

# Miskwaagamiiwi-zaaga'iganiig Aki-genawendamowaad

**RED LAKE DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES** 

### MAZINA'IGAN ONJI ODAAKEWIGIMA LETTER FROM DIRECTOR

**Boozhoo!** Dagwaagin (Fall) is coming quick, Manoomin (wild rice) is getting ready for harvest, and leaves are starting to change colors. This summer has been extremely busy for Red Lake DNR Staff. Dry and dangerous fire conditions are present in many states out west. Red Lake Wildland firefighters have been working long, hard hours fighting wildfires in support of other tribal fire programs near California, South Dakota, Arizona, Idaho, New Mexico, Colorado, Montana, Nevada, Washington, and North Dakota.

The RL DNR Environmental Response Program has developed a phone form app called *Submit Environmental Concerns (SEC)* that all tribal members can use to report areas of environmental contamination on our lands. This will be a very quick and easy way for all members to report their environmental concerns and get them assessed by our staff to improve the health and environment of the Red Lake Nation! See page 3 for more information.

The Tribal Council passed a resolution (62-17) in March 2017 allowing only Red Lake band member owned boats on tribal waters. This was done to protect the lakes from aquatic invasive species that can be spread by boats being transported from one lake to another.

The Wildlife Program will be hand seeding 3000 lbs of wild rice this fall in their multi-year effort to re-establish stands of wild rice in area lakes and streams on the reservation. Several areas now support stands of wild rice which provide a source for hand-harvesting by tribal members as well as food and habitat for many wildlife species. With the re-establishment of these native wild rice stands on the Red Lake Reservation, we hope that future generations will be able to enjoy this wonderful source of nutrition!

Red Lake Fisheries once again held the annual Take a Kid Fishing event on August 23 at Fullers Lake. We had a very successful day with 125 kids that were able to get out fishing, have a free lunch and get a bag of school supplies. Thank you to the parents for bringing their kids out and for all the volunteers and sponsors of this fun-filled day!

The Water Resources Program, with help from the Natural Resources Conservation Service, continued their ongoing lake access improvement initiative by recently renovating two lake accesses in the Red Lake district, at Fullers Lake and Bass Lake. Further improvements are being discussed and could include lake accesss points in Little Rock and Ponemah districts. We hope that you are able to use these improved lake accesses and take a kid fishing!

Many people are starting to think about fall activities, including hunting and trapping. Be sure to review the Red Lake Hunting Regulations in this issue. Everyone at the Red Lake DNR thanks you for your continued support and sincerely hopes that you have a wonderful and prosperous fall.

Miigwetch! Al Pemberton

### DAGWAAGIN FALL 2017

#### **PROGRAM UPDATES**

ENVIRONMENTAL 2 Ezhi-ayaag-gidakiiminaan

> **FISHERIES 4** Giigoonyikewin

FORESTRY 6 Miskwaagamiiwi-zaaga'iganing Miti-gokewin

WATER RESOURCES 8 Ezhi-ganawenjigaadeg-Nibi

> WILDLIFE 10 Awesiinhya

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Visit us on the web! www.redlakednr.org

# ENVIRONMENTAL EZHI-AYAAG-GIDAKIIMINAAN

# **RED LAKE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE PROGRAM (RLERP)**

The Red Lake Environmental Response Program (RLERP) is excited to announce the launch of a new tool for community members to Submit Environmental Concerns (SEC) to be investigated. The form can be set up like an APP on mobile devices and it is quick and easy to use...it only takes a SEC!

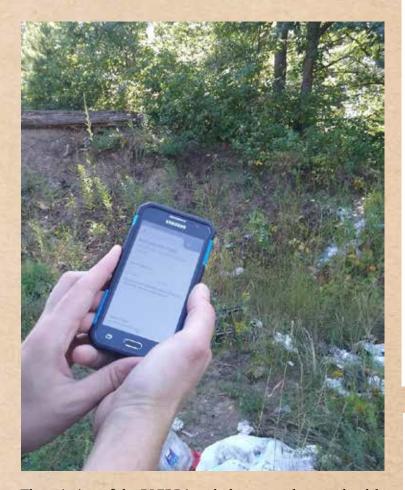
If you are out hunting this fall or are just out enjoying the outdoors and notice anything that looks like it might be an environmental concern (garbage/refuse, hazardous waste, oil/gas spill, tires, furniture/mattresses, barrels/ containers, appliances, abandoned vehicles, etc.) this new tool will allow RLERP staff to immediately be notified of the location and type of concern.

The RLERP will automatically receive your submission by email so that our staff can investigate your concerns and begin assessment and mitigation as necessary. With your input, the RLERP will be better able to find and address problems that threaten the health and environment of Red Lake Nation. Please remember, it only takes a SEC!



# SUBMITTAL OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS (SEC) FORM

To submit your concern, just go to *www.redlakednr.org/ rl-submittal-of-environmental-concerns-sec-form* and enter the following information: your name (optional), a brief description of the location/area of your concern, what type of trash you have found and a photo. Everything, including a camera, is right on the form. The most important information for the RLERP staff is the location, so that we can find the threat and begin the process of making an assessment. For this reason it is important to allow the form to access your location (a pop-up will ask for your permission).



The mission of the RLERP is to help protect human health and the environment of Red Lake Nation. With this easy to use tool, the citizens of this Nation will help RLERP achieve our goals! -Miigwetch

#### Red Lake SEC FORM

Red Lake Submit Environmental Concerns

	0000022
Name (Optio	onal)
P1	

Location/Area: Brief Description (IE Gonvick Truck Trail, Barton Camp Trail, etc)



#### Type of Trash

\$)

Geolocation (Must allow the form to access your device location) \*



Choose File no file selected

data-widgets.jotform.io wants to use your device's location.

Submit

BLOCK

×

ALLOW



### KID FISHING DAY AT FULLERS LAKE WAS A HUGE SUCCESS

The Red Lake DNR would like to thank all of our volunteers and sponsors for making this year's event a huge success. The weather was great, the fish cooperated, and the kids all had a wonderful time. We would like to thank all the parents for bringing their kids and making this event a success. We had 125 kids that registered and with parents and volunteers, we estimate we had 175 participants this year. The Red Lake DNR staff and conservation officers had seven boats running on the lake, making sure that all kids that wanted to fish were able to fish for an hour or longer. The DNR provided Zebco

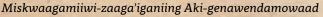
fishing rods and bait to the kids that participated in the event. The Red Lake Trading Post, Old Dutch Chips, and the Red Lake Boys and Girls club assisted with donations for the lunch, which was prepared and served by DNR staff, and provided to all participants. The Red Lake Tribal Council provided bags of school supplies to all participants at the end of the day to help make sure the kids were ready for school. We hope that all the kids enjoyed themselves and wish them the best during this school year. We look forward to seeing you again next year!



















Eurasian Milfoil

Starry Stonewart

Zebra Mussels

#### **RESOLUTION NO. 62-17**

Upon a motion by Representative Smith and seconded by Representative Reynolds the following was enacted:

WHEREAS, the Red Lake Tribal Council is the duly elected governing body of the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, a federal recognized tribe; and

WHEREAS, the Red Lake Band is aware, and agrees that invasive species such as Eurasian Milfoil, Starry Stonewart, Zebra Mussels can take over a lake and choke its fragile ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, invasive species are often spread from one lake to another lake through boats using multiple lakes; and

WHEREAS, there are a number of small fishing lakes within the Red Lake Indian Reservation, including Red Lake itself, that are in need of protection from invasive species; and

WHEREAS, the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians is taking a zero tolerance approach to the introduction of invasive species on Red Lake Indian Reservation lakes; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians limits boat access to Red Lake Indian reservation lakes to band member owned boats only;

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Red Lake DNR shall put up signs at all lake accesses within the Red Lake Indian Reservation that access is limited to band member boats only;

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that Red Lake DNR and Red Lake Conservation shall be responsible for enforcement.

FOR : 8 AGAINST : 0

We do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly presented and enacted upon at the Regular Meeting of the Tribal Council held on Tuesday, March 14, 2017, with a quorum present, at the Red Lake Nation Headquarters, Red Lake.

Ananto

DARRELL G. SEKI, SR., CHAIRMAN

DONALD R. COOK, SR., SECRETARY



### **EMERALD ASH BORER AND GYPSY MOTH UPDATE**

Red Lake DNR Forestry Staff have been monitoring Red Lake's forests for **Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)** and **Gypsy Moth (GM)** infestations since July of 2008. Emerald Ash Borer is a beetle that is thought to have come from Asia in pallet material. It was discovered near Detroit, Michigan in 2002, and has since spread across the eastern United States, and has been found as far west as the Rocky Mountain front in Colorado. The closest known infestations to Red Lake's forests are in Superior, Wisconsin and the Twin Cities area.

Ash trees of all sizes are killed by EAB and in some areas the death of ash forest has caused a conversion from forested wetland to marsh wetland. All efforts at eradicating the beetles in known infestation areas have failed, so Federal and State agencies have pushed for a "Slow the Spread" management strategy. The EAB doesn't travel far on its own, with most research showing a spread of only 1-3 miles per year. However, both EAB and GM are great hitchhikers, and spread readily in infested firewood. This is part of the reason that Red Lake provides locally produced firewood at pow-wows.

Gypsy Moths have been in North America since 1868 and defoliate hardwood trees (primarily aspen and oak.) They are present from early to mid-summer. Most trees can survive losing their leaves for several years in a row, but tree growth and the outdoor experience for people can be negatively impacted. The north shore of Lake Superior has had several outbreaks of Gypsy Moths in recent years. Small infestations of GM have been effectively treated by chemical and silvicultural (logging) treatments.

Neither Emerald Ash Borer nor Gypsy Moth have been detected at Red Lake or in surrounding counties. Red Lake DNR Forestry has cooperative agreements with the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) and the US Forest Service for forest pest management. Red Lake DNR Forester Rob Lussier is a statecertified Tree Inspector as well. If you have concerns about an individual tree or an area of the forest, please contact Red Lake DNR Forestry.



Several of these traps are currently deployed around the Diminished Reservation to detect the presence of Gypsy Moth. Red Lake partners with USDA APHIS to place and monitor traps for Gypsy Moth and Emerald Ash Borer. None have been found since trapping began in 2008.



Forest Development Forester Rob Lussier holds an EAB trap that was destroyed by a bear. A pheromone lure (for attracting EAB) inside of the purple triangular glue trap seems to also be a bear attractant.



**COOPERATIVE EMERALD ASH BORER PROJECT** INITIAL COUNTY EAB DETECTIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

### **2017 FIRE UPDATE**

The Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, as part of its government to government relationship with the U. S. Department of Interior / Bureau of Indian Affairs, makes firefighting resources available for wildfire operations across the country each year. Many states have experienced high wildfire activity this year. The Red Lake Department of Natural Resources has filled twelve resource orders (as of 8/28/17), with Red Lake members dispatched to California, South Dakota, Arizona, Idaho, New Mexico, Colorado, Montana, Nevada, Washington, and North Dakota.

Off-reservation fire details provide temporary employment opportunities, training and experience for Red Lake crews outside of our operations here. In return, we provide these same benefits for those from all over the country that

Red Lake DNR staff would like to advise the public that deer ticks (also known as blacklegged ticks) are active and abundant in the woods now. Deer ticks are the main carrier of Lyme disease, and may transmit other diseases such as Human Anaplasmosis, Babesiosis, Ehrlichiosis, and Powassan Virus.

Red Lake, and the surrounding counties



provide assistance to us when needed. Also, participating in a nationally-based fire program as we do means "national resources" including our Model 52 fire engines and contracted helicopter are based here, with protection of Red Lake life, property and natural resources priority.



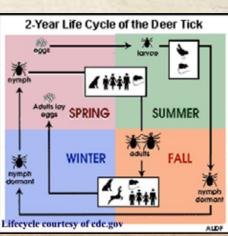
### **TICK SEASON IS HERE!**

of Beltrami, Clearwater and Itasca, are classified by the Minnesota Department of Health as having the highest risk of Tick-Borne Diseases in Minnesota.

Please check yourself and your children after being outside. Deer ticks are small, and during the nymph stage of their life cycle can be very difficult to find. If you find a tick embedded in the skin, or want more information about deer ticks, please visit the following websites or go to your local health care practitioner (IHS). Symptoms to look for include headaches, fever, joint aches, fatigue, and raised/welted skin around the bite. Physicians may be able to prescribe antibiotics to treat the diseases.

www.health.state.mn.us/divs/idepc/dtopics/tickborne/index.html www.cdc.gov/lyme/transmission/blacklegged.html canlyme.com/lyme-basics





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www.redlakednr.org

# WATER RESOURCES Ezhi-Ganawenjigaadeg-Nibi

# LAKE ACCESS IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS

There have been recent renovations of two lake accesses in the Red Lake district, at Fullers Lake and Bass Lake, funded through a cooperative effort between the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Red Lake DNR Water Resources Program. Planning for both began in 2016 with design and technical assistance being provided by NRCS. Engineers from the Bemidji and Thief River Falls offices ensured that the landings had adequate turn around spacing for vehicles and boat trailers, parking areas, concrete boat ramps, and sediment basin/erosion control for run off. At Bass Lake, an entirely new road was created and the old, steep access was closed. These access improvements complement new docks that were installed during the past winter. This project is a part of an ongoing lake access improvement initiative that began with the restoration of the Kinney Lake access in Redby district. Further improvements are being discussed and could include lake access points in Little Rock and Ponemah districts. The improved accesses will reduce erosion and protect water quality in the lakes while making access easier for anyone trying to launch a boat without getting stuck! We hope you get a chance to put these projects to use. In the early days after seeding, some of the improved areas can be sensitive to traffic so please try to stick to the designated roads. If you see any areas that have been damaged, please contact our office so we can take care of the issue before it erodes further.





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L to R: Interns Brent Pemberton and Brenna Pemberton, Water Resources Assistant Biologist Tyler Orgon, Biologist Kayla Bowe, Program Director Shane Bowe, and Intern Josh Jones electrofishing the Mud River.

### Internships with the Red Lake DNR Water Resources Program

A grant from the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) has allowed the Red Lake DNR to hire interns to assist with our projects for the past two summers. The grant funded project was designed as a tiered internship program. Tribal students with varying levels of education were sought to work together in order to expose newer college students to the expectations of higher level degrees. This model supports our long term goal of finding Red Lake members to fill our professional level positions within our program as they become available. If this project continues to get funded, we will seek to ensure that we have one student in their first or second year of college (including Red Lake Nation College), one student who is nearing completion of a 4 year degree in a natural resource related field, and one graduate student working on a research project with the RL DNR. The interns we have hired over the last couple of years have found the experience to be very rewarding and are excited to come back if funding allows. This is exactly the goal we had in mind when we developed the project.

This year's interns, Brenna Pemberton, Brent Pemberton, and Joshua Jones have provided great assistance to our staff while gaining valuable on the job experience. We'd like to sincerely thank them for their contribution to our work.

Here are some of the things they had to say about their internship experiences in their own words:

What I took away from the internship was finally finding what I want to get my degree in and enjoy doing. After my first summer of interning with the Water Resources Program, I looked forward to a second summer because I loved being outside, on the lakes, and working with employees at the DNR. This internship even helped me understand and get through my Biology classes. My experience in this program has been amazing and I'm glad I have been given the chance and keep on going working here.

#### —Brenna Pemberton

Working as an intern for the Water Resources Program was beneficial to me on many fronts. My major at Bemidji State is Environmental Science with an emphasis in Geohydrology, and the work we perform at the DNR provided insight for me into what my future career prospects will entail. Learning how to use water sampling equipment as well as working with the data collected helped further my understanding of how water quality is measured and controlled. As an intern I felt I was given many opportunities to learn different skills that will help me with finding future employment. It has been a great opportunity and helped to solidify my decision in choosing my major in school, as well as my direction for a future career in the field of natural resource protection.

—Joshua Jones

# WILDLIFE AWESIINHYAG

# WILD RICE (MANOOMIN) SEEDING

Historically, the Red Lake Reservation had several good areas to find native wild rice stands. These stands attracted large numbers of migrating and breeding waterfowl, providing excellent habitat and food. For the past 16 years, the Wildlife Department has been working to re-establish stands of wild rice in area lakes and streams. Annually, between 2,000-5,000 pounds of green wild rice seed (purchased from Leech Lake and White Earth Bands) have been hand-seeded into the Butcher Knife Chain, Good Lake Impoundment, and Kiwosay Wildlife Area to re-establish these wild rice stands and establish new areas of wild rice. These areas now support stands of wild rice which provide a source for handharvesting by tribal members as well as food and habitat for many wildlife species. The Wildlife Department started hand-seeding wild rice into Bender Lake in 2016 in hopes of establishing a wild rice bed there as well. Once again, 3,000 lbs of rice seed will be planted into these areas to supplement the previous years' work. Funding for these wild rice re-establishment projects has come from the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Circle of Flight Program, the USFWS Tribal Wildlife Grant Program and Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources grants.

The best time to plant wild rice is in the fall around the time of the first frost because it requires the cold winter weather to germinate in the spring. Wild rice seed must be kept moist because it will not germinate if it dries out. Wild rice must also be in water for almost all of its growing season (April-August) as well. The ideal water depth is around 2-3 feet and the soil and water pH should be acidic. Wild rice seed is usually hand-seeded from shore or from a boat. The viable seed will immediately sink to the bottom. Wild rice will germinate in the spring once the water temperatures reach 40 degrees. It usually takes about a month for the plant to reach floating leaf stage. After about another month of growth, the stalk will be established above the water and can sustain itself as long as the roots remain wet. Wild rice is an annual water grass plant that grows to a height of 3 to 8 feet tall. Wild rice plants have the unique ability to produce seeds that mature at different times; some early to miss the first hard frost, and some late to miss the migrating birds. When the wild rice seed matures, it immediately shatters and falls into the water. Wild rice seed has been known to remain viable in the seed bank for up to 20 years and when conditions are right it will sprout and grow in an area that has been without rice for several years. All these unique traits makes it a little easier for wild rice to maintain consistent stands. This all of course depends on the weather each year!

STANDARD STATE

With the re-establishment of these native wild rice stands on the Red Lake Reservation, we hope that future generations will be able to enjoy this wonderful source of nutrition! If you know of any areas that historically had wild rice growing, please contact us so we can look at the feasibility of re-establishing wild rice in those areas.

### **NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS** Golden Wing Warbler - Brushland Management Projects

**Project Type**: Brushland/Young Forest Habitat Management

**Project Partners:** Red Lake Band of Chippewa, Red Lake DNR, American Bird Conservancy (ABC), and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

**Benefiting Species:** Completed project sites will provide important habitat for nesting, brood rearing and/or foraging for a broad array of game and non-game species. Research also indicates that a number of forest interior species benefit from early successional habitat patches located adjacent to or within mature forest stands.

Benefiting species include, but are not limited to: the Golden-winged Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Veery, Black-billed Cuckoo, Ruffed Grouse, American Woodcock, pollinators, Snowshoe Hare, Bobcat, Deer, Black Bear, and Moose (when present on the landscape). **Roller Drum Project - 319 acres** - Contractors will be required to use a straight-bladed D6 dozer or Equivalent and pull a roller chopper to fell brush in project areas. The dozer must be provided by the contractor. The roller chopper will be provided by the project partners for use by the contractor.

**Hydroaxe Project - 48 Acres** - Contractors will be required to use a tracked skidsteer with brushcutting attachment, such as a hydroaxe or Fecon cutting/ mulching head or equivalent. Larger machines with equivalent cutting attachments could also be used to complete project operations. All equipment must be supplied by the contractor.

Projects will be open for bid from September 15 – October 15, 2017. Project Bid Packets with additional project details will be available at the Red Lake DNR Office and at *www.redlakednr.org* starting September 15. Project operations will begin approximately December 2017 – January 2018 depending on frozen ground conditions. The Red Lake DNR will determine the suitability of frost depth for project start date.





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RED LAKE DNR 15761 High School Drive Red Lake, MN 56671 www.redlakednr.org



#### POSTAL CUSTOMER ECRWSS EDDM

# **RED LAKE HUNTING REGULATIONS**

#### **RED LAKE TRIBAL MEMBERS**

**Waterfowl:** No closed season, no bag limits, except in designated waterfowl production areas (Kiwosay, Zah Gheeng). Limited or no harvest of waterfowl is recommended during spring and summer.

**Small Game:** No closed season, no bag limits. Limited or no harvest of small game is recommended during spring and summer.

**Big Game:** Season is from September 15 through December 31, with no harvest limit.

Moose: SEASON IS CLOSED per Tribal Resolution



#### **NON-MEMBERS**

All Permits may be purchased at the Red Lake Department of Public safety. Deer and small game permits are seasonally available at the Northwest Angle.

**Waterfowl:** Seasons and bag limits are the same as in state and federal regulations. Allowed only on designated portions of the Diminished Reservation. Tribal Guide required.

**Small Game:** Ceded lands and Northwest Angle only. Seasons and bag limits are the same as MN state regulations.

**Big Game:** Deer hunting allowed at Northwest Angle only, with season concurrent with Minnesota's Zone-1 deer season. Tribal officials may issue special "non-member relative" permits for hunting on the Diminished Reservation.





Seasons, limits and other regulations are subject to revision at any time by the Red Lake Tribal Council. Questions pertaining to hunting opportunities on Red Lake lands should be directed to the RL Department of Public Safety (218)-679-3315, or RL Department of Natural Resources (218)-679-3959.

Please help protect our natural resources. Respect tribal regulations and report any violations of fish and game laws to the Red Lake Department of Public Safety.