

*Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa*

# Treaty Natural Resources Division Newsletter

*Volume 8, Issue 4, Winter 2019*

## Ganawenjigaade

*It is taken care of, protected . . .  
We take care of, protect, keep it.*



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Photo credit: Linda Nguyen

## **Employee of the Month**

An office is only as good as its staff, and we at the Treaty Natural Resources Division think we have some of the best. The following team members were nominated for Employee of the Month in the last three months by their colleagues. By: Chad Abel

### **October Employee of the Month**

#### **Ernie Grooms, Air Program Manager**



Ernie received a slew of nominations for EOTM in October. When there is a project in need of an extra hand, Ernie is often one of the people who shows up to give it. He was especially helpful with the construction of the sugar shack at the farm and a number of other smaller projects at the farm over the course of 2019.

Ernie was recently successful in acquiring a new plow truck for the roads department through the VW Settlement. The new truck is valued at nearly \$200,000. Congrats to Ernie on making all the hard work with the settlement pay off.

### **November Employee of the Month**

#### **Zach Peterson, Conservation Warden**



Zach spends a lot of time on the lake on patrol with Wisconsin DNR. The joint state-tribal patrol checked 724,075 feet of gillnet in 2019 - a 9% increase from 2018 and an all-time joint monitoring high! Zach was also recognized for working off-hours and weekends to help keep the warden office staffed every day of the week, and for doing those extra little things on the weekends (like checking on the farm chickens) whenever he is asked. Thanks Zach!

### **December Employee of the Month**

#### **Larry Deragon, Registration Clerk Extraordinaire**



Larry has been a seasonal hunter registration clerk for the TNR Division pretty much since the time he retired as our Chief Conservation Warden in 2011. His fellow wardens nominated Larry for working every weekend at all hours and in all weather. He has issued over 3,000 permits! Miigwech to Larry for your continued years of service to the Tribe and our Division.

# New Employees



Allie Rakowski grew up in the suburbs of Pittsburgh, PA. She recently joined the Environmental Department as the Water Resources Program Manager. Allie has a bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Dayton and a master's in Natural Resources from Oklahoma State University where she studied the ecology of wild turkey. In her free time, Allie likes to go hiking, camping, play ultimate frisbee, and occasionally kayak. She is excited to help manage the water resources at Red Cliff and looks forward to working with everyone.



Boozhoo, Kyle Klasen. Some know me around the Community as the new EMS driver. I was born in Moose Lake, MN and raised in Hinckley, MN most of my life. I'm the youngest in my family. I was a first responder for Pine County, worked as a carpenter, mechanic and as a Security Supervisor for the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe at Grand Casino Hinckley. I spent some time as a salvage yard hand recycling waste. I moved to Red Cliff towards the beginning of this year to be with my fiancé. I was hired on as a driver for the Red Cliff EMS and accepted the Transfer Station Manager position for the Red Cliff Tribe. I Enjoy working on cars, building new projects, and helping people in need. I have a newborn daughter that I love spending time with. I look forward to working for the Tribe and helping serve our community and people in the best way possible.

# BIBOON

It is Winter

**GICHI-MANIDOO-GIIZIS**

*Great Spirit Moon*

**NAMEBINI-GIIZIS**

*Sucker Moon*

**ONAABANI-GIIZIS**

*Hard Crust on the Snow Moon*

**WAABIZHESHI**

*A marten*

**OJIIG**

*A fisher*

**WABOOZ**

*A snowshoe hare*

**NOOKIZIGWAA**

*There is soft ice*

**MAMAANGIPON**

*There are big snowflakes*

**ISHPAAGONAGAA**

*It is deep snow*

**AAGIME**

*S/he snowshoes*



# The Great Lakes in Ojibwemowin



THIS IMAGE AND A LIST OF CITIES IN OJIBWEMOWIN CAN BE FOUND AT  
[HTTPS://DECOLONIALATLAS.WORDPRESS.COM/2015/04/14/THE-GREAT-LAKES-IN-OJIBWE-V2/](https://decolonialatlas.wordpress.com/2015/04/14/the-great-lakes-in-ojibwe-v2/)

# ICE DANGER AND ICE SAFETY



Before going out onto a frozen lake, pond or river, it's important to take safety precautions to reduce the risk of falling through the ice. Knowing how to judge ice conditions will also help you make more informed decisions while fishing or recreating on frozen lakes.

Springtime can be an especially dangerous time to venture out on a frozen lake. The springtime's warming temperatures can create rapidly changing and unpredictable ice conditions. Remember there is no such thing as ice that is completely safe. Here are some important tips to follow before you decide to venture out.

## Carefully Check Ice Conditions

**Remember** you take a risk anytime you go out onto the ice.

**Ice thickness is not consistent.** Water currents, particularly around narrow spots, bridges, inlets and outlets, are always suspect for thin ice.

**When ice fishing**, it is always a good idea to drill test holes as you progress out onto a lake to help judge the thickness and character of the ice.

**Beware of ice around partially submerged objects**, such as trees, logs brush, embankments or dam structures.

**Don't judge ice strictly by appearance.**

**Stay away from cracks, seams, pressure ridges, slushy areas and darker areas that signify thinner ice.**

**Be aware of ice that forms at the edges of lakes.** Ice melts at the edges first in spring.

## Carefully Check Ice Conditions

**Never go out onto the ice alone.** A buddy should be able to rescue you or go for help if you fall through.

**When changing locations on the ice always walk at least 10 yards apart from your buddy.** If one person falls through the ice, the other can go for help.

**Before you leave shore**, inform someone of your destination and expected time of return.

**Always wear a life jacket or personal flotation device (PFD)**, over an ordinary snowmobile suit or layered winter clothing. Life jackets can provide excellent flotation and protection from hypothermia. Specialized coats that float or dry suits are also highly recommended.

**Assemble a personal safety kit**, no larger than the size of a man's wallet, and carry it on your body. The kit should include a lighter, waterproof matches, magnesium fire starter, pocketknife, compass and whistle.

**In addition to the above safety equipment**, carry ice picks, a rope and cellular phone. These items could save your life.

**Always keep your pet on a leash.** If a pet falls through the ice, do not attempt to rescue your pet. Go for help.

## What to Do if You Fall Through the Ice

If you **cannot** get out of the cold water by yourself, take the appropriate actions to extend your survival time while waiting to be rescued.

**Stay calm.** Do not attempt to swim; swimming will cause our body to lose heat much faster than if you stay as still as possible.

**Use a whistle to attract help.** **Act slowly and deliberately to conserve heat** and move slowly back to where you entered the water. Expect a progressive decrease in your strength and ability to move. Make the harder moves to attempt to get out of the beginning while you can.

**If you are wearing a snowmobile helmet and your face is in the water**, remove the helmet as quickly as possible because it can fill with water and cause you to drown. Hold onto it to keep afloat.

**Once on the ice, try to push yourself forward on your stomach** or roll on your side to keep the weight distributed over a greater surface area. Do not stand up until you have moved onto the ground or an area of solid ice.

**If you would like more information on ice safety, contact the Red Cliff Wardens at 715-779-3732. If you have an ice emergency DIAL 911.**

# Red Cliff Tribal Fish Hatchery

The Red Cliff Tribal Fish Hatchery has been spawning its coaster brook trout broodstock over the last few weeks. Each week staff has been checking fish status and collecting eggs from ripe female fish. Eggs are fertilized on site and placed in rearing trays to develop. Some eggs are a few weeks along and starting to show some development. Over the next few weeks staff will continue to monitor egg development, and shortly after eggs will hatch.

About a month ago the hatchery has also recently installed a new oxygen monitoring system in the hatchery buildings. With this new system staff is able to remotely look at individual fish tanks and read real time oxygen levels. This is a great improvement for the hatchery and makes the lives of staff much easier. All of



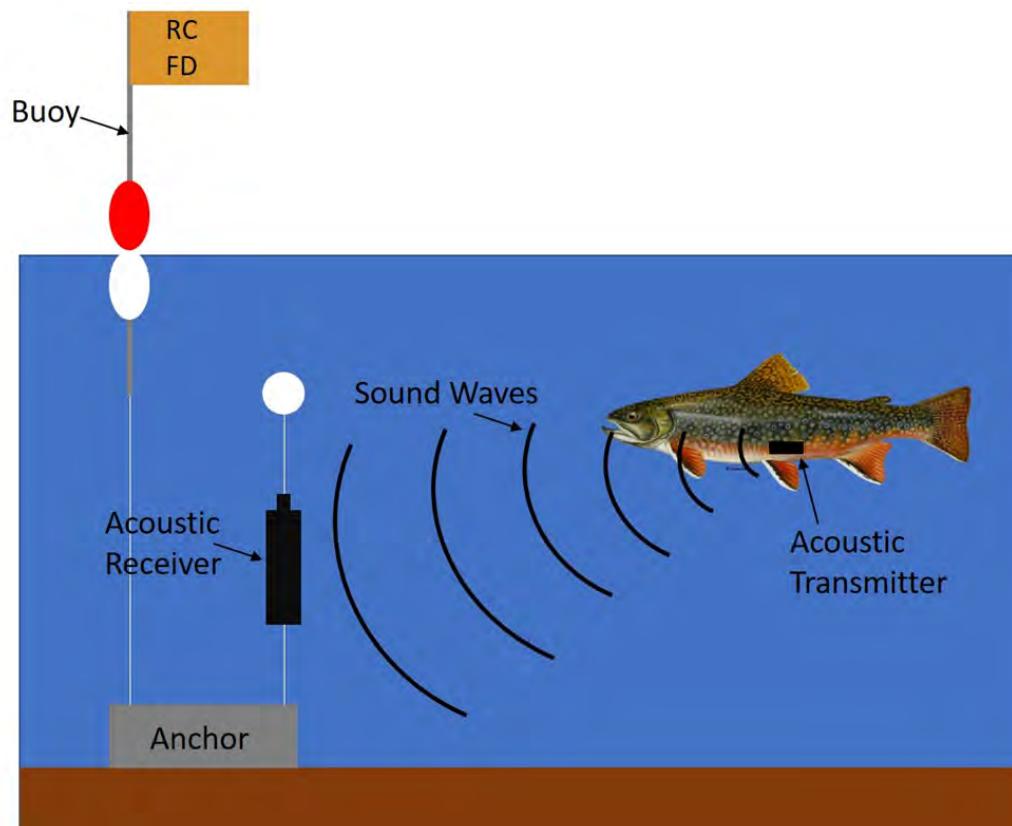
the broodstock tanks and all of the partial recirculation tanks are equipped with a YSI odo probe. This probe monitors oxygen levels as well as temperature and will send alarms directly to staff if levels are either too high or too low. Data from these probes will also store so that staff will be able to track oxygen and temperature levels overtime in each of these tanks. This is a very useful upgrade for the hatchery and will provide valuable information year-round.

The hatchery is also in the process of writing a section of the Treaty Natural Resources Comprehensive Plan. This is a plan will help guide the hatchery over the next ten years and highlight some of the projects and collaborations for the hatchery in the years to come.

# Fisheries Program Update

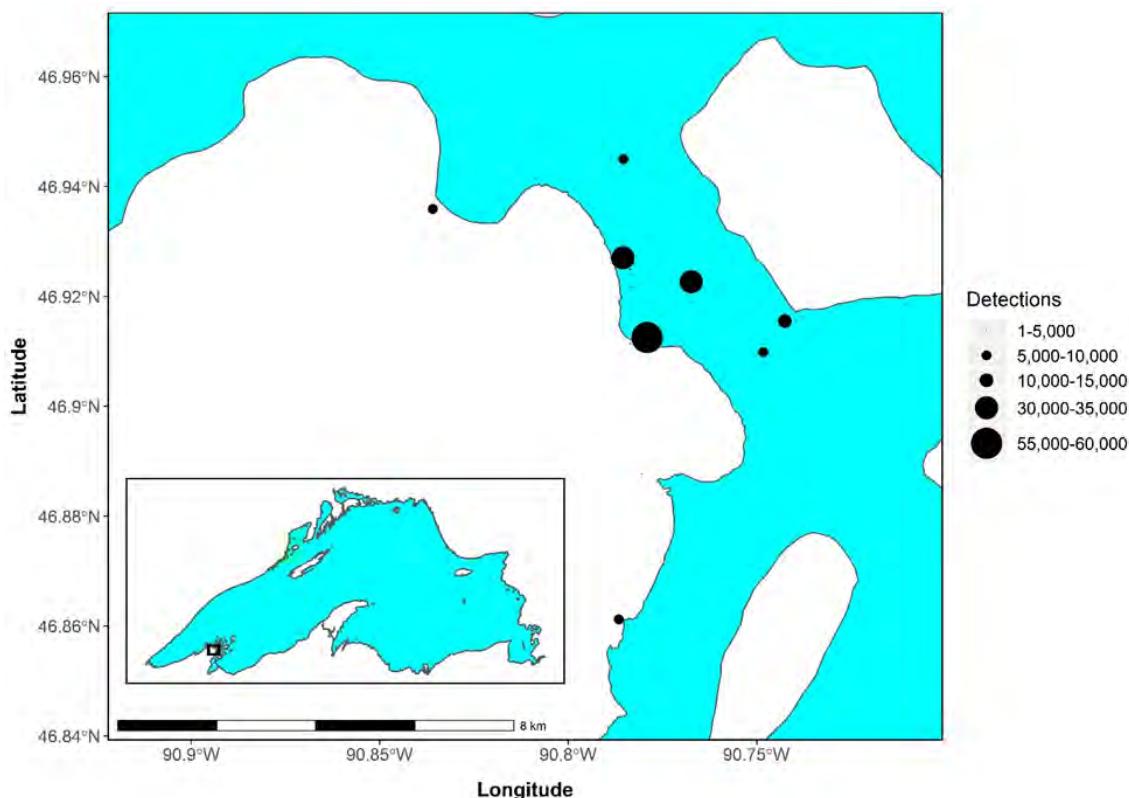
The Red Cliff Fisheries and Hatchery programs have finished the field work for the study of Brook Trout movement and predation in Gichigami (Lake Superior). We implanted Brook Trout from our hatchery with acoustic transmitters and stocked them in Gichigami June 12<sup>th</sup> of this year. The acoustic transmitters emit unique pulses of sound that communicate with the acoustic receivers we placed in Gichigami along the mainland shoreline and Oak Island. Using this technology, we were able to track the movements of the fish and can even tell if they were eaten! A full report is forthcoming but check out what we have learned so far.

The fish were detected throughout our array of receivers and many fish moved from the lake into Chicago Creek, Frog Creek, and the Raspberry River. One fish may have made it all the way to Black Bay, Ontario, but we are still investigating this. Eighteen of our fish (36%) were predated on and they ranged in size from 6 to 11 inches. We were hoping the larger fish would have lower predation rates, but this was not observed in this study. Most of the predation detections were in Frog Bay and there was a surprising number of predation detections in the Raspberry River.

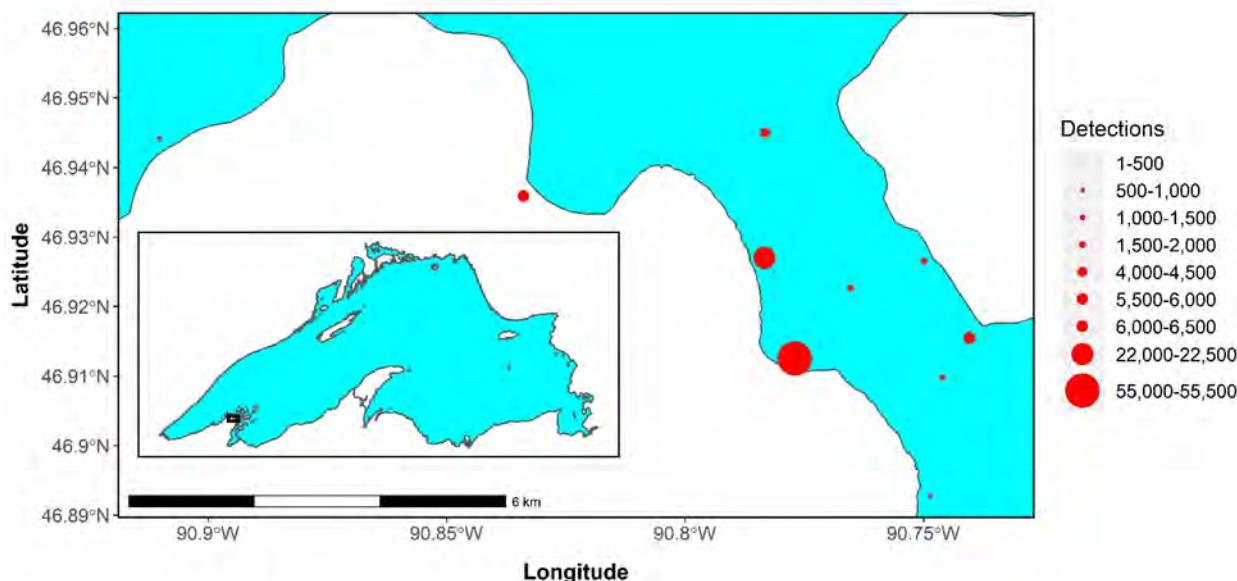


The acoustic telemetry system.

# Fisheries Program Update



Locations where our Brook Trout have been detected. The size of the dot indicates the number of detections. Frog Bay and Oak Island are located near the center of the map.



Locations where predators that ate our Brook Trout have been detected. The size of the dot indicates the number of detections. Frog Bay and Oak Island are located near the center of the map.

# Mino Bimaadiziwin Gitigaanin Update

Mino Bimaadiziwin had a busy, productive and rewarding field season. Beginning in March with the iskigamizigan (sugarbush) and through the first freeze in November, the spring, summer and fall months were a whirlwind of planting, cultivating, and harvesting. Some highlights of the season include:

- The farm had a iskigamizigan (sugarbush) in collaboration with the Bayfield School District, and hosted field trips for the students to participate in this important cultural and agricultural practice. Zhiwaagamizigan (maple syrup) was given to the school, included in weekly produce share boxes, donated to various events, and is available for sale.
- The annual Plant Give-Away was a success, with several hundred plant starts and seed packets given away to community members for home use and backyard gardening.
- This was the second year of production in the farm's high tunnel. The space was used to increase production of heat-loving crops like tomatoes, cucumbers, and peppers.
- This season also marked the third year of the Mino Bimaadiziwin Weekly Produce Share. Participants who signed up received weekly boxes of fruit, vegetables, and eggs for 17 weeks throughout the season. Miigwech to all who supported the farm through this program!
- A new flock of laying hens arrived as chicks this spring and moved into the chicken coop in July. Eggs produced from the happy hens went into the Weekly Produce Share boxes, and are sold to the ECC and community members.



Top photo: Cherry tomatoes harvested from the high tunnel.  
Middle: Some laying hens on the ramp to their outdoor pen.  
Bottom: Ode'iminan (strawberries) harvested in June.



Other seasonal highlights include:

- New medicine beds were built with the help of summer TNR interns and Environmental Department staff, and will be used next year to grow herbs and medicines for the community.
- Through support from the Red Cliff Health Clinic, the farm hosted cider pressing at Fall Fest, and had vouchers available for produce and syrup at the event. Clinic staff also delivered weekly produce boxes from the farm to the Elderly Center and to the New Hope Housing Development.
- Multiple field trips from the Bayfield School District came out to harvest mishiimin (apples) and press them into delicious cider.
- This season, produce grown at the farm made its way to the Early Childhood Center, Legendary Waters Resort and Casino, the Food Distribution Summer Program, the Elderly Center, the New Hope Housing Development, the Noojimo'iwewin Center, the Bayfield School District, as well as to the Weekly Produce Share boxes. The Farm Stand was open a few times over the summer—be on the look out for more Farm Stand days next summer!
- Through a group TNR effort, a new building was assembled for boiling sap and housing tapping supplies. Chi-miigwech to all who helped with the assembly! This upcoming sugarbush season, the farm will once again tap trees in collaboration with the Bayfield School District.

Interested the Weekly Produce Share for next season? Or, for any other questions, reach out to [allissa.stutte@redcliff-nsn.gov](mailto:allissa.stutte@redcliff-nsn.gov), or (715) 779—3782



Top to bottom: Students at the sugarbush, calendula flowers from the medicine beds, sugar shack assembly, produce from the farm.

2020

JANUARY 31 - FEBRUARY 2

# MA'IIINGAN SYMPOSIUM

NORTHERN GREAT LAKES VISITOR CENTER

29270 County Hwy G, Ashland, WI 54806

Ma'iingan is a brother to Anishinaabeg and an asset to the ecosystems in which he lives—still, fear of the wolf persists. Join Great Lakes Tribes with our government and non-government partners to learn about Ma'iingan through research and traditional stories.

## Event Schedule

**Friday Evening 3-9 PM (open to everyone)**

Informational Tables by Tribes and Partners, Welcoming Address, Talk on Ma'iingan by Adrian Wydeven, Traditional Feast, Showing of *Brother Ma'iingan* Documentary

**Saturday Morning 8AM-1PM (open to everyone)**

Informational Tables and Light Breakfast, Stories and Knowledge about Ma'iingan, Breakout Groups: Ma'iingan and Livestock, Ma'iingan and People, Lunch

**Saturday Afternoon 1-5PM (Tribes only)**

Tribal Ma'iingan Relationship Plans Talk by Abi Fergus, Ma'iingan Treaties Talk by Peter David, Actions to Honor and Protect Ma'iingan

**Saturday Night 5-9PM (open to everyone)**

Traditional Feast, Traditional Stories about Ma'iingan

**Sunday Morning 9AM-12PM (Tribes only)**

Presentation on Ma'iingan Treaty, Actions to Honor and Protect Ma'iingan



Bad River Band of Lake  
Superior Chippewa Indians



Mashkizibii Natural Resources  
Department

scan me



Seats at Friday's traditional feast are limited, so be sure to register! No fee. Scan the QR code to the right, or visit [www.northland.edu/sustainability/soei/twa/wolfsymposium](http://www.northland.edu/sustainability/soei/twa/wolfsymposium). For more info or to get involved, contact Bad River Wildlife Specialist Abi Fergus at [wildlife@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:wildlife@badriver-nsn.gov) or at (715) 685-7840, ext. 1554. Miigwech!

# Keep a look out for Feral Hogs



Feral pigs can transmit diseases and parasites to livestock and people. Farmers are especially worried about the potential spread of exotic diseases to their domestic livestock. Of primary concern are diseases such as pseudorabies, brucellosis and tuberculosis. Many farmers are also troubled by potential crop losses. Feral pigs can be extremely destructive to recently planted fields and can damage pastures, facilities and fences, resulting in serious financial losses. Wallows can affect ponds and wetlands by muddying the water, creating algae blooms, destroying aquatic vegetation and lowering overall water quality. Digging and rooting activity of feral pigs near a watercourse leads to bank erosion. All of this activity can lead to decreased livestock use and poor fish production.

Due to feral pigs' tramping and rooting behaviors, wildlife biologists in Wisconsin and other states are becoming increasingly concerned about the devastation these exotic animals can cause to ecologically sensitive native habitats, particularly native plants and rare, threatened or endangered species. These biologists are beginning to tie feral pigs to documented population declines in grassland birds, wetland wildlife, and various small mammals.

Please report any sightings of feral hogs to the Red Cliff Wardens or Wildlife staff. 715-779-3795

# Felony Trespass Bill: AB 426

## What Is It and Why Does It Matter?

**This is an update to allow people to make informed decisions. This is NOT an endorsement of the law nor is it meant to scare, deter or intimidate anyone from exercising “rights of usual occupancy” (Treaty Rights) protected by the 1837 and 1842 treaties.**

### What is it and what is new about it?

AB 426, known as Felony Trespass Bill, expanded Wisconsin law that prohibited trespassing on land that is owned, leased or operated by energy infrastructure such as electric or natural gas powerplants punishable by up to six years in prison and up to \$10,000 fine. The updated bill expands the definition of “energy infrastructure” to include oil pipelines, electrical transmission lines and water pipelines, affiliated companies.

### How can it affect tribal members?

The use of energy corridors (such as pipeline right of ways electrical lines) for anything from hunting to recreationally snowmobiling could constitute as Felony Trespass under the updated law. Additionally, protesting at a worksite, office building, right of way or other land used, leased or owned by an energy company constitutes as Felony Trespass.

### Where did it come from?

This bill is similar to others bills proposed across the country that have been written by the American Legislative Exchange Council and other lobbyists like the American Petroleum Institute. The bill was sponsored by Senator Bewley and signed by Governor Evers.



# 2019 Elderly Deer Hunt – Giving Back to the Community

**By: Linda Nguyen, Environmental Director**

November 14th, 2019 marked the annual Red Cliff community deer hunt event, an event which dates back to the late eighties—an almost three-decade tradition! Numerous Red Cliff hunters brought in their harvested waawaashkeshi (deer) to be processed. This year, the Bayfield Highschool Alternative Education students helped package the deer meat (see Photo 1 and 2).

Afterwards, the meat is distributed to Red Cliff elders as well as made available for important feasts or gatherings. For the past several years, the Treaty

Natural Resources Division staff has led the charge for processing and butchering. This year, a total of 5 deer were brought in! This event is just one of the opportunities for community to come together to give back.



**Photo 1.** TNR staff and youth processing deer.



**Photo 2.** Youth packaging deer meat.

Venison is perhaps one of the healthiest meats in the world! It is a very good source of protein. We use every part of the deer possible. This year, two hides were retained for use in youth programming. The rest of the hides were donated to the Iron River Lions to help support the Wisconsin Lions Camp Program that provides free opportunities to help children and adults with hearing or vision impairments, autism, diabetes or epilepsy experience outdoor activities. To date, the Red Cliff Wildlife Program has submitted chronic wasting disease (CWD) samples for testing from the

5 deer processed for elders and three other deer harvested by Red Cliff members. Results from all 8 samples tested thus far have come back as “CWD Not-Detected”. A few more samples from hunter harvested and car-killed deer will be sent for testing in the next few weeks.

**Chi miigwech to everyone who made this event successful!**

# Red Cliff Wildlife & Forestry

*A Tail of Three Friends: Ajidamoo, Gijigijigaaneshiinh and Waawaashkeshi*



**Above: Ajidamoo (a Red Squirrel)**

*Picture taken by Andy Edwards, Red Cliff Wildlife and Forestry Biologist*



**Above: Gijigijigaaneshiinh  
(a Chickadee)**

*Picture taken by Andy Edwards, Red Cliff Wildlife and Forestry Biologist*

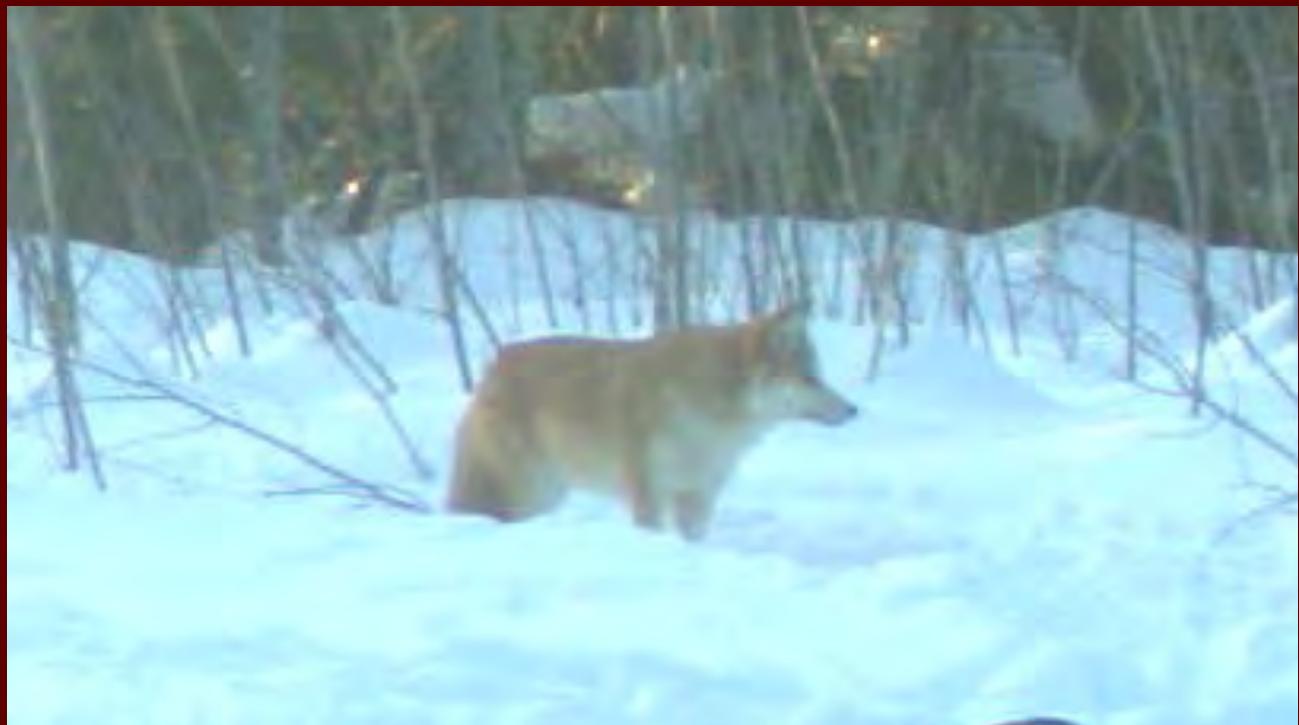


**Above: Waawaashkeshi (a deer)**

*Picture taken by Red Cliff Wildlife and Forestry Program*

# Red Cliff Wildlife & Forestry

*Migizi, and wiisagizi maa'ingan: An eagle and a coyote*





## Gi-Ganawemaanaan Nibi: We Are Protecting the Water

January 2020

**Nibi Akawe Mashkiki**, water is the first medicine. **Nibi Bimaadiziwin**, water is life. Any threat to water is a threat to all life, the Anishinaabeg, **giigoonh** (fish), **mashkiki** (medicines) and all of our other **indinawemaaganag** (relatives). As industry continues to try to destroy the **aki** (land) and **nibi** (water) people continue to resist.

### Line 5 Updates:

- Enbridge's 66 year old pipeline moves oil and natural gas from **Oodenaang** (Superior, WI) to near the Aamjiwnaang First Nation near Sarnia, Ontario travelling under the Straits of Mackinac. Line 5 has had over 30 spills totaling over 1 million gallons of oil.
- Enbridge is preparing to reroute the pipeline directly around the Bad River Reservation in response to Bad River's lawsuit.
- Enbridge is seeking consent from land owners to survey land for a potential Line 5 reroute directly around the Bad River Reservation. There have been several reports of surveyors trespassing on private land.
- Mellen Common Council denied Enbridge's request to do land surveys on city owned parcels after hearing from community members. A couple months later the City of Mellen sold one of the parcels to Enbridge. The land deal may not be binding because Mellen acquired the land for the purpose of turning it into a public park.
- The Sierra Club, Bad River and others are working with landowners to resist Enbridge's pressure and intimidation to allow land surveys.
- A Michigan Court of Claims ruled that Enbridge is able to build a tunnel for Line 5 in the Straits of Mackinac per Public Act 359. Michigan's leadership plan to appeal this decision. Attorney Generals in Wisconsin, Minnesota and California have filed amicus briefs supporting Michigan's lawsuit claiming the State has an obligation to protect the public's rights in public waters and decommission Line 5.
- A report of Enbridge's Financial Assurance focusing on Line 5 in the Straits of Mackinac was completed for the State of Michigan. It found that Enbridge assets are tied up in various projects and are not readily available in the event of a spill. Additionally, the relationship between Enbridge Energy and Enbridge Inc. is setup in a way that shields the parent company from any spill related costs.



Enbridge's proposed reroute



The land Mellen wants to sell to Enbridge



## Gi-Ganawemaanaan Nibi: We Are Protecting the Water

### Line 3 Updates:

- A proposed tar sands pipeline that would cross over 200 water ways and the heart of **Manoomin** (wild rice) nibi from the Cree, Chipewyan and Metis territory known as Alberta, Canada to **Oodenaang** (Superior, WI).
- A Minnesota Court of Appeals determined the state's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) failed to include the impact of a potential oil spill in the **Anishinaabe Gichigami** (Lake Superior) basin. A new EIS (this is now the third version of the EIS for this project) was released for public comment in early December.
- After the Public Utilities Commission has reviewed public comments they will make a decision whether or not to accept the newest version of the EIS. If accepted, the Commissioners will the vote to issue the Certificate of Need for the Line 3 Expansion Project as well as vote to Approve the Route.
- The Minnesota DNR has about to a dozen Line 3 related permit applications they have been reviewing since March 2018. The DNR is expecting Enbridge to submit revised permit applications shortly.
- On September 27th, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) denied Enbridge's 401 Water Quality Permit due to the Minnesota Court of Appeals' ruling that the state EIS was insufficient. Enbridge has since reapplied for a Water Quality 401 Certificate. Enbridge resubmitted this past November. The MPCA has several other permits they are currently reviewing as well.
- White Earth issued Cease and Desist in response to Enbridge conducting a training on reservation regarding cultural surveys for the Line 3 corridor without Tribal consent.
- Water protectors marched on Enbridge's Clearbrook Terminal, which is a key facility for Line 3 and the transporting of tar sands, twice this fall.



Over 200 people march on Enbridge's Clearbrook Terminal on Indigenous Peoples Day to oppose Line 3



Water Protectors return to the Clearbrook Terminal in late November to oppose Line 3



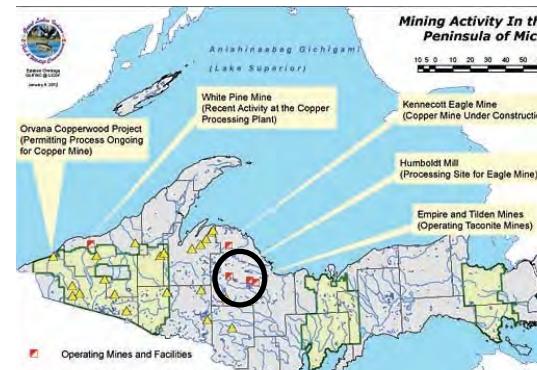
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### Tilden Mine Updates:

- The EPA has cited Tilden Mine for continued Clean Air Act violations and filed a suit against the company. An out of court settlement is expected and would likely result in the Tilden Mine being fined far less than what the EPA initially called for.
- The Tilden Mine has submitted a permit application to enlarge their existing dam. Keweenaw Bay is concerned about this expansion due to dam safety and the potential of a spill.



### Humboldt Mill Updates:

- GLIFWC has been conducting water quality testing down stream of the Humboldt Mill's new discharge location. They have found increased levels of water conductivity and are researching the source of the increased conductivity.



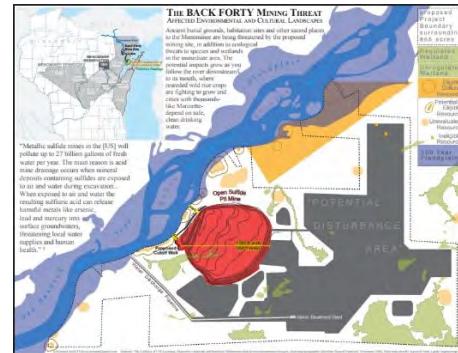
### Eagle Mine Updates:

- Eagle Mine, just east of Keweenaw Bay Indian Community in 1842 territory, formally notified the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (now EGLE, Environmental, Great Lakes and Energy) of a discharge in June, 2018 at the Humboldt Mill processing facility. In November, 2018 Eagle Mine again notified MDEQ (now EGLE) of a "chronic toxicity exceedance". In March, 2019 Eagle Mine reported a sulfuric acid discharge due to a forklift puncturing a tote. A report on the discharges and chronic toxicity exceedance was published this summer indicating Eagle Mine is handling the situation in accordance with Michigan standards.
- Eagle Mine has submitted two Permit To Install (air use permit) applications. Comment periods are expected to open after EGLE reviews the documents.
- The nickel and copper mine recently announced that the life of the mine will be extended from 2023 to 2025.

## **Gi-Ganawemaanaan Nibi: We Are Protecting the Water**

## **Back 40 Mine Updates:**

- The Back 40 Mine is a proposed sulfide mine on the shores of the **Manoominkaani-ziibi** (Menominee River), upstream of the birth of the Menominee People and **Boojwiikwed** (Green Bay) proposed by Aquila Resources.
- The Menominee Nation is still in court challenging the USACE's failure to act as a permitting authority.
- Coalition to SAVE the Menominee River Inc. continues their contested case over the issued Wetlands Permit in Lansing, Michigan. The Coalition has also filed a federal case against the EPA and USACE.
- The Menominee Nation is working towards recognizing the Rights of the Menominee River to ensure that it is protected for generations yet to come.
- In mid December Michigan Department of Environmental, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE) approved Aquila Resources Air Permit and Amended Mining Permit, however mining permit approval has many conditions associated with it.
- EGLE recently received additional information that had been requested from Aquila Resources regarding the company's Part 315 Dam Safety Permit. EGLE is expecting a new Dam Safety Permit to be submitted by Aquila Resources, which allow for yet another round of public comment.

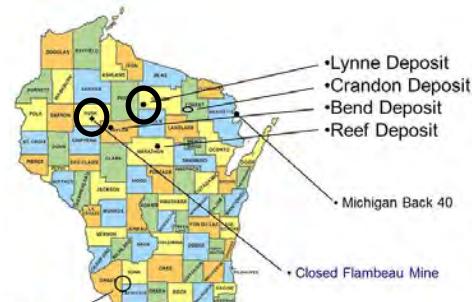


## **Aquila Resources Exploration Updates:**

- Aquila Resources, the company that owns the proposed Back 40 Mine, has received Prospect Mining permits from the BLM for land in the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest north of Perkinstown.

## Lynne Mine Updates:

- Lac du Flambeau has reached out to Oneida County Board to discuss their mining ordinance.
- GLIFWC will be begin collecting baseline water sample this summer.
- In November, 2018 62% of participating voters in Lynne voted against mining on County forest land. Earlier this month the County Board voted on a resolution to prohibit metallic mining. The resolution was blocked by an 11 to 8 vote in support of mining.



## Flambeau Mine Updates:

- The Flambeau Mine Company has requested to make their water quality monitoring requirements less stringent for the closed Flambeau Mine.



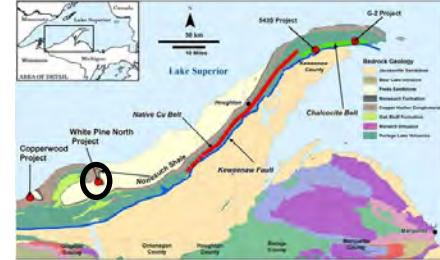
## Gi-Ganawemaanaan Nibi: We Are Protecting the Water

January 2020

**Nibi Akawe Mashkiki**, water is the first medicine. **Nibi Bimaadiziwin**, water is life. Any threat to water is a threat to all life, the Anishinaabeg, **giigoonh** (fish), **mashkiki** (medicines) and all of our other **indinawemaaganag** (relatives). As industry continues to try to destroy the **aki** (land) and **nibi** (water) people continue to resist.

### White Pine Mine Updates:

- The White Pine Mine sparked the historic Anishinaabe railroad blockade in Bad River and closed in 1995.
- Highland Copper, the company that owns the Copperwood Project, purchased White Pine in 2014/15. The Preliminary Economic Assessment was recently released and indicated that once copper is at \$3/lb it would be economically viable to begin mining.



### Copperwood Mine Updates:

- The Copperwood Mine is a proposed copper mine near the shores of Anishinaabe Gichigami just outside of the Porcupine State Park.
- Bad River THPO assessed that the state issued permits are not in compliance with National Historic Preservation Act due to lack of consultation and cultural reviews.
- Currently a portion of the proposed route of the Water Intake Structure (WIS) is expected to cross the Ottawa National Forest, but no application has been submitted. The Army Corp has not yet performed an environmental review for the proposed Water Intake Structure and an updated NPDES permit is needed.



### Nemadji Trail Energy Center Updates:

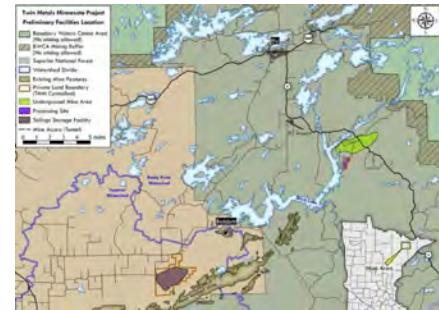
- Dairyland Power Cooperative and a subsidiary of Minnesota Power have proposed a natural gas powerplant in **Oodenaang** (Superior, WI). The project site is located on the Nemadji River next to an Enbridge facility and is expected to run on gas from horizontal fracturing (fracking) sites.
- A final EIS has been developed by the Wisconsin DNR and the Public Services Commission (PSC). Public hearings on the EIS and project application were held in Superior. Many public comments in support of the project came from union representatives, business owners and elected officials supporting the project for financial reasons while comments opposed to the project came from community members concerned about the health and environmental impacts.



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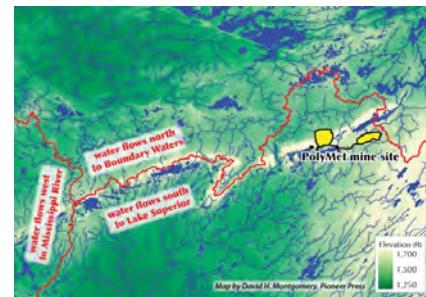
### **Twin Metals Mine Updates:**

- Twin Metals is expected to be an underground metal mine in Northeastern Minnesota. Very few project details are known at this time, but a Mine Plan is expected to be submitted soon.
- The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is expecting Twin Metals to submit a Mine Plan this fall. The BLM, Minnesota DNR and any tribes interested in being Cooperating Agencies will then begin to develop an EIS, which is expected to take at least one year to develop. Once a Mine Plan has been submitted the BLM will begin tribal consultations.
- The Minnesota DNR announced that they will conduct a state-level Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The BLM and USFS are expected to conduct a federal EIS based on discrepancy for state and federal EIS requirements.
- A state issued Water Quality Certification must be approved (which requires an EIS to first be completed) before any BLM permits can be applied for due to conditions of the land lease.



### **PolyMet Mine Updates:**

- The proposed sulfide mine located just outside of the Boundary Waters had received most of its permits, however legal challenges and investigations are causing many to be put on hold.
- Fond du Lac challenged the land that was transferred from the US Forest Service to PolyMet. The tribe is also challenging the Air Permit, Permit to Mine, Dam Safety Permit and the NPDES Permit.
- Minnesota Court of Appeals placed a temporary hold on the mine permit, dam safety permits and NPDES permit due to several concerns including the fact that EPA comments were concealed during the review process.
- A Minnesota Court of Appeals recently ordered a forensic search of three former MPCA officials regarding concealed EPA staff comments.



### **Minntac Mine Updates:**

- The Minnesota Court of Appeals reversed Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's decision to renew the mine's Waste Water Discharge permit. The permit originally expired in 1992 and the discharge has been exceeding Minnesota standards for sulfate discharge in manoomin waters based on data collected by 1854 Treaty Authority. Fond du Lac and Water Legacy were leading the legal challenge.





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## Want to get involved and protect the Nibi?

### Upcoming Educational Events:

- **Stay Tuned for Updates!** We are working with Ogichidaag and Ogichidakweag fighting Enbridge pipelines to come to the community and share their stories of resistance!

### Opportunities to Comment to the Federal or State Agencies:

- The U.S. Forest Service is **still** accepting public comments regarding Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest's expired Line 5 Special Use Permit, for details go to: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=44889>
- Information on Enbridge's Line 3 EIS and the comment period that ends January 16th can be found here:  
<https://mn.gov/commerce/energyfacilities/line3/>
- Want to sign up with MN DNR and MCA for Line 3 updates? Check out these websites:  
<https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/line3/index.html>  
<https://www.pca.state.mn.us/regulations/enbridge-line-3-pipeline-replacement-project>

### Want to join the Frontlines?

- Contact the Ginew Collective to help fight Line 3 [ginew@protonmail.com](mailto:ginew@protonmail.com) or [www.facebook.com/ginewcollective/](https://www.facebook.com/ginewcollective/)

For more information about any these projects, please contact our Environmental Justice Specialist at [noah.saperstein@redcliff-nsn.gov](mailto:noah.saperstein@redcliff-nsn.gov) or (715) 779 3650 ext. 4315

# Red Cliff Treaty Natural Resources Division is Writing a Ten Year Comprehensive Plan

*The plan will guide management of the  
Tribe's natural resources from 2020-2030*

Our previous planning document, the Integrated Resource Management Plan (IRMP), expired in 2016. We began survey efforts for community input to the new plan over Pow Wow weekend last July. Since that time, we also had one-on-one interviews with elders and directed classroom discussions with middle and high school students in Bayfield. The survey results we've received have been tremendously helpful in writing the plan's initial draft.

Our goal is to have a final, community-approved plan presented to Tribal Council for approval in July 2020. We still have a long way to go to truly make this plan "comprehensive".

Here is our anticipated timeline between now and July:

- Release rough draft to tribal departments and programs in January 2020 for feedback and comment.
- Incorporate comments from tribal departments and release an official draft to the community in February 2020.
- After the draft has been out a couple weeks, we plan to have a community feast at Legendary Waters to present an overview of the plan and take community feedback (late February or early March).
- A final draft will be released in April with a last opportunity for Red Cliff community members to provide their comment.

We welcome everyone's involvement and participation!

# Styrofoam – What's the Deal?

By Linda Nguyen, Environmental Director

What do throw-away coffee cups, soup bowls, and trays all have in common? Check out photo 1.

None of them can be recycled at the Red Cliff Transfer Station. Some commercial mailing houses may accept packing peanuts, but for the most part, community recycling centers do not accept throwaway foam food containers.

Also, styrofoam does not decompose in the environment under normal circumstances. Much like plastic, styrofoam is made from a polystyrene-based petroleum product that is not biodegradable. Plastic takes hundreds of years to decompose, and styrofoam takes much longer because it is a stronger form of plastic, while it can also release hazardous toxins into the environment. When it is littered in the environment, turtles and fish can mistake it for food, causing mortalities.



**Photo 1.**  
Common  
styrofoam  
products.

How do we reduce styrofoam litter in the environment and landfills? Check out photo 2.

Some cities like New York City, Seattle, Minneapolis, and San Francisco have banned styrofoam! Here at Red Cliff, we can reduce styrofoam litter by reducing our usage of it. Some ways include:

*-Take your own containers to restaurants for any leftovers.*

*-Hold off on purchasing single-use cups, plates and bowls. Instead, use reusable cups, plates, and bowls.*

*-Avoid using non-recyclable packaging for mailings*

*-If you have to use single-use, use plant based or compostable materials. Some restaurants in the area, like Maggie's, uses these!*

I challenge each and every one of you to help clean up and protect our natural resources!



**Photo 2.** Styrofoam cup in swept up on the shoreline and landfills.

# Is Your Christmas Wrapping Recyclable?

By: Linda Nguyen, Environmental Director

A common mistake many people make around the holidays is loading their recycling bins with wrapping paper, tissue, ribbons, and more. Unfortunately, the shiny, laminated paper is not recyclable. Here are some helpful tips for this holiday season:



**Bows (Plastic or Ribbon)** - These items are not recyclable. Reuse them or dispose of them in household trash.



**Wrapping Paper** - If paper is metallic, has glitter or is velvety, these items are not recyclable. Reuse it or dispose of them in household trash.



**Christmas Cards** - If cards are printed on shiny paper, has glitter, or metallic embossing, these items are not recyclable. Reuse it or dispose of them in household trash.

When you're buying next year's wrapping paper, you can reduce the environmental impact of your purchase by looking for paper made from recycled materials. Try also to avoid foiled and laminated papers, to make sure as much of it as possible can be recycled again.

And there you have it – recycling holiday gift wrappings really couldn't be easier! Call Environmental Department at 715-779-3650, if there are any questions!



# Winter Pet Care

Winter is here again, meaning not only cold weather for us, but for our pets as well. Indoor and outdoor pets feel the effects of winter weather and here are a few tips to ensure a healthy and happy pet.

1. Most pets should be welcomed into the home to keep safe and warm.
2. If your dog is chained outside, a doghouse must be provided. According to Red Cliff Ordinance 15.10.2 - *No owner or keeper shall fail to provide an animal (s) with food, water, adequate shelter, or proper care when needed to prevent suffering.* To provide the most comfortable shelter the house should be a few inches off the ground to allow for air circulation and waterproof. A flap covering the entrance will help keep the warm air inside the house and provide protection from wind gusts. The dog house should be large enough for the dog to lie down and have a little head room when sitting down. At this size the dog's body warmth will keep the house warm. Adding fresh hay, straw, and cedar shaving will add warmth and comfort.
3. When temperatures drop below 20 degrees it is best to keep your pet indoors. When it drops below 40 degrees short haired dogs, elderly dogs, and puppies should be kept indoors.
4. Keep a watchful eye on your pet. Frostbite can affect both dogs and cats and is common on ears, noses, paws, and bellies. Signs of frostbite include turning reddish, white, or grey and the skin is cool to touch. If your animal shows signs of frostbite, bring it indoors and call a veterinarian.
5. Outdoor cats may seek shelter in your car engine for warmth. Be sure to honk your horn or bang on the hood before starting the engine to give them extra time to evacuate.
6. Antifreeze attracts both cats and dogs. Ethylene glycol is an ingredient in antifreeze that provides a sweet taste which invites may invite animals to taste it. Even a small amount is enough to cause death. If a pet has swallowed antifreeze, call a veterinarian immediately.
7. Some salts used to clear roadways and sidewalks can be harmful for pets. Make sure you inspect your dogs' paws after walks for any embedded salt rocks and wipe paws to prevent them from ingesting it.
8. With the decrease in temperatures your pets' body will be working extra hard to produce more heat. This will increase their appetite and they will require more food than normal. Always have fresh, clean water available – snow is not enough. Check your outdoor pets' water frequently as it may freeze. Animals cannot burn calories without a fresh supply of drinking water.



If you follow these tips your pet can be comfortable throughout the winter which makes you a good pet owner. If you have an animal welfare concern or feel that someone is violating Red Cliff Ordinances you can call the Red Cliff Wardens at (715) 779-3732. If you need immediate assistance call Bayfield County Dispatch at 715-373-6120. If you have an emergency, dial 911.



**ATTENTION RED CLIFF TRIBAL MEMBERS  
FEE-EXEMPT PARKING IS AVAILABLE AT USFS  
VALHALLA RECREATION AREA**



**Through an agreement between participating GLIFWC member bands and the U.S. Forest Service, Tribal members may park for free with a permit in U.S.F.S. recreation areas. The free parking permits are available at the Red Cliff Wardens Office (715-779-3732).**



**MEYERS BEACH/SEA CAVE  
PARKING AREA**

To enhance the opportunity to exercise treaty-retained rights within the Lakeshore, **NO-FEE PARKING** may take place at Meyers Beach subject to the following conditions:

No member shall park at Meyers Beach without providing the following information **ON AN AVAILABLE FEE ENVELOPE** (insert no money):

1. Member's Name
2. Member's Address
3. Member's Tribal Affiliation
4. Member's Enrollment Number



ISKIGAMIZIGAN *A SUGAR BUSH*

MISHIIMIN *AN APPLE*

MA'IINGAN *A WOLF*

GOOKOSH *A PIG*

WIIYAAS *MEAT*



### Ojibwemowin Word Search

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

**BIBOON** (WINTER)

**WAABIZHESHI**

(A MARTEN)

**OJIIG** (A FISHER)

**WABOOZ**

(A SNOWSHOE HARE)

**NOOKIZIGWAA**

(THERE IS SOFT ICE)

**MAMAANGIPON**

(THERE ARE BIG SNOW-  
FLAKES)

**ISHPAAGONAGAA**

(IT IS DEEP SNOW)

**AAGIME**

(S/HE SNOWSHOES)

**GOOKOSH** (A PIG)

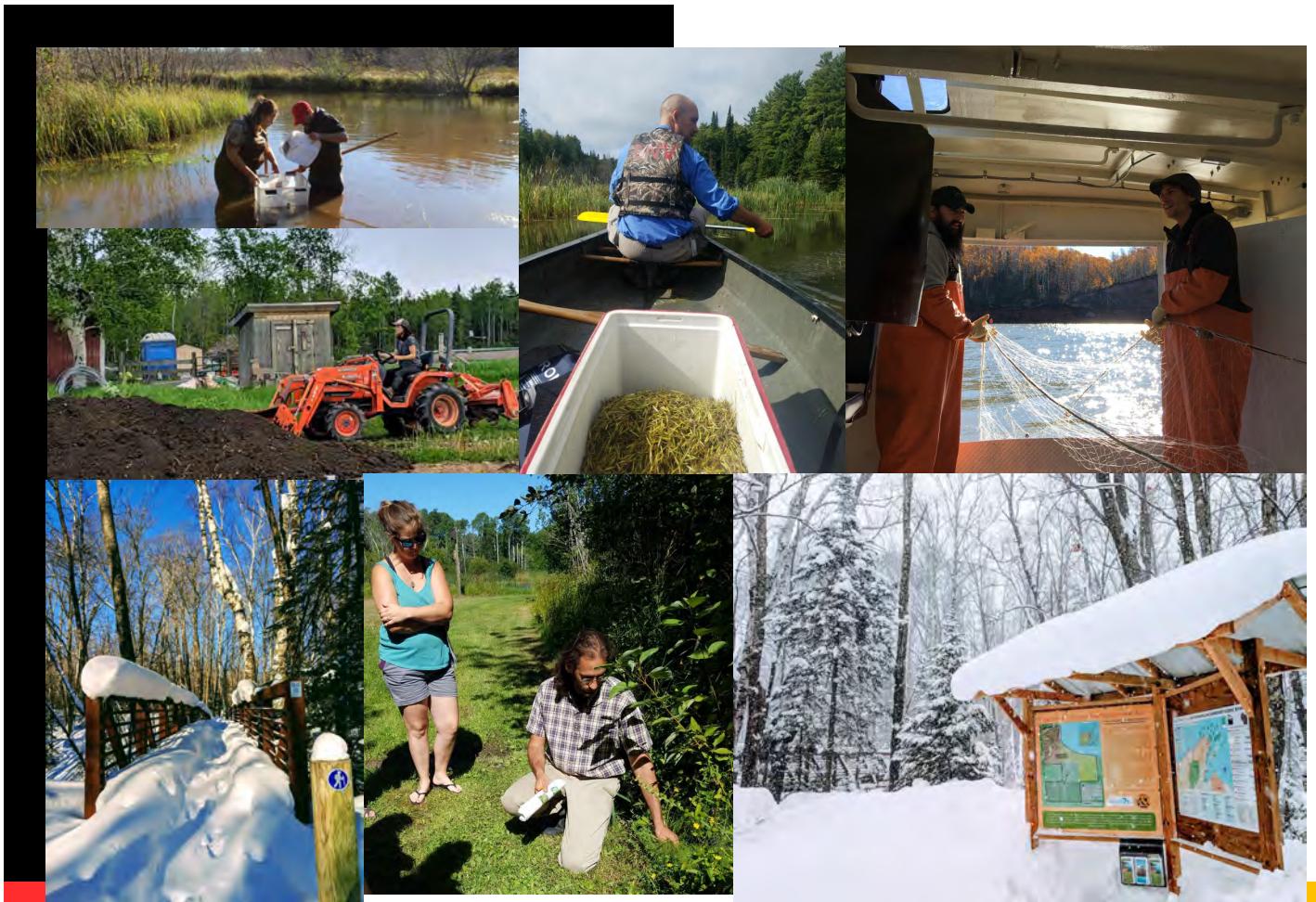
**WIIYAAS** (MEAT)

**MA'IINGAN** (A WOLF)

**MISHIIMIN** (AN APPLE)

**ISKIGAMIZIGAN**

(A SUGAR BUSH)



RED CLIFF BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR CHIPPEWA

## Treaty Natural Resources Division



Fisheries  
Environmental  
Natural Resources  
Transfer Station  
Conservation Wardens  
Mino Bimaadiziwin Farm

715-779-3750  
715-779-3650  
715-779-3795  
715-779-0171  
715-779-3732  
715-779-3782