

2022 Wild Rice Harvest Notice

The harvest of wild rice on Fond du Lac Reservation Lakes will unfortunately be prohibited for 2022. Growing conditions were highly unfavorable this year and the decision was made to rest the On-Reservation wild rice lakes for the season.

Band members are encouraged to utilize their treaty rights to harvest wild rice elsewhere in Minnesota and Wisconsin this season. Band members may also harvest wild rice anywhere within Minnesota outside of the existing boundaries of the White Earth, Leech Lake, Bois Forte, Grand Portage, Fond du Lac, and Mille Lacs Indian Reservations. As a reminder “As of 2016: Tribal band members who possess a valid tribal identification card from a federally recognized tribe located in Minnesota are deemed to have a license to harvest wild rice, and will not need the additional state wild rice harvesting license.”

Northern Minnesota wild rice condition reports and photos are available on the 1854 Treaty Authority website at [Wild Rice Condition Updates \(1854treatyauthority.org\)](http://1854treatyauthority.org/WildRiceConditionUpdates)

Wisconsin wild rice condition reports, photos and opening dates (if applicable) are available on the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission website at [GLIFWC | Manoomin Outlook](http://GLIFWC.org/ManoominOutlook) Wild rice waterbodies are indicated on the map tool and also listed below the map by county. To see an aerial view of a particular waterbody, click the waterbody name to see the photos available.

Aside from these online resources we encourage Band members to travel west of Aitkin, Minnesota when looking for harvestable waterbodies as many of the local area lakes and rivers are also in less than favorable condition this season.

2022 Wild Rice Purchasing Process

The Resource Management Division will be purchasing wild rice seed for processing and restoration reseeded purposes beginning 9/6/22 and everyday thereafter from 12PM to 5PM at the Natural Resources garage located at 38 University Road, Cloquet.

The Division will purchase up to 20,000 pounds from members of any federally recognized tribe at a rate of \$6/pound. This wild rice will be for processing purposes. Each individual harvester will be limited to selling 1,000 pounds per day.

Following the purchase of rice for processing the Division will also be purchasing up to 17,000 pounds of seed for restoration project purposes at a rate of \$6/pound. All willing sellers are welcome to provide rice seed that will go toward restoration projects underway on the Reservation and in our Ceded Territories. Each individual harvester will be limited to selling 1,000 pounds per day. An updated notice will be posted online when this reseeded purchase process begins.

Only freshly harvested and clean wild rice will be accepted. Resource Management staff will inspect all seed and the Fond du Lac Band reserves the right to refuse purchase of seed that is deemed unacceptable by Resource Management staff.