

COMMISSIONER'S ORDER NO. 83 - 88  
Natural Resources

A Commissioner's Order establishing the issuance and application for registration of watercraft.

WHEREAS, the Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians is a signatory and successor to the Treaty of 1837, 7 Stat. 536, and the Treaty of 1842, 7 Stat. 591, and;

WHEREAS, the Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians resides in the ceded territories of the Treaty of 1837, 7 Stat. 536, and;

WHEREAS, the establishment of the Mille Lacs, Rice Lake, and Sandy Lake Reservation occurred under the Treaty of 1855, 10 Stat. 1165, and;

WHEREAS, the Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians promotes the use and enjoyment of natural resources, as well as the protection of quality environment on trust lands and contiguous waters within its exterior boundaries, and;

WHEREAS, the Mille Lacs Band Government established Band Statute 1130-MLC-55 to establish standards for the Registration of Watercraft, and;

WHEREAS, section 5 of Band Statute 1130-MLC-55 directs the Commissioner of Natural Resources to promulgate regulations to carry out the purposes of this chapter of law.

NOW THEREFORE, by the authority vested in me by the Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians under tribal law, I, Don Wedl, Commissioner of Natural Resources for the Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians hereby establish the following regulations and forms.

REGULATION  
FOR  
REGISTRATION OF WATERCRAFT

Part 1. Any applicant requesting to register a watercraft shall fill out the "Application for Registration" (Form 88-WC).

Part 2. Any application for registration which is approved by the Commissioner of Natural Resource will receive a registration number and a permit shall be issued.

Part 3. No person may use a watercraft unless the registration number is assigned.

(a) Each number required must:

- i) Consist of two capital letters denoting Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians (MB) followed by not more than four numerals. Example: (MB 1234)
- ii) Be painted on or permanently attached to each side of the forward half of the vessel.
- iii) Be in plain vertical block characters of not less than three (3) inches in height.
- iv) Contrast with the color of the background and be distinctly visible and legible.
- v) Have spaces that are equal to the width of a letter other than "I".
- vi) Read from left to right, containing the Band emblem and term of validity.

(b) Registration number will be valid for only two (2) years.

Part 4. Casualty and Accident Reporting

Section 1. A vessels registered with the Mille Lacs Band Natural Resources Administration and used on waters subject to the jurisdiction of Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians shall be required to report casualty and accidents involving said vehicle.

- a. Immediate notification of death or disappearance. When as a result of an occurrence that involves a vessel or its equipment, a person dies or disappears from a vessel, the operator shall, without delay, notify the nearest reporting authority of:
  - i) The date, time, and exact location of the occurrence;
  - ii) The name of each person who died or disappeared;
  - iii) The number and name of the vessel;
  - iv) The names and addresses of the owner and operator.
- b. When the operator of a vessel cannot give the notice required by paragraph (a) of this section, each person on board the vessel shall notify the casualty reporting authority or determine that the notice has been given.

Section II. Report of casualty or accident.

- a. The operator of a vessel shall submit the casualty or accident report prescribed in Section III of this regulation to the reporting authority, Mille Lacs Band's Law Enforcement and State of Minnesota Reporting Authority when as a result of an accident that involves the vessel or its equipment:
  - i) A person dies;
  - ii) A person is injured and requires medical treatment beyond first aid;
  - iii) Damage to the vessel and others property totals more than \$200.00 or there is a complete loss of a vehicle; or
  - iv) A person disappears from the vessel under circumstances that indicates death or injury.
- b. A report required by this section must be made:
  - i) Within 48 hours of the accident if a person dies within 24 hours of the accident;
  - ii) Within 48 hours of the accident if a person is injured and requires medical treatment beyond first aid, or disappears from a vessel; and
  - iii) Within 10 days of the accident or death if an earlier report is not required by this paragraph.
- c. When the operator of a vessel cannot submit the casualty or accident report required by paragraph (a) of this section, the owner shall submit the casualty or accident report.

Section III Casualty or Accident Report. Each report required by Section II must be in writing, dated upon completion, and signed by the person who prepared it and must contain, if available, at least the following information about the casualty or accidents:

- a. The number and names of each vessel involved.
- b. The name and address of each owner of each vessel involved.
- c. The name of the nearest city, town, the county, the state or reservation and the body of water.
- d. The time and date of the casualty or accident occurred.
- e. The location on the water.

- f. The visibility, weather, and water conditions.
- g. The estimated air and water temperatures.
- h. The name, address, age or date of birth, telephone number, vessel operating experience, and boating safety training of the operator making the report.
- i. The name and address of each operator of each vessel involved.
- j. The number of persons on board or towed on skis by each vessel.
- k. The name, address and date of birth of each person injured or killed.
- l. The cause of each death.
- m. Weather forecasts available to, and weather reports used by, the operator before and during the use of the vessel.
- n. The name and address of each owner of property involved.
- o. The availability and use of person flotation devices.
- p. The type and amount of each fire extinguisher used.
- q. The nature and extent of each injury.
- r. A description of all property damage and vessel damage with an estimated of the cost of all repairs.
- s. A description of each equipment failure that caused or contributed to the cause of the casualty.
- t. The description of the vessel casualty or accident.
- u. The type of vessel operation (cruising, drifting, fishing, hunting, skiing, racing, or other) and the type of accident (capsizing, sinking, fire, or explosion or other).
- v. The opinion of the person making the report as to the cause of the casualty.
- w. The make, model, type (open, cabin, house, or other), beam with at widest point, length, depth from transom to keel, horsepower, propulsion (outboard, inboard, inboard outdrive, sail, or other), fuel (gas, diesel, or other), construction (wood, steel, aluminum, plastic, fiberglass, or other), and year built (model year), of the reporting operator's vessel.
- x. The name and address, and telephone number of each witness.
- y. The manufacturer's hull identification number, if any, of the reporting operator's vessel.
- z. The name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the report.

Section IV. Where to Report. A report required in section II must be submitted to:

- a. Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians Natural Resources Administration (Law Enforcement).
- b. The reporting authority where casualty or accident occurred.

ADMINISTRATION: The Band's casualty reporting system shall be administered by the Natural Resources Administration that:

- a. Will provide for the reporting of all casualties and accidents prescribed in section II of this order;
- b. Receive report of vessel casualties or accidents as required in Section III;
- c. Review each accident and casualty reports to assure the accuracy and completeness of each report;
- d. Determine the cause of casualties and accidents reported based on information available and indicate the apparent cause on the casualty report.
- e. Notifies the Coast Guard, in writing, when a problem area in boating, safety peculiar to the Band is determined, together with corrective measures instituted or recommended.
- f. Reports on vessel numbering and vessel casualties and accidents as required in this order.
- g. Before March 1 of each year, the Band must prepare and submit Coast Guard Form CGHQ-3923, Report of Certificates of Number Issued to Boats, to the Coast Guard.

APPLICATION  
 Registration of Watercraft

Purpose of this application is for members of the Mille Lacs Band of Chippewa Indians who reside or principally garage a vessel on lands subject to the jurisdiction of the Band to register said vessel with Mille Lacs Natural Resources Administration.

Applicant's name	Date
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Address
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City, State, Zip Code
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DESCRIPTION OF VESSEL

Make	Model	Year
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Manufacturer of Vessel	Color
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Length of Vessel	Material constructed of, i.e. wood, aluminum, fiberglass, etc:
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Owner of vessel	Number previously issued
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Address	<input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal
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City, State, Zip Code	<input type="checkbox"/> Transfers of Ownership
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Type: <input type="checkbox"/> Inboard ___ Hp. <input type="checkbox"/> Outboard ___ Hp. <input type="checkbox"/> Sail <input type="checkbox"/> Other (canoe/ _____)	Fuel: <input type="checkbox"/> Gasoline <input type="checkbox"/> Diesel <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____
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I CERTIFY THAT THE ABOVE STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF.  
 I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT I UNDERSTAND THE APPLICABLE REGULATIONS FOR THE OPERATION OF WATERCRAFT.

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 Applicant's signature

COMMISSIONER'S APPROVAL:	DATE OF APPROVAL	BAND NUMBER ISSUED:

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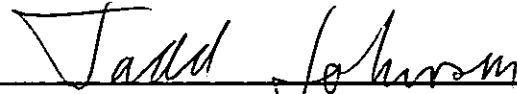
DATED at Vineland, Minnesota this seventeenth day of June in the year one thousand nine hundred and eighty-eight.



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Don Wedll  
Commissioner of Natural Resources

APPROVED AND NUMBERED AS TO  
FORM AND EXECUTION



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Tadd Johnson  
Solicitor General

OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE BAND