

## GREAT LAKES INDIAN FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION

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### • MEMBER TRIBES •

#### MICHIGAN

Bay Mills Community  
Keweenaw Bay Community  
Lac Vieux Desert Band

#### WISCONSIN

Bad River Band  
Lac Courte Oreilles Band  
Lac du Flambeau Band

#### MINNESOTA

Fond du Lac Band  
Mille Lacs Band

Red Cliff Band  
St. Croix Chippewa  
Sokaogon Chippewa

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **2018 Tribal Omashkooz (elk) hunt will emphasize community and teaching**

*GLIFWC member tribes accept guidance from elders and knowledge holders*

**Odanah, WI,** – GLIFWC member tribes came together at multiple gatherings this summer to discuss the upcoming omashkooz (elk) hunt to take place in the Wisconsin Ceded Territory. Ojibwe tribes are exercising their sovereign authority by adopting rules and regulations that will govern their harvest of half this year's harvestable elk resource, with the other half to be harvested by the state.

Harvesting methods, traditional ecological knowledge, safety, and participation were all topics of discussion. The resulting recommendations were brought to the Voigt Intertribal Task Force, the body that coordinates tribal harvests among its member tribes. The Task Force unanimously voiced its desire to utilize this hunt as an opportunity to teach and share the five elk in a manner consistent with the tribes' spiritual and cultural beliefs.

Five elk tags are set aside for the tribal communities participating in the hunt. Each tribe will partner with another tribal community. These communities will work together to decide who will participate in the hunt, and how the elk will be utilized throughout the communities.

“A collective harvest by bands stands out as strong assertion of tribal sovereignty and unity. We are strong when we are unified. With continued cooperation between the state,

tribes, and other entities, this endeavor will hopefully yield future hunting opportunities for both state and tribal hunters.” Says Voigt Chairman Jason Schlender.

Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission is an intertribal organization comprised of eleven member Ojibwe bands, located throughout Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota. GLIFWC works with member bands to both manage and preserve off-reservation treaty reserved rights and resources. Please visit [www.glifwc.org](http://www.glifwc.org) for more information about GLIFWC.