



For more information on GLIFWC and the Enforcement Division:

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Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission

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GLIFWC Law Enforcement



*In the
Ceded Territory*

About GLIFWC

The Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) is an intertribal, co-management agency committed to the implementation of off-reservation treaty rights on behalf of its eleven-member Ojibwe tribes. GLIFWC's mission is to help ensure meaningful, off-reservation harvests while protecting the resources for generations to come.



GLIFWC member tribes include:

- Bad River Band
- Bay Mills Indian Community
- Fond du Lac Band
- Keweenaw Bay Indian Community
- Lac Courte Oreilles Band
- Lac du Flambeau Band
- Lac Vieux Desert Band
- Mille Lacs Band
- Red Cliff Band
- Sokaogon Mole Lake Band
- St. Croix Band

GLIFWC Conservation Enforcement Division

The Division enforces off-reservation codes that govern treaty harvest seasons in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan's ceded territories.



Conservation wardens patrol a sprawling region encompassing more than 60,000 square miles of forest and lake country. Four-wheel drive trucks, ATVs, boats and snowmobiles serve as patrol craft for each officer.

While Division administration is based at GLIFWC central offices in Odanah, Wis., officers are stationed near tribal communities across the three-state ceded territory. Fully staffed the Division includes 20 officers, a chief warden and a central office administrator. All GLIFWC wardens train extensively throughout the year and are fully certified Wisconsin law enforcement officers.

GLIFWC Enforcement Division core objectives include:

- Work with tribal members, prosecutors and courts to effectively enforce off-reservation codes.
- Implement outdoor education programs and help tribal communities understand the rights and responsibilities associated with off-reservation harvest activity.
- Continue developing partnerships with regional law enforcement and emergency services networks.
- Conduct enforcement and outreach education in a manner sensitive to tribal culture.

High Standards

GLIFWC conservation officers work together as a highly trained unit. Personal development is also stressed to better achieve the core objectives of the Enforcement Division. Annual training—within the division and with other law enforcement agencies—is conducted in accordance with Wisconsin Department of Justice Training Standard requirements. Instruction centers on rescue, safety, firearms, and the advanced use of motorized patrol craft.



Potential warden candidates must meet minimum requirements:

- earned at least 60 college credits (bachelor degree preferred)
- ability to identify plants, wildlife and fish
- good communication skills
- able to work independently

In addition, extensive background checks help GLIFWC officials select the best available recruits.

Community Based Outreach

Building upon decades of outdoor safety classes in tribal communities, GLIFWC now provides a large catalog of educational events throughout the year.

Outdoors safety education

Instructors share personal experiences from the field in courses developed by the States of Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin. In addition to taking the original educational course, hunter safety, all ages are encouraged to attend boat, snowmobile, trapping, and ATV safety programs taught by GLIFWC wardens. Participation in these important classes saves lives, prevents injuries and helps improve everyone's enjoyment of the great outdoors.



Skills classes with certified instructors

Young people and beginning harvesters get a healthy dose of native know-how at GLIFWC traditional skills camps.

- wild ricing
- winter & spring spearfishing
- sugarbush
- outdoor survival
- net making
- trapping
- wild plant gathering
- deer hide tanning
- birch bark gathering



GLIFWC also sponsors Learn to Hunt programs, which combine classroom and field experience before participants hunt with experienced hunters.

Onji-Akiing/From the Earth Camp

Outdoors fun and adventure await youngsters deep in the Ottawa National Forest during Onji-Akiing. Held at the US Forest Service's Camp Nesbit near Sidnaw, Michigan, the Onji-Akiing program is open to 4th-8th graders. Under the guidance of GLIFWC officers and Forest Service staff, students learn about natural resources, outdoors skills, and Ojibwe culture and treaty rights.

Onji-Akiing activities draw from the traditional medicine wheel, encouraging campers to incorporate their physical, mental and spiritual energies into all the activities the camp has to offer. From fun stuff like archery, climbing, orienteering and outdoors games, kids develop self-confidence, leadership skills and learn problem-solving techniques. It's a great place to cultivate strong character traits, useful throughout a lifetime.

