

Common Ground

Spring 2010 Edition
2009 Annual Review

A Word from the Manager

Submitted by: Ervin Soulier, a.k.a. "Wood Turtle"



Upon reflecting on what happened in 2009, I can say one thing, 2009 was a tumultuous year for the Department. With the internal problems at the council level, to the passing of Matt O'Claire, a lot of stress was put on the staff and the Department's activities. But there were some good things that happened such as receiving treatment as a state designation (TAS) from the EPA which would allow the tribe to set its own water quality standards for the reservation; receiving an award for wetlands stewardship from the Wisconsin State Wetlands Association; tribal adoption of the Wetlands Management Plan, the Wetlands Mitigation Plan, and the Wetlands Protection Ordinance, and filling the vacancies of the Environmental Specialist as well as the Wetlands Specialist positions.

But 2009 also presented new challenges to the Department such as preparing for the invasion of the Emerald Ash Borer which is devastating the ash tree species in parts of Michigan, Illinois, Minnesota, and now it is being found in Wisconsin; the possible introduction of the Asian Carp into the Great Lakes Basin and possibly into Lake Superior; the current threat of VHS which is a deadly fish virus that has been found in Lake Superior, and now the potential impact of global warming on the environment.

These new challenges and the existing issues that we are currently working on presents us with a lot of work to do in 2010. Let's hope we are able to protect the reservation from the possible impacts the new threats present.

The following sections will contain more information of the accomplishments and activities of the various programs for 2009. I hope you enjoy the material and have a great 2010.



Pictured on left: 40 year old wood turtle



Right: Erv Soulier in natural habitat

2009 Fish and Game Program Accomplishments



By Timothy Wilson, Fisheries Specialist

The Tribe's Fish and Game Program is responsible for Lake Superior fisheries management, on-reservation fisheries and wildlife management, fish hatchery operations and maintenance, and conservation enforcement. The following is a summary of the program's accomplishments during 2009.

Lake Superior Fisheries Management

During the 2009 fishing year, Bad River commercial fisherman fished a total of 2,539,290 feet of large mesh gill net while fishing whitefish and lake trout on Lake Superior. This effort resulted in a yield of 73,209 pounds of lean lake trout (LLT), 230,193 pounds of whitefish (WF), 215 pounds of siscowet, 5,005 pounds of herring, and 34 pounds of walleye.

In October 2008, a TFM lampricide treatment was conducted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to control the sea lamprey population in the Bad River and its tributaries. Post treatment surveys were conducted by the USFWS in 2009, and it was determined the 2008 treatment was an effective treatment with no unusual problems. However, the large sea lamprey spawning run reported by GLIFWC in the Bad River during the spring of 2009 demonstrates the need for continued sea lamprey control and monitoring in the Bad River system.

Bad River Natural Resources Department (BRNRD) staff assisted USFWS staff conducting larval sea lamprey surveys within Kakagon River system during May 2009. Larval lampreys were not found in the system, and the next lamprey surveys in the system will be conducted in 2018.

On-Reservation Fisheries and Wildlife Management

The TAC for walleye in the Kakagon River for 2009 was developed in 2007 and was set at 1,280 fish. BRNRD staff monitored tribal member walleye harvest on the Kakagon River during the spring spawning season and recorded a harvest of 1,045 walleye.

Two Passive Integrated Transponder (PIT) tag detection stations were constructed on Graveyard Creek by BRNRD and USFWS staff during the 2009 summer. The stations record the direction of travel, the time, and the tag number of each tagged fish that passes over one of the station's antennas. Currently, there are thirty seven (37) brook trout in Graveyard Creek with an internal PIT tag.

The black bear population remains healthy on the reservation. Sixty eight (68) percent of the bait stations were hit in 2009. Six (6) nuisance bear were relocated, fifteen (15) bear complaints were investigated, and three (3) beaver dams were removed by program staff during 2009.



Fish Hatchery Operations & Maintenance

The Tribe's hatchery produced 3.8 million walleye fry, 134,581 walleye fingerlings, and 513,787 yellow perch fingerlings during 2009. The Kakagon River received 3.2 million walleye fry, 134,581 walleye fingerlings, and 513,787 yellow perch fingerlings. The remaining 600,000 walleye fry and 110,005 walleye fingerlings were stocked in the Bad River.

Conservation Enforcement

Tribal Wardens attended training relating to blasting, firearms proficiency, a mock oil spill, and snowmobile and ATV safety instruction during 2009. For the year, Tribal Wardens issued fifteen (15) citations. The majority of the cases were trespass and commercial fishing violations.

Highlights of Water Resources Projects in 2009

Submitted by: Naomi Tillison, Water Quality Specialist

On-going Water Quality Monitoring at Selected Stream/River and Wetland Sites

The basic water quality monitoring program on the Bad River Reservation began in 1997. Currently, the water quality monitoring involves assessing the waters for dissolved oxygen, water temperature, pH, conductivity, turbidity, hardness, solids, bacteria, chloride, and a variety of nutrients. Throughout 2009, 33 streams/river sites and 13 wetland sites were monitored.

Biomonitoring and Bioassessment of Reservation Streams and Wetlands

Macroinvertebrate communities are evaluated and vegetative surveys are conducted at selected streams/river and wetlands sites under this project. Macroinvertebrates (such as mayfly nymphs) are aquatic invertebrates that live at the bottom of our waters. In 2009, macroinvertebrate monitoring occurred at 6 stream/river sites and 12 wetland sites. Vegetative surveys were conducted at 12 wetland sites in 2009.

Inorganic Sediment Baseline Study for the Bad River

Due to the potential threat of mining in the area of the headwaters of Bad River, the inorganic sediment baseline study was initiated in 2006. Sediment samples are collected at selected sites once a year and are analyzed for a variety of inorganic constituents. This data will be utilized to establish baseline conditions of inorganic constituents. In 2009, 4 sites along the Bad River and its tributaries were sampled under the inorganic project.

Water Quality Standards/Treatment As A State

The Tribe began the process of working towards obtaining treatment as a state (TAS) for Clean Water Act Section 303/401 in 1997 and obtained TAS in the summer of 2009, which allows the Tribe to develop federally-recognized water quality standards. Core tribal water quality standards were adopted by the Tribal Council back in 2000. These standards will be utilized as a starting point for the water quality standard package, which will be submitted to the EPA for approval. Expect to hear more about these water quality standards in 2010.

If you have questions/comments, feel free to contact Pam Roberts at WOSCoordinator@badriver.com.



Maintenance of Well Database and Closure of Abandoned Wells



The Water Resources Program developed a database of all wells on the Reservation several years ago. With this database, abandoned wells within the Reservation boundaries were identified. The Water Resources Program continues to work on identifying and properly closing abandoned wells as they can serve as a conduit for pollution to reach the groundwater resources. If you know of an abandoned well that needs to be closed, please contact Ed Kolodziejki at vrtech@badriver.com.

Baseline Groundwater Quality Monitoring

Groundwater is the source of drinking water on the Reservation. Previous studies conducted within the Reservation showed much of the groundwater to be good quality. This project involves monitoring the groundwater for a variety of metals, organic chemicals, and dioxin/furans. In 2009, groundwater monitoring was conducted at 5 sites. In addition, groundwater monitoring also occurred at the capped landfill behind the Recycling Center.

Highlights of Water Resources Projects in 2009

- continued from page 3 -

Delineation, Mitigation and Protection of the Wetland Resources

The goal of this project is to provide assistance to the Tribe to minimize wetland impacts during development activities as well as protect those wetlands that are of high quality and function. Wetlands provide us with many valuable functions, such as improving water quality, providing fish and wildlife habitat, and storing water, which reduces flood risks and recharges ground and surface water resources. In 2009, a wetland ordinance was approved by the Tribal Council, and the Kakagon/Bad River Sloughs were recognized as a Wisconsin Wetland GEM by the Wisconsin Wetland Association. If you have questions about wetlands, please contact Kyle Hanson at wetlands@badriver.com.



Controlling Hybrid Cattails and Enhancing Wild Rice Beds in the Kakagon Sloughs



In 2009, 5.6 acres of hybrid cattail were hand-pulled or cut by Department staff with the help of consortium workers and summer youth. The hybrid cattail control occurred in areas located throughout the Kakagon Sloughs where the cattails were encroaching on the wild rice beds. The Department purchased wild rice to reseed these areas to enhance the wild rice beds.

Developing and Implementing a Non-Point Source Program

Non-point source (NPS) pollution is the Nation's largest source of water quality problems according to the EPA. It is caused by rainfall or snowmelt moving over or through the ground, and as the water moves, it picks up natural and human-made pollutants and eventually deposits them into our water resources. The NPS program, which started at the end of 2007, involves working with stakeholders to address a variety of NPS issues that threaten the quality of the water resources. In 2009, the majority of stream crossings on the Reservation were inventoried to identify inadequate crossings due to erosion/sedimentation and/or fish barrier issues.

Nutrient Study at Beartrap Creek

A nutrient study on Beartrap Creek started at the end of 2007 and is being conducted in cooperation with the USGS. This study involves operating a USGS gauging station on Beartrap Creek to collect flow data for the creek. This study also includes collecting and analyzing samples for a variety of nutrients to determine the nutrient loading to this creek, which is a tributary to the ecologically and culturally important Kakagon Sloughs.

Geomorphic and Habitat Assessments at Stream/River Sites

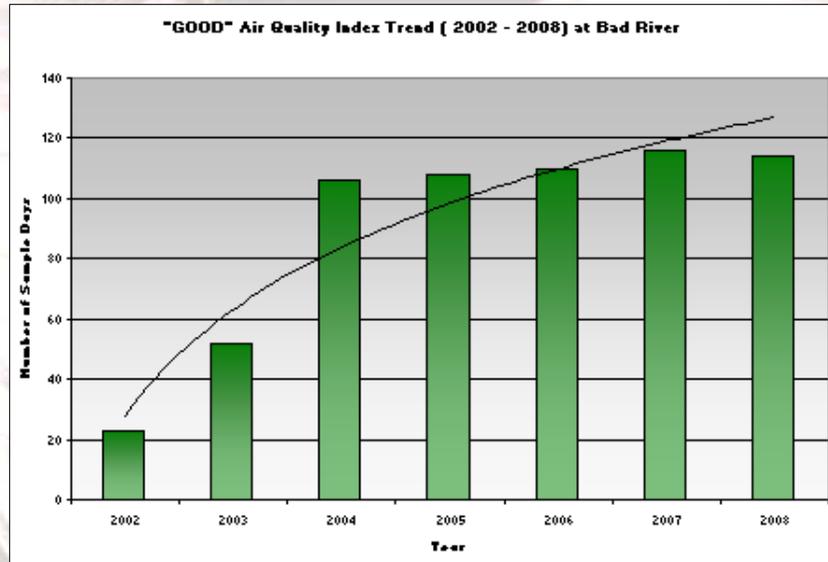
This project involves conducting geomorphic and habitat assessments at selected stream/river sites in order to determine the changes in the stream channel and substrate over time. In 2009, USGS provided technical assistance to the Water Resources Program to conduct this work at 2 sites located on the Bad River.

If you have questions/comments about these projects, feel free to contact Naomi Tillison at wqs@badriver.com.



Get Involved with the Bad River Watershed Association!

The Bad River Watershed Association (BRWA) is a community organization that works to involve citizens in taking care of and enjoying the Bad River Watershed – your watershed! Meet great people and see what opportunities await you in helping to take care of our watershed. The BRWA is looking for representation from the Bad River community on its board. If you are interested in learning more about the BRWA and possibly becoming a board member, please contact Pam Roberts at (715) 682-7123 or email WOSCoordinator@badriver.com. To learn more, visit the BRWA website at www.badriverwatershed.org.



Air Quality Annual Report 2009

Submitted by: Nathan Kilger

The Bad River Air Quality Office provided protection to the vital air resources of the Reservation in 2009 through ambient air monitoring, enhancing community environmental awareness, participation in regional and national policy groups and planning, and review of local, state, and national air pollution permits.

NAAQS and Ambient Air Monitoring

Air Quality Staff conduct continuous ambient air monitoring to protect the Reservation community from outdoor air pollution, creating baseline data and ensuring that the Reservation meets the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Preliminary data indicates that air quality on the Bad River Reservation has improved in the last seven years, showing that efforts to control air pollution are making a noticeable difference, that's great news! The chart (**above**) shows the Air Quality Index trend since 2002, in which an improvement is evident. It will take work to ensure we continue this trend, but we are moving in the right direction. By not burning trash, by riding the bus, and by recycling, we are all making a difference!

Open Burning/Burn Barrel Permit Program

Two burning bans issued, in April and May, due to very dry weather before full spring green-up. Air Quality Staff continues to issue Burning Permits as a way to help ensure that burning is done in a safe manner, during safe fire weather, and at safe times of the day. As a reminder, all burning permits expire May 31st and are valid only from 6:00 pm until Midnight when Smokey the Bear's fire danger is Low (green), (Moderate) blue, or High (yellow).

Community Environmental Awareness

Two community events were held this past year, a coloring contest for the kids and an asthma awareness walk, both in May. The Kids Care About Clean Air coloring contest has been a success for the last four years and is for 7, 8, 9, and 10 year olds. This year's theme was "*we need clean air to run, play, and stay healthy,*" with three winners each receiving a bicycle as a prize.

In coordination with Project Heartwatch, the Air Quality Office sponsored an asthma awareness Poker Walk during a series of events aimed at health awareness. Fifty-six people viewed an asthma display and participated in the one-mile walk. Prizes which contained asthma-trigger reduction products were given to the winners.

Local and Regional Air Quality Concerns

Several proposals in the area continue to be monitored by the Air Quality Office – the NSP Superfund site in Ashland and the proposed conversion of NSP's coal-fired turbine to biomass – and how these actions may impact local air quality. The Air Quality Office has reviewed the proposals, assessments, and permitting applications in the past year and will continue to monitor the progress in 2010.

Tribal Historic Preservation Office Accomplishments



Submitted by: Edith Leoso

The Tribal Historic Preservation Office is busy as usual and working on several projects.

***Cultural Center Design:** Louis Sirota is an Architectural Design Student and Tribal member who chose to develop a draft design for a Tribal Cultural Center as a part of his final project in his senior year of college. His final design may be used as an example to solicit additional funding to implement the Cultural Center Plan. Louis has submitted a draft and we are awaiting his second draft.

***Annual THPO/Community Meeting:** This meeting was held on January 13th and 14th to gain community input concerning annual goals for the THPO Office. A total of four people attended. Another meeting was scheduled with the Historic Preservation Review Board / Repatriation Committee in January which resulted in planning for submission of another NAGPRA Consultation and Documentation Grant.

***We have applied for the 2010 NAGPRA Consultation and Documentation Grant!** If funded, this grant is for \$90,000 and will allow travel expenses for up to three members from 12 Bands of the Lake Superior Chippewa Tribe to meet at Madeline Island. The funding Agency is the National Park Service and we should know whether we were funded, or not, by mid-July.

***Another grant that has been submitted is the Historic Preservation, Bad River Cultural Resource Project.** If funded, this grant will initiate a multi-phase project to survey and inventory historic and cultural properties of significance to the Tribe on the reservation. It is for \$40,000 and will assist in the development of a Tribal Historic Preservation Team with a Project/Research Coordinator position.

***Kudos to Patrick Mayotte our Historic Research Coordinator!** Patrick recently received funding for the *Researching Tribal Heritage Fellowship Program* to conduct research on the boundary lines of the Bad River Reservation. Currently Patrick is working in the THP Office under funding secured from the State Historical Society to conduct ethnographic research on the Pow-wow Grounds. This research will assist in determining if the Pow-wow Grounds area is eligible for listing on the State or National Register of Historic Places.

***Highway-2 Reconstruction Project:** Barb Kerber, WisDOT Project Engineer met in January and February with the THPO, Tribal Chair, Special Projects and Tribal Ops to provide an update and familiarize new staff with the Highway-2 reconstruction project. In accordance with the *Memorandum of Understanding* executed between the Tribe and FHWA/WisDOT, a separate committee will be formulated to meet on a regular basis to develop long-range preservation planning for the Historic Cemetery area. A *Memorandum of Agreement* was also executed by all parties involved, which includes provisions for a formal apology to the Tribe for desecration of our cemetery in 1960. The apology will be delivered by the Secretary of Transportation. Plans are currently in the works to schedule a media event for that apology. The reconstruction project is scheduled to begin a year from now, in the spring of 2011. At that time, traffic will be detoured from Ashland through Old County-A, past St. Mary's Church, and up Odanah Street (formerly, Kakagon Street) to return back to the Highway. No construction will occur through the cemetery area. Another Community Information/Update Meeting is currently being planned and will be posted soon.

***Highway-41 Tribal Signage Project:** The THPO Office has been involved with the development of Tribal Signage on a major highway project along Highway 41 at Lac Butte Des Morts Causeway near the cities of Oshkosh and the Neenah/Menasha area. The project includes a walk/bike path next to the causeway with historical marker type areas for pedestrians and bikers to rest and read about each Tribe in Wisconsin. Each Tribe will have their space with signage and be situated along the pathway in alphabetical order, which means, Bad River will be first.

***James Mayotte is the newest member of the Repatriation Committee!** The Repatriation Committee is comprised of six members appointed by Tribal Council in accordance with Chapter 1700 of the Tribal Code: Donna Lynk – Chair; Sylvia Cloud – Vice-Chair; Sandra Bender – Secretary; Lori Lemieux, Patrick Mayotte, and James Mayotte – members. The Repatriation Committee is also the Historic Preservation Review Committee which is the oversight committee of the THPO Office.

- continued next page -

Tribal Historic Preservation Office - continued -

***A Survey to Develop Cultural Programming for Elders is now in circulation!** The survey was developed to identify the cultural activity needs of our Elders. Not all the surveys have been returned yet, but we do have the preliminary results of the 13 surveys we did receive:

1. As a Community Elder, would you be interested in participating in cultural activities and/or sharing your knowledge of our Culture?

69% indicated: Yes, I'd participate if I'm able to

38% indicated: Yes, but I'd just like to watch the activity (1 person checked both boxes)

0% indicated: No, I'm not interested (*you can stop filling out the survey here if you checked this space*)

2. If interested, where would you like to have some types of Cultural Activities conducted/located?

23% indicated: At the Elderly Housing Building

69% indicated: At the New Elder Center

15% indicated: Some other place: Harvesting in Woods; New Housing Office; Community Center

3. If interested, what type of Cultural Activities are you interested in? (check all that you are interested in)

53% indicated: Beading / Sewing Dance Outfits or sharing ideas

15% indicated: Social pow-wow singing and/or dancing

77% indicated: Basket making/teaching/sharing

38% indicated: Ojibwe Language learning/teaching/sharing

69% indicated: Storytelling/learning

15% indicated: Sweat Lodge learning/sharing

15% indicated: Midewiwin singing/learning/sharing

77% indicated: Medicinal Plant learning/gardening/sharing

77% indicated: Harvesting berries/ wild rice/ maple sugar/ sharing harvesting stories

31% indicated: Planning Cultural Influence in New Clinic (planning what type and where cultural influences should be included at in the new clinic, such as, murals in Ojibwe language, art, floral or other designs, etc.)



The other types of cultural activities that were listed by respondents were:

Making Maple Syrup/Candy/Taffy

Birch Bark Basket Making

Making Ricing Sticks/Poles

How to Cook Wild Game

Gill Net Making

Traditional Cooking

Traditional Food Presentation, i.e.; dried corn, etc.

4. If interested, what day and time would be more convenient for you? Check all the days that you prefer and indicate what Specific Activity and Time works best for you on that Day:

23% Monday; 30% Tuesday; 38% Wednesday; 30% Thursday; 30% Friday; 23% Saturday; 23% Sunday

Activities and Times was primarily any activity, at any time, on any given day with the exception of one respondent indicating Medicinal Plants on Friday Afternoon; and one respondent indicating Ojibwe Language on Saturday at 1:00 - ?

Do you have any other comments/suggestions? Respondents indicated that they would like a presentation on: How to Save and Can food, i.e.; jerky and berries; Arrange for trips to places such as the Mouth of the River, Potato River, and Rides on the old roads.

Staff at the Elder Center will be receiving the surveys until March 15th and will organize the data to share with all interested tribal programs and community organizations. This information will allow everyone to better plan cultural activities that meet the needs of our Tribal Elders. Miigwetch Elders for your participation!

Mi'iw from the THPO Office until next time! Have a great Ziigwaan!

ENVIRONMENTAL OFFICE 2009 REVIEW

Submitted by: Jason Ritter, Environmental Specialist

It is hard to believe it but another year has gone by. 2009 had its ups and downs with the departure of the Environmental Specialist in May and the recruitment and hiring of a new specialist in November. The primary goal of the Environmental Specialist is to identify sources of pollution and any activities that may adversely impact Tribal lands and waters; implementation of environmental programs to address all environmental concerns for the Tribe; and conduct and provide a program of education and outreach on environmental and sustainability issues to the Tribe. The Environmental Specialist position functions with support from the General Assistance Program by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Some of the highlights from this past year include:

- Facilitate communication with representatives from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation on the U.S. Highway 2 reconstruction project to develop a monitoring plan to assess the impact of reconstruction on reservation natural resources.
- Devising an Emergency Preparedness Committee which will identify Emergency Management priorities.
- Completion and submittal to Tribal Council of an Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan; a resolution on its acceptance is expected this month.
- Preparation of the Tribes Integrated Resources Management Plan (IRMP) 5 year review. The final updated version of the IRMP is expected out soon.
- Participation in the Energy Task Force whose overall goal is reducing energy consumption, promote sustainability and reduce the consumption of natural resources.
- Participation in the investigation and remediation of the Ashland/NSP Coal Tar Superfund Site which includes reviewing the clean up options and feasibility study on the site and awaiting EPA's recommendations on clean up strategies.
- Sponsoring the Environmental Open House and Earth Day events.



2009 Environmental Open House



Earth Day Celebration



Aki Giishig



EARTH DAY CELEBRATION
40th ANNIVERSARY
APRIL 22, 2010



Join us April 22, 2010 for Earth Day and help clean up the community !!
More details to come!!

Contact Jason Ritter, Environmental Specialist for more information at:
715-682-7123 ext. 1551 or at environmental@badriver.com

Radon Annual Report 2009

Phil Couture Bad River Air Quality Technician

Radon is a colorless, odorless, radioactive gas that penetrates homes, and over time can cause lung cancer. The Environmental Protection Agency estimates nearly 21,000 deaths per year from radon induced lung cancer. Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer, with the first being smoking. The only way to know if you have a problem is to test your home.



Radon testing devices

- In January the Bad River Air Quality Technician (AQT) hosted the 2nd Annual "Test Your Home For Radon" coloring contest for Bad River youth ages 7 and 8, the winners Arron Pittman and Vanessa Scott, won bicycles. January is National Radon Action Month, which focuses on education, awareness, and testing.
- Radon educational event was held at the Moccasin Trail IGA, during the month of January in recognition of National Radon Action Month, along with a permanent radon display outside the Bad River Natural Resources office.
- 46 homes were tested in 2009 for radon, all of which fall under the jurisdiction of the Bad River Housing Authority.
- 14 privately owned Tribal homes were tested for radon in 2009.
- Bad River AQT attended the Region 5 annual radon meeting in Chicago, Illinois.
- Bad River AQT assisted local contractor in the installation of a radon mitigation system. AQT is a certified radon measurement and mitigation provider, with credentials from the National Radon Proficiency Program and National Environmental Health Association.
- Bad River AQT attended the National Radon Symposium, in St. Louis, Missouri.
- Bad River AQT attended recertification classes in Minneapolis, Minnesota for radon measurement.
- Bad River AQT produces and distributes the Bad River Natural Resources quarterly newsletter "Common Ground".

New Department Employees



Jason Ritter, the new Environmental Specialist, brings with him over 15 years of experience in a wide variety of research topics. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin – Superior where he started his career in aquatic sciences at Lake Superior Research Institute which led to a position in marine molecular microbiology and ecology in Bermuda. His work in Bermuda led him to research and development endeavors in San Diego where he was employed by several large Biotechnology companies focused on molecular discoveries in clinical, industrial, agricultural, and

food science systems. The corporate experience honed Jason's project management skills and allowed him the opportunity to work with former biological weapons scientists in Moscow, utilize submersibles to access the depths of the Pacific Ocean, and diving into active thermal features to research Yellowstone Lake. His sense of adventure extends to his love of running, hiking, and fishing. The draw of the northland environment, family, and a simpler life led him back to the Midwest to pursue new career endeavors. Jason started with Bad River's Natural Resources Department in November. Contact Jason at 715-682-7123 extension 1551 or vial email at environmental@badriver.com.

Boozhoo,

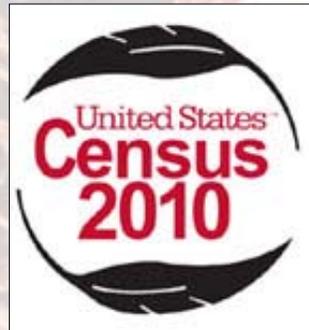
My name is Stephanie Julian and I am the new THPO Assistant in the Tribal Historic Preservation Office. I am a Bad River Tribal Member and I currently reside on the reservation with my daughter, Morgan.

I have been interested in genealogy and history since I was a child. I am very excited to be working in the Historic Preservation Dept. and invite any and all Tribal members to share their knowledge, stories, songs and culture with me. I look forward to learning from others and sharing what I know.

I graduated from LCO Community College with an Associates Degree in Native American Studies. I am working on my Bachelor's Degree at UW-Superior majoring in Mass Communications, First Nations & Sociology.

While not working, my interests include reading, writing & riding my horses.





Be Counted in the 2010 Census!

Boozhoo! My name is Amarin Mello and I am the Tribal Partnership Assistant working with the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Tribe for the US Census Bureau. It is an honor to be involved in your community, and I am asking you to be counted in the 2010 Census coming soon in the springtime.

“Why should I be counted in the 2010 Census?”

It Is Easy – The 2010 Census is 10 questions that can be answered in less than 10 minutes. Local tribal members will be doing door-to-door enumerations to reach you personally, not strangers who are unfamiliar with your community. We want to count everyone in the right place at the right time.

It Is Safe – Your answers will not be used to identify you. Your answers will not go to the tribe or the housing authority or social services, the tribe will have access only to the statistics. All Census employees are sworn in, and there are severe penalties for any sworn individual who makes your answers known because of Title 13 of the United States Code.

It Is Important – The Census was created by the original United States Constitution. Many tribal programs exist because Census numbers provide required background information for grants from the federal government and foundations. Your tribe *needs* this statistical data to design future services for tribal members. **For example, undercounting affects Indian Health Service funding and services for your family.** Census data eventually becomes public information after 72 years, allowing your descendants to learn about their family heritage. An inaccurate count in 2010 will limit your access to funding for education, housing, and other important programs and services.

YOU count!

Please be included as a Bad River member in the 2010 Census to help your tribe provide accurate services to your family for the next ten years.

BAD RIVER NATURAL RESOURCES

Chief Blackbird Center
72682 Maple Street
Odanah, WI 54861

Phone: 715-682-7123
Fax: 715-682-7118



-Mission Statement-

The Department strives for resource management which both conserves the natural resources for future generations and provide for the needs of the present. The Department's existence reflects the importance the Bad River Tribe places on its right and ability to exercise sovereignty, self-determination, and self-regulation in the area of natural resource management.

Why is the Bad River "bad"?

By Pam Roberts Water Quality Standards Specialist/Non-Point Source Coordinator



Bad River at Elm Hoist 10-8-09 (BRNRD photo)

Ever wonder why the Bad River is called the Bad? You wouldn't be the only one, for it seems that there are different ideas floating around. According to "Rivers of the Bad River Reservation" by John J. Teeple (from the W.P.A. Indian Research Project) Rev. Chrysostom Verwyst, the Chippewa scholar and saintly Indian Missionary explained that the Chippewa gave the river the name *Mashki Sibling*. This translated to "swamp river," so called since the river flows through swampy land before emptying into Lake Superior. The whites mistook the term *Mashki*, meaning "swamp," with *Matchi* which means "bad." Thus, the river was named Bad River instead of Swamp River. The French term for the river is *Mauve* which also means "bad." It was named so by the French due to the difficulties of its navigation. As for the Marengo River, it is a shortened version of the French word *Maringouin*, meaning mosquitoes.

In fact, many river names have been shortened because US Department of Transportation signs only allow a maximum of three syllables. Historically, rivers had longer and more descriptive names. According to book *Gidakiiminaan (Our Earth)* published by GLIFWC, the Ojibwa word for Bad River is *Mashkiigong-ziibi*, meaning swampy marsh river. Other translations include *Misko-ziibi*, meaning "red (copper) colored river," and *Maskikikaang-ziibi*, meaning "lots of medicine river." The White River in Ojibwa is *Waabishkaa-ziibi* or *Biitootig-weyaa-ziibi*, meaning "river that flows alongside or parallel to another." The Kakagon River is named *Ogaakaa-gaang-ziibi*, meaning "full of walleyed pike river." Or *Niinataasowiniing*, which means "my cupboard or place where food was readily available." The Bear Trap River is named *Mako-dasoonaa-gani-ziibi*, meaning "bear's deadfall trap river."