

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### Antidegradation Decision – Outstanding Resource Waters Oak Point Clean Up Project

**The Tribe seeks comments on Oak Point Clean Up Project, this project will be cleaning up the area that once had 7 cabins that burned down.**

#### Project Summary

The project consists of cleaning up Oak Point and restoring the area where 7 cabins burned down, there is debris and hazardous waste that was left behind. Cleaning up this site will prevent further waste getting into the surrounding waters. This project will clean up the area and restore it to a place that can be used for cultural purposes such as manoomin camps.

**The Tribe is currently evaluating whether the project meets the Antidegradation Demonstration requirements and the Decision criteria described in the Tribe's WQS and seeks comments on the proposed work and conditions needed to avoid and minimize potential impacts to the water resources.** All comments are considered during the project review. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Water Regulatory Specialist at (715) 979-1370 or [WaterReg@badriver-nsn.gov](mailto:WaterReg@badriver-nsn.gov). Written comments may be emailed or sent by US Mail to:

Lorrie Salawater, Water Regulatory Specialist  
Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department  
P.O. Box 39  
Odanah, WI 54861

**Comment deadline is October 27, 2022**

#### Background

On July 6, 2011, the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians adopted **Water Quality Standards (WQS)**. The Antidegradation policy within the Water Quality Standards protects existing uses and prevents clean waters from being unnecessarily degraded. Under this policy, each waterbody is assigned to a tier that provides a basis for addressing activities that have the potential to lower water quality. Tiers identified in the Tribe's antidegradation policy include: Outstanding Tribal Resource Waters (Tier 3 waters), Outstanding Resource Waters (Tier 2.5 waters), and Exceptional Resource Waters (Tier 2 waters). The Antidegradation Policy holds that **no new or increased discharges or alterations of the background conditions are allowed to Outstanding Tribal Resource Waters; however, a short-term, temporary lowering of water quality may be allowed if applicable Antidegradation Demonstration and Decision requirements are met, as described in the WQS.**

A webmap of the Reservation waterways and wetlands, highlighting the tiers associated with each waterbody, may be found on the Bad River website (under Services>Natural Resources>Maps & GIS Services. The link is found in the Interactive Maps section).  
<http://www.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=6f44c371217e4ee8b5f1c2c705c7c7c5>