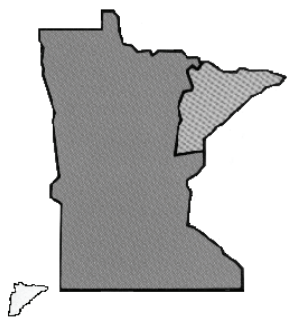




# Newsletter of the 1854 Treaty Authority

Newsletter of the 1854 Treaty Authority

October/November 2011



“And such of them as reside in the territory hereby ceded, shall have the right to hunt and fish therein, until otherwise ordered by the President”

**Article 11, 1854 Treaty**

## In This Issue

Hunting/Trapping  
Seasons

p 2-3

Aquatic Invasives - What  
are we doing?

p 4

Enforcement News

p 5

Staff/Office News

p 6-7

Contact Information

p 8

## Moose Season

If you were out moose hunting this season, you were sure to find a mixed bag of weather that made for some challenging hunting. While 70+ degree weather is great for leaf watching and yard work, it makes for some tough moose hunting. In 2011, we issued 59 permits and the total harvest was 10 moose.

## Deer Season

Firearms deer season is fast approaching and as in year's past there are hunts in selected state parks that we have secured some permits for. These are on a first-come first-served basis, and more detail can be found on page 2 of this newsletter. If you are interested, please give the office a call.

## Upcoming Opening Dates:

Firearms Deer Season	November 5th
Fisher/Pine Marten Trapping	November 12th
Bobcat Trapping	November 26th

## New Conservation Officer

We have hired a new Conservation Officer whose work station will be the North Shore from Two Harbors to Grand Marais. We welcome Don Hakes on board and have provided an introductory bio and picture on page 5. Don started on September 26th and hit the ground running as the fall season is one of the busier times for the officers.

**Do you harvest snowshoe hares?** A researcher with the Minnesota DNR that is conducting a fisher/marten study has asked us for assistance in collecting hare tissue samples this winter aid in examining fisher/marten food habits. Sample collection should be simple, we will just need a small piece (pea – marble size) of hare flesh frozen and labeled with harvest location. If you do trap or hunt snowshoe hares and would be willing to contribute, please contact Andy at 218-722-8907 or [aedwards@1854treatyauthority.org](mailto:aedwards@1854treatyauthority.org) and we'll provide more information.

**Special Deer Hunting Options** – Anybody out there interested in exploring a new place to deer hunt this fall? We have a limited number of permits available for November firearms deer hunting in the following State parks:

Tettegouche (25 permits)

Split Rock (5 permits)

Gooseberry Falls (5 permits)

Lake Vermilion (10 permits)

We also have a limited number of muzzleloader only permits for hunts in Jay Cooke State Park (15) and the City of Tower/Soudan and Soudan State Park (5).

To participate in any of these opportunities, you will need both your 1854 ID card and 1854 deer license and tags. For more information, please contact the office and we can provide you with more information on the specifics and/or mail you out a permit for one of these hunts.

### 1854 Treaty Area Migratory Waterfowl Seasons - 2011

<u>Species</u>	<u>Open Dates</u>	<u>Daily Limits</u>
Canada Goose		
Early Season	Sept. 3 - 22, 2011.	5
Regular Season	Sept. 24 - Dec. 17, 2011	3
Snow, Blue, Ross' Geese	Sept. 24 - Dec. 17, 2011	20 combined
White-fronted Geese	Sept. 24 - Dec. 17, 2011	1
Brant	Sept. 24 - Dec. 17, 2011	1
Ducks	Sept. 24 - Nov. 22, 2011	6 combined <i>Daily Bag Limit may not Include more than four mallards (only 2 hens), 2 scaup, 3 wood ducks, 2 redheads, 1 blackduck, 2 pintail, 1 canvasback.</i>
Mergansers		
Common, hooded, red-breasted	Sept. 24 - Nov. 22, 2011	5 combined (only 2 may be hooded mergansers)
Coots and Moorhens	Sept. 24 - Nov. 22, 2011	15 combined

Please consult the 1854 Code for waterfowl regulations.

# 2011 Hunting/Trapping Seasons

1854 TREATY AUTHORITY HUNTING AND TRAPPING SEASONS, 2011

Board approved 6/24/11

## Big Game

<u>Species</u>	<u>Open Dates</u>	<u>Season Limit</u>
Bear	Sept. 1 - Oct. 16, 2011	1 (if filled, may reapply)
Moose	October 1 - 16, 2011	1 (either sex)
Deer		5 (total of all methods, either sex)
Archery	Sept. 17 - Dec. 31, 2011	<i>*there may be special hunts in some</i>
Firearms	Nov. 5 - Dec. 11, 2011	<i>state parks, contact 1854 office for details</i>

## Small Game Hunting

<u>Species</u>	<u>Open Dates</u>	<u>Daily Limit</u>
Wild Turkey		
Fall season	October 1 - 30, 2011	1 either sex for season
Spring season	To be determined in early 2012	1 bearded bird for season
Coyote	Open all year	No limit
Red Fox, Raccoon	Oct. 22, 2011 - March 15, 2012	No limit
Crow	July 15 - Oct. 15, 2011 March 1 - 31, 2012	No limit
Sora and Virginia Rail	Sept. 1 - Nov. 7, 2011	25 (combined)
Common Snipe	Sept. 1 - Nov. 7, 2011	8
Mourning Dove	Sept. 1 - October 30, 2011	15
Gray Fox	Oct. 22, 2011 - March 15, 2012	No limit
Ruffed, Spruce Grouse	Sept. 17, 2011 - Jan. 1, 2012	10 (combined)
Sharp-tailed Grouse	Sept. 17 - Nov. 30, 2011	6
Snowshoe, Cottontail	Sept. 17, 2011 - Feb. 28, 2012	20 (combined)
Fox, Gray Squirrel	Sept. 17, 2011 - Feb. 28, 2012	14 (combined)
Badger, Opossum	Oct. 22, 2011 - March 15, 2012	No limit
Woodcock	Sept. 24 - Nov. 7, 2011	6
Pheasant	Oct. 15, 2011 - Jan. 1, 2012	4 cocks
Bobcat	Nov. 26, 2011 - Jan. 7, 2012	10 (includes trapping)
Lynx*	No open season	--
Migratory Birds		
Early Canada Goose	Sept. 3 - 22, 2011	5
Waterfowl*	<i>*Final dates and bag limits will be posted in mid-September 2011</i>	
	Call office (218-722-8907 or 800-775-8799) for details on season dates and bag limits	

## Trapping

<u>Species</u>	<u>Open Dates</u>	<u>Season Limit</u>
Coyote	Open all year	No limit
Red Fox, Raccoon	Oct. 22, 2011 - March 15, 2012	No limit
Snowshoe, Cottontail	Sept. 17, 2011 - Feb. 28, 2012	No limit
Fox, Gray Squirrel	Sept. 17, 2011 - Feb. 28, 2012	No limit
Badger, Opossum	Oct. 22, 2011 - March 15, 2012	No limit
Gray Fox	Oct. 22, 2011 - March 15, 2012	No limit
Mink, Muskrat	Oct. 22, 2011 - Feb. 28, 2012	No limit
Beaver	Oct. 22, 2011 - May 15, 2012	No limit
River Otter	Oct. 22, 2011 - Jan. 7, 2012	10
Fisher	Nov. 12 - Dec. 11, 2011	10
Pine Marten	Nov. 12 - Dec. 11, 2011	30
Bobcat	Nov. 26, 2011 - Jan. 7, 2012	10 (includes hunting)
Lynx	No open season	--

\*If you take a lynx incidentally, you must notify a conservation officer prior to removal from the trap.

## Show me the money....for Aquatic Invasive Species

By Nick Axtell

Working on grants can be a funny thing. Take for example, a grant I wrote for developing and implementing a management plan for aquatic invasive species. Many, many months ago I had applied for the grant and lo and behold, the 1854 Treaty Authority received the award notice for the grant.

The plans for the project were to update our conservation code (which is in the works) to reflect the latest theory in AIS spread as well as participate in community education and outreach events. The conservation officers would be working at boat landings to help check and clean boats and trailers as well as answer questions from the public. We also received funding to set up boat wash stations to use at lakes where the threat of AIS spread is greatest.



### **STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!**

Prevent the transport of nuisance species.  
Clean all recreational equipment.

Although there was a slight snag in the plan, as in, we didn't receive the grant money. As days rolled into weeks, and weeks into months the money still hadn't come...until now at the tail end of the fishing, ricing and recreational boating season where the threat of AIS spread is the greatest.

That doesn't mean that people should forget about AIS issues until next year when they dust the boats and canoes off. Duck and geese hunters need to remember that they can spread AIS depending on where their hunting blinds are and what water bodies they are going in and out of.

In addition to following the prevention steps for boaters and anglers, the 1854 Treaty Authority recommends that waterfowl hunters:

- ◆ Remove aquatic plants, animals, and mud from the boat, motor, trailer, water/hip boots, decoy lines, and anchors (elliptical and bulb-shaped anchors can help reduce snagging aquatic plants)
- ◆ Drain water from decoys, boats, motors, etc
- ◆ Cut cattails or other plants above the waterline when they are used for camouflage or blinds and use them in the same waterbody you removed them from.

Being aware of what water bodies are infested with invasive species in the ceded territory and greater Minnesota will also help prevent the spread of AIS. For a list of infested waters in the 1854 ceded territory please visit: <http://www.1854treatyauthority.org/invasive-species.htm>

For a full list of infested waters across the state of Minnesota, visit the DNR's website at: [http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/invasives/infested\\_waters.pdf](http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/eco/invasives/infested_waters.pdf)

## Enforcement News

I would like to introduce everyone to your newest 1854 Conservation Officer, with the assigned duty station of the North Shore, from Two Harbors to Grand Portage and areas inland...he has been onboard for about a month and has been doing his field training and territory familiarization. The extensive background investigation as well as the physical fitness testing, psychological testing and medical testing took a number of months to accomplish and we are pleased and happy to introduce everyone to **DON HAKES** (picture at right). Don began his law enforcement career with Mille Lacs County Sheriff's Department and then worked for Mille Lacs Tribal Police Department, before moving to Duluth and working for the Minnesota State Patrol. He is a graduate of Fond du Lac Tribal and Community College. We are excited to have Don working with us and for you.



Speaking of field training...moose season has been a disappointment as far as a teaching aid for your new Officer. As of this writing, few Tribal moose have been registered. It is no secret that there is a direct relation to wearing shorts and t-shirts, drinking morning coffee outside in flip-flops; and the moose harvest numbers. The more comfortable you are while hunting, the fewer animals you will point a weapon at. I may be wrong, but it sure has been 'nice out' this Fall. Extra precaution has had to be taken to cool the big guys down as quickly as possible, after downing a moose. Calling an 1854 Officer and informing us of the kill, we will come and register the animal with only the head present...the meat should already be skinned, quartered/bagged and heading for a cooler. The 1854 Resource Management Division and the MN DNR are grateful for the effort put into collecting and preserving the moose samples kit mailed to all applicants. We also appreciate the time and effort given to this valuable research.

Speaking of moose harvest...the Pagami Fire is dual edged in the fact that mass acreage is being burned into moon dust but in coming years the moose habitat should improve dramatically in that area. Ralph and Leo were contacted immediately after the 'blow-up' by the Minnesota Interagency Fire Center and detailed to the fire. They spent about 12 days on the fire before 1854 business became too pressing...firearms/hunter safety class in Grand Portage (already cancelled once due to Pagami Fire).

Speaking of organizational skills...I actually have no idea where I'm going with this other than reiterating preparation for upcoming hunting and fishing seasons. Consider organizing your hunting/fishing trips prior to the morning of. Take into account any of the numerous possibilities of 'what if?'. Organize equipment, contingency plans, food, clothing, tools, safety gear, etc...

Speaking of hunting and fishing seasons...know the dates, know the limits, know the rules and please do not hesitate to contact one of your Conservation Officers with any questions concerning hunting/fishing and or gathering. We are here to serve and will not hesitate to assist in any way, if at all possible. See you in the field...Clay Rumph

## **Wild Rice Seeding Completed**

The 1854 Treaty Authority cooperated with other partners including the MN Department of Natural Resources and U.S. Forest Service to seed wild rice at two locations this fall. Wild rice was seeded into the Shiver Creek Impoundment located southeast of Hoyt Lakes along County Road 110/Forest Highway 11. Seeding was also completed at a pond located near the Pat Zakovec Impoundment (County Road 203, north of Orr and east of Elephant Lake). Limited seeding in 2009 and 2010 in the pond showed some success. The purpose of the wild rice seeding is to improve habitat for waterfowl. We will be checking success next year and evaluate if further seeding is needed.

## **Seasonal Fish & Wildlife Technicians - Much needed helping hands!**

Each field season (funding willing) we employ seasonal technicians who are able to help out in completing a tremendous amount of fieldwork. While most biologists like to be out in the field (that's why we went to school), the world we live and function in, dictates that someone has to spend a fair amount of time at meetings and pushing paper. Necessary evils I guess.

So, whenever we can secure funding to bring on seasonal help, the amount of hands on resource work and data gathering increases many fold. This past summer (and still going strong) are Amy Wilson and Nick Bogyo, who have been the ones to arrive early, fill the thermos, grab the lunchbox, hop in the truck, and head out into the woods. We asked them to give a short bio and what they have been up to.

My name is Amy Wilson; I graduated in 2010 from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. I have a BS in Wildlife Conservation. I am originally from Massachusetts and grew up in the suburbs 20 minutes south of Boston. I am interested in Ornithology and would love to go back to school for bird behavior and communication. Although my primary interest is in birds, I enjoy all types of wildlife work and learning different things. So far at the 1854 Treaty Authority I've gotten to help out with wolf trapping and monitoring, wild rice surveys, fisheries work including gill netting, trawling and electrofishing, scent station surveying, and small mammal trapping. It has been really fun to get out in the field and experience new things while exploring a new environment. When I'm not working I enjoy hiking, camping, bird and wildlife watching, gathering wild edibles, photography, cooking, reading, and when I'm near an ocean, surfing and swimming.

My name is Nick Bogyo and I started working with the authority in July. I recently graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Superior last spring with a major in Biology (fishery management focus) and a minor in Geographical Information Systems (GIS). My obsessions include: fishing, hunting, and watching football (huge Packers fan). Some of the tasks I have had the opportunity to perform with this job were: sturgeon gill net assessments, SLRE trawling, electro shocking, fish hatchery work (spawning lake trout), wild rice surveys, wolf trapping and monitoring, scent post surveys, and a small mammal survey. This job allows me to work with such a variety of projects there is never a dull moment and I enjoy going to work. I hope to find a career someday where that is also the case.

**STAFF STUFF**

**Congratulations to Angela Aarhus-Ward!** We are both disappointed and glad to report that one of our employees has moved on to a new position. Angela worked in the Resource Management Division for the last 6 years as a technician and eventually a wildlife biologist.

In recent years she had been working primarily on wolf management issues and research along with spending a significant amount of time helping with the moose research we're involved with. Angela recently accepted an offer to further her career as the Assistant Regional Wildlife Manager for the Minnesota DNR in Grand Rapids.

We greatly appreciate Angela's years of service to our agency and our constituents. So, while we will miss having her around, we wish Angela and her family all the best as they pursue this new opportunity.

**Firearms Safety Training - Grand Portage**

We would like to recognize Judy Ranta, Bob Vogel and Dick Parker for their effort and contribution to the success of the Grand Portage Firearms Safety class. Eight people were certified by this training and word has it, they were one of the best classes in recent memory of the instructors; Ralph LaPlant and Dick Parker were the instructors. Bob Vogel did an outstanding job in preparing the firing range and building target stands for the class. Thanks Judy for the organizational skills in putting this together.

**OFFICE CLOSURES - Following are dates that the 1854 Treaty Authority will be closed officially.**

Friday	November 11	Veteran's Day
Thur/Fri	November 24-25	Thanksgiving Holiday
Friday	December 23	Christmas Holiday
Monday	December 26	Christmas Holiday

**The office may also be closed due to inclement weather** (in the winter months). It is always a good idea to call ahead and make sure that the office is open before you attempt to come in.

**CHANGE OF NAME OR ADDRESS FORM**

Previous name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Current name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Previous Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Current Address : \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Please help us keep the cost of our newsletter down by contacting us with your change of name or address. Send changes to:**

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After hours or weekends, we have a voice messaging service.

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