

Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa

Treaty Natural Resources Division Newsletter

Volume 10, Issue 3, Fall 2021

Ganawenjigaade

It is taken care of, protected . . .

We take care of, protect, keep it.



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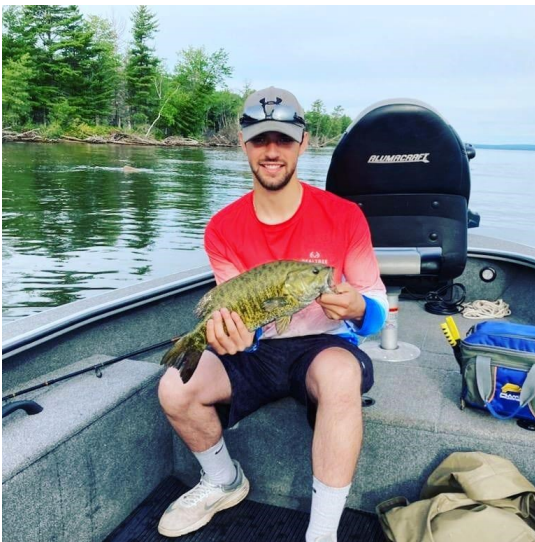




New Employees



I'm Dan Duffy. I'm a community member, born and raised here in Miskwabekaang. I'm here as the new Transfer Station Manager. My job is to help the community keep Mother Earth, front yard, back yard, and your garage clean. See everyone at the Transfer Station! Geget!



Hello! My name is Devyn Becker and I have just been recently hired as a full time TNR Fisheries Technician. I just finished my bachelor's degree at Northland College and graduated in May 2021. I assist Ian and Reed with fisheries assessments and conduct commercial monitoring rides on Lake Superior and its tributaries. I look forward to getting to know more about Red Cliff, the community, and its members.

DAGWAAGIN

It is Autumn

BINAAKWII-GIIZIS

Falling Leaves Moon

GASHKADINO-GIIZIS

Ice is Forming Moon

MANIDOO-GIIZISOONS

Little Spirit Moon



WAAWAASHKESHIWESHKAN

A deer antler

AKANDOOWAAGAN

A hunting stand or scaffold, a blind

OMASHKOOZO-WIITYAAS

Elk meat

MISKOBAGIZI

She/he (a tree) has red leaves

DAGWAAGONG

Last fall, last autumn

OKSOMINAAN

A squash; a pumpkin

GISINAA

It is cold (weather)

MISHIIMINAATIG

An apple tree

GIYOSE

She/he hunts





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.



Chase Meierotto is TNR's Division Administrator. Chase is looking forward to continuing the work of the TNR division along with the rest of the tribe to protect treaty rights and the natural resources for the coming generations.



Gabrielle VanBergen is the Deputy Administrator. Gabrielle plans and implements ecosystem restoration, green infrastructure, and invasive species management projects; conducts land repatriation and preservation efforts; assists with TNR planning and grant administration, and also serves as the Food Sovereignty director.

Red Cliff Treaty Natural Resources Division includes:

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



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 Farm Specialist. Shea helps with all day-to-day farm operations like caring for plants and chickens.

Mino Bimaadiziwin Gitigaan



Update



The summer here at Mino Bimaadiziwin Farm has been packed full. Here are a just a few updates about what's been keeping us busy!

Weekly CSA Shares

CSA stands for Community Supported Agriculture. Community members sign to receive a weekly box of what's fresh, delicious, and in season! Our CSA program began on June 22nd and runs through October 19th, for a total of 18 weeks.

Bayfield School Collaborations

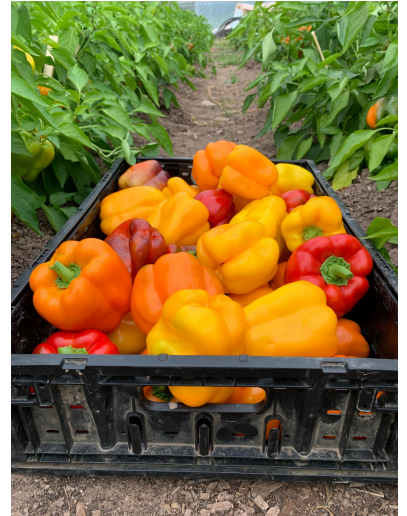
Beginning in September, we have been making weekly deliveries of vegetables to the Bayfield School cafeteria. These deliveries will continue through October, and we're so excited to be providing fresh local produce directly to the students. Other collaborations include apple pressing field trips this fall, working with the school's new Agricultural Educator, and the Food for Thought summer camp.

Food for Thought Summer Camp

As part of a grant received by LCO College, the Farm hosted a food sovereignty intern this summer. A major project undertaken was the Food for Thought Summer Camp, in which youth from the school got a chance to learn more about food sovereignty. They learned how to fillet a fish, process hominy, forage for mushrooms, render makwa fat, and so much more!

Laying Hens

The Farm acquired a new flock of chicks in May and staff have been caring for them as they've grown into full sized hens. They recently moved fully into the coop and will start laying eggs sometime in October. Keep your eye out for egg availability this fall and winter!





Wetland Restoration

We've been restoring the Farm's pond and wetland, including invasive species control, habitat restoration, and native plantings. This was accomplished with help from other TNR and Education staff as well as youth from Red Cliff and Bad River. Chi-miigwech!

Native Habitat and Pollinator Plantings

We have also been actively increasing the number of native plantings at the Farm. This creates beneficial habitats which will help with crop pollination, it adds diversity to the landscape, and it works with (not against) the flow of water through the fields.



Fish Composting

Since the opening of the Red Cliff Fish Company in fall 2020, the Farm has received almost 100% of the fish waste produced. We build piles weekly to process the fish waste into compost.

Food Distribution Pilot Program

Red Cliff was selected to be part of a USDA Food Distribution Pilot Project. This means that Red Cliff's Food Distribution Program will be able to source foods locally, such as vegetables from Mino Bimaadiziwin Farm! We have been planning for this all season and will provide produce this Fall, as well as throughout next year. This is a very exciting project and has potential to be precedent-setting for Tribal programs to assert sovereignty in selecting vendors and sourcing culturally appropriate and healthy foods.



Market Stand

Each Friday, we operate a Pay-What-You-Can market stand on site. Veggies are available for all! Next year, we plan to develop a mobile market option to keep increasing accessibility for community members.

Reminder that our Pay-What-You-Can market stand is open every Friday!





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.



Daniel Grooms is the Business Manager for the Red Cliff Fish Company.



Leo Nordin is the Retail Attendant / Laborer for the Red Cliff Fish Company.



Clarence "Donnie" Pratt is the Operations Manager for the Red Cliff Fish Company.



Joshua Gurneau is a Laborer for the Red Cliff Fish Company.



Nicholas DePerry is the Assistant Operations Manager for the Red Cliff Fish Company.



Lindy Birkholz-LaPointe is a Laborer for the Red Cliff Fish Company.



Wildlife and Forestry Department



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



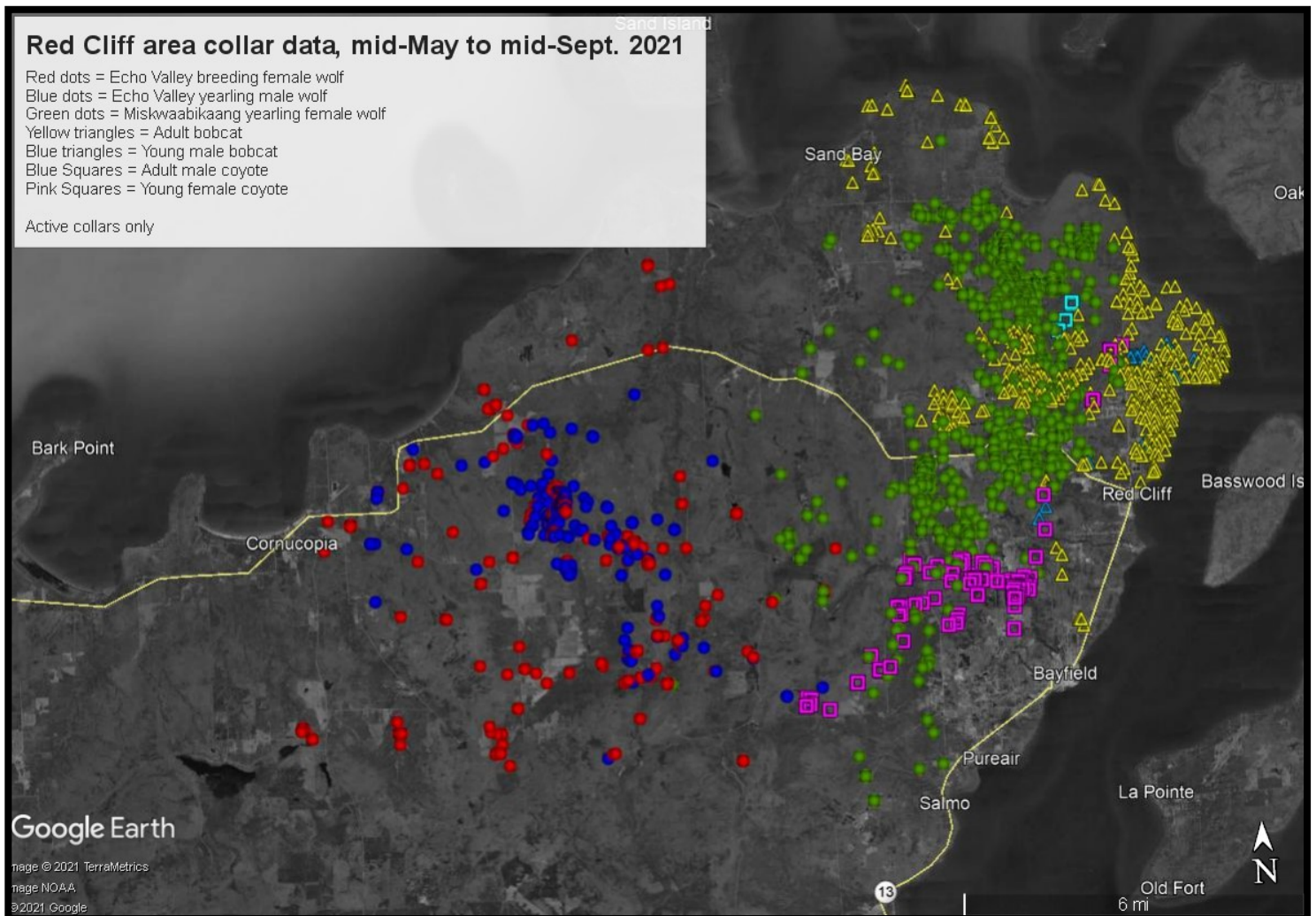
Andy Edwards is the Wildlife Biologist. Andy also handles supervisory duties for the fisheries, hatchery, and wildlife/forestry staff.

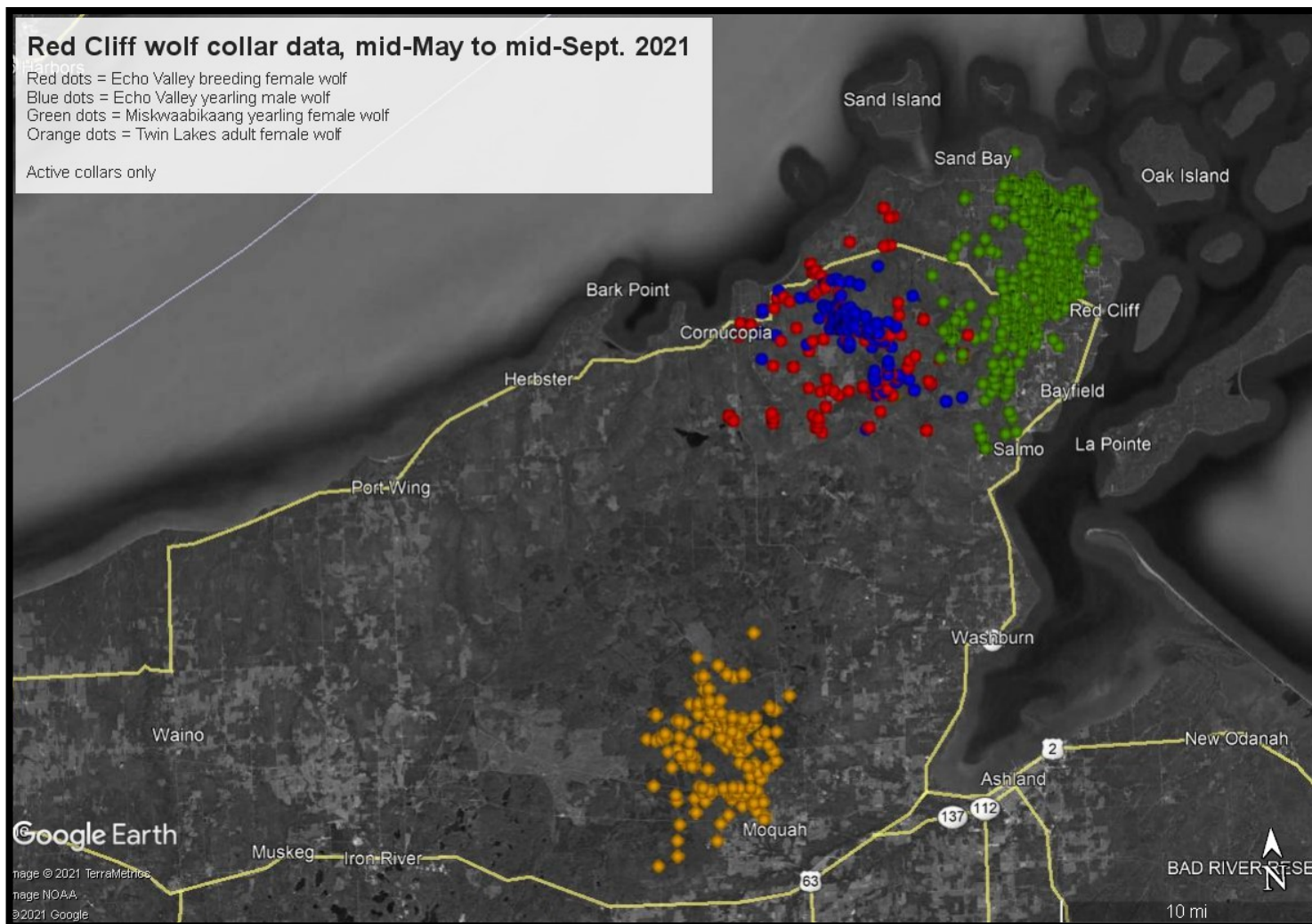


Ron Nordin Jr is the Wildlife and Forestry Technician. Ron's job duties include maintaining trail camera stations as well as live trapping and tracking our wildlife for a better understanding of their territories.

Red Cliff Wildlife Program update: This spring and summer has been a busy and rewarding time for the wildlife program. Since May 18, 2021 we have captured and GPS collared 4 Ma'iinganag (wolves) in 3 different pack territories and have also placed GPS collars on 2 bobcats and 2 coyotes. Most of the collaring has been on or near the Reservation (see photo below), home to the Echo Valley and Miskwaabikaang wolf pack territories, but one of the wolves was captured in the Twin Lakes area (see next page) of the Chequamegon National Forest north of Moquah. There are still a couple of wolf collars and 8 more bobcat/coyote collars available so we're hoping to expand the monitoring efforts yet this fall or next spring. All four of the wolf pups fitted with expandable, breakaway radio collars this spring (2 each in Echo Valley and Miskwaabikaang packs) are also still alive, so it appears that pup survival for our two local packs has been good so far in 2021.

The GPS data we are collecting on these three species will really help us examine how these fascinating animals are occupying and using Reservation and adjacent Ceded Territory lands. They also will give us some insight on how the animals move in and around the "urban areas" of the Reservation throughout the year. Currently we are working with the University of Wisconsin and the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore to see how we might join efforts in learning more about Waabizheshi (marten) populations on the islands and the Reservation. Stay tuned—we hope to have some new work in that area underway before spring 2022!





Red Cliff Wildlife Program update (continued):

In addition to our trail camera, collaring, and monitoring work, we are also involved on the less exciting, but equally important, policy side of things. This spring we updated and renewed a formal agreement with USDA's Wildlife Services program that outlines how they as a Federal agency consult and cooperate with Red Cliff as a sovereign nation for wildlife related issues on and adjacent to the Reservation. We continue to be involved with WDNR committees tasked with revisiting the state wolf and chronic wasting disease management plans, as well as continuing participation in advisory committees for state marten management and more locally at the county level for providing input on deer management goals. We also continue to work with the Washburn Ranger District of the Chequamegon National Forest to meet objectives of cooperation and communication between Red Cliff and the Chequamegon on wildlife, forestry, and environmental topics outlined in our memorandum of agreement. Finally, we are in the beginning stages of talking with the Apostle Islands National Lakeshore as they undertake revision of their current stewardship plan. They have reached out to Red Cliff Treaty Natural Resources for input and discussion on a wide variety of natural resources stewardship issues that cut across all of our programs. Our goal is to continue to work with all these other agencies (and more) to continue to bring Red Cliff's concerns and perspectives forward in responsible stewardship of our local resources.



Above left: Andy with a 20 lb, young male *Gidagaa-bizhiw* (bobcat) collared on 9/14/21. *Above right:* Ron moving the sedated bobcat to a safe recovery and release location.

Bottom left: Ron attaching a GPS collar to a 36 lb, adult male *Wiisagi-ma'iingan* (coyote) collared on 9/15/21. *Bottom right:* Andy with the still sedated coyote at the release location.



Right: Ron and Khoushe attach a GPS collar to a young, male Ma'iingan from the Echo Valley Pack. This wolf (EV584) was a pup from the 2020 litter and weighed 58 pounds as a yearling when we collared him at the end of July 2021. Although EV584 wanders the entire pack territory, it is not unusual to find him in the vicinity of the pups born this spring and likely plays a large role in keeping an eye on them.

Below: Ron places a GPS collar on a 2-3 year old female wolf (TL585) in the Twin Lakes Pack. TL585 is the first wolf Red Cliff has collared in that pack territory. While our primary focus is on monitoring resident Reservation ma'iinganag packs, we want to learn more about adjacent Ceded Territory packs and to that end are hoping that eventually we can also get collars in the Sioux (generally south of Bayfield) and Flag River (generally west of Cornucopia) pack territories.



Free CWD Testing

COVID GUIDELINES MUST BE FOLLOWED

The Red Cliff Wildlife and Forestry Department is offering free CWD testing this fall. We are looking for deer that are at least 1 year old. Fawns (< 1 year old) can be infected but it may take 6 or 7 months for the infection to reach a detectable level. If you would like your deer tested for CWD you may bring your deer (or head with about 5 inches of neck attached) to the Red Cliff fish hatchery Monday-Friday from 8am to 4:30pm. Please call before bringing in your deer and ask for Andy or Ron. Phone #: 779-3795

Ojibwemowin

Deer: Waawaashkeshi

Doe: Oniijaaniw

Fawn: Gidagaakoons

Buck: Ayaabe

Antler: Eshkan

Moose: Mooz

Elk: Omashkooz

S/he Hunts: Giiyose/
Giiwose



CWD

(Chronic wasting disease)

Chronic Wasting Disease is a fatal, infectious nervous system disease of deer, moose and elk. It belongs to the family of diseases known as transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSEs) or prion diseases. CWD occurs only in members of the cervid or deer family—both wild and captive.

For more information on CWD and additional testing locations, visit the WI DNR web page.

<https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/wildlifehabitat/cwd.html>

If there are any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the Wildlife and Forestry staff at (715)779-3795 or by email

Wildlife Biologist Andy Edwards andrew.edwards@redcliff-nsn.gov

Wildlife/Forestry Technician Ron Nordin ron.nordin@redcliff-nsn.gov



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.



Francis “Fran” Cadotte is the Hatchery Technician. Fran’s duties are cleaning tanks and feeding fish daily, clipping fins, conducting sample counts monthly, ordering fish food, stocking fish and keeping the fish as happy possible.

Red Cliff Fish Hatchery 2021 Walleye ponds



Pictured above: draining the pond to get the Walleye out.



TNR staff netting the Walleye out of the catch basin



Net full of healthy 2021 Walleye

This September the Red Cliff Tribal Fish Hatchery drained their Walleye ponds. The Walleye were stocked in Upper Saint Croix lake. They raised 4,953 Walleye that averaged 6 inches. The fish were given a left ventral fin clip to be able to tell the difference in pond raised fish and the native fish.



Fisheries Department



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.



Michelle "Shelly" Gurnoe is the Office Manager. Shelly issues commercial and home use licenses, data entry of commercial and home use fishing reports, and has various office related responsibilities.



Reed Saam is a fisheries technician. Reed helps monitor commercial fisherman and conducts fisheries surveys on Lake Superior and on reservation streams.



Devyn Becker is the Commercial Monitor. Devyn also supports fisheries operations.

Brook Trout are a cold-water fish native to northeastern North America. They average 10-12 inches in length, spawn in late summer or fall, and prefer cold, clear, and well oxygenated streams and/or lakes. A special form of Brook Trout called "Coasters", or "Rock Trout", spend part or all their life in Gichigami (Lake Superior) which is



A large Coaster raised by the Red Cliff Fish Hatchery.

distinct from "Resident" Brook Trout which spend their entire lives in streams. The habits of Coasters are varied, but a typical Coaster begins life as an egg deposited in a redd (a gravel fish nest) in a Gichigami stream in late summer or fall, hatches in the spring, grows some in the stream, migrates to Gichigami and grows more, then two or more years later returns to its natal stream during the late summer or fall to spawn. Living in Gichigami gives Coasters access to food that allows them to grow larger than the fulltime stream residents. As a matter of fact, Coasters can grow larger than 20 inches in length and several pounds in weight! These large Brook Trout used to be common in the shallow waters of Gichigami, including on and near the Red Cliff Reservation, but overharvest, habitat destruction, and other human caused stressors lead to large declines in their distribution and abundance throughout much of the lake. Some wild populations still exist in the more remote regions of Gichigami such as Isle Royale and parts of the northern Canadian shoreline.

Coasters are widely recognized for their cultural and recreational value and agencies around the lake wish to rehabilitate populations. In 2003, a plan was published which outlines goals, issues, and strategies for the rehabilitation of Coasters in Gichigami. The Red Cliff Treaty Natural Resources Division (TNR) participates with the rehabilitation effort by raising Brook Trout at the Red Cliff Fish Hatchery and conducting assessments of their status near the Bayfield Peninsula.



Cover of the 2003 Rehabilitation Plan.

The TNR is currently investigating how Brook Trout and other giigoonh (fish) use the streams on Reservation and elsewhere on the south shore of Gichigami. We have tagged Brook Trout raised at the Red Cliff Fish Hatchery as well as giigoonh we have captured during our assessments on Gichigami and connected streams. In addition, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has tagged Brown Trout and Splake raised at the Les Voigt State Fish Hatchery. Tagged giigoonh can be detected at stations we have installed in the stream mouths if they swim through or by any of the station's antennae. The stations log the date and time when a fish is detected, and the antennae are oriented so we can infer if the fish was swimming up or down-stream. We hope this project sheds new light on the behavior and habitat use of Brook Trout and other giigoonh on the South Shore.

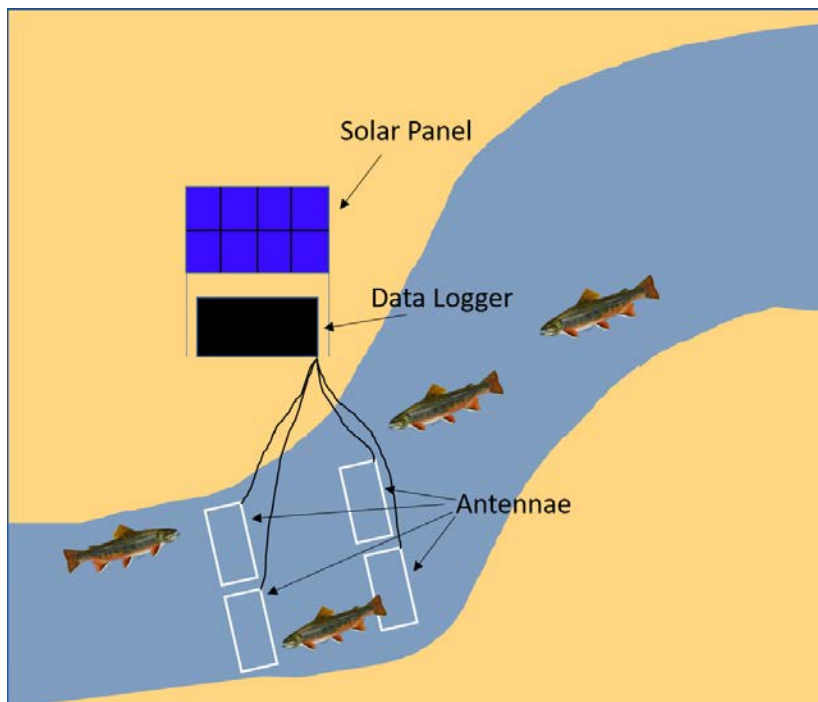


Diagram of a detection station.

Some specific questions we are hoping to answer are:

What streams on the south shore are used by both wild and hatchery Coasters?

When do both wild and hatchery Coasters migrate in and out of streams?

Do other giigoonh migrate the same time and prefer the same streams as Coasters?

What are the stream conditions when migrations occur?

To date, we have tagged 763 giigoonh, including hatchery and wild origin Brook Trout, Name (Lake Sturgeon), Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout, Splake, and Coho Salmon. We have detection stations operating on Chicago Creek, Red Cliff Creek, Frog Creek, and an unnamed stream near the Sea Caves at Meyers Beach. The detection station on the Raspberry River was removed because every couple of weeks it would get buried under several feet of sand.

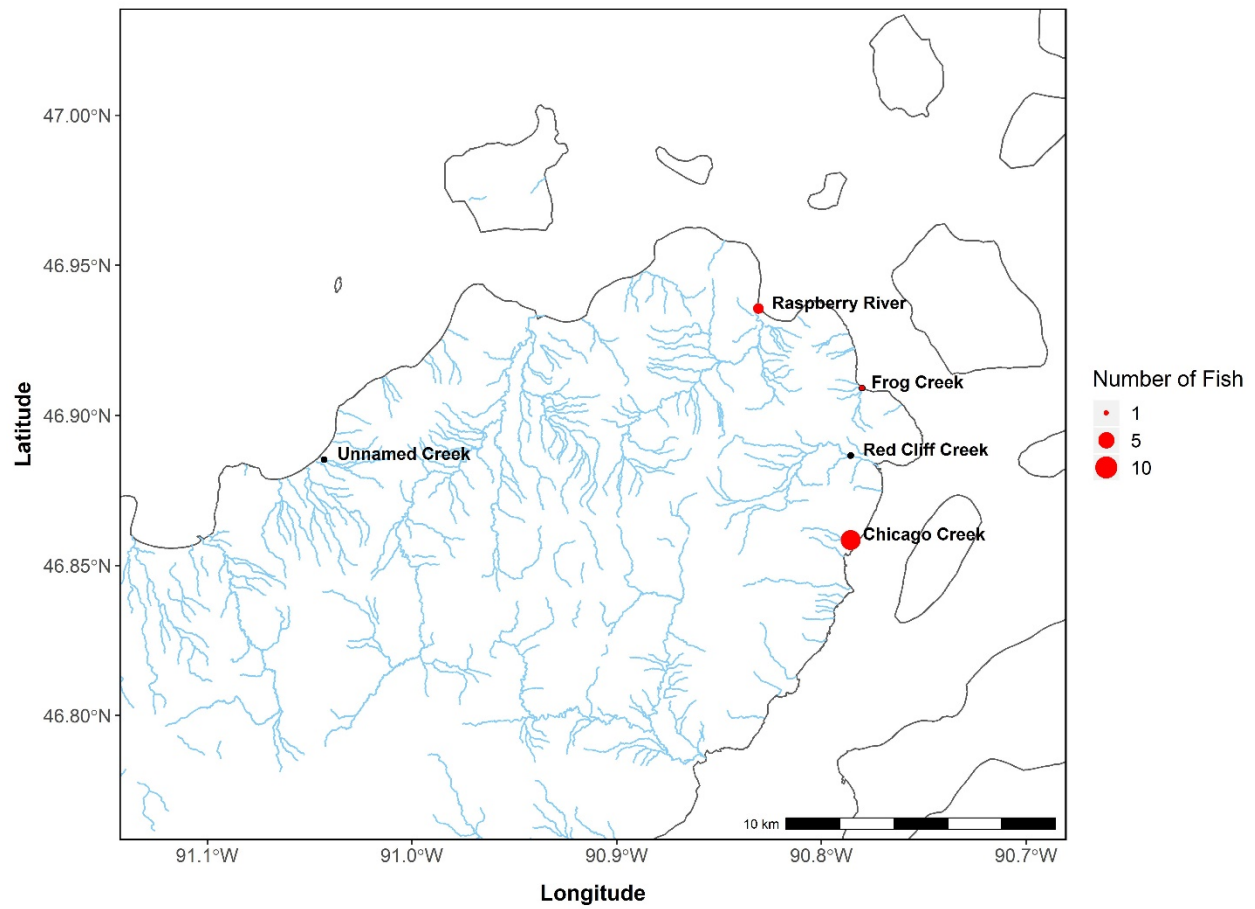


TNR technician next to an antenna at the Raspberry River site. The t-post was above the technician's head before getting buried under several feet of sand.

So far, tagged fish have been detected at Raspberry River, Frog Creek, and Chicago Creek. The stations on Red Cliff Creek and the unnamed creek were the last to be installed at the end of August and have not yet detected any fish. We hope to detect more of the larger fish this fall as they migrate upstream to complete their annual spawning migrations.



A wild Brook Trout captured during a stream survey this year. This fish was tagged and released where it was caught in the stream. We are interested to see if this fish and the other fish we've tagged in the streams migrate out to Gichigami or into other streams.



Detection station locations and the number of fish detected at each station May-mid-September. The Raspberry River station was removed late-June and the stations at Red Cliff Creek and the unnamed Creek were installed late August.



Environmental Department



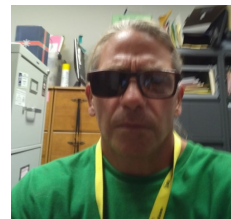
The Department houses a variety of programs, which in turn administer services that directly benefit the Red Cliff community. The programs include: water, air, environmental justice, solid and hazardous waste (Transfer Station), environmental response, manoomin (wild rice) stewardship, and previously the Native American Lands Environmental Mitigation Program. Examples of projects include: Lake Superior Barrels Project, riparian buffer restoration, water quality monitoring, air quality monitoring, pet waste stations, hazardous waste disposal events, annual spring clean-up, reseeding of the wild rice, legacy dump sites, raised garden beds, environmental outreach and education, tire collection events, rain barrel workshops, 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 by developing and managing appropriate tribal programs, ordinances, and permits, and solid/hazardous waste disposal services.



Allie Rakowski is the 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.



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.



Jessica Jacobson is the Environmental Technician. Jessica assists with the Water Resources Program and other projects in TNR.

Come Join Our Team!

Air Quality Program Manager: Vacant

Environmental Health Specialist: Vacant

Wetland Specialist: Vacant

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 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 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.

Red Cliff Transfer Station

Yard Waste/Wood Winter Announcement



Beginning December 1st, 2021 (or first sticking snowfall) through April 1, 2022, 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!



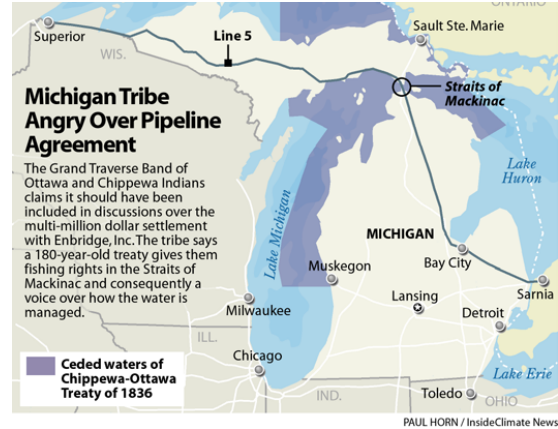
Gi-Ganawemaanaan Nibi: We Are Protecting the Water

September 2021

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), **mashkiki** (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.

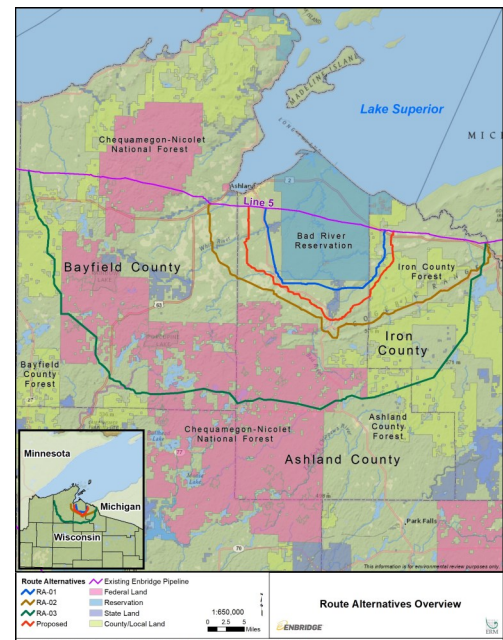
Line 5 1836 Territory Updates:

- Enbridge's 68 year old pipeline transports oil and natural gas from **Oodenaang** (Superior, WI) to next to the Aamjiwnaang First Nation traveling under the Straits of Mackinac. Line 5 has had over 30 spills totaling over 1 million gallons of oil.
- Governor Whitmer ordered Enbridge to shut down Line 5 in the Straits of Mackinac by mid May 2021. Enbridge continues to pump oil through the pipeline and has believes the State of Michigan doesn't have the authority to stop them. The Michigan's Governor Whitmer is suing Enbridge for violating the terms of the permit to cross the Straits of Mackinac. The two parties recently left mediation and are returning to federal court.
- Little Traver Bay Band of Odawa Indians has begun the application process to get the Straits of Mackinac listed as a Traditional Cultural Property. This application is based on the archaeological site found last fall on the lakebed. The site is thought to be a several thousand year old caribou hunting ground.
- Bay Mills has requested a Contested Case Hearing for a state-level Water Resources Permit issued by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE). This is the first step in legal challenges to the permit.
- The Army Corp announced they will conduct a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Line 5 Tunnel. The EIS is expected to take close to two years to complete. It isn't known how broad of a review will be considered by the Army Corp.



Line 5 1842 Territory Updates:

- Bad River continues to be entrenched in a legal battle with Enbridge to remove Line 5 from their reservation. Trial for Bad River's federal suit against Enbridge is now expecting to begin in February 2022.
- Enbridge is making every effort to ensure oil flows under the Bad River. Enbridge is trying to renew their expired on-reservation permits, conduct on-reservation maintenance, and continue with the proposed Reroute.
- Federal and State agencies are still trying to determine how the proposed Reroute and Wisconsin's Felony Trespass Bill will impact tribal members using their treaty rights.
- The WDNR has completed a first draft of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). It may be released sometime this fall.



Gi-Ganawemaanaan Nibi: We Are Protecting the Water

September 2021

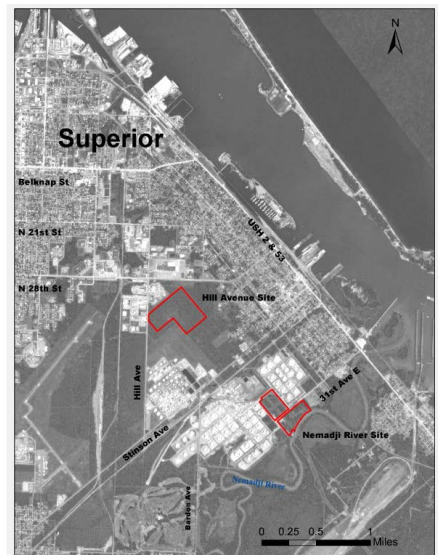
Line 5 1842 Territory Updates cont'd:

- Community members have held several gathering along the Bad River to raise awareness of potential harm of an oil spill. One of these gatherings was in Copper Falls State Park and some participants were surprised by a police presence (including DNR Conservation Wardens) monitoring the gathering and feast. Another event is scheduled for October 2nd on Madeline Island.
- Washburn Police received a \$7,500 donation from Enbridge. The donation is said to be used for new laptops for squad cars. (pictured to the right)



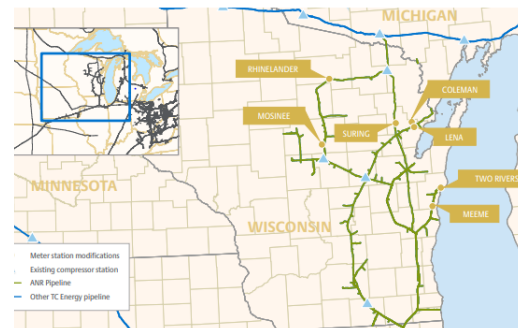
Nemadji Trail Energy Center Updates:

- Dairyland Power Cooperative and Minnesota Power are proposing to build a natural gas powerplant in **Oodenaang** (Superior, WI). The project site is located on the Nemadji River next to an Enbridge facility and is expected to use fracked gas. The site is next to the St. Francis Xavier Cemetery, where Ojibwe graves were relocated after U.S. Steel moved them from what is known as Wisconsin Point.
- The proposed project has already received some of the necessary air permits and is waiting on state and federal water and wetland related permits.
- In Minnesota the State Supreme Court ruled that the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) does not need to conduct any environmental review. It is now up to the Court of Appeals to determine if the proposed project is in the public interest. The project requires PUC approval.



Wisconsin Access Project Updates:

- ANR Pipeline (subsidiary of TC Energy / TransCanada) has applied to upgrade several meter stations. This would allow the pipeline to transport more natural gas. The ANR Pipeline network is connected to TC Energy's Great Lakes Transmission line which crosses Bad River.



Line 3 Expansion Updates:

- Enbridge's tar sands pipeline has crossed over 200 water ways and cut through the heart of **Manoomin** waters. Construction is almost complete, but it isn't operational yet!
- Enbridge is conducting various pipeline inspections, doing site cleanup, and finishing work at pump stations.



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Line 3 Expansion Updates cont'd:

- The Minnesota DNR allowed Enbridge to increase their water usage by 9 times during severe drought conditions for construction activities despite extreme drought conditions.
- Enbridge had almost thirty frac-outs, several of which were at the headwaters of the Mississippi River. A frac-out is when a mixture of bentonite clay and toxic chemicals used to drill under a waterway or wetland leave the bore hole. This releases chemicals and clay into the water likely harming relatives that rely on the water. (pictured to the right)
- The White Earth Tribe is suing the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) on behalf of Manoomin in White Earth Tribal Court in relation to the issuance of Water Appropriation Permits for the Line 3 project.
- Enbridge was fined \$3.32 million by the Minnesota DNR for unpermitted water appropriations. They dug a trench nearly twice as deep as their permit allowed, breached an artesian aquifer, and failed to report the incident. This was noticed by an Independent Environmental Monitor in January. In June the DNR determined an aquifer may have been breached, began an investigation, and directed Enbridge to halt construction at the site. As of September 5, an estimated 24.2 million gallons of groundwater were released. Enbridge is also required to reinspect all portions of the route where they deviated permitted construction depths.
- Between December 2020 and June 2021 Enbridge workers have been charged in at least two different sex-trafficking stings. During that same time, 788 Enbridge workers tested positive for COVID-19.
- Over 800 people have been arrested for protecting the water since construction started in December. Recent charges have included Felony Theft for allegedly stealing Enbridge's time.
- Hubbard County Sheriff received a court issued restraining order after illegally blocking vehicles, food, water, and medicines from entering Camp Namewag's driveway, an indigenous women and two spirit led space decolonization and resistance camp. (pictured to the right)
- Enbridge has reimbursed law enforcement agencies over \$2.3 million in wages, equipment, and training. This included the purchase of chemical weapons and rubber bullets that were used against Water Protectors at the Red Lake River crossing.
- Law enforcement have also used torture techniques (which law enforcement refer to as "pain compliance") against Water Protectors who are locked to construction equipment or other barricades blocking worksites or man camps. Torture techniques have included "immobilizing water protectors' heads and necks and pressing intensely on pressure points on heads, faces, and jaws". One incident left two water protectors with "lasting facial paralysis, called Bell's Palsy that could be permanent". One of the Water Protectors "compared the pain to that of child birth, stating it may have been worse."

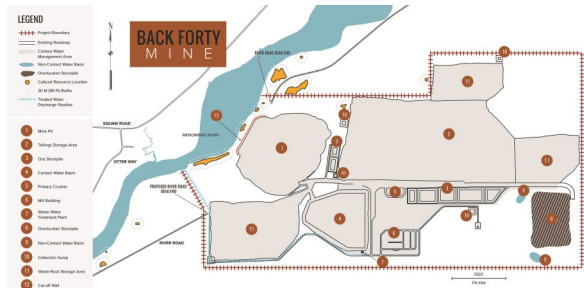


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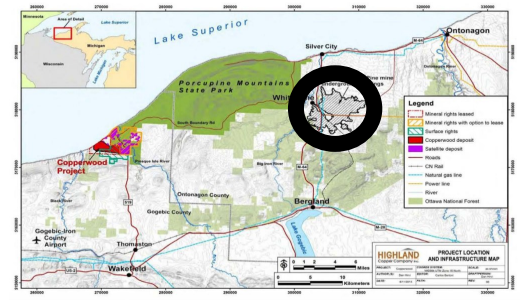
Back 40 Mine Updates:

- Aquila Resources' proposed Back 40 Mine is a sulfide mine on the shores of the **Manoominkaani-ziibi** (Menominee River), upstream of the birth of the place of the Menominee and **Boojiikwed** (Green Bay).
- The proposed mine currently has no valid permits. Major permits were revoked after losing court challenges by the Menominee Tribe, neighboring landowners, and local environmental organizations. Aquila plans to submit updated permit applications.
- The Army Corp of Engineers is reviewing their application to build a water intake structure that would pump 500,000 gallons of water per day from Lake Superior for mining activities.
- Gold Resource Corporation (GORO) plans to acquire the majority of Aquila Resources. This will provided the Back 40 project with the finances needed to continue the permitting process.
- GORO's acquisition of Aquila Resources would also include GORO acquiring Aquila's shares of Green Light Metals, the shell company that has mineral rights in the Bend and Reef deposits in central northern Wisconsin.



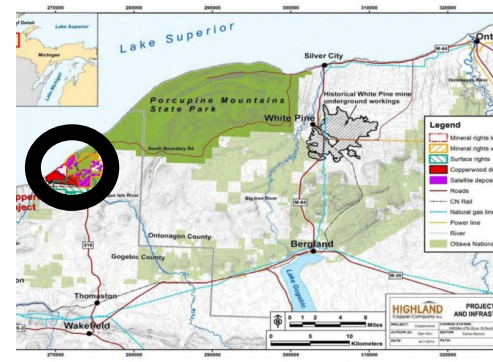
White Pine Mine Updates:

- The White Pine Mine is an inactive mine that is being sold to Highland Copper.
- July 22nd marked the 25th anniversary Anishinaabe Ogitchidaag, including Walt Bresette, blocking railroad tracks in Bad River. This was in response to the White Pine Mine's plan to pour sulfuric acid down the mine shafts via the railroad network that crosses Bad River. The EPA and other agencies refused to intervene. Butch Stone explained that "we are a sovereign people. We have an inherent right to protect and preserve. We are carrying out our duties as Ogitchidaas."



Copperwood Mine Updates:

- The Copperwood Mine is Highland Copper's proposed copper mine near the shores of Anishinaabe Gichigami.
- EGLE is planning to reissue a water discharge permit (NPDES) for the proposed Copperwood Mine. This permit would allow the project to release up to 500,000 gallons of water from mining operations into the West Branch of Namebinag Creek, which flows into Lake Superior. The permit would allow for an additional 4.2 million gallons per year of water to be discharged from waste water lagoons.
- The only other component of the project that is awaiting permits is the Water Intake Structure. This would pump 500,000 gallons of water per day from Lake Superior to be used in the mining process.



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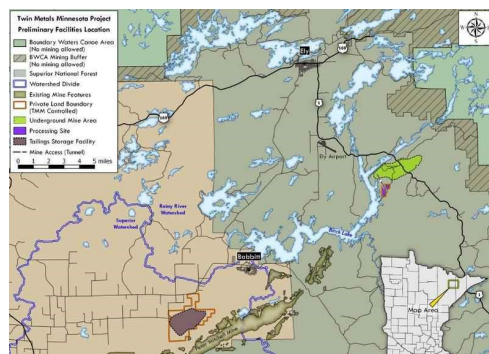
Kristle KLR Updates:

- Kristle Majchrzak, owner of Kristle KLR, would like to bottle artesian water from a well in Herbster, bottle it in Superior, and sell it in the Twin Cities.
- On the 25th anniversary of the railroad blockade in Bad River, Red Cliff Tribal Council passed a resolution opposing the project and the commercial sale of Lake Superior water. Mole Lake, LCO, 1854 Treaty Authority, the Chippewa Federation, and several local towns have passed similar resolutions.
- Kristle Majchrzak's Conditional Use Permit application was denied by Bayfield County's Planning and Zoning Committee. Kristle Majchrzak appealed this decision to the Bayfield County Board of Adjustment who upheld the Planning and Zoning Committee's decision.



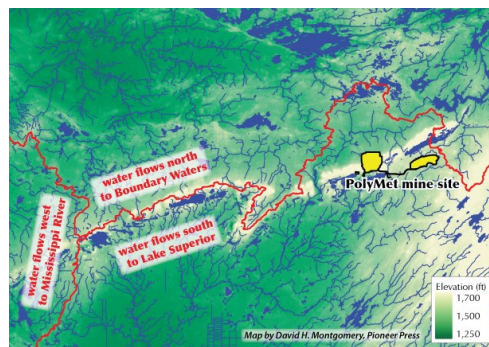
Twin Metals Mine Update

- Twin Metals is a proposed copper nickel mine in north central 1854 treaty territory just outside of the Boundary Waters Canoe Wilderness Area.
- This proposed mine doesn't have any permits and both the Minnesota DNR and Bureau of Land Management are in the early stages of conducting Environmental Impact Statements.



PolyMet Mine Update

- PolyMet is a proposed copper nickel mine in north central 1854 treaty territory just outside of the Boundary Waters Canoe Wilderness Area. The proposed mine currently doesn't have any permits.
- The Army Corp of Engineers has rescinded PolyMet's wetland permit after the EPA requested additional review of the application to ensure Clean Water Act compliance. This victory is tied to Fond du Lac's 2019 federal lawsuit and the favorable ruling this past February.
- PolyMet's Permit to Mine has been revoked. The Minnesota Supreme Court recently ruled that the DNR cannot issue "forever permits" meaning permits need to have end dates. The DNR permitting process will need to start over and was directed to hold a contested case hearing before any permits are reissued.





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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), **mashkiki** (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.

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 WDNR updates on the proposed Line 5 Reroute, go to: <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/EIA/Enbridge.html>
- To get updates on Michigan's process for the proposed Line 5 Tunnel or to submit comments, go to: <https://www.michigan.gov/line5/>
- Stay up to date on the Nemadji Trail Energy Center with the WI DNR's website: <https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/WaterUse/ntec.html>

Want to join the Frontlines?

- Need help figuring out the best way for you to get involved in the fight against Line 5? Reach out to Red Cliff's Environmental Justice Specialist! Contact info below.
- Contact the Giniw Collective at ginew@protonmail.com or www.facebook.com/ginewcollective/
- Check out Honor The Earth's *Welcome Water Protectors* at <https://www.facebook.com/welcomewaterprotectors/> or <https://welcomewaterprotectors.com/>
- Contact the Red Lake Treaty Camp at <https://www.facebook.com/redlaketreatycamp/>
- Contact Camp Migizi at <https://www.facebook.com/MiigiziWillFly/>

For more information about any these projects, please contact our Environmental Justice Specialist at noah.saperstein@redcliff-nsn.gov or (715) 779 3650 ext. 4315



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.



AUTUMN WORD SEARCH

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Waawaashkshiweshkan

Akandoowaagan

Omaskkoozowiiyaas

Miskobagizi

Dagwaagong

Oksominaan

Gisinaa

Mishiiminaatig

Giiyose



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 Bimaadiziwin Farm

715-779-3782