

## 2010 Inland Fish and Wildlife Harvest Estimates

In 2010, Sault Tribe issued approximately 28,000 individual permits for hunting, fishing, gathering, and trapping within the 1836 Ceded Territory to 3,488 tribal members. The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians maintains mandatory harvest reporting requirements for all members who exercise the Tribe's treaty rights. At the time when this report was in development, the Inland Fish and Wildlife Department had received 1,556 harvest reports.

### 2010 Inland Waters Fish Harvest

In 2010, Sault Tribe issued 3,028 Inland Fishing Licenses. IFWD has received harvest reports from 51% (1,556) of those license holders. Forty-three percent of those reported fishing effort in 2010.

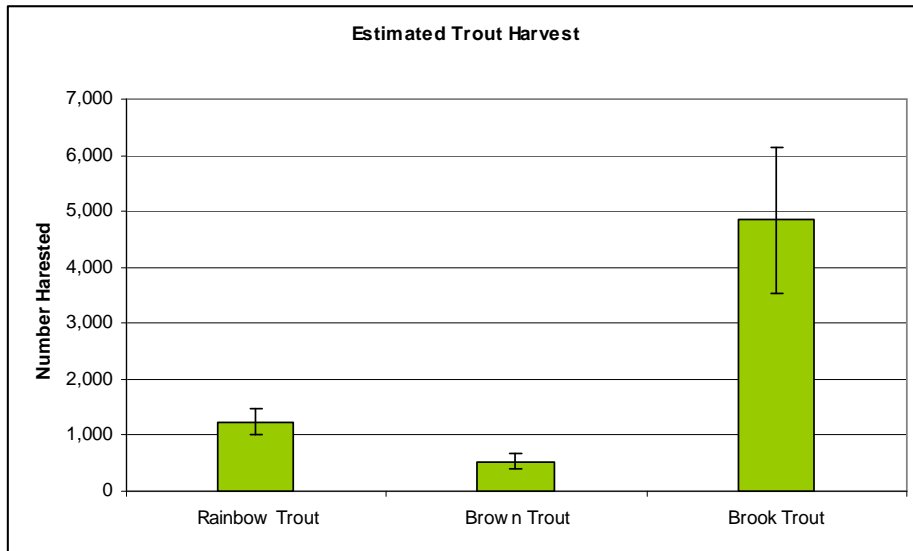
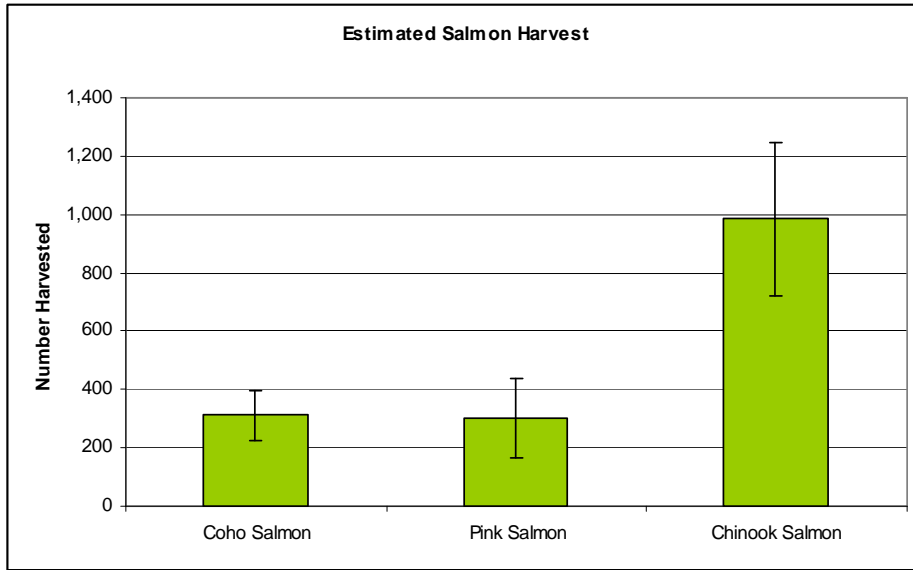
Table 1. 2010 Inland Fish Harvest

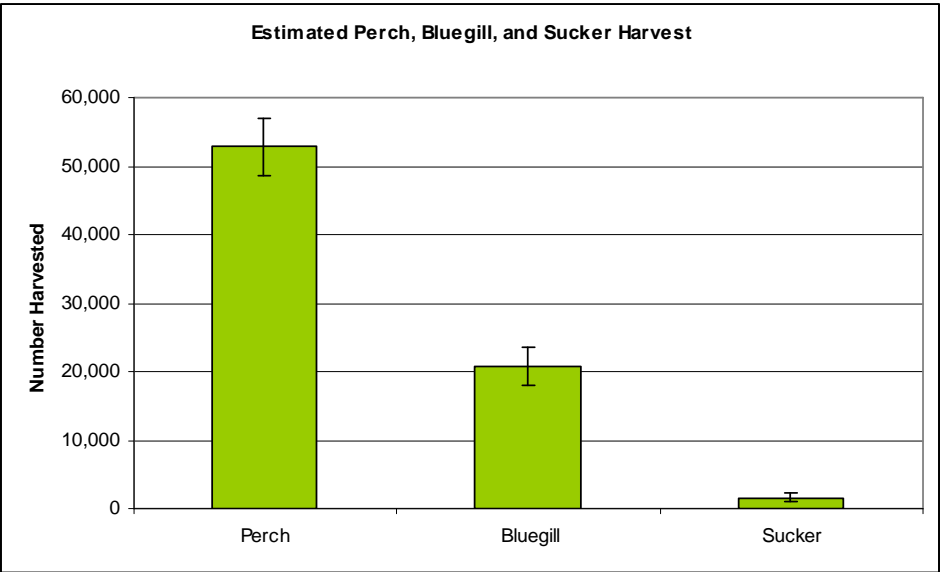
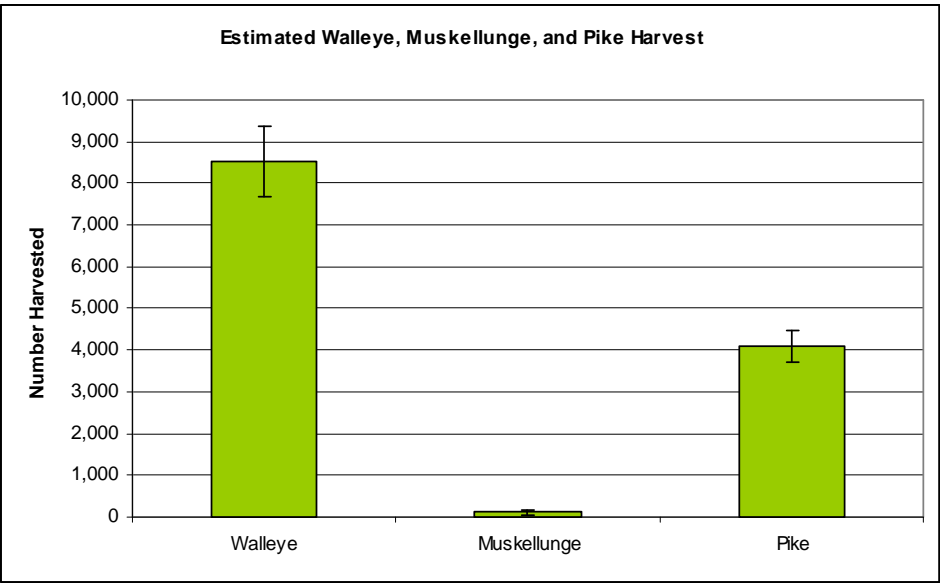
Species	Reported Harvest	Mean Harvest	Standard Error	Estimated harvest	confidence interval (+/-)
Rainbow Trout	638	0.95	0.18	1,242	234.9
Brown Trout	276	0.41	0.10	537	134.9
Brook Trout	2,486	3.7	1.00	4,838	1,311.4
Coho Salmon	160	0.24	0.67	311	87.0
Pink Salmon	154	0.23	0.10	300	135.2
Chinook Salmon	506	0.75	0.20	985	263.1
Walleye	4,386	6.5	0.64	8,535	837.2
Muskellunge	59	0.09	0.05	115	63.5
Pike	2,100	3.13	0.30	4,087	394.2
Perch	27,137	40.4	3.20	52,809	4,202.5
Bluegill	10,659	15.88	2.07	20,737	2,702.1
Sucker	823	1.22	0.43	1,602	559.4
Smelt*	81	0.12	0.03	158	41.1

\*smelt is reported gallons

### 2010 Black Lake Sturgeon Harvest

Date	Length	Weight	Harvest Method
Xxxx	Xxx	Xxx	spear



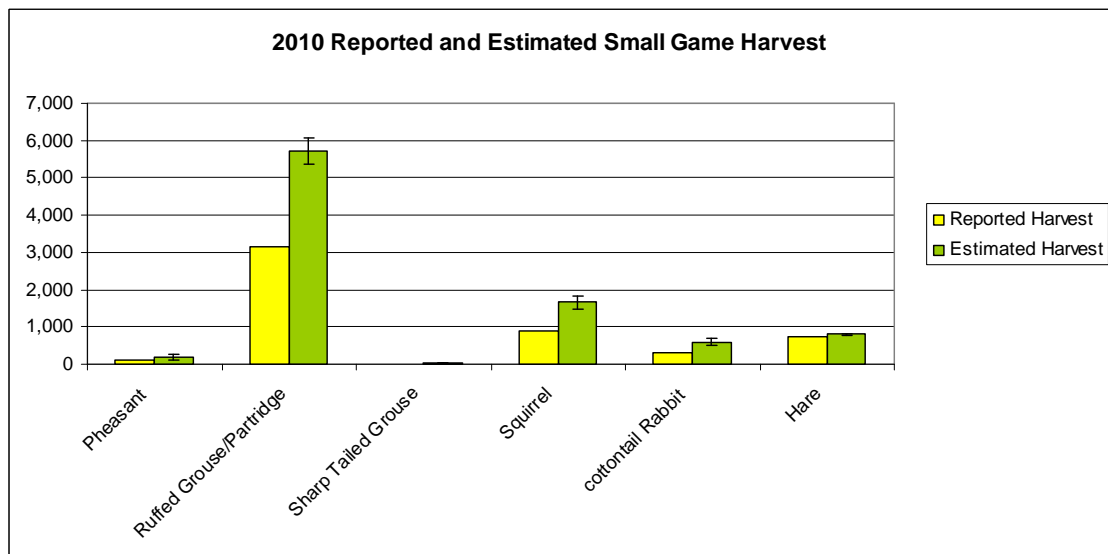


## 2010 Small Game Harvest

In 2010, Sault Tribe issued 2,873 small game licenses with 54% percent of those license holders reporting. Hunter participation rates varied widely by target species. Thirty-six percent of license holders reported hunting ruffed grouse, nine percent reported hunting snowshoe hare and squirrel, seven percent reported hunting cottontail rabbit, and two percent reported hunting sharp-tailed grouse and pheasant.

Table 2. 2010 Small Game Harvest

Species	Reported Harvest	Mean Harvest	Standard Error	Estimated Harvest	Confidence Interval (+/-)
Pheasant	104	4.16	1.80	192	84.0
Ruffed Grouse/Partridge	3,139	5.5	0.34	5,727	3,48.9
Sharp-Tailed Grouse	18	0.62	0.21	33	11.4
Squirrel	908	6.22	0.65	1,668	173.0
cottontail Rabbit	326	2.85	0.44	592	89.5
Snowshoe hare	751	0.48	0.07	809	19.0



## 2010 Furbearer Harvest

In 2010, Sault Tribe issued 1,626 furbearer harvest permits.

Table 3. 2010 Sault Tribe Furbearer Harvest

Species	Reported Harvest	Mean Harvest	Standard Error	Estimated Harvest	Confidence Interval
Beaver	159	0.91	0.26	164.8	47.0
Mink	76	0.44	0.15	78.8	27.1
Muskrat	1019	5.7	1.9	1055.3	346.8
Red Fox	21	0.12	0.05	28.8	10.4
Gray Fox	6	0.03	0.02	6.2	3.6
Coyote	244	1.39	0.28	252.8	50.5
Skunk	84	0.48	0.17	87.0	32.0
Raccoon	405	2.3	0.75	419.6	135.1

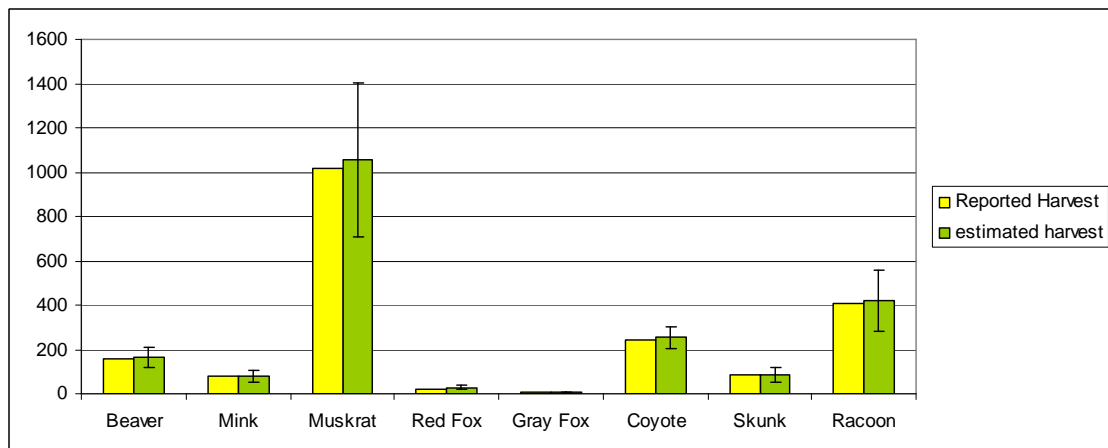
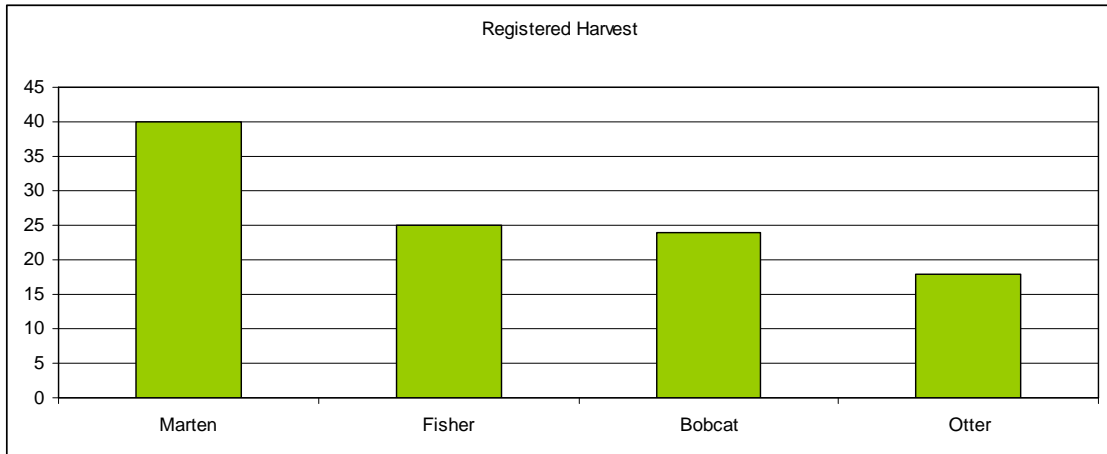


Table 4. 2010 Sault Tribe Mandatory Registration Harvest

Species	Registered Harvest
Marten	40
Fisher	25
Bobcat	24
Otter	18



## ***2010 Turkey Harvest***

In 2010 Sault Tribe issued 1,274 spring turkey and 2,082 fall turkey licenses. Thirty-nine percent of those reporting hunted spring turkey and 29% hunted fall turkey.

**Table 5. 2010 spring and fall turkey harvest**

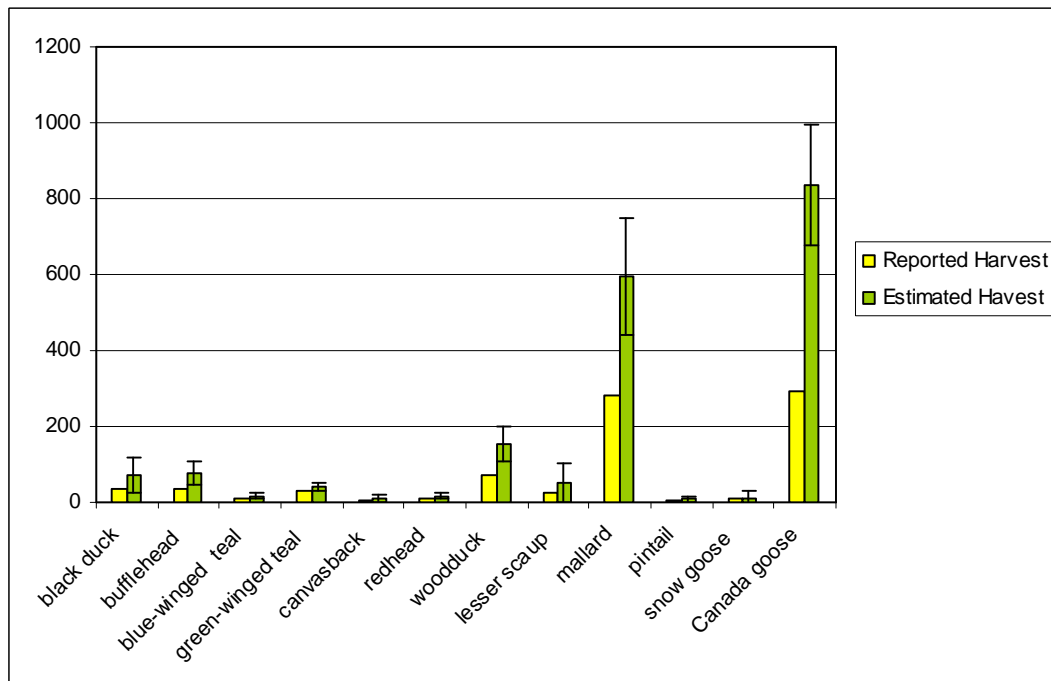
	Reported Harvest	Mean	Standard Error	Estimated Harvest	Confidence Interval (+/-)
Spring	90	0.43	0.04	215	22.3
Fall	38	0.25	0.04	148	25.6

## 2010 Waterfowl Harvest

Sault Tribe issued 1,516 migratory bird licenses in 2010. We received 732 harvest reports back from hunters. Of those reporting, 14% hunted waterfowl during the 2010 hunting season. Table 3 summaries reported and estimated harvest for major species.

**Table 6. 2010 Sault Tribe Waterfowl Harvest**

Species	Reported Harvest	Mean Harvest	Standard Error	Estimated Harvest	Confidence Interval (+/-)
black duck	38	0.29	0.21	71	45.1
bufflehead	37	0.35	0.14	77	29.9
blue-winged teal	11	0.05	0.04	17	8.8
green-winged teal	32	0.07	0.04	40	9.8
canvasback	5	0.05	0.05	11	10.7
Redhead	12	0.04	0.04	16	8.6
woodduck	73	0.72	0.20	154	44.9
lesser scaup	25	0.24	0.24	52	52.1
Mallard	282	2.76	0.69	594	151.9
Pintail	4	0.04	0.04	8	8.3
snow goose	11	0.10	0.09	11	19.2
Canada goose	292	4.82	0.73	836	159.0



## ***2010 Big Game Harvest***

### **Bear**

**Table 7. 2010 Sault Tribe Bear Permits Issued and Bear Harvest by Management Unit**

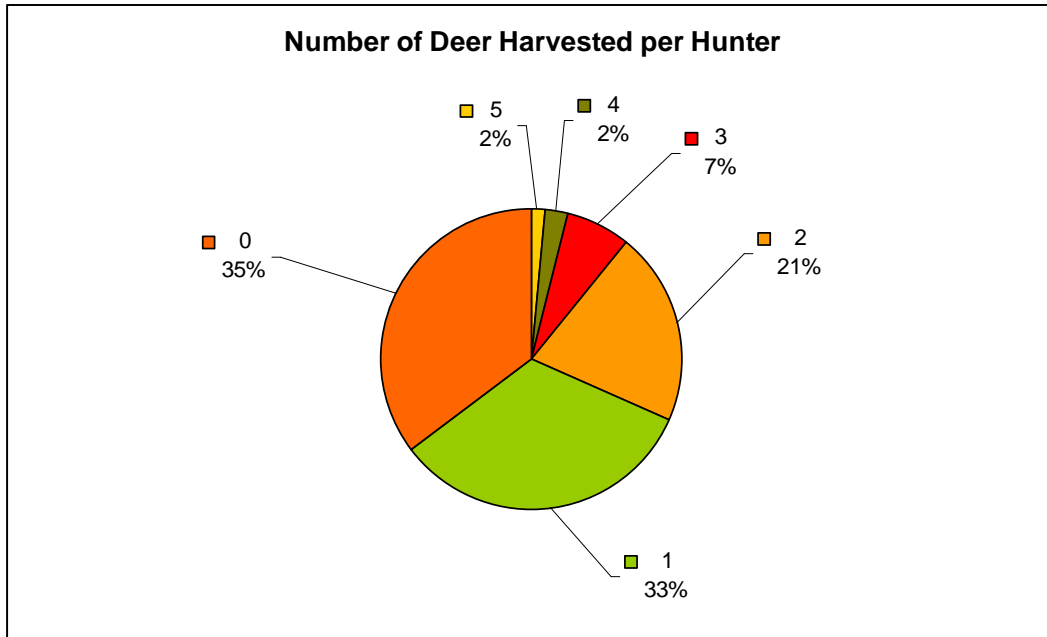
<b>BMU</b>	<b>Permits Issued</b>	<b>Harvest</b>
Baraga	36	2
Drummond	1	0
Gwinn	32	3
Newberry	49	6
Baldwin	1	0
Gladwin	4	1
Red Oak	28	8

### **Whitetail Deer**

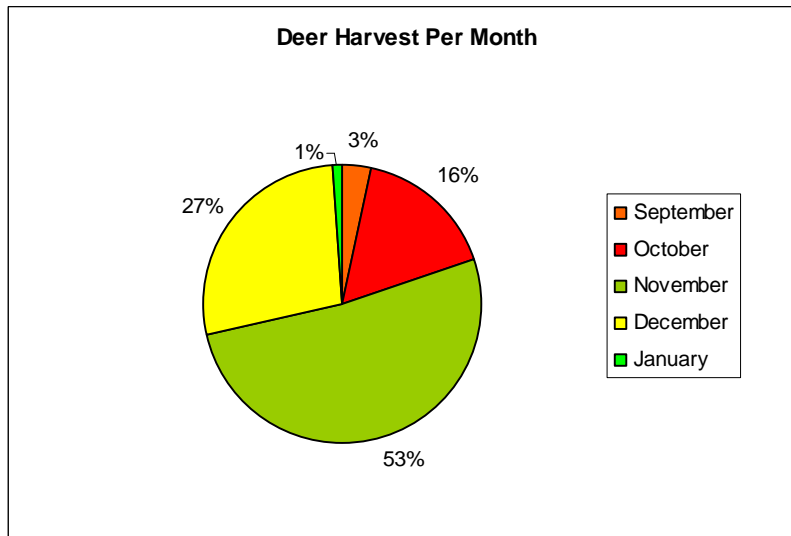
Sault Tribe issued 3,302 deer licenses in 2010. At the time that this report was developed, IFWD had received 1,336 harvest reports back or about 40 percent. Seventy-five percent (1,188) of those reporting actually hunted deer. The total estimated harvest for 2010 is 2,797 (+/-81) deer.

This estimate is based on a mean harvest per hunter of 1.1 with a standard error of 0.032. Actual harvest per hunter varies from 0 to 5 deer. While all members who received a harvest permit for deer receive 5 harvest tags, very few hunters actually harvested 5 deer (1.5% or 42 hunters) or even 4 deer (2.4% or 68 hunters). Twenty-five percent of our reporting hunters were issued 5 harvest tags but did not hunt deer in 2010. Approximately 35% (989) of hunters were unsuccessful in their hunting efforts, while 33% (925 hunters) harvested 1 deer, 21% (582 hunters) harvested 2 deer, and 7% (168 hunters) harvested 3 deer.

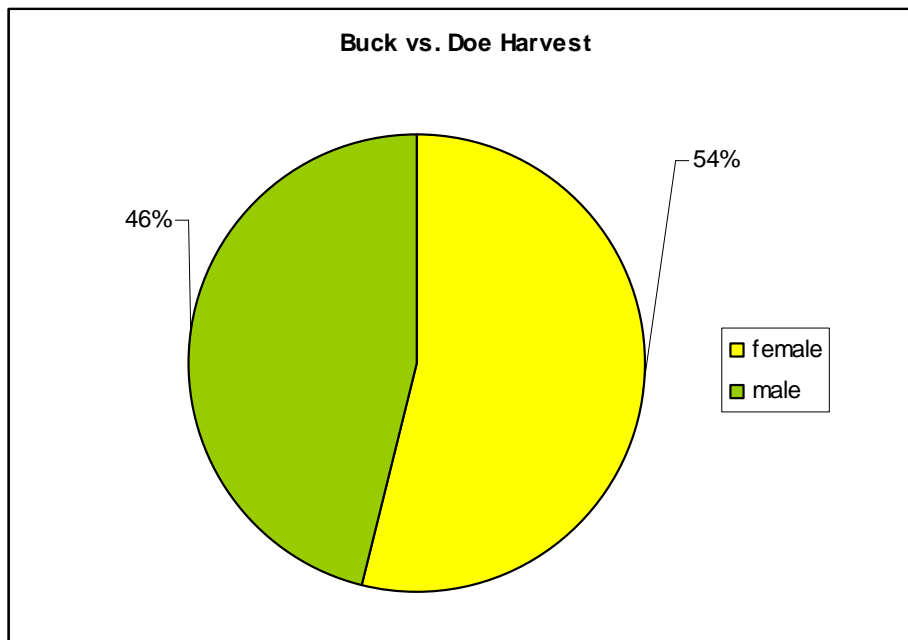
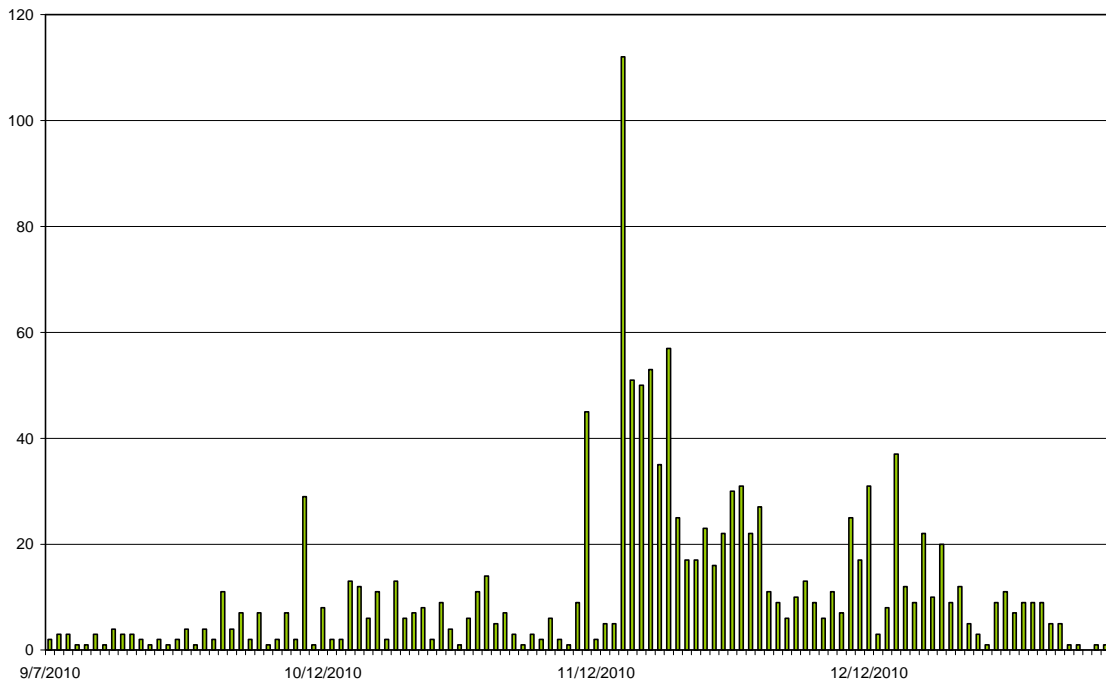




Fifty-three percent of the 2010 deer harvest took place in the month of November. Harvest in October and December accounted for 16% and 27% respectively. September and January harvest accounted for 3% and 1% respectively. Much of the deer harvest took place in the first two weeks after the quiet period. The geographic distribution of Sault Tribe's 2010 harvest by county is listed in Table 6.



Deer Harvest totals by Day

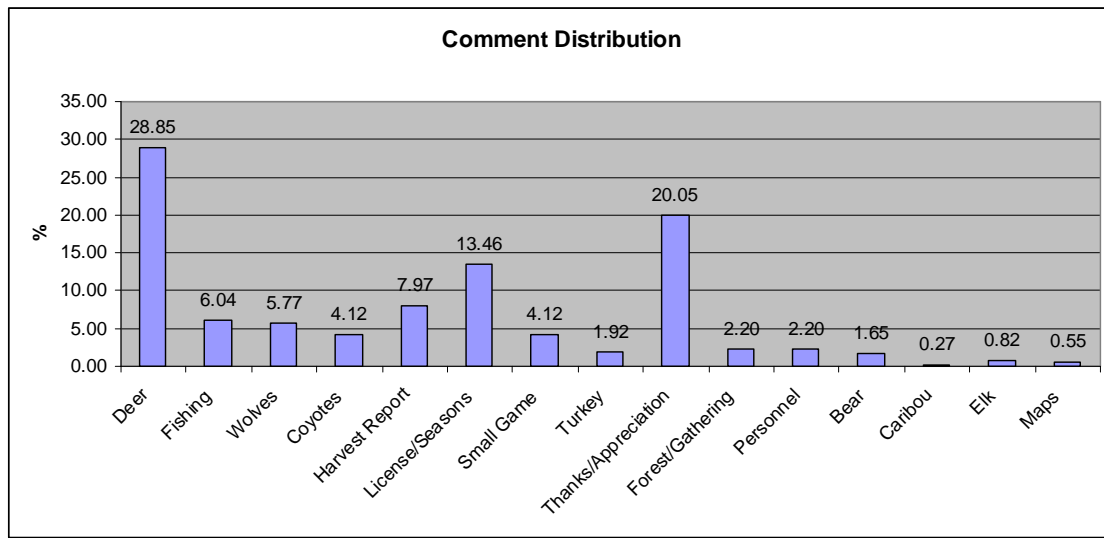


**Table 8. Estimated Harvest Per County**

<b>County</b>	<b>Estimated Harvest</b>
Alcona	2
Alger	77
Antrim	2
Benzie	4
Charlevoix	13
Cheboygan	179
Chippewa	636
Clare	18
Crawford	4
Delta	294
Emmet	82
Genesee	2
Grand Traverse	29
Ionia	2
Isabella	9
Kalkaska	20
Kent	4
Lake	7
Lapeer	2
Leelanau	9
Luce	152
Mackinac	625
Manistee	18
Marquette	31
Mason	31
Mecosta	13
Menominee	13
Missaukee	13
Montcalm	13
Montmorency	4
Muskegon	11
Newaygo	29
Oceana	4
Osceola	7
Oscoda	2
Otsego	4
Presque Isle	55
Roscommon	2
Schoolcraft	366
Shiawassee	2
Wexford	4

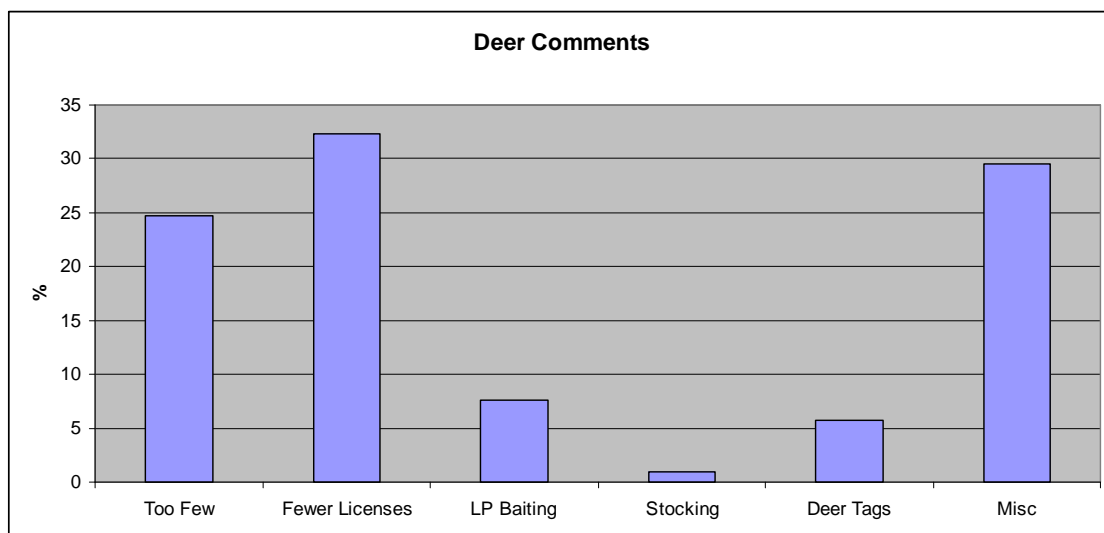
## Comments

In 2010, 2,783 members had a harvest license. Out of those members 286 wrote comments. The comments were sorted into categories depending upon the topic(s) being discussed. The main topics were narrowed down to 15. Under a few of the larger topics there are sub-topics to further narrow the comment. Individual's comments could fall under multiple topics the average was 1.27 topics per comment. The comments were typed in exactly the way they were received on the Report.



## Deer

The most comments came from the deer section. This topic ranged from members worried about too few deer to stocking deer. The miscellaneous section for deer was where comments that didn't quite fit into the other topics went (How good their season was, hoping to do better next year, etc.)



## **Too Few Deer**

**135-** Too many wolves seen and lots of skunks and coyotes. Deer population has dropped down from predators and winter kill and wolves move into deer yarding area and no cutting cedar and less hardwood in the yards to keep deer survival through winter months. Seen 1 cougar track in Mackinac county, I heard some people have seen cougar the last few years in Mackinac and Chippewa county. I have seen flocks of cormorants on streams and ponds and lakes feeding on fish. There are too many cormorants eating fish in Michigan's great lakes and inland waters.

**122-** There are too many wolves and coyotes, we must do something about this or we won't have any deer in the U.P

**401-** The last 2 deer seasons were pretty poor plenty of coyotes and wolves, should be a longer season on both species.

**404-** WE need less coyotes and wolves and more deer.

**431-** I can't stretch these deer tags, they always break no matter what. The deer population is way down in Clark township. I'm seeing more gray wolves and coyotes. There seems to be more violators out there too, shot are being fired after sunset and November 1st through 14 at dark and during the day. The wolves are getting brave as they are coming closer to Cedarville and Hessel. It is common to see coyotes in Hessel. We need to limit the number of doe permits for tribal and non-tribal hunters. Native 2 buck 1 doe or 1 buck 2 does 5 is too many. None native 1 buck only 1 doe or buck with bow or muzzleloader 2 total, and offer incentive to hunters that report violators. I know that times are hard for some families. But that no excuse to kill deer all year long. Native can get five permits.

**598-** I think more effort should be put on controlling the predator that are affecting our deer herd. It makes hunting hard when there is more coyotes and wolves than deer. For me hunting isn't always about killing a deer, but I do enjoy watching them. I won't shoot a doe or fawn but is nice to see them.

**764-** I was away to Alaska July and August. Deer sighting is poor due to coyotes and wolves also small game.

**3066-** Very low deer sighted too many wolves and coyotes, let us shoot them more.

**366-** 1) I am concerned with a lack of deer in our area

2) We also have too many wolves in our hunting area

3) Lack of address to send form to

**345-** Summer fishing great over by Cedarville. Deer hunting terrible, no deer. Dead and down firewood, lots everywhere.

**531-** There are too many wolves. Deer population is down.

**2700-** I feel that the wolves in the upper peninsula have taken a very large toll on the deer in the past 5-10 years. When are we going to see a reduction action taken to help reduce the number that that has been destroying the population of game animals?

**3102-** The only difficulty we seem to have is non-managed numbers of the timber wolves having a negative impact on the deer numbers. The number of deer harvested at our traditional deer camp in Mackinac County has fallen by 85% since the re-introduction of wolves. The tribe should lobby the federal government to institute reasonable wolf management, including hunting. We should have a better balance between predator and prey.

**3562-** In the Garnet, Mi (Mackinac County) area there has been a drastic decline in the deer population. The combination of harsh winters, inclement springs, and the wolves haven't taken their toll. Hopefully the 2011 season will bring a more pleasurable hunt.

**2735-** I never saw a white-tailed deer.

**1566-** All animal population seems down everywhere you go.

**3442-** Hunted a week in the carp river Trout Lake area. Seen two grouse no deer.

**3576-** I think the deer herd is really down, some guys haven't even seen deer this year. Maybe they should stop shooting does for a couple of years or so. I have seen more birds than in the past, that is a good thing even though I haven't hunted them in a long time.

**899-** Deer harvest was very bad in 2010, just seen small ones the whole season. Thank's for the permits anyway.

**58-** Worst deer hunting season I have had in 30 years. Did not see a deer. (wolves?)

**354-** Have noticed in the last 5 years in Mackinac County the decreased number of deer being harvested or even seen. Also the number of wolf being spotted in Mackinac County.

**367-** Please help control deer harvest.

**908-** Deer are very scarce in our area, and antlered deer are very rare. Is baiting doing this to our herd? There are bait piles everywhere.

**1262-** Deer population down. First time in past ten years I haven't harvested a deer, hunted in Mackinac County Garfield Township

**2953-** Where are the deer at? I have hunted for many years and I used to see a lot. Now I don't see many deer. Will you please let me know what is going on with the deer numbers? Is it wolves, coyotes, car crashes?

**3269-** I wish the deer population was better. Our family loves to utilize the whitetail deer. Hopefully the deer herds will recouprate.

### **Fewer Licenses**

**554-** I feel that allowing tribal members to harvest five whitetail deer per year is a waste of resources and a sure way to deplete an already reduced resource. I also feel that a bounty is needed on coyotes and wolves to control the over predidation. To increase deer population throughtout the EUP buck deer tags need to be reduced to one, doe deer tags need to be stopped for at least three years and predators need to be controlled.

**555-** Reduce number of deer harvested by tribal members. Reduce wolf population. Place bounty on coyotes.

**1294-** Getting old, do a lot of watching not as much shooting. Enjoy being outside. Deer seasons are to long. Deer herd has too much pressure .Bow hunters shoot bows like riffles now. No bait in the UP would help. I hunted Macinaw county, St Ignace township for the last two years where I have shot many of deer in the last 56 years. The last 2 seasons I have not shot or seen a deer ( I don't bait ) have not seen a scrape only a few buck rubs, Our camp 6 men -o deer for 2 years. Full week hunting regular riffle and couple of days in December. Knock off the 5 deer down to 3 with 1 doe . Tribe does lots of family assistance for those in need. In fact have a drop off of venison for those in need tribe and non-tribal will donate if you have location advertise. Wolves are not needed they should have a 365 day season coyote also.

**2584-** Your letter states that the migratory bird regulations changed because of very low compliance with the harvest reports. I reported my harvest and the harvest report was all on one form. So, why didn't the deer harvest limits also change? They must have also had very low complience , it was the same form for all species. One suggestion: if the tribe is going to mail out the form, then mail it out on January 1st , 30 days prior to the deadline . I t would decrease the chance of members losing or forgetting about the form.

**614-** I think more doe permits and less buck taking. Their were no bucks this year. Wolves have also been a big problem. 2 Wolve in my bait pile this year. No deer around.

**1520-** I think 2 or 3 deer per person is plenty, not 5. That wolf deplete our deer heard too much, as the wolfs seem to have taken over that job. We need to get rid of some wolfs.

**3057-** I would really like to see the number of deer that are able to take be reduced from five to three. Ability to shoot deer during bow, rifle and the muzzleloader season. I feel in order to better manage the herd, it would be more reasonable to cut our seasons to take deer to the last day of the muzzleloader season rather than let it run thru the first full weekend in January. And also to limit only to taking of bucks during that time as if does are still able to be taken this inhibates the herds numbers because doe at this time are more than not already in-pregnated and will have offspring to enhance the herd the next year.

**31-** Would like to see deer tags cut to three, would like to see no spikes for 2 years (state&tribal)

**42-** Our deer herd is decimated. Deer hunting is the worst I have seen in my life. We can't allow tribal members to harvest 5 deer per hunter. The herd can't sustain such harvest. Non-tribal members are furious with multible kills of deer in or near the deer yards when they are vulnerable. We can't continue this.

**161-** Please change the 5 deer allowed this just creates extreme resenment in non-native hunters. Please also check to see if it is realley tribal members doing the hunting rather than tribal spouses. Thank you for the work you do to continue making this possible. I don't agree with the early youth hunting, more cross bows and doe seasons. There are no deer left to speak of.

**194-** Less deer tags because the deer numbers are down.

**214-** I would like to see the bag limit on whitetail deer dropped to 3 per year that is plenty of meat. I also would like to see the deer season open on October 1

**278-** You should reduce bag limit and season length on deer.

**343-** I would like to see the harvest tags be dropped to plausible 3 per family

**344-** I would like to see the deer tags be more divided into size of family. Like a family of two get one tag 3=2 4=3 5=4. No one will use 5 deer for one family in 9 months time. There is hardly any deer left in the UP.

**350-** I think we should manage how many deer tags go to a family. I have a family of 4 and think 3 to 4 is plenty for a family but soon there will be 20 deer tags for my family that is to many. I don't have any good suggestions for this problem. I know guys doing this.

**587-** Two tag limit on deer.

**1024-** I feel people should be only allowed to receive 3 tags for deer of any sex. I feel 5 are too many.



**1028-** I think that there are too many tribal tags per member, it should go on family size. I also think the tribal season is way to long.

**1401-** I believe that 5 deer per person is too many. I also think that our members need to be checked by our tribal police and or our conservation people to make sure of compliance with the number if deer an individual harvest, 3 deer would be plenty per member.

**1527-** I would like to see limits for deer reduced to 2 deer per year 1 antlered and one anterless and a limit of 5 deer per household. Reduce season to oct 1st -dec 31st, rifle season November 15-30 only. In December when deer are moving into winter range they are to easily taken with a rifle.

**1542-** Too many deer tags issued

**2416-** I personally think 5 tags is too many. 2 or 3 is plenty. There isn't enough deer for every tribe member. I had a hard time seeing a deer this year. I hope this helps because I sure would like to get a buck next year. Thank You

**2730-** Deer taken should be limited to two deer per person not 5. Deer season's should be the same as the Michigan state dates.

**2812-** The deer harvest at 5 deer is foolish it leads to a slaughter and people taking parts of the deer and leaving the rest.

**3516-** The number of deer taken by Tribal members needs to be changed. The EUP cannot sustain a healthy population with natives harvesting the number of deer they are and so late in the season. They are not just shooting a doe they are potentially killing 2or 3 deer at a time.

**3594-** The number of deer taken by tribal members need to be changed.

**3659-** Limit deer tags to 2. The state has seen a large number of deer decline from harvest, vehicle accidents and harsh winters, as a result the MI DNR has greatly limited their kill tags for people and I feel the tribe should as well to bring up the population. I'm a avid deer hunter but in recent years I haven't taken a deer as all I see are a few fawn does and small bucks.

**3124-** Too many whitetail deer tags per tribal member.

**2961-** I believe there are to many deer taken in my county due to the issuing of deer tags and the sad to say - some abusing their tribal rights.

**3821-** Would still like to talk to someone who can explain why each tribal member needs 5 deer tags. This is absurd as anyone that lives in the EUP can tell you the state of our herd! Wiped out.

**4732-** Giving out 5 deer permits is too many! How many people these days are feeding their families with venison year round? This allows too many deer to be harvested.

**4852-** Limit total whitetail harvest to 3 instead of 5. 2 antlerless And 1 6-point or better or 3 antlerless.

**5481-** The number of deer being taken by natives needs to be lowered. To many deer are being killed.

### **Baiting in Lower Peninsula**

**1156-** I would like to be able to bait deer in the lower peninsula. Have catch report mailed with license.

**4247-** Baiting deer in the L.P should be legalized. I like being able to get this form off my computer and submitting it also.

**634-** Keep allowing baiting it is good for the deer and it helped them get through the winter.

**3046-** I think that the Tribe should allow baiting for Tribe Members in the lower peninsula. There's been no CND suspects in the deer heard in 3 years here and the DNR does not even test for it. The Tribe should make the decision on this on their own and follow state rules.

**3040-** With no baiting in the lower Peninsula the people who follow the rules haven't got a chance of harvesting a legal deer with everyone else baiting illegally.

**4011-** I believe hunters should be able to bait deer. If you do it in the right way (do not let bait pile up scatter it). Bait like apples fall out of trees.

**1783-** Baiting ban needs to be lifted.

**3803-** I believe the baiting ban should be lifted in the lower peninsula as long as bait is not piled up. There should be restrictions to how much and bait shall be scattered. Like Ted Nugent said what is the difference of apples falling under an apple tree or the hunter taking the apples from under the tree and placing them under an oak tree.

### **Stocking**

**89-** Place bounty on coyotes \$50

Place bounty on Wolves \$100

Predator numbers are too high , small game is rare as a result

Since farming and releasing fish works for lakes and streams maybe the same should be considered for deer. Our herd is in dire shape.

### **Deer Tags**

**1080-** I would like to see a better deer tag for whitetail the paper one we have now is terrible. We need something with a hole in it like a label card so that you can put a string through it. Also on the front page of this form could you have heading with the same questions that you have in this form so that all we need to do was mark what we did , then if we get something then we would fill out that portion.

**1032-** I realize the tribe is limited but any deer winter yard management would be nice. I had two deer tags break 1 while stretching to 16 inches the other while I was trying to tying to the deer, Cold weather may have had something to do with it.

**4401-** Improve deer tags please.

**4809-** The harvest tags for the deer were great. The idea of just stretching the tags and tying it around an antler or through an ear is great.

**871-** I wish you could make a different tag for deer. The white stretchy license will snap in cold weather. The old tags were fine. I wish the office in Manistique would take on more office duties. It can be a hassle for us in the outlying areas to deal with the Sault. Why doesn't Tom Shampine have office hours so many times a week to help process us in our area? Other than that I like to meeguich for our hunting and fishing licenses.

**1472-** I didn't like the deer tags in 2010 it was hard to see numbers and dates after tagging.

### **Misc.**

**2744-** Love to deer hunt. Want to start fishing again and start small game hunting again.

**1656-** I enjoy being tribal and having all the license and permits, it really helps with hunting deer and other. Also being able to cut brush legally and fish.

**603-** I believe the wolf got my deer.

**255-** I like the new forms it makes it less complicated for reporting. I'd like to see the tribe offer a deer check station for disease monitoring of our deer.

**1032-** I realize the tribe is limited but any deer winter yard management would be nice. I had two deer tags break 1 while stretching to 16 inches the other while I was trying to tying to the deer, Cold weather may have had something to do with it.

**2685-** I think that hunting privileges should be the same as the states, like the bag limits and the seasons dates. If they keep giving out 5 tags for whitetail hunting there won't be any deer to hunt. Hunting and fishing is

part of our heritage. How are going to teach our kids of the future if there is no game left? Even though I had a tribal license to hunt deer I still follow when everyone could hunt and went by the state regulation with having 3 or more on one side and I think everyone else should do the same.

**4412-** Make members more aware of what the quiet time means from November 1-14

**465-** This year while hunting partridge I saw only one and was unable to harvest I entered the woods around twelve times in search of partridge. I also hunted deer in the Moran area and saw four different does, one yearling and a four point hunting with my bow none presented an opportunity for a shot .Did not gun hunt.

**711-** I don't think it matters how many deer you harvest, it has to do with the population increase. There is more people and less natural habitats for our animals. If you keep a turkey in a small space you restrict his growth. If left to graze in a open area he will grow accordingly.

**3025-** Did some fishing but hunting didn't have much luck. Had a lot of problems with my back so I didn't make it out much. Did see a few deer but didn't get any shots. Turkeys did not see any during season. Hopefully better next year.

**321-** Thank you. The only thing I do is deer hunt and never got anything.

**1305-** Thanks for the chance to hunt and fish in Michigan outdoors. The only thing I would like to see change would be we should have to abide by Michigan State deer hunting regulations. By that I mean the same bow season, gun season and muzzleloader season dates and times.

**1492-** That was a good year for deer. Very hard time at first. Need a start to hunt deer this year a report in the mail would be helpful to me. I am a good hunter and like to love to have my permits soon. Thank you a lot.

**1692-** You are doing a good job! Keep it going. Maybe we should report # of deer taken male/ female. If male number of points. We could see if our numbers coincide with what the dnr is saying about the deer herd.

**5285-** I feel especially privileged and most happy to have been able to use my Native American status recently to hunt deer and small game during what I call the "Indian Season" something I'd not previously been able to do. Growing up in Mackinac County afforded several years of hunting during the regular seasons. My most recent deer hunting there was in the early 1980s.

Although it is not a matter over which I expect our tribe to have any control or input, one alarming finding last month (October 2010) was the tremendous shortage of deer in contrast to all my previous hunting years

in the UP. I heard a few "reasons" offered, but in my mind the most plausible cause is baiting, a practice which I view as disgusting and blatantly non-sportsman like. I learned that baiting is no longer allowed in the Lower Peninsula and I'll be elated should it end in the UP, hopefully before the deer herd is further diminished. Should our tribe have any influence with the DNR, I urge you to demand an end to this shameful practice.

**5-** I feel that deer tags is the right amount and that if changes are made to the number of deer tags it should be done through sound science and not from complaining by un-informed, un-successful hunters.

**8-** Would like the beginning date and ending date of deer hunting. We did not have that info.

**909-** We are losing our touch in a sporting way, dealing with hunting some species. We seem to have lost our hunting skills needed to hunt in a sporting way. For example, baiting whitetail deer. Anyone can shoot a deer over a baited area and no skill is needed. As humans we just take the easy way and then cry wolf if there are no deer. We are the worst culprits in destroying any species. Every year we can see a change in the deer herd, as we shoot off all the imature dumb whitetails over these bait piles. It ia devistating to the deer herd.

**1190-** give us back our hunting rights the first two weeks of November.

**1202-** Hunted deer in Newton twp in Mackinac county from 11-15 thru 11-30, saw 5 deer. I live in the lower peninsula south of Grand Rapids, Rural area I have a head count of 15 in one herd and at least 5-7 others that wander thru my backyard on a regular schedule

**1399-** I think you should have a mandatory check in for all deer harvested by soo tribe members at the end of the season. All leftover tags should be returned and no rifle after December 15th

**1583-** Deer hunting should follow state rules and regulations. Poor deer management, something has to be done.

**1770-** I did hunting for deer, but I was unsuccessful, although I did see a lot of females, which was great to so many and they all looked healthy so I'm assuming the deer population must be doing well.

**2321-** Didn't Shoot no deer cause DNR officer Hamel from Newberry was messing with our trail cam on private property. Said we were poachers,\_\_\_hole.

**2351-** I feel the Drummond deer herd is well managed.

**2636-** I only hunt deer once a year in rifle season.

**3284-** Missed 4 deer. Back to the range.

**3655-** I hunted deer in November, seen a few does but no bucks I didn't hunt after nov 30th.

**3869-** I think we need to follow the dnr hunting seasons a little closer mainly deer season.

**3978-** hunted whitetail but no luck.

**4105-** Had a interesting deer season last year, while sitting in my blind at camp on seeney strech area I had a young cougar approach me. Something I won't forget, not like that happens to everyone.

## **Fishing**

**The fishing topic had too few comments to split into smaller categories. The most talked about topic for fishing was members wanting a smaller license.**

**135-** To many wolves seen and lots of skunks and coyotes. Deer population has dropped down from predators and winter kill and wolves move into deer yarding area and no cutting cedar and less hardwood in the yards to keep deer survival through winter months. Seen 1 cougar track in Mackinac county, I heard some people have seen cougar the last few years in Mackinac and Chippewa county. I have seen flocks of comerants on streams and ponds and lakes feeding on fish. There are to many comerants eating fish in Michigan's great lakes and inland waters.

**1223-** Carring around a packet of license is annoying. Give me 1 license and stamp the migratory, small game, fishing gathering

**1186-** Because the number of fish caught day to day I estimated total for each month. My overall harvest for the season is accurate. I like the harvest report it is easy to fill out. Thank you. If this report was small enough to out in a standard envelop that would be nice.

**565-** Overall happy with everything. The only thing I could suggest is smaller sized tage for small game and fishing specifically maybe just a little smaller to fit in a wallet without bending them up, other than that I appreciate everything very much thank you.

**3428-** Am I still able to hunt coyote Jan, Feb, March of 2011 on my 2010 permits? If not, permits need to be sent in December not March. Need to start sending earlier anyway as fishing season starts April 1st for Michigan and to go with other people need to have your permit.

**4059-** What do I need to do in order to get a recreational fishing liscense for the Great Lakes? Also, I would like to tell you I've tried several times to send this to you by your email (under submit) and it wouldn't go through. Thank you.

**5413-** I didn't get to fish this summer -only once I may add. Just sitting on dock with no luck for perch .So this is how I fish, recreational giving me something to do .Do I have to keep filling out these papers each time? Thanks

**464-** I think that the management of fish and wildlife is done a great job, detailing forms, keeping up with impact in some areas. I, like any other sportsman, would if at all possible see some stocking of fish in places other than the Sault area.

**3019-** Really enjoy using my tribal licenses especially enjoy spearing walleye in the spring (even though that isn't part of the report). Always nice people when I call for spearing permits and do their best to meet my request for permits.

**613-** I feel like our tribe should get more active through out the state in the fish hatcheries and planting more native fish in these bodys of water in stead of the fish I see the DNR planting like chinook salmon, coho, pink and steelhead. Them fish have killed all of the smaller ones like perch, smelt, blue gill. I remember when you could go fishing and come home with a dinner no problem. Not anymore your lucky if you catch anything anymore.

**1222-** The walleye population in Burt Lake, in northern lower Michigan is way down and needs to be restocked for further management. Every one I talk that fishes there also reports the same low numbers as I do.

**1539-** It is nice to see walleye being planted in Mullett Lake. When netting and spearing were allowed people thought the worst. It now should be better that ever now.

**1598-** It would be nice to be able to use tribal fishing permit further south.

**1639-** Smelt is 5 gallons suckers is 10 lbs. Please send rules with license. Better enforcement of rules too much abuse of privilages.

**2956-** Better knowledge of number of fish we can catch like perch, bluegill, whitefish, walleye and pink salmon.

**3517-** All the fish we harvested were out of Brevoort Lake in Moran. In all the perch we found black dots and white in the fish and on them. The Pike and Walleye didn't seem to have any.

**3761-** I recently went through the rules and regulations and it said we needed a tribal fishing license. Well I myself did not know that we had to file a separate application for a fishing license for the great lakes. You might think about adding an article in the tribal paper so members would know that these are separate licenses.

**4172-** Good management of walleye.

**5530-** I don't think that there should be netting in front or in any rivers where chinook salmon or coho salmon may spawn at the time they spawn. I don't agree with netting or spearing walleye in any inland lakes. Thank you.

**345-** Summer fishing great over by Cedarville. Deer hunting terrible, no deer. Dead and down firewood, lots everywhere.

**1656-** I enjoy being tribal and having all the license and permits, it really helps with hunting deer and other. Also being able to cut brush legally and fish.

**2744-** Love to deer hunt. Want to start fishing again and start small game hunting again.

## **Wolves**

### **All the comments on wolves were regarding reducing the wolf population because of predation done on deer and small game.**

**5576-** We should have a season for hunting wolves and coyotes, they are eating all the deer and small game. I was able to hunt and fish this year but hopefully next year. I am very sorry this is late, I didn't understand it was supposed to be sent in if I didn't participate until I read it in the tribal newspaper.

**89-** Place bounty on coyotes \$50

Place bounty on Wolves \$100

Predator numbers are too high, small game is rare as a result

Since farming and releasing fish works for lakes and streams maybe the same should be considered for deer. Our herd is in dire shape.

**122-** There are too many wolves and coyotes, we must do something about this or we won't have any deer in the U.P

**401-** The last 2 deer seasons were pretty poor plenty of coyotes and wolves, should be a longer season on both species.

**404-** WE need less coyotes and wolves and more deer.

**431-** I can't stretch these deer tags, they always break no matter what. The deer population is way down in Clark township. I'm seeing more gray wolves and coyotes. There seems to be more violators out there too, shot are being fired after sunset and November 1st through 14 at dark and during the day. The wolves are getting brave as they are coming closer to Cedarville and Hessel. It is common to see coyotes in Hessel. We need to limit the number of doe permits for tribal and non-tribal hunters. Native 2 buck 1 doe or 1 buck 2 does 5 is too many. Non-native 1 buck only 1 doe or buck with bow or musloader 2 total, and offer incentive to hunters that report violators. I know that times are hard for some families. But that's no excuse to kill deer all year long. Native can get five permits.

**554-** I feel that allowing tribal members to harvest five whitetail deer per year is a waste of resources and a sure way to deplete an already reduced resource. I



also feel that a bounty is needed on coyotes and wolves to control the over predation. To increase deer population throughout the EUP buck deer tags need to be reduced to one, doe deer tags need to be stopped for at least three years and predators need to be controlled.

**555-** Reduce number of deer harvested by tribal members. Reduce wolf population. Place bounty on coyotes.

**598-** I think more effort should be put on controlling the predator that are affecting our deer herd. It makes hunting hard when there is more coyotes and wolves than deer. For me hunting isn't always about killing a deer, but I do enjoy watching them. I won't shoot a doe or fawn but is nice to see them.

**764-** I was away to Alaska July and August. Deer sighting is poor due to coyotes and wolves also small game.

**1294-** Getting old, do a lot of watching not as much shooting. Enjoy being outside. Deer seasons are to long. Deer herd has too much pressure .Bow hunters shoot bows like riffles now. No bait in the UP would help. I hunted Mackinac county, St Ignace township for the last two years where I have shot many of deer in the last 56 years. The last 2 seasons I have not shot or seen a deer ( I don't bait ) have not seen a scrape only a few buck rubs, Our camp 6 men -0 deer for 2 years. Full week hunting regular riffle and couple of days in December. Knock off the 5 deer down to 3 with 1 doe . Tribe does lots of family assistance for those in need. In fact have a drop off of venison for those in need tribe and non-tribal will donate if you have location advertise. Wolves are not needed they should have a 365 day season coyote also.

**3066-** Very low deer sighted too many wolves and coyotes, let us shoot them more.

**366-** 1) I am concerned with a lack of deer in our area

2) We also have to many wolves in our hunting area

3) Lack of address to send form to

**531-** There are too many wolves. Deer population is down.

**603-** I believe the wolf got my deer.

**614-** I think more doe permits and less buck taking. Their were no bucks this year. Wolves have also been a big problem. 2 Wolve in my bait pile this year. No deer around.

**1520-** I think 2 or 3 deer per person is plenty, not 5. That wolf deplete our deer heard too much ,as the wolfs seem to have taken over that job. We need to get rid of some wolfs.

**2700-** I feel that the wolves in the Upper Peninsula have taken a very large toll on the deer in the past 5-10 years. When are we going to see a reduction action

taken to help reduce the number that that has been destroying the population of game animals?

**3102-** The only difficulty we seem to have is non-managed numbers of the timber wolves having a negative impact on the deer numbers. The number of deer harvested at our traditional deer camp in Mackinac County has fallen by 85% since the re-introduction of wolves. The tribe should lobby the federal government to institute reasonable wolf management, including hunting. We should have a better balance between predator and prey.

**3562-** In the Garnet, Mi (Mackinac County) area there has been a drastic decline in the deer population. The combination of harsh winters, inclement springs, and the wolves haven taken their toll. Hopefully the 2011 season will bring a more pleasurable hunt.

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## **Coyotes**

**Topics here dicussed population reduction and/or bounties placed on their harvest.**

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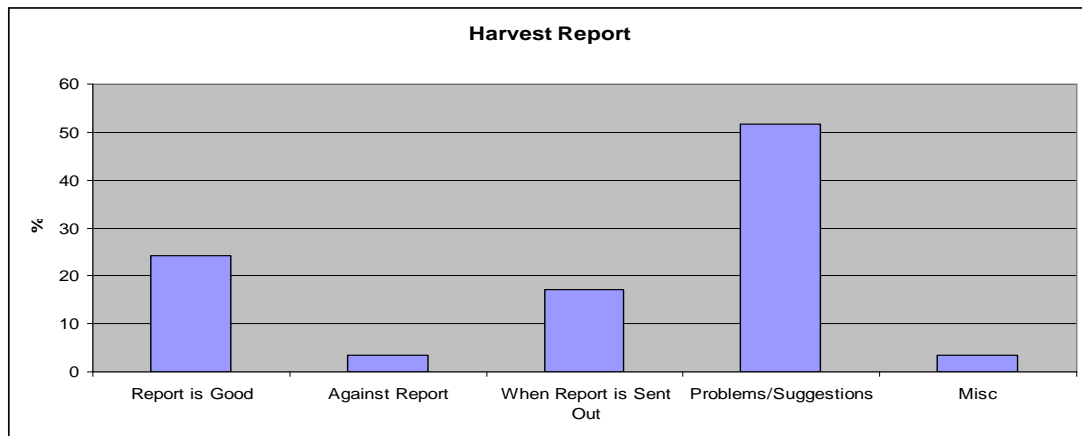
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**4198-** I'd like to see coyote hunting and trapping year round there is way to many of them. We need to stop killing so many deer.

### Harvest Report

The comments under this topic range from positive reaction to this current report to suggestions on how the report could be.



### Report is Good

**255-** I like the new forms it makes it less complicated for reporting. I'd like to see the tribe offer a deer check station for disease monitoring of our deer.

**4247-** Baiting deer in the L.P should be legalized. I like being able to get this form off my computer and submitting it also.

**380-** Thank you for simplifying the form.

**2364-** like new form.

**3138-** this report is much easier to fill out than the old one. The age of the hunter and fisherman is much older today, hence more brook trout in the steams and less deer shot.

**3771-** I like the new harvest report a lot more than the old one.

**5323-** I think this is a good way of keeping track of all the game that is taken in a year, now only if the state would also do this. I planned to be in Michigan until after hunting season but had to go back home.

### **Should Have No Report**

**1364-** Why do we have to fill out mandatory detailed reports and someone from Florida or Minnesota can hunt on our ceded lands and fill out no report? They should have to fill out a detailed report like us or we shouldn't have to.

### **When Report is Sent Out**

**2584-** Your letter states that the migratory bird regulations changed because of very low compliance with the harvest reports. I reported my harvest and the harvest report was all on one form. So, why didn't the deer harvest limits also change? They must have also had very low compliance, it was the same form for all species. One suggestion: if the tribe is going to mail out the form, then mail it out on January 1st, 30 days prior to the deadline. It would decrease the chance of members losing or forgetting about the form.

**5468-** I think you should get this report when you get your licenses. That would help me to make sure to fill in each month. Also the spring turkey is on there twice I didn't see a fall turkey.

**654-** Sorry for being late, but I just found my report. Reports should be sent along with permits.

**656-** Send harvest report closer to the day they are due.

**3030-** I have faithfully turned in a harvest report every year although I never have received one through the mail. I have had to acquire these through other means. It would be very helpful to receive these in a timely fashion in the mail as I do not own a computer.

### **Problems/Suggestions with the Report**

**366-** 1) I am concerned with a lack of deer in our area

2) We also have too many wolves in our hunting area

3) Lack of address to send form to

**1080-** I would like to see a better deer tag for whitetail the paper one we have now is terrible. We need something with a hole in it like a label card so that you can put a string through it. Also on the front page of this form could you have heading with the same questions that you have in this form so that all we need to do was mark what we did, then if we get something then we would fill out that portion.

**1186-** Because the number of fish caught day to day I estimated total for each month. My overall harvest for the season is accurate. I like the harvest report it is easy to fill out. Thank you. If this report was small enough to fit in a standard envelope that would be nice.

**4059-** What do I need to do in order to get a recreational fishing license for the Great Lakes? Also, I would like to tell you I've tried several times to send this to you by your email (under submit) and it wouldn't go through. Thank you.

**3029-** I have a few suggestions to make regarding the process of enrolling in the license system. I feel it will save both the tribe and the members time and money. The first year, tribal members enrolling received a harvest and fishing license in the form of a hard card. This card contains all the information of the member including what the member is authorized to do. The only problem was it had an expiration date. I feel this is a mistake. My suggestion would be to do this card again although this card should not have an expiration date. It would be good for hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering. The member would have to apply for any item requiring a tag for example, deer, turkey. Of course bear and elk would still be handled by a lottery. This way the only thing that the tribe would have to produce is the tag. Eliminating a lot of hours and expense. This process could be handled in January rather than so close to turkey season that some don't get the tags before the start date. Also, the member would have to fill out the harvest report with the understanding that if not received by such a date that the privileges would be revoked and no further tags would be issued until compliance. I understand that the harvest report is for our protection and not a requirement by the DNRE. I also understand that some people don't follow the rules. Hopefully with a newer and easier system in place members would find it to their benefit to cooperate and so what is required of them to protect our harvest rights.

**3742-** Website to file not clear; can't find it. No fax number, address to mail it to on the form. No one answers the above telephone number.

**3084-** We do not have a computer, I had to have my son print this form for me. Thank you for all you do. When I have more time I hope to use more of my privileges. My wife Judy got involved in collecting bear fat, she has some comments too. Thanks again.

When we got Dale's first bear permit you've asked for the fat. I work at a gas station & talk to many people so I started asking the bear hunters to please save the fat for me. I got into this thinking I could help the Tribe out. There's a bear guiding camp near by, so they saved me all they had plus we got ours (brothers & friends) probably 80-100 lbs and the medicine man picked it up. I made another connection with a taxidermy business, it's a 1/4 mile from the M28 turn off and would be easy to pick up. They have 3 or 4 hides they're fleshing out and are saving the fat for us. Dale and his brother Sam have psoriasis and were looking forward to trying the salve. We were told they would send us two jars, but we

received none. If you want the fat I will continue to get all I can, but if you don't want anymore please let me know. Freezer space is very limited and I would like to know. Thank you. Judy Richards, 906-485-4330.

**20-** You said you can find this report on the [www.saulttribe.com](http://www.saulttribe.com) site. I tried and could not find the report. I recommend that you put a better effort towards putting this report on the web site. Also better directions on the written report as to how to find it on the website. Possible step by step directions on how to get to the site, and if the site is open all year long so you can put input that you harvested at the end of the season you were doing, instead of having to recall all of the information at the end of the year. You could then have the information e-mailed to you with more accurate data at the deadline. I know my data is accurate but people who hunt, fish, and gather more than me would be doing a lot of guessing of their harvesting and the data would be possibly less accurate. Thus your whole tally would be inaccurate

**1013-** It would be nice if we could bring our catch reports to Manistique tribal center. They should also have catch reports available at Manistique.

**1626-** I would like to do more than I do, I start want to do them but I run out of money. I like the other paper that gave the bag limits and dates.

**2901-** There is no return address on this form.

**3056-** Please send the harvest report forms with the license package. It will make it easier to keep track of the fish and game throughout the year.

**3286-** I have a hard time remembering to turn in my harvest report at the end of the year, is there anyway we could receive a reminder in the mail

**3837-** I went hunting but I didn't catch anything, this form has no space to mark my no catch

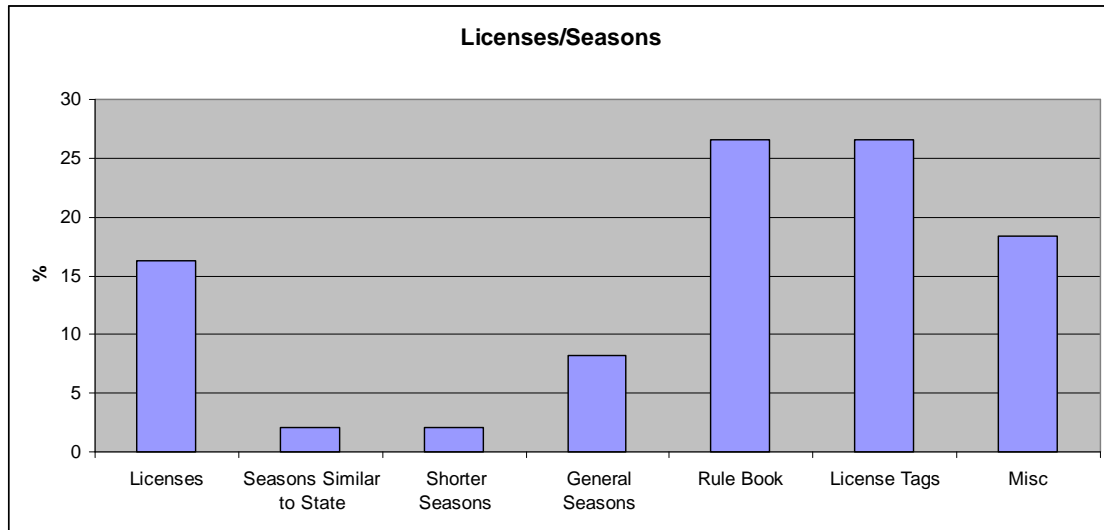
**1156-** I would like to be able to bait deer in the lower peninsula. Have catch report mailed with license.

**Misc.**

**1809-** Sorry it is late I didn't do any hunting or fishing and just forgot that I still needed to send in a report.

## Licenses/Seasons

This topic was the third largest commented on. Most members talked about a rule book or harvest tags for certain species. Some members really like the new “stretchy” tags that can be tied around the animal while others had problems and did not like them.



## Licenses

**1223-** Carrying around a packet of license is annoying. Give me 1 license and stamp the migratory, small game, fishing gathering

**3029-** I have a few suggestions to make regarding the process of enrolling in the license system. I feel it will save both the tribe and the members time and money. The first year, tribal members enrolling received a harvest and fishing license in the form of a hard card. This card contains all the information of the member including what the member is authorized to do. The only problem was it had an expiration date. I feel this is a mistake. My suggestion would be to do this card again although this card should not have an expiration date. It would be good for hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering. The member would have to apply for any item requiring a tag for example, deer, turkey. Of course bear and elk would still be handled by a lottery. This way the only thing that the tribe would have to produce is the tag. Eliminating a lot of hours and expense. This process could be handled in January rather than so close to turkey season that some don't get the tags before the start date. Also, the member would have to fill out the harvest report with the understanding that if not received by such a date that the privileges would be revoked and no further tags would be issued until compliance. I understand that the harvest report is for our protection and not a requirement by the DNRE. I also understand that some people don't follow the rules. Hopefully with a newer and easier system in place members would find it to their benefit to cooperate and so what is required of them to protect our harvest rights.



**2008-** I think that since small game can be taken all year we should have a license that is good for the entire year and receive the new one sooner and issue new ones in January 1st and make it good for the entire year.

**3560-** I have no problem except I had to call numerous times and waited over 3 months to receive my tags after I sent in my application.

**1354-** One card that covers fishing and hunting same size as used for our IDs

**1360-** Make the license for fishing, hunting, etc, wallet size

**1591-** It is hard to recall every fish every month. I didn't get anything this year but was caught by the surprise with the detail. Since I buy all the licenses I like the set fee but I think it is hard and expensive for others. I like the old way better.

**1711-** I really liked having a card that shared the inland fishing with hunting. We should also have one that doesn't expire for 2-3 years along with tags. I would like to see the other tags smaller like the size of a credit card. It is difficult for me to carry all or just one in my wallet. The permits are only for 1 year. They should go from August 2010 until April 2011. I think this is a better way to report instead of every month as my busiest time is mainly hunting and fishing. Please keep me updates with any and all changes. Thank you.

### **Seasons Similar to the State of Michigan**

**2685-** I think that hunting privileges should be the same as the states, like the bag limits and the season's dates. If they keep giving out 5 tags for whitetail hunting there won't be any deer to hunt. Hunting and fishing is part of our heritage. How are going to teach our kids of the future if there is no game left? Even though I had a tribal license to hunt deer I still follow when everyone could hunt and went by the state regulation with having 3 or more on one side and I think everyone else should do the same.

### **Shorter Seasons**

**3057-** I would really like to see the number of deer that are able to take be reduced from five to three. Ability to shoot deer during bow, rifle and the muzzleloader season. I feel in order to better manage the herd, it would be more reasonable to cut our seasons to take deer to the last day of the muzzleloader season rather than let it run thru the first full weekend in January. And also to limit only to taking of bucks during that time as if does are still able to be taken this inhibates the hers numbers because doe at this time are more than not already in-pregnated and will have off-spring to enhance the herd the next year.

## **General Seasons**

**4412-** Make members more aware of what the quiet time means from November 1-14

**1838-** If it would be possible to make the tags we have to carry wallet size it would be easier to carry them. Keep up the good work guys and my email is on the front page so if you have a newsletter or things of that sort I'd like to sign up. I also like what you are doing with the migratory birds regs.

**1908-** I do not understand the reason to make the cutbacks on the waterfowl after only a half a year. It makes no sense there is no way to have data to support a change. And for these reports to be due February 1 when the season ends the 31st of January, there needs to be some thought process into these decisions and questions to members. Thanks.

**1123-** need more information about hunting dates and places I can hunt

## **Rule Book**

**3434-** I have tried to find a seasonal sheet of when we can hunt what species online with the tribal web site. Nothing was mailed with the licenses and I couldn't find it online. What are the waterfowl seasons? What are the migratory seasons? What are the small game season dates? What are the dates for turkey?

**432-** I think a small card that a person could carry indicating dates for each species hunted would be helpful.

**573-** new rule book

**807-** A compact rule book issued with our license would be appreciated.

**2521-** It would be nice to have a regulation book like the state has so it is better to understand our rules and bag limits and when the seasons start.

**2862-** Get a chart with separate regulation for great lakes vs inland waters. Species, length, bag limits, permitted lines, etc.

**3186-** I would like to see a new rule book. One with water fowl seasons & limits and regulations on gathering on federal lands and orv-ohv regulations. Thanks.

**3194-** Please go back to the ID plastic card with harvest tags. Increase amount of waterfowl harvest limit.

**3531-** I would like to see some rules sent with my licenses. I don't have a computer to look at them.

**5007-** Myself and other Tribal members would like to see some sort of rule or guidelines booklet created so that we know what our

hunting/fishing/gathering rights are. There is a lot of confusion about dates and types of weapons we are able to use to take game. For example, 1) is a tribal member allowed to use a gun to harvest game in September and October 2) can Tribal members spear fish or bow fish, if so, when and what are the limitations. The Tribal code is very vague and has a lot of gray areas. Thank you!

**5228-** The rules and the rules themselves are hard to understand!!  
Mostly the fishing

**5261-** I would like a rule and regulations guide that's easy to read.

**5328-** I didn't use any of this because I wasn't sent any rules or regulations on how to use. I wanted the fishing license, paid for it, and it wasn't sent.

### **License Tags**

**1032-** I realize the tribe is limits but any deer winter yard management would be nice. I had two deer tags break 1 while stretching to 16 inches the other while I was trying to tying to the deer, Cold weather may have had something to do with it.

**4401-** Improve deer tags please.

**4809-** The harvest tags for the deer were great. The idea of just stretching the tags and tying it around an antler or through an ear is great.

**1987-** The new deer and fur tags are great, work excellent. Thanks.

**5485-** I am very pleased with your management, but where is the website where we can get the harvest tags at? Thank you.

**375-** Get rid of these stupid tags and go back to the plastic hunting and fishing card. It becomes a pain in the ass to carry all of those tags with you when you go hunting.

**400-** The deer tags are useless, in cold weather the break instead of stretching.

**689-** We could use some deifferent deer tags. .

**2098-** Would like to receive with kill tags a consise hunting and fishing guide with limits, seasons, etc.

**2301-** I wish we would go back to one card for the tags

**2491-** Need a better tagging system. The stretch tags do not work well in the cold weather.

**4581-** I would like the tags and slips to be easier to carry around.

**1080-** I would like to see a better deer tag for whitetail the paper one we have now is terrible. We need something with a hole in it like a label card so that you can put a string through it. Also on the front page of this form could you have heading with the same questions that you have in this form so that all we need to do was mark what we did , then if we get something then we would fill out that portion.

**Misc.**

**5468-** I think you should get this report when you get your licenses. That would help me to make sure to fill in each month. Also the spring turkey is on there twice I didn't see a fall turkey.

**3478-** Don't know my sts Number. Keep up, good work your doing

**805-** I know of several people who have received two bear tags the last three years while others have received none. I would like to see a point system.

**3146-** This year I wasn't able to hunt long because I lost my tags and I couldn't fish because I didn't receive a license.

**3167-** Why can't our sts number stay the same each year?

**4496-** I 'm 63 years old -born with cerebral palsy- I only go out with help from my daughter- I only hunt with their help if they aren't available I don't hunt. I have a white friend who would help me harvest - is this allowed?

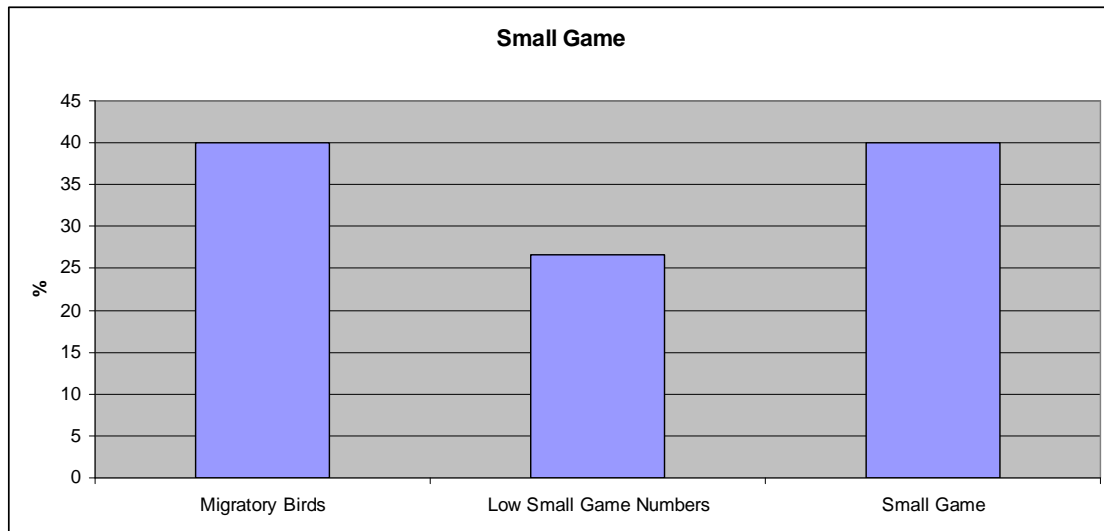
**4514-** Would be nice to have more programs for the handicapped especially hunting from a standing vehicle. Another idea is to mail handicapped members their license.

**4805-** I am retiring from the Roger City area school as their business mgr after 35 years-I will now have time to hunt, fish and gather in 2011. Pleases send nessessary paperwork to fill out to get a license the same as 2010 for 2011.

**1156-** I would like to be able to bait deer in the lower peninsula. Have catch report mailed with license.

**Small Game**

**Under this topic is migratory bird hunting. Members wanted to know what was happening with the regulations dealing with the harvest of waterfowl.**



### **Migratory Birds**

**1223-** Carrying around a packet of license is annoying. Give me 1 license and stamp the migratory, small game, fishing gathering.

**3434-** I have tried to find a seasonal sheet of when we can hunt what species online with the tribal web site. Nothing was mailed with the licenses and I couldn't find it online. What are the waterfowl seasons? What are the migratory seasons? What are the small game season dates? What are the dates for turkey?

**1838-** If it would be possible to make the tags we have to carry wallet size it would be easier to carry them. Keep up the good work guys and my email is on the front page so if you have a newsletter or thing of that sort I'd like to sign up. I also like what you are doing with the migratory birds regs.

**1908-** I do not understand the reason to make the cutbacks on the waterfowl after only a half a year. It makes no sense there is no way to have data to support a change. And for these reports to be due February 1 when the season ends the 31st of January, there needs to be some thought process into these decisions and questions to members. Thanks.

**4563-** I am a recreational hunter/fisherman. I am pleased that I have the right, and only take what I can use. In 2009, I hunted geese but I did not have a tribal tag or permission from the tribe to hunt. I purchased MDNR license/ waterfowl stamp -federal stamp. There was not a portion of my survey that referred to migratory birds.

I would like to see more advertisement of special elk and bear draws in the tribal newspaper. I am certain many of our members are unaware of these draws, and their rights in general. Many could benefit from the bountiful natural resources that our great land has to offer. Thanks for asking.

**2584-** Your letter states that the migratory bird regulations changed because of very low compliance with the harvest reports. I reported my harvest and the harvest report was all on one form. So, why didn't the deer harvest limetts also change? They must have also had very low complience , it was the same form for all species. One suggestion: if the tribe is going to mail out the form, then mail it out on January 1st , 30 days prior to the deadline . I t would decrease the chance of members losing or forgetting about the form

### **Low Small Game Numbers**

**764-** I was away to Alaska July and August. Deer sighting is poor due to coyotes and wolves also small game.

**465-** This year while hunting partridge I saw only one and was unable to harvest I entered the woods around twelve times in search of partridge. I also hunted deer in the Moran area and saw four different does, one yearling and a four point hunting with my bow none presented an oppotumity for a shot. Did not gun hunt.

**1566-** All animal population seems down everywhere you go.

**3442-** Hunted a week in the carp river Trout Lake area. Seen two grouse no deer.

### **Small Game**

**3576-** I think the deer herd is really down, some guys haven't even seen deer this year. Maybe they should stop shooting does for a couple of years or so. I have seen more birds then in the past, that is a good thing even though I haven't hunted them in a long time.

**3434-** I have tried to find a seasonal sheet of when we can hunt what species online with the tribal web site. Nothing was mailed with the licenses and I couldn't find it online. What are the waterfowl seasons? What are the migritory seasons? What are the small game season dates? What are the dates for turkey?

**2008-** I think that since small game can be taken all year we should have a license that is good for the entire year and receive the new one sooner and issue new ones in January 1st and make it good for the entire year.

**1553-** wish you would allow us to hunt woodcock earlier- starting date the same as ruffed grouse.

**2744-** Love to deer hunt. Want to start fishing again and start small game hunting again.

**565-** Overall happy with everthing. The only thing I could suggest is smaller sized tage for small game and fishing specifically maybe just a

little smaller to fit in a wallet without bending them up, other than that I appreciate everthing very much thank you.

## **Turkey**

**The majority of comments dealt with turkey hunting season not being as long as the State's season.**

**3025-** Did some fishing but hunting didn't have much luck. Had a lot of problems with my back so I didn't make it out much. Did see a few deer but didn't get any shots. Turkeys did not see any during season. Hopefully better next year.

**1965-** Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to hunt and fish. My questions are - I applied for a turkey license and got a spring of 2010 turkey license but can not apply until may of 2010 is the date wrong on the license? Or am I suppose to be applying earlier?

**2-** I was really disappointed that in the fall turkey season I could not hunt untill oct 1, while state hunters could start on sept 15 . I was really surprised that no one from the tribe picked up a fall state turkey guide from any gas station that sells licenses.

**4866-** Longer fall turkey hunting season, open until

**4920-** It would have been good to be able to begin hunting turkey at the same time state turkey season began, as I hunt with a bow only and all flocks were woodbound by gun-shock by the time we were able to hunt. And only being able to gather two birds by limet when the state are allowed unlimeted untill quotas are filled , seems a bit unfair . If we can not begin hunting untill two weeks after state saeson opens then at least we should be able to hunt two more weeks after state ends.

**5468-** I think you should get this report when you get your licenses. That would help me to make sure to fill in each month. Also the spring turkey is on there twice I didn't see a fall turkey.

**3434-** I have tried to find a seasonal sheet of when we can hunt what species online with the tribal web site. Nothing was mailed with the licenses and I couldn't find it online. What are the waterfowl seasons? What are the migritory seasons? What are the small game season dates? What are the dates for turkey?

## **Thanks/Appreciation**

**This section is all the comments that were saying thanks or positive comments on how the members believe the resources are being managed by the Sault Tribe.**

**1830-** I would suggest transporting surplus elk from the pigeon river area that are causing crop damage and releasing them in areas suitable throughout the UP.

Also would it be feasible to acquire some woodland caribou from Canada to reintroduce into their former habitat in the UP. Maybe this could help relieve pressure on our white-tail deer population which is being depleted by the wolf predation. Thank you for allowing me to enjoy the privileges allowed by our tribal community.

**1865-** I am pleased with the information provided to me. One thing I would like to see is a detailed map of the areas our tribe can hunt and fish. I contacted the DNRE in Lansing and at the field office in Cadillac they weren't very helpful. Rusty Aikens with the tribe has been more than helpful, and answers all my question with the information he has access to. Thank you

**1754-** I'm sorry it took so long to send in my harvest report, but I'm somewhat of a hoarder, but I found the form. Thank you for all you do for the tribe. I think you all do a wonderful job in all that is involved with your jobs. When I call I get the most polite and helpful people on the phone who always know what their doing! I am so thankful for being an elder in the most prestigious Indian tribe that I know. If it weren't for the Sault Tribe I wouldn't be here to enjoy all the great things the UP has to offer to us. I think you all do a really great job taking care of this beautiful country and trying hard to preserve our beautiful, beautiful UP.

**284-** I think you are doing a good job. Keep up the good work. We as tribal members are very fortunate to have these treaty rights.

**294-** Great work

**323-** Thank You

**442-** I am sorry this report is late but I hope it helps you out on your data collecting. Thanks you for enabling me to have a tribal harvest tag each year.

**528-** I appreciate the opportunity and privilege of harvesting. Thank you for all you do.

**564-** Thanks

**572-** Sorry that I can't help with anything this year, as I was sick with allergies all year.

**644-** I think this is a big asset to a lot of tribal members that count on there harvest to provide materials and food and help with their skills and livelihood.

**693-** Keep the Tribe hunting & fishing rights coming!

**697-** I did not have time to hunt and fish in 2010, to busy with kids in sports, hope to hunt more in 2011

**713-** Thank you for keeping this right for the tribe.



**743-** I was working 6-7 day workweeks. Trying to find time with my wife and 3 yr old. Had little time to hunt and fish but was glad to have tags in case I had the opportunity.

**841-** I am grateful for the opportunity to hunt/fish/gather as a Tribal member. I am an advocate for our rights and a steward for resources. I would like to see increased conservation officers in the field. I believe many non-tribal members look poorly on the rights / privileges we have and increased efforts to maintain the laws would help reduce this negativity.

I would also like to see our Tribe spend money to improve our resources and natural habitat. As our children begin to hunt/fish/gather it is important they learn to respect the land. Please feel free to contact me for questions.

**923-** I did not get an opportunity to hunt this year but hopefully in 2011.

**925-** I am getting old and slow. Thank you for the permits, I had a good time when I went out.

**978-** Thank you for the opportunity

**1193-** It is my belief that the tribe is doing an excellent job of managing our natural resources, however, I will never believe the individual interest of any tribal member was ever considered by those who arbitrarily accepted demands by the state if Michigan, thus creating the laws and regulations we as hunters, fishers and gatherers must live with for the rest of our lives.

It is my hope that Robert Lapoint will live well on his 30 pieces of silver.

**1491-** Thank you for the opportunity

**1649-** your welcome

**1653-** Things seem to moving in the right direction. I just can't seem to find time to take advantage of these great benefits that are available to us. An easy to read guide would be helpful. One that listed open seasons dates, limits and restrictions.

**1659-** Unfortunately I was unable to participate in any of these great benefits this past year. I look forward to 2011. Thank you.

**1788-** I hunt, fish and harvest wood for recreation. The activities are very much recreation for me. You are giving us tribal members opportunities that are tremendous. As I find more time I will certainly enjoy the outdoors with your help.

**1910-** I am most grateful that I am able to hunt and fish under tribal laws. Keep up the excellent work. Thank You and hope I am able to secure a hunting and fishing license in the future.

**1940-** I had limited harvest but this was due to limited time in the woods. I think you are doing a great job. Thanks.

**1959-** doing a great job.

**2085-** I never had the time to get out thanks anyway.

**2221-** The natural resource department is awesome!

**2237-** I think you are doing a great job. Thank you for doing a great job. I could not hunt due to sickness this year. I hope we can hunt bear next year.

**2252-** Sault Tribe Conservation Department is doing a great job of providing excellent management of our natural resources.

**2475-** Seems like wildlife is on the rise in the UP, hopefully we can keep up the good work.

**2661-** I did not get a chance to use any permits this year due to health reasons but I appreciate the chance.

**2736-** I feel the tribe is doing an outstanding job of managing our natural resources. This survey is the most detailed survey I've completed and I think the information requested should truly help the tribe in its management goals. It was a pleasure to be a participant.

**2759-** I think our natural resources is going very well. Seeing a lot more animals each year in certain areas. The grouse have been excellent the past few years. Seeing tons of birds very hard to shoot. Also the size of the bucks I watched all year were amazing. It seems every year it gets better.

**2776-** I think your management is good.

**2899-** Note: Did not get to hunt or fish this year because of illness. Just say thank you for this harvest. Report a good idea

**3246-** Thank you for the permits

**3360-** Due to my work increase I did not hunt fish or gather this year. I do thank you for the opportunity to exercise our tribal rights if we choose.

**3468-** Thank you

**3530-** Love what you are doing with management very good. I am 71 years young and I will hunt and fish until I die I thank you a lot.

**3796-** I am very satisfied with the tribes handling of our natural resources and I am happy to be able to participate.

**4084-** Love the program.

**4206-** I would just like to thank everyone involved with the whole license process. Y'all are great.

**4298-** The management you all are doing is great. I like the ability to do all the hunting and fishing with the license you all provide for one individual. Even though I only killed one ruffed grouse. I still had an amazing time being able to hunt and fish the woods and lakes in Michigan. I thank you again for providing the license to us tribal members greatly appreciated.

**4306-** It is a great honor to be able to harvest these animals and fish for my family thank you

**4360-** I appreciate the tags, they are very helpful to my family and I.

**4507-** You guys are doing a good job.

**4582-** I am sorry I didn't send in my harvest report last fall ' as I thought it was only for hunters and fishermen. I sent my application and fee in for a gathering permit only. I appreciate very much the opportunity to camp at such a low cost while gathering berries.

**4664-** I do appreciate the simplicity of the paperwork that is needed to fill out this report.

**5029-** Thank you for the license and permits to hunt

**5133-** These licenses are great - allows me to hunt and fish

**5270-** Sorry didn't get more time to get this out, busy working two jobs to make ends meet. Thank you for the opportunity.

**5335-** Thank you for helping out with our licenses

**5480-** I am only 10 years old and I am having a lot of fun fishing and learning how to hunt and trap with my gramps. I like things the way they are.

**5588-** I broke my ankle and was layed up for months and still not getting around very good. But I love my license.

**5615-** I am a young sportman who really enjoys his time hunting and fishing. I try to learn something new every time I go hunting or fishing. Thank You

**321-** Thank you. The only thing I do is deer hunt and never got anything.

**871-** I wish you could make a different tag for deer. The white stretchy license will snap in cold weather. The old tags were fine. I wish the office in Manistique would take on more office duties. It can be a hassle for us in the outlying areas to deal with the Sault. Why doesn't Tom Champagne have office hours so many times a week to help process us in our area? Other than that I like to meeguich for our hunting and fishing licenses.

**899-** Deer harvest was very bad in 2010, just seen small ones the whole season. Thank's for the permits anyway.

**1305-** Thanks for the chance to hunt and fish in Michigan outdoors. The only thing I would like to see change would believe we should have to abide by Michigan State deer hunting regulations. By that I mean the dame bow season, gun season and muzzleloader season dates and times.

**1492-** That was a good year for deer. Very hard time at first. Need a start to hunt deer this year a report in the mail would be helpful to me. I am a good hunter and like to love to have my permits soon. Thank you a lot.

**1692-** You are doing a good job! Keep it going. Maybe we should report # of deer taken male/ female. If male number of points. We could see if our numbers coincide with what the dnr is saying about the deer herd.

**5285-** I feel especially privileged and most happy to have been able to use my Native American status recently to hunt deer and small game during what I call the "Indian Season" something I'd not previously been able to do. Growing up in Mackinac County afforded several years of hunting during the regular seasons. My most resent deer hunting there was in the early 1980s.

Although it is not a matter over which I expect our tribe to have any control or in-put, one alarming finding last month (October 2010) was the tremendous shortage of deer in contrast to all my previous hunting years in the UP. I heard a few "reasons" offered, but in my mind the most plausible cause is baiting, a practice which I view as disgusting and blatantly non-sportsman like. I learned that baiting is no longer allowed in the Lower Peninsula and I'll be elated should it end in the UP, hopefully before the deer herd is further diminished. Should our tribe have any influence with the DNR, I urge you to demand an end to this shameful practice.

**464-** I think that the management of fish and wildlife is done a great job, detailing forms, keeping up with impact in some areas. I, like any other sportsman, would if at all possible see some stocking of fish in places other than the Sault area.

**357-** I really love the way this program is setup. It works really well for me and my family. It gives us a lot of time to do the thing we enjoy so much and to be able to honor our heritage.

**1987-** The new deer and fur tags are great, work excellent. Thanks.

**3478-** Don't know my sts Number. Keep up, good work your doing

**5485-** I am very pleased with your management, but where is the website where we can get the harvest tags at? Thank you.

**1965-** Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to hunt and fish. My questions are - I applied for a turkey license and got a spring of 2010 turkey license but can not apply until may of 2010 is the date wrong on the license? Or am I suppose to be applying earlier?

**1186-** Because the number of fish caught day to day I estimated total for each month. My overall harvest for the season is accurate. I like the harvest report it is easy to fill out. Thank you. If this report was small enough to out in a standard envelop that would be nice.

**565-** Overall happy with everything. The only thing I could suggest is smaller sized tag for small game and fishing specifically maybe just a little smaller to fit in a wallet without bending them up, other than that I appreciate everything very much thank you.

### **Forest/Gathering**

**This is a catch all for firewood and any gathering activity. The most comments were in regards to firewood harvest.**

**345-** Summer fishing great over by Cedarville. Deer hunting terrible, no deer. Dead and down firewood, lots everywhere.

**1656-** I enjoy being tribal and having all the license and permits, it really helps with hunting deer and other. Also being able to cut brush legally and fish.

**440-** I would like to see the wood gathering go through the winter. Rusty needs to fallow threw on call backs.

**2409-** As a Native American I feel it is a waste to see downed trees from disease, wind and other natural thinning go to waste in our forests. I believe Native Americans should be able to harvest any downed trees on state and federal lands caused by natural circumstances in other words not cut down. This past year has seen a lot of trees damaged and downed by wind and disease. I hunt in the fall and I enjoy harvesting or getting firewood. I see nothing wrong with cutting up a tree that is downed by natural causes. There are many trees I could have harvested.

**3393-** As I would like to be more in the field- my work schedule limited my time- no harvest to report this year. I must say that the federal firewood and gathering permit are a plus and hopefully will be continued. I am looking forward to next season though and hopefully will be able to report. I am also concerned about the bear hunting in my part of the county (Strongs) seems to me there is a lot of bear taken here and the so called hunters are pretty reckless.

**2192-** I would like to see the dead down wood permits changed.

**3568-** I love to hunt and fish. 2010 was a bad year for me-- sick most of the time. To my understanding, our tribe is very interested in the gathering og white and

black ash seeds. I” am on two acres of land with about 20 trees. In the fall like this year the seeds are everywhere -- come on over you can have all you want.

**4940-** I did harvest firewood during 2010. (Nuhma Township)

### **Personnel**

**These comments are ones that mention how the personnel are doing with interactions with the members or what could be done better.**

**3019-** Really enjoy using my tribal licenses especially enjoy spearing walleye in the spring (even though that ain't part of the report). Always nice people when I call for spearing permits and do their best to meet my request for permits.

**3742-** Website to file not clear; can't find it. No fax number, address to mail it to on the form. No one answers the above telephone number.

**3560-** I have no problem except I had to call numerous times and waited over 3 months to receive my tags after I sent in my application

**1754-** I'm sorry it took so long to send in my harvest report, but I'm somewhat of a hoarder, but I found the form. Thank you for all you do for the tribe. I think you all do a wonderful job in all that is involved with your jobs. When I call I get the most polite and helpful people on the phone who always know what their doing! I am so thankful for being an elder in the most prestigious Indian tribe that I know. If it weren't for the Sault Tribe I wouldn't be here to enjoy all the great things the UP has to offer to us. I think you all do a really great job taking care of this beautiful country and trying hard to preserve our beautiful, beautiful UP.

**1865-** I am pleased with the information provided to me. One thing I would like to see is a detailed map of the areas our tribe can hunt and fish. I contacted the DNRE in Lansing and at the field office in Cadillac they weren't very helpful. Rusty Aikens with the tribe has been more than helpful, and answers all my question with the information he has access to. Thank you.

**440-** I would like to see the wood gathering go through the winter. Rusty needs to fallow threw on call backs.

**2679-** Have a hard time contacting the biologist for catch checks.

**4244-** You have the coolest biologist working here!!

### **Bear**

**The most comments are regarding how to enter the drawing for bear hunting.**

**3084-** We do not have a computer, I had to have my son print this form for me. Thank you for all you do. When I have amore time I hope to use more of my priviledges. My wife [REDACTED] got involved in collecting bear fat, she has some comments too. Thanks again.

When we got Dale's first bear permit you's asked for the ft. I work at a gas station & talk to many people so I started asking the bear hunters to please save the fat for me. I got into this thinking I could help the Tribe out. There's a bear guiding camp near by, so they saved mea ll they had plus we got ours (brothers & friends) probably 80-100 lbs and the medicine man picked it up. I made another connection with a taxiderming business, it a 1/4 mile from the M28 turn off and would be easy to pick up. They have 3 or 4 hides they're' fleshing out and are saving the fat for us. Dale and his brother Sam have psoricesis and were looking forward to trying the salve. We were told they would send us two jars, but we received none. If you's want the fat I will continue to get all I can, but if you's don't want anymore please let me know. Freezer space if very limited and I would like to know. Thank you. [REDACTED].

**805-** I know of several people who have received two bear tags the last three years while others have received none .I would like to see a point system.

**4563-** I am a recreational hunter/fisherman. I am pleased that I have the right, and only take what I can use. In 2009, I hunted geese but I did not have a tribal tag or permission from the tribe to hunt. I purchased MDNR license/ waterfowl stamp -federal stamp. There was not a portion of my survey that referred to migritory birds.

I would like to see more advertisement of special elk and bear draws in the tribal newspaper. I am certain many of our members are unaware of these draws, and their rights in general. Many could benefit from the bountiful natural resources that our great land has to offer. Thanks for asking.

**3393-** As I would like to be more in the field- my work schedule limited my time-no harvest to report this year. I must say that the federal firewood and gathering permit are a plus and hopefully will be continued. I am looking forward to next season though and hopefully will be able to report. I am also concerned about the bear hunting in my part of the county (Strongs) seems to me there is a lot of bear taken here and the so called hunters are pretty reckless.

**1571-** Black bear hunting lots of small bears.

**4807-** How do you apply for black bear and elk permits?

## **Caribou**

**There is only one comment under this section. This person would like to see caribou re-introduced into the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.**

**1830-** I would suggest transporting surplus elk from the pigion river area that are causing crop damage and releasing them in areas suitable throughout the UP.

Also would it be feasible to acquire some woodland caribou from Canada to reintroduce into their former habitat in the UP. Maybe this could help relieve pressure on our white-tail deer population which is being depleted by the wolf predation. Thank you for allowing me to enjoy the privileges allowed by our tribal community.

## **Elk**

**The most comments were connected to elk drawing and when that takes place.**

**4563-** I am a recreational hunter/fisherman. I am pleased that I have the right, and only take what I can use. In 2009, I hunted geese but I did not have a tribal tag or permission from the tribe to hunt. I purchased MDNR license/ waterfowl stamp -federal stamp. There was not a portion of my survey that referred to migratory birds.

I would like to see more advertisement of special elk and bear draws in the tribal newspaper. I am certain many of our members are unaware of these draws, and their rights in general. Many could benefit from the bountiful natural resources that our great land has to offer. Thanks for asking.

**1830-** I would suggest transporting surplus elk from the pigeon river area that are causing crop damage and releasing them in areas suitable throughout the UP. Also would it be feasible to acquire some woodland caribou from Canada to reintroduce into their former habitat in the UP. Maybe this could help relieve pressure on our white-tail deer population which is being depleted by the wolf predation. Thank you for allowing me to enjoy the privileges allowed by our tribal community.

**4807-** How do you apply for black bear and elk permits?

## **Maps**

**These comments were wishing for detailed maps of the 1836 Treaty area.**

**1865-** I am pleased with the information provided to me. One thing I would like to see is a detailed map of the areas our tribe can hunt and fish. I contacted the DNRE in Lansing and at the field office in Cadillac they weren't very helpful. Rusty Aikens with the tribe has been more than helpful, and answers all my question with the information he has access to. Thank you.

**5185-** We could use a better map of hunting and fishing areas of the lower peninsula southern boundaries would help use these rights more than one or two trips a year I make to the upper peninsula to our camp.