

NOTE: This is a summary document developed by the University of Minnesota's Boreal Forest and Community Resilience Project to inform an update to the Minnesota Forest Resources Council's Northeast Landscape Plan.

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Document Title	Source	Date	URL or Address
Fond du Lac Resource Management: 2008 Integrated Resource Management Plan	Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa	2008	http://www.fdlrez.com/newnr/main.htm

VISION

The Fond du Lac Resource Management Division is committed to the management, conservation, and sustainability of the natural resources of the Fond du Lac Band in order to protect the environment on the Fond du Lac Reservation and within its treaty areas. The Resource Management Division will use the tools of research, education and outreach with Band Members, partners and stakeholders to accomplish these goals.

ISSUES (topics, issues, concerns, opportunities)

1. Cultural and Traditional Resources
 - a. Protecting known sites
 - b. Preventing looting of cultural artifacts
 - c. Keeping highly sensitive information private
2. Wild Rice
 - a. Ineffectiveness of current mechanical methods for the restoration project on Rice Portage Lake
 - b. Mud Lake continues to produce a thin crop of wild rice, despite its potential for higher yields
 - c. Invasive species
 - d. Climate change
3. Water and Wetlands
 - a. Collecting physical, chemical, and biological data from other Reservation water bodies as baseline characterization of those resources
 - b. St. Louis River is threatened by proposed discharges from new taconite and sulfide mineral mining projects upstream of the Reservation
 - c. Mercury in fish
 - d. Non-point water pollution
 - e. Construction of wastewater collection and treatment system for Big Lake
 - f. Lake and stream restoration opportunities
 - g. National Wetland Inventory for the Reservation is out of date
 - h. Specific wetland water quality standards needed
 - i. Development of wetland biological assessment methods and monitoring
 - j. Identification and evaluation of degraded wetlands
 - k. Establishment of a wetland mitigation bank
 - l. Establishment of a Clean Water Act Section 404 permit program

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- m. Restoration of sweet grass habitat
 - n. Evaluate extent and condition of cedar swamps
 - o. Establishment of a project to monitor and control wetland invasive plants
 - p. Development of a Storm Water Ordinance
4. Fisheries
- a. Routine monitoring of the fisheries and habitat
 - b. Restoration of lost/declining fisheries
 - c. Mercury and other heavy metals in contaminated fish
 - d. Spread of exotics
 - e. Increase harvest opportunities
5. Land Resources
- a. Less than 1/3rd of land within Reservation is owned by Fond du Lac
 - b. Approx 1/2 of Fond du Lac Reservation covered by wetlands, drainage areas, streams or lakes
 - c. Much of Reservation is undeveloped forest and lowlands
 - d. Land Use Ordinance now regulates tribal and member owned fee lands
 - e. Protecting cultural/historical sites, hunting and sugarbush land, and lake shore and stream bank areas
6. Forestry
- a. New Logging Enterprise may influence forest management by increasing the pressure on the resource
 - b. Significant ash decline
 - c. Allotment ownership is highly fragmented – management challenges
 - d. Protection of sacred/archeological sites
 - e. Soil compaction
 - f. No road and trail policy
 - g. Invasive plant and insect species
 - h. Birch decline
7. Wildlife
- a. Emphasis on game species and promote game populations
 - b. Hunting and gathering rights under Treaties of 1854 and 1837
 - c. Wildlife for subsistence and recreation
 - d. Good wildlife populations, habitat, and public access for hunting and trapping
 - e. Final stage of 1854 Treaty case regarding how Fond du Lac Band members can exercise their rights has not been settled
 - f. Decline of youth participation rates in outdoor oriented activities
 - g. Hunter harvest, land management practices, other human and natural trends affect wildlife populations
 - h. Nongame and protected wildlife are not given much attention, but are probably important to Band members
 - i. Climate change effect on northern species
 - j. Tribal wildlife resource and demand will not remain static
 - k. Current resources devoted to wildlife program are inadequate

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8. Air Quality
 - a. Operation of existing monitoring activities
 - b. Tribal Air Authority/Tribal Implementation Plan
 - c. Determine need for Class 1 Resignation
 - d. Policy participation
 - e. Outreach activities
9. Conservation/Enforcement
 - a. Lack of adequate space for current staff offices
 - b. Coordinate with State of Minnesota on enforcement for non-Indians in 1837 and 1854 Ceded Territories
 - c. Training
 - d. New rules and regulations proposed for Conservation Code
 - e. More Conservation Enforcement Officers and equipment needs
10. Recreational Resources
 - a. Recreational trails
 - b. ATV use
 - c. Land ownership
 - d. Recreation area management
 - e. Lack of recreational facilities
11. Energy Resources and Management
 - a. Energy audits
 - b. Cost of energy efficient upgrades
 - c. Tribal utility feasibility
 - d. Future energy and liquid fuel supply
 - e. Utilize access to the petroleum pipelines on the Fond du Lac Reservation
12. Waste Management and Hazardous Substances
 - a. Solid waste storage
 - b. Solid waste disposal
 - c. Recycling
 - d. Proper transport of solid waste
 - e. Abandoned/decrepit mobile trailer homes
 - f. Open burning of trash
 - g. Demolition debris management
 - h. Hazardous waste management
 - i. Illegal dumping
 - j. Storage of junk vehicles
 - k. Disposal of medical waste
 - l. Salvage yard operations
 - m. Managing problem/specialty waste items
 - n. Enforcement

GOALS (preferred alternatives, goals, objectives) (# links to issue)

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1. Alternative 2: A Tribal Historical Preservation Office (THPO) will be employed to better meet requirements of Section 106. Employees will increase from 1 to 2 (1).
2. Implementing new Land Use Ordinance for Cultural Preservation sites (1).
3. Cooperating with other tribes on cultural resources (1).
4. Create a Tribal Historic Preservation Office under 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (1).
5. Alternative 2: Improve wild rice harvest by conducting monitoring and restoration in the Ceded territories (2).
6. At a minimum, maintain the current program and management (2).
7. Increase vegetation treatment acreage per annum (2).
8. Increase funding levels for investment in additional equipment, personnel, and training to maximize management identified in opportunities section (2).
9. Improve the mapping and monitoring of water levels on resource lakes and increase water level management activities (2).
10. Alternative 2: Maximize the exercise of tribal sovereignty through the assumption of environmental regulatory authorities under the Clean Water Act: water quality standards, nonpoint source management, permitting under Sections 402 (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System), and 404 (Wetland Dredge and Fill) (3).
11. Continue to protect ground water/drinking water resources of the reservation (3).
12. Continue with current water quality data monitoring programs (3)
13. Develop nutrient and biological criteria for surface waters (3).
14. Update Reservation-specific fish consumption guides (3).
15. Successfully conduct and operate a wastewater collection and treatment system for the Big Lake community (3).
16. Continue to implement the tribal non-point source management plan (3).
17. Complete and implement the Stony Brook Watershed Management Plan (3).
18. Seek funding to implement lake and stream restoration projects (3).
19. Continue to actively participate in environmental review and permitting for mines upstream (3).
20. Continue to press for mercury emissions reductions at state and national level (3).
21. Develop shoreline protection guidelines for development occurring on Reservation lakes (3).
22. Delineate zones of protection for community water systems on the Reservation (3).
23. Continue to seal abandon drinking water wells to protect aquifers (3).
24. Continue administration of the Wetland Protection and Management Ordinance; revise the ordinance as needed (3).
25. Continue application efforts for Treatment in the same manner as a State for the Wetlands Regulatory Program (3).
26. Assume Clean Water Act Section 404 permit authority on the Reservation (3).
27. Develop a Comprehensive Wetland Assessment and Monitoring Plan; implement and maintain the plan (3).
28. Develop a comprehensive wetland restoration and mitigation banking plan (3).

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29. Develop, gain Reservation Business Committee approval, and implement a Storm Water Ordinance (3).
30. Begin application efforts for Treatment in the same manner as a State for a Storm Water Regulatory Program (3).
31. Assume Clean Water Act Section 402 permit authority on the Reservation (3).
32. Increase staff to allow proper separation of regulatory review and project development assistance (3).
33. Alternative 2: Improve and increase fish population assessments both on the Reservation and within both the 1854 and 1837 Ceded Territories, with the goal of adding harvest opportunities (4).
34. Develop a long-term database for the fisheries of the Fond du Lac Reservation and the 1854 and 1837 Ceded Territories so that management decisions can be based upon current data (4).
35. Perform regular assessments of the fisheries and aquatic habitat to build long-term data sets (4).
36. Cooperate with and coordinate activities with other agencies (MN DNR, 1854 Treaty Authority) (4).
37. Identify fish stocks and populations that might benefit from supplemental stocking or reintroduction (4).
38. Provide greater harvest opportunities (4).
39. Initiate off-Reservation spearing and netting activities in the 1854 Ceded Territory (4).
40. Monitor increased harvest to prevent any over-exploitation of stocks (4).
41. Develop a cost-benefit analysis of a new fish hatchery for lake sturgeon (4).
42. Natural resources are of a high quality, offering land for sustainable levels of traditional hunting, fishing, and gathering activities within naturally functioning, viable ecosystems (5).
43. Historical and cultural resources are protected for the benefit and knowledge of future generations (5).
44. All land owned or controlled by the Fond du Lac Band (5).
45. Band members have adequate opportunities for employment, education, recreation, and commercial services (5).
46. Band members have sufficient choices of affordable residential options, including areas with an emphasis on owner-occupied housing (5).
47. A distinctive, positive image establishes a recognizable sense of place on the Reservation, reinforces the self-confidence of the Band and its members, and provides a focus for the community (5).
48. Alternative 2: Ecological silviculture will be used to guide forest management decisions. A limited harvest zone will be established within a ¼ mile of the wild rice lakes and ¼ mile of the St. Louis River (6).
49. Manage forest resources in a manner that produces a healthy forest (6).
50. Design timber sales to enhance wildlife habitat and diversity (6).
51. Design forest development projects to enhance wildlife habitat and diversity (6).
52. Where appropriate, reintroduce fire (6).

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53. Visual best management practices will be utilized when practiced near areas of special concern such as lakeshore, home sites, and parks (6).
54. Identify potential limited access areas for the protection of cultural, recreational water and wildlife features (6).
55. Identify and maintain special use areas such as sugarbush camps and areas for gathering of sacred and natural plants (6).
56. Follow the St. Louis River Plan (6).
57. Reduce fire risks in Urban Interface (6).
58. Reduce fuel loading by prescribed fire or mechanical treatment (6).
59. Public education (6).
60. Prepared for wildfires during fire season (6).
61. Locate housing in less fire prone areas (6).
62. Alternative 3: Increased staffing with additional skilled positions will allow the Wildlife Program to address more of the needs and opportunities for wildlife in the two Ceded Territories and on the Reservation (7).
63. Maintain abundant populations of game species, water fowl and furbearers (7).
64. Coordinate with other Fond du Lac Resource Management Division programs, other state, county and federal agencies and private landowners to create and take advantage of opportunities to develop and implement wildlife habitat projects for game species, waterfowl and furbearers (7).
65. Collect and analyze hunter and trapper harvest data for trends and reporting purposes (7).
66. Continue and expand population survey data for game species, waterfowl and furbearer species (7).
67. Help the Band develop and implement sound conservation strategies for all wildlife species (7).
68. Work with law enforcement and committees to develop and implement seasons and bag limits and other harvest strategies to ensure long-term resource protection (7).
69. Obtain higher priority in Reservation land management and natural resource decision making for wildlife species (7).
70. Take more active role with other agencies and private land owners to ensure quality and quantity of wildlife habitat is not depleted (7).
71. Target wildlife research in ways that will improve understanding of wildlife populations and their relationship with habitat and improve tribal wildlife management capabilities (7).
72. Ensure that treaty rights and the recreational and subsistence needs of Band members are met (7).
73. Coordinate and liaison with committees and programs, fed and state agencies, and legal representatives to ensure that plentiful opportunities are maintained and developed for Band members (7).
74. Coordinate with divisions and division programs to ensure quality and quantity of wildlife habitat and wildlife populations are not depleted (7).

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75. Promote opportunities to recruit and retain tribal youth into hunting, trapping and other wildlife related activities (7).
76. Alternative 2: Add toxics monitoring and additional stations to better monitor air quality for members' health (8).
77. Continue sample collection and site maintenance (8).
78. Continue data compilation and analysis (8).
79. Decide whether to maintain monitoring level, add monitors, or remove monitors (8).
80. Make policy and permitting recommendations based on monitoring data (8).
81. Provide any additional information to EPA staff to aid their review of the Tribal Implementation Plan (8).
82. Draft tribal air quality regulations/ordinances (8).
83. Pursue tribal minor source permitting program (8).
84. Hold public hearings and obtain Reservation Business Committee approval for tribal regulations/ordinances (8).
85. Inform Reservation Business Committee on Class 1 options (8).
86. Consider the adequacy of Reservation air quality standards alone to maintain good air quality (8).
87. Identify Air Quality Related Values for the Reservation (status and vulnerability) without divulging sensitive information (8).
88. Determine the exposure of Air Quality Related Values to air pollution (8).
89. Develop criteria to evaluate the level of adverse impacts on Air Quality Related Values (8).
90. Consider application to the EPA to change air quality status from Class II to Class I (8).
91. Review Federal Register listings (8).
92. Participate in conference calls to obtain information on proposed rules, write and submit comments as needed (8).
93. Attend meetings and conference calls for other policy groups as needed (8).
94. Educate Band members about the importance of good air quality and the effects of climate change (8).
95. Organize giveaways of seedlings or compact fluorescent bulbs to fight climate change and educate the public (8).
96. Other areas of special interest may include smoking cessation, good vehicle maintenance, efficient wood burning, and discouraging the use of burn barrels (8).
97. Alternative 2: Enhance work space to improve efficiency and morale of staff (9).
98. Develop a plan to increase the working space for Conservation Officers (9).
99. Create one Office Administrator/Records position to improve the departments' and officers' administrative record keeping (9).
100. Enforcement of ordinances, regulations, and rules in the 1837 and 1854 Ceded Territories, with consideration given to environmental protections such as water quality standards, wetland fill concerns, wellhead protections, pesticide use regulations, and air quality standards on the Reservation (9).
101. Many of these rules, regulations and ordinances are currently under civil jurisdiction, but should also be enforceable in the tribal court system (9).

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102. Alternative 2: Establish a recreation program with emphasis on motorized and non-motorized trails. Establish regulations for motorized trail use (10).
103. Alternative 2: Expedite Fond du Lac's Strategic Energy Plan and capital development project (11).
104. Draft a Tribal energy vision, mission and goals (11).
105. Survey existing energy use and the potential for resource development (11).
106. Develop an action plan to achieve the energy goals (11).
107. Inventory vehicle fleet (11).
108. Current miles per gallon and potential fleet options to increase miles per gallon (110).
109. Alternative fleet options (11).
110. Action plan to achieve the goal (11).
111. Hire full time Energy Project Manager (11).
112. Form an Energy Committee (11).
113. Analyze energy regulatory capacity (11).
114. Establish a Fond du Lac-owned distribution utility (11).
115. Identify potential wind turbine sites and suppliers (11).
116. Wind turbine production estimates (11).
117. Identify permits and requirements for wind turbine construction (11).
118. Identify wind energy disposition options (11).
119. Wind energy project development economic analysis (11).
120. Site analysis for potential solar photovoltaic and thermal systems (11).
121. Develop recommendations for building (11).
122. Develop a capital development plan (11).
123. Procure funding for a new Resource Management Building (11).
124. Work with Minnesota Power and natural gas vendor to collect baseline billing profiles (11).
125. Conduct site visits to gather electricity, heating and water heating information on each building (11).
126. Enter and analyze data for model buildings load and peak demand (11).
127. Meet with Tribal representatives about building efficiency and utility needs (11).
128. Evaluate equipment needs for chipping and hauling of biomass slash (11).
129. Commission and monitor of biogas installation (11).
130. Provide a report to the Reservation Business Committee detailing installation and operating concerns (11).
131. Alternative 2: Develop a new waste facility on or off-Reservation and implement curbside pickup for Fond du Lac households (12)
132. Waste reduction: expand current educational food waste vermin-composting project at the tribal school into yard waste composting as a way to provide nutritional soil supplement for gardeners, and as a way to help the environment. Other waste reduction efforts include reduced packaging, increased reuse of materials and outreach efforts (12).

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133. Waste education: Community education will have a prominent role in the Fond du Lac Reservation's waste reduction, recycling, composting, household hazardous waste, solid waste processing, and other waste programs (12).
134. Continuation of recycling programs initiated in 1995 and continued relationships with private waste haulers that service the residents and businesses on the Reservation. One major objective is to increase recycling participation among members (12).
135. Waste planning: Continue participation in federal, regional, local, and tribal planning efforts (12).

** No preferred alternatives identified for Land Resources (it is under the direction of the Land Use Cmte and Planning Division – Land Use Plan).