

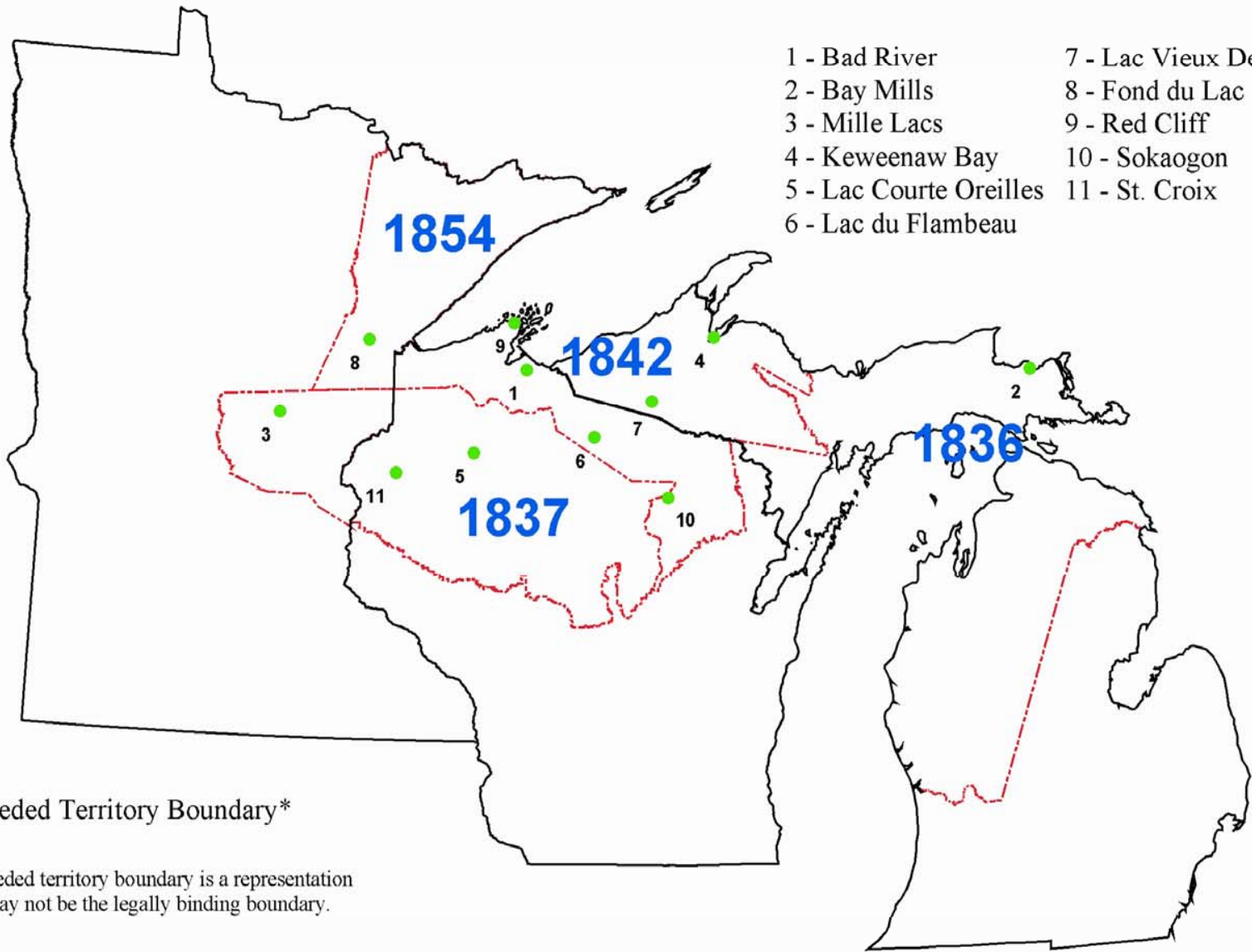


**Lake Superior
Binational Program**

What is GLIFWC?

- Intertribal agency with 11 Chippewa Member Tribes.
- Tribes have reservations in Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan.
- Tribes are signatories to the Treaties of 1836, 1837, 1842, and 1854. In these treaties, tribes reserved hunting, fishing, and gathering rights within the territories ceded.





- 1 - Bad River
- 2 - Bay Mills
- 3 - Mille Lacs
- 4 - Keweenaw Bay
- 5 - Lac Courte Oreilles
- 6 - Lac du Flambeau
- 7 - Lac Vieux Desert
- 8 - Fond du Lac
- 9 - Red Cliff
- 10 - Sokaogon
- 11 - St. Croix

--- Ceded Territory Boundary*

* The ceded territory boundary is a representation and may not be the legally binding boundary.

Importance of Lake Superior

- Tribes use ceded territory resources to maintain their lifeway. Reservations provide resources and a homeland for tribes. On-reservation and ceded territory rights extend into Lake Superior.
- Tribes are concerned about protecting traditional practices that depend on clean resources, such as fishing, and cultural, religious and medicinal practices.
- GLRC Strategy recognizes tribes as valuable partners in implementing the Plan.

Binational Program to Restore and Protect Lake Superior

- Governments created a Binational Program to Restore and Protect the Lake Superior Basin in 1991 in response to 1989 IJC challenge.
- Initial and ongoing focus upon bioaccumulative toxins.
- Basin-wide, ecosystem approach using a Lakewide Management Plan (LaMP).
- Partnership approach to achieve goals.



Binational Program Structure



- Task Force made up of senior managers.
- Workgroup of scientists and managers.
- Forum of stakeholders from around the basin.

Workgroup Structure

- Workgroup divided into various committees, each with a US and Canadian co-chair:
 - Chemical
 - Habitat
 - Terrestrial Wildlife
 - Aquatic Communities
 - Sustainability
 - Outreach

The Zero Discharge Goal

- The Binational Program agreement states: “The goal is to achieve zero discharge and zero emission of certain designated persistent bioaccumulative chemicals that may degrade the ecosystem of the Lake Superior basin.”
- Nasty Nine:
 - Chlordane
 - Dieldrin
 - Dioxin
 - Mercury
 - Toxaphene
 - DDT
 - PCBs
 - Hexachlorobenzene
 - Octachlorostyrene
- Load reduction schedules that would achieve zero discharge by 2020.

Lake Superior Habitat and Terrestrial Wildlife



Ecosystem Goals

- Contain a series of nine Strategic Outcomes that the Binational Program has set in order to achieve the Vision for Lake Superior and to preserve, protect and enhance healthy, sustainable ecosystems.
- Strategic Outcomes focus on:
 - Healthy ecosystems and monitoring
 - Native and invasive species
 - Climate change
 - Partnerships and management
 - Air and water quality

Ecosystem Goals (cont.)

- The Strategic Outcomes have goals and subgoals associated with them to further define the steps needed.
- The Binational Program can't achieve these alone.
- Complete copy of the goals is available at:
<http://www.epa.gov/greatlakes/lakesuperior/LSBPecosystemgoals.pdf>

Lake Superior Binational Program

ECOSYSTEM GOALS FOR LAKE SUPERIOR

Strategic Outcome # 1: Diverse, healthy and self-sustaining native plant and animal communities exist in the Lake Superior basin.

Goal

- 1 Identify and restore native communities where they are degraded.
 - Subgoal Inventory and assess impacts to degraded habitats and communities.
 - Subgoal Develop and distribute GIS information on ecosystem types, conditions and trends, including coastal wetlands and riparian areas, and identify where restoration can occur.
 - Subgoal Restore degraded wetlands.
 - Subgoal Restore or protect native riparian forest types.
 - Subgoal Restore or protect coastal communities (rocky shoreline, beach, dune, coastal wetlands).
 - Subgoal Where possible, restore or protect aquatic connectivity in Lake Superior tributary streams.
- 2 Identify and protect a system of representative, high quality ecosystems through Lake Superior basin land protection programs.
 - Subgoal Complete comprehensive, systematic biological surveys in the watershed to identify remaining high-quality natural communities.
 - Subgoal Engage landowners as partners in protecting important habitat.
 - Subgoal Use special designations to protect important habitat on public lands and waters.
- 3 Reduce the rate of land conversion that results in the loss of plant and animal habitat and habitat fragmentation.
 - Subgoal Engage regional planners and policy makers at all levels of government to support the adoption of measures that maintain or improve ecosystem services and that prevent loss of habitat by conversion and fragmentation.
 - Subgoal Develop and put into place a policy that results in zero loss of wetland areas and function within the basin.
- 4 Maintain existing genetic diversity and population integrity.
 - Subgoal Plans are in place to detect and prevent disease outbreaks.
 - Subgoal Encourage the cataloging of the basin's genetic diversity.

Strategic Outcomes/Goals/Subgoals Related to Habitat/Wetlands

SO #1: Diverse, healthy and self-sustaining native plant and animal communities exist in the Lake Superior basin.

Goal 1: Identify and restore native communities where they are degraded.

Subgoal: Restore degraded wetlands.

Subgoal: Restore or protect native riparian forest types.

Strategic Outcomes/Goals/Subgoals Related to Habitat/Wetlands

Also under SO #1

Goal 3: Reduce the rate of land conversion that results in the loss of plant and animal habitat and habitat fragmentation.

Subgoal: Develop and put into place a policy that results in zero loss of wetland areas and function within the basin.

Challenges

- Tracking Progress
 - Lake Superior habitat projects database exists but needs updating
 - Lake Superior Decision Support System was developed in the 1990s but funding has not been available to maintain it.
- Funding has been and remains a significant obstacle

Strategic Outcomes/Goals/Subgoals Related to Project Tracking

SO #8: Management in the Lake Superior basin is organized and coordinated at appropriate governmental scales, and is implemented at appropriate watershed scales.

Goal 2: Develop and maintain a unified, binational GIS database that includes current basin-wide data and decision support models needed for watershed management at a scale and in a format that supports Lake Superior Basin planning and watershed management.

Opportunities

- Our goals are very clearly and closely aligned
- Workshops like this one can increase communication and coordination
- We need to go beyond these workshops and explore how we can each help the other achieve our respective and shared goals

Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission

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