

# MNRD Warden HOTLINE

Call 715-682-7123 Ext. 1560

The Warden Hotline provides the tribal membership with the opportunity to confidentially report suspected wildlife, recreational and environmental violations.

These violations may include fishing, or hunting out of season, deposit of harmful substances in lakes or rivers or illegal storage or disposal of hazardous waste. All these violations seriously affect the natural resources of our reservation.

Information received on this line will be relayed to a Mashkiiziibii Conservation Warden for investigation. You don't have to leave your name when reporting a violation. However, it is often helpful to an investigation if a Conservation Warden can follow-up on your report to verify essential facts. If you provide, your identity and any information that may identify you, that information will be protected and kept confidential.

If response is needed immediately please feel free to call or email one of the following Wardens:

- Gerald White**      715-292-7822      [chiefwarden@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:chiefwarden@badriver-nsn.gov)  
**Brad Bigboy**      715-979-1181      [brnrwarden@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:brnrwarden@badriver-nsn.gov)  
**Megan Mihalko**      715-292-1902      [brwarden@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:brwarden@badriver-nsn.gov)

## Helpful info when reporting a violation

Who is the violator? Describe the people, including their physical description and clothing

What is the violation?

Where did this violation take place? (be as specific as possible)

When did this occur?

If possible, please take pictures, and license plate numbers, anything to help identify the suspects.



## Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department

72682 Maple Street  
PO Box 39  
Odanah, WI, 54806

Phone: 715-682-7123  
Fax: 715-682-7118  
Email: [NRDO Outreach@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:NRDO Outreach@badriver-nsn.gov)

### ~MISSION STATEMENT~

*The Department strives for resource management which both conserves the natural resources for the future generations and provide for the needs of the present. The departments 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.*

We're on the Web!

**! WEBPAGE UNDER CONSTRUCTION !**

Visit [www.badriver-nsn.gov](http://www.badriver-nsn.gov)



Mashkiiziibii Natural Resource

# COMMON GROUND

2019 FALL EDITION

## No Longer Bad River Natural Resources Department

Naomi Tillison, NRD Director

In 2019, the Natural Resources Department (NRD) revised the format of our department meeting agendas to reflect the long-term goals identified in the Bad River Band's 10-Year Strategic Plan adopted by the Council in 2018. The first goal listed in the Band's Strategic Plan is to prioritize language and culture by promoting and incorporating traditional Anishinaabe beliefs, values, spirituality, and traditions. As we were discussing ways that staff had used or were planning to use the language at

our July 23, 2019, Department meeting, Ed Leoso (Hatchery Foreman) suggested that we call ourselves Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department instead of Bad River NRD. The NRD team was excited about Ed's idea, and after a quick debate on how to spell our new name, we brought the request in front of the Tribal Council

in October to officially change our name to support the Tribe's goal to prioritize language and culture. We're excited to acknowledge and respect the true name of what is currently called the Bad River. Please join us in celebrating our new Department name – Mashkiiziibii NRD!

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Special points of interest:

- We changed our Department Name
- NRD Polar Express at Community Christmas Party
- POWTS Program Updates
- Forestry News
- Thoughts & Prayers to Lemieux Family
- Ma'iingan Symposium
- MNRD Warden HOTLINE

## Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department Hosts "Polar Express" at Annual Community Christmas Party

Berthea Olby, NRD Outreach Coordinator

This year the Bad River Natural Resources Departments dedicated staff constructed, painted, and decorated this wonderful Polar Express themed Hay Ride for the kids & families to enjoy at the Annual Christmas Celebration on Saturday December 7th. During this celebra-



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# Indoor Air more Polluted than Outdoor Air?

Dan Wiggins, Air Quality Technician

Scientific studies have proven some indoor environments are more polluted than any outdoor environment, which health concerns can vary from home to home, can be related to allergies or asthma, and can cause cancer and even death.



Indoor air pollution is sometimes not contributed solely by one source, but rather a combination of sources or factors. There are a variety of things that can contribute to indoor air pollution and is usually associated with sources that release gases or particles into the air. It can be related to specific use of certain chemicals and cleaning agents or traced back to a malfunctioning gas-appliance, such as a furnace. Other issues can be directly related to how the home was built or the deterioration of the structure overtime. "Leaky" homes have a tendency of being less energy efficient and may allow excessive moisture to enter, eventually contributing to moisture damage and the development of mold.

Controlling or eliminating sources to minimize can improve indoor environments; however, locating and identifying these sources are not always simple. Reading labels and understanding proper usage of cleaning agents or other household chemicals should be done before use and may help limit some pollutants. Allowing an adequate amount of outdoor air to be introduced into the home can often avoid a build-up of many indoor pollutants.

Other pollutants may be more difficult to control and may even require a sort of testing to identify. Radon is naturally occurring, odorless, cannot be seen, and may cause the development of lung cancer. A test kit placed in the home is the only way to determine the indoor radon concentration. Depending on the recorded level of radon a home may require radon reduction system to be installed to lower the levels. Other pollutants, such as carbon monoxide are also odorless, cannot be seen, and can cause death. Maintaining and understanding the proper usage of gas appliances can help avoid a build-up of CO and CO detectors are important in every home and building to avoid being present during threshold levels.

Methamphetamine usage has brought to light additional indoor air issues. Previous homes used as "meth labs" or from the "use of methamphetamines" may still contain residues and chemicals that can contribute to indoor health concerns if breathed in or come in contact with.

Health effects associated with certain pollutants are more difficult to pinpoint. With multiple household chemicals being present in today's homes, along with each person reacting differently to certain pollutants, establishing precise concentrations related to the development of certain symptoms are drastically harder to determine. Regular wheezing, colds, and irritation of asthma can often be signs of elevated pollutants. It is important to notice time and place of symptoms and if they lessen or go away once leaving the home.

Not all indoor pollutants will be noticed immediately, which exposure to some pollutants overtime can contribute to cancers, respiratory illness, or heart disease. This is why it is important to identify pollutants, such as radon. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has this and additional information that can be found related to Indoor Air Quality (IAQ), at <http://www.epa.gov/iaq/index.html>. Information can also be found on the Bad River Tribes website at <http://www.badriver-nsn.gov/tribal-operations/natural-resources/nrd/air-nrd>.

## TEST YOUR HOME FOR RADON!

### FREE RADON TESTING

From December 2019 to April 2020

Radon does cause lung cancer and can be prevented if addressed properly. The Tribal Air Office offers free radon testing and IAQ monitoring services every year. It is easy and takes only a very short period of time to test your home for radon. If you would like to schedule testing please use the contact information below and set a date to test your home.

**Daniel Wiggins, Air Quality Technician**

72682 Maple Street

Odanah, WI 54861

Phone: 715-682-7123 ext. 1553

Email: [Air1@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:Air1@badriver-nsn.gov)

# Condolences continued...

to keep out the irritating, itchy chaff. He danced the rice in stocking feet to prevent any unnecessary breakage.

My mother would then take a large birch tray and shake or "winnow" the rice. I can still picture her in the back yard as she shook the rice in the cool shade of the house while the gentle winds removed the excess chaff. For the rest of the season and throughout the long, cold winter evenings, we could pick the husks off the kernels to ready it for cooking. I will always remember the smell of the rice. Its unpleasant, pungent odor permeated our home for months. I used to hate that smell; now I long for it.

It is now considered traditional for the Bad River Tribe to have a Manomin pow wow to celebrate and give thanks for the rice. This event usually takes place the third week in August.

Besides as a food staple, the Ojibwe also used wild rice in their sacred ceremonies and storytelling. It is a crucial element in the realm of the supernatural and in their interactions with animals and humans. Allegory and symbolism often shroud the deep meanings of tales in Ojibwe culture. Because of this, some writers have ventured so far as to assign wild rice the role of a "mystique," according to Tom Vennum in *Wild Rice and the Ojibway People*.

My favorite story was about the water spirits. They control the lakes and rivers and can be dangerous if offended. Tobacco is offered to these spirits out of gratitude and for appeasement. If they are ignored, it can affect the rice crop. The worst danger would be drowning. My irrational childhood fear if the river still haunts me. I still cannot swim -- however, I do offer the spirits tobacco...every year.

On certain days and in certain areas of the sloughs it is said that the sound of the drums and signing can sometimes still be heard. They are like echoes from our past, reminding us this is a sacred place. In 1998 Marge Lemieux was hired by the Bad River Band as a File Clerk. In 2000 Marge started working in the Band's Realty office where she served the Tribal membership for 19 years.

## Mystique of Sand Island

By Marge Lemieux

The mystique and attraction of the Apostle Islands are intangible as well as compelling. I have visited Madeline Island several times: of the 22 Apostle Islands it is considered the spiritual center of the Ojibwa Nation.

Because I had never been to any of the other islands, I was elated to learn that a three-day camping trip to one of the islands was included in the Northland College Wordscape class. I considered this an opportune piece of luck to experience first hand the islands of my Ojibwa ancestors.

Exploring the island the next day revealed it was an island lush with vegetation and teeming with animal life, including large bugs with huge antennae, flies that loved our picnic table and, of course, mosquitoes.

The trail we took to the lighthouse was a distance of two miles. It was lined with raspberry bushes, tall brush, a variety of multicolored flowers and apple trees. A portion of the trail was majestically lined with tall spruce and balsam firs. Some of the trees were huge grandfather trees -- it took three of us to extend our arms around one such ancient tree, we were literally tree-huggers that day.

"As I picked the red, succulent fruit I luxuriated in warm, vivid memories of my childhood; memories of sultry summers past -- days spent in wild raspberry fields with my mother and family. As I picked I thought that such memories are much like old photographs we keep, photographs we lovingly touch and linger long moments over, absorbing and recapturing that which is past and long ago, but still sweet and meaningful -- that which is always there, haunting and patiently waiting to be plucked like the raspberries -- to be kindly used -- only to be put away again until another time. So I was content picking the berries -- they had given me much, much more than their sweet nectar..."



META REIGEL

Before leaving the island an offering of tobacco was made to the Creator for the care, protection and fruits of the island. As we departed, the waves were high and agitated -- but my fears evaporated as an eagle soared high and encircling overhead -- I felt the tobacco offering was acknowledged.

I also felt I had tkane more than I had given and I did not want to leave. My thoughts and dreams intermingle with vivid images of the island -- I know I shall return.

Editor's Note: This was written by Marge Lemieux, a Northland College junior, majoring in writing, minoring in English.

The Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department would like to offer our sincere condolences to the family of Marge Lemieux and express our gratitude for Marge's dedication and hard work (Miigwech!).

# Wildlife Staff Introduction

**A**urora Conley joined Mashkiziibiing Natural Resources team this fall, organizing and facilitating for the Ma'iingan Symposium being hosted by Mashkiziibiing January 31st, 2020. Aurora is organizing the Symposium, bringing together Tribes, Wildlife specialists, and State Representatives to discuss and guide the status and future of Ma'iingan. Aurora is especially excited to be a part of a new network and experience for Bad River- hosting and facilitating a Tribal Wolf Symposium. Aurora says "It (the symposium) hasn't been done before, and we're excited to be able to host and create a space for Anishinaabe to come together for our Brother-Ma'iingan, and discuss how we are to protect each other and co-exist, survive."



Aurora lives in Bad River with her two sons, serving the community in many capacities, serving the Education Board, the Environmental Protection Alliance and Health Board.

# Forestry News continued...

Specialist, taught wolf calling and wolf tracking. We had a great time trying to call wolves in hopes of getting a response. This became somewhat of a competition as well. About a half hour before dark on Saturday night we were able to hear the thrilling call of our brother, Ma'iingan.

Throughout the weekend, and especially on our Sunday morning hike, tree identification was discussed, and kids were quizzed. Regenerating (both red and white)

pine of 3 foot or so were prevalent on the tracks as the seeds have made their way to a sunny destination. As the forester, it was encouraging for me to see how thrifty and regenerative the beautiful nimishoomis and nookomis pines are in the areas surrounding the Potato River.



# MNRD Administrative Assistant Introduction

**B**oozhoo,

**M**y name is Malita Smart and I am the newly hired Administrative Assistant at the Natural Resources Department. I have three beautiful children; Nashaya, Andrea and Noah, and I have lived on the reservation for 26 years and I love this land so much I am grateful my kids are able to grow up next to Lake Superior in my backyard and can enjoy all Bad River has to offer! There are so many learning opportunities here at Natural Resources and I hope to learn a great deal more! Before working here I was an Assistant Teacher at the Bad River Head Start where I loved teaching our future generation.



# News from Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources POWTS Program

Eugene Bigboy, POWTS Inspector

**O**ur POWTS Program currently has twenty (20) tribal members in various stages of our program. Some are just starting out, others are working with their applications, some are working on land leases, others are scheduled in for construction next spring/summer. Wherever you are in the process, the winter off season is a good time to complete as much as possible in this process. I keep mentioning the process because that is exactly what it is. The applicant must complete the application and have their land claim/lease/ownership papers complete before IHS will even begin to consider their application for funding. This is just the start, our tribal environmental departments, consisting of WQS, Wetlands, THPO, Invasive Species, Forestry, Leasing, POWTS, Environmental and more, must all complete their

( Private On-site Wastewater Treatment Systems )

project reviews of the applicants site. Often, times there are many inspections and assessment visits to evaluate each site, and some sites require special permits. This all takes time and there are a lot of unforeseen problems and issues that come up. Finances/money is a major one for the homeowners it takes a lot of money to set-up housing. The actual construction of installing a well and sewer mound can be usually completed in a week if everything goes right. If there is to be considerable ground clearing, tree cutting, ground disturbance that will naturally take more time. The POWTS Program is not an emergency repair program. If you should suffer a breakdown such as a water or sewer pump going out, we will

troubleshoot the problem, and repair if possible otherwise the homeowner must bear the expense. However IHS will repair/replace any of their work that goes down within a one (1) year "grace period" from the time of the final inspection date. Our POWTS Office is located in the Chief Blackbird Center, Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Dept. Office hours are 8:00 am. to 4:30 pm. M-F Telephone # 715-682-7123 ext.1663 or cell #715-685-8727.

Gene Bigboy Jr  
Bad River POWTS

*Happy Holidays To All!!!!*

# Mashkiiziibii NRD Polar Express continued...

tion you had the opportunity to enjoy a nice ride on the Polar Express around the community, decorate ornaments, frost cookies, picture with Santa, plus Hot Dogs and Hot Cocoa for after the Polar Express! The MNRD is grateful to be apart of such a fun,

family filled day , surrounded by laughter and joy. We want to say a Huge “Miigwetch” to the other Departments that helped make this event a success! “Miigwetch!”



**Bad River Leasing**  
 Chief Blackbird Center  
 P.O.Box 39  
 Odanah, WI 54861

715-682-7111 x 1588  
[lease@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:lease@badriver-nsn.gov)  
 Patti J. BigBoy

# Special Condolences to the Lemieux Family

*Miigwech to the family of Marge Lemieux for allowing us to reprint Marge’s writing about manoomin and the Sloughs.*

## wild Rice of the Bad River Sloughs by Marge Lemieux

*In dreams we have learned how everything given us is to be used; how the rice is harvested and the animals hunted. So that we would learn all the crafts, once a pair of humans was taken from the earth and brought to a place where they learned everything that the Indians know, even how you follow the [dictates] of dreams and honor the spirits. The two thought they had been gone for eight days, but it was actually 8 years.*

-Bill Johnson, Nett Lake, 1947

Manomin is an Ojibwe word for wild rice. It means “good berry” or “good seed”. It has been a traditional staple accompanying their other food for almost three centuries. It is one of the most nutritive single foods which the Indians of North America consumed. Rice combined with maple sugar, wild berries, venison and other meats is probably healthier than that of the average American family of today. Rich in carbohydrates and low in fat, it quickly converts to energy in the body and also contains protein essential to growth. Rice is easily digested and also rich in thiamin, riboflavin, and vitamin B.

August is the traditional month for harvesting. To ensure a good harvest there must be plenty of rainfall and long searing days to ripen the rice on its long, slender stalks. Germination of the rice seed actually begins with snow melt and spring run-off from mid to late April. During the first part of July the stalk finally emerges. The rice field looks almost like an emerald grassy

meadow at this point. Their blossoms are pale yellow-green and delicately shaded with reddish-purple. (Wild Rice and the Ojibway People, Tom Vennum, Jr)

The Bad River Kakagon slough area where tribal members gather rice is located at the northern tip of the reservation. The distance from the docking area is at least three miles. This long ride is usually undertaken in a boat with two to three rice boats towed behind it. I can remember as a child, the long, leisurely ride to the sloughs which began at daybreak. At this time of the season the area is bursting with wildlife, ducks and birds of many kinds inhabit the tall, grassy marshes. River bugs flitter merrily atop the surface of the river. The water is very dark in color; it reflects the rich, dark riverbed sediment. I remember the thick, lush vegetation lining the shores and growing beneath the water. Above the water it danced and weaved in the warm summer winds. But the tangled, thickly matted, underwater vegetation always made me uncomfortable as I was unable to swim -- the thought of falling in was a terrifying one. The smell of the river is still with me. Its fishlike essence is unforgettable.

Ricing was once regarded as a family gathering and outing. Buyers lined the shore to purchase this covered, traditional staple. To the outer world it was considered a delicacy -- to the Indian it was a necessity. There are some families who still rice together today, but not to the extent as when I was a child.

Once the rice is brought home, it has to be dried. This task is done immediately. My parents would lay out a canvas tarp and allow it to dry naturally. Fresh harvested rice continues to ripen but it must have air, sun, and sometimes the heat of a fire to rid it of moisture before roasting. While drying the rice is picked over and cleaned of trash, leaves, rice worms, etc. The drying and cleaning may take a day or more.



The next step is scorching the rice. A fire was made in our back yard and a large wash tub placed over the fire at an angle. A long, wooden paddle is then used to turn the rice over and around the tub. If scorching is not done for two days, the rice turns black. If it is not done for three days, it has to be parched quickly so it will not be coal black. If dried and parched immediately, then the color of the rice is a beautiful shade of green. We children thought it great fun and we felt very important to be allowed our turn with the rice.

It fell to one of my brothers to next “dance” or jig the rice. This process is one in a wooden barrel-type container. The purpose of jiggling is to crack the chaff and break it from the kernel. Because it can take up to an hour to dance one portion, the proper treading requires strength, suppleness and endurance. My brother always wore long sleeves and long pants that were tied at the bottom over heavy socks

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## Miskwaabikaa continued...

In May 2019, a detailed soil description of the site was completed before Chris Borden (NRCS), Nathan Kilger, Daniel Wiggins Jr, and Eric Andrews (Maskiizibii Natural Resource Department) and Phil Defoe (Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa) completed the installation of the TSCAN station.

The TSCAN station provides hourly data to the network. Data include solar radiation, temperature and relative humidity, precipitation, leaf wetness, wind speed and direction, and soil moisture at four, eight, and twenty-inch depths. As part of this project, NOAA's Northeast Regional Climate Center assisted with programming the units so that SCAN data can be ingested into the national NOAA database. The data will be regionally useful due to the extensive nature of the soil type in which the station was installed.

The website portal to look at these weather stations across the country, as well as find the one in the Bad River watershed, head over to this shortened link: <http://bit.ly/tribalSCAN>



Ryan Bevernitz, and Alex Gajdosik, and Tim Miland, Area Resource Soil Scientist conducting a detailed soils description on site

## NEWS FROM MASHKIIBIIZII FORESTRY

Gena Abramson, Forestry Specialist

The last weekend in October was a splendid and sacred time for a small group of youth and a small group of youthful adults. Hiking 2 ½ miles west on the Potato River Road Railroad grade to the tribe's cabin on Vaughn Creek, we got a good look at the woods. There was a nice variety of aspen, young pine, balsam fir, birch, and very mature pine to admire as we carried our gear to our destination.

The weather was cool, but the boys were warned that they'd get too hot if they attempted to wear their new hunting coats on the way in. Some listened, some learned. Once we got there, they were eager to try out the pellet gun. There was some healthy competition over the weekend as we used targets to see who the best shot was.

Alyosha Wilding and his Red Cliff companion, Nick,

showed us how to build fire with friction. They also

showed us how to build emergency shelters out of forest materials, like balsam boughs (or whatever is available). Alyosha told us about a time when he had to use his survival skills to stay alive as he was stranded in the forest. Experience teaches a wealth of knowledge.

Abi Fergus, Mashkiizibii Wildlife



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(Tribal Soil Climate Analysis Network Station)

## A Miskwaabikaa is installed in Bad River Watershed

Nathan Kilger, Mashkiizibii Air Quality Specialist  
Chris Borden, Natural Resource Conservation Service Tribal Liaison

In 2018 the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa made a request to the Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) National Water and Climate Center to fund the installation of a Tribal Soil Climate Analysis Network (TSCAN) weather station. This was a part of an initiative between the NRCS and the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) to combine their technical and financial resources to purchase and deploy thirty TSCAN stations to eligible Tribes and Nations to support agricultural and forestry operations and enhance Science Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) programming.

The Band applied to this NRCS/BIA partnership program to help all the communities within the Bad River watershed in several ways. This automated station is located centrally within the 1,000 square mile Bad River watershed and can be used to develop location-relevant environmental education curriculum in the educational programs on the Bad River Reservation and school districts.

The station will also collect data that will help the climate change adaptation forestry pilot sites initiated under the Bad River Band's *Seventh Generation Climate Change Monitoring Plan* as well as obtain baseline data for future quantitative comparison. Information from the station can be used by agriculture and forestry interests with similar soil types in the region.



Angela Biggs, NRCS State Conservationist, Bad River Tribal staff Dan Wiggins (Air Quality Technician), Nathan Kilger (Air Quality Specialist) and Eric Andrews (Climate Change Coordinator) in front of the nearly completed TSCAN Station

Most importantly, this data will provide increased warning when a heavy precipitation event incites possible flood conditions and will monitor weather conditions and wind patterns in an area far from the nearest weather station, helping to fill in an important data gap for many agencies.

Maskiizibii Natural Resource Department staff in the air quality and climate change offices worked with soils scientists from the regional NRCS office to identify a site on which to install the station. Then Bad River staff worked with leadership at the Copper Falls State Park to secure permits for the installation.

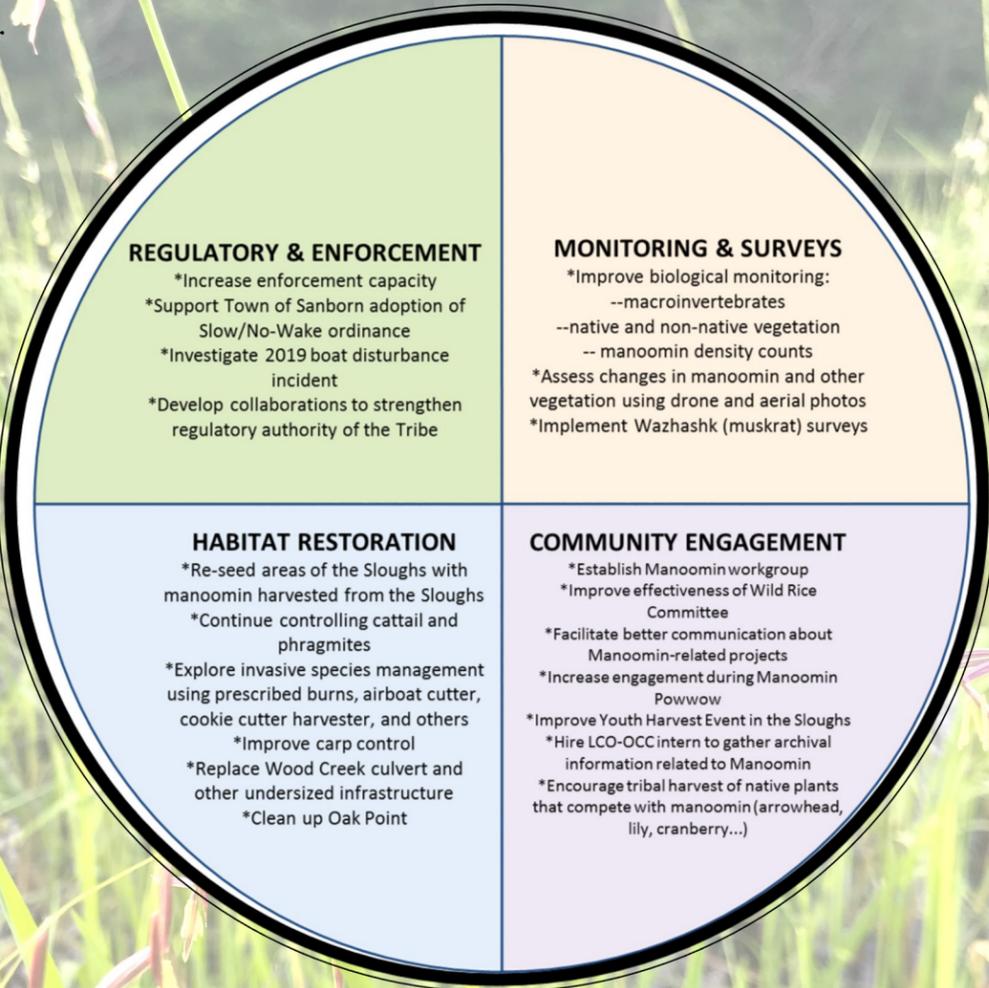
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# Community Collaborations Needed to Protect and Restore Manoomin

Naomi Tillison, MNRD Director

The Mashkiziibii NRD (MNRD) hosted a community meeting on October 29, 2019, to discuss the state of the manoomin (wild rice) ecosystem on the Bad River Reservation. Twenty-nine (29) community members attended (not counting the community members who are also part of the MNRD team). MNRD team members took turns presenting on our efforts to protect and restore manoomin through an integrated ecosystem approach, including harvesting Wapato (a tuber of the arrowhead plant) in October 2018 with Education and Food Sovereignty staff and purchasing 385 acres of land in the Sloughs through Great Lakes Restoration Initiative funding. MNRD staff also highlighted our Departments' next steps planned for 2020, such as implementing surveys to better understand Wazhashk (muskrats), improving our common carp control efforts, and creating a Manoomin Specialist position to join the MNRD team. We also distributed copies of the draft manoomin plan for the Sloughs, which was drafted in 2007.

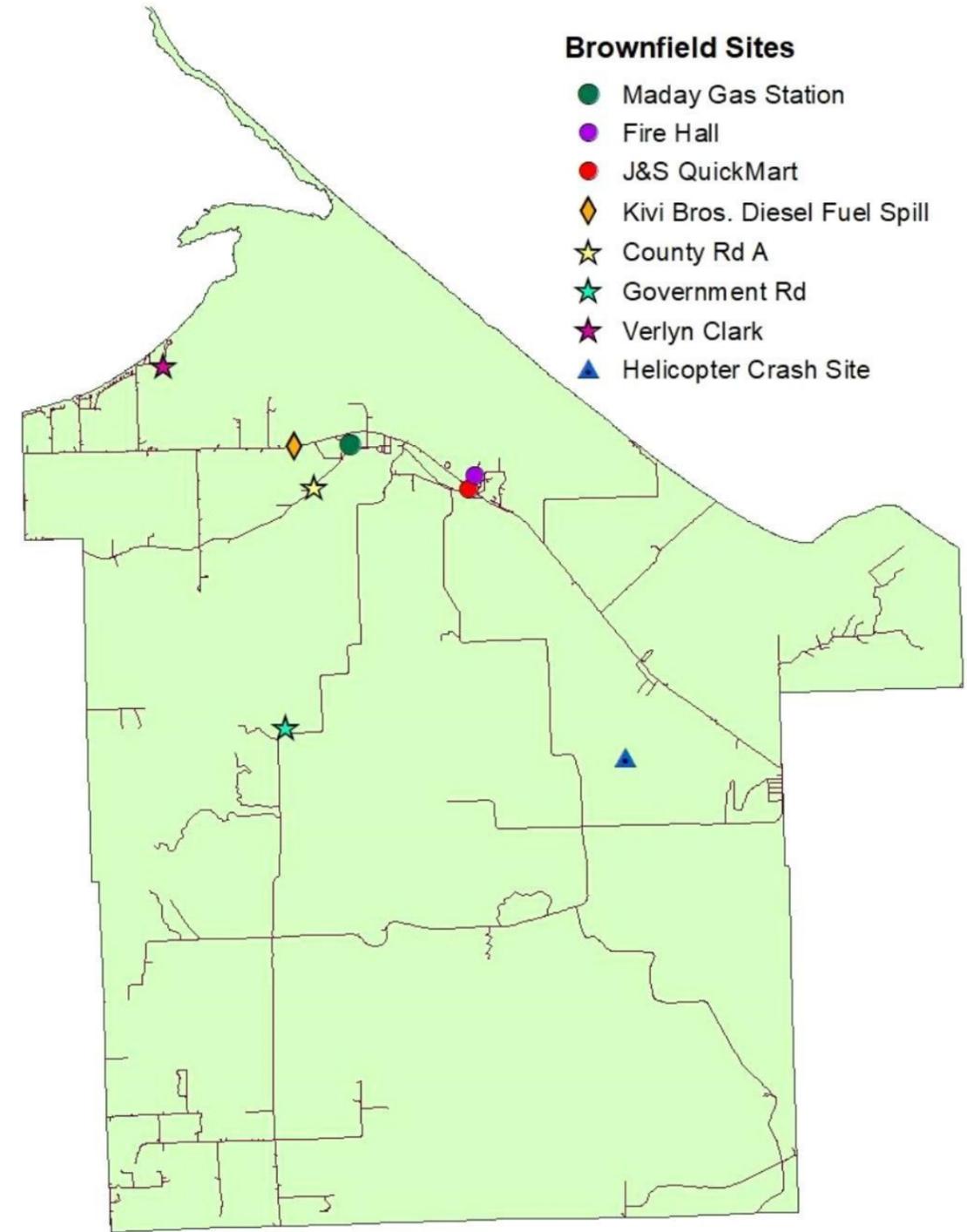
Miigwech to Dan Wiggins for facilitating the meeting and community discussion on the next steps to move forward. The need for more community action was repeated throughout the meeting. This cry for action was not solely focused on MNRD efforts. We need the community's help and partnership to better protect and restore manoomin in this Lake Superior coastal wetland system; we can't do it alone.



The MNRD team is committed to improving our efforts to better protect and restore the manoomin ecosystem, and the graphic above highlights some of our 2020 commitments, including improving our communication about manoomin-related projects. Since the community meeting, we've had many conversations in MNRD about our actions and commitments to better respect the manoomin ecosystem. The MNRD presented the draft position description for the Manoomin Specialist to the Tribal Council at the December 17, 2019, meeting for their approval and commitment of funds to support this position; this new position will be posted soon. The MNRD recently hired a 4th Conservation Warden to

join our team (welcome to Stanlee!). We also drafted recommendations for the establishment of a Manoomin workgroup - a group of tribal employees and community members who will help move community initiatives forward. We're hoping to establish this workgroup in January 2020 so stayed tuned for more information about this workgroup and other manoomin-related initiatives. Miigwech to all the staff who helped put together the Manoomin Community Meeting!

Last Updated 9-4-2019



Last Updated 9-4-2019

**Spill Sites:**

There have been multiple spill incidents on the reservation. The spills are most often petroleum products such as crude oil, diesel fuel, and hydraulic fluids. When a spill occurs, there is potential for contaminants to migrate to ground and/or surface water. This can have many harmful effects on human, wildlife, and ecosystem health. (for more information on the effects of petroleum products on the environment and human health please contact the NRD)

Table 2: Spill site descriptions on the Bad River Reservation

	Status	Remediation & Monitoring	Size (acres)	Latitude & Longitude	Township, range, section	Description
Enbridge Helicopter Crash	2	Initial remediation complete, monitoring and remediation will continue monthly until effective. 3rd round of remediation to begin Fall of 2019	.5	46.531488 -90.603182	NE1/4 NW1/4 SEC. 27 T47N R2W	On October 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2018 an Enbridge helicopter conducting an inspection on the Line 5 pipeline crashed releasing jet fuel, engine oil, and hydraulic fluid to the surrounding wetland ecosystem. Bioremediation was selected as a method of cleanup to reduce the impact to water resources.
Kivi Bros. Diesel Release	3	Site was properly cleaned up, seeded, and silt fencing and absorbent booms have been removed	--	46.609064 -90.727626	SW1/4 NE1/4 SEC.27 T48N R3W	On November 7 <sup>th</sup> , 2018 a semi-truck hauling road salt was in an accident off highway 2 resulting in a spill of approximately 35 gallons of diesel fuel into the ditch. The area was excavated, backfilled with clean soil, and erosion controlled with straw matting silt fencing, and seeding.

**Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUSTs):**

LUST's are typically used to store petroleum or other hazardous substances underground. The LUST's on the reservation have primarily been in relation to gas stations to store fuel. When the tanks are in poor condition or are abandoned, they have the potential to rupture and need to be removed. A ruptured UST (underground storage tank) can contaminate ground and surface water which may impact human and environmental health.

	Status	Remediation & Monitoring	Street Address	Description
Fireball	3	Inspection of site for indication of residual contamination	53923 Birch St, Odanah, WI	On March 11th, 2016 an unknown vehicle drove over the firehall lawn causing an underground storage tank to rupture and release fuel oil to the area. Approximately 700 gallons of impacted meltwater was pumped out, contaminated soil was excavated, and ruptured UST was removed.
J&S Quick Mart	2	Monitoring of contaminant movement is still occurring	72787 US Hwy 2, Odanah, WI	This site discontinued the use of UST's in 1998. However, the UST's weren't properly closed and were leaking fuel. In 2016 a site assessment was done to confirm leaking UST's. The tanks and product lines were removed from the site in November of 2018. Residual contamination exists and additional monitoring is underway.
Maday Gas Station	2	Inspection of site for indication of residual contamination	Old US Hwy 2 & Old Odanah Rd	The site was originally a gas station, store, and residence. The UST was active from 2002-2008 but was closed due to leaking of leaded and unleaded gasoline. Site was properly closed but residual contamination remains.

Please contact the Bad River Brownfields Specialist with questions, comments, or knowledge of potential brownfield sites on the reservation.

**Brownfield Specialist**  
 Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians  
 Office: (715)-685-7840 ext. 1587  
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Miigwetch to our former Brownfield Specialist, MarKatie Mealy, for updating our public record.

**Ma'iingan Symposium will educate on Anishinaabe's brother**

By **Abi Fergus, Wildlife Specialist**

Since the beginning of my employment in July as the Tribe's Wildlife Specialist, I've been hitting the ground running. The Tribe filed its lawsuit against Enbridge six days after I was hired, and I was just picking up where we had left off in planning a Ma'iingan Symposium before previous Wildlife Specialist Lacey Hill-Kastern took a job with WTCAC. I'm excited to report that thanks to the dedication of our planning team and of our event coordinator Aurora Conley, we're on track for an event that will bring valuable knowledge to all people who have a relationship with brother ma'iingan, the wolf.

In 2017, Mashkiizibii Tribal Council called for a Ma'iingan Symposium and former Wildlife Specialist Lacey Hill-Kastern wrote the following explanation of a Ma'iingan Symposium to the Voigt Task Force:

"Last year in Wisconsin (2016), there was a Great Lakes Wolf Summit hosted by state Senator Tom Tiffany. This Summit was very anti-wolf. There should be a counter to this. The Chippewa Tribes should host a Great Lakes Ma'iingan Symposium. This Symposium would highlight the significance of Ma'iingan to the

# 2020 MA'IINGAN SYMPOSIUM

JANUARY 31 - FEBRUARY 2

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

**Saturday Morning**  
 Informational Tables, Stories of Ma'iingan, Tribal Conservation of Ma'iingan

**Saturday Afternoon**  
 Review of Tribal Ma'iingan Plans, Ma'iingan Treaty Rights, Developing a Vision for Ma'iingan

**Sunday Morning**  
 Drafting a Treaty with Ma'iingan

**Sunday Afternoon**  
 Outside events TBA



Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians



Mashkiizibi Natural Resources Department

Register by December 8, 2019 to guarantee a setting at the feast. 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. Miigwetch!



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# Ma'iingan Symposium continued...

Anishinaabe and also highlight positive research that shows the important role that Ma'iingan plays on the landscape. Wisconsin Public Television has been working on a documentary about Ma'iingan with both Red Cliff and Bad River and this symposium could also be a great place to release this film. GLIFWC may be a good organization to coordinate this symposium in collaboration with other tribes



and tribal organizations.”

Fast forward to 2019, Mashkiiziibii Wildlife Program has been collaborating with Red Cliff and GLIFWC to host this event. Our agenda now entails cutting edge scientific research about

ma'iingan, traditional stories and teachings about ma'iingan, breakout groups to discuss ma'iingan's relationship with livestock and people, and a tribal working session to collaborate on a treaty or some other outcome that will express tribes' support of and companionship with ma'iingan.

Working with Mashkiiziibii since my initial internship in 2017 has taught me most of what I know about ma'iingan, so its an honor to bring together people from all walks of life to spread more knowledge.

Cut along this Edge



## Brownfields: Public Record Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Tribe Natural Resource Department



Office: (715)-685-7840 ext. 1587 Email: brownfields@badriver-nsn.gov

The EPA defines the term "Brownfield" as an abandoned, idled or under-used real property where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by the presence or potential presence of environmental contamination. Some examples are oil spills, leaking underground storage tanks, and abandoned or improperly closed landfills. (definition sourced from EPA brownfields webpage)

The Bad River Brownfields Program was implemented in 2013 to address contaminated sites across the reservation. The contaminated sites include papermill sludge sites, spill sites, and leaking underground storage tanks (LUSTs). The EPA workplan for the Brownfields program requires that a public record is updated at least annually and is easily accessible to the public. The Brownfield Specialist updates the public record semi-annually or more often if necessary, to ensure the public is adequately informed of contaminated sites on the reservation.

Site status ranking system per Ch. 380 environmental response and remediation code:

- 1 = Sites awaiting further remedial action and monitoring
- 2 = Sites with remedial action and monitoring in progress
- 3 = Sites where a cleanup action has been conducted but conformational monitoring is underway

### Sludge Sites:

In the early 1970s a company formerly known as the American Can Paper company bought and used parcels on the reservation to dump harmful paper mill sludge waste. The waste was not treated and there was little to no environmental protections put in place for the landfills (liners, leachate collection, capping etc.). Today, there are three known sludge landfill sites on the reservation that have been monitored for environmental and human health concerns via groundwater monitoring wells. There are plans for additional monitoring wells to be installed at these sites. The three sites are called Government Rd, County Rd A and Verlyn Clark (see map at end of record for locations).

Table 1: Sludge site descriptions on the Bad River Reservation

	Status	Remediation & Monitoring	Size (acres)	Latitude & Longitude	Legal Description	Description
County Rd A	2	Ground water monitoring and additional wells planned	3	46.599314° -90.714205°	NW1/4 NW1/4 SEC. 35 T48N R3W	The site used to be a borrow pit for the construction of Hwy 2. From 1968 to 1970 the site was used as a landfill for paper mill sludge waste.
Government Rd	2	Ground water monitoring and additional wells planned	9	46.538634 -90.730995°	SE1/4 NW1/4 SEC. 22 T47N R3W	In the late 70s an estimated 90,000 to 100,000 cubic yards of sludge waste was disposed at this site (actual quantity unknown). The landfill was capped with red clay and monitoring wells were installed.
Verlyn Clark	1	Further investigation needed. Plans for in-depth evaluation & future monitoring	50	46.614894° -90.819660°	NW1/4 NW1/4 SEC. 25 T48N R4W	Verlyn Clark and Son Trucking (VCST) disposed of thousands of gallons of waste at this site without any effort to cover or bury material. After a lengthy battle for compliance between the DNR and VCST there was effort to get the site properly covered.

Cut along this Edge

# New Conservation Warden in Town

## B

oozhoo!  
My name is Stanlee Kmiecik. My parents are Brook Kmiecik and Booj LaBarge. My Nokomis is Rae Ann Maday. My Mishomis is Gary Kmiecik. My great grandparents are the late Raymond and Patricia Maday. I graduated on May 14th, 2019 from Vermillion College with an Associate of Applied Science in Wildland/Wildlife Law Enforcement. I am an avid exerciser of my inherent treaty rights as a Bad River tribal member. I enjoy spring/winter spearfishing, snaring, hunting, processing maple syrup and wild ricing. It is crucial



ple syrup and wild ricing. It is crucial to harvest in a sustainable way. My love for Natural Resources led me to pursuing a degree that would allow me to fulfill my passion. I hope to be a mentor, teacher and role model to the youth in the community. I am honored to have this opportunity to work for my tribe, as a warden for the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians.

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