PUBLIC NOTICE

Antidegradation Decision – Exceptional Resource Waters and Outstanding Resource Waters – Laura Teschs' Residential Project

The Tribe seeks comments on the proposed Antidegradation Decision related to Laura Teschs' Residential Project.

Project Summary

Laura Tesch has proposed to construct a small residential home located on Goslin Road. The residential development would be approximately 0.4 acres within a 6.27-acre parcel. The proposed project consists of tree clearing and grubbing, grading, installing culvert for the driveway and concrete slab for residential home. The proposed project is anticipated to begin Spring 2027. All wetlands are classified as Exceptional Resource Waters (Tier 2 Water) and Outstanding Resource Waters (Tier 2.5) under the Tribe's Antidegradation Policy.

The Tribe is currently evaluating whether the project meets the Antidegradation Demonstration requirements, and the Decision criteria described in the Tribe's WQS and seek 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. Written comments may be emailed or sent by US Mail to:

Kaylee Houle, Water Regulatory Specialist
Mashkiiziibii Natural Resources Department (MNRD)
PO BOX 39
Odanah, WI 54861
waterreg@badriver-nsn.gov

Comment deadline is November 20, 2025.

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 water from being unnecessarily degraded. Under this policy, each waterbody is assigned to a tier that provides a basis for addressing activities that have 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 Water Quality Standards. A web map of the Reservation waterways and wetlands, highlighting the tier associated with each waterbody, may be found on the Bad River website http://www.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=6f44c371217e4ee8b5f1c2c705c7c7c5

Posted: October 21, 2026