



THE MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE INDIANS

Legislative Branch of Tribal Government

JOINT RESOLUTION 12-03-36-07

A JOINT RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF RESTORING WILD RICE ON OGECHIE LAKE AND APPLYING TO THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE AGENCY FOR A GRANT TO ASSIST IN THIS RESTORATION AND HABITAT ENHANCEMENT PROJECT TO ENSURE THE PROTECTION OF TRUST RESOURCES.

- WHEREAS, the Mille Lacs Band Assembly is the duly-elected governing body of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, a federally-recognized Indian Tribe; and
- WHEREAS, the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe has the inherent sovereign authority to regulate the conduct and activities dealing with our natural resources including but not limited to Wild Rice, on all lands under the jurisdiction of the Mille Lacs Band, and
- WHEREAS, as expressly established in the constitution of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, to protect and preserve the health, economic security, and general welfare of the Band, and
- WHEREAS, Wild Rice provides a basis for the tribal economy, and provides an irreplaceable food source and cultural vitality based on religious and cultural traditions premised on the sacredness of this land and its resources, and
- WHEREAS, the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe had two wild rice campsites on Ogechie Lake and requested the (Minnesota Conservation Department) not to build a dam on the south end of Ogechie Lake because if the water was to be artificially raised too high (Buckmoore dam) it would destroy the rice seed (Mille Lacs Reservation Council, Resolution No. 1, enclosure), and
- WHEREAS, the trust resource, Wild Rice, of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe was destroyed and has been virtually absent since the construction of the Buckmoore Dam on Ogechie Lake in 1952.
- NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe have conducted a feasibility study that concludes a water control structure can be constructed at the mouth of Ogechie Lake allowing the restoration of Wild Rice in the said lake and not affect the lake levels on Mille Lacs or the downstream lakes and the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Department of Natural Resources/Environment is requesting to submit a grant to the United States Fish and Wildlife Service for \$200,000 to implement this restoration and enhancement project.

DISTRICT I

43408 Oodena Drive • Onamia, MN 56359

DISTRICT II

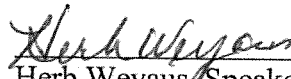
36666 State Hwy 65 • McGregor MN 55760

DISTRICT III

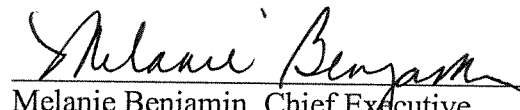
Route 2 • Box 233-N • Sandstone, MN 55072

WE DO HEREBY CERTIFY, that the foregoing resolution was duly concurred with and adopted at a regular session of the Band Assembly in Legislative Council assembled, a of legislators being quorum present held on the 18th of January at Vineland, Minnesota by a vote of 2 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 SILENT.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we, the Band Assembly hereunto cause to have set the signature of the Speaker of the Assembly to be affixed to this resolution and forwarded to the Chief Executive for Concurrence.


Herb Weyaus, Speaker of the Assembly

IN CONCURRENCE, with the action of the Speaker of the Assembly, I, set my hand to this resolution.


Melanie Benjamin, Chief Executive

OFFICIAL SEAL OF THE BAND