

Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
**Treaty Natural Resources
Division Newsletter**

Volume 12, Issue 4, Biboon Winter

Ganawenjigaade

It is taken care of, protected . . .

We take care of, protect, keep it.



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BIBOON

It is Winter

GICHI-MANIDOO-GIIZIS

Great Spirit Moon

NAMEBINI-GIIZIS

Sucker Moon

ONAABANI-GIIZIS

Hard Crust on the Snow Moon

WAABIZHESHIWAG

Martens

GIDAGAA-BIZHIW

A bobcat

WISAAGI-MA'IINGANAG

Coyotes

MA'IINGANAG

Wolves

OJIIGAG

Fishers

AWESIINYENSAG

Little animals





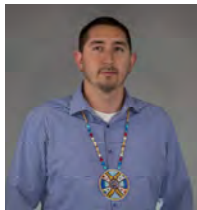
Red Cliff



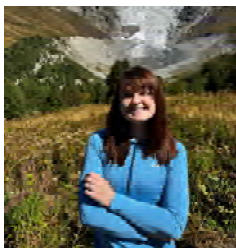
Treaty Natural Resources Division

The Treaty Natural Resources Division is dedicated to the preservation, protection, enhancement, and sustainable stewardship of the Red Cliff Tribal Nation's natural resources in maintaining balance between healthy environment, economic goals, and future subsistence of all tribal members; ensuring that our future generations continue to enjoy the benefits of those places that are of significant historical, cultural, and environmental importance.

The Red Cliff Treaty Natural Resources Division has been involved with the stewardship of natural resources of the Reservation. The Treaty Natural Resources Division is responsible for the oversight and stewardship of the natural resources within the boundary of, and in the ceded territory of the Red Cliff Band. The Tribe operates a transfer station, fish hatchery, conservation enforcement program, water resources program and other natural resource stewardship efforts are on-going.



Dylan Jennings is TNR's new Division Administrator. Dylan will provide oversight to TNR and its staff as they work with other Tribal programs and departments to protect treaty rights and the natural resources for the coming generations.



Ashley Huinker is TNR's Project Coordinator. Ashley works on restoration projects, secures grant funding, and supports other TNR activities. She also collaborates with outside agencies on various projects.

Red Cliff Treaty Natural Resources Division includes:

- Environmental Department
- Fisheries Department
- Fish Hatchery Program
- Mino Bimaadiziiwin Gitigaanin (Red Cliff Tribal Farm)
- Red Cliff Fish Company
- Tribal Conservation Department
- Wildlife and Forestry Department



Mino Bimaadiziiwin Gitigaanin



Mino Bimaadiziiwin Gitigaanin, or the Red Cliff Tribal Farm, grows a wide variety of vegetables, tends medicine beds, raises a flock of laying hens, cares for the apple orchards, runs an annual sugarbush, and composts fish remains from the Red Cliff Fish Company. These foods and medicines are distributed in a variety of ways to the community and tribal programs in order to increase our community's access to healthy foods. Mino Bimaadiziiwin Gitigaanin strives to support the community's food sovereignty goals and works with many different tribal programs to advance those goals.



Allissa Stutte is the Farm Manager /Food Systems Coordinator. Allissa organizes and oversees daily farm operations, along with supporting the larger food sovereignty goals of Red Cliff and planning for the continued growth of the farm in future years.



Shea Schachameyer is the Food Sovereignty Coordinator. Shea supports food sovereignty efforts by helping with farm operations, increasing community outreach and engagement, and collaborating with other Tribal programs to further Red Cliff's food sovereignty.



2023 HIGHLIGHTS

- **8,000 lbs** of produce grown at the Farm
- **684** Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Farm Share Boxes distributed
- **3,421** plants shared during our Plant & Seed Give Away event
- **\$38,787** of traditional foods purchased directly from Red Cliff producers
- **\$9,000+** of produce distributed from our weekly Farm Stand for FREE!

- 60 Workshops, Farm Tours, Bayfield School Field Trips, and community events we were involved with in 2023.
- ~300 students from Bayfield School attended field trips to the Eagle Bay sugarbush
- 43,000 lbs of fish waste composted
- \$909,300 in grant monies applied for supporting Red Cliff food sovereignty





Red Cliff Fish Company



The Red Cliff Fish Company is your local source for the best fish the Great Lakes have to offer. Entirely owned and operated by the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, we're proud to share our catch with you, because fishing is more than what we do - it's at the center of who we are.



Joseph DePerry is the Business Manager for the Red Cliff Fish Company. Joseph strives to plan, direct, lead, and oversee operations for the Fish Company.

Kelly Holcomb is the Operation Manager for the Red Cliff Fish Company. Kelly helps oversee the day to day operations.

Jeff Krisik is a LTE for the Red Cliff Fish Company. Jeff helps with day to day operations and fish processing.

Joe Goodwin is a LTE for the Red Cliff Fish Company. Joe helps with day to day operations and fish processing.

WE'RE HIRING! Please visit recliff-nsn.gov to apply



Wildlife and Forestry Program



The wildlife and forestry program conducts monitoring and research involving a variety of wildlife species both on and off the Red Cliff Reservation. Staff also review pending changes in policies or regulations, proposed development projects, and actions like planned timber sales for potential impacts (both positive and negative) to our wildlife and forest resources.



Genevieve Adamski is the new Wildlife Specialist. Genevieve will study relationships and movements of ma'iinganag (wolves), wiisagi-ma'iiganag (coyotes), gidagaa bizhiwag (bobcats), waabizheshiwag (martens), and ojiigag (fishers), and other forest relatives located around the Red Cliff reservation.



Ron Nordin Jr is the Wildlife and Forestry Technician. Ron's job duties include maintaining trail camera stations as well as live trapping and tracking our wildlife for a better understanding of their territories.

Ojiig and Waabizheshi (Fisher and Marten)

Wildlife staff had a good streak of luck with the small carnivore captures so far, this biaboon *winter*. One female ojiig and two male waabizheshi were kind enough to join our team of collared animals. This increases our total number of collared mustelids (animals in the weasel family) to three individuals. Mii ongow awesiinyensag gii-azhe-giiwewag iwidi noopiming *those little animals returned to the woods (over there)* and are living their lives as normal. But unbeknownst to them, their collars are hard at work, providing movement data for wildlife staff to analyze. Currently waabizheshiwag are endangered in the state of Wisconsin, so it's fantastic to have two currently collared.



From left to right: 1: Fisher 081 briefly under anesthesia while wildlife staff gather biometric data and fit her with a collar. Anesthesia is an important safety measure for both the study animals and the humans working with them. 2: Marten 8301 briefly under anesthesia while being refitted with a collar after he slipped his old one off. 3: Marten 351 testing out his newly fitted collar after being released.



Fish Hatchery Program



The Red Cliff Tribal Fish Hatchery raises Coaster Brook Trout in the hatchery and Walleye in the outdoor ponds. Walleye are raised to bolster populations in inland lakes where tribal members spear in the spring. All walleye are raised to extended growth size, meaning the walleye usually range from 5 – 9 inches when released in the fall. Raising walleye to extended growth size substantially increases survival after release. The Red Cliff Hatchery maintains brood stock of coaster brook trout in its hatchery. The purpose of the coaster brook trout program is to restore the species to historical levels in nearshore areas of Lake Superior.



Lance Bresette is the Hatchery Specialist. Lance oversees the hatchery and walleye ponds and makes sure the fish are happy and well taken care of.



Robert Lawrence is the Natural Resources Technician. Robert helps care for the fish hatchery and assists with fisheries assessments and wildlife trapping.



Fisheries Program



The Fisheries Department at the Red Cliff Treaty Natural Resources Division conduct fish assessments in the Wisconsin and Michigan waters of Gichigami and the streams on Reservation, monitor commercial fishing activities on Gichigami, issue licenses and fish harvest tags, and summarize the information we collect into reports. Fisheries staff also serve on several committees, working groups, and collaboratives where many agencies around Lake Superior work together to solve problems of mutual concern.



Ian Harding is the Fish Biologist . Ian helps conduct fish assessments in the Wisconsin and Michigan waters of Gichigami, on reservation streams, and develops reports from those assessments.



Kali Nelson is the Office Manager. Kali focuses on the administration of projects, funding, and coordination of the Natural Resources Department programs. Kali also issues commercial and home use fishing licenses.



Paige Sutton is a Fisheries Technician. Paige helps monitor commercial fishers and conduct fisheries surveys on Lake Superior and on reservation streams.



Andre Gilles is a Fisheries Technician. Andre helps monitor commercial fishers and conduct fisheries surveys on Lake Superior and on reservation streams.



Environmental Department



The Department houses a variety of programs, which in turn administer services that directly benefit the Red Cliff community. The programs include: water, air, environmental justice, solid and hazardous waste (Transfer Station), environmental response, manoomin (wild rice) stewardship, and previously the Native American Lands Environmental Mitigation Program. Examples of projects include: Lake Superior Barrels Project, riparian buffer restoration, water and air quality monitoring, hazardous waste disposal events, annual spring clean-up, reseeding of the wild rice, legacy dump sites, environmental outreach and education, tire collection events, permits, and coordination with a variety of programs within the Tribe to promote sustainable practices.



Linda Nguyen is the Environmental Director. Linda supports the development and maintains oversight of core environmental programs, develops proposals for environmental grants, and fosters compliance with federal environmental statutes.



Dan Duffy is the Transfer Station Manager. He helps the community keep clean by keeping the Transfer Station open.



Noah Saperstein is the Environmental Justice Specialist. Noah reviews documents related to mines and pipelines. Noah also supports food sovereignty initiatives.



Jacob Coe is the Environmental Technician. He helps monitor non-native plants and insects and supports the water program.



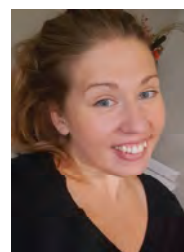
Jessica Jacobson is the Wetland Specialist. Jessica is developing and implementing a wetland monitoring program to increase understanding of the extent and quality of tribal wetlands.



Anthony Schultz is the Recycling Technician at the Transfer Station. Anthony will help to educate the community on to reduce trash and plastic pollution.



Natasha Trush is the Environmental Health Specialist. She aims to protect human health from environmental hazards. She conducts various inspections.



Shania Nordby is the new Water Resources Program Manager. She analyzes the water quality data collected from streams and rivers on reservation. She also issues water quality warnings or advisories at popular swimming areas if E.coli counts reach unsafe levels.

Carbon Monoxide Safety

Winter can be a prime time for carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning as people turn on their heating system & warm cars in their garage. It is important to take extra precautions when weather is colder.

What is it?

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless, tasteless gas. It is produced when burning gasoline, wood, propane, charcoal or other fuel. Carbon monoxide may accumulate if not able to escape such as a lack of ventilation. High levels of carbon monoxide can lead to CO poisoning.

Symptoms of CO Poisoning

- Dull Headache
- Weakness
- Nausea
- Dizziness
- Shortness of breath
- Confusion

Detectors

Detectors are the best way to know if you have a CO buildup. It is recommended to have one of every floor of your home.



Safety Tips

- **Have gas, oil, or coal burning appliances serviced by a qualified technician every year.**
- Have chimney checked and cleaned every year. Ensure fireplace damper is open before lighting and well after extinguished.
- **Never use a stove or oven to heat your home.**
- Never run a fueled engine in an enclosed space (car in garage). Move it outside.



For more information,
contact Environmental Health Specialist
715-209-3863
Natasha.Trush@redcliff-nsn.gov

4 Easy Ways to **PREVENT WATER DAMAGE**

Water damage may occur due to leaky roofs, burst pipes, or flooding due to snowmelt or rain. Use these tips to help avoid water damage!

1. Inspect Your Home

Inspect your home and watch for water damage. Mold may be an indicator of water damage. Environmental Department can conduct air inspections and confirm the presence of mold.



2. Water Shut-Off Valve

Identify where the main water shut-off valve is located and how to shut it off. Shutting off the water may minimize water damage during a plumbing emergency such as burst pipe.



3. Pipe Freeze Prevention

Running water is the best prevention. If there is a power outage, temperatures below 38 degrees, and you cannot shut off water main, slightly open faucets to allow flow.



4. Elevate Belongings

Keep belongings, valuables, and electronics off the floor. Use waterproof storage container as an additional layer of protection.

If any questions, contact Environmental Health Specialist

 715-209-3863

 Natasha.Trush@redcliff-nsn.gov



SMART WINTER SALTING

Red Cliff Water Resources Program

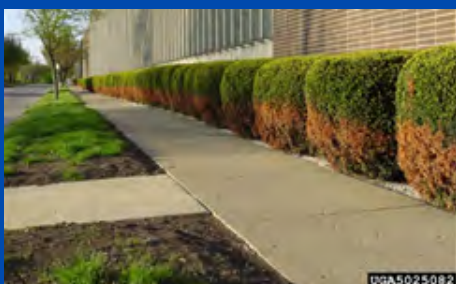
Icy roads, driveways, and sidewalks are an everyday issue in the winter months. Road salt and other ice melt products are essential for public safety and preventing dangerous conditions. However, salt and other products can be harmful to the environment. Once salt enters the environment, it doesn't go away. The lakes, streams, groundwater, and soil have been absorbing all the salt we introduce during the winter. However, the good news is that we can strike a balance between protecting the public and protecting the environment by applying salt in a more strategic manner.

How Salt Enters the Environment

- **Runoff:** Rain and snowmelt creates runoff which washes the salt on roads and sidewalks into streams and lakes.
- **Groundwater:** Salt dissolved in water or runoff can be absorbed into the ground.

Cost of Salt on the Environment

- There is no natural process to remove salt from the environment. It just gets diluted.
- Excess salt is toxic to aquatic life. Even low concentrations can cause harm or death. **It only takes 1 teaspoon of salt to pollute 5 gals of water.**
- Large mammals such as deer are attracted to the salt along roadways increasing the risk of collisions.
- Salt is harmful to vegetation on. Leaf damage and slow growth are common.



How To Salt Smart

- **Shovel!** Clear as much snow and ice as you can before applying salt.



- **Scatter!** Get the most out of your salt by applying only as much as you need. A 12oz coffee mug is enough to salt a 20ft driveway or 10 sidewalk squares



- **Switch!** When temps drop below 15 degrees, salt won't work. Switch to sand for traction



- **Sweep!** You can collect or sweep up extra salt after the sidewalk is clear. You can reuse it next time it snows!

What are PFAS?

PFAS are a group of human-made chemicals used for decades in numerous products.



stain-resistant carpet & fabric



non-stick cookware



firefighting foam



fast food packaging

Products that **may contain PFAS.**

Graphic adapted from Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

What is Red Cliff Doing About It?

Environmental Department staff have been...



sampling surface waters of Lake Superior and Clayton Creek since October 2021



sampling fish from around the Apostle Islands since October 2021



participating in regional PFAS conversation and following relevant updates on PFAS related findings

Why Should I care?

PFAS persist in the environment and the human body for long periods of time. Recent findings indicate that exposure to certain PFAS may have harmful health effects in people.



certain types of cancers



thyroid & heart issues



infertility & low birth weight



developmental delays

What You Can Do...



Check State Fish Advisories
dnr.wi.gov/u/?q=176



Learn More About PFAS Health Risks
dnr.wi.gov/u/?q=175



Contact the Environmental Justice Specialist for more information at
(715) 779-3615 ext. 4315

The Unseen Threat: How Tire Pollution is Endangering Fish Populations

In recent years, an alarming connection has been made between tire pollution and the declining health of fish populations. The issue centers around 6PPD-quinone, a chemical used in the manufacturing of car tires, which, when washed into waterways, poses a significant threat to aquatic life.

As tires wear down, they release tiny particles that contain a range of chemicals, a transformation product of a common tire rubber preservative. These chemicals, though initially intended to prolong the life of tires by protecting them from ozone and UV radiation, has unintended and devastating consequences. Recent research has revealed that exposure to 6PPD-quinone at levels typically found in the environment can be fatal to both salmon and trout. Tribes in the Northwest Pacific have issued statements indicating that Coho salmon are particularly vulnerable to 6PPD-quinone. They have noted that this chemical can be lethal to Coho salmon within just a few hours of exposure. Coho salmon can be found in Gitchigumi (Lake Superior).



Photo credit: National Fisherman News

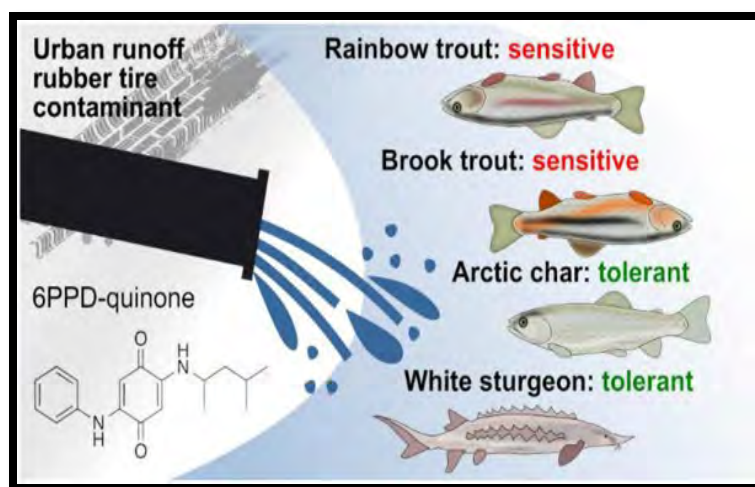


Photo credit: <https://www.greencarcongress.com/2022/03/20220304-6ppdquinone.html>

In response to these findings, U.S. regulators, such as the Environmental Protection Agency, have committed to reviewing of the use of these chemicals in tire manufacturing. The goal is to find safer alternatives that do not compromise the health of aquatic ecosystems. Additionally, there is a push for better management of stormwater runoff and tire disposal, which is a primary pathway for these pollutants to enter water systems.

The situation underscores a broader issue in environmental protection – the unintended consequences of everyday products. As we move forward, it is crucial to balance technological advancements and environmental preservation to ensure the health and sustainability of our community and relatives.

To properly dispose of old tires, you can consider the following options:

- Recycling Centers:** Many recycling centers accept tires for a fee, like the Red Cliff Transfer Station.
- Tire Retailers:** Some tire retailers may accept old tires for recycling when you purchase new ones, like Walmart or Zifko Automotive Care Center.
- Community Cleanup Events:** Participate in local cleanup drives which may include tire collection, like the annual Red Cliff Spring Cleanup.

Illegal Dumping

Environmental Department

Illegal dumping is a serious issue. It makes our communities and natural areas look dirty and uncared for— unpleasant to be in. More dumped items in an environment will encourage and lead to more dumping and other illegal activities. This type of activity pollutes our environment and can diminish the subsistence and cultural uses, enjoyment, and value of our natural areas. Just like litter, illegal dumping occurs across a range of situations and environments, such as the woods and vacant lots.



Some forms of illegal dumping such as chemicals, electronic waste, or construction debris like asbestos can directly cause harm or injury to humans and wildlife, or lead to soil and/or groundwater contamination. Animals can also become entangled in dumped items leading to injury and/or death. Illegal dumping can also introduce rodents and invasive species into our natural areas, block waterways and roads, cause flooding (by blocked drainage areas), and facilitate higher rates of erosion by choking out natural vegetation cover.

Littering and illegal dumping costs the Tribe and community crucial funds each year in waste management, including clean-up expenses. Let's take a stance because we deserve a clean and safe environment! It's NOT OK to use our environment as a dump!

If you come across a site, please do not disturb the site where the incident occurred, as the site may contain hazardous materials. To report a site or dumping activity, contact the Environmental Department at 715-779-3650 or Conservation Wardens at 715-779-3732.

Red Cliff Transfer Station

Yard Waste/Wood Winter Announcement



Beginning December 1st, 2023 (or first sticking snowfall) through April 1, 2024, the Red Cliff Transfer Station **will not accept yard waste and wood materials** for the burn pile. This is due to the snow removal operations and weather inhibiting burning activities. Wood furniture will be accepted, but disposed of in the open top bin and subject to a fee, per disposal schedule.

Examples of yard waste and wood materials:



Please contact Transfer Station @ 715-779-0171 or Environmental Department @ 715-779-3650 for any questions. Miigwech!

Environmental Department Permits FAQ

The following information is provided to answer general questions about *non-project related* permits issued by the Red Cliff Environmental Department. These permits do not grant authorization to trespass. Permit holders must retain their copy of the permit while engaging in the permitted activity. If there are any questions, please contact the Department at 715-779-3650 or visit our location at 37295 Community Road!

Burn Permit

A Burn Permit authorizes the permit holder to burn grass, brush, and untreated and unpainted wood if weather conditions do not pose a fire hazard and during designated times. Conditions are outlined on the permit upon issuance. You can find current fire conditions by visiting <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/forestfire/restrictions.html> or by viewing the Smokey Bear signs, located outside the Environmental Department and at the intersection of Highway 13 and Blueberry Road.

Duration: This permit is valid for seven (7) days and is required at all times of the year.

Charge: There is no fee for this permit.

Small Harvest Permit

A Small Harvest Permit authorizes the permit holder, who must be a tribal member, to harvest designated amounts of the forest products listed below. Harvest of amounts less than those listed do not require a permit.

- Birch Bark for more than twenty (20) trees and in compliance with RCCL 11.7.3.
- Conifer Boughs in the amount of more than one hundred (100) pounds and in compliance with RCCL 11.7.5.
- Lodge Poles in the amount of more than sixty (60) trees and in compliance with RCCL 11.7.6.
- Ginseng harvest requires a permit for any amount, but not more than ten (10) plants may be harvested per season (September 1st – October 31st) and in compliance with RCCL 11.8.2.
- Leeks in any amount used for commercial purposes and in compliance with RCCL 11.8.3. Harvest of leeks for personal use does not require a permit.

Duration: This permit is valid until the end of the calendar year for which the permit was originally issued.

Charge: There is no fee for this permit.

Wood Cutting Permit

A Wood Cutting Permit authorizes the permit holder, who must be a tribal member, to collect standing dead trees for firewood on trust lands and within designated woodcutting lot. These zones are outlined on the permit. Any person seeking to cut more than permissible amounts must receive advance approval from the Red Cliff Tribal Council. This permit does not allow for sale of firewood or other wood products.

Duration: This permit is valid until the end of the calendar year for which the permit was originally issued.

Charge: There is no fee for this permit.

When Burning is Allowed?



The following chart shows:

- When you need a burn permit
- What you can burn
- When you can burn

Permit Required	WHAT CAN BE BURNED	Low	Moderate	High	Very High	Extreme
YES	Grass, Brush, Wood	Burn		Do Not Burn		
NO	3x3x3' Ring for Cooking/Warming	Burn			Do Not Burn	
NO	3x3x3' Ring for Ceremonial	Burn				

Ceremonial fires will be allowed during high to extreme conditions, but shall be in compliance according to Red Cliff Tribal Council Resolution 4-16-2015 A, which includes having a fire keeper monitoring the fire at all times.

The current fire danger can be viewed at :

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/forestfire/restrictions.html>

Or call:

1-888-WIS-BURN (947-2876)

If you have any questions or would like a burn permit, please contact the

Red Cliff Environmental Department at 715-779-3650.

If you come across a fire that needs to be reported, please contact:

Red Cliff Tribal Wardens at 715-779-3732 or

Bayfield County Dispatch at 715-373-6120.

February 2, 2024 is

WORLD WETLANDS DAY

WETLANDS AND HUMAN WELLBEING

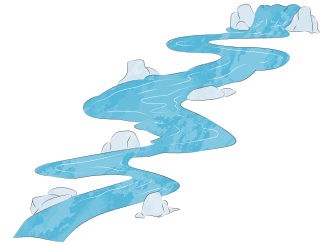


Learn about what
wetlands provide for us



CLEAN WATER

Wetlands sustain clean water. They can filter pollutants and sediment and leave clean water we can drink.



TRADITIONAL FOOD

Wetlands provide habitat for traditional foods including fish (gigoonh), cranberries (aniibinim, mashkiigimin), blueberries (miinan), and wild rice (manoomin), and many traditional medicines.

FLOOD PROTECTION

Wetlands can help ease the effects of flooding following big storms and melting snow by absorbing and later slowly releasing flood water.



ANIMAL HABITAT

Wetlands support fish, birds, insects and frogs and toads and other animals. The wetlands on Lake Superior are incredibly important for fish spawning and migratory birds.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Protecting wetlands keeps the carbon that contributes to global warming out of the atmosphere. Wetlands accumulate and store more carbon than any other ecosystem in the world.





Gi-Ganawemaanaan Nibi: We Are Protecting the Water

February 2024

Nibi Akawe Mashkiki, water is the first medicine. **Nibi Bimaadiziwin**, water is life. Any threat to water is a threat to all life, the Anishinaabeg, **giigoonh** (fish), **mashkikiwag** (medicines), and all of our other **indinawemaaganag** (relatives). As industry continues to try to destroy the **aki** (land) and **nibi** (water), people continue to resist.

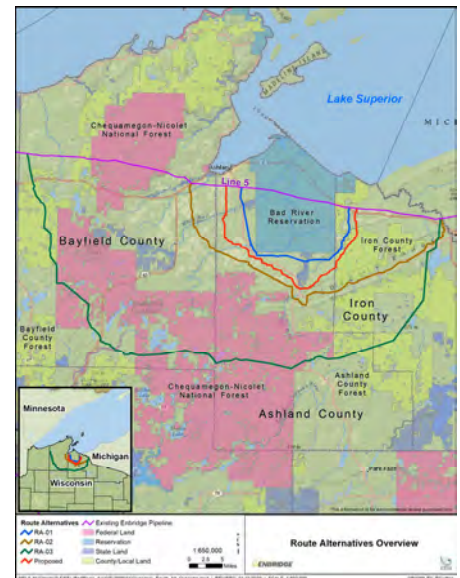
Line 5 1836 Territory Updates:

- Enbridge continues to operate Line 5 in the Straits of Mackinac even though the State of Michigan revoked the pipeline's Right of Way. Michigan's Attorney General (AG) is in court with Enbridge to shut down Line 5 in the Straits of Mackinac to enforce the Governor's action. Bay Mills, Red Cliff, and nearly 60 other Tribes and First Nations filed an Amicus Brief in support of Michigan's AG.
- The Army Corps is conducting an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess how Enbridge's proposed Line 5 Tunnel under the Straits of Mackinac will impact the environment, Treaty Rights, and Tribal cultural landscapes. The environmental review process is expected to be completed by 2026. After that, the Army Corps could either deny the permits or begin drafting permits. Construction is estimated to take an additional 5-7 years.
- The Michigan Public Service Commission issued a permit approving the location of the proposed Line 5 Tunnel under the Straits of Mackinac. Bay Mills is still challenging a different state-level permit. This legal challenge is being heard by an Administrative Law Judge.



Line 5 1842 Territory Updates:

- Enbridge is still proposing to reroute Line 5 around Bad River in response to Bad River's refusal to renew expired easements that cross Bad River.
- The federal judge residing over the Bad River v. Enbridge case ruled that Enbridge is in trespass on Bad River and gave the company until Summer 2026 to remove Line 5 from Bad River's Reservation. There are additional court dates scheduled for February 2024.
- The Wisconsin DNR's (WDNR) draft EIS received over 30,000 comments, which is more than any other WDNR comment period. The WDNR is working on revising the draft EIS. The WDNR can either release a draft version of the EIS and request comments on the document or they can release a Final EIS. The WDNR can make a decision to issue or deny project permits after they have released a final EIS. Tribal governments believe the revised EIS should be released for Tribal and public comment before being finalized.

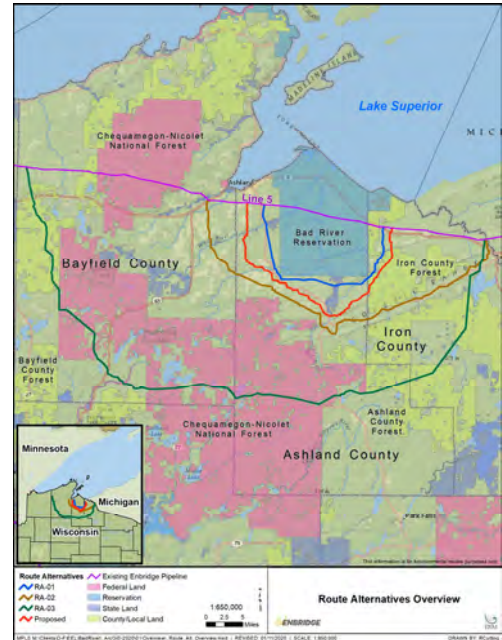


Gi-Ganawemaanaan Nibi: We Are Protecting the Water

February 2024

Line 5 1842 Territory Updates cont'd:

- The Army Corps has started to draft their Environmental Assessment (EA). The Army Corps expects to release a draft EA in March or April 2024 for Tribal review and public comments on the document. The Army Corps would then need to review the comments, make changes to the EA, and eventually release a final EA. After a final EA has been released, the Army Corps can either choose to conduct an EIS or decide to issue or deny the permits.
- The portion of Line 5 that crosses the Chequamegon National Forest (between Ashland and Iron River) has been unpermitted since 2013. Enbridge applied to renew their expired permit in 2017, but the Forest Service is still reviewing the application. Enbridge has applied to conduct maintenance on Line 5 in the National Forest, which is expected to occur in February. It is still unclear what US Forest Service will do about this section of Line 5 and the expired permit. The Forest Service can either issue or deny a permit for Enbridge to cross the National Forest. GLIFWC created a website that shows how Line 5 has impacted the Chequamegon Nicolet National Forest and ceded territory to help the Forest Service better understand tribal concerns with Line 5. To view this website, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/L5storymap>
- Enbridge received WDNR permits to conduct maintenance on the Line 5 corridor where the pipeline crosses a tributary of North Fish Creek. The bank of the tributary was eroding near the pipeline, which could lead to the pipeline becoming exposed.



Line 3 Expansion Updates:

- Enbridge completed the construction of the new Line 3 pipeline (also known as Line 93) in December 2021, which approximately doubled the capacity compared to the old Line 3. There have been four documented aquifers that Enbridge breached during the construction of their Line 3 Expansion pipeline.
- Several of these aquifer breaches were reported by Waadookawaad Amikwag (Those Who Help Beavers), a grassroots group of citizen scientists and Tribal elders who have been monitoring and reporting impacts from construction. Waadookawaad Amikwag believes there are additional aquifer breaches based on geothermal data. The most recent aquifer breach reported was in a peat bog near Moose Lake. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources had raised concern with Enbridge's plans to cross peat bogs during the pipeline's permitting process.



Gi-Ganawemaanaan Nibi: We Are Protecting the Water

February 2024

Line 3 Expansion Updates cont'd:

- Most recently, Waadookawaad Amikwag observed extremely warm water along the pipeline corridor. This is suspected to be caused by the pipeline heating up ground water and is raising many questions about how this is impacted the area.

Nemadji Trail Energy Center Updates:

- The Nemadji Trail Energy Center (NTEC) is a proposed natural gas powerplant that would be owned by Dairyland Power (Bayfield Electric's energy supplier). ALLETE's (owned by Minnesota Power), and Basin Electric. The proposed natural gas power plant would be located on the Nemadji River in Superior, Wisconsin next to the St. Francis Cemetery and Enbridge's Superior Terminal. The St. Francis Cemetery is where Fond du Lac's ancestors were placed into a mass grave. This was done by U.S. Steel around 1919 because the company wanted to build an ore dock on Wisconsin Point where the ancestors were buried.
- Dairyland applied for a US Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS) loan. This required the RUS to conduct an environmental review. Tribes, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and non-profits all raised significant concerns with the agency's environmental review. This summer the RUS released a revised Environmental Assessment due to concerns raised by Red Cliff, Fond du Lac, the EPA, and non-profits. The RUS claims the project would not have adverse affects on Tribal treaty rights or Tribal cultural resources. The RUS now has the ability to issue or deny the requested loan.
- The Army Corps is now reviewing the USDA's environmental review and the applicants' permit application to impact wetlands along the Nemadji River.
- The City of Superior's Mayor and the majority of the City Council have come out against the proposed power plant. Councilor Van Sickle (who worked with Fond du Lac to return city land to the Tribe) represents the residents who live around the proposed project site. Councilor Van Sickle has been especially active to protect her constituents from the proposed NTEC project.



Superior Refinery Updates:

- The former Husky Refinery in Superior, Wisconsin is now the Superior Refinery and co-owned by Cenovus Energy and Husky Energy. The refinery has not resumed operations since the 2018 explosion. This explosion was caused by a faulty valve that the operators had known about since 2008.
- The refinery has not resumed operations since the 2018 explosion. On August 23 & 24, 2023 the facility experienced a gas leak and an equipment failure leading to all workers being evacuated on both days. It is uncertain how these two incidents will impact the reopening of the refinery.



Gi-Ganawemaanaan Nibi: We Are Protecting the Water

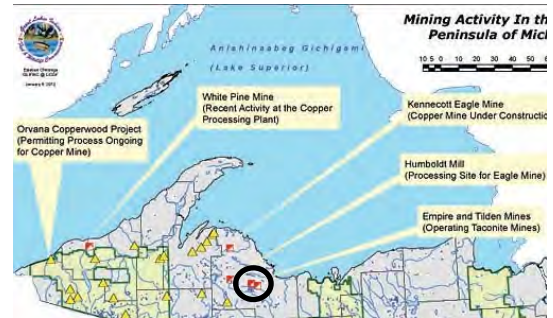
February 2024

Superior Refinery Updates cont'd:

- Cenovus recently applied for a WDNR air permit for the Superior Refinery. The WDNR is expected to issued the permit.

Tilden Mine Updates:

- The Tilden Iron Mine is an iron mine operated by Cleveland Cliffs southwest of Marquette near the border of 1842 and 1836 treaty territories.
- Cleveland Cliffs has submitted a new permit application to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) to expand the Tilden Mine's iron ore pit. Cleveland Cliffs submitted a similar application in the end of 2022. Red Cliff submitted comments on the proposed project, but Cleveland Cliffs later withdrew their application after the Northern Long Eared Bats were federally reclassified as Endangered.
- TNR staff are reviewing Cleveland Cliffs' new application and will coordinate any potential comments with Keweenaw Bay and GLIFWC staff.



Eagle Mine Updates:

- The Eagle Mine is a copper and nickel mine located east of Keweenaw Bay in the Lake Superior Basin and in 1842 ceded territory. The mine was formerly owned by Rio Tinto and is currently owned by Lundin Mining.
- The Eagle Mine was recently approved to expand their underground mine. This will allow the company to mine an additional 2 million tons of ore. The applicant estimated that this could allow the mine to continue operations through 2029. EGLE is expected to issue this permit with minimal permit conditions.



Copperwood Mine Updates:

- The Copperwood Mine is Highland Copper's proposed copper mine near the shores of Lake Superior. Highland Copper has not applied for a Dam Safety Permit for the proposed tailings basin, has not yet received the necessary air permit, and has several unmet conditions associated with their mining permit.



Gi-Ganawemaanaan Nibi: We Are Protecting the Water

February 2024

Copperwood Mine Updates cont'd:

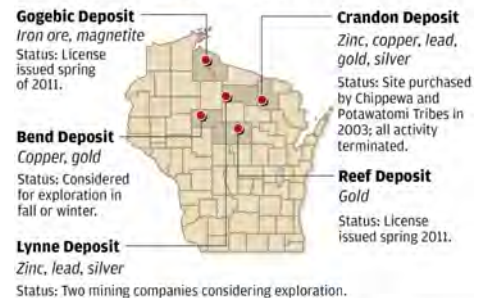
- Highland Copper completed permitted tree clearing and stream re-alignment during the 2024 field season. The image to the top right shows the company has shifted the location of Gypsy Creek (referred to as stream realignment) so the waterway will flow around the proposed mine site. The image to the bottom right shows additional site clearing. Some of the clearing was done to allegedly mitigate impacts to wetlands from the proposed project.
- Highland Copper reported that they are no longer planning to pump water out of Lake Superior for their proposed mine. This would mean that the Army Corps no longer has regulatory authority. It is unclear where the proposed mine would be getting water from. The applicant previously expected to require 500,000 gallons of water per day for the mining project.



Green Light Metals Updates:

- Green Light Metals (GLM) is a recently formed mining company. They have mineral rights within the Bend Deposit (Taylor County), Reef Deposit (Marathon County), and Lynne Deposit (Oneida County). These mineral deposits contain copper, gold, and zinc.
- GLM is in active communication with the Wisconsin DNR and federal agencies to seek approval to conduct exploratory drilling in the Bend and Reef deposits.
- GLM has also obtained the necessary permits and mineral leases to begin exploration activities in western Upper Peninsula near the Wisconsin-Michigan border.

Metallic mining in Wisconsin



SOURCE: Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

State Journal

Kristle KLR Updates:

- Kristle Majchrzak, owner of Kristle KLR, wants to bottle artesian water from a well in Herbster. The water would then be trucked to Superior, WI for bottling and sold in the Twin Cities. There are no new updates on this project.
- Kristle Majchrzak's Bayfield County zoning permit was denied. Kristle Majchrzak appealed this decision in the Circuit Court and lost. She is now in the Court of Appeals challenging the Circuit Court's ruling.



Gi-Ganawemaanaan Nibi: We Are Protecting the Water

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Tamarack Mine Updates:

- The Tamarack Metals is a proposed nickel mine is that would be between Mille Lacs and Fond du Lac and straddles 1854 and 1855 Treaty Territories. Talon Metals recently submitted a mining proposal for a nickel and cobalt mine in Aitkin County on the border of 1854 and 1855 Ceded Territory. Talon Metal's parent company is Rio Tinto who operates the Eagle Mine east of Keweenaw Bay.
- This proposed mine has been touted as an environmentally friendly project that would supply nickel for electric vehicle batteries. Talon Metals has a tentative agreement to supply Tesla with the nickel from the proposed Tamarack Mine.
- Talon Metals has also applied for thousands of acres of mineral leases through in Michigan's Upper Peninsula around Keweenaw Bay and near the Menominee River.
- The company is receiving funds from the US Department of Energy and the US Department of Defense to support mining that may provide minerals that would support the United States transition away from fossil fuels.



Want to get involved and protect the Nibi?

Opportunities to Comment to the Federal or State Agencies:

- The U.S. Forest Service is **still** accepting public comments regarding Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest's expired Line 5 Special Use Permit, for details go to: <https://www.fs.usda.gov/project/?project=44889>
- To get updates on Michigan's process for the proposed Line 5 Tunnel or to submit comments, go to: <https://www.michigan.gov/line5/>
- To get updates on Wisconsin's process for the proposed Line 5 Reroute around Bad River, go to: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/EIA/Enbridge.html>

Want to join the Frontlines?

- Need help figuring out the best way for you to get involved to protect the water? Reach out to Red Cliff's Environmental Justice Specialist! Contact info below.

For more information about any these projects, please contact our Environmental Justice Specialist at (715) 779 3650 ext. 4315

Ingoji bakaan gaa-onjibaajig (Non-Local Beings)

Biboon, a time for gathering and sharing stories, also reminds us of the importance of staying active for our mental and physical well-being. A great outdoor activity during this period is the removal of spongy moth egg masses. These moths, considered Non-Local Beings, pose a significant threat to various trees, including mitigomizh (oak), by defoliating them in the summer. You'll find their egg masses clinging to the trunks and even larger branches of mitigoog.



To combat this infestation and protect our treasured mitigoog in Gaa-Miskwaabekang, it's crucial to scrape these egg masses off the bark. After removal, place them in soapy water for 2 days before discarding. This method effectively prevents further spread.

Your efforts contribute significantly to the health and preservation of our natural surroundings. Make sure to get out and enjoy Biboon, and all that it has to offer!



For any questions or guidance on managing Non-Local Beings, please contact the Environmental Technician at 715-779-3650, ext. 4312. Your inquiries and participation in safeguarding our environment are always welcome.



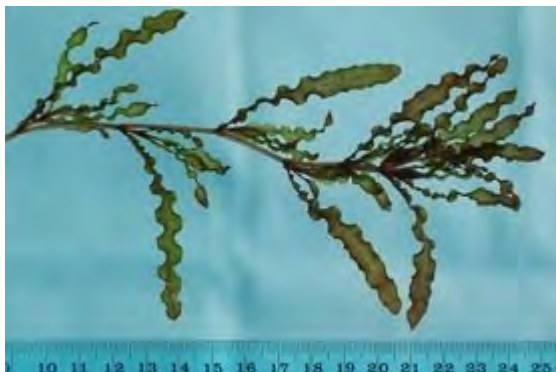
Boozhoo!

The Environmental Department of Red Cliff is asking anglers to help prevent the spread of aquatic non-local beings when ice fishing this winter.

While aquatic non-local beings have made their way into Wisconsin's waterways, anglers can reduce transmission by checking for and removing any mud or plant material clinging to their gear. Proper disposal of unused bait is another proactive method to preventing non-local being and disease spread. Garbage cans on shore are the best option for disposal of unused bait.

Non-local beings are non-native plants, animals and diseases that cause great ecological, environmental or economic harm. Aquatic non-local beings can crowd out native plants and animals and threaten the quality of boating and fishing.

Two common non-local beings include the curly-leaf pondweed and Eurasian watermilfoil which remain hardy in winter giving them an advantage over native aquatic plants. **REMEMBER TO CLEAN, DRAIN, and DRY!** Chi-Miigwech!



Curly-leaf pondweed



Eurasian watermilfoil



Tribal Conservation Department



The Red Cliff Tribal Conservation Department provides a variety of services to the community and its members including: Issuance of permits for all on and off reservation treaty based harvest activities. Provide regulatory information and educational resources to the public on treaty based harvest activities. Monitor tribally licensed commercial fishing and fish marketing activities through enforcement of Tribal Commercial Fishing regulations. Patrol, monitor and protect the Red Cliff Area, public and its resources through enforcement of trapping, hunting, fishing regulations, ATV/Snowmobile enforcement, trespass codes, animal control regulations, nuisance wildlife concerns and environmental regulations.



Mark Duffy is the Chief Warden. Mark oversees all aspects of the Conservation Department.



Zach Peterson is a Deputy Warden in the Conservation Department. One of Zach's main job duties is enforcing the Tribe's commercial fishing regulations.



Lucas Cadotte is the Assistant Chief Warden in the Conservation Department. Lucas assists with all the day to day operations of the department. Lucas also works with the Environmental Department with enforcement of the tribes environmental regulations.

ICE DANGER AND ICE SAFETY



Before going out onto a frozen lake, pond or river, it's important to take safety precautions to reduce the risk of falling through the ice. Knowing how to judge ice conditions will also help you make more informed decisions while fishing or recreating on frozen lakes.

Springtime can be an especially dangerous time to venture out on a frozen lake. The springtime's warming temperatures can create rapidly changing and unpredictable ice conditions. Remember there is no such thing as ice that is completely safe. Here are some important tips to follow before you decide to venture out.

Carefully Check Ice Conditions

- **Remember** you take a risk anytime you go out onto the ice.
- **Ice thickness is not consistent.** Water currents, particularly around narrow spots, bridges, inlets and outlets, are always suspect for thin ice.
- **When ice fishing**, it is always a good idea to drill test holes as you progress out onto a lake to help judge the thickness and character of the ice.
- **Beware of ice around partially submerged objects**, such as trees, logs brush, embankments or dam structures.
- **Don't judge ice strictly by appearance.**
- **Stay away from cracks, seams, pressure ridges, slushy areas and darker areas that signify thinner ice.**
- **Be aware of ice that forms at the edges of lakes.** Ice melts at the edges first in spring.

Carefully Check Ice Conditions

- **Never go out onto the ice alone.** A buddy should be able to rescue you or go for help if you fall through.
- **When changing locations on the ice always walk at least 10 yards apart from your buddy.** If one person falls through the ice, the other can go for help.
- **Before you leave shore**, inform someone of your destination and expected time of return.
- **Always wear a life jacket or personal flotation device (PFD)**, over an ordinary snowmobile suit or layered winter clothing. Life jackets can provide excellent flotation and protection from hypothermia. Specialized coats that float or dry suits are also highly recommended.
- **Assemble a personal safety kit**, no larger than the size of a man's wallet, and carry it on your body. The kit should include a lighter, waterproof matches, magnesium fire starter, pocketknife, compass and whistle.
- **In addition to the above safety equipment**, carry ice picks, a rope and cellular phone. These items could save your life.
- **Always keep your pet on a leash.** If a pet falls through the ice, do not attempt to rescue your pet. Go for help.

What to Do if You Fall Through the Ice

- If you **cannot** get out of the cold water by yourself, take the appropriate actions to extend your survival time while waiting to be rescued.
- **Stay calm.** Do not attempt to swim; swimming will cause our body to lose heat much faster than if you stay as still as possible.
- **Use a whistle to attract help.** **Act slowly and deliberately to conserve heat** and move slowly back to where you entered the water. Expect a progressive decrease in your strength and ability to move. Make the harder moves to attempt to get out of the beginning while you can.
- **If you are wearing a snowmobile helmet and your face is in the water**, remove the helmet as quickly as possible because it can fill with water and cause you to drown. Hold onto it to keep afloat.
- **Once on the ice, try to push yourself forward on your stomach** or roll on your side to keep the weight distributed over a greater surface area. Do not stand up until you have moved onto the ground or an area of solid ice.

If you would like more information on ice safety, contact the Red Cliff Wardens at 715-779-3732. If you have an ice emergency DIAL 911.

ATTENTION RED CLIFF TRIBAL MEMBERS
FEE-EXEMPT PARKING IS AVAILABLE AT USFS
VALHALLA RECREATION AREA



Through an agreement between participating GLIFWC member bands and the U.S. Forest Service, Tribal members may park for free with a permit in U.S.F.S. recreation areas. The free parking permits are available at the Red Cliff Wardens Office (715-779-3732).



MEYERS BEACH/SEA CAVE PARKING AREA

To enhance the opportunity to exercise treaty-retained rights within the Lakeshore, **NO-FEE PARKING** may take place at Meyers Beach subject to the following conditions:

No member shall park at Meyers Beach without providing the following information **ON AN AVAILABLE FEE ENVELOPE (insert no money):**

- 1) Member's Name
- 2) Member's Address
- 3) Member's Tribal Affiliation
- 4) Member's Enrollment Number





Winter Pet Care

Winter is here again, meaning not only cold weather for us, but for our pets as well. Indoor and outdoor pets feel the effects of winter weather and here are a few tips to ensure a healthy and happy pet.

1. Most pets should be welcomed into the home to keep safe and warm.
2. If your dog is chained outside, a doghouse must be provided. According to Red Cliff Ordinance 15.10.2 - *No owner or keeper shall fail to provide an animal(s) with food, water, adequate shelter, or proper care when needed to prevent suffering.* To provide the most comfortable shelter the house should be a few inches off the ground to allow for air circulation and waterproof. A flap covering the entrance will help keep the warm air inside the house and provide protection from wind gusts. The dog house should be large enough for the dog to lie down and have a little head room when sitting down. At this size the dog's body warmth will keep the house warm. Adding fresh hay, straw, and cedar shaving will add warmth and comfort.
3. When temperatures drop below 20 degrees it is best to keep your pet indoors. When it drops below 40 degrees short haired dogs, elderly dogs, and puppies should be kept indoors.
4. Keep a watchful eye on your pet. Frostbite can affect both dogs and cats and is common on ears, noses, paws, and bellies. Signs of frostbite include turning reddish, white, or grey and the skin is cool to touch. If your animal shows signs of frostbite, bring it indoors and call a veterinarian.
5. Outdoor cats may seek shelter in your car engine for warmth. Be sure to honk your horn or bang on the hood before starting the engine to give them extra time to evacuate.
6. Antifreeze attracts both cats and dogs. Ethylene glycol is an ingredient in antifreeze that provides a sweet taste which invites may invite animals to taste it. Even a small amount is enough to cause death. If a pet has swallowed antifreeze, call a veterinarian immediately.
7. Some salts used to clear roadways and sidewalks can be harmful for pets. Make sure you inspect your dogs' paws after walks for any embedded salt rocks and wipe paws to prevent them from ingesting it.
8. With the decrease in temperatures your pets' body will be working extra hard to produce more heat. This will increase their appetite and they will require more food than normal. Always have fresh, clean water available - snow is not enough. Check your outdoor pets' water frequently as it may freeze. Animals cannot burn calories without a fresh supply of drinking water.



If you follow these tips your pet can be comfortable throughout the winter which makes you a good pet owner. If you have an animal welfare concern or feel that someone is violating Red Cliff Ordinances you can call the Red Cliff Wardens at (715) 779-3732. If you need immediate assistance call Bayfield County Dispatch at 715-373-6120. If you have an emergency, dial 911.





BIBOON WORD SEARCH

G R U T L M E B Z O R Y Y J N F W L G A
 N A L W E D B L S S C F M E E Z R V A W
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 K U W E M N O Y J M Z L E R I S A M A Z

Gidagaa-Bizhiwag
(Bobcats)

Wisaagi-Mai'inganag
(Coyotes)

Ma'iinganag (Wolves)

Waabizheshiwag
(Martens)

Ojiigag (Fishers)

Waabizheshiwag
(Martens)

Awensiinyensag (Little
Animals)

Biboon (Winter)



RED CLIFF BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR CHIPPEWA

Treaty Natural Resources Division



Fisheries	715-779-3750
Environmental	715-779-3650
Natural Resources	715-779-3795
Transfer Station	715-779-0171
Conservation Wardens	715-779-3732
Mino Bimaadiziiwin Farm	715-779-3782