on this lake.)

This lake has tremendous significance to the St. Croix Tribe, whose reservation includes frontage on the lake. The tribe harvests, monitors, and helps manage this water. It is critically important that the extensive rice beds on this body of water be preserved. Watch status high.

30. Clam River (WBIC 2654200)(no photo available).

Rice is present in relatively few sections of the Clam River proper. The primary presence is in patches along the section between the mouth of the North Fork of the Clam and Upper Clam Lake (some are visible from Lynch Bridge, for example) and just above the Clam River Flowage. Other areas generally lack appreciable amounts of suitable habitat. See also Clam River, North Fork. Watch status medium-low, though some monitoring of these beds may provide insights into the factors affecting the beds on Upper Clam Lake.

31. Clam River, North Fork (WBIC 2656600).

Figure 22. Clam River, North Fork, near Spencer Lake, Burnett County, 2008.

The North Fork of the Clam River holds more rice than the Clam itself. Beds are scattered in various areas, including the section adjacent to Spencer Lake (shown above) and in the open marshlands that are present for 2-3 river miles above and below CTY B. Along the more woodland stretches of the river, rice tends to be limited to sunny, shallow bends. Watch status medium-high, because monitoring of these beds may provide insights into the factors affecting the beds on Upper Clam Lake downstream.

32. Clam River Flowage (WBIC 2654500).

Figure23. Clam River Flowage, Burnett County, 2008.

The Clam River Flowage has supported rice for decades; anecdotal information indicates it was seeded by the members of the Holmes family of the St. Croix Tribe. It is regularly harvested. Most of the rice in is the area of the inlet on the

southern third of the lake, or along the northeast shore. (No appreciable amount of rice exists north of the narrows where HWY F crosses.)

This flowage reportedly goes through an annual over-winter drawdown of approximately 2 feet. Although this is done solely to create capacity for the capture of spring snow melt, this regime has been very compatible with rice production, likely by reducing competition. However, this site also reportedly has an unusually high prevalence of ergot. It has been suggested that ergot sclerotia can only form spores when resting on mud or plant debris, so perhaps this annual drawdown is also contributing to this prevalence. Watch status is low due to familiarity with the site.

33. Culbertsen Lake (WBIC 2673200).

Figure 24. Culbertson Lake, Burnett County, 2008.

This site was investigated after a small amount of harvest was reported from it, and because it occurs in a watershed with a high rice presence. We were unable to gain access to this small, private lake, but in 2009 we were able to scan the lake from a vantage point on the south shore. A scattering of rice was present, especially along the south shore, near a private lake association dock. It is uncertain if the lake supported larger beds in other years; it is possible the harvest report was erroneous, possibly coming from North Lang Lake just to the north. Rice is considered present on this lake; however, additional surveys should be conducted to better determine typical abundance levels, thus the watch status is medium.

XX. Duckshot Lake.

See Unnamed (Duckshot) Lake (WBIC 2665100).

34. Eagle Lake (WBIC 2672100).

Figure 25. Eagle Lake, Burnett County, 2008.

Eagle Lake is part of a chain of rice waters which can be found along Loon Creek. The biggest bed is located at the Loon Creek inlet (shown at the bottom of the photo above) with smaller amounts sometimes occurring near the outlet and on the southern most bay. Small amounts of harvest have been reported occasionally. Watch status is low because of familiarity with the site.

35. Gaslyn Lake (WBIC 2677700).

Figure 26. Gaslyn Lake, Burnett County, 2007.

Gaslyn Lake has long been recognized as an important rice water, and is on the list of sites whose harvest is date-regulated. It shows up in harvest surveys whenever the bed is large enough to support picking. Most of the rice is limited to a band along the southern half of the lake. Watch status is low because of familiarity with the site.

36. Grettum Flowage (WBIC 2637800).

Figure 27. Grettum Flowage, Burnett County, 2008.

Grettum Flowage, located on the Fish Lake State Wildlife Area, has been a very successful seeding establishment. However, the site is closed for most of the fall to provide refuge to wildlife, and so the site has not turned up in harvest surveys. According to local DNR staff, this bed has expanded significantly in the past few years, while the site was in drawdown to facilitate repairs on the water control structure. From a human harvesting perspective, it would beneficial to create a wider time period during which ricing would be allowed. This could be done by allowing harvesting during the early Canada goose season, when the area is currently closed. Watch status is medium-low because of interest in monitoring possible impacts from a recent drawdown on the site.

37. Gull Lake (WBIC 2671100).

Figure 28. Gull Lake (East end), Burnett County, 2007, (Loon Lake at top of photo).

Gull Lake has long supported rice beds. Although regularly harvested when stands are substantial, it rarely turns up specifically in harvest surveys because this lake, together with Loon Lake to the north, is usually collectively reported on harvest surveys as "Carters Bridge", the roadway which separates them. (Loon Lake, however, typically has the better beds and likely accounts for most of the harvest.) The harvest on these waters is not date-regulated, and this tends to be one of the first sites harvested in the area. Rice on Gull occurs primarily on the eastern part of the lake. Watch status is low because of familiarity with the site.

38. Kent Creek (WBIC 2656700).

Figure 29. Kent Creek, Burnett County, 2009.

Kent Creek is a short stream (less than 2 miles) connecting Kent Lake to the North Fork of the Clam River. Rice can be found in scattered patches along much of its length. The photo above shows the crossing at Kent Lake Road. Watch status is medium due to a lack of annual abundance data.

39. Kent Lake (WBIC 2656900).

Figure 30. Kent Lake, Burnett County, 1998.

Kent Lake is the headwaters of Kent Creek. This small, undeveloped lake has not been surveyed regularly, and relatively little information is available on abundance, but there are some anecdotal reports that rice production has been generally poor for the last decade or so. Very little rice was apparent in air surveys in 2009. Watch status is medium-high due to a lack of annual abundance data.

40. Lipsett Lake (WBIC 2678100).

Figure 31. Lipsett Lake, Burnett County, 2008.

There are well established rice beds on the south end of Lipsett Lake. This lake has some problems with invasive aquatic species, and it will be important to try to ensure that control efforts, if made, do not negatively impact rice in the long-term. A small amount of rice removal appears to be going on by lake owners to maintain access to open water, but this probably does not pose a significant threat to the beds. Watch status is medium-low, but could increase if invasive impacts become apparent.

41. Little Wood Lake (WBIC 2650900).

Figure 32. Little Wood Lake, SE bay, Burnett County, 2009.

We have little information on the abundance of rice on Little Wood Lake, but a DNR Sensitive Area Report available for this lake reports a presence of rice in Area A (on the north end near the Wood River inlet and outlet) and Area C (the southeastern bay shown above). Only sparse beds were visible from the air in 2008 and 2009. Watch status is medium-high due to lack of annual abundance data.

42. Long Lake (WBIC 2656400).

Figure 33. Long Lake, Burnett County, 2009.

Long Lake is another one of the major rice lakes in the state. It is regularly harvested, and is a date-regulated water. It had one of its best crops in recent years in 2009 (while adjacent Upper Clam Lake experienced a failure). Rice can be found on most shorelines of this lake. Since this lake drains into Upper Clam, there is some concern that whatever is causing the recent failures at Clam might also come to affect Long Lake. Watch status is medium primarily because of the hydrological link to Upper Clam Lake.

43. Loon Creek (WBIC 2670400).

Figure 34. Loon Creek, near Mud Lake, Burnett County, 2007.

Rice can be found in many areas on Loon Creek, and the lakes it passes through. One example is shown in the photo above, in the area east of Mud Lake (partially visible on the left). The full distribution of rice on the river is poorly documented, but it likely exists in most sections with suitable habitat. Watch status is low because of the relatively protected condition of most sections of this creek.

44. Loon Lake (WBIC 2671200).

Figure 35. Loon Lake, Burnett County, 2006.

Loon Lake has long supported rice beds. Although an important harvest water, it rarely turns up specifically in harvest surveys because this lake, together with Gull Lake to the south, is usually collectively reported on harvest surveys as "Carters Bridge", the roadway which separates them. (This bridge is visible near the bottom of the photo above.) Of the two, Loon Lake typically has the better beds and likely accounts for most of the harvest; in a year with a good stand,

much of this small lake looks more like a prairie than a lake. The harvest on neither Loon nor Gull is date-regulated, and this site tends to be one of the first harvested in the area. Watch status is low because of familiarity with the site.

45. Lower Hay Creek Flowage (WBIC 2643700).

Figure 36. Lower Hay Creek Flowage, Burnett County, 2006.

Hay Creek Flowage is another one of the very successful sites that was seeded on the Crex Meadows Wildlife Area. As shown in the photo above, nearly the entire flowage can support rice in a bumper year. Watch status is low because of familiarity with the site, and it's protected location on a wildlife area.

XX. Lower L Dike Flowage.

See Unnamed Ditch (Lower L Dike Flowage) (WBIC 5512054).

46. Memory Lake (WBIC 2646500).

Figure 37. Memory Lake, Burnett County, 2008.

Memory Lake is a widening of the Wood River created by a small dam in the city of Grantsburg. Beds vary from year to year, but the largest and densest tend to be on the north end inlet, with sparser beds occurring in other areas. These beds have been mapped in some detail by the St. Croix Tribe's Natural Resource Department.

Some of the rice on Memory Lake is probably negatively impacted by an odd threat: snowmobiles. An annual contest is held on this lake that involves skipping and racing snowmobiles on the open water in the summer. Direct impacts are thought to be fairly minor, but are poorly documented; impacts on water quality may also be occurring. Watch status medium because of possible negative impacts from the snowmobile event.

47. Middle North Fork Flowage (WBIC for unnamed ditch 2648700).

Figure 38. Middle North Fork Flowage, Burnett County, 2007.

This flowage on the Crex Meadows Wildlife Area is apparently too new to be recognized in the Surface Water Viewer, but can be seen in the 2005 air photos just northeast of North Fork Flowage. It was formed by damming the unnamed ditch listed above. This site was also seeded, and while the response has been very limited compared to what occurred on the adjacent North Fork Flowage, the presence of several acres of rice has been confirmed by Crex staff. Watch status is medium because it is possible these beds are still expanding.

48. Mud Lake (1) (Swiss Township) (WBIC 2672300).

Figure 39. Mud Lake, Swiss Township, Burnett County, 2006.

Mud Lake in Swiss Township has long supported rice, and harvest on this lake is date-regulated. However, in harvest surveys it is difficult to separate harvest reported for this lake from what is reported for the other Mud Lake in the county that supports rice. With the exception of 2009, this lake likely accounted for most of the harvest in recent years due to poor crops on the other Mud Lake, but historically (and perhaps in the future if restoration efforts on the other lake are successful) the other Mud Lake likely accounted for more harvest. Watch status is low because of familiarity with the site and relatively undeveloped status.

49. Mud Lake (2) (Oakland Township) (WBIC 2484400).

Figure 40. Mud Lake, Oakland Township, Burnett County, 2009.

Mud Lake has a long history of supporting rice beds, but production has been poor in the past 2 decades, apparently primarily due to the lake level being raised when a culvert on the outlet to Devils Lake (visible in the far left of the photo

above) was set too high following road reconstruction. The crop in 2009 was the best in recent years, when the lake level dropped as a result of a 3 year period of below normal precipitation, but production was still below what the lake reportedly historically supported.

In the fall of 2009, the culvert was reset to a level 2 feet lower than was existing, placing it level with the bottom of the upstream portion of the outlet. It is hoped this will restore the original hydrology of the site, and restore fish passage from Devils Lake to Mud Lake.

This site historically has been important to harvesters, and harvest is date-regulated on this lake. However, in harvest surveys it is difficult to separate harvest reported from this lake from that reported for the other Mud Lake in the county that supports rice. There is also an access issue arising on this lake, as a private access point that has traditionally been open to ricers has been closed in some recent years. Watch status high to document impacts from culvert correction.

50. Mud Hen Lake (WBIC 2649500).

Figure 41. Mud Hen Lake, NE bay, Burnett County, 2002.

Mud Hen Lake has a long history of supporting rice, and this lake is included in the list of waters whose harvest is date-regulated. However, harvest reports have been sporadic, and anecdotal reports suggest that rice abundance may be in decline. Rice appears to be limited primarily to the northeast bay (shown above) and a smaller area near the Wood Creek outlet on the west side of the lake. Watch status is medium due to limited annual abundance data.

51. Namekagon River (WBIC 2689500)(no photo available).

Paul Martin, DNR, reported small beds of rice along the Namekagon River. Given the reliability of the source, and the relatively protected status of the river (as part of the National Scenic Riverway) confirmation surveys were not conducted, but small patches of rice likely exist in scattered patches of suitable habitat, as substantial beds occur further upstream.

52. North Fork Flowage (WBIC 2647300).

Figure 42. North Fork Flowage, Burnett County, 2007.

North Fork Flowage represents one of the most successful seeding conducted on the Crex Meadows Wildlife Area. Beds here are substantial, self-sustaining, and of growing importance to harvesters. Harvest is not date-regulated. Watch status is low because of familiarity with the site.

53. North Lang Lake (2673000).

Figure 43. North Lang Lake, Burnett County, 2008.

The small North Lang Lake is part of the system of small rice waters along Loon Creek and its tributaries. The biggest bed on North Lang is typically on the Culbertson Creek inlet, with a smaller bed near the outlet, though a narrow band may occur around nearly the entire lake some years. Harvest is not date-regulated on this site; harvest is reported regularly,

but is limited by the relatively small size of the bed, somewhat difficult access, and reportedly a very soft bottom. Watch status is low because of familiarity with the site.

54. Peterson Lake (WBIC 2650100).

Figure 44. Peterson Lake, Burnett County, 2009.

This small, undeveloped lake is located on an unnamed creek south of Wood Lake. Rice can ring the lake in a good year, but it rarely shows up in harvest surveys because of limited access. Watch status is medium-low, but additional annual abundance data would be useful.

55. Phantom Flowage (WBIC 2644100).

Figure 45. Phantom Flowage, Burnett County, 2009.

Phantom Flowage is the flagship of the successful rice seedings that have taken place on the Crex Meadows Wildlife Area. As the figure above shows, the rice beds can cover a large part of the flowage in a good year. Phantom has become a preferred harvesting location in recent years, occasionally leading the state in reported harvest. It is not date-regulated, but might be a good candidate for regulation to prevent premature picking. In some dry years, Crex staff has difficulty keeping enough water on the flowage to facilitate harvest, but wildlife species garner a huge benefit regardless. Watch status is low because of familiarity with the site.

XX. Refuge Extension Flowage.

See South Refuge Flowage (WBIC 2601400).

56. Rice Lake (1)(WBIC 2677900).

Figure 46. Rice Lake (1), South end, Burnett County, 2006.

This Rice Lake is one of 3 carrying the name in Burnett County. This one is located approximately 6 miles northeast of Hertel. It has a long history of supporting rice, but anecdotal information suggested the bed had done relatively poorly over much of the last two decades. However, beds in the primary location on the south end of the lake, at the Yellow River inlet, have improved in the last few years, and the St. Croix Tribe did some seeding on this lake in 2008, along the east shore, south of the boat landing. No appreciable amount of rice has been found on the northern half of the lake. Watch status is medium because of interest in monitoring recent seeding results.

57. Rice Lake (2)(WBIC 2650200).

Figure 47. Rice Lake (2), Burnett County, 2009.

This Rice Lake is one of 3 carrying the name in Burnett County. This one is located just west of Spirit Lake. There is no public access to this lake, and so it has not been an important harvest water, but it is very valuable to wildlife. In good rice years, the lake is ringed with a band of rice. Watch status is low because of familiarity with the site.

58. Rice Lake (3)(WBIC 2640300).

Figure 48. Rice Lake (3), Burnett County, 2001.

This Rice Lake is one of 3 carrying the name in Burnett County. This small lake is located just south of HWY 48, 3.5 miles west of Frederick. With no public access, this has been not been an important harvest water. Intermittent air surveys suggest this bed has not been very productive in recent years. Watch status is medium-high because of decline concerns.

59. Saint Croix River (WBIC 2601400)(no photo available).

It was not possible to survey the entire length of the St. Croix River in this survey, but rice is known to exist in several locations including near the HWY 35 and HWY 77 crossings. Rice probably exists in many other locations with suitable habitat. Most of the river is included in the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway. Watch status is medium because of the need for better distribution information.

60. South Refuge Flowage (WBIC 2644400).

Figure 49. South Refuge Flowage, Crex Wildlife Area, Burnett County, 2006.

Also known as Refuge Extension, South Refuge Flowage on the Crex Meadows Wildlife Area is another example of the great seeding success that has taken place at Crex. This site is within a refuge, and is not open to human harvesting, but provides a tremendous benefit to wildlife. Rice can cover most of surface area in a good year, but the stand was greatly reduced and growing on mud flats in 2009 due to extended drought. This should not have a long-term negative impact on the rice. Watch status is low because of familiarity with the site.

61. Spencer Lake (WBIC 2658400).

Figure 50. Spencer Lake, West end, Burnett County,

Spencer Lake has a long history of supporting rice, although the beds are not large. Harvest is date-regulated, but the amount of harvest reported is fairly small. Rice is located primarily on the west and east ends of the lake, with little if any along the more developed shorelines. Watch status is medium-low because of familiarity with the site, but some additional abundance information would be useful.

62. Spirit Lake (WBIC 2650300).

Figure 51. Spirit Lake, Burnett County, 2008.

Spirit Lake has not been regularly surveyed, and little rice was apparent in an aerial survey in 2008, though there appears to be sparse beds on both sides of the south-central bay. This correlates with a 1998 DNR Sensitive Area Report that indicates that rice is present in 2 areas on the southern half of the lake (Sensitive Areas A and B). This lake should receive additional monitoring to ensure the rice is continuing to thrive, particularly because of recent reports that the land adjacent to the rice beds, which had been owned by a Methodist Church, has recently been sold to a developer looking to subdivide the parcel into 38 lots, including 18 waterfront lots. Watch status is medium-high because of possible development concerns.

63. Unnamed Ditch (Lower L Dike Flowage)(WBIC 5512054).

Figure 52. Unnamed Ditch (Lower L Dike Flowage), Burnett County, 2009.

This is another flowage at the Crex Wildlife Area that has been successfully seeded, and has been regularly used by trumpeter swans and other wildlife. Watch status is low because of familiarity with the site and protected location on a state wildlife area.

64. Unnamed (Duckshot) Lake (WBIC 2665100).

Figure 53. Unnamed (Duckshot) Lake, Burnett County, 2008.

Rice has long been present on this small waterbody , which is located less than a half mile south of Long Lake, but which drains to the east into the Clam River. However, because this site is surrounded by private land, it has been surveyed only infrequently, and annual variation in abundance is not known to GLIFWC. Watch status is medium because of limited annual abundance information.

65. Unnamed (Jackson) Lake (WBIC 2676700).

Figure 54. Unnamed (Jackson) Lake, Burnett County, 2008.

This small, private lake along Sand Creek, north of Big Sand Lake, is unnamed on the Surface Water Viewer, but locally known as Jackson Lake. A 1985 GLIFWC survey reported 1.5 acres of rice, but we were unable to gain ground access in 2008 or 2009. In the 2008 photo shown above, a small patch of rice appears to exist near the Sand Creek inlet on the southeast corner of the lake. Suggest recognizing this as a rice water, while continuing to attempt gaining ground access for better confirmation. Watch status is medium because of limited annual abundance information.

66. Unnamed Pond (WBIC 5590833).

Figure 55. Unnamed Pond South of Peterson Lake, Burnett County, 2009.

This small, undeveloped pond has not been surveyed regularly, but anecdotal reports suggest it has supported rice for a long time. Relatively small amounts of rice were observed in 2008 and 2009 air surveys, but it is not known how typical these stands were compared to other years. Watch status is medium-low because of limited annual abundance information.

67. Unnamed Water/ Bradshaw Slough) (WBIC 2671600).

Figure 56. Bradshaw Slough, Burnett County, 2009.

Although this location is unnamed on the Surface Water Viewer, locals refer to the waterbody that connects Robie and Tabor Lakes as Bradshaw Slough. Due to their small size, the beds here are not frequently surveyed, and they are not important to harvesters, but the rice can be abundant enough to be attractive to waterfowl, and the site is used by some waterfowl hunters. Rice can grow in small scattered beds here, but most of the vegetation visible in the 2009 air photo consists of other species. Watch status is medium because of limited annual abundance information.

68. Upper North Fork Flowage (WBIC 2648900).

Figure 57. Upper North Fork Flowage, Burnett County, 2006.

A relatively small amount of rice has been reported to have been established on this flowage on the Crex Meadows Wildlife Area. While the area has been flown several times, better air photos are needed. A small amount of harvest has been reported from this flowage, but it's possibly an erroneous report for the North Fork Flowage, which supports much larger beds. Most of the vegetation visible in the air photo is other species. Watch status is medium because these beds may still be expanding.

69. Webb Creek (WBIC 2705100, 2705300).

Figure 58. Webb Creek, West, Burnett County, 2006.

Figure 59. Webb Creek, East, Burnett County, 2007.

Webb Creek has two large, well defined beds. The better known of these is found at the outlet of Webb Lake, a portion of which is visible in the lower-left of the first photo shown above. The other bed occurs roughly a mile and a half further east, and shown in the second photo. The rice on Webb is harvested regularly, but by a limited number of individuals since the beds are not extensive. Watch status is low because of familiarity with the site.

70. Wood Lake (WBIC 2649800)(no photo available).

This site has not been regularly surveyed, and has not showed up in harvest surveys, but a small amount of rice was reported on a DNR aquatic plant survey conducted in 2006, mostly on the far south and southeast end of the lake. It would be good to supplement this information with additional surveys in future years. Watch status is medium-high because of limited annual abundance information.

71. Yellow Lake (WBIC 2675200).

Figure 60. Yellow Lake, Burnett County, 2005.

The rice beds on Yellow Lake are some of the most interesting visually in the state, growing on the delta that has formed where the Yellow River enters the lake. This bed is well established and has been present for a long time, but seems to do better in years with relatively low water. No appreciable amount of rice is known to exist elsewhere in the lake. Watch status is low because of familiarity with the site.

72. Yellow River (WBIC 2670300, 2674500)(Including the Danbury Flowage).

Figure 61. Yellow River, 5 miles North of Hertel, Burnett County, 2005.

Like other rivers, the Yellow River was not surveyed in its entirety, and rice likely occurs in small patches of suitable habitat in many areas. In addition, the location of smaller beds may change over time. However, some fairly large beds have persisted in several areas, including the wide area west of Rice Lake, in the broad meanders about 5 miles north of Hertel, and in several areas downstream of Yellow Lake (an area that has been mapped by the St. Croix Tribe). This section has its own WBIC code, 2670300, and is sometimes referred to as the Danbury Flowage. Rice also occurs where the river enters Rice and Yellow Lakes, and in the upper reaches in Washburn County. Watch status is low because of familiarity with the site.

Chippewa County

73. Cedar Creek (WBIC 2351200).

Figure 62. Cedar Creek, Chippewa County, 2008.

A fairly substantial rice bed can be found along Cedar Creek in the section between Long and Chain Lakes (the latter lake is visible in the top of the photo). This is one of the larger beds in Chippewa County, and might make an interesting selection for future genetics studies because of its relative isolation from other substantial beds. This site has only been flown once, and better air photos would be valuable. Rice is located both in the upper part of the creek (visible in the lower left in the photo) and in the wide area just south of Chain Lake (less apparent in the photo). Watch status is medium-high because of limited annual abundance information.

74. Holcombe Flowage (WBIC 2184900)(no photo available).

Only limited information is available on the distribution of wild rice on the large Holcombe Flowage. However, a report completed by the Beaver Creek Reserve, Citizen Science Center (2007) reports that rice was present in relatively small amounts in plant surveys conducted in both 1994-1995 and 2006. DNR employee Scott Provost also reported rice being present on this waterbody. Watch status is high because of limited annual abundance information.

75. Marsh Miller Lake (WBIC 2171200).

Figure 63. Marsh Miller Lake, Chippewa County, 2008.

Several acres of rice of sparse to medium density were found on Marsh Miller Lake (incidental to doing surveys of O'Neil Creek) in 3 different beds along the northeastern and west-central shores. The history of these beds is unknown. The rice observed was fairly heavily browsed, but still appeared likely to produce seed. Field staff felt this lake may have potential to support larger beds with seeding, but it would be important to determine how the dam on this site is currently being used to manage water levels before proceeding. This lake has only been flown once, and better air photos are needed. Watch status is high because of limited annual abundance information.

76. O'Neil Creek (WBIC2168900).

Figure 64. O'Neil Creek, North of HWY 64, Chippewa County, 2006.

Figure 65. O'Neil Creek Sloughs above Lake Wissota, Chippewa County, 2009.

Figure 66. O'Neil Creek, half a mile above 153rd Sreet, Chippewa County, 2009.

Rice beds were confirmed in at least 3 different locations on O'Neil Creek. The smallest consists of a scattered distribution of plants upstream for roughly half mile from the 153rd St. crossing, or about 2 miles northeast of Marsh Miller Lake. A large bed is found in the wide areas just upstream from the HWY 64 crossing (shown in the air photo). The biggest beds occur in the wide slough area just upstream from where the creek enters Lake Wissota. It is likely that rice also exists in other areas with suitable habitat. Watch status is medium-high because of limited annual abundance information.

Douglas County

77. Allouez Bay (WBIC 2751220).

Figure 67. Allouez Bay, Douglas County, 2007.

Allouez Bay is an interesting site in that it apparently once had enough rice to merit being included in the list of waters whose harvest is date-regulated, yet in recent year has been nearly devoid of rice. No harvest has been reported from this site, and no rice had been reported in many years, but surveys in 2008 and 2009 found small remnant beds; the 2009 beds were also confirmed by Dr. Anthony Kern of Northland College. (Note that the photo above includes the area where rice was found, but the rice remnants are not large enough to be clearly identified in this image.)

Superficially, water quality in this system appears quite poor, being negatively impacted from run-off from the clay plain. However, more intensive investigation of this site might indicate if restoration efforts would make it possible to regain some of the historic rice abundance. Watch status is high because of limited annual abundance information and interest is possible restoration.

78. Amnicon Lake (WBIC2858100).

Figure 68. Amnicon Lake Outlet, Douglas County, 2007.

The amount of rice at Amicon Lake is fairly modest, and it appears to be limited to the area near the outlet, on the southwest corner of the lake. Should additional lakeshore development occur in this area, this bed could be impacted. Watch status is medium-low, but some additional annual abundance information would be helpful.

79. Bear Lake (WBIC 2857700)(no photo available).

Bear Lake has long supported fairly large beds of rice, with rice being present over a fair portion of its shoreline, in a band of varying width. It turns up regularly, but at fairly low levels, in annual harvest surveys. Harvest at the site is not date-regulated. Watch status is medium because of limited annual abundance information and need for an air photo.

80. Fasteland Road Ponds (no WBIC).

Figure 69. Fasteland Road Ponds, Douglas County, 2007.

The 2 ponds shown in the photo above are relatively new and do not show up on the Surface Water Viewer, except in the 2005 aerial photos. These highway mitigation ponds are located a short distance north of HWY 2, several miles west of Brule, just east of the north end of Fasteland Road. When first seeded , both ponds supported rice, but the smaller bed on the western pond seems to have disappeared, perhaps as a result of heavy goose browsing. The larger bed on the eastern pond has continued to exist, but has suffered in the last two years from very low water that has left some areas dried out. This bed is interesting in that it may not have year-round water flow most years, so it may represent the lower limit of water flow that rice requires. Watch status is medium-low, but it will remain interesting to monitor the long-term productivity on this site.

XX. Gordon Flowage.

See St. Croix (Gordon) Flowage (WBIC 2740300).

81. Jackson Box (Moose Branch) Flowage (WBIC 2739400)(no photo available).

This site is called Moose Branch Flowage on the Surface Water Viewer, but it is far better known as Jackson Box; in this instance it may be better for the Viewer to adopt the common name, which is also shared by the road that accesses this flowage.

Rice was seeded at this site by GLIFWC in cooperation with DNR and Douglas County. While initial take was good, the stand was stressed by a multiple-year drawdown necessitated by dike failure. This site was cooperatively restored in 2009, and seeded again at that time, although a fair presence of rice still persisted from the previous effort. This site is surrounded by county lands and is not likely to be subject to many human-caused problems, although the public occasionally tried to sandbag the old water control to raise water levels. The county is interested in working with

GLIFWC to now manage this site for rice and waterfowl. Watch status is medium-high because of the need to document final bed extent following recent management efforts and the lack of an air photo.

82. Koski Road Pond (No WBIC codes available)(no photo available).

Two small, artificial ponds located just north of Koski Road, and west of Tapani Road, were seeded many years ago by the DNR. These ponds do not show up on the Surface Water Viewer except on the 2005 air photos; they apparently gather water only from run-off, not from any existing stream. Surprisingly, a small amount of rice still exists on the western-most of the two ponds, despite the minimal amount of flow through this site. (It is also possible that additional supplemental seeding has occurred without my knowledge.) Watch status is low.

83. Lower Ox Lake (WBIC 2744300).

Figure 70. Lower Ox Lake, Douglas County, 2007.

Lower Ox Lake has long supported rice, particularly in the northwest quarter of the lake. In recent years, there has been some indication that the rice may be becoming more abundant near the outlet. Lower Ox is harvested regularly, but by a limited number of individuals. The entire shoreline is owned by Douglas County, and as long as this continues the lake is fairly protected from direct human-caused negative impacts. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

84. Minong Flowage (WBIC 2692900).

Figure 71. Minong Flowage, Douglas County, 2007.

Although the majority of the Minong Flowage is in Washburn County, the existing rice beds are on the far northeast portion of the flowage, which is in Douglas County. This is a significant bed with a long history. This site is heavily harvested, but not date-regulated because it is a flowage rather than a natural lake. The harvest location is often reported as "Smiths Bridge" by respondents to the harvest survey. The Smiths Bridge access point is visible in the photo above; most of the rice occurs east of the bridge (at the bottom of the photo) but in recent years the bed has increased in size west of the bridge. Eurasian water milfoil was recently located in close proximity to the Minong Flowage rice beds, and at present likely represents the greatest threat to the beds; this will be an important site to monitor and perhaps to study in an effort to determine treatments which might control the milfoil while having the least impact on the rice. Watch status is medium-high because of the need to monitor both the possible expansion of the bed, and the possible negative impacts of invasive aquatics.

XX. Moose Branch Flowage

See Jackson Box Flowage(WBIC 2739400).

85. Mulligan Lake (WBIC 2700200).

Figure 72. Mulligan Lake, Douglas County, 2007.

Mulligan Lake is a fairly significant rice lake that seems to have been less productive in most recent years than it was historically, based on anecdotal reports. Harvest is date-regulated at this site, and it is relatively heavily harvested when the crop permits. In good years, the lake is ringed with denser beds, and low density rice is scattered across the remainder of the surface. Because of the marshy nature of the lake, shoreline development is fairly limited, although nearly all of the shoreline is in private ownership. This lake is a high priority for beaver management.

Mulligan also was the site of an interesting footnote in the history of rice in Wisconsin. When a non-tribal member modified a small boat with a thrasher to mechanically harvest rice here, tribal members and others protested, eventually leading to a prohibition on mechanical harvesting on public waters in the state. Watch status, other than for beaver impacts, is medium-low.

86. Pokegama River /Bay (WBIC 2844000).

Figure 73. Pokegama Bay, Douglas County, 2007.

A fairly extensive rice bed exists where the Pokegama River widens to join the St. Louis River estuary. (Rice is not known to exist further upstream.) Perhaps because of its proximity to the city of Superior, this area is popular with duck hunters, and seems to be increasing in popularity with rice harvesters in recent years. This site is rather unique in that it

can be impacted by run-off from the clay plain, as well as the condition of the estuary. Watch status is medium because of limited annual abundance information.

87. Radigan Flowage (WBIC 2687500).

Figure 74. Radigan Flowage, Douglas County, 1998.

The Radigan Flowage supports the most significant rice beds in Douglas County. (The photo above does not adequately display the beds on the western branch of the flowage.) In good years, a large portion of the flowage supports rice, and it is heavily harvested. This site was reportedly seeded decades ago by members of the Holmes family of the St. Croix Tribe. With most of the shoreline in ownership by the Town of Dairyland, the flowage is relatively protected from most direct negative human impacts. The biggest threat may be financial - ensuring that the dam at this site is preserved and maintained. In 2002 several agencies cooperated to complete needed repairs to the dam, but apparently additional work is needed on the water control structure at this time, and funding is limited. Watch status is medium-high because of the repair issues.

88. St. Croix (Gordon) Flowage (WBIC 2740300).

Figure 75. St. Croix Flowage, East end, Douglas County, 2006.

The St. Croix or Gordon Flowage has a very long history of supporting rice, but anecdotal information uniformly indicates that abundance is reduced from historic levels. The biggest existing bed is found on the east side of the flowage where the St. Croix River enters, though this rice is mixed with other vegetation in many spots. Smaller patches can be found in several other locations, including just east of the northern boat landing, and in the bays on the east and west sides of Bubar "Island" (actually a peninsula). Some seeding has been done by GLIFWC in recent years in cooperation with the lake association, especially in the bay east of Bubar, but heavy goose browsing has limited its take thus far. It may be that this site needs some water level management to restore rice, as it appears that levels may have been held too steady for many years, favoring perennial vegetation. Watch status is medium-high because restoration interest.

89. St. Croix River (WBIC 2601400).

Figure 76. St. Croix River at Cutaway Dam, Douglas County, 2006.

The St. Croix River has long supported rice, and the beds traditionally have been heavily harvested. Extensive beds exist from Upper St. Croix Lake to the area where Lower Ox Creek enters. This area is often referred to by harvesters as "Cut Away Dam", although a bridge, not a dam, marks the location. (This bridge is visible in the photo above.) Beds are also present a few miles further downstream, where the river widens to form the St. Croix (or Gordon) Flowage. It is likely that small patches of rice exist below the St. Croix Flowage to the Douglas County line, but this has not been adequately surveyed. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

90. St. Louis River (WBIC 2843800).

Figure 77. St. Louis River, Douglas County, 2007.

The full extent of rice in the St. Louis River remains to be determined. Historically, this area reportedly held very substantial beds, many of which are reported to have declined. However, some resurgence may have occurred in the last few years, perhaps as a result of relatively low water levels on Lake Superior. In addition to the beds in Pokegama Bay (discussed separately) rice also has been seen in some abundance in the upper slough area extending for several miles above the HWY 105 bridge, especially on the Minnesota side. (A portion of this area is shown in the photo above.) Some of the estuary is proposed for inclusion in the National Estuarine Research Reserve system, and in-depth mapping of the existing rice beds has already been proposed as an initial research effort should the Reserve be established. Watch status is medium-high because of this.

91. Stateline Flowage (WBIC 5502837).

Figure 78. Stateline Flowage, Douglas County, 2009.

This small flowage was successfully seeded by the DNR, and now a relatively large portion of the flowage supports rice. DNR biologist Greg Kessler reports the site has been harvested, as well as being used by trumpeter swans and other

wildlife. Not surprisingly for a bed this size, heavy browsing by wildlife has also been observed. Watch status is medium because of limited annual abundance information.

92. Upper Ox Creek (WBIC 2744800).

Rice is known to exist on the Upper Ox Creek immediately upstream of Upper Ox Lake (see photo for Upper Ox Lake). Presence in any other sections of the creek is unknown. Watch status is medium.

93. Upper Ox Lake (WBIC 2744700).

Figure 79. Upper Ox Lake, Doulas County, 2007.

Upper Ox Lake has long supported a rice bed on the northeast portion of the lake in the area around the inlet of Upper Ox Creek. (Rice also extends up the creek; the vegetation shown on the south side of lake consists of other species.) Upper Ox receives light but regular harvest. To date, shoreline development appears to have had little negative impact to rice at this site. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

94. Upper St. Croix Lake (WBIC 2747300)(no photo available).

A small amount of rice exists on the south end of this lake, near the outlet of the St. Croix River. The rice is believed to be limited to a few hundred meters of the outlet.

Florence County

95. Fay Lake (WBIC 677100).

Figure 80. Fay Lake, Florece County, 2009.

Herbarium examples from Fay Lake exist from 1968, 1971 and 1998, but abundance was unknown. Surveys from 2008 and 2009 found only small amounts of rice (less than 2 acres of sparse rice), most near the Long Lake and Halsey Lake Outlets. Since this lake has not previously been surveyed, it is unclear how typical these years were with regards to abundance, but it is clear that much of the lake is unsuitable for rice. Watch status is medium-high because of limited annual abundance information.

Forest County

96. Armstrong Creek (WBIC 561200).

Figure 81. Armstrong Creek, SW of Revolver Lake, Forest County, 2008.

Figure 82. Armstrong Creek, 3 miles South of HWY 8, Forest County, 2008.

Large rice beds can be found on Armstrong Creek in at least 2 primary locations. One is the widening centered about a mile SW of Revolver Lake, with a length of approximately ¾ mile, and the other is further upstream, extending for roughly ¾ mile in both directions from the FS 2371 / Engeleking Road bridge crossing. Both sites are within the boundaries of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest. Harvest is occasionally reported from this creek. Watch status is medium-high because of limited annual abundance information.

97. Atkins Lake (WBIC 1578400).

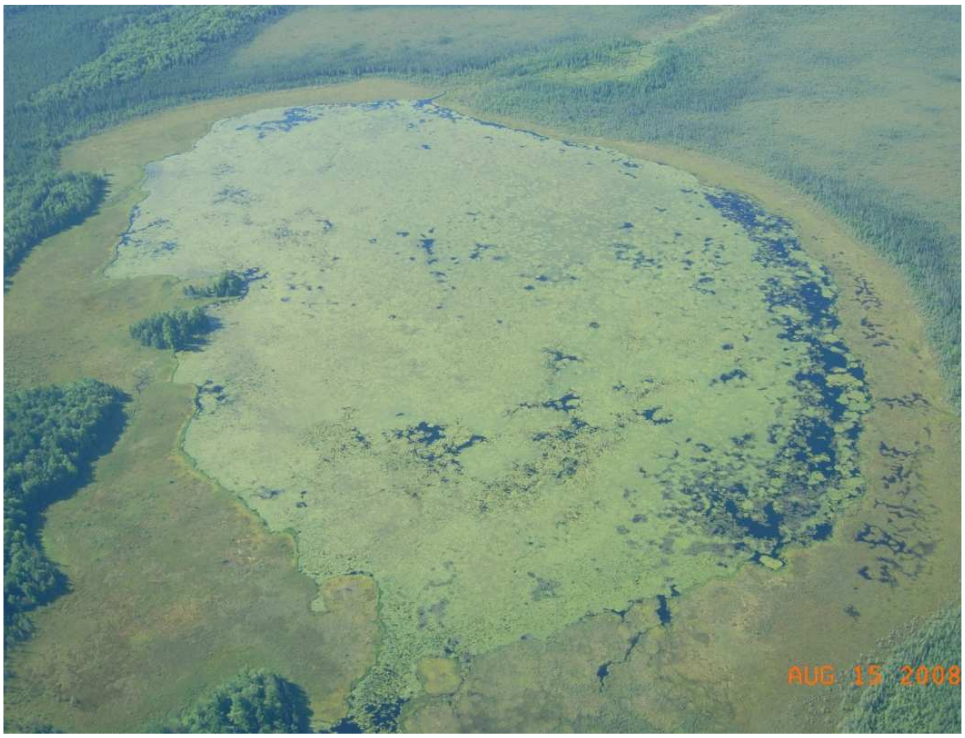

Figure 83. Atkins Lake, Forest County, 2008.

Atkins Lake falls on the Forest/Oneida County line. This lake has been puzzling; decades ago it was considered an important rice lake, and it remains on the list of lakes whose harvest is date-regulated. However, Atkins Lake has not had a substantial rice crop in two decades or more, and harvest has been non-existent. This lake seems to be following a pattern with several other lakes in the area in shifting towards a lily and watershield dominated community. A seeding effort by Ron Eckstein of the DNR produced only short term results.

Despite the lack of recent crops, I would recommend continuing to consider this a rice water, due to its historic significance, and the possibility of restoration on a site that appears to still provide suitable habitat. Watch status is medium because of restoration interest.

98. Bishop Lake (WBIC 392100).

Figure 84. Bishop Lake, Forest County, 2006.

Bishop Lake is another site that reportedly has been much less productive in recent years than historically according to anecdotal information and older ricers. Presently the only appreciable amount of rice on Bishop is on the northeast part of the lake where Logan Creek enters. Recent seedings by the Sokaogon Chippewa Tribe has not expanded the bed. There has been concern that this bed is currently limited by depth, with the lake being held artificially high by beavers and/or an improperly set culvert on the outlet. This site is a good candidate for potential restoration. Watch status is medium-high because of restoration interest by the Tribe.

99. Hiles Millpond (WBIC 408000).

Figure 85. Hiles Millpond, Forest County, 2009. (Ron Eckstein photo.)

Hiles Millpond is the site of a successful seeding effort. Rice is scattered in a number of smaller beds in various locations along this long flowage. Although very beneficial to waterfowl, this site has not seen much harvesting pressure, in part due to the scattered nature of the beds. It has been suggested that it may be possible to substantially increase the amount of rice present at this site by lowering the depth slightly, an approach that should be explored more thoroughly. Watch status is medium because of the need to determine if the beds could be expanded.

100. Kaine Lake (WBIC 719300).

Figure 86. Kaine Lake, Forest County, 2009.

Kaine Lake is a small lake in the far northern part of the county surrounded by Forest Service Lands. Rice has been present here for a long time, but with a limited abundance. The best beds tend to be near the north end of the lake, or near the middle, but the density is usually low enough that they are more significant to waterfowl than human harvesters. This lake gives the impression of being able to support more rice than it typically produces. It is possible that beaver management or other efforts may be able to increase rice abundance on the site. Watch status is medium-low.

101. Knowles Creek Impoundment (WBIC 473600).

Figure 87. Knowles Creek Impoundment, Forest County, 2008.

Knowles Creek is currently identified as a rice water. However, this is another, somewhat complicated error. There is no documented rice on Knowles Creek, but there is rice on the Knowles Creek Impoundment, as a result of a Forest Service seeding effort. However, Knowles Creek Impoundment is not actually on Knowles Creek, but on an unnamed tributary to it (with the WBIC code provided above). Finally, the impoundment does not have a unique WBIC code, probably due to its relative new presence on the landscape. The flowage (especially the dam) is visible in the NAIP 2005 color air photos

on the Surface Water Viewer, about 1 west of McCaslin Tower Road, and 1.5 miles south of CTY C. Watch status is medium because of the limited annual abundance data.

102. Little Rice Lake (WBIC 406400).

Figure 88. Little Rice Lake, North end, Forest County, 2006.

The name Little Rice Lake is a bit of a misnomer; this waterbody is much larger than the "Rice Lake" in the same county, and it is a flowage, rather than a natural lake. It does, however, support a substantial rice bed that receives appreciable harvesting pressure. The bed occurs on the north end of the flowage where the Wolf River enters. This bed seems to be expanding southward somewhat in recent years.

This site is reportedly drawn down overwinter each year, a fisheries management strategy that has been very compatible with rice growth. Unfortunately, several property owners have been removing extensive amounts of rice and other vegetation from in front of their properties annually (visible in the lower right of the photo), and the State feels unable to prevent this due to the private ownership nature of the flowage. While unfortunate, if affects a relatively small portion of the rice bed on this water. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

103. Otter Creek (WBIC 547200).

Figure 89. Otter Creek, Forest County, 2009. (Ron Eckstein Photo.)

GLIFWC just learned of this site in the winter of 2009. The beaver impoundment shown above is located on Otter Creek about a half mile north of Otter Lake (and 5 miles east of Wabeno). The area appears as a pinkish meadow on the 2005 air photo layer on the Surface Water Viewer. Watch status is medium-high because of the limited annual abundance data.

104. Pat Shay Lake (WBIC 1607100).

Figure 90. Pat Shay Lake, Forest County, 2009.

Pat Shay Lake is the site of the first cooperative seeding effort undertaken by GLIFWC, working in this case with the Forest Service. However, despite Forest Service records that this waterbody once supported rice, the seeding effort never established more than a small presence of rice on this lake. Although a fair portion of the lake sometimes supports rice, only a few acres ever reach more than a sparse density, and the beds are often hard to spot from the air. This site

has an extremely flocculent bottom, which may be limiting establishment. If an extended drought ever dries this site out and consolidates the bottom to some degree, the beds might merit additional seeding. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

105. Rat River (WBIC 550600).

Figure 91. Rat River, North of HWY 8/32, Forest County, 2006.

Figure 92. Rat River, East of Rat River Road, Forest County, 2008.

Figure 93. Rat River, SW of Bear Lake, Forest County, 2008.

The Rat River has rice beds in at least 3 locations, one long standing and two arising from seeding cooperatively by GLIFWC and the Forest Service. The oldest bed is located just west of Scattering Rice Lake, and extends for roughly 1.5 miles in the area where the river parallels HWY 8/32. One of the seeded beds starts just east of the Rat River Road Bridge, and extends for roughly a half mile, while the other is found a couple of river miles west of this site, just west of the Bear Creek Inlet. Harvest reported from the Rat River is thought to come primarily from the first bed, but it is possible some is coming from the other locations. Watch status is low because of site familiarity, but some additional annual abundance information would be useful for the two easternmost beds.

106. Rice Lake (WBIC 392700).

Figure 94. Rice Lake, Forest County, 2007.

This is the famous Rice Lake on the Mole Lake Reservation, and is likely responsible for the placement of the reservation. In years with a bumper crop, about 75% of the lake supports rice, although the northwest portion is currently dominated by other vegetation. The tribe has conducted numerous studies and restoration activities on this lake, which appear to be helping increase crop abundance. Most recently, efforts are underway to remove some of the competing vegetation in the northwest section of the lake where water lilies dominate. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

107. Riley (Indian) Lake (WBIC 557100).

Figure 95. Riley Lake, Forest County, 2007.

Riley Lake, which is marked Indian Lake on some maps, is a relatively minor rice water. Nevertheless, this site is on the list of waters whose harvest is date-regulated. Beds appear to be limited to the north end of the lake, which has a short outlet into Wabikon Lake, which supports much larger rice beds. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

108. Scattered Rice Lake (WBIC 555200).

Figure 96. Scattered Rice Lake, Forest County, 2006.

Scattered Rice Lake is aptly named, for while the lake has a long presence of rice, most years the beds are fairly sparse and scattered. In unusually good years however, the north end of the lake supports fairly abundant and dense stands, especially near the Rat River inlet. It appears these good years may be triggered by relatively low water levels, and it may be possible to increase rice abundance on this site by lowering water levels slightly. Locals sometimes refer to this lake as the Laona Millpond. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

109. Scott Lake (WBIC 1615400).

Figure 97. Scott Lake, Forest County, 2007.

Scott Lake is interesting in that the lake had not supported strong stands of rice for many years, but a couple of recent crops have been excellent. Some individuals wondered if this was the result of seeding. Although seeding by a private individual cannot be ruled out, no agency seeded this site, and it appears that this may have been a natural response to recent drought conditions, because a herbarium record collected in 1989 suggests the lake has had rice present for at least 2 decades. Watch status is medium-high because of the limited annual abundance data.

110. Swamp Creek (WBIC 391500).

Figure 98. Swamp Creek above Rice Lake, Forest County, 2008.

Swamp Creek supports rice beds in the area just east of HWY 55 (shown in the photo) and also in the area south of Rice Lake. These latter beds appear to be expanding in recent years. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

111. Wabikon Lake (556900).

Figure 99. Wabikon Lake, Forest County, 2008.

Wabikon Lake is interesting. In recent years it has apparently recovered from a fairly long period of poor production to produce some very good stands. While some seeding was undertaken, most of the recovery appears attributable to natural causes. The largest beds occur on the south half of the lake, east of the island, and in a band of varying width along most of the southern shoreline. A narrow band also sometimes follows the northern shore of the lake, but this

bed seems to be less consistent. Wabikon is a shallow lake, but much of it is still near the upper depth that is suitable for rice growth. The extended poor period is suspected of being associated with above average precipitation and water depths. Harvest at the site is date-regulated, and harvest, like the crop, appears to be increasing in recent years. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

112. Wolf River (WBIC 241300)(no photos available).

Rice on the Wolf River in Forest County is thought to be limited to two primary locations. This first is just above and connected to the beds on Little Rice Lake; the other is just east of, and connected to, the larger riverine beds that exist where the river passes into Oneida County. This latter bed extends upstream from the county line for only about a quarter mile.

Iron County

113. Bear River (WBIC 2315200).

Figure 100. Bear River, Iron County, 2007.

The Bear River is an important rice bed on the Lac du Flambeau Reservation. This site is protected and managed by the tribe. It is undeveloped, and connects to the small Munnomin Lake. Although it is regularly harvested, it does not turn

up in harvest surveys because it is an on-reservation water. A small section of the rice on the river also extends into Vilas County. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

114. Gile Flowage (WBIC 2942300).

Figure 101. Gile Flowage, Iron County, 2001.

The only rice bed on the huge Gile Flowage exists on the small bay that is adjacent to HWY 51 at the far northeast reach of the flowage. It was seeded cooperatively by GLIFWC and the DNR. Most of the flowage experiences too much variation in water levels to support rice, but this bay became suitable when a separate water-control structure was installed under the road that separates this bay from the rest of the flowage (visible at the left side of the photo). This structure allows water to be held up in the bay when the rest of the flowage is drawn down. However, water levels cannot be kept lower than the rest of the flowage, and high water in the spring likely limits the productivity of this bed some years. When sparse beds are produced, they have sometimes been very heavily browsed by giant Canada geese. Since it is visible from a state highway, this bed may offer some greater-than-average public education opportunities. This site is late to ripen, but has been harvested in years with a sufficient crop. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

115. Hay Lake (WBIC 2259400).

Figure 102. Hay Lake, Iron County, 2007.

Hay Lake is currently on the list of recognized rice waters, though it is listed in Price County. (The lake is located at the junction of Price, Iron and Ashland counties.) It will now be listed as an Iron County water. This site was seeded by the Forest Service, but rice presence in recent years has been minimal (less than 100 plants). Watch status is medium because it may be necessary to remove this water from the list of rice waters if it continues to decline.

116. Little Bear Flowage (WBIC 2315700).

Figure 103. Little Bear Flowage, Iron County, 2007.

This flowage is located just north of the Lac du Flambeau Reservation on state land. This fairly new flowage cannot be found on the Surface Water Viewer, except in the 2005 air photo coverage. As such, the WBIC code used is for Little Bear Creek, which was dammed to create this flowage. Watch status is medium because the limited annual abundance data.

117. Little Turtle Flowage (WBIC 2313300).

Figure 104. Little Turtle Flowage, Iron County, 2001.

The Little Turtle Flowage was seeded cooperatively by GLIFWC and the DNR with great success. This bed is now very well established, and appears to be going through the type of variation witnessed in natural beds. This site has regularly supported nesting trumpeter swans, and is harvested whenever the stand is good. However, the watch status is medium because of site familiarity because of some reports that the site may be showing some signs of decline..

118. Manitowish River (WBIC 2324400).

Figure 105. Manotowish River, South of HWY 51, Iron County.

The full extent of rice along different sections of the Manitowish River in Iron County still needs to be better documented, but rice is known to occur in some abundance in patches scattered throughout the section from the Vilas County line to the HWY 47 Bridge. It likely also occurs in patches of suitable habitat in the more remote sections downstream to the junction with the Flambeau River. (Also see Manitowish River, Vilas County.) The bands of rice on this river are often fairly narrow and do not show up well in air photos. Watch status is medium because there are suggestions that rice may be increasing on this river.

119. Mud Lake (WBIC 2316400).

Figure 106. Mud Lake, Iron County, 2007.

Mud Lake was successfully seeded by the DNR. This bed seems to be expanding under the drought conditions experienced in the area the last few years. Although access is fairly limited on this undeveloped, state owned lake, the site has been harvested with some regularity, and is popular with duck hunters. The best rice is typically found on the south end of the lake near the outlet. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

120. Munnomin Lake (WBIC 2320000).

Figure 107. Munnomin Lake, Iron County, 2009.

As the name suggests, this lake has a long history of supporting wild rice. Located on the Lac du Flambeau Reservation, this small lake, which drains into the Bear River, is protected and managed by the tribe. Although harvested by tribal members, it does not show up in harvest surveys because it is an on-reservation water. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

121. Sugarbush Flowage (WBIC 2317200).

Figure 108. Sugarbush Flowage, Iron County, 2006.

Previous this was listed as unnamed flowage, and had the incorrect WBIC of 2315700. This flowage is on the Lac du Flambeau Indian Reservation, and it is managed and protected by the tribe. We suggest that this name, which the Tribe uses, be adopted by others. However, this fairly new flowage cannot be found on the Surface Water Viewer, except in the 2005 air photo coverage. As such, the WBIC code used is for Sugarbush Creek, which was dammed to create the flowage. Watch status is medium because the site recently experienced an extended drawdown for repairs.

122. Turtle Flambeau Flowage (WBIC 2294900).

Figure109. Turtle Flambeau Flowage near Murrays Landing, Iron County, 2007.

Given the huge size of this flowage, the acreage of rice on it is quite small. It appears that the large fluctuations in water levels that occur as part of the management of this flowage limits rice growth to areas where rivers enter. The most

important of these is the area known as Murrays Landing, where the Flambeau River enters. Beds here are fairly substantial and valuable to wildlife, but have not been human harvested to any great extent because the plants tend to be very short and have small seeds.

More recently, beds have also appeared (apparently as a result of seeding) on the very south end of the flowage, in the areas where Beaver and Otter Creeks enter. Though fairly small, these beds appear to be self-sustaining at this time.

If flowage operations are modified in the future to reduce water level fluctuations, this vast flowage should be surveyed to determine if other areas could provide suitable seeding locations. Watch status is medium because of the possibility that some beds on this site are expanding.

Langlade County

123. Ackley Wildlife Area Flowages (no photos available).

Rice has been seeded into a number of small flowages (generally unnamed on the Surface Water Viewer) on the Ackley Wildlife Area. While rice appears to have become established on several of these, at least in the short term, it is not clear which of these are most likely to persist for the long term. Additional monitoring is needed at this site, but it was considered to be low priority for the current study since these beds are on state land. Watch status is medium.

XX. Daily Pond.

See Unnamed (Daily) Pond (WBIC 385100).

XX. Goose Island.

See Pickerel Creek (WBIC 387300).

124. Miniwakan Lake (WBIC 398600).

Figure 110. Miniwakan Lake, Langlade County, 2006.

Miniwakan is a small, undeveloped lake, consisting of south and north lobes. The best rice tends to be on the south lobe, and the east shore of the north lobe. Watch status is low due to site familiarity.

125. Pickerel Creek (WBIC 387300).

Figure 111. Pickerel Creek, below HWY 55, Langlade County, 2009. (Ron Eckstein Photo.)

Figure 112. Pickerel Creek at Goose Island, Langlade County, 2006.

Rice can be found at at least 2 locations on Pickerel Creek. One bed is just downstream from HWY 55 (first photo), the other just above the junction with the Wolf River. This latter site is commonly referred to as Goose Island, and this location is regularly harvested, and hunted over. Both are thought to be long existing beds. Watch status is low due to site familiarity, although better annual abundance information would be helpful for the upstream bed.

126. Spider Creek Flowage (WBIC 391400).

Figure 113. Spider Creek Flowage, Langlade County, 2006.

The Spider Creek Flowage is a state-managed property that was successfully seeded with rice. Beds are large enough to be harvestable, and are very attractive to wildlife. Direct threats to this site are minimal. Watch status is low due to site familiarity.

XX. Turtle Lake.

See Wolf River (Turtle Lake)(WBIC 241300).

127. Unnamed Lake on the Lily River (WBIC 371100)(no photo available).

While surveying the Lily River for possible rice beds, a patch of several acres was found on the small, unnamed impoundment formed on the Lily River by the Henke Dam. The dam owner, William Bostwick reports heavy use of the rice by ducks and geese. Watch status is high due to a lack of site familiarity.

128. Wolf River (Turtle Lake)(WBIC 241300).

Figure 114. Wolf River at Turtle Lake, Langlade County, 2008.

Although locally referred to as Turtle Lake or Turtle High Banks, this bed is actually located on a wide spot on the Wolf River, about a mile SE of the town of Post Lake. This site is occasionally harvested. The WBIC code is for the river. Watch status is low due to site familiarity.

129. Unnamed (Daily) Pond (WBIC 385100).

Figure 115. Unnamed (Daily) Pond, Langlade County, 2008.

Although this site is unnamed on the Surface Water Viewer, it is locally known as Daily Pond. It is found west of Rice Bed Road, just north of the Hunting River, into which it drains. Site is harvested regularly, and hunted as well. Rice can cover much of the site in a good year. Surrounding land is state-owned. Watch status is low due to site familiarity.

Lincoln County

130. Alice Lake (WBIC 1555900).

Figure 116. Alice Lake, Lincoln County, 2008.

Alice Lake (better known as Lake Alice) is a very large waterbody, but the rice is largely limited to the bay on the east end of the lake which is south of CTY D and the area near the far east end of the flowage where Big Pine Creek enters (both shown above). Small patches may exist in other locations. In some years this lake has been heavily harvested. Watch status is low due to site familiarity.

131. Camp 26 Flowage (WBIC 5525949).

Figure 117. Camp 26 Flowage, Lincoln County, 2008.

This very small flowage is another location that was successfully seeded. All surrounding land is publicly owned. This seeding has been primarily beneficial to wildlife and waterfowl hunters. Watch status low.

132. Harrison Flowage (WBIC 1560400).

Figure 118. Harrison Flowage, Lincoln County, 2006.

Rice was seeded successfully on the Harrison Flowage by the DNR, and seems to becoming well established. The primary bed is on the far southeastern portion of the flowage, shown in the photo above, but current efforts to more carefully control water levels, coupled with additional seeding, may lead to additional beds. A bay on the north shore that was recently planted is showing a very good initial take. Watch status is medium-high to monitor possible expansion of the beds.

133. Jersey City Flowage (WBIC 1516000).

Figure 119. Jersey Flowage, Lincoln County, 2008.

This area once likely held abundant rice beds, most of which appear to have been lost. Recent seeding efforts by the DNR have re-established some small beds on this flowage, mostly in the area above the large island that is found here. Since most of these seedings are fairly recent, it will be interesting to see how they fare in the long run. Watch status Is medium-high.

134. Mohawksin Lake (WBIC 1515400)(no photo available).

Although GLIFWC's familiarity with the site is limited, rice has been reported on Mohawksin Lake by Ron Eckstein, DNR, and by a private contract hired by the DNR to do an aquatic plant survey on the lake. The rice apparently is limited to the area where the Somo River enters on the west end of the lake. Additional rice can be found upstream; see Somo River and Unnamed Slough below. Watch status is high due to the limited annual abundance data.

135. New Woods Wildlife Area Flowage (WBIC 1500400).

Figure 120. New Woods Wildlife Area Flowage, Lincoln County, 2008.

The New Woods Flowage is yet another example of a successful rice seeding on a state wildlife area. It is interesting perhaps that this site has done so well, given the dark water found on this flowage, which is typically not considered optimal for rice. Careful water level management seems to be part of the success of this seeding. Watch status is low due to familiarity with the site.

136. Somo River (WBIC 1546900)(no photo available).

Although GLIFWC's familiarity with the site is limited, rice has been reported on the Somo River by Ron Eckstein, DNR, and by a private contract hired by the DNR to do an aquatic plant survey on Mohawksin Lake. The rice is found on the lower sections of the river above the lake, in the narrows near the Mohawksin Road boat landing, in the widening west of the Ridge Road boat landing, and in the area where an unnamed slough (WBIC 1547000) joins the river. Additional rice can be found on the lower end of the unnamed slough, and on Mohawksin Lake near the Somo River mouth. Watch status is high due to the lack of annual abundance data.

137. Unnamed Pond (WBIC 5524703).

Figure 121. Unnamed Pond, Lincoln County, 2007.

Rice sometimes nearly covers the surface of this small, unnamed pond adjacent to the Wisconsin River (which is visible in the photo above). Pond is located on the east side of the river, just across HWY 107, about a half mile north of Eggert Drive. Watch status is low due to familiarity with the site.

138. Unnamed Slough (WBIC 1547000)(no photo available).

Although GLIFWC's familiarity with the site is limited, rice has been reported on the south end of this slough near where it joins the Somo River by Ron Eckstein, DNR. Additional rice can be found on the Somo River and on Mohawksin Lake near the Somo River mouth. See those 2 locations for additional information. Watch status is high due to the lack of annual abundance data.

139. Wisconsin River and Associated Waters (WBIC 1179900, 1503100, 1502400, 1494600 and 1494700; see text).

The distribution of rice on the Wisconsin River in Lincoln County is not easy to briefly characterize. With rice beds occurring in perhaps a dozen different locations, this is one situation where considering the entire length of the Wisconsin River (including all of its named sub-sections) in the county a rice water may be justified.

However, individual beds can also be identified to some greater degree. Rice locations include:

Figure 122. Wisconsin River North of Lake Alice, Lincoln County, 2008.

The section of the river above Alice Lake; these beds seems to be increasing in recent years after nearly disappearing.

Figure 123. Unnamed Slough between the Wisconsin River and Little Pine Creek, Lincoln County, 2008.

The location where Little Pine Creek enters the Wisconsin River. On the Surface Water Viewer, this area is designated as "An Unnamed Slough" (WBIC 1503100).

Figure 124. Grandfather Flowage, Lincoln County, 2008.

The portion of Grandfather Flowage south of the bridge that connects HWY 107 on the east side of the river with CTY E on the west (WBIC 1502400).

Figure125. Alexander Lake, North end, Lincoln County, 2008.

Several patches on Alexander Lake (WBIC 1494600).

Figure 126. Mouth of the Copper River at Lake Alexander, Lincoln County, 2007.

The mouth of the Copper River where it meets Alexander Lake (WBIC 1494700).

Areas without a documented rice presence include Grandmother Flowage (WBIC 1503000) and the section of the river south of Alexander Lake.

Marathon County

A note regarding Marathon County: All information on Marathon County rice waters came from DNR staff, and all of these sites but 2 are found on state-managed properties. Three sites (Birch Flowage, Big Rib River, and Lake Wausau) are actually outside the ceded territory, being located in the finger of non-ceded lands that extends north along the Wisconsin River corridor to Wausau, but are included as anecdotal records in this database to complete the list of known Marathon county waters. GLIFWC did not conduct surveys of these sites, and no air photos are available from our records, but Jon Zellmer, DNR, provided photos of the McMillan Wildlife Area flowages.

140. Big Rib River (WBIC 1451800)(no photo available).

Cortney Schefer, DNR, reports several acres of rice in 2 patches on the Big Rib River just west of the CTY N crossing where the river enters Lake Wausau.

141. Birch Flowage (on unnamed creek with WBIC 1436300)(no photo available).

Cortney Schefer, DNR, reports that a small patch of rice has become established on this flowage as a result of seeding efforts. Since this bed is relatively new, it would be good to keep this site on high watch status.

142. Drop Inlet Flowage (unnamed water body on Surface Water Viewer with WBIC 5530513).

Cortney Schefer, DNR, reports that a small patch of rice has become established on this flowage as a result of seeding efforts. Since this bed is relatively new, it would be good to keep this site on high watch status.

143. Lake Wausau (WBIC 1437500)(no photo available).

Cortney Schefer, DNR, reports a small patch of rice exists on Lake Wausau about a quarter mile east of CTY N, on one of the river channels from the Big Rib River.

144. Lower Nienow Flowage (on an unnamed creek with WBIC 1473100).

Cortney Schefer, DNR, reports that a small patch of rice has become established on this flowage as a result of seeding efforts. Since this bed is relatively new, it would be good to keep this site on high watch status.

145. McMillan Marsh Wildlife Area Flowages (WBICs 1422100, 1422400).

Figure 127. Main Flowage, McMillan Wildlife Area, Marathon County, 2009 (Jon Zellmer Photo.)

Figure 128. Reservoir Flowage, McMillan Wildlife Area, Marathon County, 2009 (Jon Zellmer Photo).

Jon Zellmer, DNR, reports fairly large and well established beds on the Main (WBIC 1422100) and Reservoir (WBIC 1422400) flowages at McMillan Wildlife Area as a result of seeding efforts.

146. Mead Wildlife Area Flowages (WBICs 1416200, 1418400, 1419300, and Pool 10 (no WBIC)).

Tom Meier, DNR, reports that rice has been established through seeding on North Honey Island Flowage (WBIC 1416200), North Rice Lake (WBIC 1418400), Smokey Hill Flowage (WBIC 1419300) and Pool 10 (WBIC not available). He also indicated that smaller pools 3 and 4 were seeded for the first time in the fall of 2009, and that seeding efforts on North Townline Flowage and Teal Flowage failed to establish permanent beds.

147. Upper Leo Flowage (on unnamed creek with river system WBIC 5008792).

Cortney Schefer, DNR, reports that a small patch of rice has become established on this flowage as a result of seeding efforts. Since this bed is relatively new, it would be good to keep this site on high watch status.

148. Whiskey Flowage (unnamed water body on Surface Water Viewer with WBIC 5530546).

Cortney Schefer, DNR, reports that a small patch of rice has become established on this flowage as a result of seeding efforts. Since this bed is relatively new, it would be good to keep this site on high watch status.

Marinette County

149. Noquebay Lake (WBIC 525900)(no photo available).

Noquebay Lake is outside the ceded territory, and thus outside the scope of this grant report. However, since Noquebay is currently identified as a rice water, it is worth noting that Noquebay has a long history of supporting rice beds, and that harvest on the site is date-regulated by the state. There have occasionally been reports that the rice on this water may be threatened by heavy recreational boating and extensive shoreline development.

150. Woods Lake (WBIC 540900)(no photo available).

The original evidence of wild rice on Woods Lake came from State documents related to the development of Thompson State Park, which now includes this lake. These documents reported beds on the east shore of the lake. We attempted to confirm the presence of wild rice on Woods Lake in 2009, but did not observe any rice. Given the reliability of the original source of information, we suggest keeping Woods Lake on the list of recognized rice waters, but giving it a high watch status for additional confirmation. Should it exist, it could provide a fairly unique opportunity for educating the public about this resource.

Oneida County

151. Big Lake (WBIC 1613000).

Figure 129. Big Lake, SW bay, Oneida County, 2006.

Big Lake supports a fairly substantial bed of rice, but it is limited to the bay on the far southwest corner of the lake. Although this stand is harvestable at least some years, it tends to get relatively little pressure, perhaps because the nearby Big Lake Thoroughfare generally offers a larger stand. Nevertheless, harvest on this lake is date-regulated. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

152. Cuenin Lake (WBIC 1568800).

Figure 130. Cuenin Lake, Oneida County, 2002.

Small Cuenin Lake is located just a few miles south of the city of Rhinelander. In years with a good crop, rice can be found in a patchwork across the entire lake. Harvest is reported regularly. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

153. Deer Lake (WBIC 1612300).

Figure 131. Deer Lake, Vilas County, 2009. (Ron Eckstein Photo.)

A bed of rice exists on this lake in the bay on the west side of the lake, where a small stream enters from the north (Ron Eckstein information). Watch status is medium-high because of the lack of annual abundance information.

154. Dog Lake (WBIC 1612900).

Figure 132. Dog Lake, Oneida County, 1996.

Dog Lake has a long history of supporting rice, but the bed is limited to the bay just northwest of the bridge which separates Dog and Big Lakes (visible near the top of the photo). The site rarely turns up in harvest surveys, perhaps because the much larger beds on the Big Lake Thoroughfare are just a short distance away. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

155. Fish Lake (Pelican River)(WBIC 1570600).

Figure 133. Fish Lake, Oneida County, 2007.

Fish Lake is actually a widening of the North Branch of the Pelican River. In recent years rice production seems to be poorer than occurred historically, but reasons for this are not clear (though beaver may be involved). Rice has a patchy distribution on this water body, and beds may move somewhat between years. Most of the aquatic vegetation in the photo above is species other than rice. Watch status is medium because of the possible indications of decline.

156. Fourmile Lake (WBIC 1610800).

Figure 134. Fourmile Lake, Oneida County, 2006.

Fourmile Lake supports 3 distinct bays of rice. One is located on the west side of the lake where an unnamed creek enters (nearest bed in the photo above; creek WBIC is 1611600); the second is in the bay immediately south of this bay (not clearly evident in the photo above) and the third is on the east side of the lake where Fourmile Creek enters (top-right in the photo above). GLIFWC has only been aware of these beds since 2003, but likely they have been around for a much longer period of time. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

157. Gary Lake (WBIC 1517500).

Figure 135. Gary Lake, Oneida County, 2006.

Gary Lake is located on Little Rice Creek in south-central Oneida County. The primary bed is located where the creek enters, but smaller amounts of rice can be found around most of the shoreline. Harvest on this lake is date-regulated, but has not generally been substantial, in part because public access is limited. For this reason, this site may be a candidate for removal from the date-regulated list. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

158. Killarney Lake (WBIC 1520900).

Figure 136. Killarney Lake, Oneida County, 2008.

A fairly substantial bed of rice can be found on the northern arm of Killarney Lake. It begins where Brown Creek enters, and extends down both shorelines for approximately three-quarters of a mile. The history of this bed is unclear, but it

has turned up in harvest surveys fairly regularly since 2005. Another smaller bed can be found on a bay on the southeast side of the lake. Watch status is medium because greater annual abundance information would be helpful.

159. Little Rice Creek (WBIC 1516900)(see Gary Lake photo).

We were interested in surveying this water because of the name alone, but time constraints did not make it worthwhile to intensively survey the entire length of this creek. Rice is known to exist on 2 of the lakes the creek passes through (Goodyear and Gary), and on the creek itself both above and below Gary Lake for perhaps an eighth of a mile. While it seems likely that rice may occur in other pockets of suitable habitat, presently this is not confirmed. Watch status is medium because distribution information would be helpful.

160. Little Rice Lake (WBIC 1617400).

Figure 137. Little Rice Lake, Oneida County, 1994.

Although its name suggests a long historical presence of rice, this site has produced very little rice over the last 2 decades. (It is noteworthy that a photo from 1994 had to be used to display a relatively abundant stand.) Reasons for this are unclear, and the site has not been investigated to any extent because of its relative remoteness, but hydrological changes associated with nearby Rice and Thunder Lakes might be involved. Watch status is low because of site familiarity, but potential restoration opportunities need to be explored.

161. Mud Lake (WBIC 1612500).

Figure 138. Mud Lake at HWY 45, Oneida County, 2009. (Ron Eckstein Photo).

Ron Eckstein, DNR, reports the presence of a small bed of rice on the very west end of Mud Lake (Crystal Lake on some maps) where Crystal Creek enters. GLIFWC is not familiar with this location, but did not verify it given the reliability of the source. However, we gave it a watch status of medium-high due to the lack of annual abundance data.

162. Oneida Lake (WBIC 1518200).

Figure139. Oneida Lake, Oneida County, 2005.

Several acres of rice can be found on Oneida Lake where Rice Creek enters the northeast bay of this lake. Though not large, this bed has been present for a long time. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

163. Rhinelander Flowage (WBIC 1580100).

Figure 140. Rhinelander Flowage, Upper Region, Oneida County, 2007.

Figure 4. Rhinelander Flowage, Mid Region, Oneida County, 2006.

The Rhinelander Flowage holds one of the largest rice beds in the State. This bed is large enough that it is not adequately captured in the 2 images above, but rice has a presence from the head waters to the area east of Wildwood Lake. The current operation of the dam on this system has been very compatible with rice production. We have not

documented rice in any other sections of the Wisconsin River in Oneida County, though it is possible smaller beds occur. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

164. Rice Lake (WBIC 1617200).

Figure142. Rice Lake, Oneida County, 2004.

Rice Lake, located on the Thunder Lake Wildlife Area, has been a bit of a puzzle. While the name reflects the long history of rice on this water, abundance has been poor over the last 2 decades. The most likely cause may be hydrological modifications in this system (which encompasses Thunder and Little Rice Lakes) perhaps coupled with an extended period of above average precipitation for the much of this period. Over the last 3 year, precipitation has been below average, however, and the lake has yet to show positive response. Unlike some nearby lakes which have experienced rice decline, such as Spur (Oneida County) and Atkins (Forest County), Rice Lake does not appear to have become dominated by other vegetation. Watch status is low because of site familiarity, but restoration opportunities need to be explored.

165. Rocky Run Flowage (WBIC 1525500).

Figure 143. Rocky Run Flowage, Oneida County, 2002.

The Rocky Run Flowage is yet another Oneida County site that seems to be in decline in recent years, again for unknown reasons. There is a large cranberry operation adjacent to this flowage, but at this time there is no evidence that it is having a negative impact on the rice, and the owner has expressed an interest in rice restoration at the site. Competition from other aquatic vegetation appears significant. Watch status is high because of the apparent decline and the opportunity for restoration.

166. Roe Lake (WBIC 1517400).

Figure144. Roe Lake, Oneida County, 2006.

Roe Lake is another site that was successfully seeded cooperatively by DNR and GLIFWC. Rice has done very well at this site, with the help of APHIS beaver control. Local individuals also occasionally try to sand bag this lake to increase its depth, so regular monitoring of water level is important to maintain this success. Although this bed was first seeded in just 2003, it is already showing up in harvest surveys. Watch status, other than for beaver impact, is low because of site familiarity.

167. Scott Creek Impoundment (WBIC 161500).

Figure 145. Scott Creek Impoundment, Oneida County, 2007.

The Scott Creek Impoundment is on Forest Service Lands, and was successfully seeded by GLIFWC and the Forest Service. Annual rice production has been quite variable, but persistent. Note that this WBIC code is for the Scott Creek, not the impoundment, which has not been added to the Surface Water Viewer map. However, the impoundment is visible in the 2005 air photos on the Surface Viewer, just east of HWY 32, and extending to approximately the Forest County line. Rice is not known to exist on the Creek in Oneida County outside of the impoundment. Watch status is medium because of the significant annual variability in abundance.

168. Spur Lake (WBIC 1571800).

Figure 146. Spur Lake, Oneida County, 2003.

Spur Lake was once a premier rice water in the area, heavily utilized by harvesters. This is a true "rice lake", capable of supporting rice over nearly its entire surface. However, like a number of other area lakes, rice production on Spur has been very poor in recent years, and other vegetation has come to dominate the lake. Reasons for this are not well known, but a reduction in flow out of the lake (due to beaver and/or vegetation growth) has been suggested as a possible cause. Watch status is high because of the need for restoration efforts.

169. Squaw Creek (WBIC 2271200).

Figure 147. Squaw Creek, Oneida County, 2008.

Squaw Creek supports rice in scattered patches over a section several miles long that is centered approximately at the junctions of Oneida, Vilas, and Price counties. Although most of this section is found in the other counties, roughly a half mile of the creek bisects the northwest corner of Oneida County. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

170. Sugar Camp Creek (WBIC 1596700).

Figure 148. Sugar Camp Creek at Stone Lake, Oneida County, 2009. (Ron Eckstein Photo)

DNR wildlife manager Ron Eckstein reports the presence of a rice bed on Sugar Camp Creek just east of Stone Lake, extending for roughly a quarter mile. GLIFWC is not familiar with this site, and did not verify it given the reliability of the source, but did give it a medium-high watch status due to the lack of annual abundance information.

171. The Thoroughfare (WBIC 1613400, 5591310).

Figure 149. Big Lake Thoroughfare, West, Oneida County, 2007.

Figure 150. Big Lake Thoroughfare, East, Oneida County, 2008.

While this report generally uses the place names identified in the Surface Water Viewer, an exception is made here. Local usage generally considers The Thoroughfare (or the Big Lake Thoroughfare) to be the section of water that originates at Whitefish Lake to the east and ends at Big Lake to the west. The Surface Water Viewer applies this name only from Whitefish Lake to the point where the Eagle River enters. I encourage the Viewer apply this name to the entire section.

The Thoroughfare is an important water, whose harvest is date-regulated. It has occasionally been severely infected with brown spot disease, reducing seed production, but this has not harmed the long-term productivity of the bed. Rice is found throughout the system in good years. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

172. Thunder Lake (WBIC 1618100).

Figure 151. Thunder Lake, Oneida County, 2009. (Ron Eckstein Photo).

Thunder Lake once supported substantial rice beds, but these are nearly gone. This lake has gone through an interesting and complex history of water level manipulation that has negatively impacted the rice. Small stands still exist, however, and were confirmed in ground surveys in both 2008 and 2009. These are located primarily in the southeast section of the lake, with patches going about as far north as the area east of the island. While the abundance here is far less than historically occurred, this is still consider a rice water, and it remains a location for possible restoration efforts. Watch status is medium-high because of the continued need to explore restoration opportunities at this site.

173. Wolf River (WBIC 241300).

Figure 152. Wolf River, East of the Forest County Line, Oneida County, 2006.

Figure 153. Wolf River, West of Lake Lucille, Oneida County, 2006.

Although a relatively small portion of the Wolf River passes through Oneida County, this portion is quite rich in rice beds. Beds begin where the river enters from Forest County, and cover about half the river distance to the wide area west of Lake Lucille. Although regularly harvested, these beds would be picked more if access was easier. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

Polk County

174. Andrus Lake (WBIC 2668600).

Figure154. Andrus Lake, Polk County, 2008.

Andrus Lake is also marked on some maps as Little Round Lake. Relatively small rice beds can be found on the north and south ends of this lake, with the larger being located on the north end near the Sucker Creek inlet and outlet. Enforcement actions have been taken against one local landowner on this lake who undertook some illegal activities which had a negative impact on the rice and other aquatics. Watch status is medium high because annual abundance data is lacking.

175. Apple River (WBIC 2614000) including Shiloh Flowage(WBIC 2626500).

Figure 155. Apple River, West of CTY H, Polk County, 2008.

The Apple River is known to support rice in several locations, and likely more remain to be discovered. Primary areas include the area just below White Ash Lake, at the junction with Fox Creek, and in the widening just west of CTY H, 3 miles north of HWY 8(shown above). Another bed is present just north of HWY 8, at a site known as the Shiloh Flowage, but a failing dam at this site is slated to be removed, and the rice will likely be lost when this occurs. Rice is likely to exist in any section of this river with suitable habitat. Watch status on most of the river is medium, primarily to better document rice presence over additional sections of the river, and high on the Shiloh Flowage due to likely loss.

176. Apple River Flowage (WBIC 2624200).

Figure 156. Apple River Flowage, Polk County, 2008.

Rice is present on the very north end of the Apple River Flowage where the Apple River enters. This is a fairly large bed, and is likely important to wildlife, but is not easily accessed by ricers and so has not had a presence in harvest surveys. Small patches of rice may occur in other parts of the flowage, but they have not been documented to date. Watch status is medium high because annual abundance data is lacking.

177. Balsam Branch (WBIC 2618900).

Figure157. Balsam Branch, Polk County, 2008.

Balsam Branch has long supported rice beds, and harvest on the site is date-regulated. While this stream runs from Balsam Lake to Wapogasset Lake and likely supports small rice beds in other sections, the only well documented presence is in the approximately mile-long section south of HWY 8 (shown above). There is also rice on Wapogasset Lake where Balsam Branch enters. Note that the very bright green in the photo above is not rice, but duckweed; the photo depicts a year with only fair abundance. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

178. Balsam Lake (WBIC 2620600).

Figure158. Balsam Lake at Harder Creek ("The Stumps"), Polk County, 2008.

Balsam Lake is another site where the historical record suggests rice was once more abundant, but where remnant patches continue to exist. Ground crews confirmed the presence of patches in at least 2 locations: near the Harder Creek inlet (an area locally known as "The Stumps"; shown above) and near the Rice Creek inlet on the far northwest bay. Additional confirmation can be found in the Balsam Lake Sensitive Area Report, which can be linked from the Surface Water Viewer. Watch status is medium-low because of site familiarity.

179. Big Blake Lake (WBIC 2627000)(no air photo available).

Figure 159. Big Blake Lake, North end, Polk County, 2008.

A small but robust stand of wild rice is located on the north end of Big Blake Lake, in the area where Lost Creek enters. A DNR Sensitive Area Report for the lake also reports rice being present on the southeast end, near the junction with Little Blake Lake, but we were not able to confirm that presence in recent surveys. The remainder of the lake is heavily

developed, and tends to drop off fairly quickly, and so would not be expected to support rice. Watch status is medium until additional annual abundance information is collected.

180. Big Round Lake (WBIC 2627400).

Figure 160. Big Round Lake at the mouth of the Straight River, Polk County, 2008.

Although small amounts of rice have been reported from areas along the west shore and near the outlet on the south end of the lake (see DNR Sensitive Area Report), the most significance rice bed on Big Round exists at the Straight River inlet, and extends up the river itself. This area (DNR Sensitive Area I) is shown in the photo. Harvest on this water is date-regulated, reflecting the long presence of this bed. This lake is of great interest to the St. Croix Tribe, whose reservation includes a parcel on this lake and who have been cooperatively managing this water. Watch status is medium-low due to site familiarity.

181. Bone Lake (WBIC 2628100).

Figure161. Bone Lake, North end, Polk County, 2008.

Roughly 3 acres of rice exists on the north end of Bone Lake, in a band along the western shore (shown above). This bed is important ecologically to the lake, but has only turned up once in harvest surveys. The rest of the lake has little suitable habitat, and no other beds are known to exist. Watch status is medium-high because annual abundance information is limited.

182. Fox Creek (WBIC 2626800)(no photo available).

A small but robust bed of rice was observed in 2009 growing on Fox Creek just above its junction with the Apple River. Dry conditions prevented this bed from being navigated, but the bed is not thought to extend for more than a third of a mile upstream. Watch status is medium-high because annual abundance information is lacking.

183. Joel Flowage (WBIC 2625700).

Figure162. Joel Flowage, Polk County, 2009.

The Joel Flowage is another cooperative seeding success story. The beds on this wildlife area have been very attractive to wildlife, and are increasingly being human harvested. Currently, the greatest amount of rice can be found on the flowage with the WBIC given above. However, there is now a second flowage (partially visible to the left in the photo above) where rice is also becoming established. This flowage is quite new, and is not yet recognized in the Surface Water Viewer, and does not even show up in the 2005 air photos available on the viewer. Watch status is medium due the apparent expansion of the existing beds.

184. Little Blake Lake (WBIC 2627300).

Figure 163. Little Blake Lake, North end, Polk County, 2008.

A delta of rice can be found at the north end of Little Blake Lake where the Straight Lake enters. GLIFWC surveys this lake infrequently, so it is not known how well the 2008 photo represents other years. A DNR Sensitive Area Report for the lake also indicates that rice is present on the southwest end of the lake near its junction with Big Blake Lake, but no rice was found in this area in 2008 or 2009. Watch status in medium-high because annual abundance information is lacking.

185. Little Butternut Lake (WBIC 2640700).

Figure164. Little Buttenut Lake, Polk County, 2006.

The photo of Little Butternut Lake shown above is not from a year with a particularly good rice crop, but the rice areas can be seen in along the northeast, southeast, and especially southwest bays. Harvest on this water is date-regulated, but has been fairly minor most years. Crop abundance also has not been particularly noteworthy in the last 10-15 years. Watch status is medium-low because of site familiarity.

186. McKenzie Lake (WBIC 2667300)(no photo available).

The St. Croix Tribe documented 3 acres of rice on this small, undeveloped lake in 2006, while GLIFWC crews reported no rice in 2008, but about an acre in 2009 on the south side of the eastern bay. While I would continue to consider this a rice water, the watch status is high because of the need to obtain more annual abundance information, and a good aerial photo.

187. North White Ash Lake (WBIC 2628800)(see White Ash Lake for photo).

See White Ash Lake text.

188. Rice Bed Creek (WBIC 2628900).

Figure165. Rice Bed Creek, Polk County, 2008.

The only significant rice bed on Rice Bed Creek is on the wide spot shown above, which occurs in Rice Beds Creek State Wildlife Area. This bed begins about three-quarters of a mile above the junction of Rice Bed Creek and the Apple River. This site seems to be more heavily harvested than harvest surveys would suggest; I suspect this is because the relatively small number of people harvesting here don't care to disclose its location. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

189. Rice Lake (WBIC 2615400).

Figure 166. Rice Lake, Polk County, 2005.

This lake is capable of supporting rice over a significant portion of its surface; the photo above depicts only an average year. Theoretically, the harvest on this lake is date-regulated; however, there is no public access, and so this provision has essentially been disregarded. (It is my understanding that a private landing that once existed here has been closed; currently access must be gained through private land, or possibly by the outlet stream.) This has also limited the amount of harvest reported for this water. Watch status is medium-low because of site familiarity.

190. Rice Lake (WBIC 2621600).

Figure 167. Rice Lake, Polk County, 2006.

Rice Lake could be the poster-child of rice loss in Wisconsin. This lake is also known locally as Glenton Lake (the name used in the list of date-regulated waters) or as Rice Lake at Milltown. Although historically an important rice water, the rice beds have been nearly destroyed from a variety of negative impacts, including sewage run-off. Currently, only tiny remnants of rice remain in scattered locations. A good history of this lake can be found in the document "Restoring Rice Lake at Milltown, Wisconsin", DNR Technical Bulletin No. 186.

Unfortunately, restoration efforts on this lake have largely been unsuccessful to date, but periodically new attempts have been made. Most recently, seeding was conducted in the fall of 2009 by the St. Croix Tribe in hopes of once again covering some of the lost biological legacy of this lake. Watch status is medium-high because the need to monitor recent seeding efforts.

191. Saint Croix River (WBIC 2601400)(no photo available).

It was not possible to survey the entire length of the Saint Croix River in this study. However, rice is known to exist in portions of the Burnett and Douglas County sections of the river, and a 1934 herbarium sample was taken at end of Evergreen Road, T36N R20W. Additional surveys would ultimately be beneficial, but until then it's likely wise to assume rice may exist in areas of suitable habitat in Polk County as well. Most of the river is included in the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway. Watch status was placed at medium-low, but better distribution information would be helpful.

192. Somers Lake (WBIC 2665900).

Figure 168. Somers Lake, Polk County, 2008.

GLIFWC only became aware of the rice on Somers Lake when it began appearing in harvest surveys in recent years. Much of the southern end of the lake, where Somers Creek enters, supports rice. This lake is relatively undeveloped, but much of the remainder of the lake is too deep to support beds, so recent air photos are thought to be reflective of typical distribution. Watch status is medium-low because of site familiarity.

193. Straight Lake (WBIC 2627800)(no photo available).

A small patch of rice was documented on this lake by the St. Croix Tribe, and the bed has been discussed in documents related to the development of Straight Lake State Park. Although it appears this bed is likely too small to provide public harvest, it may provide some unique opportunities for public education. Watch status is medium because of limited annual abundance information.

194. Straight River at Shilling Dam (WBIC 5518249).

Figure 169. Straight River above Shilling Dam, Polk County, 2008.

Rice was found growing in several small patches on the Straight River between the Shilling Dam and HWY 48. These were located along the north shore, one near the south end of this section, the other just south of the narrow gap that occurs about half way between the dam and the highway. Rice also can be found above and below Big Round Lake. Watch status is medium because of limited annual abundance information, and the likelihood that beds exist in other locations.

195. Unnamed (Rice) Lake (WBIC 2650600).

Figure170. Unnamed (Rice) Lake, near Frederick, Polk County, 2007.

This site shows up as Rice Lake on some maps, and is listed as Rice Lake (Frederick) in GLIFWC files, but is unnamed on the Surface Water Viewer. This small body of water can be covered with rice in a boom year, and have very little other

years. It has frequently supported families of trumpeter swans. Because it is a small bed on private land, it is not thought to be important to harvesters, but it would also be difficult to differentiate harvest reported for this site from harvest reported for the other Rice Lakes in Polk County. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

196. Unnamed Pond (WBIC 5526548).

Figure 171. Unnamed Pond near Paulson, Polk County, 2005.

GLIFWC became aware of this site several years ago when it was reported by DNR employee Mary Greisbach. This small, private pond is located northeast of a bend in Church Road. It appears to be capable of supporting rice over a significant portion of its surface in some years, and is interesting because it seems to be lacking an appreciable outlet. Watch status is medium low.

197. Wapogasset Lake (WBIC 2618000).

Figure 172. Wapogasset Lake, North end, Polk County, 2008.

A substantial bed of rice can be found on Wapogasset Lake, on the northwest bay where Balsam Branch enters. This bed regularly receives some negative impact from boaters who appear to enlarge certain channels through the bed, but the damage thus far has not had significant long-term effects. Harvest has been reported for this bed only occasionally. Rice is not known to exist in other areas on this large lake. Watch status is medium because of limited annual abundance information.

198. White Ash Lake (WBIC 2628600).

Figure 173. White Ash and North White Ash Lakes, Polk County, 2008.

This is another location where there is some confusion regarding naming. The photo above shows a narrows between 2 lakes; the 2 lakes are sometimes collectively referred to as White Ash Lake, sometimes as White Ash and North White Ash. The Surface Water Viewer uses the latter approach and assigns each lobe a WBIC code. Rice occurs on each lobe, as seen in the photo above. There is also rice at the outlet on White Ash Lake, on the Apple River, but only a minimal presence on other parts of the lake(s). The rice on these lakes is very robust, and may represent one of the northern-most stands of the southern species in the state. A mechanical weed harvester operates on these lakes; its operation may need to be monitored to ensure minimal impacts to the rice.

Price County

199. Beaver Creek Flowage (WBIC 2234700).

Figure174. Beaver Creek Flowage, Price County, 2007.

This site was previously listed as the Skunk Creek Flowage, based on misinformation about the name of the small creek which creates this waterbody. Located on the Kimberly-Clark Wildlife Area, this site was seeded by the DNR with GLIFWC cooperation. This bed now appears to be well established, enhancing the area significantly for wildlife. Watch status is medium because annual abundance data is limited.

200. Blockhouse Lake (WBIC 2256800).

Figure175. Blockhouse Lake, Price County, 2005.

Blockhouse Lake is another site that is rather puzzling. This lake once supported fairly significant beds, occurring primarily in the north bay and in several stands along the west shore. In the last 20 years, however, rice production has been very poor to non-existent. Reasons for this decline are not clear, but may have to do with how lake levels are regulated on the outlet dam. Another possible concern that has been raised is that the timing of the decline seemed to be associated with the installation of a winter aerator; rice seed needs a period of low oxygen conditions to break dormancy, and perhaps the aerator is preventing that from occurring. This is another site which should be identified as a high priority for restoration efforts. Despite the lack of a recent rice presence, this water body should continue to be considered a rice water at this time, but with a medium-high watch status.

201. Flambeau River, South Fork (WBIC 2231200).

Figure176. Flambeau River, South Fork, Price County, 2007.

Rice is abundant on the South Fork of the Flambeau River, in a number of beds scattered in an area east and south of East Road, which runs south from HWY 182, east of Park Falls. (The full extent of these beds is not captured in the photo above.) There have been some complaints from a local resort owner about these beds, who feels they have been expanding in recent years, and pose a problem to motor boat navigation on the river. However, most of the beds are on other private or public lands. These beds have not shown up much in harvest surveys, perhaps because they are not well known to the public. On a 2009 ground survey it was also noticed that these beds may be too short to facilitate harvesting, but the 2009 growing season was marked by cool weather, and it's possible that plant height was shorter than average that year. Watch status is medium because annual abundance information is limited.

XX. Hay Lake (WBIC 2259400).

Although this lake, which sits at the intersection of Price, Iron and Ashland counties, was originally listed as a Price County water, it will now be listed in Iron County, following the Surface Water Viewer.

202. Lower Steve Creek Flowage (WBIC 2191400).

Figure177. Lower Steve Creek Flowage, Price County, 2008.

This flowage, located just a mile north of the Taylor County line, is surrounded by Price County Forest property. Seeding at this location has been very successful, with the flowage at its capacity for rice. Harvesters are utilizing this site more in recent years, but occasionally seed production seems to be negatively impacted by disease outbreaks, especially Brown Spot. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

203. Musser Lake, (WBIC 2245100).

Figure 178. Musser Lake at Musser Creek Inlet, Price County, 2008.

The rice beds on Musser Lake appear to be limited to the areas near the inlets of Musser Creek (shown above) and Popple Creek (not shown). While some of the areas on the east end of the lake appear to have fairly suitable habitat, rice has not been reported there. Like many other State lakes, this one has had problems with invasive aquatic species, and will be important to try to ensure that control efforts do not negatively impact rice beds. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

204. Prentice Flowage (WBIC 2211300).

Figure179. Prentice Flowage, Price County, 2009.

This site is interesting in that it was found fortuitously in 2008. No other records had been reported, even though part of the bed is visible from HWY 8. It may be fairly new, but this is unknown. Nevertheless, the bed is fairly large and appears well established, though slightly small to be of interest to harvesters. Watch status is medium due to limited annual abundance information.

205. Sailor Lake (WBIC 2254800).

Figure180. Sailor Lake, Price County, 2008.

Rice was successfully seeded on this lake cooperatively by GLIFWC and the Forest Service, and it has become well established in recent years, especially along the western bay and southern shore. While intended more for the benefit of wildlife, it now offers limited human harvest opportunity as well. While some minor negative impacts on the rice may be occurring from visitors to the lake's Forest Service campground, the campground and picnic area here also may provide some unique public education opportunities about this unique resource. Watch status is medium-low because of site familiarity, but some monitoring is worthwhile since some expansion appears to be taking place.

XX. Skunk Creek Flowage

See discussion under Beaver Creek Flowage above.

206. Spring Creek Wildlife Area Flowages (WBIC 2216600, 2216400, 2216200, 2216000).

Figure181. Spring Creek Wildlife Area Flowages, Price County, 2005.

The rice seedings on the flowages at the Spring Creek Wildlife Area are among the most successful in the State. Rice is now growing on all 4 flowages here (the northern-most is not visible in the photo above), providing huge benefits to wildlife and human harvesters alike. It is my understanding that careful water management is necessary at this site because of the sometimes flashy nature of the inlet streams. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

207. Squaw Creek (WBIC 2271200)(see photo for Vilas County listing).

This is the Squaw Creek near the Price, Vilas and Oneida counties junction (not the one with Squaw Creek impoundment below Gates Lake). The extent in Price County is east of the Turner Lake Road Bridge, with the rice generally being more abundant towards the county line. See the Vilas and/or Oneida County listing for more information. This location is part of a State Natural Area. (This is a duplicate listing in terms of WBIC code, which does not change as the creek crosses county lines.) Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

208. Unnamed (Jump River)Flowage (WBIC 2211800).

Figure182. Unnamed Flowage on the Jump River, Price County, 2009.

Although the bed on this flowage is quite large, GLIFWC did not become aware of its presence until 2004, when it was first flown over. Although this flowage is on the Surface Water Viewer, it apparently is new enough to not show up on some older maps. It is not well known to the public because it is entirely enclosed within a private parcel. GLIFWC has not been able to survey this site from the ground, but the bed is large enough to be identifiable from the air, and I have spoken to an individual who has harvested at this site. It is now know as the Jump River Flowage in GLIFWC files. Watch status is medium-high due to the limited annual abundance information.

209. Wilson Flowage, and Upper Wilson Flowage (WBIC 2246500, 2246600).

Figure183. Wilson Flowage, Upper, Price County, 2005.

This is another site where some clarification of names is required: 2 flowages exist immediately adjacent to each other; they are sometime referred to as Wilson and Upper Wilson, or collectively simply as Wilson. Rice has been established on both flowages, in cooperative seeding efforts with the Forest Service. Rice is largely limited to the north ends of both flowages, but the beds are considerably more abundant on Upper Wilson (shown above). These beds are not heavily harvested due to somewhat limited access, but small amounts of harvest are reported regularly. Watch status is medium low, but additional annual abundance information would be helpful.

Rusk County

210. Dairyland Flowage (WBIC 2229200).

Figure184. Dairyland Reservoir, Rusk County, 2008.

The primary rice beds on the Dairyland Reservoir are in the bay east of Bunyon's Hat Island (shown above). Smaller beds can also be found near the shores in the vicinity of the CTY I Bridge further upstream (east). This flowage went through a major drawdown in 2007, and the vegetative community is likely still responding to that event. It may be interesting to monitor this lake in future years to see if any changes in rice abundance occur. Watch status is medium-high because annual abundance data is lacking.

211. Fireside Lakes (WBIC 2349700).

Figure185. Fireside Lakes, Rusk County, 2008.

The Fireside Lakes are 2 water bodies joined by a small narrows; they go by a single name, but have two WBIC codes. Rice can be found in fair abundance on the smaller, southwestern lobe shown in the photo. Although the bands are not very wide or dense and do not show up well in air photos, much of this lobe is ringed with rice, with the densest beds occurring where Swift Creek enters on the north. Ground crews also found a scattering of individual plants on the north shore of the north lake in 2009, however, it is recommended that a greater abundance of rice is needed before this water body be considered a rice water. Watch status is medium-high because annual abundance information is limited.

212. Island Lake (WBIC 2350200).

Figure186. Island Lake, Rusk County, 2008.

Rice can be found along the channel shown above, running between McCann Lake on the bottom of the photo, and Island Lake at the top. The Surface Water Viewer considers this area part of Island Lake. We are only aware of rice along this channel, not on other parts of Island Lake. Watch status is medium-high because annual abundance information is limited.

213. Lea Lake Flowage (WBIC 2361900).

Figure 187. Lea Flowage, Rusk County, 2005.

Lea Flowage is known to support substantial rice beds some years, but it has not been regularly surveyed due to its relative remoteness from other sites. At the same time, that remoteness may increase the ecological value of having this bed on the landscape, and in 2005 a number of partners (including the DNR and GLIFWC) cooperated with the County, which owns the entire lakeshore, to rebuild the outlet structure and preserve this flowage. My impression is that more rice might grow here if water levels were held slightly lower, but this still remains an important site ecologically, and is utilized by harvesters as well. The largest beds are on the north end of the flowage. Watch status is medium-high because annual abundance information is limited.

214. McGee Lake (WBIC 2224400)(no air photo available).

Lake McGee was recognized as a wild rice water following seeding done at the site by the DNR. However, field surveys in 2008 found only a trace amount, and much of that was heavily browsed. It is suggested that this lake remain on the list of rice waters at this time, and the lake be surveyed more intensely for restoration potential. Watch status is medium-high because annual abundance information is limited.

215. Rice Creek (WBIC 2349400).

Figure 188. Rice Creek, Rusk County, 2008.

Not surprisingly, rice can be found on Rice Creek; it is particularly abundant between CTY D and the Chippewa River, but smaller amounts can also be found between CTY D and the Fireside Lakes to the west. This is one of the more robust stands in the area. , but watch status is medium-high because annual abundance information is limited.

216. Swift Creek (WBIC 2349800).

Figure189. Swift Creek, Rusk County, 2008.

Swift Creek is a fairly small creek that flows from Island Lake to the Fireside Lakes. It was not surveyed from the ground due to its small size and relative remoteness, but rice was observed growing on it during the 2008 air surveys in an area about a third of a mile upstream of the Fireside Lakes (poorly shown in the photo above). Rice may exist in other sections as well, but this has not been documented. Watch status is medium-high because annual abundance information is limited.

217. Ten Mile Creek (WBIC 2093100).

Figure 190. Ten Mile Creek, Rusk County, 2008.

Although GLIFWC records related to this site are limited, this bed apparently has existed for a long time; the road to the east is Rice Bed Road, and the area surrounding the bed is a State Wildlife Area. The bed is located about three-quarters of a mile north of CTY D, and three-quarters of a mile east of the west county line. This site is important to waterfowl and waterfowl hunters. Watch status is medium-high because annual abundance information is limited.

St. Croix County

218. Cylon Wildlife Area Flowage (WBIC 5528829)(no photo available).

This flowage, seeded cooperatively by GLIFWC and the DNR, does not show up well on the Surface Water Viewer, but is visible in the 2005 Viewer air photos. It appears to be an enlargement of the small waterbody with the WBIC listed above. Approximately 3 acres of rice was verified in 2009. Watch status is medium-high because annual abundance information is limited.

219. Cylon Wildlife Area Pothole (WBIC 5007807)(no photo available).

This small pothole, which was also seeded, is not marked on the Surface Water Viewer, but is visible in the 2005 Viewer air photos, on the upper reaches of the intermittent stream with the WBIC listed above. DNR staff reported that this site has supported rice, but the pothole was essentially dry during the drought years the current survey was conducted under, and no rice was observed. Based on DNR reports this is considered a rice location at this time, but should be surveyed again when normal water levels return to determine if the rice persisted. Watch status is medium-high because annual abundance information is limited.

Sawyer County

220. Barker Lake (WBIC 2400000).

Figure 191. Barker Lake, NW bay, Sawyer County, 2007.

Barker Lake is one of several lakes on the East Fork of the Chippewa River. The biggest bed (shown above) is on the large bay on the far west side of the lake, where an unnamed creek enters from the west. Rice was also found in smaller amounts on the east end of the lake. While this bed seems to regularly receive some negative impacts from local boaters, the damage so far does not appear to have long-term significance. Harvest is reported with some regularity on Barker, but usually in modest amounts. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

221. Billy Boy Flowage (WBIC 2389700).

Figure 192. Billy Boy Flowage, Sawyer County, 2008.

The Billy Boy is a linear flowage located on the Lac Courte Oreilles Reservation. This water is protected and managed by the LCO Tribe. The best beds are on the north end of this undeveloped flowage. Although this bed likely is harvested, it does not turn up in harvest surveys because it is an on-reservation water. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

222. Blaisdell Lake (WBIC 2402200).

Figure 193. Blaisdell Lake, Sawyer County, 2008.

Blaisdell Lake is a widening of the East Fork of the Chippewa River. In years of high abundance rice can be found over much of the flowage, though density is not usually particularly high. Blaisedell is unusual in that it is one of the first beds in the state to mature, with some seed dropping weeks before other locations. It is not known if this is due to unusual genetics, site conditions, or both, but some have hypothesized that the general northeast-to-southwest orientation of the flowage may play a role by maximizing exposure to the sun during the warmest part of the day.

Although stands are sometimes harvestable, picking pressure tends to be light, as much of the seed has dropped before the typical harvest season is underway. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

223. Chetac Lake (WBIC 2113300).

Figure 194. Lake Chetac at Unnamed Creek, Sawyer, 2009.

The primary rice beds on Lake Chetac are found on Bullpen Bay on the southeast side of the lake where several creeks enter. The Surface Water Viewer considers most of the area shown above as part of Lake Chetac; the WBIC for the unnamed creek which enters here is 2113400. Rice can also be found on Chetac proper at the mouths of Knuteson Creek and Malviney Creek just north of this site, as well as on those creeks themselves, and in a small bed on the very south end of the lake. Watch status Is medium high because annual abundance data is limited.

224. Chippewa River, West Fork (WBIC 2414500).

Figure 195. Chippewa River, West Branch, Sawyer County, 2008.

There are a number of rice beds on the West Branch of the Chippewa River. The largest stands are in the area between Moose Lake and the inlet from Ghost Lake several miles upstream; the north end of this section is shown in the photo

above. Small beds can also be found in the vicinity of Meadow and Partridge Crop Lakes. Harvest is not great on these sites because access is somewhat limited, and because riverine rice tends to be less favored by pickers. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

225. Hunter Lake (WBIC 2400600).

Figure 196. Hunter Lake, Sawyer County, 2009.

Hunter Lake is one of several lakes on the East Fork of the Chippewa River, and is located just a short distance upstream from Barker Lake. The biggest beds occur where the river enters on the east, and along the south-central shore (visible above). While this bed seems to regularly receive some negative impacts from local boaters, the damage does not appear to have long-term significance. Harvest is reported with some regularity on Hunter, but usually in modest amounts. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

226. Knutson Creek (WBIC 2113700).

Figure197. Knutson Creek at Lake Chetac, Sawyer County, 2009.

A substantial bed of rice exists on Knutson Creek just before it enters Lake Chetac in Bullpen Bay. It is unknown if rice exists further upstream. Watch status is medium-high because this site has not been surveyed often and annual abundance data is limited.

227. Malviney Creek (WBIC 2113600).

Figure 198. Malviney Creek at Lake Chetac, Sawyer, 2009.

A fairly large bed of rice exists on Malviney Creek just before it enters Lake Chetac in Bullpen Bay. This is believed to be the only section of the creek supporting rice. Watch status is medium-high because this site has not been surveyed often and annual abundance data is limited.

228. Meadow Lake (WBIC 2424800).

Figure 199. Meadow Lake, Sawyer County, 2009.

A fair bed of rice can be found on the relatively small and remote Meadow Lake. The densest stands generally occur where the Chippewa River enters. Watch status is medium-high because this site has not been surveyed often and annual abundance data is limited.

229. Nelson Lake (WBIC 2704200).

Figure 200. Nelson Lake, Image 1, Sawyer, 2007.

Figure 201. Nelson Lake, Image 2, Sawyer County, 2007.

Nelson Lake is somewhat unusual in that it has a number of distinct stands of rice in different locations on the lake. The areas with the greatest presence include the several patches in bays along the northeast shore, in the narrows northwest of Big Island, and in a bay on the northeast side of Tannings Point. Most of these beds are captured in the 2 photos above. These beds are regularly, but not heavily, harvested. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

230. Osprey Creek (WBIC 5508925)(no photo available).

A small rice bed exists just upstream of where this stream crosses CTY NN. However, the culvert under NN is apparently set too high, and is acting as a dam, and possibly creating the backwaters where the rice is found. This culvert is slated to be lowered, thus this site should be surveyed in the future to determine whether the rice persists or not. (This creek is named Squaw Lake Creek on older maps.) Watch status is medium because of possible loss of bed.

231. Pacwawong Lake (WBIC 2728700).

Figure 202. Pacwawong Lake, Sawyer County, 2006.

Although called a lake on the Surface Water Viewer, locals generally refer to this site as a flowage, or simply Pacwawong. It takes its name from the Ojibwe term meaning “where the river is wide”, a very apt description, as the Namekagon River forms this waterbody. This site receives significant harvest pressure, but harvest data indicates that the pounds harvested per trip is below average, probably due to the combination of high pressure and relatively late maturation.

The designation of this site as a lake or a flowage is not purely academic; if a lake, the site could be date-regulated, which could improve harvest efficiency; if a flowage, date-regulation becomes more complicated because there are several private land owners on the north end of the flowage. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

232. Partridge Crop Lake (WBIC 2424600).

Figure 203. Partridge Crop Lake, Sawyer County, 2008.

Partridge Crop Lake is another widening of the West Fork of the Chippewa River. Beds have been present at this location for decades at least; rice is also found on the river itself both above and below this lake. It has only rarely been reported harvested, but is an excellent stand for wildlife. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

233. Phipps Flowage (WBIC 2727800).

Figure 204. Phipps Flowage, Sawyer County, 2009.

Like Pacwawong, Phipps is another flowage on the Namekagon River. Beds begin approximately where Phipps Springs joins the Namekagon, and continue in patches for about 2 river miles downstream. (There is also rice on Phipps Springs itself just above the flowage.) Phipps is regularly, but not heavily harvested; water levels are frequently low enough to hinder canoe passage. Plants at this site tend to have high numbers of tillers – sometimes 20 or more – perhaps because of the shallow water. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

234. Phipps Springs (WBIC 2728100).

Figure 205. Phipps Springs, Sawyer County, 2009.

Phipps Springs supports rice above where it joins the Phipps Flowage (to the left in the photo). Most of the rice is between Phipps/Mosquito Brook Road and the flowage (to the right in the photo), but small amounts also exist upstream of the road. Watch status is low because of site familiarity, though the culvert under the road at this location is slated for replacement in 2010.

235. Wilson Lake (WBIC 2420000).

Figure 206. Wilson Lake, Sawyer, 2006.

A small rice bed has become well established on Wilson Lake, after a cooperative seeding effort by GLIFWC and the Forest Service. This bed is limited to the far west side of the lake where Wilson Creek enters and exits; it probably will not expand further, being limited by water depth. This is a wilderness lake, and is not easily accessible, the road in having recently been gated some distance from the lake, but this creates a relatively undisturbed area for use by wildlife. Beavers damming the outlet can negatively impact this bed, and some beaver control may be necessary to prevent this. Watch status, other than for beaver control, is low because of site familiarity.

Taylor County

236. Chequamegon Waters Flowage (WBIC 2160700).

Figure 207. Chequamegon Waters Flowage, North end, Taylor County, 2008.

Figure 208. Chequamegon Waters Flowage, at Mouth of Brush Creek, Taylor County, 2008.

Figure 209. Chequamegon Waters Flowage, South end, Taylor County, 2005.

The Chequamegon Waters Flowage is a unique rice water, based on size alone. This site, named Miller Dam Flowage on some maps, was seeded cooperatively by the Forest Service, a local sportspersons group, and GLIFWC. Large beds have become established on the north and south ends of this very large flowage, with some smaller beds in other bays along the east side. It has become an important harvest water because the beds are not only large but relatively far south.

There has been some local displeasure with the beds, especially in the past 3 years, when they were quite abundant as a result of low water levels. An aging aerator system in the lake was recently replaced, and moved to a new location away from the rice beds and in deeper water to address some of the concerns.

Massive summer algae blooms are generally visible in this large, shallow flowage when it is flown over in the late summer; it's possible the rice beds are helping to keep water quality at this site from growing worse by removing some nutrients from the system. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

237. Mondeaux Flowage (WBIC 2193300).

Figure 210. Mondeaux Flowage, Taylor County, 2008.

Mondeaux Flowage was also reportedly seeded, but decades ago. The biggest rice beds are found on the south end of this very linear flowage, but smaller patches can be found in many scattered locations over most of its length. This site is also regularly harvested, but perhaps less so in recent years as the nearby Chequamegon Waters Flowage beds have become well established. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

238. Mondeaux River (WBIC 5524758)(no photo available).

Rice is known to exist on the Mondeaux River in the vicinity of the CTY D Bridge. It may exist in other areas as well, but it was not possible to survey the entire river in this study. Watch status is medium because much of the river has not been adequately surveyed.

239. Mud Lake (WBIC 2165400)(no photo available).

This small lake was investigated because of a 1995 herbarium sample was reported to have been taken here. A small patch of rice (roughly 0.1 acres) was confirmed on this site in 2008, along the west shoreline, slightly north of the lake outlet. (Site was not surveyed in 2009.) It is interesting to see that this small patch of rice has persisted as long as it has, given the apparent lack of any rice beds further up this watershed. Watch status is medium-low.

240. Pershing Wildlife Area Flowages (Monson,2189200; Mravik, 2182600; Shoulder Creek, 2189500).

Figure 211. Monson Flowage, Pershing Wildlife Area, Taylor County, 2009.

Figure 212. Mravik Flowage, Pershing Wildlife Area, Taylor County, 2007.

Figure 213. Shoulder Creek Flowage, Pershing Wildlife Area, Taylor County, 2007.

Rice has been seeded on a number of flowages on the Pershing Wildlife Area, some with success, others not. Sites that currently are considered to support rice include the Monson Flowage (WBIC 2189200) with about 2 acres, the Mravik Flowage (unnamed on the Surface Water Viewer, WBIC 2182600) with 2-3 acres, and the Shoulder Creek Flowage with about 10 acres. The latter site is not on the Surface Water Viewer, but the location can be seen in a drawdown condition in the 2005 air photo layer on an unnamed creek with WBIC 2189500. Watch status on all three sites is low because of site familiarity.

Flowage Number 1 (WBIC 2159100) supported rice for several years, but it seems to have disappeared. Other sites seeded at least once include Holtzers Flowage (WBIC 2189400), Waterfowl (or Redman) Flowage (WBIC 2182800), Witt Flowage (2184100) and Sotak Flowage (2183500). None of these sites are considered rice waters at this time, but should be monitored in the future, or reevaluated for seeding.

241. Unnamed Flowage (WBIC 5524695).

Figure 214. Unnamed Flowage North of Mondeaux Flowage, Taylor, 2008.

This flowage is just north of the Mondeaux Flowage, on an unnamed tributary to the Mondeaux River. Much of the surface area is covered in rice in the year shown, which is thought to represent a good year on this site; the northern part of the flowage is likely too deep for rice. Watch status is medium-high because of a lack of annual abundance information.

Vilas County

242. Allequash Lake (WBIC 2332400).

Figure 215. Allequash Lake, Vilas County, 2006.

Allequash Lake has a long history of supporting rice beds, and harvest on this lake is date-regulated. Some harvesters prefer this lake because of the large grain size it produces. This lake is also one that has been monitored regularly for beaver impacts as part of Ron Eckstein's DNR management efforts. Most of the rice on this 2-lobed lake is in the southern lobe or in the channel between the 2 lobes, but a large bed also exists in the northern-most bay (not visible in the photo above). This lake was once used in a study on the impacts of boat traffic on rice, since motor boats are only allowed on 1 of the lake's lobes. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

243. Apeekwa Lake (WBIC 2269400).

Figure 216. Apeekwa Lake, Vilas County, 2008.

Field crews confirmed the presence of approximately 5 acres of sparse rice on the north end of Apeekwa Lake, near the Pine Creek inlet. This is to the far right in the photo, but the stand is too mixed with other vegetation to show up well from the air. Watch status is high because of lack of annual abundance information.

244. Aurora Creek (WBIC 1592600).

Figure 217. Aurora Creek, Vilas County, 2007.

Although the rice on Aurora Lake is well known, the presence on the creek is often overlooked. The photo above shows most of the riverine bed on Aurora Creek south of Aurora Lake, which is visible in the top of the photo. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

245. Aurora Lake (WBIC 1592700).

Figure 218. Aurora Lake, Vilas County, 2006.

Shallow Aurora Lake can produce rice over much of its surface in good years. It is located in a State Natural Area. Aurora is heavily picked, and the harvest is date-regulated. However, ripening in this lake is usually quite uneven, so an informational kiosk has been erected at the landing to encourage pickers to voluntarily limit their picking to ripe areas. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

246. Bear River (WBIC 2315200).

Figure 219. Bear River, Vilas County, 2007.

While the rice beds on the Bear River on the Lac du Flambeau Reservation in Iron County are well known, it is sometimes overlooked that this river crosses the Vilas County line, and supports several acres of rice on the widening above Flambeau Lake in Vilas County. This site is also within the reservation boundaries, and is protected and managed by the LDF Tribe. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

247. Boot Creek (WBIC 1618700) and Unnamed Creek (WBIC 1618800).

Figure 220. Boot Creek and Unnamed Creek, Vilas, 2006.

The rice on Boot Creek tends to be overshadowed by the beds on the lakes adjacent to it. While this photo was taken primarily of Frost Lake, it also depicts the rice growing on the unnamed creek that drains it into Boot Creek, and on Boot Creek itself. Boot Creek also supports rice in other areas, including the area above Rice Lake. Other sections are not well documented given the limited navigability of this creek. Watch status medium-low.

248. Boot Lake (WBIC 1619100)(no photo available).

Rice was reported on DNR aquatic plant surveys, and confirmed by Wildlife Manager Ron Eckstein. Due to reliability of sources, GLIFWC did not further verify, but it not surprising that there would be rice on this lake given its presence on Boot Creek, and the nearby Frost and Rice Lakes in this same drainage. However, the amount of rice present annually should be better verified; high watch status.

249. Devine Lake (WBIC 1540500).

Figure 221. Devine Lake, Vilas County, 2006.

Devine Lake has a long history of supporting rice, and harvest on the lake is date-regulated. However, beds in recent years have been fairly small, and the lake is difficult to access, so harvest has been minimal. Watch status is medium because of possible bed decline.

250. Frost Lake (WBIC 1618900).

Figure 222. Frost Lake, Vilas County, 2007.

Frost Lake has a long history of supporting rice, and harvest on the site is date-regulated. However, the bed tends to be very mixed with other vegetation, and access to the lake is primarily through private property, so reported harvest has been fairly small. This is a great wildlife lake, capable of supporting rice across much of its surface. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

251. Grassy Lake (WBIC 2343900).

Figure 223. Grassy Lake, Vilas County, 2009.

DNR Wildlife Manager Ron Eckstein reported seeding this lake in recent years, but it is not clear at this time if this effort has produced a self-sustaining bed. Recommend keeping on the list of recognized rice waters at this time, under a medium-high watch status until better confirmation is established.

252. Irving Lake (WBIC 2340900).

Figure 224. Irving Lake, Vilas County, 2003.

Irving Lake is an important rice water, whose harvest is date-regulated. In rare years rice covers a significant portion of the lake, but dense beds are usually limited to some shoreline patches and the far east end. Some ricers like the large grain size it produces, but reports of smut are also above average for this lake. Irving has sometimes been accused by residents of Ballard Lake (just downstream) of causing occasional low oxygen conditions in that lake, but an investigation funded by the DNR did not support this contention. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

253. Island Lake (WBIC 2334400) and Unnamed Water (WBIC 5505819).

Figure 225. Island Lake, Unnamed Water Body, and Rice Creek, Vilas County, 2003.

Figure 226. Island Lake, South, Vilas County, 2009.

Rice in this water system can be confusing to define. Large beds occur on the southeast portion of Island Lake. On the northeast end of the lake there are also substantial beds where Rice Creek enters. However, the Surface Water Viewer considers a separate waterbody to exist between the Creek and Island Lake; this is an unnamed site, with WBIC 5505819. Most of the northern rice is actually on this unnamed site or Rice Creek which flows into it, with very little on Island Lake proper.

These sites are important for harvesters, although harvest taken from the unnamed waterbody is currently being reported as coming from the creek or the lake. Sturgeon restoration efforts being considered that might alter operation of the Rest Lake Dam could influence water levels on this lake as well; close monitoring is suggested, but it is not thought that the dam operation changes currently being considered will be detrimental to rice. (Also see Rice Creek.) Watch status for both sites is low because of site familiarity.

254. Lac Vieux Desert (WBIC 1631900).

Figure 227. Lac Vieux Desert, Rice Bay, Vilas County, 2007.

Figure 228. Lac Vieux Desert, Misery Bay, Vilas County, 2007.

Lac Vieux Desert (LVD) is located on the Wisconsin/Michigan border. Historically, rice reportedly grew in some areas on the Wisconsin side of the lake, but it is currently limited to a large bed in Rice Bay, and a smaller bed in Misery Bay, both located on the Michigan side of the lake. The Rice Bay beds represent the largest rice beds in Michigan's Upper

Peninsula. The manoomin beds on LVD are of tremendous significance to the LVD Tribe, whose reservation includes frontage on the lake, and who are active partners in the protection and management of this water with a number of other entities, including the Ottawa and Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forests, both of which also have frontage on the lake.

Although rice is currently found only on the Michigan side of the lake, it is worth listing here because LVD is the headwaters of the Wisconsin River, and the operation of the dam, located on the Wisconsin side, drives the amount of rice present on the lake. Management of the dam is controlled under a FERC license, and recent modifications to the license have been responsible to the recovery of the Rice Bay beds, which had largely disappeared in the 1950s due to high water. Invasive control efforts on the Wisconsin side could also potentially impact the entire lake. Watch status is high because water level management on this site is still potentially subject to change pending the success of on-going restoration efforts.

255. Little Portage Lake (WBIC 1629200).

Figure 229. Little Portage Lake, Vilas County, 2000.

Although this bed is known to have existed for a long time, GLIFWC has surveyed Little Portage Lake only infrequently. The bed appears to be limited to the north bay of the lake, but data is lacking to determine how extensive this bed might be in a good year. Limited anecdotal information suggests this location might be in decline. Watch status is medium-high due to a lack of annual abundance information

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256. Little Rice Lake (WBIC 2338900).

Figure 230. Little Rice Lake, Vilas County, 2009.

Little Rice Lake is found just outside of Boulder Junction. As the name suggests, it has a long history of supporting rice, and harvest on the lake is date-regulated. However, because it is a fairly small lake, and can be difficult to access when lake levels are low, harvest reports are not significant. Rice can be found nearly anywhere on this lake in years with a good crop. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

257. Lost Creek (WBIC 1593300).

Figure 231. Lost Creek, Vilas County, 2008.

A substantial rice bed exists on Lost Creek, beginning several hundred yards north of Big St. Germain Drive (a tiny portion of which is visible in the very lower left of the photo) and continuing north for approximately half a mile. A smaller bed of a few acres is located about a half mile below Lost Lake. GLIFWC only recently became aware of these beds, and their

long-term history is unknown to us, but there have been reports they may have been seeded by a private individual. Watch status is meium-high until additional annual abundance information can be gathered.

258. Lower Ninemile Lake (WBIC 1605200).

Figure 232. Lower Ninemile Lake, Vilas County, 2007.

Rice beds on Lower Ninemile Lake appear to be increasing in recent years, perhaps in association with a period of below-average precipitation. There are differing reports of how long this rice has been present, and whether it was seeded or became established naturally, but it does seem clear that the abundance is much greater than it had been in the past.

This site is being discovered by harvesters, and is growing in significance in harvest reports. Some local landowners are not pleased with the rice presence, and have expressed some interest in controlling it and/or removing it in areas to maintain boating access. It might be valuable to hold a rice harvesting/finishing seminar for local landowners, to encourage their stewardship of this resource. Watch status is medium-high because of the evolving nature of the beds at the present time.

259. Manitowish River (WBIC 2324400).

Figure 233. Manitowish River, Vilas County, 2007.

Rice beds exist in several sections of the Manitowish River. The most significant beds in Vilas County occur between the tributary from Little Rice Lake upstream to the area below the Fish Trap dam (shown above). This site receives more harvesting pressure than most river sites in the state. Small patches of rice likely exist in other areas, including the last river mile before the Iron County line. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

260. Mann Creek Flowage (WBIC 5508112).

Figure 234. Mann Creek Flowage, Vilas County, 2007.

The Suface Water Viewer currently shows Mann Lake (WBIC 2332000) as a rice water; it is not and should be removed. Mann Creek Flowage is unnamed on the Surface Water Viewer, but it is located on Mann Creek between Mann Lake and Trout Lake. This site, seeded by the DNR, supports abundant rice when water levels are sufficient. Site has had occasional problems with beavers impacting water levels. Watch status is medium-high until additional annual abundance information can be gathered.

261. Middle Sugarbush Lake (WBIC 2317700)(no photo available).

The Sugarbush chain of lakes (Upper, Middle and Lower)is located on the Lac du Flambeau Reservation, and is protected and managed by the LDF Tribe. This chain has been included in the list of rice waters because it is included in the list of waters whose harvest is date-regulated. Anecdotal information suggests rice may have once occurred in multiple spots on the chain, but the 2008 survey found small beds only on the western part of Middle Sugarbush, and we were unable to survey the site in 2009. The Middle Lake has also been seeded in some recent years by the LDF tribe. Suggest that only Middle Sugarbush be considered a rice lake at this time, and it be given a high watch status.

262. Mud Creek (WBIC 2341100).

Figure 235. Mud Creek, Vilas County, 2008.

The section of Mud Creek supporting rice is located just southeast of Eagle River, just upstream from where the creek passes under HWY 70/17. This bed seems to be doing well, though damage from recreational boaters is sometimes apparent from the air. The site is infrequently harvested, perhaps due to relatively small seed size. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

263. Mud Lake (WBIC 1619400).

Figure 236. Mud Lake, Vilas County, 2006.

This lake, known locally as Mickey's Mud Lake, has produced very little rice in the last decade, but frequently had good stands in the 1990s - sometimes nearly covering the lake. The cause of this decline is unknown, but it is likely related to hydrology. The County has expressed interest in possibly seeding this site or restoring it in some other way. It should be a high priority for restoration efforts. Harvest on the lake is date-regulated. Watch status is high because of restoration need.

264. Nixon Creek (WBIC 2341100).

The most significant rice beds on Nixon Creek occur just downstream from Nixon Lake. These beds often do well even when the beds on adjacent Nixon Lake do poorly. They are occasionally harvested alone or in conjunction with the lake. While the river is technically not date-regulated, people often seem to comply with the date postings for the lake when ricing this section of the creek. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

Figure 237. Nixon Creek, Vilas County, 2001

265. Nixon Lake (WBIC 2341200).

Figure 238. Nixon Lake, Vilas County, 2008.

Nixon Lake has a long history of supporting rice, reflected in part in that harvest here is date-regulated. However, recent crops had been quite poor until Ron Eckstein, DNR, worked to replace the culvert on Nixon Creek just below the lake. This appears to have restored the hydrology of the area, and a good bed has appeared for the first time in recent history on the lake at the Partridge Creek inlet. Harvest from the lake and creek is reported more frequently than might be expected given their size. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

266. Palmer Lake (WBIC 2962900).

Figure 239. Palmer Lake, Vilas County, 2009.

While GLIFWC does not have a lot of familiarity with this site, Palmer Lake has shown up occasionally on harvest surveys, and a bed can be found on the large bay on the west end of the lake. There are also anecdotal reports that a small amount of rice can be found on the northwest end of the lake near the mouth of the Ontonagon River. Watch status is medium-high until additional annual abundance information can be gathered.

267. Partridge Lake (WBIC 2341500).

Figure 240. Partridge Lake, West, Vilas County, 2007.

Figure 241. Partridge Lake, Northcentral, Vilas County, 2005.

Figure 242. Partridge Lake, East, Vilas County, 2007.

Partridge Lake is rather unusual in having 3 distinct areas of rice: on the east end, on the north central shore near the single property owner, and, generally the largest, on the west end outlet. This lake may occasionally be negatively impacted by beaver. The site is of some harvesting significance, but it seems to be under-reported in the tribal harvest figures. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

268. Pickerel Creek (WBIC 16619200)(no photo available).

According to DNR Wildlife Manager Ron Eckstein, rice exists on this creek where it exits Pickerel Lake. Given the reliability of the source, GLIFWC did not verify this bed, but the 2005 air photos on the Surface Water Viewer suggest rice is fairly abundant from Pickerel Lake to Pickerel Lake Road to the east. However, watch status should be high until additional abundance information can be gathered.

269. Plum Lake (WBIC 1592400).

Figure 243. Plum Lake, adjacent to West Plum Lake, Vilas County, 2008.

Plum Lake supports a substantial bed of rice on the far west end of the lake, in the bay adjacent to West Plum Lake. This bed has been quite consistent, even in years when the bed on West Plum has been poor. As is evident in the photo, some local landowners have tended to remove excessive amounts of rice from in front of their property, far more than is needed to maintain navigation access. Although harvest on West Plum is date-regulated, harvest on Plum technically is not, though it seems like many local ricers apply the date-regulation to both waters. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

270. Rest Lake (WBIC 2327500).

Figure 244. Rest Lake, Vilas County, 2008.

There are 2 primary rice beds on Rest Lake: one the northeast part of the lake where Papoose Creek enters, and the other on the northwest bay (visible to the bottom of the photo above). Extensive removal by adjacent landowners has taken place almost annually on the northeast bay, creating a patchwork of open channels, but rice has continued to persist where not actively removed. The DNR has not been able to prevent this removal because this "lake" is actually a

flowage. Lack of development around the other bay has left that bed intact. (The reddish color of the rice in this bay in the photo above is likely due to Brown Spot disease.)

Currently, some modification of the operation of the Rest Lake Dam is being considered for the benefit of sturgeon spawning in the Manitowish River downstream. While it is not anticipated that negative impacts will occur from the changes currently being considered, watch status should be medium-high if any modifications be made until it is shown there are no negative impacts.

271. Rice Creek (WBIC 2334500) and Unnamed (Duck) Lake (WBIC 2334800).

Figure 245. Rice Creek, West of Round Lake, Vilas County, 2007.

Figure 246. Rice Creek, North of Big Lake, and Unnamed (Duck) Lake, Vilas County, 2007.

Figure 247. Rice Creek and Unnamed Waterbody North of Island Lake, Vilas County, 2007.

As the name suggests, Rice Creek supports significant amounts of rice. However, the section currently marked on the Surface Water Viewer (above Round Lake) is not known to support appreciable amounts of rice except very close to its mouth on Round Lake. The section between Round Lake and Big Lake supports substantial beds, and included along this section is a small, unnamed (Duck) lake, visible in the upper right of Figure 242. Rice is also abundant on the section between CTY K and the unnamed waterbody above Island Lake. (Also see Island Lake/Unnamed Waterbody.) Watch status for both sites is low because of site familiarity.

272. Rice Lake (WBIC 1618600).

Figure 248. Rice Lake, Vilas County, 2006.

As the name suggests, Rice Lake has a long history of supporting rice, and harvest on the site is date-regulated. However, Rice Lake has not turned up in harvest surveys as frequently as might be expected from its location just outside of Eagle River, perhaps because this site reportedly tends to mature very unevenly. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

273. Round Lake (WBIC 2334900).

Figure 249. Round Lake, Vilas County, 2006.

There is consistently a bed of rice on Round Lake in the vicinity of the Rice Creek inlet. Good beds also occur on the outlet, but these are largely confined to the creek rather than the lake proper. (See Rice Creek.) Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

274. Spring Creek (WBIC 2964700).

Figure 250. Spring Creek, Vilas County, 2001.

There are two Spring Creeks in Vilas County; the one currently designated a rice water on the Surface Water Viewer (WBIC 5509522) does not support rice; this one does, but it is believed to be limited to the area between Spring and Mamie Lakes. This bed seems to show more annual variability in production than most riverine sites. Some years the rice also appears to be masked by mats of duckweed in air photos. Watch status is medium-low, but some additional information on annual abundance would be beneficial.

275. Squaw Creek (WBIC 2271200).

Figure 251. Squaw Creek, Vilas County, 2008.

Squaw Creek is located in the southwest corner of Vilas County; it also continues on for a short distance in Oneida and then Price counties. Rice is scattered in patches of varying size over the last 3 or so river miles before leaving the county, a stretch that is in a State Natural Area. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

276. Trout River (WBIC 2329500).

Figure 252. Trout River, Vilas County, 2006.

Rice is found in many sections of the Trout River, including the area above Wild Rice Lake (shown in part above), between Wild Rice and Alder Lakes, and between Alder and Manitowish Lakes. The exact locations of smaller beds are not well documented, but this system appears to hold rice in most areas with suitable habitat. Many of the best beds are within the Lac du Flambeau Reservation, and are protected and managed by the tribe. Watch status is medium-low, but some additional information on distribution, especially below Manitowish Lake, would be useful.

277. Upper Ninemile Flowage (WBIC 1608300).

Figure 253. Upper Ninemile Flowage, Vilas County, 2006.

Upper Ninemile Flowage has supported rice for decades, although it is unclear just when rice became established on this site. It is heavily harvested. The most common negative impacts may come from some of the local landowners, who reportedly sometimes sandbag the outlet in an effort to raise water levels. Most of the lakeshore is in National Forest ownership. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

278. West Ellerson Lake (WBIC 2331000)(no photo available).

West Ellerson Lake is on the list of lakes whose harvest is date-regulated, and historical records indicate that this lake, located just inside the east boundary of the Lac du Flambeau Indian Reservation, has supported rice. However, there is no public access to this water, and we were unable to confirm the presence of rice on this lake. We suggest leaving the lake on the list of recognized rice waters with a high watch status.

279. West Plum Lake (WBIC 1592500).

Figure 254. West Plum Lake, Vilas County, 2005.

West Plum Lake might be considered the far western lobe of Plum Lake, separated by the CTY N Bridge, but each has its own WBIC code. This lake has a long history of supporting rice, over a substantial portion of its surface in optimal years, and harvest on the site is date-regulated. For most of the past decade, this lake has not done very well, better beds being located on the adjacent portions of Plum Lake. In 2009, however, West Plum Lake showed some rebound in abundance. Watch status is medium because of possible decline.

280. Wild Rice Lake (WBIC 2329800).

Figure 255. Wild Rice Lake at Inlet, Vilas County, 2004.

The best rice beds on Wild Rice Lake are found in the vicinity of the Trout River inlet (shown) and outlet; little if any rice is known to exist on other parts of the lake. The name suggests rice may have once been more plentiful, but GLIFWC is unfamiliar with any distribution other than as described above. It may be that some beds were lost when water levels were raised downstream with the Rest Lake Dam. Watch status is low because of site familiarity.

281. Wisconsin River (WBIC 1179900).

Figure 256. Wisconsin River, Vilas County, 2006.

GLIFWC is unfamiliar with the long-term history of this site; it was first observed independently by Ron Eckstein, DNR, and GLIFWC staff several years ago. This site was first listed as Watersmeet Lake, but upon further review of the location of the bed, it became clear that the Surface Water Viewer considers this location part of the Wisconsin River just north of Watersmeet Lake.

Washburn County

282. Balsam Lake (WBIC 2112800).

Figure 257. Balsam Lake, Washburn County, 2008.

A bed of rice is found on Balsam Lake on the channel that runs along the east side of the lake, which eventually terminates in a wider bay north of HWY 48. Little if any rice exists on the larger, primary lobe of the lake. This lake has a medium watch status because it has been surveyed relatively infrequently and additional abundance information would be useful.

283. Bear Creek (WBIC 2106200).

Figure 258. Bear Creek, Washburn County, 2008.

Several acres of rice have been documented on Bear Creek between Kekegama and Bear Lakes by the St. Croix Tribe. Some of this is visible in the photo above just north of Bear Lake, which is partially visible at the lower left; other patches are too small to show up well from the air. This creek has a medium watch status because it has been surveyed relatively infrequently and additional abundance information would be useful.

284. Bergen Creek (WBIC 2694300).

Figure 259. Bergen Creek, Washburn County, 2008.

We investigated this site and the adjacent sections of the Totagatic River after receiving reports it had been seeded by a private landowner. Rice was found in the last quarter mile of this creek before it enters into the Totagatic. The landowner indicated the bed varies in size from year to year, but appears to be well established. This creek has a medium watch status because it has been surveyed relatively infrequently and additional abundance information would be useful.

285. Black Brook Flowage (WBIC 2698300).

Figure 260. Black Brook Flowage, Washburn County, 2008.

Black Brook Flowage was successfully seeded cooperatively by GLIFWC and the DNR. This is an undeveloped, publicly owned flowage. Due to its relative remoteness, the bed benefits wildlife more than harvesters, though harvest has occasionally been reported. Watch status is medium low, but some additional abundance information would be helpful.

286. Boyer Creek (WBIC 2105300).

Figure 261. Boyer Creek, Washburn County, 2008.

Rice is thought to exist on several sections of Boyer Creek; the one shown above is just west of Shallow Lake Road, west of Bear Lake. Rice also exists near the mouth on Bear Lake, and likely in other sections as well. In the photo above, the bed is so dense it is difficult to discern the width the creek at this area. Watch status is medium due to a lack of annual abundance information.

87. Casey Creek Flowage (WBIC 2708800).

Figure 262. Casey Creek Flowage, Washburn County, 2008.

The Casey Creek Flowage was successfully seeded cooperatively by GLIFWC and the DNR. The bed of rice here is limited to just a few acres, but has been self-sustaining for a number of years. It is somewhat difficult to identify the bed in the photo above, but the primary area is right in the middle of the image, where the meander of open water is obliterated by the rice stand. This flowage is on public land, and while the stand is a bit small for harvesting, it enhances wildlife use of this area. Watch status is low due to site familiarity.

288. Chippanazie Flowage (WBIC 2722400).

Figure 263. Chippanazia Flowage, Washburn County, 2002.

Also occasionally referred to as the Cranberry Flowage, this site tends to have a relatively sparse bed, primarily on the east end of the flowage. It has not been important to harvesters, but does make the site more valuable to wildlife. Flowage is surrounded by county land. The bed seems to be declining in recent years, and might benefit from some water level management, such as an overwinter drawdown. This should be a medium-high watch site for both rice presence, and potential management efforts.

289. Dilly Lake (WBIC 2712800).

Figure 264. Dilly Lake, Washburn County, 2007.

Dilly Lake has long supported rice, and it is generally harvested whenever stands are good. The biggest bed occurs on the east side of the lake near the Potato Creek inlet, but a narrow band can nearly ring the lake some years. Rice also grows along Potato Creek where it leaves the lake. Watch status is low due to site familiarity.

290. Gilmore Lake (WBIC 2695800).

Figure 265. Gilmore Lake, Washburn County, 2000.

Gilmore Lake has long supported rice, but the bed is limited to the north end of the lake, near the outlet to the Totagatic River. Although this bed often appears to be harvestable, and harvest at the site is date-regulated, it rarely turns up in harvest surveys, perhaps because it is a long paddle from the public access to the rice bed. Interestingly, the outlet reportedly sometimes acts as an inlet; during flood conditions on the Totagatic River, flow has reportedly reversed, causing the level of Gilmore Lake to jump. This is probably detrimental to the rice beds when it occurs. Watch status is low due to site familiarity.

291. Little Mud Lake (WBIC 2107100).

Figure 266. Little Mud Lake, Washburn County, 2008.

Little Mud Lake has long supported rice, and the harvest on this site is date-regulated. However, for some reason harvest from this site seems to be under-reported. Rice can be found around most of the shoreline in good years, but this band is much thicker on the northwest side of the lake. Watch status is low due to site familiarity.

292. Long Lake (WBIC 2106800).

Figure 267. Long Lake, West of Rice Island, Washburn County, 2009.

Figure 268. Long Lake, South, Washburn County, 2009.

Long Lake has supported rice beds for a very long time, and harvest on the site is date-regulated. Rice occurs in several locations, but the biggest bed is usually west of Rice Island. Although rice accounts for a fairly small portion of the

surface area of the lake, these beds are quite important ecologically, and are frequently harvested. Watch status is medium-low, but some greater information on the annual abundance of the smaller beds on this lake would be useful.

293. Mackay Springs (WBIC 2717100)(no photo available).

This site was a late addition to the list of rice waters, being reported in 2009 by DNR staff. GLIFWC only found about 50 plants on a 2009 survey, but it is unknown how much is supported in average years, (though the bed will never be very large given the small size of this lake). This site is on public land. Watch status high until additional annual abundance information is collected.

294. Mud Lake (WBIC 2107700).

Figure 269. Mud Lake, North, Washburn County, 2007.

Figure 270. Mud Lake, South, Washburn County, 2007.

Mud Lake has a long history of supporting rice, and harvest on this site is date-regulated. However, like nearby Little Mud Lake, harvest for this site seems to be under-reported. There are 2 primary beds on this linear lake, one on the northern narrows that connect this lake to Long Lake, and the other at the south end shallows. Watch status is low due to site familiarity.

295. Potato Creek (WBIC 2712200).

Figure 271. Potato Creek, Washburn County, 1992.

Potato Creek has not been surveyed in its entirety for rice, but given the presence of rice on its headwater, Potato Lake, it's likely that rice could be found in most areas with suitable habitat. Substantial beds are well documented at the inlet, and especially outlet, of Dilly Lake (shown above). Further downstream, Potato Creek joins Little MacKay Creek 1-2 miles above the Trego Flowage. While the Surface Water Viewer considers the water below this juncture to be Little MacKay

Creek, many locals consider it part of the Potato. Regardless of name, this section is also known to support rice (see Little MacKay Creek for more information). Watch status is low due to site familiarity.

296. Potato Lake (WBIC 2714500).

Figure 272. Potato Lake, Washburn County, 2008.

Potato Lake has long supported rice beds. Harvest is reported regularly, but in relatively small amounts. The primary bed is on the south end of the lake (visible above), but a much smaller bed usually can be found in the very small bay on the northwest end of the lake. There have occasionally been reports of excessive rice removal by some landowners on the south end of the lake, and complaints about this from others on the lake who value the rice. Watch status is low due to site familiarity.

297. Rice Lake (WBIC 2696000).

Figure 273. Rice Lake, Washburn County, 2007.

As the name suggests, Rice Lake has a long history of supporting rice beds. Harvest on this lake is date-regulated, and in the past it has been an important site for harvesters. However, the private resort on this lake which previously offered an access point was bought out, and the private access closed. The only remaining access is via a fairly long and difficult trip along Shell Creek. As a result, public harvest has dropped, and it would be preferable to remove this lake from the list of date-regulated waters since it is difficult to monitor and post.

The primary rice bed on this water is on the northeast end, where Shell Creek enters and exits; this stand is essentially shared with Shell Creek itself. Smaller amounts of rice also occur in scattered areas on other parts of this largely undeveloped lake. Watch status is low due to site familiarity.

298. Rocky Ridge Creek (WBIC 2707200, 2706200).

Figure 274. Rocky Ridge Creek, Washburn County, 2007.

This is another site where confusion appears to exist regarding the name of this creek. While local usage and most maps refer to this as Rocky Ridge, the Surface Water Viewer considers it unnamed, or McKenzie Creek. Regardless of naming, rice is found on the sections of this waterbody identified by the WBICs provided above. (Note these numbers have been modified from earlier listings.) Although not particularly obvious in the photo, rice is found in abundance on Rocky Ridge Creek over most of the section shown above. This is roughly the final 2.5 miles of this creek before it crosses into Burnett County. Described another way, rice can be found on most of the creek below the crossing of Fox Road to the county line. Watch status medium until additional annual abundance information is gathered.

299. Shell Creek (WBIC 2695900).

Figure 275. Shell Creek, Washburn County, 2006.

Shell Creek enters and exits Rice Lake in the area shown above. Whether the rice is considered to exist primarily on the lake or the creek depends on interpretation, but it is probably best to include both water bodies on the list of recognized rice waters. See Rice Lake for additional information. Watch status is low due to site familiarity.

300. Spooner Lake (WBIC 2685200)(no photo available).

The presence of rice on this large lake is very limited. Kathy Bartilson, DNR, reported a small bed at the Crystal Brook inlet area in 2008, and a DNR Integrated Sensitive Area Survey Report from 2000 reported small beds in 2 locations: Site E on the south shore, and Site H along the eastern shore. These are relatively undeveloped areas of the lake. The beds are too small to appear well in aerial photos.

Interest in expanding the presence of rice on the lake has been expressed by some local landowners, but this opportunity has not been explored in depth. This may be possible, but might require some modifications of typical water level management regimes on the lake. Watch status medium due to limited abundance information.

301. Spring Lake (WBIC 2691200).

Figure 276. Spring Lake, Washburn County, 2006.

Spring Lake has a long history of supporting rice, and harvest on this site is date-regulated. Spring Lake has had a somewhat complicated management history, and rice abundance has fluctuated more widely than on most sites. Abundance seemed to decline after the natural outlet of the lake was changed; it was moved east by the DNR towards some springs in the lake in hopes that cooler water would flow out for the benefit of trout on the outlet. This may have disturbed the natural circulation of water and nutrients in the lake.

The St. Croix Tribe has worked to restore the natural lake outlet, and reduce some of the competing vegetation that became established on the lake in the years the rice did poorly. The lake responded with some spectacular crops (such as the one shown above) but the crop has also essentially failed in the last 2 years, so the long-term health of this stand remains in some question. Watch status is high because of the great variability of production in recent years.

302. Totagatic River (WBIC 2689800)(no photo available).

We investigated this river in the vicinity the Bergen Creek inlet after receiving reports that Bergen had been seeded by a private individual. We were unable to access this site from the ground in 2008, but found an access in 2009, and found several small beds of rice scattered on the Totogatic River, beginning near the Bergen inlet, and continuing downstream for roughly half a mile. These beds are not apparent from the air because of their small size and tree canopy along the river.

While most of the length of the Totagatic River was not surveyed for rice, Totagatic Lake, the headwaters for this river in Bayfield County, has long supported substantial beds, and it is likely that rice occurs in other sections with suitable habitat. Watch status medium-low because of the minor amount of rice thought to exist.

303. Tranus Lake (WBIC 2721600).

Figure 277. Tranus Lake, Washburn County, 2009.

Tranus Lake has a long history of supporting rice, and harvest on the lake is date-regulated. The crop in the early 1990s was generally poor, but has improved in the last few years due to careful beaver control on the outlet stream by APHIS staff. The 2009 crop was the best in many years, though some of these beds are still too thin to show up well in air photos. However, a significant portion of the total surface of the lake had rice present. This is a site where beaver management can be critical, because the lake is normally on the high side of suitable water depths; even a small increase in lake depth due to a beaver dam on the outlet can make most of the lake unsuitable. Watch status, other than for beaver impacts, is low due to site familiarity.

304. Trego Flowage (WBIC 2712000).

Figure 278. Trego Lake, Washburn County, 2009.

Significant rice beds exist on Trego Lake (really a flowage), and they seems to be expanding in recent years, perhaps due to the natural accumulation of sediments at the primary inlets (the Namekagon River and Little Mackay/Potato Creeks) on the east end of the flowage. Rice is largely limited to this area of this long flowage. (The Surface Water Viewer currently depicts the west end of the flowage, rather than this area on the east end, as a rice water.) Harvest reports have been increasing as ricers become more aware of this location.

The lake association has recently received permits to conduct some dredging near the rice beds to maintain a navigation channel. This action should be monitored, but if the permit restrictions are adhered to, the impacts on the rice bed are expected to be minimal. Watch status medium-high because of the apparent expansion of this bed in recent years.

305. Whalen Lake (WBIC 2715900).

Figure 279. Whalen Lake, South end, Washburn County, 2005.

The south end outlet of Whalen Lake supports the harvestable stand of rice shown above. While this site might be interpreted to be part of Whalen Creek, the Surface Water Viewer considers this part of Whalen Lake. Concern about the protection of this bed was raised recently by local landowners when the land on the east side of this section (to the bottom in the photo above) was recently subdivided into several small parcels. No construction has occurred to date on these parcels, but it will be worth monitoring this site to document any impacts which might occur, thus the site was given a medium watch status.

306. Yellow River (WBIC 2681600, 2670300).

Figure 280. Yellow River, East of Spooner, Washburn County, 2009.

Figure 281. Yellow River, above green Valley Road, Washburn County, 2009.

Figure 282. Yellow River, above Hector Dam, Washburn County, 2009.

The Yellow River has rice beds in several locations in Washburn County. The eastern-most occurs just east of Spooner, and west of where the Yellow River passes under HWY 70, on what is generally referred to as part of the Yellow River Flowage, near the junction with Beaver Brook. Rice beds at this location reportedly declined following an extensive drawdown on the flowage, but abundance in 2009 was better than in other recent years, so the bed may be recovering on its own.

The other beds are located west of Spooner, over a section that begins about a river mile above the Green Valley Road Bridge, and continuing to the Hector Dam Road Bridge. Likely, there are small beds scattered in other locations as well, in addition to the beds further down stream in Burnett County.

Watch status is medium for the site east of Spooner, since abundance on this site seems highly variable in recent years; the beds west of Spooner have a medium-low status because they have been monitored closely by the St. Croix Tribe in recent years as part of the Shell Lake diversion studies; should that water diversion be re-activated, it may merit watching these beds more closely.

SITES CONSIDERED OR INVESTIGATED NOT CURRENTLY CONSIDERED TO BE RICE WATERS

(Sites marked with an * are waters on the existing "Act 117" list of rice waters.)

ASHLAND

1. Hoffman Lake (WBIC 2291800).

BARRON

2. Beaver Dam Lake (WBIC 2081200).
3. Chetek Lake (WBIC 2094000).
4. HWY T Wildlife Mgmt. Area Flowage (WBIC 5006059)
5. Montanis Lake (WBIC 2103200).
6. *Red Cedar Lake (WBIC 2109600).
7. Tuscobia Lake (WBIC 2104300).
8. Upper Turtle Lake (WBIC 2079800).

BAYFIELD

9. Cranberry Lake (WBIC 2741700).
10. *Cranberry River (WBIC 2879800).
11. * Frog Bay (on Lake Superior)
12. *White River (WBIC 2892500).

BURNETT

13. Culbertson Creek (WBIC 2672900).
14. *Dike 2 Flowage (WBIC 2644900).
15. *Dueholm Flowage (WBIC 2637200).
16. *Fish Lake (WBIC 2636500).
17. Green Lake (WBIC 2467200).
18. Hanscom Lake (WBIC 2674000).
19. Pokegama Lake (WBIC2657200).
20. Reed Lake (WBIC 2648100).
21. *Trade Lake (WBIC 2638700, 2639300).
22. *Webb Lake (2705400).

CHIPPEWA

23. Wissota Lake (WBIC 2152800).

DOUGLAS

24. Brule Area Small Ponds (No WBIC codes available)
25. Unnamed (Olson Meadows) Flowage (WBIC 5502607).

FLORENCE

26. Halsey Lake (WBIC 679300).
27. Little Porcupine Lake (WBIC 675000).
28. Robago Lake (WBIC 674100).

FOREST

29. Bog Brook Flowage (WBIC 375900).
30. Briss Lake (WBIC 689900).
31. *Indian Lake (WBIC 478000).
32. *Knowles Creek (WBIC 473400).
33. Lily Lake (WBIC 376900).
34. Lilypad Lake (WBIC 683200).
35. Little Riley Lake (WBIC 557800).
36. Peshtigo River, South Branch (WBIC 579500).
37. Pickerel Lake (WBIC 388100).
38. Pine Lake (WBIC 406900).
39. *Revolver Lake (WBIC 561600).
40. Roberts Lake (WBIC 378400).
41. Shoe Lake (WBIC 376600).
42. Skunk Lake (WBIC 199100).

IRON

43. Deer Lake (WBIC 1844100).
44. Hay Creek Flowage (WBIC 2260100).
45. Rice Lake Creek (WBIC 2264900).
46. Rice Lake (WBIC2265000).
47. Spider Lake (WBIC 2306300).
48. Springstead Creek (WBIC 2263500).
49. Turtle River (WBIC 2297900).

LANGLADE

50. Enterprise Lake (WBIC 1579700).
51. Lily River (WBIC 370900).
52. Lily River, East Branch (WBIC 371300).
53. Rolling Stone Lake (WBIC 389300).

MARINETTE

54. Goodman Millpond (WBIC 633800).

ONEIDA

55. Burnham Lake (WBIC 1617500).
56. Dog Lake (WBIC 1590200).
57. Emma Lake (WBIC 983500).
58. Goodyear Lake (WBIC 1518700).
59. Hutchinson Lake (WBIC 1575400).
60. Kathan Lake (WBIC 1598300).
61. Laurel Lake (WBIC 1611800).
62. Medicine Lake (WBIC 1611700).
63. Little Rice River (WBIC 1520600).
64. Pickerel Lake (WBIC 1597200).
65. Sevenmile Lake (WBIC 1605800).
66. Skunk Lake (WBIC 1533200).
67. South Pine Lake (WBIC 1580700).
68. *Spruce Lake (WBIC 1519000).
69. Stag Lake (WBIC 1517300).
70. Stella Lake (WBIC 1575700).
71. Unnamed Lake (WBIC 1115800).
72. Unnamed Lake off of Lake Nokomis (WBIC 1516700).
73. *Winx Flowage.
74. *Wisconsin River.
75. Wolf River above Upper Post Lake (WBIC 241300).

POLK

76. Fountain Lake (WBIC 2465000).
77. *Lotus Lake (WBIC 2616900).
78. Mackie Lake (WBIC 2667700).
79. *Nye Lake (No WBIC).
80. Parker Creek (WBIC2621700).

PRICE

81. Gates Lake (WBIC 2243500).
83. Lac Sault Dore (WBIC 2236800).
84. Lake Sixteen (WBIC 2237300).

85. Popple Creek Flowage (WBIC 2245500).

86. Schmulander Flowage (WBIC 2255300).

87. Squaw Creek Flowage (WBIC 2243200).

88. Wilson Lake (WBIC 2239400).

RUSK

89. Chain Lake (WBIC 2350500).

90. McCann Lake (WBIC 2350400).

91. Murphy Flowage (WBIC 2110900).

92. Potato Creek Flowage (WBIC 2354900).

93. Potato Lake (WBIC 2355300).

94. Unnamed Creek (WBIC unknown).

ST. CROIX

95. Cedar Lake (WBIC 2615100).

96. Oakridge Lake (WBIC2486800).

97. Waterfowl Production Area (no WBIC; T31N R17W S02).

SAWYER

98. Beverly Lake (WBIC 2387200).

99. *Moose Lake (WBIC 2420600).

100. Mud Lake (WBIC 2437600).

101. *Musky Bay, Lac Courte Oreilles (WBIC 2390900).

102. Smith Lake (WBIC 2726100).

103. Swamp Lake (WBIC 2277400).

104. Totagatic Flowage (WBIC 2703500).

105. Unnamed/Mud Lake (WBIC 5510159).

106. Winter Lake (WBIC 2381100).

TAYLOR

107. *Upper Steve Creek Flowage (WBIC 2191700).

VILAS

108. Amik Lake (WBIC 2268600).

109. Bear Lake (WBIC 2335400).

110. Boulder Lake (WBIC 2338300).

111. Chewelah Lake (WBIC 2317500).

112. Dads Lake (WBIC 979700).

113. Emil Lake (WBIC 1628500).
114. Middle Gresham Lake (WBIC 2330700).
115. Harris Lake (WBIC 2958500).
116. Haskell Lake (WBIC 1538000).
117. Little Pine Creek (WBIC 2269100).
118. *Lower Sugarbush Lake (2317600).
119. * Manitowish Lake (WBIC 2329400).
120. McGinnis Creek (WBIC 2341400).
121. Mill Lake (WBIC 1630600).
122. Pickerel Lake (WBIC 1619700).
123. Pokegama Lake (WBIC 2320800).
124. Presque Isle Lake (WBIC 2956500).
125. Reservoir Lake (WBIC 716100).
126. Rice Lake (WBIC 1876800).
127. *Sand Lake (No WBIC).
128. Spring Lake (WBIC 2964800).
129. Sunfish Lake (WBIC 2321300).
130. *Upper Sugarbush Lake (WBIC 2318000).
131. *Watersmeet Lake (WBIC 1599400).
132. White Sand Lake (WBIC 2339100).

WASHBURN

133. *Beaver Brook (WBIC 2681700).
134. Gull Lake (WBIC 2719400).
135. *Nancy Lake (WBIC 2691500).
136. Slim Creek (2108400).
137. Slim Creek Flowage (WBIC 2109100).
138. Unnamed (Gilmore) Creek (WBIC 2695700).
139. *Whalen Creek (WBIC 5509960).

SITES CONSIDERED OR INVESTIGATED NOT CURRENTLY CONSIDERED TO BE RICE WATERS

(Sites marked with an * are on the existing "Act 117" list of rice waters.)

Ashland County

1. Hoffman Lake (WBIC 2291800).

Figure 5. Hoffman Lake, Ashland County, 2009.

We were unable to confirm the presence of rice on this lake. There are reports that this relatively remote lake had been seeded by DNR staff, but we were unable to locate ground access to this site to conduct a survey. No rice was apparent in a 2009 aerial survey, but it is possible that a small amount exists on the outlet stream. I recommend not considering this a rice water at this time, but conducting a ground survey in the future if access can be gained.

Barron County

2. * Beaver Dam Lake (WBIC 2081200).

This lake, located in/near Cumberland, is currently on the state list of date-regulated wild rice waters. However, its presence on this list appears to be a historic relic, as no rice has been reported to exist on this heavily developed, carp infested, and generally fairly deep lake. I recommend this site be removed from the list of recognized wild rice waters.

3. Chetek Lake (WBIC 2094000).

This lake was surveyed because a small amount of harvest (25 pounds) was reported in 2001, and because historically this was an important rice water. Ground visits in 2008 and 2009 failed to verify any rice presence. I would not consider this a rice water at this time. However, the chain of lakes which includes Chetek were once significant rice waters, and this areas should be evaluated for restoration potential. Some local residents have expressed interest in restoration, moved in part by hopes that the degraded water quality that now exists on this chain might be improved by re-establishing some of the historic vegetation.

4. HWY T Wildlife Management Area Flowage (WBIC for unnamed stream 5006059).

This small flowage was created to provide waterfowl habitat. The flowage is apparently too new to be included on the Surface Water Viewer, but it is visible in the 2005 air photo layer, just southwest of the junction of CTY T and 15th Ave. This site was seeded by the DNR, but no rice has been observed in recent ground surveys. While the site is likely suitable, a large number of geese use this area for nesting and brood rearing, and it is possible that the rice could not withstand the high level of herbivoury that likely exists. Do not consider a rice water at this time.

5. Montanis Lake (WBIC 2103200).

This lake was surveyed due to seeding efforts by DNR employee Russell Fell. St. Croix Tribe staff found 1.5 acres growing in 2008, but only about 100 plants were observed growing near the Spring Creek inlet by GLIFWC staff in 2009. I would not consider this a rice lake at this time, but would continue to monitor this site, particularly if additional seeding takes place.

6. *Red Cedar Lake (WBIC 2109600).

This lake, located in the northeast corner of the county, is currently on the list of date-regulated wild rice waters. However, like Beaver Dam Lake, its presence on this list appears to be a historic relic, as no rice has been reported to exist on lake for over 20 years. I recommend this site be removed from the list of recognized wild rice waters.

7. Tuscobia Lake (WBIC 2104300).

Although a 1985 GLIFWC survey found about an acre of rice on this lake, no rice was found in surveys conducted in 2008 and 2009. Habitat generally seems favorable, but competing vegetation is very well established, and the site might need some kind of disturbance to set back other plants if there was an interest in establishing rice. Would not consider a rice water at this time, but additional surveys and/or restoration evaluation may be worthwhile.

8. Upper Turtle Lake (WBIC 2079800).

Don Taylor of the St. Croix Tribe reported the presence of a trace amount of rice on this lake, but none was noted on 2008 and 2009 field surveys by GLIFWC staff, or by on an independent survey in 2008 by the St. Croix Tribe. Most of the lake is heavily developed, and suitable habitat appears to be quite limited. Would not consider this to be a rice water at this time; the initial observation may have been a temporary response to a private seeding effort.

Bayfield County

9. Cranberry Lake (WBIC 2741700).

In January 2010 GLIFWC received a report of a small amount of rice on this lake, which can be found near the Douglas County line just south of Lower Eau Claire Lake. A point intercept survey of the lake found a small patch of rice (4 points) along the northeast shore, and a very small patch (1 point) along the west-central shore line. We would like to gather at least one more year of data on the presence of rice on this lake before considering it a rice water.

10. *Cranberry River (WBIC 2879800).

Although this site is currently identified as a wild rice water, this classification appears to be erroneous, as no there has been no documented presence of rice on this river. I recommend it be removed from the list of recognized wild rice waters.

11. *Frog Bay (on Lake Superior).

After reviewing the location of this bed, it was determined that it is located on Frog Creek, rather than Frog Bay. See Frog Creek on the list of recognized waters for more information.

12. *White River (WBIC 2892500).

A small patch of rice has existed for several years on the White River just west of the Pike River Road Bridge. Upon further investigation, habitat in this area is very limited, and the bed is so small (less than 100 plants) that it is not likely to persist. Suggest removing this site from the list of recognized rice waters. However, see White River Flowage, Ashland County.

Burnett County

14. Culbertson Creek (WBIC 2672900).

In 2009, a small amount of rice (less than 200 plants) was serendipitously observed on Culbertson Creek where it crosses Loon Creek Trail, below Culbertson Springs. Would like to gather at least one more year of data on rice abundance before considering this a wild rice water.

14. *Dike 2 Flowage (WBIC 2644900).

This flowage, on the Crex Wildlife Area, was originally included in the existing list of recognized wild rice waters due to seeding efforts that were made here. Unlike several other Crex sites, this one appears to have failed. Recommend this site be removed from the list of recognized rice waters.

15. *Dueholm Flowage (WBIC 2637200).

Like Dike 2, this flowage on the Fish Lake Wildlife Area was also originally included in the existing list of recognized wild rice waters due to seeding efforts that were made here. Like Dike 2, this one also appears to have failed. Recommend this site be removed from the list of recognized rice waters.

16. *Fish Lake (WBIC 2636500).

Figure 2. Fish Lake, Burnett County, 1995.

Fish Lake, located on the Fish Lake State Wildlife Area, initially responded to seeding efforts that took place in the mid 1990's (see picture above). This seeding was done, in part, because of reports of beds historically existing on these waters. However, the seeding efforts did not produce self-sustaining beds, perhaps because of high water resulting from a wet cycle in the years that followed the seeding effort, and a somewhat limited ability to control water levels on this

lake. Although this site may still offer appreciable restoration potential, no rice has been observed for roughly a decade, and it is likely appropriate to remove this site from the list of recognized rice waters at this time.

17. Green Lake (WBIC 2467200).

This lake was investigated because of a harvest report. No rice was observed by St. Croix staff in 2008, or by GLIFWC staff in 2009. While water depths appeared suitable, the bottom was very sandy and didn't appear well suited to rice. Would not consider this lake a rice water at this time, but at least one additional survey might be worthwhile. (Note that some harvest reports are accidentally or intentionally erroneous.)

18. Hanscom Lake (WBIC 2674000).

This site was also investigated in 2009 following a harvest report, but only from shore as no public access appears to exist. (Note the access shown on the Gazetteer is erroneous.) No rice was observed, and the site generally appears poorly suited to rice (although the lake was several feet below normal when surveyed in 2009 due to extended drought). While some harvest reports are accidentally or intentionally erroneous, it is interesting to note that there is also a 1928 herbarium sample attributed to this lake. I would not consider this lake a rice water at this time, but future monitoring may be worthwhile.

19. Pokegama Lake (WBIC2657200).

A small presence of rice was reported on this lake in 2004 by the St. Croix Tribe, but none was found in 2008. A very small number of plants (less than 20) were seen in 2009 at each of two locations on the lake; one was the very southern lobe, and the other was near the small inlet across from the retired cranberry bogs south of the western-most lobe of the lake. Interestingly, the cranberry operation itself is now apparently being used as a hunting club, and while the area could not be entered, it was apparent from the road that some beds had been successfully seeded with rice.

20. Reed Lake (WBIC 2648100).

Harvest was reported for this site, which is located on the Crex Meadows Wildlife Area, but no rice was observed in 2008 or 2009 surveys. The harvest report may be erroneous; I would not consider this a rice water at this time.

21. *Trade Lake (WBIC 2638700, 2639300).

Trade Lake was included on the list of sites presently identified as wild rice waters primarily because it is on the list of date-regulated waters. However, this may have been due to historical presence; there have been no contemporary records of rice on Trade Lake, nor is there any mention of rice in the Sensitive Areas report that exists for this lake. I recommend removing this site be removed from the list of recognized rice waters.

22. *Webb Lake (2705400).

Although rice is present on Webb Creek, the presence of rice on Webb Lake appears to be limited to nothing more than a small number of individual plants. I recommend removing this site be removed from the list of recognized rice waters.

Chippewa County

23. Wissota Lake (WBIC 2152800).

This site was originally included as a result of a verified harvest report. However, the rice bed in question turned out to be not on Wissota itself, but on O'Neil Creek, near its mouth into Wissota. See O'Neil Creek on the list of recognized rice waters for more information.

Douglas County

24. Brule Area Small Ponds (No WBIC codes available).

Several small ponds were seeded by the DNR in an effort to establish rice. No rice was observed, but Trumpeter swans were nesting on one site. I would not consider these rice waters at this time.

25. Unnamed (Olson Meadows) Flowage (WBIC 5502607).

This small flowage was seeded, and some initial take was noted, but ground surveys in 2008 and 2009 found only very trace amounts of rice present. I would not consider this a rice water, but would keep it under a moderately high watch status.

Florence County

26. Halsey Lake (WBIC 679300).

Figure 3. Halsey Lake, West End, Florence County, 2009

This lake is reported to have historically held rice, and at least one seeding attempt has been made here, but no rice was observed in 2008 or 2009 surveys. Some restoration might be possible, especially along the southwest end of the lake,

but it might take some reduction in water levels to make it possible. The bottom may also be too flocculent to be optimal for rice growth.

27. Little Porcupine Lake (WBIC 675000).

Figure 4. Little Porcupine Lake, Florence County, 2009.

This lake was a 2009 addition to survey work, on reports that it may have been seeded, but no rice was observed, and water quality appears questionable. Field crews also report the bottom as sandy, so future seeding is not recommended.

28. Robago Lake (WBIC 674100).

Figure 5. Robago Lake, Florence County, 2009.

Robago Lake has been seeded in recent years, and Jeremy Holtz and GLIFWC both reported an initial take in 2009. Additional seeding took place in the fall of 2009 to expand the initial success (which was generally too thin to show up well in the air photo). While we hope this lake will eventually support a self-sustaining rice bed, I would not consider it to be an established rice water at this time. This site should remain under a high watch status.

Forest County

29. Bog Brook Flowage (WBIC 375900).

This site was investigated because of a single harvest report. We were unable to access this site from the ground, but no rice was observed in aerial surveys. Would not consider this a rice water at this time, but it may have seeding potential.

30. Briss Lake (WBIC 689900).

This site was 2009 addition to surveys, on the basis of a reported past seeding attempt by the Forest Service. However, we were unable to gain ground access to this small, remote lake. Status remains uncertain, but FS staff suspects this seeding was unsuccessful. This site maybe worth surveying for seeding potential, but I would not consider it a rice water at this time.

31. *Indian Lake (WBIC 478000).

Although this Indian Lake is currently identified as a wild rice water on the WDNR Surface Water Viewer, this is an error that should be removed. It likely occurred because an alternative name for Riley Lake (which does support rice) is Indian Lake.

32. *Knowles Creek.

This water should be removed from the list of recognized rice waters. See the discussion under Knowles Creek Impoundment in the recognized waters list.

33. Lily Lake (WBIC 376900).

This lake was surveyed following reports from Mole Lake elders that it once held rice. Harvest has never been reported. A single field visit in 2009 found no rice, and relatively little area that appeared to have suitable habitat. The most suitable area would likely be along the Lily River outlet. Would not consider this to be a rice water at this time.

34. Lilypad Lake (WBIC 683200).

Figure 6. Lilypad Lake, Forest County, 2009.

This lake was surveyed because of a report that it had once been seeded by the Forest Service. No rice was observed in a 2009 air survey, and a local resident reported never observing rice here. I would not consider this a rice lake, but it may be worth re-evaluating the site for seeding, especially near the north end where Lilypad Creek enters and exits.

35. Little Riley Lake (WBIC 557800).

This lake was surveyed because of rumors of a rice presence, but a 2008 survey located no evidence of rice. Site was not surveyed in 2009. Would not consider this a rice water.

36. Peshtigo River, South Branch (WBIC 579500).

In January 2010, Ron Eckstien, WDNR, reported the presence of a rice bed on this river, beginning just north of Peshtigo Lake (in Crandon) and extending for roughly a mile to the north. He was unfamiliar with its origin. We were unable to confirm this location, though rice was not apparent in the 2005 photo layer available on the Surface Water Viewer. While it is likely this location will be added to the list of recognized waters with additional surveys, I would like at least one more year of information before doing so. High watch status.

37. Pickerel Lake (WBIC 388100).

This site was surveyed because Mole Lake elders reported rice beds being present decades ago. Local residents also reported that rice once occurred here, but the extent of the beds was not clear, and much of the lake appears unsuitable for rice. In addition, a weed harvester operates on this lake; a local resident correlated the rice loss with the initiation of weed harvesting. Although not currently a rice lake, restoration opportunities at this lake should be investigated further given the historic record that exists here.

38. Pine Lake (WBIC 406900).

There have been various reports of rice from this lake over the years, and a herbarium sample was collected in 1963. No rice was observed in 2008, and only a small number of scattered plants were observed near the north end in 2009. This large lake is highly developed, and is infested with several species of invasive aquatics, leading to dense competition in the areas were plants were observed. Would not consider this a rice lake at this time, and any restoration effort would likely need to incorporate water level management designed to reduce competition.

39. *Revolver Lake (WBIC 561600).

Figure 7. Revolver Lake, Forest County, 2008.

This site was once seeded, but no rice is known to exist at this time. It should be removed from the list of rice waters.

40. Roberts Lake (WBIC 378400).

This lake was surveyed because Mole Lake elders reported that beds once existed here. However, only a few plants were observed (near the unnamed creek which enters from Himley Lake) in 2008, and no plants were observed in 2009. Would not consider this to be a rice water at this time.

41. Shoe Lake (WBIC 376600).

This lake was added to surveys in 2009 following reports of a possible private seeding. No rice was observed, and site suitability was questioned by field staff.

42. Skunk Lake (WBIC 199100).

A herbarium sample collected in 1971 is reported to be from this lake, but due to 1) a lack of any other collaborating evidence, 2) the lack of any inlet or outlet, and 3) the fact that this small lake was nearly dried up during the survey years, no ground surveys were conducted. No rice was apparent in a 2008 fly-over.

Iron County

43. Deer Lake (WBIC 1844100).

This site was seeded in the fall of 2009. While it should not be considered a rice water at this time, seeding success should be monitored in future years.

44. Hay Creek Flowage (WBIC 2260100).

While GLIFWC interns reported a very small amount of rice near the dam on this flowage in 2001, none was observed in 2008 or 2009 surveys. Swans have been nesting on this site, and it is possible that they effectively removed any rice attempting to grow.

45. Rice Lake Creek (WBIC 2264900).

This small, remote creek was put on the survey on the basis of name alone. However, we were unable to gain ground access to this site. No rice was apparent from air surveys. (This creek is named Rice Creek on many maps.)

46. Rice Lake (WBIC2265000).

This small, remote lake was put on the survey on the basis of name alone. However, we were unable to gain ground access to this site across private land. No rice was apparent from air surveys.

47. Spider Lake (WBIC 2306300).

In January 2010 GLIFWC received a report that DNR Critical Area Survey in 2009 found a very small patch of wild rice on this lake. The patch was located on the east shore of the northern bay, east of the small unnamed creek inlet from Viola Lake. We would like to gather at least one more year of data before considering this wild rice water.

48. Springstead Creek (WBIC 2263500).

Figure 8. Springstead Creek, Iron County, 2009.

While conducting air surveys in 2009 of nearby Rice Lake (WBIC 2265000), which is located about ½ mile to the east, a possible rice bed was observed on a beaver impoundment on Springstead Creek. Unfortunately, this creek is too small to navigate, and we were unable to gain access across private land to confirm the presence of rice from the ground. While there is a fairly high likelihood that rice is present, I would not consider this a rice water until ground confirmation is made. High watch status.

49. Turtle River (WBIC 2297900).

GLIFWC has occasionally received reports of rice on the Turtle River between Catherine and Cedar Lakes. However, although the site appears to have some suitability, no rice was noted in 2008 or 2009 ground surveys.

Langlade County

50. Enterprise Lake (WBIC 1579700).

This site was surveyed in 2009 after Mole Lake elders reported that beds previously existed here. No rice was observed, and the level of lakeshore development may be incompatible with rice. However, it would be worth examining this site further for possible restoration opportunities.

51. Lily River (WBIC 370900).

We attempted to survey the Lily River following reports of private seeding efforts that may have taken place, and small amounts of reported harvest. In the drought years the survey was conducted, most of the river was too low to navigate, and so the river was viewed only from available vantage points. Most of the river appeared too shallow and rocky to support much rice. However, one bed was located on a small impoundment on the Lily; see "Unnamed Lake on the Lily River" on the list recognized rice waters.

52. Lily River, East Branch (WBIC 371300).

We attempted to survey the East Branch of the Lily River following reports of private seeding efforts that may have taken place, and small amounts of reported harvest. In the drought years the survey was conducted, most of the river was too low to navigate, and so the river was viewed only from available vantage points. Most of the river appeared too shallow and rocky to support much rice.

53. Rolling Stone Lake (WBIC 389300).

This site was investigated because of reports from Mole Lake elders that beds once occurred here, and 1987 and 1995 herbarium records. One visit by myself made in the early 1990's located a few scattered plants. Ground surveys in 2009 found no rice. This lake is quite highly developed, and has a weed harvester operating on it in the summer months. Would not consider this a rice lake at this time, but opportunities for restoration should be explored with the lake association.

Marinette County

54. Goodman Millpond (WBIC 633800).

This site was investigated on the basis of a single 1985 herbarium sample. However, ground surveys in 2008 and 2009 failed to find any presence of rice. Ground crews were mixed in their opinion on the suitability of the site as a potential seeding location.

Oneida County

55. Burnham Lake (WBIC 1617500).

This site was investigated on the basis of some older data from Ron Eckstein suggesting a bed was present. We were unable to survey this lake from the water, but no rice was observed while viewing this small lake from several different vantage points from the shore in either 2008 or 2009.

56. Dog Lake (WBIC 1590200).

Figure 9. Dog Lake, Oneida County, 2005.

This lake was investigated on rumors that rice may be present. Less than 25 plants were observed in a 2008 ground survey, while the lake could not be surveyed in 2009 due to road construction. No rice is evident in a 2005 air photo.

Would not consider this a rice lake at this time, but given that the habitat generally looks suitable, it would be good to survey this lake again in future years to better document possible rice presence. (Note: this lake should not be confused with the other Dog Lake in Oneida County, which does support an appreciable bed of rice.)

57. Emma Lake (WBIC 983500).

This site was investigated because a small amount of harvest was reported for this lake; no other records existed. Grounds crews reported finding two small, sparse patches in 2008, one on the north central shore of the lake, the other in the northeast bay. The 2009 also reported finding 3 small patches of rice, one along the east shore, and two near the island on the south end.

I am concerned about possible misidentification of the 2009 beds, because the plants were reported to still be in the floating leaf stage late in July. I would not consider this to be a rice water at this time, but suggest additional surveys be conducted on this lake to better document possible rice presence.

58. Goodyear Lake (WBIC 1518700).

Figure 10. Goodyear Lake, Oneida County, 2007.

This lake was surveyed because of sporadic reports of rice, but no rice was observed in 2008 or 2009 ground surveys, nor was any apparent in a 2007 air survey. However, a small amount of additional monitoring might be warranted given the frequency of older reports.

59. Hutchinson Lake (WBIC 1575400).

This small lake was added to surveys in 2009 following a very recent seeding effort by the DNR. However, we were unable to find any public access to this lake, and the outlet stream was too small to navigate (at least under the recent dry conditions). It also would be too early to determine if this bed has really become established or not. Would not consider this a rice water at this time, but would suggest additional monitoring in future years to determine if seeding efforts were successful.

60. Kathan Lake (WBIC 1598300).

This lake was surveyed because of reported seeding efforts by private individuals. In 2008, the ground crew obtained access through a private landowner, and reported a smattering of sparse rice scattered in the southern most bay, and a slightly denser bed in the shallow bay along the central western shore. No access could be gained in 2009. Would not consider this a rice water until at least one more year of grounds surveys can be completed. High watch status.

61. Laurel Lake (WBIC 1611800).

This site was surveyed because harvest was reported in a single year from "Laurel/Medicine Lake" (two co-joined lakes on a chain), and because rice does exist on some other waters in the chain. However, no rice was observed in either 2008 or 2009 ground surveys, and the habitat is generally unsuitable. Possibly a misreported harvesting location.

62. Medicine Lake (WBIC 1611700).

This site was surveyed because harvest was reported in a single year from "Laurel/Medicine Lake" (two co-joined lakes on a chain), and because rice does exist on some other waters in the chain. However, no rice was observed in either 2008 or 2009 ground surveys, and the habitat is generally unsuitable. Possibly a misreported harvesting location.

63. Little Rice River (WBIC 1520600).

We had hoped to survey this "river" because of the name alone, but most of this waterway was too small to navigate, especially under the very dry conditions that occurred during the survey period. One very small patch of rice (roughly 0.05 acres) was located where the Kelly Fire Lane crosses the creek, approximately 4 miles west of Killarney Lake. Despite the name, I would not consider this to be a rice water until additional surveys can be completed.

Nokomis Lake

See Unnamed Lake off of Lake Nokomis.

64. Pickerel Lake (WBIC 1597200).

This lake was included in surveys because of some older data from Ron Eckstein (DNR) indicating this lake once supported rice, and because it has a suitable inlet and outlet which interestingly is named Indian Creek. Ground crews in both 2008 and 2009 both reported a "possible" stand along the eastern shore, reporting plants that looked like rice in the floating leaf stage. However, given the lateness of these surveys (last few days of July both years), I think it is unlikely these were rice plants. Would not consider this a rice water, but GLIFWC will likely conduct at least one more survey of this lake in a future year.

65. Sevenmile Lake (WBIC 1605800).

Ron Eckstein, WDNR recently reported (January 2010) that the western-most lobe of Sevenmile Lake had been seeded by the Wisconsin Waterfowl Association in 2008, and produced a very sparse bed of rice in 2009. Apparently the site was not seeded in 2009. I would not consider this a rice water at this time, but would continue to monitor the bay, particularly if additional seeding occurs. Watch status moderate to low.

66. Skunk Lake (WBIC 1533200).

This lake was included primarily because of the possible observation of a bed in previous aerial surveys. However, we were unable to locate landowners willing to grant access to this large but private lake. No beds were apparent in a 2008 air survey. Would not consider this a rice water, but may try again in the future to gain ground access.

67. South Pine Lake (WBIC 1580700).

This lake was included in surveys because of some older data from Ron Eckstein (DNR) indicating this lake once supported rice. However, we were unable to gain ground access to this small, private lake, and the outlet stream was too small to navigate. Eckstein has recently reported (January 2010) that the Pine Lake Creek just upstream of the lake had been seeded by the Wisconsin Waterfowl Association in 2008, and produced a sparse bed of rice in 2009. Apparently the site was not seeded in 2009. I would not consider this a rice water at this time, but would continue to monitor the lake and creek, particularly if additional seeding occurs. Watch status moderate.

68. *Spruce Lake (WBIC 1519000).

Figure 11. Spruce Lake, Oneida County, 2007.

Spruce Lake is on the existing list of recognized rice waters. However, no rice has been observed in recent years, and solid confirmation of it ever being present is lacking. I recommend removal from the list unless rice presence is documented.

69. Stag Lake (WBIC 1517300).

Figure 126. Stag Lake, Oneida County, 2007.

This lake once supported rice according to Brian Biermier, USDA-APHIS, and has been seeded in recent years in an effort to re-establish some of the historic presence of rice. It is directly downstream from Roe Lake (partially visible in the upper right in the photo), which now supports a good stand as a result of seeding and beaver control. However, surveys in 2008 and 2009 found only a very small amount presence of rice, consisting of small, scattered patches along the north shore (and not clearly visible in the photo above). I would not consider this a rice water at this time, but would continue to monitor the site in future years to determine if seeding efforts take hold.

70. Stella Lake (WBIC 1575700).

Stella Lake is a bit of a mystery. Over the years there have been a few reports of harvest from this lake. However, this harvest has been attributed to nearby Spur Lake, because there were no known beds on Stella, and because novice ricers often misidentify their ricing location. (In this case, the road which accesses Spur Lake is Stella Lake Road, so confusion is quite possible.) However, some Mole Lake elders also suggested Stella Lake once supported beds. We conducted ground surveys only in 2008, and found no evidence of rice. Most of the lake is unsuitable, but patches of possible habitat do appear to exist, especially near the outlet. Would not consider this a rice lake, but additional surveys maybe worthwhile.

71. Unnamed Lake (WBIC 1115800).

Ron Eckstein, WDNR, reported that this small pothole NE of Midget Lake site was seeded in 2008 by the Wisconsin Waterfowl Association, producing a very sparse amount of rice in 2009. Site apparently was not seeded in 2009. Would not consider this a rice water at this time, and the site appears to lack adequate flow to support rice. Surrounding land is private. Watch status low.

72. Unnamed Lake off of Lake Nokomis (WBIC 1516700).

Most people might consider this bay part of Lake Nokomis, but is considered an unnamed lake on the Surface Water Viewer, with its own WBIC. The bay is located in T36N, R6E, S 28 and 27, and is separated from Lake Nokomis by Point O' Pines Road. Most of the surrounding land is owned by Wisconsin Valley Improvement Company. Ron Eckstein reported that this site was seeded in 2008 by the Wisconsin Waterfowl Association, producing a sparse amount of rice in 2009. Site apparently was not seeded in 2009. Would not consider this a rice water at this time, but suggest additional monitoring, especially if additional seeding is attempted.

73. *Winx Flowage.

This location does not exist. It was apparently placed on the existing list of recognized rice waters by mistake, and should be removed.

74. *Wisconsin River .

The only rice beds on the Wisconsin River in Oneida County exist on the Rhinelander Flowage, discussed earlier. "Wisconsin River" can be removed from the list of recognized waters as long as the Rhinelander Flowage is included.

75. Wolf River above Upper Post Lake (WBIC 241300).

This location was previously erroneously listed as the Wolf River Flowage, but it refers to the section of the Wolf River above Upper Post Lake. Mole Lake elders and Brian Biermier, USDA-APHIS, both indicated this area once supported rice. Although habitat appears suitable in areas, only trace amounts of rice were observed in 2008 or 2009 ground surveys, and these were heavily browsed. Would not consider this a rice water at this time. Restoration might be possible, but given the abundance of rice about two miles upstream, seeding alone might not be effective, and some water level management to set back competing vegetation might be needed.

Polk County

76. Fountain Lake (WBIC 2465000).

We hoped to survey this lake because of a single harvest record, but were unable to gain ground access to this small, private lake. Given the lack of any collaborating evidence, it seems likely the harvest report was accidentally or intentionally erroneous, but GLIFWC may make future efforts to confirm or deny the presence of rice on this lake.

77. *Lotus Lake (WBIC 2616900).

This lake is also known as East Lake, and is listed as such on the list of waters whose harvest is date-regulated. Despite this listing, no rice has been known to exist on Lotus Lake for roughly 20 years, and I recommend that this lake no longer be considered a wild rice water.

78. Mackie Lake (WBIC 2667700).

Figure 13. Mackie Lake, Polk County, 2008.

Paul Kooiker, DNR, reported that rice previously existed on this small, undeveloped lake, but we found no evidence in ground surveys from 2008 or 2009. However, the lake was likely unusually low both survey years due to extended drought. These conditions sometimes reduce competing vegetation, so it would be interesting to monitor Mackie Lake in the future when water levels return to see if rice might reappear.

79. *Nye Lake (No WBIC).

There is no photo available because this lake, despite being included on the list of waters whose harvest is date-regulated, apparently does not exist. It is thought that the name might be a local or older name for a different lake. "Nye Lake" obviously needs to be removed from both the list of rice waters, and date-regulated rice waters.

80. Parker Creek (WBIC2621700).

A few scattered plants were located on Parker Creek, south of the 35th Ave. bridge. These are thought to be the result of a recent planting effort by the DNR. Would not consider this a rice water at this time, but could continue to monitor the site, particularly if additional seeding takes place.

Price County

81. Gates Lake (WBIC 2243500).

We were unable to access this lake for logistical reasons. This site was seeded many years ago by the Forest Service, but the seeding is believed to be unsuccessful. No rice is apparent in a 2003 air photo.

82. Grassy Lake (WBIC 2238100).

This site – a widening on the Elk River - was added as a hunch in 2009 after getting reports of a small amount of rice upstream in Lac Sault Dore. Ground crews in 2009 found two small patches of rice, totaling perhaps one acre, one on either side of the lake in the area west of where Grassy Lake Road ends. Given the sometimes ephemeral nature of rice on some riverine sites, I would like at least one more year of confirmation before considering this a rice water. High watch status.

83. Lac Sault Dore (WBIC 2236800).

GLIFWC invasive aquatics crews reported finding a small stand of rice here in 2009, in one of the shallow bays on the east side of the large island in this lake. Recently, I also discovered that the WDNR also reported finding rice on a single sample (out of 362 sites in the littoral zone) in a point intercept survey in 2006, but at a different location than reported by GLIFWC staff. While I would not consider this a rice water at this time, we will attempt to monitor this lake as possible in the future to better document rice status. Lake is also slated to undergo a 6 foot drawdown soon to allow dam repairs, which could stimulate rice growth. Moderately high watch status.

84. Lake Sixteen (WBIC 2237300).

This site was added to surveys in 2009 after gaining reports that it may have been seeded. A ground survey that year found no evidence of rice, and survey crew felt suitable habitat was limited.

85. Popple Creek Flowage (WBIC 2245500).

This site was added to surveys in 2009 after a record of seeding by the Forest Service was found. This flowage is not on the Surface Water Viewer, but can be seen as a dark area on the 2005 air photos just north of the Wilson Flowage, above Gates Lake Road. No rice was observed in a 2009 ground survey. Trumpeter swans were present, however, which can suppress or eliminate small rice populations.

86. Schmulander Flowage (WBIC 2255300).

This site was reportedly seeded once by the Forest Service. An informal survey several years ago failed to find any evidence of rice, nor did a 2008 survey under this study. Seeding considered unsuccessful.

87. Squaw Creek Flowage (WBIC 2243200).

This flowage is on the Squaw Creek that eventually flows into Solberg Lake, not the one near the Oneida/Vilas/Price County juncture. This is the northern of two adjacent flowages on the creek. Although this site has been seeded by the Forest Service and GLIFWC, very little if any take has been noted thus far, possibly because of heavy herbivoury. The FS is going to attempt managing this flowage at a slightly lower level in hopes of increasing the area of suitable habitat. Site should continue to be monitored on occasion.

88. Wilson Lake (WBIC 2239400).

GLIFWC received a late report of a small rice bed on Wilson Lake, in the area where Wilson Creek enters. We were unable to survey this site to verify the presence of rice, but will attempt to verify in the future. Moderately high watch status.

Rusk County

89. Chain Lake (WBIC 2350500).

This lake straddles the Rusk / Chippewa County line. No rice was found on Chain lake proper in either 2008 or 2009 ground surveys. However, rice does exist on the on the wide lobe on the south end of the lake where the Cedar Creek enters (in Chippewa County). Although this area could be interpreted as a bay on Chain Lake, the Surface Water Viewer considers it part of Cedar Creek. See Cedar Creek in Chippewa County for more information.

90. McCann Lake (WBIC 2350400).

No rice was found on McCann Lake proper, but it was found in the channel between McCann and Island Lake, which the Surface Water Viewer considers part of Island Lake. See Island Lake for more information.

91. Murphy Flowage (WBIC 2110900).

This site was surveyed because of a report in GLIFWC files from former DNR employee Frank Vanecek that rice grew well here in 1997 after a seeding attempt. The WBIC provided is for Hemlock Creek; the flowage, which is not shown on all maps, is located in the NW part of county on the east side of the "kink" in CTY F. Field surveys in 2008 and 2009 failed to locate any rice. Site might be worth investigating for additional restoration opportunities.

92. Potato Creek Flowage (WBIC 2354900).

Figure 14. Potato Creek Flowage, Rusk County, 2008.

A GLIFWC survey of this site in 1985 found 15 acres of rice, but no rice was observed in 2008 or 2009 surveys, when most of the surface was covered by duck weed. Flowage might have been negatively impacted by drought conditions during the recent surveys, however. It may merit rechecking this location under more normal water conditions. This flowage is not shown on some maps, but it is located along Potato creek NE of Potato Lake.

93. Potato Lake (WBIC 2355300).

Site was surveyed on the basis of a 1934 herbarium sample, and more recent reports of rice on the adjacent Potato Creek Flowage. However, no rice was observed in 2008 or 2009 ground surveys.

94. Unnamed Creek (WBIC unknown).

We were unable to verify the source location of a 1962 herbarium sample collected in Rusk County. It appears to likely be either an unnamed creek, or Soft Maple Creek, both located about a mile west of Weyerhaeuser near Section 13 Road. We are unaware of any rice on either of the creeks, and logistics prevented through searches of them both to be completed.

St. Croix County

95. Cedar Lake (WBIC 2615100).

This lake was added to surveys in 2009 after it was seeded in 2008 by DNR staff. This lake straddles the Polk County line, and while most of the lake is in Polk County, the southwest bay which was seeded is located in St. Croix County. No rice was observed from the initial seeding effort.

96. Oakridge Lake (WBIC2486800).

GLIFWC has received several reports of rice on this lake, but none was observed in 2008 or 2009 ground surveys. Trumpeter swans were observed using the lake, a species which can negatively impact small rice stands. Like other area lakes, water levels on this shallow basin were well below normal under the drought conditions of the survey years, and it may be worthwhile to revisit this site when more typical conditions return.

97. Waterfowl Production Area (no WBIC available, T31N R17W S02).

WDNR reported a small seeding at this location in 2004, but no rice was observed, and the small wetland reported to exist at this site appeared to have been dry under the drought conditions that existed during the survey period.

Sawyer County

98. Beverly Lake (WBIC 2387200).

A herbarium sample was reportedly collected from this lake in 1931, and a there was an anecdotal report of a very small stand several years ago. However, no rice was observed in 2008 or 2009 ground surveys, and habitat is quite limited. Would not consider a rice water unless some is observed on future surveys.

99. *Moose Lake (WBIC 2420600).

While there is a great deal of rice on the Chippewa River upstream of Moose Lake, we found no rice on Moose itself in 2008, and only a trace of it in 2009. The trace bed was found in the small bay on the northeast part of the lake where unnamed creek (WBIC 2422000) enters. (This is roughly due east of the public landing off of Wolf Island Road on the west side of the lake.) Would not consider this a rice water at this time.

100. Mud Lake (WBIC 2437600).

This lake was reportedly seeded by the LCO Tribe. A scattering of plants was observed around the shore of this small lake in 2008, but none was observed under the very low water levels of 2009. Would not consider this a rice water at this time.

101. *Musky Bay, Lac Courte Oreilles (WBIC 2390900).

This site was originally included in the list of recognized rice waters because the site is on the list of lakes whose harvest is date-regulated. However, its presence on the date-regulated list appears to be archaic, for there are no records of rice on Musky Bay in decades. Recommend this site be taken off the list of recognized rice waters.

102. Smith Lake (WBIC 2726100).

Smith Lake was added to surveys in 2009 after receiving reports of a private seeding effort, but no plants were observed in a 2009 ground survey, and habitat appears limited.

103. Swamp Lake (WBIC 2277400).

There are reports this lake was seeded perhaps a decade ago by the DNR, but there have been no confirmed reports of take, and we were unable to locate a way to access this lake from the ground. No rice was visible in a 2007 aerial survey.

104. Totagatic Flowage (WBIC 2703500).

A small scattering of a limited number of rice plants can be found on the Totagatic Flowage, especially near the east end, but nothing resembling a bed. This site was planted cooperatively between the DNR and GLIFWC, but with little success, possibly due to high goose populations on this flowage (a site where translocated geese had occasionally been released in the past). Would not consider this a rice water. (This site should not be confused with Totagatic Lake in Bayfield County, which is an important rice water.)

105. Unnamed/Mud Lake (WBIC 5510159).

This site was investigated because of reports it had been seeded by the LCO Tribe, but just a few scattered plants were observed in 2008 and none in 2009. Would not consider a rice water.

106. Winter Lake (WBIC 2381100).

This site was surveyed because of reports of a private seeding attempt. No rice was observed on the flowage in ground surveys in 2008 or 2009. However, information received later suggested the rice may not be on the flowage itself, but on a wetland just north of the flowage, across Lake Winter Road. This site was not surveyed, but will be investigated in the future if possible. Field crews should be aware that this flowage appears to generally be held at a higher level (and thus larger area) than is shown on most maps.

Taylor County

107. *Upper Steve Creek Flowage (WBIC 2191700).

Figure 15. Upper Steve Creek Flowage, Taylor County, 2009.

This site is currently on the list of recognized wild rice waters due to past seeding attempts. Thus far, these attempts appear to have been unsuccessful, but the site was seeded again in 2009 by the Forest Service, with GLIFWC cooperation. It has been somewhat puzzling that past seedings have not been successful, since abundant beds were established on Lower Steve Creek Flowage just a few miles downstream in the same watershed. The flowage is being held at a slightly lower level with this seeding attempt. Recommend removing from the list of recognized water until a bed is shown to be established.

Vilas County

108. Amik Lake (WBIC 2268600).

There have been scattered reports of a minor presence of rice on Amik Lake, but we were unable to access the lake from the ground for logistical reasons. No rice is apparent in a 2005 air photo. Would not consider this a rice water at this time, but this site should have a high watch status.

109. Bear Lake (WBIC 2335400).

This site was added in 2009 following a harvest report. We were unable to gain ground access to this lake, which within a large private land holding (The Dairymans Country Club) which did not grant our access request. No rice was apparent in a 2009 fly-over, and most of the lake did not appear (from the air) to have suitable habitat.

110. Boulder Lake (WBIC 2338300).

This is mentioned as a historical footnote. In January 2010, Ron Eckstein, WDNR, provided GLIFWC with historical reports suggesting that in the early 1900's Boulder Lake supported rice beds large enough for local Ojibwe to harvest. There are no known recent observations of rice on this lake, and it may be that they were lost when the small dam was built on the outlet. It may be worthwhile to conduct a habitat evaluation to determine if any suitable habitat remains.

111. Chewelah Lake (WBIC 2317500).

This lake had been seeded by the Lac du Flambeau tribe, and although some initial take was reported, no rice was observed in a 2008 survey, and the tribe now reports the rice has not persisted.

112. Dads Lake (WBIC 979700).

Although there have been older reports of a rice presence on this lake, no rice was observed in 2008 or 2009 ground surveys. Would not consider this a rice water at this time.

113. Emil Lake (WBIC 1628500).

Although there have been anecdotal reports of rice on this water, none was observed in 2008 or 2009. Large numbers of geese were observed, which may be browsing rice out of existence. If any additional surveys are conducted, ground crews should be aware that this very small lake is located just west of CTY S; on some maps (including the commonly used gazetteer) the small unnamed lake west of Emil is incorrectly labeled as Emil.

114. Middle Gresham Lake (WBIC 2330700).

This lake was added to surveys in 2009 after GLIFWC was contacted by a private individual who reported seeding this lake. A small amount of rice was found near the east end of the west lobe of this small lake, the result of the seeding attempt. The local landowner said more rice was present the previous year, and indicated that he may do additional seeding, including possibly the far east end of the lake, which appeared to have better habitat. Would not consider this a rice water until the rice has been shown to persist for a number of years.

115. Harris Lake (WBIC 2958500).

There have been anecdotal reports of a small rice bed on Harris Lake, but no rice was observed on surveys in 2008 or 2009. Most of this lake is not suitable for rice; the only possible location that appears suitable is the small bay off the main body of water where Harris Creek leaves the lake.

116. Haskell Lake (WBIC 1538000).

This lake was investigated because of a 1975 herbarium record, and some more recent anecdotal reports. A small smattering of plants was observed in 2008 near the inlet and outlet, but these were heavily browsed. No plants were observed in 2009. Would not consider a rice water, but might investigate for restoration. (Access was gained through the Haskell Lake Lodge.)

117. Little Pine Creek (WBIC 2269100).

A 2005 air photo suggests there may be a rice bed on Little Pine Creek where it enters Amik Lake, but, like Amik itself, we were unable to access this site for logistical reasons. Would not consider this a rice water at this time, but this is a high priority for a future survey. This undeveloped site is located on the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest and is relatively protected from negative human impacts.

118. *Lower Sugarbush Lake (2317600).

The Sugarbush chain of lakes (Upper, Middle and Lower), located on the Lac du Flambeau Reservation, has been included in the list of rice waters because it is included in the list of waters whose harvest is date-regulated. Anecdotal information suggests rice may have once occurred in multiple spots on the chain, but the 2008 survey found small beds only on the western part of Middle Sugarbush, and we were unable to survey the site in 2009. The Middle Lake has also been seeded in some recent years by the LDF tribe. Suggest that only Middle Sugarbush be considered a rice lake at this time, and Upper and Lower be given a moderate watch status.

119. * Manitowish Lake (WBIC 2329400).

Manitowish Lake is currently considered a rice water; however, closer examination of the location of the bed indicates that it is located not on Manitowish Lake, but just southeast of it on the Trout River inlet. Suggest removing this site from the list, while recognizing this bed on the Trout. (Also see Trout River on the list of recognized waters.)

120. McGinnis Creek (WBIC 2341400).

This site was added to the survey list because a possible observation of a rice bed on the creek was made in 2007 while doing an aerial survey of nearby Partridge Lake. We were unable to find a way to access this remote creek during current surveys, but the area of interest is located directly north of Partridge Lake on the Northern Highland American Legion State Forest. It might be possible to access this site under wetter conditions by paddling upstream from Nixon Lake. High watch status.

121. Mill Lake (WBIC 1630600).

This site was included primarily because of a historical record; a 1944 newspaper article discusses a dam which was illegally blown up at this site by local duck hunters, because it was drowning out rice beds. (The lake at that time was referred to as Charlotte Lake.) However, the dam interests apparently eventually won out, because a dam still exists at the site, and there is no contemporary evidence of rice persisting.

122. Pickerel Lake (WBIC 1619700).

According to DNR Wildlife Manager Ron Eckstein, rice bed exists on this lake where Pickerel Creek exits it. Given the reliability of the source, GLIFWC did not verify this bed, but on-line imagery suggests rice is fairly abundant on Pickerel Creek, but not on the area (except possibly in small amounts) that the Surface Water Viewer considers Pickerel Lake proper. Suggest that this lake not be considered a rice water until further evidence suggests the presence of rice on the lake. Also see Pickerel Creek on the list of recognized rice waters.

123. Pokegama Lake (WBIC 2320800).

Two bays on the northwest section of this lake have been seeded in recent years by the Lac du Flambeau Tribe. While some initial take has been observed, this water should be monitored for several more years to determine if a self-sustaining bed has become established.

124. Presque Isle Lake (WBIC 2956500).

This site was investigated due to anecdotal reports of rice being present, but none was observed in 2008 or 2009 surveys, and most of the lake does not provide suitable habitat for rice. If a bed were to occur, the most likely area would be in the small bays on the far east end of the lake. GLIFWC also received an anecdotal report (too late to investigate) that a small bed may occur on the South Branch of the Presque Isle River, just north of Presque Isle Lake. (It is also possible that some of the anecdotal reports of rice on the lake reflect confusion with the Presque Isle Flowage, eight miles to the north in Michigan, which does support a rice bed.)

125. Reservoir Lake (WBIC 716100).

A seeding attempt was reportedly made many years ago on this small lake by the Forest Service, but only a few scattered plants were observed in 2008 along the bank near the mouth of the outlet, and none in 2009. Would not consider a rice water, but it may merit re-evaluation as a possible seeding location.

126. Rice Lake (WBIC 1876800).

This very small lake was added to the survey on the basis name and its proximity to Rice Creek, a known rice water. This lake is remote and difficult to access from the ground, and no ground surveys were conducted, but no emergent aquatic vegetation of any kind was observed in 2008 or 2009 air surveys. The name may simply reflect the proximity of this lake to Rice Creek. Would not consider a rice water.

127. *Sand Lake (No WBIC).

This "lake" was listed as a wild rice water because a Sand Lake in Vilas County is included in the list of waters whose harvest is date-regulated. However, there is no lake in Vilas County named simply Sand Lake. (There is a Big Sand Lake and a White Sand Lake, but neither is known to support rice). This name should be removed from the list of date-regulated waters. What lake it may have referred to remains unknown.

128. Spring Lake (WBIC 2964800).

This lake was added to surveys in 2009 after a harvest report was received after the 2008 season. Ground crews were unable to locate a landowner willing to give permission to access this private lake, but they did not observe any rice from several vantage points on the shoreline, and none was observed from the air. (There is rice on Spring Creek, which drains this lake.) I would not consider Spring Lake a rice water at this time.

129. Sunfish Lake (WBIC 2321300).

This lake was considered because of a single, small harvest report from 1989, but ground crews were unable to access this private lake, and air surveys were not conducted. It might be possible to access this lake from Big Crooked Lake in years with more precipitation.

130. *Upper Sugarbush Lake (WBIC 2318000).

The Sugarbush chain of lakes (Upper, Middle and Lower), located on the Lac du Flambeau Reservation, has been included in the list of rice waters because it is included in the list of waters whose harvest is date-regulated. Anecdotal information suggests rice may have once occurred in multiple spots on the chain, but the 2008 survey found small beds only on the western part of Middle Sugarbush, and we were unable to survey the site in 2009. The Middle Lake has also been seeded in some recent years by the LDF tribe. Suggest that only Middle Sugarbush be considered a rice lake at this time, and Upper and Lower be given a moderate watch status.

131. *Watersmeet Lake (WBIC 1599400).

This site is currently on the list of recognized rice waters. However, upon further review of the location of this bed, it is clear the rice is not on the area considered to be part of Watersmeet Lake, but just above it on the Wisconsin River. (See Wisconsin River on the list of recognized rice waters.)

132. White Sand Lake (WBIC 2339100).

This is the White Sand Lake near Boulder Junction. This lake was investigated because there is a record of an herbarium sample being collected near the outlet in 1930, and because it was thought that it might represent the "Sand Lake" that

is listed as a date-regulated wild rice harvest lake (there is no "Sand Lake" in Vilas County). However, ground crews did not observe rice in 2008 or 2009. I would not consider this a rice lake.

Washburn County

133. *Beaver Brook (WBIC 2681700).

This site is currently identified as a wild rice water. However, upon further review it is clear the rice bed in question is found not on Beaver Brook but on the adjacent Yellow River. This site should be removed from the list of rice waters. See Yellow River on the list of recognized rice waters for more information.

134. Gull Lake (WBIC 2719400).

This lake was added to surveys in 2009 after harvest was reported for the 2008 season. However, no rice was observed in a 2009 ground survey. It is possible that the harvest report was for Gull Lake in Burnett County, but it may be worthwhile surveying this site at least one more year.

135. *Nancy Lake (WBIC 2691500).

This site is on both the list of rice waters, and date-regulated harvest waters. However, these listing appear to be archaic, as no rice has been observed on this lake in many years, and the amount of suitable habitat appears to be fairly limited. The only harvest that has been reported was a small amount in 1989. Suggest removing this lake from both lists until/unless some rice is observed in future years.

136. Slim Creek (2108400).

We added this site to the survey list in 2009 after getting a report from a GLIFWC warden that rice might exist here. No rice was observed from several ground vantage points in 2009, but the creek was too low under the drought conditions of 2009 to navigate.

137. Slim Creek Flowage (WBIC 2109100).

We added this site to the survey list in 2009 after getting a report from a GLIFWC warden that rice might exist here. Approximately ½ acre of sparse rice was observed from near the outlet of this flowage in 2009, but would like a second year of verification before possibly considering this a rice water. High watch status.

138. Unnamed (Gilmore) Creek (WBIC 2695700).

Figure 16. Glimore Creek, Washburn County, 2001.

This site was reported by James Varro, DNR, who reported rice on "Gilmore Creek", above Gilmore Lake. This short creek, which connects Gilmore Lake with the Totagatic River, is unnamed on the Surface Water Viewer. In addition, upon further inspection, it was discovered that the Viewer considers the area with rice to be part of Gilmore Lake. As a result, I recommend not adding this creek to the list of recognized rice waters. See Gilmore Lake on the list of recognized rice waters for more information.

<u>139. Whalen Creek (WBIC 5509960)(see photo for Whalen Lake).</u>

A substantial, and sometimes harvested, stand of wild rice exists on the south end of Whalen Lake. While most people would likely consider this area part of the creek, the Surface Water Viewer considers this area part of Whalen Lake (see Whalen Lake on the list of recognized waters). No appreciable amount of rice is known to exist on Whalen Creek itself. Suggest removing the creek from the list of recognized rice waters, as long as field staff understands that the bed shown in the Whalen Lake photo is considered part of the lake.

WISCONSIN CEDED TERRITORY MANOOMIN INVENTORY, VER. 1.0

UPDATES AND ADDENDUM

This section is intended to provide an area where periodic updates to the list of recognized waters can be stored.

It also provides an area to note that the initial copy of the Manoomin Inventory provided to Ryan Magana, Conservation Biologist, WDNR, included a paper copy of the Wisconsin Delorme Atlas and Gazetteer with each rice water circled.