

****2020 Fond du Lac Reservation Wild Rice Harvest Notice****

The On-Reservation Wild Rice Committee and the Reservation Business Committee have approved the following outline for this year's wild rice harvest:

- The first two days open to harvest will be for "subsistence" ricing. The Band will not be purchasing wild rice from individuals on the first two days.
- For the first week following the opening of harvest, ricing will be every other day. Following that ricing will be allowed every day.
- Harvest will be allowed from 9AM-3PM daily and may be cancelled due to rain.
- All waterbodies within the Fond du Lac Reservation with wild rice are subject to the above hourly and daily restrictions.
- Perch, Jaskari, Rice Portage, Mud (Miller) and Deadfish Lakes are off limits to waterfowl hunting until further notice. This prohibition is meant to minimize the amount of boat traffic through the wild rice beds.

The wild rice committee strongly advises the use of a pole on the lakes given the density of the plants. The wild rice committee also encourages everyone to do their part to teach the next generation, take a young member of your household out to the lake this year.

All lakes (Perch, Jaskari, Rice Portage, Mud, and Deadfish) are in excellent condition this year. Because of this no boat limits will be in place and there is no one lake designated for Elders only. Please respect the gift that is our manoomin and only harvest ripe areas of the beds.

Please remember your life jackets, one is required for every individual in the boat. Manoominkedaa.

The following individuals are eligible to harvest from Fond du Lac On-Reservation Lakes:

- Fond du Lac Band Members
- "Other Indians" as defined in the Fond du Lac Conservation Code as "any Indian who is an enrolled member of any federally recognized tribe and is a permanent resident of the Fond du Lac Reservation". Permanent resident is defined as having resided on the Reservation for the previous year.
- Spouses of ALL Fond du Lac Band members. A special landing access permit must be obtained from FDL Conservation.

COVID-19 Mitigation Protocols

- All harvesters are asked to respect each other's personal space of 6' and in scenarios where this is not possible please wear a mask.

- When purchasing begins all weighing of manoomin and receipt issuance will take place at the Fond du Lac Resource Management (RM) garage.
- Conservation Officers will be on the lake landing to verify the identity of harvesters, monitor harvester safety, and distribute rice bags. Conservation Officers will send RM purchasing staff at the RM garage the identities of individuals harvesting on a lake-by-lake basis.
- When a harvester arrives at the RM garage they will be asked to remain in their vehicle until summoned for their weigh-in turn. RM staff will inspect and weigh manoomin and issue a receipt to the harvester (masks required of all parties involved).
- Harvesters will then go to RM Headquarters for payout by the Conservation Clerk. One individual at a time will be allowed into the building. A Conservation Officer will be stationed at the entrance to the building to enforce the mask use requirement and individual admission to the Headquarters.

Purchase of Off-Reservation Manoomin

- A limited opportunity will be available to Band member harvesters to sell green rice harvested from lakes and rivers outside of the Reservation. This green rice will be used as seed for restoration efforts underway in the St. Louis River Estuary. Please visit the Fond du Lac Reservation website and social media accounts for announcements related to the beginning and ending of this opportunity.
- Upon the beginning of On-Reservation manoomin purchasing, the opportunity to sell green rice to Fond du Lac will be expanded to include those Ojibwe communities that are partners in the restoration effort in the St. Louis River Estuary.

All harvesters from 1854 Treaty Authority Bands (Grand Portage and Bois Forte) and Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission (GLIFWC) Bands (Mille Lacs, Red Cliff, Bad River, St. Croix, Lac Courte Oreilles, Lac du Flambeau, Mole Lake, Keweenaw Bay Indian Community, Lac Vieux Desert, and Bay Mills) will be able to sell their green rice to Fond du Lac Resource Management staff at 28 University Road, Cloquet, MN. Please note that when the reseeding poundage quota is reached this opportunity will end.

All manoomin will be inspected for cleanliness and seed viability.

Please watch for announcements related to this opportunity on the Fond du Lac Reservation website www.fdlrez.com