

# Learn More about Enbridge Line 5 Issues

In 1953, Lakehead Pipeline Company installed a pipeline to transport crude oil across the Bad River Reservation and in adjacent areas. This pipeline is now called Enbridge Line 5. In January 2017, the Tribal Council passed a resolution to state that the Tribe would not be renewing its interests in the rights of way across the Bad River Reservation and to direct the removal of the Enbridge Line 5 pipeline from the entire Bad River Watershed. In October 2019, the Tribal Council passed another resolution reiterating their 2017 decision.

Over the last couple of years, the Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department (MNRD) has increased its efforts to better understand the impacts and threats of Enbridge Line 5



Enbridge Line 5 pipeline exposure within the Denomie Creek subwatershed. The photo was taken after vegetation had been cleared from the area and sandbags were temporarily installed under the free-spanning pipeline. (MNRD, 10/31/19)

pipeline on our waters, wildlife, fisheries, plants, and other natural resources. The MNRD just released a special newsletter edition highlighting five areas across the Reservation where MNRD has the most concerns about Enbridge Line 5 impacts and threats. For More Information visit : <http://www.badriver-nsn.gov/natural-resources/>

OR

Scan QR Code to visit Threats & Challenges webpage

>>>>>



# COMMON GROUND

2019-2020 WINTER EDITION

## Bad River Ishkonige Nawadide Solar Project

Daniel Wiggins, Air /Radon Technician

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) announced in July that the Bad River Ishkonige Nawadide Solar Microgrid Project was among 14 tribal energy projects chosen for a combined \$16,000,000. The Bad River Project was awarded nearly \$1,000,000 for a total project value of nearly \$2,000,000. The remaining \$1,000,000 will be invested by the developer who will also be responsible for the construction of the Ishkonige Nawadide Solar Microgrid Project. Since this announcement the Ishkonige Nawadide Project Team has push through milestones and objectives to meet timeframes and be ready for commissioning by



October of this year. The Air Quality Technician/Project Lead works with the Tribal Ishkonige Nawadide Team (Team) to

properly execute the project, which includes outside technical expertise provided by William Bailey from CheqBay Renewables, Niels Wolter of Madison Solar, Travis and Amy

...Continued on page 4...

- Special points of interest:**
- Ishkonige Nawadide Solar Project
  - Brownsfield Specialist Intro.
  - Manoomin Specialist Intro.
  - Water Resources Specialist Intro.
  - Upcoming Event Flyers
  - MNRD Warden Updates

**STAY TUNED for Changes to MNRD Events due to COVID-19!**

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### What's the New "Thing" in Construction These Days? Deconstruction!

Jessica Strand, Environmental Specialist

Deconstruction is the method of carefully taking apart a building to salvage as many of the reusable materials as possible, to divert them from local landfills and offset costs on removing the old building and constructing the new building. This method is an environmentally friendly alternative to traditional demolition methods as it both reduces waste going into landfills AND reduces the amount of new materials that need to be extracted from the environment for a new building.



Habitat for Humanity in Milwaukee deconstructs donated buildings to use the materials to build new homes and for resale to raise money. Photo from Milwaukee Habitat for Humanity website: <https://www.habitat.org/stories/how-milwaukee-restores-build-community-with-building-deconstruction-services>

Salvaged items from deconstruction that can be reused in new buildings often include framing lumber, flooring, roofing material, lighting and

### ~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.



## Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department

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

SCAN CODE for MNRD Website>>>



## Deconstruction continued...

plumbing fixtures, cabinets, windows, and doors. Also, other items that can't be directly refinished and reused, can oftentimes be recycled into other products like furniture or flooring, or just recycled for-profit like copper piping, steel, and aluminum. There are even not-for-profits that will also accept appliances and furniture salvaged during deconstruction.

Some estimates are that 25 to 40% of the waste going into municipal landfills on a yearly basis comes from demolition waste associated with home construction and remodeling. This means that every year we have to devote more land to storing and holding waste, which is not only bad for the planet on a geographical scale as the human footprint grows ever larger on the landscape, but also harmful on a global emissions scale as landfills release greenhouse gases. With deconstruction removing materials going into the waste stream and limiting the need for new materials, it is a

the material and raise money for their organization. Some organizations even offer training and consultation programs for those interested in completing deconstruction themselves. Deconstruction saves cost for the building owner, either directly as some firms will pay to deconstruct your home, or tangentially if you donate the deconstructed materials to a non-profit since you can write it off as a tax credit.

good step toward a sustainable living approach.

With its rise in popularity, deconstruction is becoming easier to do. There are firms in many states that will competitively bid on the opportunity to deconstruct a building,

*Materials salvaged from older homes being deconstructed oftentimes are of higher quality than construction materials produced today and as a result are sold for more money than today's materials.*

and non-profits like Habitat for Humanity that will complete the deconstruction to salvage



Some firms are not only focused on reuse and repurposing, but also workforce development as they train new workers in the art of deconstructing homes. Photo from Second Chance, Inc. website <https://www.secondchanceinc.org/what-is-deconstruction/>.

find you resources. Deconstruction is an easy, economical way to be environmentally friendly and accomplish your demolition goals. Contact Jessica Strand, Environmental Specialist for more information at [Environmental@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:Environmental@badriver-nsn.gov)

If you would like to learn more about deconstruction, we urge you to go online and look for deconstruction services or contractors or come talk to us, and we can help

## Introducing MNRD's Manoomin Specialist

**B**oozhoo gakina indinawemaaganiidog Animikii anakwad indizhnilaaz, makwa indoodem, mashkiziibiing indoonijibaa. My name Charles Wiggins, I grew up on the Bad river indian reservation and I have two children whom are also bad river tribal members. I earned my B.S. environmental geoscience in 2015 from Northland College. I am humbled to be appointed to the manoomin specialist position. I look forward to being part of a collective effort to address issues of concern and implentation of tangilbe approaches

concern and implentation of tangilbe approaches surrounding the health and sustainability of our wild rice. I believe that success in this effort that will ultimately take a wholistic, community wide approach.

Miigwech mii iw

Charles can be contacted at: [Manoomin@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:Manoomin@badriver-nsn.gov)



## Brownsfield Specialist Introduction

**B**oozhoo,

My name is Andrew Spychalla. I was born and raised in central Wisconsin. I got my appreciation for the natural world from my Grandpa, who spent most of his time in the woods or outside screening topsoil. I went to college for wildlife ecology at UW-Madison and then to Missouri State University for my master's degree in biology, where I focused on plant dispersal mechanisms. I've worked on large projects relating to bird migration and nesting habitat, native land restoration, community effects of wildlife interactions, and in fields and greenhouses breeding seed potatoes. I applied to this job because it was an opportunity to help save the resource that I grew up loving: nature. Brownfield remediation allows us to

loving: nature. Brownfield remediation allows us to clean up and reuse land, because we can't simply throw it away and "ask for a new one." I hope to not only get the landscape back to the condition it was once in, but promote its use for domestic, recreational, and cultural growth. I am thankful to have been given the opportunity to work for the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, and the community has been very welcoming. Miigwech. Andrew can be contacted at 715.682.7123 ext. 1587 or email : [Brownfields@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:Brownfields@badriver-nsn.gov)



## Water Resource Specialist Introduction

You say Boozhoo, I say Merhaba

**B**oozhoo! My name is Melis Arik, and I've been serving as the Mashkiziibii NRD Water Resources Specialist since October 2019. My job is to manage and supervise the surface water monitoring program, with the aim of protecting the health of hundreds of miles of rivers and streams and thousands of acres of wetlands on the Reservation. That is a lot of water!

Since October, I've been busy learning about where and how our water quality monitoring program supports that mission, and updating monitoring plans for the upcoming field season (spring through fall). But what I'm really looking forward to is getting out of the office and into the field; developing a relationship with the waters of Mashkiziibii and getting to know the landscape of the watersheds. I feel fortunate to be part of the team at NRD and to be able to work with and learn from our experienced and knowledgeable Water Resources staff.

I came to Bad River after three and a half years with the Oneida Nation, where I also served in a similar capacity. I have long been drawn to the beauty of this area and the compelling power of Gichigami. As I have often said, when Mama Superior calls, one must listen! Just as Oneida is a very different place from Bad River, so, too are the Water Resources programs. At Oneida, eco-

logical restoration is a major focus of the program. Although I'm sure what I learned at Oneida about restoring degraded waters will come into play in certain areas, it seems we at Mashkiziibii NRD are more focused on the protection of pristine or minimally-impacted waters, starting in the far upstream reaches all the way to the shores of Gichigami. It is a tall order, but I am committed to the challenge!

On a more personal note: my name. People always ask how to pronounce it, as it's almost familiar, but is just different enough to throw people off! My first name, Melis, is pronounced just like the English name "Melissa," but without the last syllable. My last name, Arik, is pronounced just like the Scandinavian name Erik. But my name is not short for Melissa, nor am I Scandinavian! My name (and my heritage) actually is Turkish; my parents immigrated to the US in 1955. I grew up speaking Turkish, with my bilingual parents and grandmother who did not speak English.

Although I have not had a conversation in Turkish in years, I can watch Turkish films without subtitles (Netflix!) That is the power of learning at a young age, and it's why I am so inspired to see the little ones at Headstart and

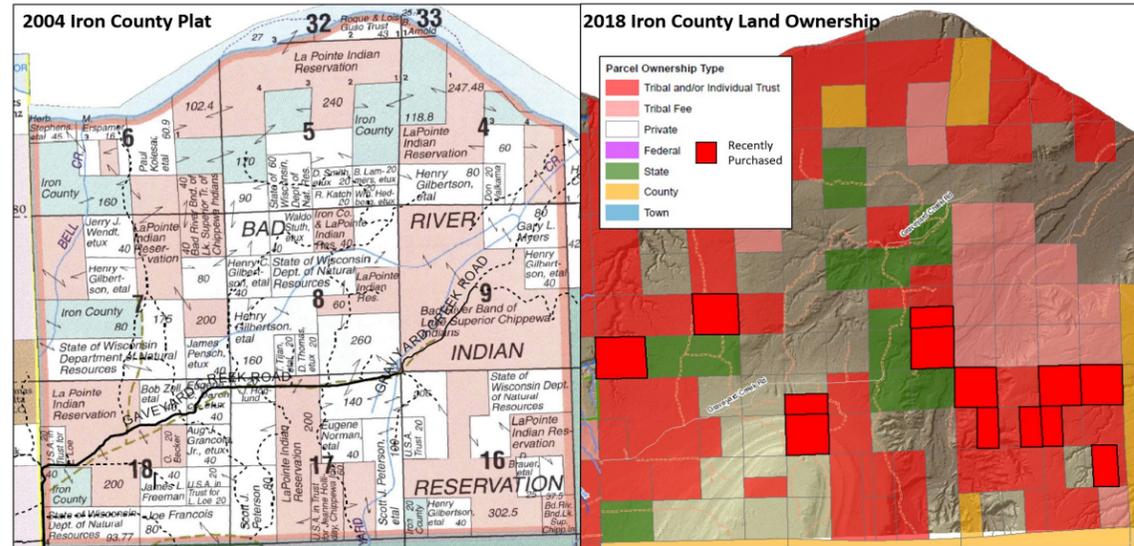


in other programs learning Ojibwemowin through their daily interactions with elders. As everyone in this community knows, language is just so very important – it is where the stories, songs, and lifeways live on. I deeply appreciate being part of a community who holds this as a central value.

Thank you to all who have welcomed me into my new role! And for those of you that I haven't yet met: Merhaba! I look forward to getting to know you. Stop by – my door is open! Email me @ [wqs@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:wqs@badriver-nsn.gov)

### Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department and Legal Department Complete Purchase of 521.97 acres From Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources continued...

to the holdings of the Tribe within the exterior boundaries of the Reservation, for restoration and protection of high quality lands and waters for the enjoyment of current and future generations outdoors. The purchase of the Graveyard Creek parcels is specifically for re-establishing tribal sovereignty in protecting riparian corridors that support a population of spawning Namegos (brook trout), as well as other species, habitats,



Graveyard Creek Phase 1 Purchase

and traditional activities unique to this area. Below are plat map-style graphics illustrating the changes in

### Land Buy Back Program Updates

January 15, 2020, the Office of Special Trustee for American Indians announced the addition of five locations to implement an expanded schedule for the Land Buy-Back Program prior to the final three years of the Program. The Program is expanding its schedule with an additional five locations. The locations announced were: Bad River Reservation (Wisconsin), Lake Traverse Reservation (North Dakota and South Dakota), Spirit Lake Reservation (North Dakota), Turtle Mountain Indian Reservation (North Dakota) and Yakima Reservation (Washington). The Program's ability to extend purchase offers for each location will depend on the availability of funding. Each Tribe will be offered a Memorandum of Agreement prior to implementation. The Office of the Special Trustee will be

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 Patti J. BigBoy

the lead agency in Outreach to the landowners. For more information, visit the Land Buy-Back Program's

website at: <https://www.doi.gov/buybackprogram>

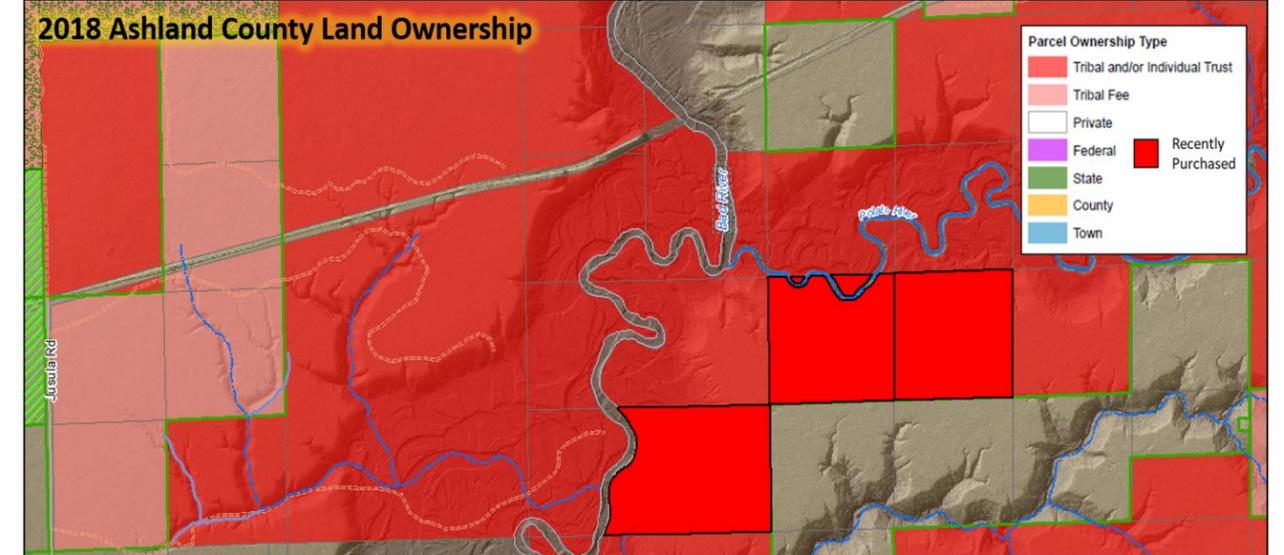
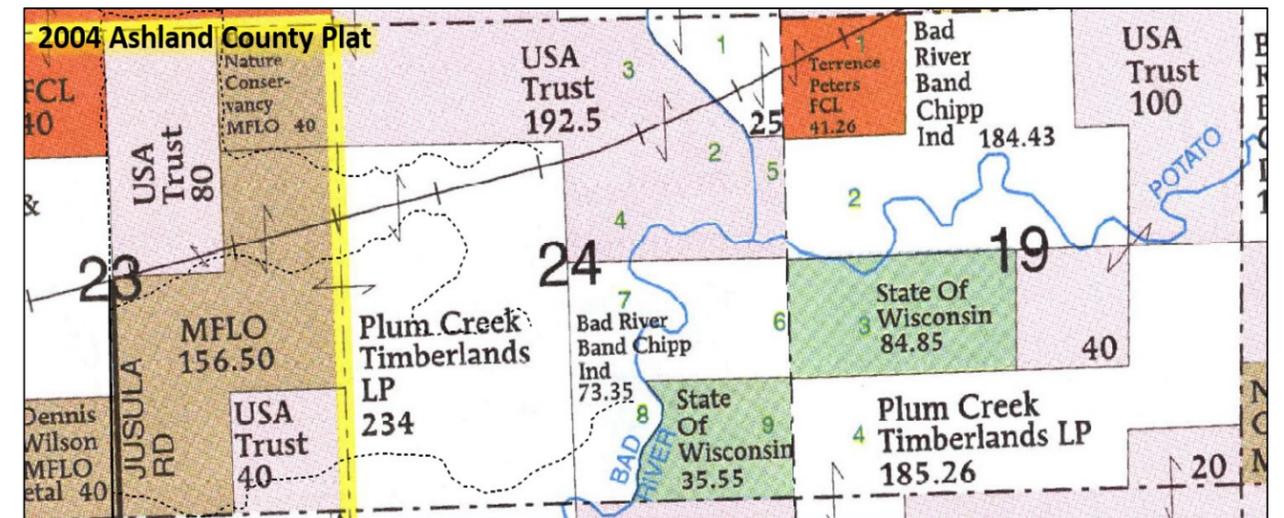
### Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department and Legal Department Complete Purchase of 521.97 acres From Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Suzi Smith, GIS Specialist

In January, two purchases of land within the exterior boundaries of the Bad River Reservation from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources were made with Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) funds through the Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Depart-

ment and funds obtained by the Bad River Legal Department. A total of 401.57 acres were re-acquired from WDNR in the Phase 1 (of a total of 3 phases) purchase off of Graveyard Creek Rd with GLRI funds. And a total of 120.4 acres were also re-

acquired from WDNR near the confluence of Potato River and Bad River with funds obtained by the Legal Department as these parcels meet the criteria in the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan. Both these purchases contribute



Potato River/Bad River Purchase

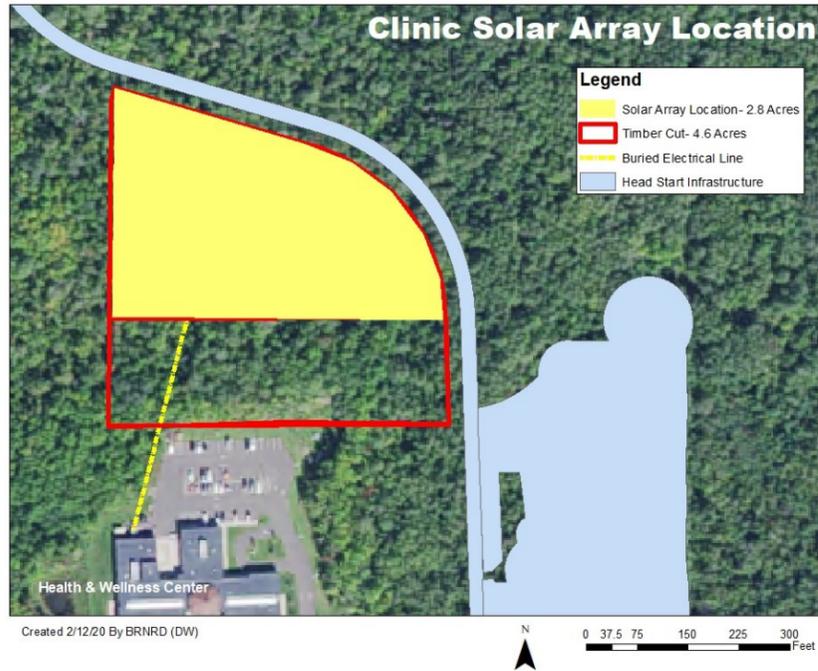
# Bad River Ishkonige Nawadide Solar Project continued..

Simpkins of MuGrid, and tribal staff from the Natural Resource, Planning, Clinic, Wastewater, Roads, and Accounting Departments.

This project implements the first phase of energy independence through the installation of 520 kilowatts (kW) of solar photovoltaic (PV) at three tribal buildings, 200kW at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP), 300 kW at the Health & Wellness Center (Health Clinic), and 20 kW at the Chief Blackbird Administration Building (Administration Building). The solar PV systems will be integrated with the existing utility grid but will be able to operate independent of the grid using Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS). The PV systems will generate approximately 625,000 kWh annually and offset 100% of the annual electric usage of the WWTP and Health Clinic, and 5.5% of the Administration Building. They will reduce the Tribe's electric bills by \$841,000 in the first 25 years and eliminating 487 tons of CO2 emissions. This pilot project represents the Tribe's continued progress down the economic and environmental path to a 100% clean and resilient energy future while further developing the Tribe's expertise needed to realize that future.

Another benefit of this project is the BESS also creates resiliency providing power when the grid is down. All three buildings have been identified as essential tribal buildings in the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan. The Emergency Response Plan (ERP) and the Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan (PDMP) were developed in response to the 500-year flood event the Tribe experienced in July of 2016. The Tribe's goal is to mitigate and prepare for the consequences of hazards and effectively respond and recover in the event of an emergency or disaster. The Tribe identified the Health Clinic and the WWTP as the most important tribal facilities and has decided to locate the Tribal Emergency Operation Center (EOC) at the Administration Building. Further, the Tribe has included energy as a major component of operations under the EOC.

Currently the Tribe is preparing the Health Clinic and WWTP site locations for the PV arrays. (The Administration Building is a metal roof mount that requires very little preparation due to new mounting clips making mounting PVs much easier on metal roofs.) The WWTP will be in the Tribe's old softball field which is already relatively clear for easy PV installation. However, the Health Clinic site preparation was more challenging due to some of the obstacles encountered. The Health Clinic's roof is large, but unfortunately was not built for additional loads to be installed. In addition, the available roof space would still not be enough for the PV needed to accomplish the



goals of the project, which is to offset the entire energy needs for the building. Thus, space needed to be identified on the ground for the PV array. Using available cleared space in the community was not an option since even small gaps between the PV array and the building it was supplying would create challenges due to the need to develop and install transmission lines to carry the power. So, the Tribe made the crucial and difficult decision to clear new area for the development of the PV array for the Health Clinic. The Tribe identified 4.6 acres to be cleared north of the facility for the Health Clinic's needs. There was 2.8 acres identified specifically for the PV array infrastructure, while the additional 1.8 acres was cleared to provide line-of site with the sun and avoid shadowing on the PV panels. Next steps include the hiring of the solar developers, who also supply the financing, by June, since the Tribe is pushing to start construction in July and to have the system ready for commissioning by October 1st of 2020.

The ability to invest in large energy projects within the Reservation, allows the Tribe to exercise its sovereignty and protect the natural resources. The Project Manager, partners, and team members will be responsible for completing the project and continue to assess objectives to the Tribe's long-term goals to achieve energy independence while further developing and implementing mitigation strategies towards the Tribe's Emergency Preparedness Plan. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Daniel Wiggins at [Air1@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:Air1@badriver-nsn.gov).

Posted: March 17, 2020

## PUBLIC INPUT OPPORTUNITY Beach Monitoring & Notification Plans for 2020



The Mashkiziibii Natural Resource Department (MNRD) is soliciting community input on the proposed 2020 beach monitoring plan and on the methods for notifying the public when bacteria levels exceed water quality criteria.

Comments will be accepted through: 4/30/20

Please submit comments to the Water Resources Specialist  
[wqs@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:wqs@badriver-nsn.gov)  
 Mashkiziibii NRD, PO Box 39, Odanah, WI 54861



For more information on our Beach Monitoring Project, visit our website

Monitoring Location	Tier	Monitoring Frequency
Bad River Mouth East	1	1x per week
Bad River Mouth West	1	1x per week
Joe Rose Beach	1	1x per week
Madigan	1	1x per season (more if requested)
Second Landing	1	1 x per week
Waverly	1	2x per week
Amnicon Bay (Madeline Island)	2	1x per 2 weeks
Morrison Creek Mouth	2	1 x per season (more if requested)
Newago Creek Mouth	2	1x per season (more if requested)
Bell Creek Mouth	3	1x per season (more if requested)
Graveyard Creek Mouth	3	1x per season (more if requested)
Honest John	3	1x per season (more if requested)
Long Island East	3	1x per season (more if requested)
Sand Cut	3	1x per 3 weeks
Chequamegon Point North	2	2x per season (more if requested)

Beach Act Funds from the EPA support MNRD's efforts to monitor coastal beaches within the reservation.

## Caring for Ma'iingan and exploring his lessons continued..

partially because we don't need this burdensome technology on our brother in order to have an understanding of Ma'iingan. It seems like every week I get reports from NRD staff and Mashkiizibii citizens about what Brother Ma'iingan is doing: where she's marking with estres and urine to advertise that she's ready to mate, where he's leaving scat on the roads and Right of Ways to mark his territory, where they are seen loping around the Reservation to hunt and raise pups. Chi-miigwech to everyone who shares this knowledge.

These Ma'iingan sightings and sign have been showing us that the data we are getting from our brother Gimiwan (It Rains), who wears the last radio collar deployed on the Reservation and is a pack leader, is aligned with what we see on the ground. This supports the ban we have put on future collaring. I have seen for myself and heard from others that Gimiwan's Mashkiizibing (Bad River) pack has been marking up the Line 5 pipeline corridor, the corridor of Mashkiizibing (the Bad River), and Pine Flats with scat, urine, and tracks. The map included by our GIS Specialist Suzi Smith shows where Gimiwan has been located with weekly radio telemetry flights: the Line 5 pipeline corridor, Mashkiizibing, Falls Road, and Potato River Road.

Besides showing me that we don't need radio collars for our work at Mashkiizibi Wildlife Program, Gimiwan's locations are making me wonder, what is Gimiwan and his pack telling us? It is only recently, around 2018, that we started seeing a Ma'iingan pack use the heart of the Reservation. In recent history, packs had been occupying roughly the four corners of the Reservation. Now it seems like what was traditionally known as the Potato River Pack in the far Southeast corner of the reservation may have moved into the Reservation more, traveling Mashkiizibing (the Bad River) regularly. Why is

Ma'iingan making such a presence around Line 5, Mashkiizibing, and Denomie Creek (where the exposure of Line 5 was found by MNRD).

I am working on ways to continue understanding Ma'iingan in order to care for him without invasive methods like radio collars. Based on identifying when pack leader females showed blood in their urine, meaning they were in estres and ready to mate, I have identified a Ma'iingan pack in the heart of the Reservation (Mashkiizibing Pack) and the traditionally known Kakagon Sloughs pack in the Northeast corner. Many Mashkiizibii citizens watch members of the Kakagon Sloughs pack cross US2 near Beartrap road or hear this pack while fishing or spending time at the Powwow grounds. I also suspect the Ma'iingan scat and tracks I have found in the Southwest corner, within the agriculture land, come from the traditionally known West Firelane pack, but I haven't come across any estres in that areas- so reach out if you've seen some.

Mashkiizibii citizens know Ma'iingan best and I look forward to continuing to build my relationships (I'm looking at you hunters and trappers) so we can continue the good work MNRD does with the citizens to know what Reservation Ma'iingan are doing and ask what it might mean. Email me at [wildlife@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:wildlife@badriver-nsn.gov), call me at 715-685-7840 ext 1554, or stop in the office to share any sightings or knowledge you have about Ma'iingan or our other relatives.



Ma'iingan Plan QR Code and Link  
[http://www.badriver-nsn.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/NRD\\_MaiinganPlan\\_2019.pdf](http://www.badriver-nsn.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/NRD_MaiinganPlan_2019.pdf)



## Air Quality

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- AIR
- ASTHMA
- ATMOSPHERE
- AUTOMOBILE
- BICYCLE
- DUST
- EXHAUST
- LUNGS
- NOX
- OZONE
- PARTICULATES
- POLLUTION
- SMOG
- SMOKE
- SAMPLER
- TREES
- WALK
- WIND
- BAD RIVER
- NOSE

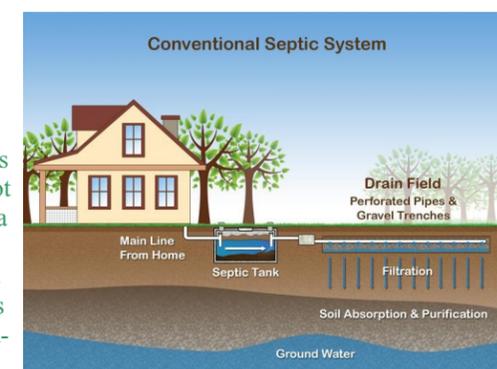
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## March POWTS News

Eugene Bigboy Jr., POWTS Inspector

Spring is almost here! That means plenty of water! To all POWTS clients, there's an old saying "if you can't remember the last time you had your sewage tanks pumped out it's past the time to have it pumped!" With the spring run-off some systems will be over-worked, to help out the problem, there are some very easy steps we can all follow. First, reduce water usage, wash clothes less, flush less, don't let the water run, just these simple steps will help out. Your sewer tanks should be pumped every 1-2 years. Remember to have the pump man remove your sewer screen and

clean and rinse off thoroughly; this is part of the service call and should not be an additional charge. If you are a tribal member and are planning on building a new home, or setting up a trailer, contact the POWTS Office as soon as possible to begin the application process. It is quite lengthy and time consuming and the sooner we start the better. Bad River tribal members are eligible to receive IHS POWTS funding only once so be careful on how it's used. When the application is complete, it is sent to the area IHS Office for authorization. The POWTS Office is located in the Natural Resources De-



partment, Chief Blackbird Center. Phone number is 715-682-7123 ext. 1663 and e-mail address: [POWTS@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:POWTS@badriver-nsn.gov) Office hours: 8:00am- 4:30 pm M-F. Gene Bigboy Jr. Bad River POWTS Office

~POWTS Stands for Private On-site Wastewater Treatment System~

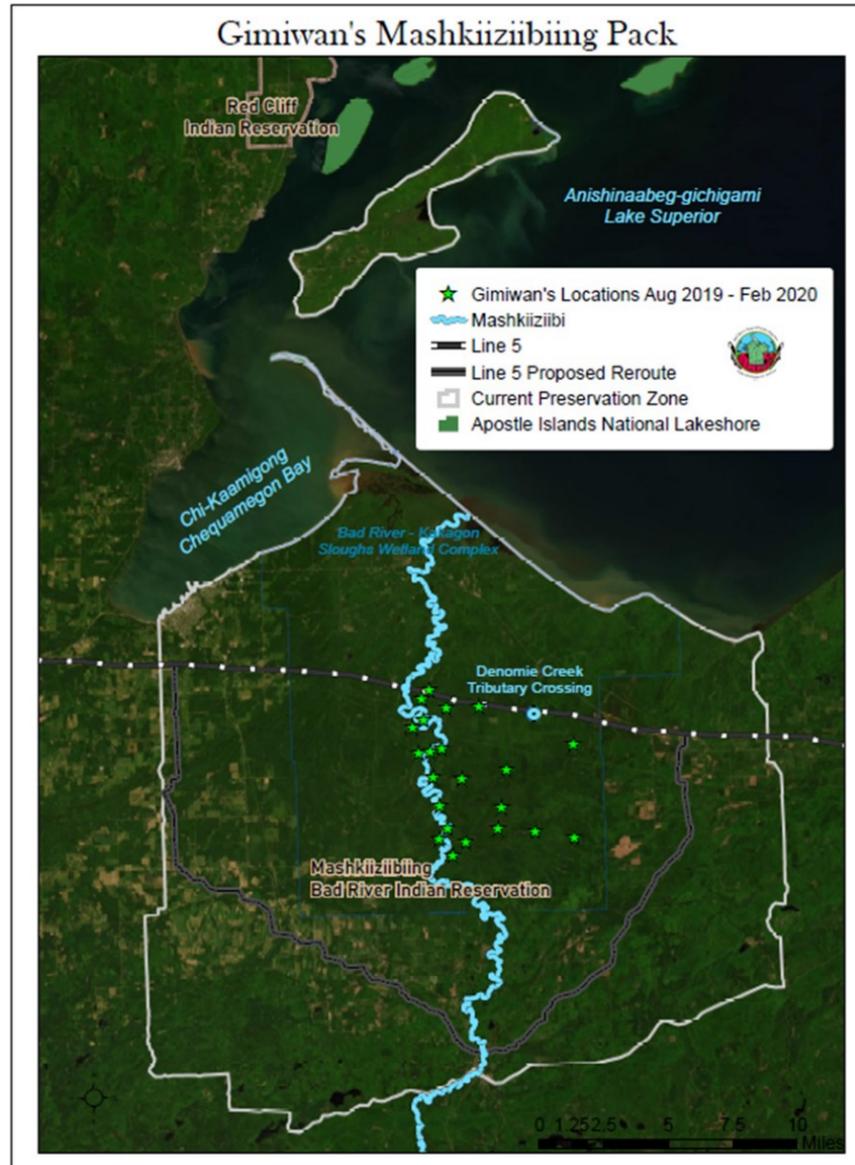
# Caring for Ma'iingan and exploring his lessons

Abi Fergus, Wildlife Specialist

Ma'iingan has many lessons to give us, even beyond his early teachings of how to hunt and how to live with a family. In the past few years, Ma'iingan's population in the ceded territory seems to be stabilizing around 900 Ma'iingan. This means we have a great opportunity to learn what Ma'iingan does for our ecosystems and relations when he is allowed a healthy and sovereign existence. This is a message we brought to Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers during his visit to Mashkiiziibi on March 2, 2020. How does Ma'iingan impact the spread of Chronic Wasting Disease? What is Ma'iingan eating? These are simple questions with big implications that we don't have the answers to.

Ma'iingan is protected on the Reservation by the Mashkiiziibi Ma'iingan Relationship Plan. We published the second edition of the Ma'iingan Plan in December 2019 with Tribal Council approval and based on two years of rich input we gathered from tribal citizens, employees, and our neighboring livestock farmers and Ma'iingan researchers. Mashkiiziibi is setting an example with the attention we pay to our Ma'iingan Plan. State governments also hold responsibility for protecting Ma'iingan when he is no longer Federally protected under the Endangered Species Act; the Minnesota DNR has begun the process of redrafting its plan and Minnesota DNR asked us for a copy of the Mashkiiziibi Ma'iingan Relationship Plan to refer to in its drafting process.

Ma'iingan in Gichigamiing (the Great Lakes) have been federally protected since 2014, but the Fish and Wildlife Service is expected to remove this protection sometime this month. This means States and Tribes will take responsibility and sovereignty in caring for Ma'iingan. Since Ma'iingan will likely experience this change soon, we urged Governor Evers to use his power to have the Wisconsin DNR address its outdated State Wolf Management Plan and to do everything in his power to reduce or eliminate the harm that Act 169 poses to Ma'iingan and Anishinaabe. Wisconsin State Act 169 mandates the State host Ma'iingan hunts when Ma'iingan is Federally delisted. The buffer



zone outlined in the Ma'iingan Relationship Plan is to be respected if a hunt does occur, and a quota of zero Ma'iingan is to apply to the buffer zone and the Reservation in order to protect Reservation Ma'iingan. Having this discussion with Governor Evers and Tribal Council was an opportunity I thought carefully about so that I could discuss in a good way these threats to our brother and thus Anishinaabeg. Miigwech to Aurora Conley, Peter David, and Phoebe Kebec (the Ma'iingan pack) who joined me to help Governor Evers under-

stand the weight of this threat to Ma'iingan and Anishinaabeg and how the former State administration greatly disrespected sovereignty, ethics, and science.

Mashkiiziibi also leads by example in having an on-the-ground understanding of what Ma'iingan is doing. The 2019 Ma'iingan Relationship Plan bans putting a tracking collar on Ma'iingan,

Continued on page 12

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Lake Superior Days Celebration**

**July 17th, 2020**

Stay tuned for more details...

Mashkiiziibi Natural Resources Department

Questions contact MNRD Outreach Coordinator at:  
 NRDO outreach@badriver-nsn.gov  
 (715) 682.7111 ext 1589

# Reducing the Spread of Invasive Species

Jacob Rodmaker, Fisheries Specialist

With the upcoming netting and spearing season, we would like to remind everyone that there are simple ways to stop the spread of invasive species. When moving a boat from one waterbody to another it is important to:

- INSPECT your boat, trailer, and equipment
- REMOVE any attached aquatic plants or animals (before launching, after loading and before transporting on a public highway).
- DRAIN all water from boats, motors, and all equipment.
- NEVER MOVE live fish away from a waterbody.
- DISPOSE of unwanted bait in the trash.
- BUY minnows from a Wisconsin bait dealer. Use leftover minnows only under certain conditions.\*
- \*You may take leftover minnows away from any state water and use them again on that same water. You may use leftover minnows on other waters only if no lake or river water, or other fish were added to their container (more information below)

If you plan on using a boat or net on different bodies of water within a 48 hour period without the boat being completely dry, it is recommended to use bleach water ( 2.5 tsp bleach per gallon of water) and/or a pressure washer to wash and disinfect your gear.



Have a great spring and happy harvesting!

Jacob Rodmaker, Fisheries Specialist  
FisherySpecialist@badriver-nsn.gov



**WE NEED TO KNOW WHEN EMERALD ASH BORER MAKES ITS WAY TO BAD RIVER!!**

APRIL 22ND, 2020 @ Community Center 5:00 - 6:30

Learn how to respond and what to look for!

ASH LEAVES ARE OPPOSITELY COMPOUND

BLACK ASH HAS WHITE BARK

Hosted by: Mashkiizibii Natural Resources Department FORESTRY PROGRAM

Questions? Contact Gena Abramson, Forestry Technician at: 715-682-7111 ext 1563 Forester@badriver-nsn.gov

Please join us in welcoming our friendly experts from the Wisconsin DNR! They specialize in Forest Ecology and Forest Health. They will enlighten us on the Emerald Ash Borer threat including how close it is to us, what we should look for, and what the implications are of losing all of our ash trees. Also, hear about what Mashkiizibii Forestry is doing to care for your forest concerning EAB. We look forward to seeing you there!!

# March 2020 Warden News & Updates

Jerry White, Lead Conservation Warden

Spring is here! The warmer weather brings all types of outdoor action. There will be more animals moving around, most of which will be looking for food. Nuisance animal complaints are most frequent during spring and fall seasons. Animals like bears, raccoons, and skunks are on the lookout for any easy accessible food and are sometimes simply curious.

### Four Steps Lead To Successful Nuisance Wildlife Control:

- Correctly identify the species causing the problem. (Once we know what kind of animal it is we can plan on appropriate ways to capture the animal for relocation.)
- Alter the habitat, if possible, to make the area less attractive to the wildlife pest. (This could mean keeping food waste, bird seed, grabage unavailable for the animal to smell.)
- Use a control method appropriate to the location, time of year, and other environmental conditions. (The most commonly used methods for controlling nuisance wildlife around homes and gardens include exclusion, habitat modification, repellents, traps and frightening methods.)
- Monitor the site for re-infestation in order to determine if additional control is necessary.

In any case, contact the Mashkiizibii Natural Resources Department and the Mashkiizibii Conservation Officer(s) to assist in any nuisance animal issues.

**Piping Plover Project:** Mashkiizibii Conservation Officers will be providing assistance to the Wildlife Program during the 2020



Piping Plover project on Long Island/Chequamegon Point. The project will begin Mid-May and will last thru July. The season is mostly dependent on weather conditions, which affect the plover's population and chick development. All dog owners planning on bring their dog to Long Island need to remember there is a 'Leash Ordinance' that will be enforced! "Plover Monitors" and equipment will be transported back and forth to Long Island/Chequamegon Point for the Plover season. Please respect the "Plover Monitors" as they will be putting in long hours to aid in assisting the survival of this endangered species.

**Fishing Season:** Remember to have your boat registered with the Mashkiizibii Natural Resource Department for the season before launching your boat. You can register your boat by stopping by the Mashkiizibii Natural Resource Department and ask the receptionist for registration instructions. Remember that taking your boat off the reservation for use on inland lakes may require you to have Wisconsin state registration. Be sure you plan ahead and check before you leave. Be responsible and practice safety! Make sure there are life preservers for all passengers on board!

### Spring Thaw & Run-off: Drive Safely & Responsibly.

Please continue to work with Mashkiizibii Natural Resource Conservation Program to protect Bad River's Natural Resources. If you see any violations occur, your information could lead to prosecution of violators. Please call Mashkiizibii Natural Resource Department and make a report: call 715-682-7123 for Natural Resources and ext.1564 for Conservation Office, or call Conservation Officer mobile 715-292-7822, or email: ChiefWarden@badriver-nsn.gov Miigwech!



# Radon on the Bad River Reservation

Daniel Wiggins, Air Quality Technician

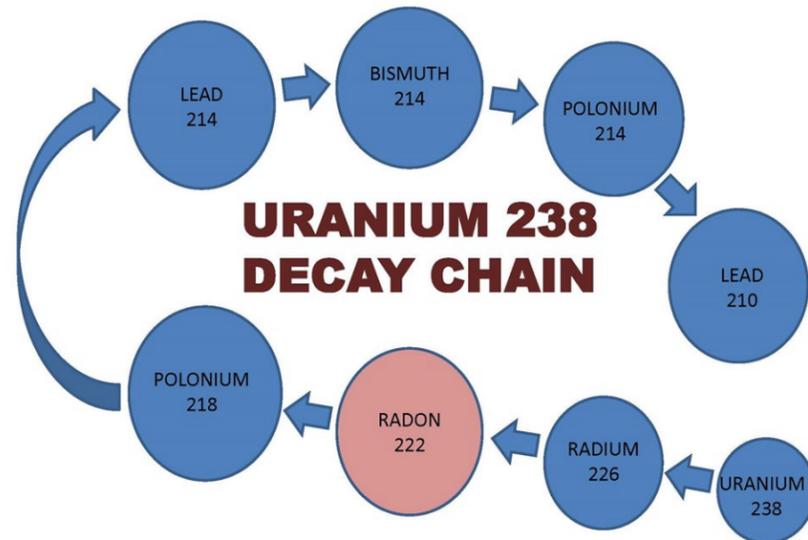
**R**adon is a carcinogen that has been linked to the development of lung cancer. It is a natural radioactive gas that is present everywhere and is commonly traced back to sources in the soils around your home. It has the ability to infiltrate your home through foundation cracks and openings and once in your home can attach to particles in the air where they are then breathed in. Since radon is radioactive it can cause damage to lung tissue and contribute to the development of lung cancer.

The Bad River Tribe has a Tribal Indoor Radon Program, which has been testing tribal homes since 2006. Educating the Tribal community about radon is crucial, along with the proper training to tribal staff to provide radon expertise to Tribal Members. The Program has annual testing from January to March and has continued to work with the Bad River Housing Authority (BRHA) and private homeowners with testing and addressing radon issues, as needed.

The BRHA has been a great partner in addressing radon effectively. Since 2006 the BRHA has testing each housing unit at least once. There has been a total of eight housing units that have tested above the United States Environmental Agency's action level have a radon mitigation (reduction) system and shall continue to be tested in the future to assure effectiveness of systems and analyze changing or fluctuating of radon levels.

The Tribe still faces many challenges with addressing radon effectively. Ideally new homes should be built with radon resistant features, but there are currently no requirements on the reservation for radon resistant new construction. Although new homes are also not being built in large numbers, homes that are have yet to include radon resistant methodology. This may be contributed to many new homeowners not being able to afford additional costs or they may have not just been aware of radon.

In addition, 100% of the BRHA units have been tested, but just over half half of private tribal homes have been tested. Still the Program has continued to address private homes and has assisted one private homeowner with identifying proper mitigation techniques to utilize and funding to



support project costs, when home was found with level 8 times the USEPA action level.

The only way to know if your home has high indoor radon concentrations is to test. If high levels are found there are solutions. The Bad River Tribal Indoor Radon Program would not be able to cover costs or install radon mitigation (reduction) systems, but would be able to assist in locating contractors and possibly funds towards installing them. If you have any questions please contact Daniel Wiggins, the Air Quality Technician at 715-682-7123 or email at [Airl@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:Airl@badriver-nsn.gov).



Figure 1: Radon Mitigation Fan used for lowering levels on Housing Authority unit.



**Earth Day**

More Details Coming SOON!!

**April 22nd 2020**

**SAVE THE DATE**

Questions Contact MNRD Outreach Coordinator at: [NRDOutreach@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:NRDOutreach@badriver-nsn.gov) - (715) 682-7111 ext. 1589