



Joining the Waters:

A Forum on Tribal Sovereignty and Water Quality in Wisconsin

October 21-22, 2005

Lake of Torches Conference Center
510 Old Abe Road
Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538

This event is generously sponsored by: Midwest Environmental Advocates • Bad River Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians • Brown & LaCounte, LLP • Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger • Clean Wisconsin • Environmental Leadership Program • Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission • HONOR • Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians • Oneida Nation • Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indian • River Alliance of Wisconsin • Wisconsin Association of Lakes

Speaker Biographies

Carol J. Brown, an enrolled member of the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, is a co-founder and managing partner of Brown & LaCounte, LLP, an Indian-owned law firm. Carol's practice focuses on historic preservation, inter-governmental relations, gaming, litigation, and land matters. She has represented Tribes before the U.S. Supreme Court, the 7th and 8th Circuit Courts of Appeals and various Tribal Courts. While personally active in her own Tribe's government, Carol is also dedicated to voicing Tribes' legal concerns at the federal and state level and promoting Tribal sovereignty. She works toward bridging communication gaps among adverse entities and mediation to resolve disagreements. To advance these efforts, she serves as an appointee to the State Bar Lawyer Dispute Resolution Committee and the Governor's State/Tribal Relations Committee. Carol is the proud mother of two boys, an avid runner and biker, and traditional jingle dress dancer.

John Coleman works for the Great Lakes Indian Fish & Wildlife Commission, as Environmental Section Leader. He has training in wildlife ecology and wildlife management with emphasis on spatial modeling of wildlife and the natural resources they depend upon. Mr. Coleman has extensive experience with water quantity and quality data collection and analysis, including ten years of work reviewing and analyzing the proposal for a mine near Crandon, Wisconsin. Mr. Coleman's current projects include review of environmental data from the sulfide mineral mine proposed in the Yellow Dog Plains of the Upper Peninsula, closure of exploration holes and wells at the Crandon mine site, and analysis of water quality data from the Flambeau Mine.

Tom Dawson is an Assistant Attorney General and current Director of the Environmental Protection Unit, Wisconsin Department of Justice. From 1976 to 1995, Dawson served as a Public Intervenor – a state advocate for the protection of public rights in Wisconsin's natural resources. Dawson holds a B.A. degree with honors from Rutgers University Camden College of Arts and Sciences (1971), and Juris Doctor degree, Magna Cum Laude, Howard University School of Law, Washington, D.C., (1975). Dawson teaches environmental law as adjunct faculty at the University of Wisconsin.

Adam DeWeese's work at GLIFWC (Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission) involves producing a fish consumption advisory aimed at protecting tribal members from the hazards of methylmercury in walleye, while simultaneously promoting the tribal practice of harvesting and consuming walleye from lakes in the treaty ceded territory. This program incorporates an extensive walleye tissue sampling program in Northern WI, MN, and MI. This data is then used to produce GIS based maps showing specific meal frequency recommendations for harvested lakes. The language on these advisory maps was developed with the help of tribal members from the six WI GLIFWC member tribes.

Andrew Hanson was born and raised on the shores of Lake Michigan, and studied water quality and environmental justice at the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources. Mr. Hanson received his Juris Doctor with a Certificate in Environmental and Natural Resources Law at the Northwestern School of Law of Lewis and Clark College in 2001. While in the Pacific Northwest, Mr. Hanson worked on water quality advocacy as a student with Northwest Environmental Defense Center, Northwest Environmental Advocates, and the Pacific Environmental Advocacy Center. Mr. Hanson is currently an Environmental Leadership Program Fellow serving as a Staff Attorney for Midwest Environmental Advocates. Mr. Hanson provides legal, organizing, and technical assistance to communities working for clean air and water.

Lori Grant is the Policy Program Manager for the River Alliance of Wisconsin, a nonprofit organization devoted to restoring and protecting the state's rivers and streams. Her work includes advocating for legislation and policies that protect waterways, working closely with the state Department of Natural Resources to forward compliance with the Clean Water Act and helping citizens get involved in the management of their rivers. She believes that just as rivers know no political boundaries, protection of our vulnerable water resources requires strong partnerships across native and non-native communities.

Kelly S. Jackson-Golly has fulfilled the position of Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians since 1998. Mrs. Jackson-Golly is responsible for assuring that all cultural compliance is being addressed with regard to all reservation projects, and represents the tribe's interest in federal projects located on and off tribal lands as they relate to cultural properties. In addition to her administrative responsibilities, she provides educational workshops on various preservation topics and assists other Tribal governments with initiating and implementing historic preservation and NAGPRA programs. She is currently a member of the executive board of both the National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers and the Wisconsin Inter Tribal Repatriation Committee. She is also the Vice President of the Wisconsin State Historic Preservation Review Board and assist with listing eligible properties on the National and State Registers of Historic Places. Mrs. Jackson-Golly is the designated official for the Lac du Flambeau Band representing the interest of the tribe as it relates to NAGPRA.

Arlene Kanno traces her interest in sustainable living back to 5th grade, when her teacher had a unit on Native Americans. That contributed to her earning a BA in biology and an MAT in biological science education from the University of Chicago. After teaching in junior high and high school, she did science staff development for the Teachers Academy for Math & Science in Chicago. Only three years after she and her husband retired to Wisconsin, her life became sharply focused on environmental activism when the global corporation Nestle SA attempted to bring a huge water bottling operation to the local community. As a result of great community effort, capped by a legal battle waged by Melissa Scanlan of Midwest Environmental Advocates and Glenn Stoddard of Garvey & Stoddard, Nestle turned from water mining in Wisconsin--for the time being. The Kannos' grassroots organization, Concerned Citizens of Newport, is continuing to monitor Nestle operations but has become involved in the broader global struggle against water privatization and for economic, environmental, and social justice.

Tracey Ledder In 1997 Tracey Ledder was hired by the Tribe to set up and maintain the Water Resources office and laboratory of the Bad River Natural Resources Department. This included a wet chemistry lab, monitoring program and involvement in all issues pertaining to water resources on the Reservation. Several years later she was involved in the creation of the Bad River Watershed Association with the Tribe and the League of Women Voters and other local partners. Ms. Ledder worked on contract to set up the water monitoring project using volunteers, training volunteers and keeping track of volunteer time and data. The BRWA monitoring sites extend the BRNRD monitoring program up river as well as getting background information. Today Ms. Ledder work part-time in the Bad River Natural Resources Department and act as technical advisor to the Watershed Association as a volunteer.

Sandy Lyon has lived in northwestern Wisconsin all of her life, near the "Wild and Scenic" Namekagon River. For the last two decades she has organized many alliances between Indian and non-Indian people to protect their common homelands. She was a founder of WOJB-FM the community radio station owned by the Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe and currently serves as Director of the Superior Broadcast Network.

Rae Ann Maday has worked for the Bad River Natural Resources Department as Watershed Coordinator for about 8 years. During this time she has taken on projects to help clean up areas of the Reservation that need attention. She realizes that "no matter how much preserving or conserving we do on the Reservation, we are still deeply affected by what our neighbors are doing. Therefore, it is our best interest to work with other organizations and agencies to assure a clean, healthy environment for our children and grandchildren."

Josephine Mandamin walked around Lake Superior in 2003 and Lake Michigan in 2004 to bring awareness about the importance of Water and to emphasize the important role Aboriginal women play in the protection of the waters. Josephine's resume covers 30 years of life experience working with her own people, especially from a residential school perspective. Challenged by life at an early age, she brings these experiences to light in her teachings in a positive way. These challenges have motivated and conditioned her to be where she is today. Josephine acts as a resource in her community, addressing such issues as traditional teachings and values adoption, cross cultural relations, Native family violence, inter-generational abuse, and holistic healing principles. Josephine has a grave concern about the lack of understanding centering women's and grandmother's rolls. Older women need to and must be reminders to the younger generations. On a personal note, Josephine is originally from the Wikwemikong Unceded Indian Reserve and spent seven years in residential school until she was fourteen. She has resided in Thunder Bay since 1979. She is presently employed as the Executive Director for the Ontario Native Women's Association and has been involved with the women's movement since 1981.

Larry Nesper is an assistant professor in the department of Anthropology and American Indian Studies Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His book, *The Walleye War: The Struggle for Ojibwe Spearfishing and Treaty Rights* (University of Nebraska Press 2002) exemplifies his interest in the cultural and historical dimensions of contemporary American Indian political and economic projects in the Great Lakes region. He has consulted for the Menominee Tribe, the Sokaogon (Mole Lake) Band of Lake Superior Chippewa and the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission. He received his B.A. at Lawrence University, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in anthropology at the University of Chicago.

Glenn C. Reynolds is an attorney practicing Indian and environmental law in Madison, Wisconsin. He is a 1977 graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School, and he received an M.S. degree in water resources management from the University of Wisconsin Institute of Environmental Studies in 1982. He is currently Tribal Attorney for the Sokaogon Chippewa Community. In 2002, he concluded a six-year legal struggle to grant the Sokaogon Tribe authority under the Clean Water Act to enact non-degradation tribal water quality standards for its Reservation waters. In 2003, he helped negotiate an end to a 25-year effort to develop the Crandon Mine – a massive, sulfide zinc and copper mine at the headwaters of the Wolf River and only one mile upstream from the Sokaogon Reservation and its wild rice beds. He has spoken extensively around the country on Native American water law and cultural resource issues and recently published an article entitled "A Native American Water Ethic" which contrasts Native American environmental values with Aldo Leopold's concept of a "Land Ethic."

Melissa Kwaterski Scanlan was raised in a rural area of Wisconsin, and returned to her home state in 1999 to open Midwest Environmental Advocates where she is now the Executive Director. Ms. Scanlan received a law degree and a master of science from the University of California-Berkeley. She is the author of two law review articles involving property rights. These are titled "The Evolution of the Public Trust Doctrine and the Degradation of Trust Resources: Courts, Trustees, and Political Power in Wisconsin" and "The End of Welfare and Constitutional Protections for the Poor: A Case Study of the Wisconsin Works Program and Due Process Rights." Ms. Scanlan has been active in the environmental movement for a decade and has worked as an environmental advocate with the Natural Resources Defense Council (SF office), Wisconsin's Department of Justice, Communities for a Better Environment (SF office), and Cohen, Milstein, Hausfeld & Toll.

Robert Shimek currently serves as the Mining Projects Coordinator for the Indigenous Environmental Network (IEN) headquartered in Bemidji, Minnesota. He is a Red Lake Ojibwe who has spent most of his life living on the White Earth Reservation in northwestern Minnesota. Before coming to IEN in 1997, Mr. Shimek served as a Community Organizer for the White Earth Land Recovery Project, a Native land rights community group on the White Earth Reservation. He has also served in numerous capacities with various organizations and agencies in Northern Minnesota and elsewhere. Mr. Shimek brings years of hands on experience in working with Elders and Practitioners of Traditional Healing Arts. Through this experience, he has acquired a unique insight to the environmental impacts of industrialization on Native Culture. From industrialized forestry to atmospheric and water born deposition of various toxics, numerous avenues of exposure are adversely affecting Indigenous People and the integrity of their cultures. Giving voice to these concerns has been and continues to be the primary focal point of Mr. Shimek's work.

Larry Wawronowicz has been employed by the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indian's Tribal Natural Resource Department for 21 years. He has been involved in many tribal sovereignty and water quality issues ranging from off reservation treaty rights to assisting the Band in applying for Treatment-as-a-State under the authority of the Clean Water Act. Mr. Wawronowicz manages the Tribal Natural Resource Department with the help of many dedicated staff.

Gretchen Watkins is the water resource specialist/hydrologist for the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Indians. She received her B.S. in biology from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and her M.S. in environmental engineering from Michigan Technological University. Ms. Watkins oversees the Lac du Flambeau water resource program that develops sound scientific investigation to support management decisions. These decisions attempt to protect and restore Lac du Flambeau water resources for the next seven generations.